

# Fanbelt Flyer



*The Monthly Newsletter of the Oldest Continuous Corvair Club in the World!*



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Fall 2020

Volume: 57, Issue: 4-6

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## **From the President's Garage - By David Dean**

Greetings!! We begin another year of the Cactus Corvair Club... the oldest continually active Corvair club in the world! 2020 has turned out to be a significant year and very interruptive to our club and our hobby. With the pandemic of Covid-19, and the guidelines set forth by government and health officials, we at the Cactus Corvair Club have taken an overtly strong precautionary stance in the best interest of our club members. Our utmost concern has been the well-being and safety of our club members. As such, this year we've made some adaptations to our meetings, events, and fundraising.

The first adaptation of course is our meetings. Since we are limited in the number of persons we can gather, and the use of public spaces, we moved our meetings to an Online format using the platform of Zoom. This is a video conferencing tool that lets us host meetings and reach every club member regardless of their geographic location. Using a link sent to your e-mail, club members can 'click and join' our regular club meetings still held the first Wednesdays of the month at 7PM. I invite you all to familiarize yourself with this medium if you have not done so already. So far we are averaging the same number of attendees – but a different demographic.

Secondly, we have adapted our event calendar to align with those gatherings and events that meet official guidelines for social distancing, mask-wearing, and disinfection protocols. Additionally, we are promoting these events as suggestions and not official club sponsored promotions in order to make people feel that these are really optional activities and there is no club obligation to attend. We will continue this form of event promotion into the Spring. We have cancelled our annual Christmas party and are hoping to combine our Spring picnic and Annual ALL Corvair show into a singular event. Stay tuned for more details!

Third, we have decided that this year – since programming is reduced-expenditures are reduced – Club members will not be required to pay dues. Yes! that's right – upon recommendation of the board and passed by members, there are no club dues for the 20-21 club year. Instead, we want to focus on a membership drive that encourages new members to join and current/former members to renew their enthusiasm for the hobby. This should reap big dividends next year as more people have a chance to 'try us out' at no cost.

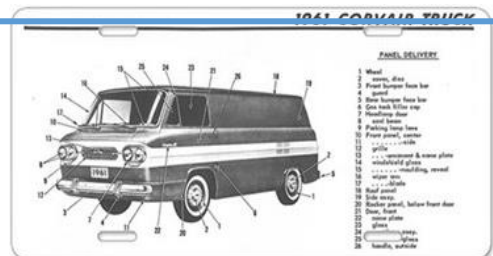
Finally, I just want to thank club members for their patience, and dedication to the club; and their care and concern for one another as we all get through these unprecedented times together. Thank you for helping each other on projects, looking after each other that feel isolated, and embracing the new ways our club can fellowship together. We still have a great year planned and look forward to seeing you all, and your cars!

Mask up and Happy Motoring,  
David "Doc" Dean  
President

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### American Legion Classic Car & Bike Show October 10th 2020

It was a beautiful day for a car show as the 2019-2020 Season began. New member Rick A joined Chris S and Doc at this annual event that typically marks the beginning of the activity year for us and serves a great cause – veterans. This year the family-friendly show featured food, vendors, music, 50/50 drawing, free admission and, of course, plenty of cool cars and bikes. Among beneficiaries is Soldiers Best Friend, an Arizona organization that provides therapeutic companion dogs to U.S. military combat veterans living with combat-related post-traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury. The dogs are rescued mostly from local shelters and train alongside the veterans to build a trusting relationship. Proceeds also benefit Operation Shockwave, a suicide-prevention organization that assists veterans. A big thank you for your service and welcome to Rick A and his 1965 convertible.



## Let's Show Off Your Car!

Club member Chuck R reports that he recently made 2 posters for our local SC Festival Car Club and Sun Country Corvette Club. He is willing to do one for the Cactus Corvair Club too, if everyone wants. The posters are 20"x30" and are \$12 each. Chuck says he can fit about 45-50 cars on one poster, so if people have multiple cars then there would be limit it to 50 with at least one picture of their car per person/household. If there is room, then a second car choice, third choice, etc. Chuck conveys that he just pins them to his garage wall, or you can frame them with an inexpensive frame from Walmart. The print quality is so good, you could go all out for a custom frame. Your choice and your expense (after the \$12 base cost.). Chuck suggests we could even present one mounted or framed to our meeting sponsor, Earnhardt Chevrolet at our expense.

*How did they do it?* Chuck relates: "The way SCCC did this, was everyone turned in their favorite picture and that is what I propose for Cactus Corvair Club. The images should be at least 1MB in size in order to print at a good resolution." He also suggested we include a panorama in the print.

*(Editor: I believe we have a couple of excellent panoramas of club cars we could submit... Dave W?).*

Now that fall/winter is here, and we have our cars out, let's compile this project to have ready just after the start of the new year. Please send your pictures to Chuck R, or email them to [david.dean@cox.net](mailto:david.dean@cox.net) by the end of the year. The cutoff would be December 31<sup>st</sup> at midnight - it takes 3 weeks to print from Sam's Club and ship. Chuck will put the design together for our January 6 regular club meeting. After several options are considered, Chuck will complete the posters. Chuck also has volunteered to take the photos. We will coordinate a "picture day" around a good background, like a lake or fountain and great front lighting. Watch for Club announcements when a date is set. Here are examples of the project potential:





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## 2021 National Convention: Valve Cover Races!

Not only are Corvairs showcased at the CORSA International Convention, but so is the creativity and good fun of the hobby in the Valve Cover Races. In this event, ingenious individuals convert a cylinder head valve cover into a race car to compete for the championship of a 24-foot long track. Since our club is making a big emphasis to attend the convention next summer, why not add this fun event to your convention experience? Now's the time to start building your racer!



Here is something the whole family can do in the garage! Starting your build now will ensure your racer will leave the competition eating your dust! Valve cover racers are marvelously varied in their design – so let your imagination run wild. A few rules are needed to make sure it is a fair competition and a level racing field. Here are the rules pertaining to your valve cover racer build:

1. The racer must use a Corvair valve cover in its construction. To stay within the spirit of the event, the majority of the cover should be used (to say you are only using the bolt holes would seem to be stretching the rules).
2. Your racer must be Gravity Powered only; no motors, no springs, no magnets, no jet-propelled, or propulsion system whatsoever – except gravity, to move your racer. No other system is for moving your race car
3. The maximum weight is 4.5 pounds. There is no minimum weight, so theoretically, your valve cover car could weigh nothing; but why would you do that in a gravity-powered competition?
4. The racer can be at most 16" long and 8" wide, including wheels. However, there is no minimum length nor maximum height limit. It is recommended that entrants make their racers with the wheels being the widest part of the racer.
5. No part of the racer can hang over the 3" high start gate.



Races run in eight-car heats. Then main event will be a race of all the heat winners. Your racer must not hop lanes or interference with competition. First infraction is a rerun; second infraction results in disqualification. You get only one rerun for entire event. If judges rule a tie, then reruns commence until a winner is decided. Reruns will be in an opposite lane. Each racer must finish on wheels and in its own lane. The Race Track has a launch ramp to be 24 feet long, starting four feet high. The total length is 40 feet with lane sides and center divider. Outside rails are one inch high and the center divider is 3/4" in height.

The starting gate area to be 16" in length with a starting gate 3" in height.

## 2021 National Convention: Model Car Concours

In keeping with our 2021 National Convention preparation, it is time to discuss the Model Car Concours. The purpose of this event is to provide a competition for Corvair or Corvair-related models, promotional/toys, and Dioramas. It is also to display these models and allow event participants to compete against other models or the like models in their same division or class. To be eligible to compete, the model or toy must be based upon a Corvair vehicle or a part of a Corvair vehicle. This is another opportunity to engage the whole family in fun! As with most of us in the car hobby, our first association was building car models long before we were old enough to drive. I started out with airplanes and warships, and then changed to cars to learn more about the different makes and models.

In preparation of this event, we have been discussion our own Concours Corvair Model Show for late Spring 2021. This gives everyone ample time to acquire the model they want to build and gives us a deadline in advance of the convention to be prepared to take on the competition at a national level! Here is some important information about the event:

2021 CORSA National Convention Model car classes and descriptions:

Class 1 Stock (Box stock)

Class 2 Modified (Body {plastic or resin}, Interior, non-plastic aftermarket photo-etch or aluminum parts. )

Class 3 Diorama (a scene depicting a story)

Class 4 Promotional/Collectors (Promos issued by manufacturer)

Class 5 Scratch built (Including highly altered Body, Interior, or engine)

(Hand made will have priority of over the model kits)

Each class has two divisions: Junior (under age 16) and Senior ( 16 and older)

To be eligible to compete the model \ toy must be based on a Corvair vehicle ( Chevy prototype\ show car, Special construction with Corvair engine). Examples; Chevy Astro, Super Spyder, Monza GT or part of a Corvair vehicle (utilizing a Corvair body, or running gear, like Corvair with engine swap, a dune buggy, Bikes, or movie\TV based). Examples; Corvair with engine swaps, Man from U.N.C.L.E., Show customs with Corvair running gear.

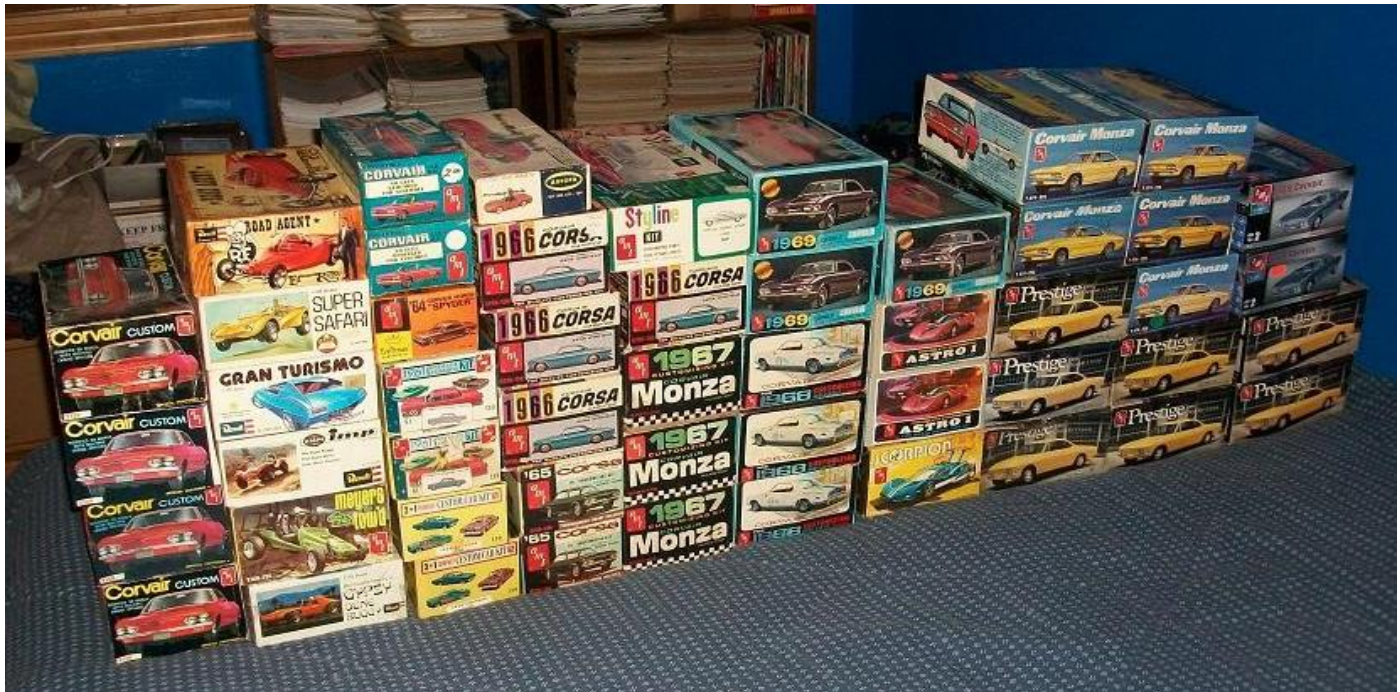
Judging criteria for the model car show are:

1. Build Quality; This includes no glue marks. no fogged (by glue) clear parts, Clean smooth paint, and correct fit of parts and panels (bumpers, Windows, doors, hood, tires. ) Seam sanded or filled.

2. Paint : Paint should be smooth with no bumps, No unintentional color shifts or fading. Graphics or paint detail (like flames) should not be to thick causing different levels of paint. The smoother the paint surface the more esthetic the model will appear.

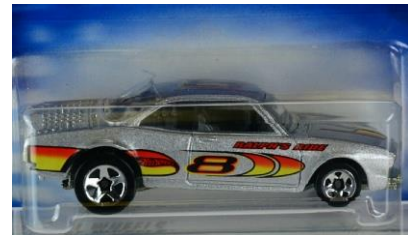
3 Detail: any added details should be "In Scale" Tires take too much room for the car to work in real life. Body additions should be proportionate. Spark plug wires in the proper scale.

4. Dioramas; Dioramas or scenery (on a base) should help tell a story, the more detail the better the tale.



To get started, you need to acquire a model. Monogram had a larger 1/24th scale size and later on when the first AMT models kits came out, they were the must haves. AMT also made three-in-one kits. There are several other kits, such as Jo-Han - which was very poor quality, and Lindberg which was a little better.

There are also 1/18<sup>th</sup> scale die-cast models in both early and late models. Other die cast sizes are also available like the 'Hot Wheels' size shown here.



So let's start those builds and be ready to show them off at our Spring Picnic April 24<sup>th</sup>!



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## Mark Your Calendars!!

The 2021 National Corsa Convention will be terrific opportunity for our club and our members. Scheduled July 26<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>, the San Diego Corvair Club is putting together an event that will bring all of the features of national convention to our back yard, and showcase the best of San Diego during one the most beautiful times of the year.

After meeting with the organizers from the San Diego Corvair Club, they have asked that our club help share some of the workload hosting the convention. They would like is to help with the following events:

July 26 – Monday - Opening Night Ice Cream Social. This is a welcome social event for all convention attendees. They would like at least 4 of our club members help set-up, serve ice cream, and stay for the clean up afterwards. Total commitment: 4 hours.

July 27-31 – Tuesday through Saturday Hospitality Room. This is a room at the host hotel where convention attendees can stop in and grab a refreshment and snack, meet up with others, and get out of the weather. The San Diego Corvair Club will set this up and operate it throughout the week (generally 8-9AM to 4-5PM). They have asked for us to provide 2 people each day from 11-1 (or 10-noon, or noon to 2 depending on other happenings) to relieve their members and staff the room. This will give their folks a chance to take a break, enjoy the convention also, without closing the Hospitality Room. Our members will greet people and distribute water, soft drinks, and snacks. As part of this responsibility, convention organizers have asked that we contribute some snacks and bottled water. Total commitment: 2 hours per day, plus some bulk snacks and bottled water.

Finally, the organizing committee has asked that we be available “here and there” around the convention to fill in where needed. If members are not participating in the Economy Run, the Autocross, or the Concourse Show; or off on one of the excursions to the U.S.S. Midway, Balboa Park or the Beach,; or participating in the other convention activities, please feel free t donate a few hours to help at the registration table, support an event or fill in wherever is needed. Let’s do our part to help make this a successful convention!

Your Cactus Corvair Club will also have our own vendor space/booth. We will use this as our “convention headquarters,” to promote our club and provide a place for our club members to rest, connect and coordinate their activities, and check in before helping at other convention tasks. We will need members to help “staff” the booth in shifts. This is all in the early stages of planning; but start thinking about your trip to San Diego next July!



**San Diego, CA July 26<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 2021**

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## Cactus Corvair Club Meeting September 2, 2020 Meeting Report by Nancy P:

A meeting of the Cactus Corvair Club was called to order via Zoom at 7:08 p.m. on September 2nd, 2020 by club president David D. Fourteen members were in attendance.

### Old Business

- The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.
- Due to Covid 19, the Corsa Convention has been rescheduled to July 26-31, 2021
- The Fan Belt Toss has been cancelled for this year.
- We are hoping to schedule our annual All-Corvair Show in April of 2021.

### New Business

Car shows in September/October::

- October 10 – Chandler American Legion Show \$25 entry fee.
- November 7 -- Several shows to choose from; watch the website for more details.
- November 20-22 – Good Guys Show
- As many members may be uncomfortable going to shows with large crowds at this time, the club is going to promote more impromptu gatherings and “Fun Runs” of smaller groups in order to keep going through the Covid crisis.

Other New Business:

- The club will be meeting via Zoom for the foreseeable future. In addition, the club will be continuing to offer meetings via Zoom even after we resume in-person meetings at Earnhardt Chevrolet. It will help attendance and participation of members living in the West Valley or remote locations.
- We were updated on everyone's projects. Tim W. told of how he installed door panels wrong, and how shipping costs from Clark's are getting ridiculous. David D. suggested more communication among club members to hunt down parts, as chances are good that someone locally will have what you're looking for.
- For the 2021 Corsa Convention, we would like to have a plan for participating in the valve Cover Races. Gary will supply specifications.
- While we are spending more time at home, David D. thought it would be interesting to build model cars over the winter and have a “Model Car Show” in May.
- We had three new members join the club. Welcome, Susan S., Rick A., and Dave A.
- While performing his duties as a census taker, Chuck R. spotted a nice '61 Rampside in someone's backyard in Whittmann. It's for sale; if anyone is interested, he has the contact information.
- Chuck also offered to make a club poster if we send him photos of our cars.
- Elections will be held in October, so be thinking about that now.

### Closing Thoughts

- Meeting adjourned at 7:56 P.M.

## Cactus Corvair Club Meeting October 7, 2020 Meeting Report by Nancy P:

A meeting of the Cactus Corvair Club was called to order via Zoom at 7:10 p.m. on October 7th, 2020 by club president David D. Thirteen members were in attendance.

### Old Business

- Due to Joe L.'s absence, no Treasurer's report was given.
- September meeting minutes were read and accepted.

### New Business

- David D. showed the short 6-minute promotional video "The Corvair In Action" that Chevrolet released in 1960 to prove that the Corvair, despite its obviously different engineering, could compete with more conventional cars of the era.
- Car shows in October/November:
  - October 10 – Chandler American Legion Show \$25 entry fee.
  - The Tucson All-Chevy Show is now officially canceled.
  - As the status of upcoming shows and Cruise-Ins may be constantly evolving, we were encouraged to check Corvair forums, Cruisin' AZ, Corvair Gatherings, and of course our CCC website for up-to-date information.
- David D. showed us the Corsa website, Corvair.org, which has plenty of interesting information, as well as merchandise for sale such as t-shirts at reasonable prices.
- It was the legendary Charlie Dye's birthday on Oct.2, which happens to be the release date of the Corvair 61 years ago this year. Charlie was "released" a little sooner, celebrating his 93<sup>rd</sup> year this year. He is our oldest and most senior club member.
- Club elections: Most officers and board members agreed to stay on, with the exceptions of Dave W. who will step down as Vice President in order to concentrate more on the website management and providing more technical presentations at future meetings. Bob K. accepted the nomination as his replacement. Alan F. is taking a position on the Board of Directors that is vacated by Bob K. moving to VP. This will help with representation from the West Valley. Nominations are now closed; changes take place on November 1st.
- We were updated on everyone's projects. Bob's car is in David D.'s garage with the drivetrain out. None of Miner's cars are currently running. Alex and Anthony can't get their brake shoes off. And Nancy's car "Duane" is not running.

### Closing Thoughts

- Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M. Next meeting will be via Zoom on Wednesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>.

## Cactus Corvair Club Meeting November 4, 2020 Meeting Report by Nancy P:

A meeting of the Cactus Corvair Club was called to order via Zoom at 7:03 p.m. on November 4th, 2020 by club president David D. Thirteen members were in attendance.

### Old Business

- October's Meeting Minutes were read and approved.
- Treasurer's report was read and approved. \$32.50 was spent on retaining the Domain Name for our website.
- Members talked about car shows they had attended in October; Chris, Rick A. and Doc went to the American Legion show; Chuck went to the Oasis show; Doc went to Wheels and Wings.

### New Business

- The term for the elected Officers began on 11/1
- Members had questions of those attending recent shows as to Covid 19 safety and mask-wearing. It was reported that masks are generally being worn in buildings, at tables, or while talking, but not so much while wandering around looking at cars.
- David D. proposed forgiving dues for the 2021 club year, as we are not anticipating any big expenses to Covid 19 curtailment. The members voted in favor of this; we decided that dues could be donated if anyone still wanted to support the club in that way.
- We proposed the club focus on recruiting new and if possible younger members in order to ensure the club's existence in the future.
- We discussed creation of a Contacts List. Some people are more private about their information, some are okay with publishing it. We could approach this as officers only or within the club; published on the website or distributed within the club only. This was moved to a Board of Directors discussion item.
- We discussed creating a Club Poster with photos of members' cars on it. Would like to schedule a Photo Day some time in December.
- The Corsa Convention is still going on as planned July 26-31, 2021. Our club is helping out in the Ice Cream Social, Valve Cover Races, and Hospitality Tent. We are also building concours models.
- Upcoming events: The good Guys Show is November 20-22 and will be limited access; you must pre-register. There's a show at Sanderson Ford on Nov. 7. As always, go to CruiseAZ website to check for upcoming shows.
- We viewed two Tech Talk videos: One was a modification to fuel pumps to allow them to be pressure-adjustable; the other was a dual tail light modification to make the brake lights more visible.
- We caught up on member's projects, and were informed of an Estate Auction next week in Cave Creek where there will be Corvairs for sale.

### Closing Thoughts

- Meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M. Next meeting will be via Zoom on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
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**About Us:**

While a salesman at Rudolph Chevrolet in Phoenix Arizona, Lou Grubb decided there were possibilities in an inexpensive, economy car produced by the Chevrolet Division, the Corvair. He sent letters to recent Corvair buyers and devotees alike inviting them to a social dedicated to appreciation of the car. With a promising response, discussion turned to organizing a new sports car club. With hasty planning, the first event was an economy run put together by a group of rookie enthusiasts who later became the first members of Cactus Corvair Club after its Constitution was signed in October 2, 1963. We are the oldest, continually active, Corvair club in the world!

As part of the Phoenix Chapter of CORSA (Corvair Society of America) we hosted our first regional mini-convention in April of 1976. People from all over the country came, with an estimated 90 cars and 150 people attendees. The event included autocross, a concours show, driving tour of the Valley of the Sun, and a "Fiesta banquet.

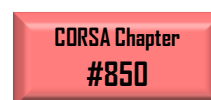
The Cactus Corvair Club hosts an annual All-Corvair show in early October, participates in classic car shows throughout the year (usually benefitting local charities), and supports classic car events, museums, and organizations dedicated to the preservation and public education of our automotive history. We are a community of car enthusiasts; all our events are family oriented and we are excited to meet you.

Club Officers		Board Members:
President	<b>David Dean</b> <a href="mailto:dr.dean@cox.net">dr.dean@cox.net</a>	<b>Miner Fleming</b>
Vice President	<b>Bob Keiser</b>	<b>Chris Slonecker</b>
Treasurer	<b>Joe Lewis</b>	<b>Al Frehauf</b>
Secretary	<b>Nancy Pastore</b>	

Webmaster Dave W. [dave@rcaz.com](mailto:dave@rcaz.com)

Membership Dues:

Cactus Corvair Club  
 c/o Treasurer Joe Lewis  
 5811 W Park Ave  
 Chandler, AZ 85226



Meeting room generously provided by:

Earnhardt Chevrolet  
 2121 N. Arizona Ave.  
 Chandler, AZ 85225

Find us on **Facebook**

**Cactus Corvair Club**

**Arizona Corvair Gatherings**

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=arizona%20corvair%20gatherings>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/239893616189038/>

**UPCOMING Club Meetings/Events:**

December 19, 2020	Mixteca Cruise/White Elephant Exchange – 4PM-8PM 67 <sup>th</sup> Ave and Bell Rd
December 27, 2020	Photos at Phil's – 8 AM- Fountain Hills
January 6, 2021	Regular Club Meeting ONLINE via Zoom! 7PM
January 23, 2021	Agri-Country Bluegrass & Car Show – Pinal County Fairgrounds
February 3, 2021	Regular Club Meeting ONLINE via Zoom! 7PM
February 6, 2021	Salute to Veterans Car Show – Peoria Sports Complex
March 2, 2021	Regular Club Meeting ONLINE via Zoom! 7PM
March 27, 2021	COP's Classics & Custom – San Tan Valley
April 5, 2021	Regular Club Meeting ONLINE via Zoom! 7PM
April 24, 2021	Club Picnic & All Corvair Car Show - TBD
May 5, 2021	Regular Club Meeting ONLINE via Zoom! 7PM



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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

[www.cactuscorvairclub.com](http://www.cactuscorvairclub.com)

**Monthly Meetings**

*Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month  
(except for June, July and August)*

*Location is at [Earnhardt Chevrolet 2121 N. Arizona Ave -  
Chandler AZ 85225](#)*

*Meetings start at 7PM. Driving a Corvair is encouraged  
but not required.*

**Cactus Corvair Club**  
5811 W. Park Ave  
Chandler, AZ 85226



Name  
Street Address  
City, ST ZIP Code