

# Corvair Anniversary Car Show

On Saturday, October 5, the Cactus Corvair Club sponsored an all Corvair car show in the outdoor display area of Thorobred Chevrolet in Chandler, Arizona. This was the fifth annual of an event which started with the 50th anniversary of the October 2, 1959 introduction of the Chevrolet Corvair.

There were 23 Corvairs in attendance including Ken Farr with his "new" '67 red convertible, John and Amy Young with their '66 red Turbo Corsa convertible, and Van Pershing with his daughter's '65 blue Turbo Corsa convertible.

There were door prizes and pizza and cold drinks and plenty of passers-by to look at all the Corvair on the front row of the dealership lot.

Joe West, a new member of the Cactus Corvair Club took the People's Choice first place prize with his beautiful '64 Spyder convertible. Van's Corsa took second place, John and Amy's Corsa took home the third place trophy.

One of the highlights of the show was a cut-away four-door that belongs to John Seaman. Apparently, the car had been t-boned in serious accident and instead of scraping the car, it was cut in half and made into a cool display.

*A cut-away 4-door owned by John Seaman was on display.*



*23 of the nicest Corvairs in the state were on display at Thorobred Chevrolet in Chandler.*



*Three cars representing the Tucson Corvair Association were there. Ken Farr's "new" '67 convertible (above), John Young's '66 Turbo Corsa (left), and the '65 Turbo Corsa that Van Pershing built for his daughter (far left).*



## Tucson Corvair Association



Established 1975

The *Corvairsation* is a monthly publication of the Tucson Corvair Association, which is dedicated to the preservation of the Corvair model of the Chevrolet Motor Division of General Motors. The Tucson Corvair Association is a chartered member of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) as Chapter 357.

Membership dues are \$15 per year for individuals and \$18 for families. Initial dues are \$19 for individuals and \$22 for families (includes name tags) for members of CORSA. Add \$3 per person for non-CORSA members. Make checks payable to the Tucson Corvair Association.

Change of Address: Report any change of address or phone number to the Membership Chairperson.

CORSA membership dues are \$45 per year (\$90 for 26 months) and include a subscription to the CORSA Comminique, a bi-monthly publication. CORSA memberships is not required for membership in the Tucson Corvair Association, but is highly recommended. See any TCA officer for more information.

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## TCA 2013 Events at a Glance

Oct 23, Wed

**Regular Monthly Meeting.** Parking Lot Bull Session at 6:30pm. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. Kettle Restaurant, 748 W Starr Pass, I-10 & 22nd.

Oct 25 - 27

**36th Annual Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet.** Sunrise Park, Palms Springs, California

Nov 2, Sat

**Cops and Rodders Car Show.** More details as they become available.

Nov 16, Sat

**Bisbee Copper Queen Mine Tour:** Meet at the Triple T Truck Stop (I-10 & Craycroft) at 9:00am. After the cruise to Bisbee, we'll head back to Desert Diamond for the buffet.

Dec 14, Sat

**TCA Annual Christmas Party.** Cody Beef 'N Beans. 6:30pm. Bring a gift to exchange. White elephant gifts are great, but no Gray elephants allowed. 2 or 3 cans of food for the food Bank. A selected menu will be provided.

Feb 2, Sat

**Collector Car Show - Tubac.** 10am to 3pm. Tubac Golf Resort. Registration deadline: January 25, 2014.  
[www.carnuts.org](http://www.carnuts.org)

## New Meeting Place

In an effort to find a meeting place that is more central for our members, we are going to try **Kettle Restaurant** near the intersection of I-10 and 22nd Street. The restaurant has a separate room that can be closed off for our privacy. It's located at **748 W Starr Pass Blvd.** Exit the freeway and go west. Right on the corner of the east bound exit and 22nd.

We'll give it a try and see if it passes the scrutiny of the discerning TCA diner.

# September Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the monthly meeting held September 25, 2013 at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 6865 N. Thornydale, Tucson, Arizona.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Lake.

In attendance were Lynn Marrs, John and Amy Young, Van Pershing, Ken Farr, Don Robinson, Mike Strong, Sam Pernu, Ron and Lynn, Bloom, Bill Maynard, Jim Mills, Allen Elvick, Mike Lake, and special guest Frank Pella.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Madera Canyon Outing was firmed up. Meet at the Home Depot at 10:30am on Saturday, September 28. Bring a dish to share. Lynn Bloom express concern on changing the date of the outing at the last minute. More communication is necessary.

It was decided to change next month's meeting to the Kettles on 22nd and I-10. We will try it out to see if it's an acceptable place to meetings in the future. It's a little more centrally located with easy access from the freeway.

Bianci's Pizza near the corner of Speedway and Silverbell has invited us to show our cars in their parking lot. Free pizza and drinks. Mike Lake will make the arrangements.

The Christmas Party was discussed several venues were presented for consideration including Todd's, Carruso's, Cody's Beef 'N Beams, etc. It was decided to reserve the meeting room at Cody's Beef 'N Beans for December 14. Lynn Marrs will call to firm up reservations.

Amy Young model a jacket that she received as a gift. It may be a possible choice for a club jacket. Van will research the details of making a purchase.

Upcoming events for October and November were discussed. (See page 2 for details)

Treasurers report was give by Allen Elvick. Starting bank balance for the month of August was \$2,412.47 with a closing balance of \$2,418.58.

Frank Pella took the floor and presented details of the upcoming Air National Guard Family Day and Car Show. It will be help on Sunday, November 3 at the Guard Station located at the Tucson Airport. Forms must be filled out and turned in by October 16 for non-military people. There will be lots of fun activities for the kids and adults as well as a photo op for you and your car with an F-16 fighter jet. Hot dogs, hamburgers, chip and a drink will be available for \$1. Forms are available on the TCA website.

The raffle was held and the winners were Mike Lake, Lynn Bloom, Amy Young, and Frank Pella. Lynn Bloom, Allen Elvick, Jim Mills, and Ron Bloom volunteered to provide raffle prizes for next month.

Van Pershing had a couple nylon pitman arm bushing that he sold to the highest bidders with proceeds going to the club treasury.

Tech Talk: A discussion was held regarding the failure of Clark's main bearings. Ken had one go on this '64 convertible and Jim Mills has known of several recent bearing failures.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

*Respectfully submitted: Lynn Marrs*

## More All Corvair Show pictures



*Joe West's '64 Spyder placed first in the People's Choice. Notice the oil bath air cleaner option. A very rare sighting on a Spyder.*



*On the cut-in-half 4-door, even one of the cylinder and the head had a little cut-a-way action going on.*



*John Seaman's Rampside was the only forward control vehicle at the party.*

# Madera Canyon Picnic

by Mike Lake

We left the Home Depot parking lot about 10:45 Saturday morning on September 28 and headed south on I-19 to meet up with John and Amy Young at Madera Canyon. Earline and I, in the lead followed by Alan and Marianne Elvick in their SUV, then Ron and Lynn Bloom with Josh and Chad in the Greenbrier, Ken and Heidi in the new red ride (thank God Tweety is retired) with their great grandchildren, and Jim Mills in his Rampside.

We were rolling along just nicely until we just passed the Casino. At that point the Corvair contingent faded in my rear view mirror and Alan pulled to a stop. Could it be? No it can't be! A Corvair having trouble? That never happens!! Alan and I decided to back track to the source of the delay. It seems that someone forgot to mount his Run-Flat tires on his Greenbrier. One tire decided to hand grenade all over I-19. Chad and Josh did a great job in changing the flat.

Back on the road again, we exited at Sahuarita to put the other half of the air back in the spare tire that was mounted on the Greenbrier. Ken and Jim pressed on while we aired up the tire. Our group decided to head south on Old Nogales Highway rather than risk another blow out on I-19. As luck would have it, we weren't



*Jim and John discuss the weather as the group gets ready for lunch.*



*The entire crew at the picnic site in the beautiful surrounds of Madera Canyon.*

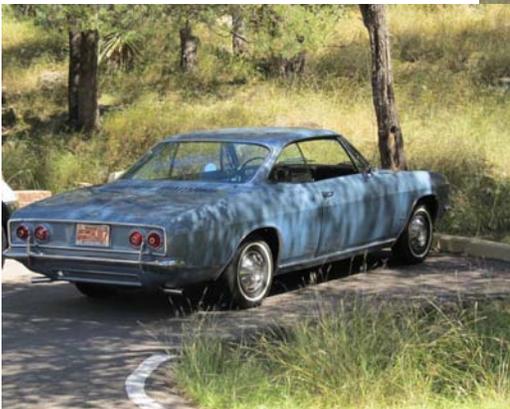
the only ones lost. We encountered Ken and Jim heading in the opposite direction. We finally got gathered up and proceeded to Madera Canyon. As we drove into the picnic area I was looking for a super nice red convertible, when I came across a super nice blue coupe. First thought was that we had a new club member. Not to be. It was John Young trying to confuse me. It doesn't take much these days.

We settled into the picnic area that was used last year. Chad and Josh got the grills fired up, the women got the table set, and the feast began. Chad, with help from Josh, did an outstanding job on the New York strip steaks. We feasted upon the best dog gone potato salad in the universe, bake beans that would put Bush's Baked Beans out of business, and a squash casserole that was incredible. For dessert there were homemade brownies that were so rich that Hersheys has closed, apple turnovers, cookies, and muffins. In no time we were all stuffed to the gills. Ron even counted sheep for awhile. We had plenty of food and drink for everyone. The weather was almost perfect, although we all wished for rain, to keep the tradition going.

In attendance were John and Amy, Ken and Heidi with grandchildren in tow, Alan and Marianne, Ron and Lynn, Chad, Josh, Jim, and Earline and I.

*Photos by Mike Lake*

*John and Amy's '65 Monza 140.*



*The Greenbrier that needs some tires put on it taht are less than 20 years old.*

*Ken's "new" convertible that has taken poor Twitty's place while it gets a new engine.*



# Thousands travel to Nebraska for vintage Chevy auction

By GRANT SCHULTE — Sep. 28 3:54 PM EDT

PIERCE, Neb. (AP) — A handful of barely driven vintage Chevrolets fetched more than half a million dollars on Saturday at an auction that drew thousands of car buffs from around the world to a small northeast Nebraska town.

Bidders and gawkers crowded shoulder-to-shoulder for the auction in a muddy field just west of Pierce, a town of about 1,800. Spectators in helicopters and airplanes circled overhead as the lead auctioneer, Yvette VanDerBrink, inched down the auction line on a wooden platform hauled by a pickup.

Event organizers said an estimated 10,000 people traveled from as far as Norway and Brazil to see the sale in person, and more than 3,800 had registered online to bid at an auction website by mid-day Saturday.

The auction of more than 500 old cars and pickups was expected to continue on Sunday. Organizers said they hadn't yet totaled the bids for the roughly 50 most high-profile, low-mileage classic cars and trucks,

which were auctioned on Saturday. As of midday, six of the most valuable models had sold for a combined \$545,000.

The collection belonged to Ray Lambrecht and his wife, Mildred, who ran a Chevrolet dealership in downtown Pierce for five decades before retiring in 1996. Unlike most dealers, Ray Lambrecht stashed many of his unsold cars in a warehouse, at his farm and other spots around town if they didn't sell in the first year.

The first vehicle sold — a sky-blue, 1958 Chevy Cameo pickup driven 1.3 miles — secured the largest bid at \$140,000. Another bidder spent \$97,500 on a red and white 1963 Impala with 11.4 miles on its odometer, the manufacturer's plastic on the seat and a yellow typewritten window sticker dis-

playing its original price: \$3,254.70.

Lyle Buckhouse, a retired farmer from Hankerson, N.D., poked his head Saturday into a 1963 Chevy Corvair with 17.2 miles on the odometer. Moments later, the self-proclaimed "Corvair guy" was hunting eagerly for the bidder-registration tent.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Buckhouse said. "That's why I came down here. You just don't know what you're going to see."

Bob Esler, the owner of Bob's Garage in Westfield, Ind., bought a four-door 1964 Bel Air station wagon for \$30,000. The car had 326 miles.

"This is one of the cars that I had my eyes on," Esler said, as he leaned against his new purchase. "I want to use it to haul all of my customers around."

"How are you getting it back home?" a friend asked.

Esler shrugged. "I haven't figured that out yet," he said.

Preparations for the two-day auction began in June. VanDerBrink, the auctioneer, said she took calls from as far as Iceland, Singapore and Brazil before the event.

The two least-driven cars, a 1959 Bel Air and a 1960 Corvair Monza, have one mile on their odometer. The oldest vehicle with fewer than 20 miles dates to 1958; the newest is a 1980 Monza with nine miles.

Some bidders used the auction to

hunt for rare parts for their collector cars and trucks, while others came to watch the spectacle.

"What drew us here as much as anything was the story," said Ernie Turcotte, who drove with his son, Jeff, from central Massachusetts to look for fenders and running boards for his 1955 Ford F-100. "I don't understand how it even happened. But here they are."

Ray Lambrecht opened the downtown dealership with his uncle in 1946, on the corner of Main Street and Nebraska Highway 13. The U.S. Army veteran quickly established himself as an unusual salesman: He gave his lowest price up front, without negotiation, and encouraged hagglers to try to find a better deal elsewhere.

In 1954, he drove then-Gov. Robert Crosby down Main Street in a parade celebrating the 100-year anniversary of Nebraska as a territory.

The most valuable vehicles were stored for decades at a nearby warehouse, until a heavy snow collapsed the roof. Some were damaged, but many were saved and moved elsewhere. The models at the dealership were among the best preserved, even as the building gave way to bats and holes in the roof.

Ray and his wife, Mildred, retired in 1996. Ray, 95, and Mildred, 92, still live in Pierce, but their health has declined. They decided to sell the collection so others could enjoy the cars and pickups, said their daughter, Jeannie Stillwell, who lives in





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Corvair Society of America Chapter 857



**Regular Monthly Meetings** are held on the Fourth Wednesday of every month with a bull session starting at 6:30pm with the meeting starting at 7:00pm.

The November meeting is generally held on the third Wednesday. The December meeting is our annual Christmas party with the time and place to be announced.

## **NEW MEETING PLACE:**

Kettle Restaurant, 748 W Starr Pass (I-10 and 22nd), Tucson, Arizona.

Board of Director meetings are held at 5:30pm before the regular monthly meeting at the same location in the months of January, April, July and October . All members are welcome to attend.

This newsletter can also be accessed at [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org)



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***Don't Forget:***  
***NEW MEETING PLACE***