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Letting the Good Times Roll Since 1975

February 2019

Volume 43 Number 8

# Big changes for the Tucson Corvair Association

Last summer a survey was sent to all members and past members of the Club in an attempt to conclude what could be done to increase meeting attendance and general member activity in the Club. At that time the club had about 40 members on the books. Meeting attendance was averaging 6 to 8 people per meeting and only 3 to 5 participating in the Club activities. Of the 60 plus inquiries we received only 10 responses. With the little information received, the Club officers made an effort to make the meeting more interesting by having technical and historic presentation along with more show-and-tell items of Corvair interest and to make a decision as to what direction to go after the first of the year (2019). After several months this enhanced meeting format attendance remained virtually the same. The same core group of members that had been participating before remained the same.

At the January meeting President Lake presented a questionnaire to the members in attendance asking each member to select one of the four options presented. The op-

tions were 1) leave things alone and proceed as we always have, 2) reduce meetings to once per quarter, 3) meet concurrently once a month with the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson, or 4) dissolve the Club entirely.

Of the seven members present at the meeting, five selected the option of meeting concurrently with the CCCT, two members abstained from answering.

The Board of Directors met on January 28 to establish a restructuring of the Club and it is with great excitement and expectation that the following will take effect:

- 1) The officers of the TCA will consist of a president, a vice president and a treasurer. All other officers and committees will no longer be necessary.
- 2) Monthly meetings will be held in conjunction with the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson at their meeting location. Membership in the CCCT is not required for meeting attendance, but is required for participation in their ac-

tivities. A TCA only meeting will be held quarterly.

- 3) Membership dues will be reduced to \$5.00 per year. Those who have already paid 2019 dues will be reimbursed the difference.
- 4) The *Corvairsation* will now be published quarterly and will be available electronically by email and on line at the website.
- 5) The TCA bylaws have been revised and will be voted on for approval at the next meeting. A copy of the new bylaws appear elsewhere in this newsletter.
- 6) TCA will have activities occasionally which will be announced in the *Corvairsation*. We are invited to participate in the regular monthly activities of the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson but in order to do so membership in the CCCT is required.

The officers of TCA are in hopes that these changes will give members a more diversified car club experience and more exposure to many various activities.

## New Meeting time and place

Effective immediately, the Tucson Corvair Association meetings will change to 7:00pm and the third Tuesday of every month at O’Rielly Chevrolet, 6160 E Broadway, Tucson. The meeting will take place in the training room on the second floor of the used car area. There is an outside stairway on the west side of the building as well as an inside stairway. Parking is available immediately to the west of the dealership in the old Sears parking lot at Park Place Mall.

## Next meeting:

Tuesday, February 18

7:00 pm

O’Rielly Chevrolet  
6160 E Broadway, Tucson

Meeting held in conjunction with the monthly meeting of the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson.



**TUCSON CORVAIR ASSOCIATION**  
Established 1975

# TCA 2019 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 monthly publication. Rates are \$37 per year and \$74 for 26 months for a “virtual” membership. CORSA membership is not required for membership in the Tucson Corvair Association, but is highly recommended. See any TCA officer for more information.

**Business Mailing Address:** 4842 W Paseo de las Colinas, Tucson, Arizona 85745

**Website:** [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org). Email address: [tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com](mailto:tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com)

- Feb 16 Sat** 2019 Cruise, BBQ & Blues Classic Car Show, 10am—3 pm. Registration: \$45, Feb 5 deadline. For more information go to [https://saaca.formstack.com/forms/2019\\_cruise\\_bbq\\_blues\\_festival](https://saaca.formstack.com/forms/2019_cruise_bbq_blues_festival)
- Feb 19 Tues** Regular Monthly Meeting. Parking Meeting starts at 7:00pm. O’Rielly Chevrolet, 6160 E Broadway, Tucson, second floor training room in the used car area.
- Jul 23-27** CORSA International Convention, Chicago, Illinois

## WHEELS AND SPOKES

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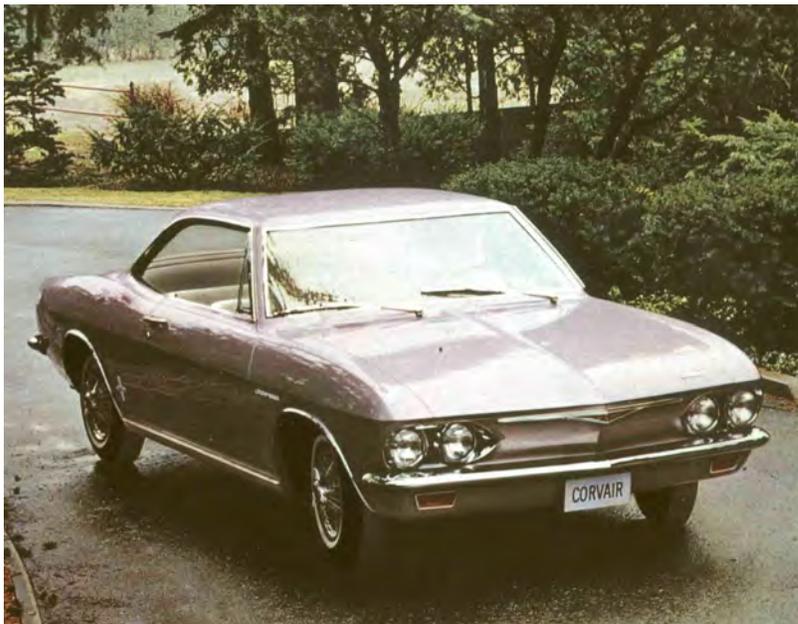
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520-780-7564

**Car and Driver’ David E. Davis waxed poetic about the Corvair in its October 1964 issue, saying:**



“And it is here too, that we have gone on record and say that the Corvair—in our opinion—the most important new car of the entire crop of ‘65 models, and the most beautiful car to appear in this country since before World War II.”

## January Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the monthly meeting of the Tucson Corvair Association held January 23, 2019 at Golden Corral, 4380 E 22nd Street, Tucson, Arizona.

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Lake at 7:00pm. In attendance were Mike Lake, Ron Bloom, Allen Elvick, Van Pershing, Frank Pella, John Young and Mitch Dunn.

Treasurer's report: Allen Elvick reported an opening balance in the Club's checking account for the month of December of \$2,302.08 with a month end balance of \$1,795.08.

A donation to the Dwarf Car Museum was made in December. To date the Club has received no response.

### Old Business:

The Christmas party was fairly well attended and seemed to be a successful evening for all in attendance.

Frank Pella and Mike Lake participated in the Day One Run on January 1 sponsored by the Door Slammers. About 45 cars participated even though it was a rainy and snowy day—yes, snow!

### New Business:

Several Corvairs were sold for way too much money at the Barrett-Jackson Auction in Scottsdale in January.

The Tubac car show coming up on January 26. John Young and Frank Pella are planning to attend.

It was suggested that we plan a get-together with the Cactus Club sometime in March.

The Caliente Clowns annual show in Florence will be held on March 9.

The Chevy Showdown is right around the corner. Mark your calendars for April 27 at the Diamond Desert Casino.

Cars still wanted for the Desert Balloon Glow event at the Desert Diamond Casino on Feb 16.

President Lake announced that new officers needed to be selected and that we need a break from serving after several years of service rendered to the Club. In a survey taken last summer it was decided that Club meeting would be reformatted in an attempt to revitalize meeting attendance and to reevaluate the Club's status after the first of the year. Since then meeting have become much more interesting with presentations and displays with no change in meeting attendance. President Lake circulated a questionnaire to the members I attendance regarding the status of the Club. It included four options and members were to select the option they preferred. The options were 1) continue as is with no changes, 2) reduce the Club's meeting to once per quarter, 3) meet with the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson and participate in their activities, and 4) dissolve the Tucson Corvair Association. Of the seven members in attendance, 5 voted to combine our meeting with the CCCT and 2 abstained. Mitch Dunn talked about the fact that Corvairs are starting to become more popular and accepted into the Volkswagen community because of the commonality of being air-cooled. A board meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 28 at 6pm at Culver's on River and First.

### Tech Topics:

John Young talked about a problem he's having with his '62 in that the car will not start after it has sat for two weeks. When cranked it no gas gets to the carbs. With a little prim into the carbs it starts instantly and will do so without problem until the car sits for a couple of weeks. Several suggestions were given and John plans on trying a new fuel pump to see if that won't solve the problem.

Mike Lake fried a couple of cylinders in his '65 turbo Corsa. He and Ron removed the heads and the just from the two suspect cylinders. Much discussion was had but the bottom line and the most unfortunate result was that it could not be fixed on the spot and Mike was forced to drive Ron's Purple Rain home. A sad day for Mike!

# Handy Tool for Sheet Metal Welding

At a recent Club meeting Mike Lake gave a very informative presentation on bodywork. One of the challenges when butt welding body sheet metal is to keep the adjoining surfaces even with each other while tacking them in place. Mike found a very useful and inexpensive tool to help do just that. It's called a butt welding clamp and is available from various suppliers including Harbor Freight, Eastman, Amazon, etc.

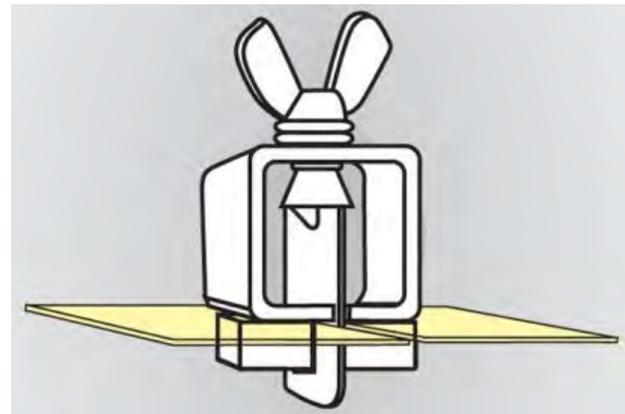
You simply remove the dowel (or square bar) from the blade, slip the blade into the space between the two pieces of metal you wish to weld, reinsert the dowel and tighten the thumb screw. Note that the back side has to be accessible to be able to use these clamps.



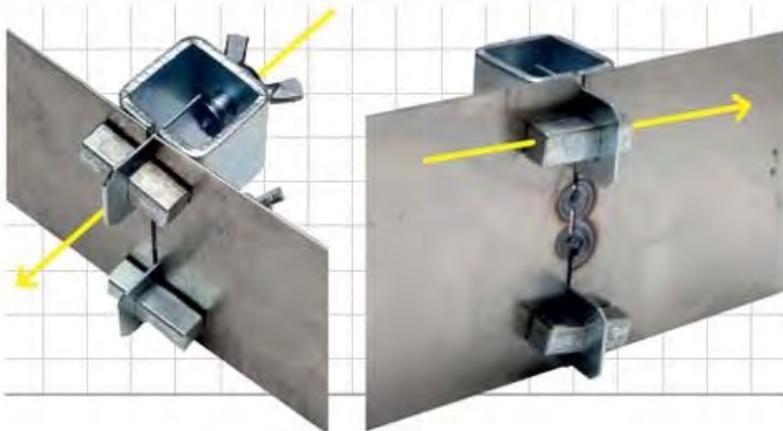
*Here is a sample of the clamps that Mike is using on his current project. The particular clamp uses a round dowel while other use a square bar.*



*Mike's project includes flaring the fenders to accommodate wider tires. He cut the sheet metal, spread it out to the desired width and used the clamps to hold things in place. In this case he will add filler strips since the gaps are too wide to fill with weld.*



*In the case of replacing a rusted panel, the pieces can be clamped and welded with no need for any additional material to fill the gap since the blades on the clamps are only .040" thick.*

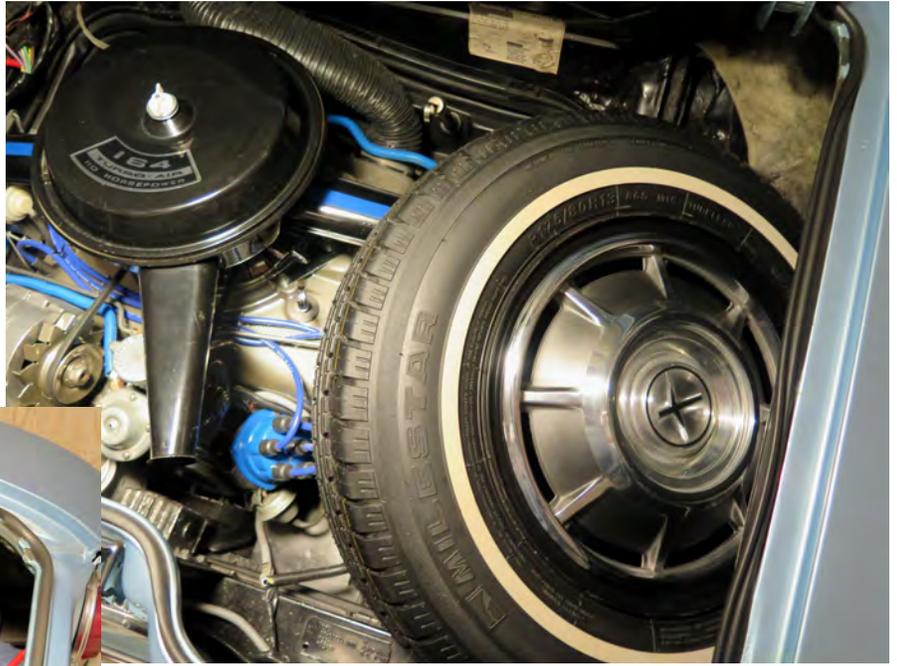


## Dress Up that Spare with a Wheel Cover

Fellow TCA member, Harry Ransom of Las Vegas decided to dress up his engine compartment with a nice Corvair wheel cover placed neatly on the spare tire. He searched high and low for a suitable wheel cover and finally came up with a nice one.

One slight problem: how to put it on the wheel!! There is absolutely no room to swing a rubber mallet to knock the cover on the wheel. Harry struggled and finally got it in place. He's not quit sure how it happened but apparently there was a little luck involved.

He is in great hopes that he never has to use the spare because there's a good chance the cover will never find itself back on the wheel!



## Yenko Stinger goes for \$200,000 at Mecum Auction in Florida

In January a Stinger Stage III YS74 sold at the Mecum Auction in Kissimmee, Florida.



# TCA Bylaws revised

At a recent meeting of the TCA officers, the Bylaws of the Tucson Corvair Association were revised to align the Club more closely with the structural changes that are taking place. The current bylaws required that any changes made to the bylaws be ratified by a 2/3 vote of the members in attendance at the meeting following their publication in the Corvairsation. The ratification vote will take place at the February meeting on February 19.

## **Tucson Corvair Association Bylaws**

Effective March 1, 1982

As amended February 1, 2019

### **Article I — Name and Purpose**

#### 1. Name

The name of the organization shall be the Tucson Corvair Association, abbreviated TCA.

#### 2. Purposes

a) Encourage interest and the preservation, restoration and operational enjoyment of the Corvair automobile.

Provide a friendly social environment in which members can expand their knowledge and common interest in the Corvair automobile.

Maintain and distribute helpful information on available sources of Corvair vehicles, parts, materials and services.

Conduct regular meetings and activities covering a broad range of interests related to the Corvair automobile.

#### 3. Restrictions

a) The TCA shall be a nonprofit, nonpolitical and nonpartisan organization.

b) The TCA shall maintain chartered chapter membership in CORSA, the Corvair Society of America.

### **Article II — Membership and Dues**

#### 1. Membership

Membership shall be extended to any person interested in the restoration, preservation or operation of the Corvair automobile.

#### 2. Dues

Members shall pay to the TCA. Upon payment of dues, members shall receive from TCA privileges extended via membership in the organization.

#### 3. Suspension for nonpayment of dues.

Members will be notified in the chapter newsletter the month prior to the renewal date. The notification will be repeated the month dues are due. If dues are not received during the month they are due, their membership will be terminated.

#### 4. Membership reinstatement.

A member suspended for nonpayment of dues shall be readmitted upon receipt of dues.

### **Article III — Officers and Board of Directors**

#### 1. Officers

Officers of the TCA will be the President, Vice President, and Treasurer.

The policy making body of the TCA shall be the Club officers.

## **Article IV– Elections**

### 1. Elections

Election of officers shall take place during the November meeting of the TCA. The new officers shall assume their duties on the first day of the following January.

### 3. Vacancies

Officer vacancies will be filled by appointment by the President and announced in the TCA newsletter. These appointments are subject to the approval of a majority vote of the membership at the next regular meeting.

## **Article V - Duties**

**President:** The president shall manage the affairs of the Club and responsible for communicating with the general membership, and shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office.

**Vice President:** The Vice President shall assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President. He shall the activity arm of the Club.

The Treasurer shall maintain an accurate record of all of the monies received and disbursed. An annual financial report shall be published in the newsletter. This reporting period will cover the months of January through December of the previous year. The Treasurer shall also be responsible of maintaining the Club's non-profit status with the Corporation Commission of the State of Arizona.

## **Article VI - Meeting and Activities**

### 1. Meetings

Meetings shall be held as directed by the President. A general meeting shall be held in the month of February of each year to elect officers for the seceding year.

### 2. Activities

The Vice President shall be responsible of organizing any activities that Club sponsors or in which it will participate.

## **Article VII --- Newsletter**

1. The TCA newsletter shall be named the *Corvairsation*.
2. The *Corvairsation* shall be published no less than quarterly and distributed to each member.
3. An editor shall be appointed by the President.

## **Article VIII — Amendments**

Amendments of these Bylaws may be made at any regular meeting of the membership by a vote of 2/3 of the membership present, providing a notice has been published in the newsletter prior to the meeting.

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# **Classic Chevy Club of Tucson Membership Application**

For those who wish to join the Classic Chevy Club of Tucson to be able to take part in their activities and events, an application for is available for you convenience on page 8. We reiterate, it is not required for TCA members to join CCCT to be welcome at the monthly meeting. Membership is only required to be able to participate in their activities.



Tucson, Arizona  
 P.O. Box 32521 \* Tucson, AZ 85751  
<http://www.classicchevycluboftucson.com>

The Membership dues are \$25 per year (January through December).  
New Members joining after July 1<sup>st</sup> only pay \$15.

**Dear Member:**

Please complete this form to update and/or create new membership records. You can submit it at the next monthly club meeting or mail it to:

CLASSIC CHEVY CLUB OF TUCSON  
 PO BOX 32521  
 TUCSON, AZ. 85751

The information is for CCCT use only.

NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE JOINED \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ CCI MEMBER# \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY MEMBERS (INCLUDING YOURSELF)**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership in the CLASSIC CHEVY CLUB OF TUCSON requires an annual membership fee as set by the Members in accordance with our By-laws. Each family member falls under this membership. Dependent children may remain under the family membership until the age of 21.

**CLASSICS OWNED:**

YEAR _____	MODEL _____	COLOR(S) _____
YEAR _____	MODEL _____	COLOR(S) _____
YEAR _____	MODEL _____	COLOR(S) _____
YEAR _____	MODEL _____	COLOR(S) _____



*One of the big problems with the early model Corvair design is its propensity to roll over. Ralph Nader pointed this out very clearly in his book Unsafe at Any Speed. Here's a photo that proves Mr. Nader's claim. The Ford cars of the day of course did not have this rollover problem.*



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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 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:**

Golden Corral  
4380 E 22nd Street, Tucson

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