

## Tucson Classics Car Show - Corvairs Present!

The 10th annual Tucson Classics Car Show was held on Saturday, October 15 with over 425 vehicles on parade. Among them were three Corvairs, Mike Lake's Red Rocket and Ron Bloom's Purple Rain, and Frank Pella's blue convertible. Best of show went to a '49 Chevy 3100 pickup, the Mayor's Award was picked up by a 1950 Ford Custom convertible, and 1950 Packard Victoria took home the Title Sponsor's Award. Because of the tremendous contention between two the Corvair owners, they were disqualified from receiving any prizes whatsoever. One owner claimed he the other was driving a Yugo Junkie and the other owner was sure that his competitor was going to win the Golden Outhouse Award.

In the end it was a very good show. It was very well run and the weather was perfect, Fellow TCA member Bob Moulton brought one of the Busses from Old Pueblo Trolley and the '27 Packard from the Franklin Museum was there.

For a completely unbiased report from both Ron and Mike plus many more pictures go to the Activities page of [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org).



1927 Packard, straight 8 pounding out 37 horsepower! It sold for \$7,200 new.



Photos by Mike Lake



# TCA 2016 Events at a Glance

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 one name tag). Make checks payable to the Tucson Corvair Association and mail to the TCA Treasurer.

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

**CORSA membership** dues are \$45 per year (\$90 for 26 months) and include a subscription to the CORSA Communiqué, a bi-monthly publication. CORSA membership 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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**Website:** [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org). Email address: [tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com](mailto:tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com)

**Nov 6, Sat**

**Tucson Auto Museum.** 990 S Cherry Ave, Tucson. Open from 10am to 2pm. Free admission (normally \$10). Donations accepted. Food Available for purchase.

**Nov 16, Wed**

**Regular Monthly Meeting.** Parking Lot Bull Session at 6:30pm. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. Pizza Hut, 2943 N

**Dec 17, Sat**

**TCA Christmas Party.** Rusty's Grill, 2075 W Grant Road. 6-9pm. There will be a silent auction and a white elephant gift exchange. Bring a gift to trade. \$20 maximum limit.

## WHEELS AND SPOKES

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## Late Model Taillight Socket Blues



*NAPA part number LS 6469 for use on the taillight/brake lights*



*NAPA part number LS 6465 for use on the backup lights.*

A recent discussion on the Virtual Vairs forum was about the availability of all metal taillight/backup light sockets to replace the plastic units. The plastic ones have a tendency to come loose and fall out, and don't always make good ground. Several suggestions were made which included putting a #4 sheet metal screw in the plastic housing to hold the grounding shell in place to soldering a wire to the tab and grounding the other end to an adjacent bolt. NAPA sells a couple of Echlin sockets: one for the brake/taillights (p/n LS6469) and one for the backup lights (p/n LS6465). JT&T Products also offers the sockets (p/n 2578F and 2579F). They each have 6 metal tabs which serve to hold the socket secure in place and provide more places to make a good ground. They cost around 5 or 10 bucks per socket but have made several Corvair owners very happy.

## October Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the monthly meeting held October 27, 2016 at Pizza Hut, 2943 N Campbell, Tucson, Arizona.

The meeting was called to order at 7pm. In attendance were Gary DeMoss, Roger Lahey, Rich Lekawa, Dave and Patrick Lynch, Mike Lake, Jan Lake, Gloria, Frank, and Javier Trejo, Allen Elvick, Dean Caruchi, Bob and Carol Traylor, Ron (the white wagon owner), Ron Bloom, Bill Maynard, John Young, and Sam Pernu.

Minutes of the September meeting were approved.

TCA member Gary DeMoss lives in Akron, Ohio and is an active member of the Friends of Corvair Club and has invited all to come to a club meeting if ever in Ohio.

Rich Lahey, aka "Lurch", has a '66 Corvair, 442s, a Camaro and Volkswagens. He wants restore his '66.

Treasurer's report: balance on September 1: \$2,788.88 with a closing balance on September 30 of \$2804.88.

Mike Lake went over the upcoming and past activities. The Sierra Vista Cars in the Park Show was fantastic. Mike, Bill, Ron and Frank Pella attended. The Tucson Classics show was great with the Corvairs being the envy of the Show being the only ones who were under a shade tree. The GWFBT&SM was attended by Mike, Ron, Allen, John and Sam. The Cops and Rodders Show at Kino Sports Park will be on November 5. The tour of the Tucson Automobile Museum will be on November 6. A show at the O'Rielly Parts store on Speedway and Silverbell will be on November 6. November 13 will be a wine tasting trip to Sonoyta and Patagonia with the Classic Chevy Club and we'll meet at 10am at Discount Tire on Houghton. December 3 will be the Little Anthony's Show from 7 to 9pm. The Tubac show will be in January. Coming up, Bob Anderson, a Corvair suspension specialist, will be giving a show-and-tell at his garage.

The November meeting will be held on the third Wednesday, November 16.

After the break, Mike Lake won the fan belt toss.

Tech Talk: Bill had a headliner put in his '66 and couldn't get it going. Turned to be a broken wire between the coil and the distributor. Ron Bloom's convertible was running rough and found the bushing in the distributor was worn out. Ron with the wagon has it running well and is now working on the brakes. Paint will be after that. Rich is looking for a set of 140 exhaust manifolds. John Young is having some quirky electrical problems.

Dave Lynch is now the top salesman at Harbor Freight on 22nd and will be able to have some people signed up for a nice discount later in November. Contact him for more details.

*Submitted by Frank Trejo*



## 29th Annual Cars in the Park

Ron Bloom and Mike Lake made the trek to Sierra Vista on October 8 for the Cars in the Park show sponsored by the Sierra Vista Car Club. There was another Corvair from the local club in attendance. Frank Pella of the Classic Chevy Club was there with his '68 convertible and went home with second place prize in the Air Cooled Class. It was a beautiful day with over 300 entries.



*Ron Bloom with Purple Rain and Mike Lake with Red Rocket waiting for the prizes that never came.*



*This beautiful Porsche 550 Spyder replica received the third place award in the Air-Cooled class. Go figure.....*

## GET 'EM WHILE THEY'RE HOT!

Hey friends, a close friend of mine has 2 TICKETS for the 2017 Super Bowl. Luxury box seats plus airfare, accommodation, etc. for two but he didn't realize when he bought them that this is going to be on the same day as his wedding - so he can't go.

If you're interested and WANT TO GO instead of him, it's at Community Church in Phoenix at 5pm. Her name is Rachael, she will be the one in the white dress.

# The Good Ole Days

From *Piston "Ping"*, newsletter of the State of Jefferson Antique Care Club, August 2016. Thanks to Chris Cunningham

On a very warm, summer afternoon the proud owner of a magnificent 1956 Chevrolet convertible that he had restored to perfection over the last few years, decided to take his car to town. It needed gas, as the gauge was practically on empty, but he wanted ice cream so he headed first to his favorite ice cream shop.

He had trouble finding a parking space and had to park the car down a side street. He noticed a group of young guys standing around smoking cigarettes and eyeing his car rather covetously. He was a bit uneasy leaving it there, but people often take interest in such an old and well-preserved car, so he went off to enjoy his ice cream.

The line at the ice cream shop was long and it took him quite a while to return to his car. When he did, his worst fears were realized: his car was gone.

He called the police and reported the theft and then went back and bought a quart of pistachio ice cream. About ten minutes later the police called him to say they had found the car abandoned near a gas station a few miles out of town. It was unharmed and he was relieved. It seem just before he called, the police had received a call from a young woman who was an employee at a self service gas station. She told them that three young men had driven in with this beautiful old convertible. One of them came to the window and prepaid for \$20 worth of gas. Then all three of them walked around the car. Then they all got in the car and drove off without filling the tank.

The question is, why would anybody steal a car, pay for gas that they never pumped and then abandon the car later and walk away?

Answer: They couldn't find where to put the gas!

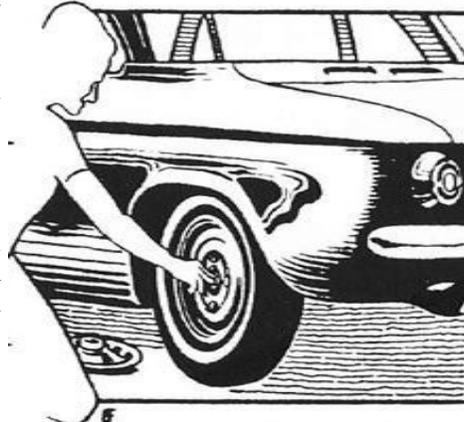


# Tech Tip

from the *Fanbelt Flyer*, Cactus Corvair Club by Bob Grisby

After driving for 15 minutes with the rear hub caps off (approx. 50 MPH), I stopped and checked the axle center by touch. The driver side could be held for only 2-3 seconds before pain, but the passenger side could be held 6+ seconds with only moderate heat noticed.

Conclusion was that the driver side bearing was developing heat due to friction of the bearing not performing in correct rolling manner. This test could be made to any early or late Corvair with the same results. After 15 minutes of driving at 50 MPH, if you check the rear axle center you should only feel moderate heat (like heat from electric blanket). If the center feels hot then you have friction due to lack of lubrication or a bad bearing. This test is not valid if you drive on city streets due to the amount of braking involved. Testing while doing extended braking might show invalid results because the heat from braking friction could be mistaken for heat from bad bearings.



# In-tank Electric Fuel Pump

This tech tip comes from Blake and Tim Palmer. A fuel pump that was intended for use in a Vega, among many other cars, can be used in the Corvair fuel tank by modifying the stock Corvair sending unit assembly. An Airtex E2485 pump can be used and costs around \$30. Many other companies make an equivalent pump as well. The pump runs at 4-6 psi with an output of 20-35 gpm. Complete details for the installation and the mods required can be found at:

[http://www.murfy.us/doku.php?id=timtechcorvairwiki:09\\_fuelandexhaust\\_systems:electric\\_fuel\\_pump\\_for\\_the\\_corvair](http://www.murfy.us/doku.php?id=timtechcorvairwiki:09_fuelandexhaust_systems:electric_fuel_pump_for_the_corvair)

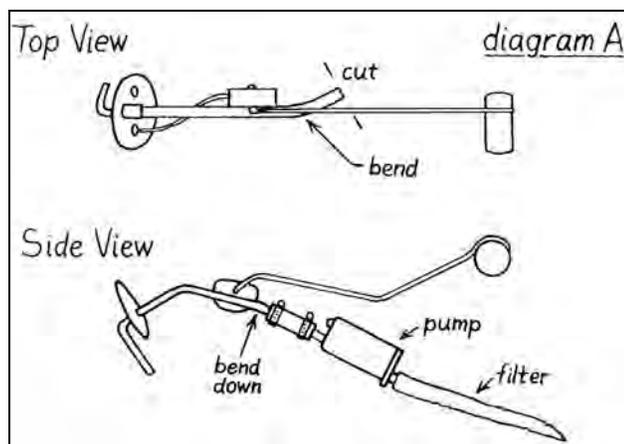


Diagram of required modifications.

# OPT Opens New Facility

photos courtesy of Chris Cunningham.

On Saturday, October 1, Old Pueblo Trolley dedicated their new facility on the northwest corner of 4th Avenue and 36th Street. Our own Bob Moulton is a regular volunteer at OPT and was in attendance at the ceremony. Mike Lake had the Red Rocket on display along with Bill Maynard and his 1931 Dodge, and Ron Bloom was there with his Greenbrier.



# The Adventures of Purple Rain and Red Rocket

There are those times when a good automobile might know little more than its owner. A good example of that is Herbie, the famous Number 53 Beetle, who starred in the Walt Disney movies some many years ago.

A more recent example happened a few weeks ago when Ron Bloom and Mike Lake returned from and outing to Sierra Vista. These two geniuses drove their cars, Red Rocket and Purple Rain, in a torrential downpour on I-10 with neither car having functional windshield wipers. This is only mentioned to set the intellectual stage of these two members of the human race. In this examples the cars might be somewhat higher in the IQ department.

Since Red Rocket was feeling a little under the weather (pun intended), Mike decided to leave him at Ron's place for the night so Purple Rain and Green-Dryer could do his best to nurse him back to health. Apparently the Red Rocket was not even capable of making the 6-mile journey home for the night. The next morning with storm clouds on the horizon, Red Rocket did not want to leave the comfort of his resting place; he did not under any circumstances what to move. Having spent an evening in the charming company of Purple Rain and Green-Dryer, he was as happy as could be thinking he had found a new home where he was much more appreciated than with his evil master.

Purple Rain decided to help with the predicament and tried persuade Red Rocket by gently tugging on him with a tow strap. Red Rocket just didn't want to leave. After several gentle attempts, Purple Rain summoned the power of his newly installed hamsters and pulled Red Rocket out. Green-dryer jumped for joy and Purple Rain smiled with glee. When Red Rocket saw how happy his friends were, he decided that it was okay to take a chance on the weather and enjoy the day's activities with his loving friends.



The End



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

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

**MEETING PLACE:**

Pizza Hut, 2943 N Campbell, 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.

Read this newsletter on line at [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org)



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***TCA Christmas Party***



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