

# Breakfast Run to Ryan Field

It was a beautiful morning, nearly perfect for taking a little cruise in a Corvair - any Corvair - no air conditioning required. A flock of at least 10 Corvair met in the parking lot of the El Rio Golf Course on west Speedway on Saturday, May 23, 2009. After a brief delay to repair the battery cable connection on a certain Lakewood, the caravan pulled out onto Speedway Boulevard west bound for Gates Pass with Dave Lynch leading way hoping to be the first one over the top of the pass for a fun ride down the winding west side. The ride up the canyon was beautiful. The desert was green and the thousands of saguaros watched over us like sentinels guarding a lost treasure. On the back side of the Pass Dave got his wish but the fun was foiled by a slow tourist who was more interested in the scenery than the handling abilities of a bright blue Corvair. Heads turned at the sight of ten plus Corvair passing by.

The group arrived at the airport ready for a nice breakfast at Todd's cafe. Parking was limited so we chose to be of service to a fellow car crazy and surrounded his Shelby Cobra replica and protected it from any unwanted or inconsiderate passersby who might want to leave a door print in its perfect paint job. The group was seated together and several waffles, pancakes and omelettes later was ready to move on the greener pastures. And greener pasture they were. Chris Cunningham made advanced arrangements with the Director of Ryan Field to give a tour of the facility. We were invited into the conference room for a detailed history of the facility along with more information about what it takes to run an airport than one could ever imagine. We were escorted to the hanger area where arrangements had been made with several aircraft owners to visit their private stock of airplane goodies. It was most delightful so get up close and personal with some interesting aviation equipment. A tour of the tower was also planned but due to H1N1 it was cancelled.

The Tucson Corvair Association did itself proud with this event. The attendance was great and the event was most excellent and worthwhile. Kudos to all involved with its planing and execution.

vp



## 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). Make checks payable to the Tucson Corvair Association.

Change of Address: Report any change of address or phone number to the Membership Chairperson. Do not report such changes to the Corvairsation Editor.

CORSA membership dues are \$38 per year (\$76 for 26 months) and include a subscription to the CORSA Communique, a 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.

Classified ads are free to members and \$3 per 4-line ad for non-members. Deadline for materials submitted for publication is the 10th of the month.

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## TCA 2009 Events at a Glance

**Sat, June 20** Day in Summerhaven atop cool Mount Lemmon. Meet at the McDonald's near the corner of Catalina Highway and Tanque Verde at 10:00AM. We'll find a nice place to eat lunch when we get there and spend the day seeing the sights. Sorry, no pie shop!

**Wed, June 24** Regular Monthly Meeting. Parking Lot Bull Session at 6:30pm. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. Last Chance Garage, 3605 N Vine (east of the corner of Prince and Mountain).

**Wed, July 3** Meeting of the Board of Directors. 7:00pm at Bill Maynard's Last Chance Garage. Evryone welcome!

**Sat, July 18** Little Anthony's Car Show. Let's all get the Corvairs dusted off and make a good showing. We won't be hosting but be there early so we can park together. 5:00-5:30PM.

**Sat, Aug 22** Cruise Night at Sonic. We usually don't have a mid-month in August because it's a little toasty, but we're going to have a cruise-in at the Sonic Drive-In on First Ave between Prince and Roger. 7:00 pm.

**Sep 19 & 20** Tune Up Clinic at the Last Chance Garage. Starts and 10:00 both Saturday and Sunday and will go until everybody is sick and tired of working on their cars!

**Fri, Oct 2** 50th Anniversary of the Corvair. O'Riely Chevrolet. Stay tuned for details.

**Sat, Oct 17** Tucson Classic Car Show. This is the big one so get out the rubbing compound *and* the wax!

# May Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the TRCA Regular Meeting held May 26, 2009 at 3605 N Vine St., Tucson, Arizona

Members Present: Barry Cunningham; John Frugoli; Bill Maynard; Don Robinson; Ed Segerstrom; Ken Farr; Van Pershing; Frank McKenna; Mark McKenna; Dave Lynch with dilatory arrivals of Don Murray and Bill L.

President Lynn Marrs was conspicuously absent and Bill Maynard called the meeting to order at 7:13pm in her stead.

Approval of the Minutes for April: Motion to approve the April minutes was made by Barry Cunningham, seconded by Don Robinson and unanimously approved.

President's Report: Lynn Marrs was on the disabled list and absent due to inability to perform her official duties as club President. The meeting was run by Vice President, Bill Maynard.

Vice President's Report: Bill Maynard was pleased to report that there were 10 Corvairs driven to May's mid-month activity, which featured a caravan over Gate's Pass, a breakfast at Todd's restaurant and an extensive tour of Ryan Airfield. Highlights of the tour were reportedly a DeHavilland Dash 8, an all original polished aluminum 1949 Bonanza, and a nest of baby Great Horned Owls.

Next months mid-month activity is the Mt. Lemmon run and afternoon at Summerhaven. Rendezvous is Saturday June 20th at 10:00am at the McDonalds at Tanque Verde and Catalina Highway.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Barry Cunningham reported an opening balance of \$2,594.62 and ending balance for the month of \$2,339.86. Extensive discussion regarding atypical club expenses was had spurred by the high costs of the ramada featuring Dave Lynch's grill. It was determined that the expense was justified as the Casa Grande trip is a favorite of club members and is to become an annual event.

Raffle: There were but two raffle prizes provided for the May meeting. Winners in the raffle were: Mark McKenna and Ryan Green. No call for volunteers to bring raffle prizes to the June meeting was made so everyone is on the hook for a gift. Bring it!

Tech Talk: John Frugoli vivisected several carburetors and brought them for show and discussed the hindrance of aluminum oxide and dirt in successful carb rebuilds.

Miscellany: Mark McKenna shared pictures and the story

# The Birth of the Chevrolet Corvair Name

The birth of the rear engine Corvair, which was air-cooled, like a Porsche engine, began ironically as a regular I-6 car in Chevrolet's 1954 prototype lineup. Looking for a new and innovative design, designers used the new Corvette model as the basis for the new Corvair. Some called the car the "Corvette Corvair". The 1954 Corvair and the 1960 Corvair have nothing in common but for the name. Depending of the story, the name "Corvair" was originally the name for the original Corvette in 1953, but later discarded for "Corvette" and used in production. Corvettes were fast WW2 attack boats. In another version, Ed Cole, who was the 1960+ Corvair designer, originally called it "Corsair", after the WW2 fighter aircraft. However, key personnel mistook the S for a V and Corvair was used instead. If true, Ed apparently did not have an issue with the mistake!

## May Meeting Minutes (continued)

of the restoration of his son's 1961 Corvair. Bill Maynard added that two first place trophies were awarded to TCA members in the last month. Bill's own wagon took first place at the Payson show and Ken Farr's newly restored early model earned a best in show at the Davis Monthan Armed Services Day car show. Ken Farr reminded all of the Nam Jam car show on June 6th. Discussion was had as to which Little Anthony's Car Show to attend this summer and July 18th was selected.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Barry Cunningham at 8:21pm and seconded by Don Murray. Motion to adjourn was passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ryan Green  
Recording Secretary



Dave Lynch attends the Little Anthony's Car Show - April 18, 2009

# More Ryan Field

Photos by Dave Lynch. See more pictures at [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org). Click on "Events & Activities" and go to Past Events. There are also some videos of the trip over Gates Pass.



A Special Thanks to Chris Cunningham for arranging the Air Field tour.



## HOT TCA T-SHIRTS

Just a reminder that club T shirts are available for purchase. There are two styles: early-model and a late-model convertibles facing off, and grill pictures of all models from the old Motor's Repair Manual. For the paltry sum of only \$15 you can own one of these magnificent shirts. The month's special: For only \$30 you can own one of each!! Take advantage of this tremendous bargain before time runs out. See Barry Cunningham at the next meeting a buy one for yourself and one for a loved one too.

# YS-43: Tim Allen's Stinger

Tim Allen of *Home Improvement* fame has owned this Yenko Stinger since 1994. It was for sale recently on ebay and reached the bidding price of over \$32,000 with "Reserve Not Met" before being removed and sold off ebay. Here are a few pictures of the car for your viewing pleasure.

Tim Allen with his YENKO Stinger for upcoming 20/20 show





Monthly Newsletter - June 2009 - Vol. 33, No. 12  
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 held on the third Wednesday. The December meeting is our annual Christmas party with the time and place to be announced.

**Monthly Meeting Place:**

Bill Maynard's Last Chance Garage, 3605 N Vine, Tucson, Arizona (north off of Prince Road just east of Mountain).

## Visit the TCA Forum

*Ask tech questions, get to know other club members, chat and share your knowledge with others. Go to [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org) and click on TCA Forum.*



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June 2009

Volume 33, Number 12

