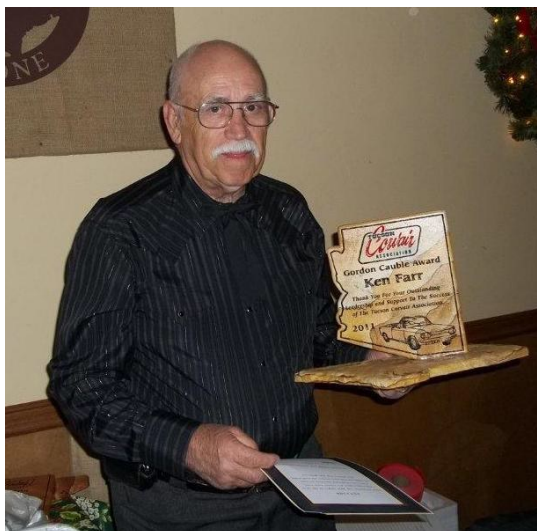


Christmas Party Fun

On the evening of December 8, 2011, the Tucson Corvair Association held its annual Christmas dinner and get-together. Over 20 people were in attendance at the Taste of Texas Steakhouse in northwest Tucson. Something new at this year's event was a Silent Auction. Several items were placed on a table at the rear of the room for bids. Some of the items were a Cadillac clock, a framed Corvair ad from the early 60s, a set of late model wire wheel covers donated by former TCA member Oliver Stokes, a dwell meter that was hand made by Jim Mills, and a mystery gift which turned out to be a gift certificate for the Olive Garden Restaurant. In all, the auction brought in over \$260 for the club treasury. A white elephant gift exchange was also one of the evening's highlights.

President Ron Bloom awarded several members with certificates and plaques for their service to the Club this past year. Ken Farr was this year's worthy recipient of the Gordon Cauble Award. Ken has only been a member of the TCA for a few years but has always been very active in the Club, serving as President and Board Member. He and Heidi have taken one their Corvairs to almost every car show this side of the Mississippi over the past few years. Ken has represented the Corvair and the Club in a most exemplary manner. President Bloom also presented awards of appreciation to Allen Elvick, Van Pershing, Lynn Marrs, and Jim Mills. The plaques were very unique in that they were made from a flagstone-like material with the person's name and an image of their car laser engraved on the surface.

For a little excitement after the party, Ron, wearing a fine Santa hat, got pulled over by a sheriff deputy for not signalling a lane change. He had a little trouble explaining the hat and convincing the deputy that he hadn't been drinking, but all ended well with the exchange of Christmas greetings.



Ken Farr received the 2011 Gordon Cauble Award. A sample of the plaques that were awarded is shown above.



Awards of appreciation were presented by President Ron Bloom to Allen Elvick (above left), Jim Mills (above right), Lynn Marrs (below left), and Van Pershing (below right).



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 Communique, 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.

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 2012 Events at a Glance

Wed, Jan 25

Regular Monthly Meeting. Parking Lot Bull Session at 6:30 pm. Meeting starts at 7:00pm. Golden Corral, 6865 N Thornydale Road (just south of Ina).

Sat, Jan 28

18th Annual Collector Car Show, Tubac, Arizona. Details available on our website.

Sat, Mar 10

Steering and Suspension Clinic. Hosted by Jim Mills, 2781 N. Sundance Trail, Tucson. 9:00 AM. Come get a complete education on front and rear Corvair suspensions.

Sat, Apr 28

Chevy Showdown. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Catalina Foothills High School, 4300 E Sunrise Dr, Tucson. See our website for registration forms and more details.

Board of Director meetings are held at 5:30 PM before the regular monthly meeting at the same location. Any general member is welcome to attend.

This is a good time to speak with a Board Member about the activities you'd like to see next year. Planning for next year's calendar will start soon. So make your voice heard!



Chevrolet name plate used for 1911 through 1914



A 1916 rendition of the Chevrolet bowtie logo.

December Christmas Party

The annual Christmas party was held December 8, 2011 at the Taste of Texas Steakhouse, Thornydale at Cortaro, Tucson Arizona.



President's Message

Hello everyone, the Christmas celebration this year went along famously. The food was good at the Taste of Texas Steak House. More then 20 folks showed up, ate, mingled and enjoyed one another's company.

This year I stepped outside the box and broke tradition. Over the years we have had the Bryan Lynch Award, now the Gordon Cauble Award, to honor one person who contributed their time and/or talents to the Club. This year I thought it would be appropriate to recognize others who worked so hard behind the scenes to make the Club run smoothly. They are always there, always faithful, and people you can count on. So it was with great joy to honor and recognize those that served so faithfully over the years. Again a big thank you to Allen Elvick, Lynn Marrs, Van Pershing, and Jim Mills. Ken Farr received the Gordon Cauble award. The silent auction went well, however one had to keep a eye on Terry Mills. That lady likes to bid!! Everyone got a gift and more importantly I thank everyone for their donations to the food bank. It's nice to think of the less fortunate this time of year.

Here we go again. It's the close of another year and like usual it went by rather quickly. Looking back on what little memory I have, I can say it was a fun filled year for our club. The big Chevy Show-down, the breakfast cruise to Ryan Field, the Cops and Rodders Car Show, the Cars in the Park Show, and the car show at St. Gregory Prep School were just a few of the fun things we did. Jim Mills' tune up clinic was another special event with a other one coming up in February: all good memories.



The most important part of the club is YOU! Your smiles, the laughter, and being able to share time together is what makes this club so great. The January meeting is important and very special. A new slate of officers will be nominated and the final vote will be taken at the February meeting for the new officers to take charge on March 1st. Please come and vote. Don't miss it because you just might get voted in. Dues are due for the new year, so bring money for the treasury. Lynn and I want to wish all of you a happy new year 2012!

Until next time, turn your heads lights on and God Bless.
Ron



*Marty & Kate Boehme from
Portland, Oregon*



Marianne & Allen Elvick

A Few More Pictures from the Party



Charlie & Sandy Evans



Jessie Byrd & Chris Cunningham



Sue & Don Robinson

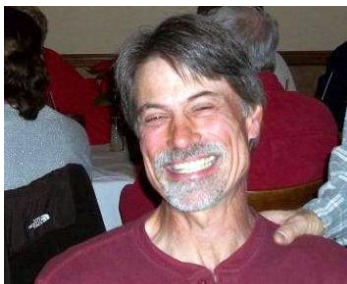


Jim & Terry Mills

Ron & Lynn Bloom



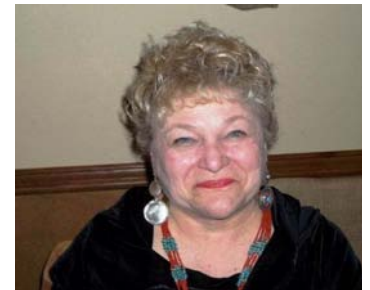
Barry Cunningham



Heidi & Ken Farr

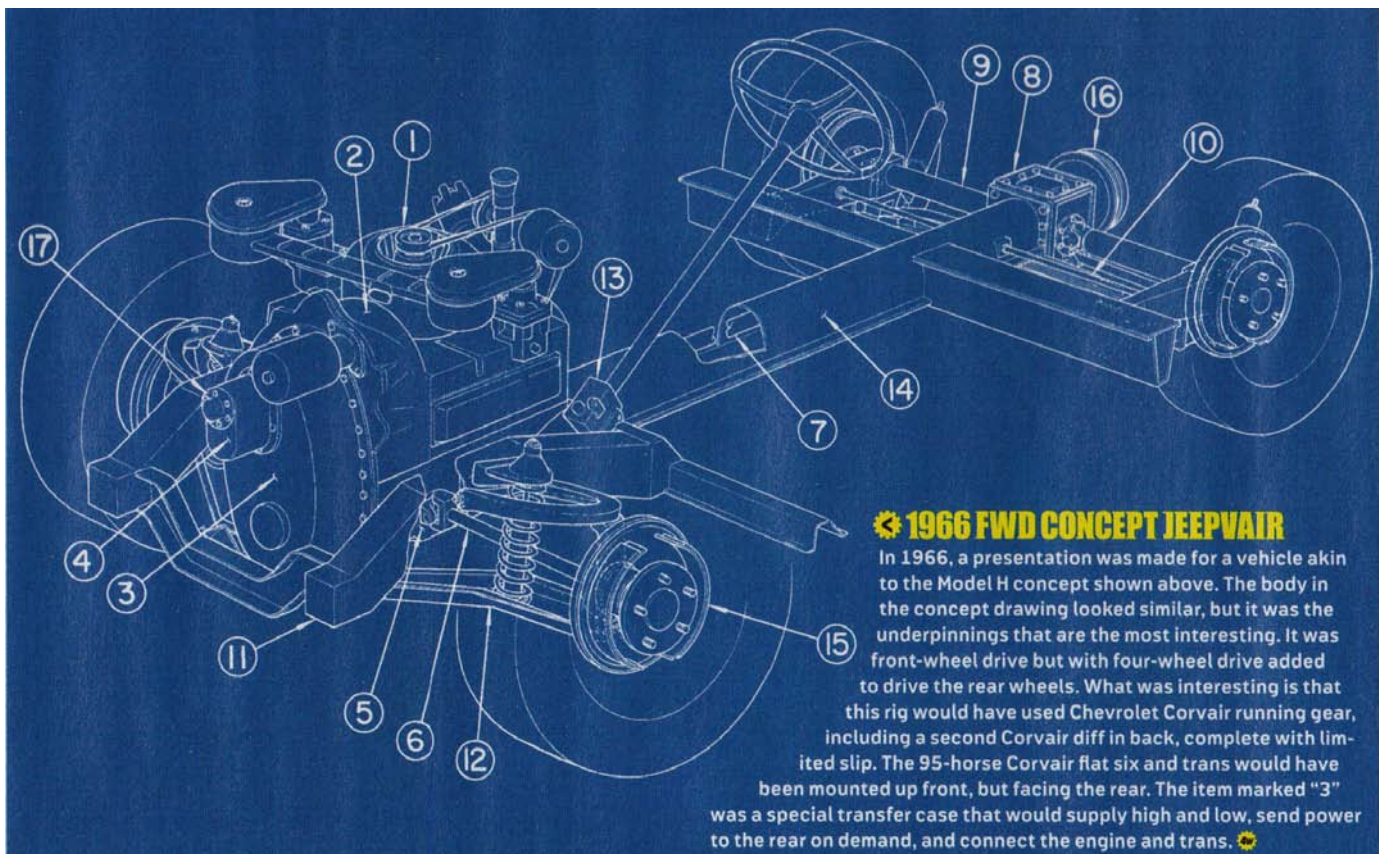


Lynn Marrs



JEEPVAIR?

Ron Bloom's son, Terry, found this drawing and sent it to him. This is all the information we have been able to find so far. Anybody ever heard of such as thing? Maybe we could make one as a club project!!



The Best Chevys

The (trend) section of the December issue of Motor Trend Magazine ran some print on the 100th anniversary of Chevrolet. One of its articles was entitled “Our Best Chevys - No ‘69 Camaro Here.” The MT staff was asked which Chevrolets are their favorites and which they would consider most important.

The most important Chevys of the past 100 years, according to the survey were the Tri-Five (1955 -57) models and the Volt. Of the ‘55 Chevy Mike Connor says, “It’s more than the Small Block; The 1955 Bel Air took Chevy from being a dull, boring car. It built Chevrolet’s position as a brand. Incompetent management in the 1980s destroyed that image. Now GM’s management is trying reconstruct Chevrolet to what it was.”

The Volt - sure, the latest in high tech. Others voted for the Corvair, Vega, C4 Corvette LS1, Suburban and Silverado. “The Vega was the car that made Chevy and GM realize that market leadership is not a divine right”, say Scott Evans.

The favorite Chevy from the past 100 years: The C2 Corvette, Corvair and 1991-’96 Caprice/Impala SS. The author grew up in the ‘60s dreaming of the Corvette Stingray, but the Corvair of either generation comes with style, technology, and driving fun at an appropriate price.

The Motor Trend Car/Truck of the Year Award has been won by Chevrolet 18 times since 1955. The Corvair won the award in 1960.

Other Interesting Opinions:

1960: Chevrolet’s first in a series of failed world-class small cars, the Corvair, with its air-cooled rear-mounted flat six.

1971: Chevy’s second failed attempt at a world-class small car, the Vega.

1976: Chevy’s third failed attempt at a world-class small car, the Chevette.

1980: Chevy’s fourth failed attempt at a world-class small car, the Citation.

It’s nice to see they placed the Corvair in such ominous company!

A Little Chevy History Lesson

from the December issue of Motor Trend Magazine.

William Durant’s greatest failure led to the creation of Chevrolet. A year after he incorporated General Motors, he went after Ford. GM was to pay \$2 million cash, plus \$4 million at 5 percent interest over three years. The GM board gave Billy Durant the go ahead if the financing could be arranged, but the banks refused to make the loan and during a financial panic in 1910, the GM board gave Billy the boot and let the bankers take over the company.

Durant began work on his comeback and set up retired Buick racer, Louis Chevrolet with his own Detroit shop in 1911. Durant incorporated Chevrolet Motor Company that same year and started rolling out Chevrolets. The 1916 Chevrolet Four-Ninety (\$490) was Durant’s direct shot at the Ford Model T. By then, Chevrolet was thriving, and its success gave Durant the footing to buy up GM stock, and in 1915, took control of GM again.

What would it be like today if Durant and been able to purchase Ford??



The Chevrolet bowtie logo appeared in this form in 1935 print advertising.

Ron’s Barn Door featured in Corvan Antics

The January/February 2012 issue of the Corvan Antics contains a nice feature article on Ron Bloom’s 1962 Greenbrier. The article is entitled “Greenbrier Stimu-



ulus Package”, because Ron purchased it from his neighbor with the \$250 stimulus check he received from Uncle Sam in May 2009. Ron’s neighbor, Dusty, had purchased the van new in California for \$2,385 and now the second owner has fixed it all up and made it his daily driver.

The article tells about Ron’s first big out-of-town adventure to the Great Western Fan Belt Toss in Palm Spring. Ron was feeling pretty proud of his new purchase that was giving him a good 18 mpg with folks honking their horns in apparent approval of his old van when he noticed that it was laying down a deep blue haze of smoke which would have served effectively as mosquito control. Luckily, Jim Mills was in the convoy trailering his Rampside, so they put the Greenbrier on the trailer and Ron drove the Rampside back to Tucson.

The issue of the Corvanatics newsletter also sported a nice picture of the mostly-finished Greenbrier and Van Pershing’s Stinger in front of the 12-meter radio telescope on Kitt Peak taken during the tour that Bob Moulton gave the club back in September 2010.

For those who don’t know, Corvanatics is a chartered chapter of CORSA. Established in September, 1972, Corvanatics is dedicated to preserving and enjoying America’s original and most innovative small vans and light trucks, the Chevrolet 95 Series.



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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 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, 6865 N Thornydale Road (just south of Ina), Tucson, Arizona.



Pay your 2012 dues NOW!



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