

Corvairation

Tucson Corvair Association
Volume 26, Number 5

Tucson, Arizona
May 2000



PHOENIX III



IT'S TUCSON CORVAIR ASSOCIATION'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Tucson Corvair Association
Established 1975

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 American (COSA), Chapter 857.

Monthly Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, except December. One technical/social event is planned for each month except August.

Membership Dues are \$15 per year for singles and \$18 per year for families. Initial dues are \$15 for singles and \$22 for families (includes name tags). Make checks payable to 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.

COSA Membership Dues are \$27 per year and include a subscription to the COSA Communique, a monthly publication. COSA membership is not required for membership in the TCA, but is highly recommended. See any TCA officer for more information.

Classified Ads are free to members and \$2.50 per 4-line ad to all others.

Deadline for all materials submitted for publication in the Corvairsation is the 10th for that month's issue. Mail or deliver all materials to the Corvairsation Editor.

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The Prez Says:

Greetings! The hot weather is here and aren't we fortunate not to have to worry about our water pumpers overheating? Corvairs take the heat very well, so don't be afraid to get out and down the road!

We had a really good time at the Picacho Peak Picnic. The weather was beautiful and it was great to be there with the Cactus Corvair Club.

The tune-up clinic went well also, with lots of diagnosing, wrenching and jibber jabber.

Please try and make our June mid-month picnic to Mt. Lemmon (Rose Canyon Lake) Saturday June 10th. We meet at McDonalds' corner of Catalina Hwy. and Tanque Verde Rd. At 10 am we will caravan up the Catalina Hwy.

Thanks for all your participation! Happy Corvairing!

Barry



from the editor.....

I think the Prez has said it well, at least I had a good time at the last two mid-month events. We had great food at Picacho and it's always a lot of fun to see old friends from Cactus. At the tune-up clinic we had plenty to do, eight Corvairs and six mechanics. Mainly we took care of a few fuel and oil leaks and worked on one major vacuum anomaly; more at the next meeting on that one!

Our last harrow as summer turns on is the potluck picnic at Rose Canyon on June 10. That's a cool place! Bring a dish to pass (meat, veggie or dessert); That's all and TCA will supply sodas, utensils, etc. Of course bring your family and/or friends and your Corvair.

At the meeting next week we will be selling the last of the raffle tickets on that beautiful '64 Fordor (is that a Ford word?) that will be raffled at the national convention in Daytona this year.

Minutes of Membership Meeting - 04/26/00

President Barry Cunningham, called the regular meeting of TCA to order at Denny's Restaurant at 7:40:15PM. New member **Chris Cunningham** (Barry's brother and a former charter member from 1975) was present as was guest **Richard Figueroa** and his friend **Lynn Peligino**. Before the meeting was over, Richard had joined the club! Minutes of the last meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer (Allen Elvick) - Starting balance = \$2103.63, Income = \$73.00, outgo = \$102.30, ending balance = \$2074.33.

Membership (Beverly Baker) - New roster has been published in the Corvairsation and there are several new members.

Library (Dave Baker) - The contents of the Library are now listed on the website. Check it out at www.corvairs.com. All the latest vendor catalogs. You can go to Dave's place to check out items or call him and he will bring them to the meeting.

Merchandise (Don Robinson) - Still have about 18 raffle tickets left for the car to be raffled at the National Convention. Hats for sale @ \$12-\$13. Coffee cups for sale for \$5. Nothing else reported. The club still collects aluminum cans for the treasury. If you have cans, bring them to the meetings.

Corvairsation (Don Robinson) - Nothing new, deadline for material is still the 10th of the month. For sale ads listed in the Corvairsation are now also listed on the website. **WE NEED ARTICLES!**

Activities (Barry Cunningham)

NOTE: *The info shown here is not the official calendar. It is only what the Secretary wrote down because someone said it. Check the official TCA calendar before heading off in the wrong direction at the wrong time on the wrong day.*

COMING UP

April 29 - Annual Picacho Peak Picnic with Cactus Corvair Club from Phoenix. Meet 9:30 AM, McDonalds at Ina and Thornydale. Bring one potluck dish and something to sit on. Oh yeah, and bring your Corvair!

May 6 - Yet Another Tuneup Clinic, Don Robinson's house, 10:00 AM. Bring your tools, your grubbies, and your ailing Corvair.

June 10 - Drive up to Mt. Lemmon. More details at the May meeting.

July/August - Probably no activities

September - To be Determined

October - Annual Casa de los Ninos Car Show at Kino Sports Center.

November - GWFBT&SM Fan Belt Toss in Palm Springs.

Old Business - None

New Business - There is a car for sale: Red '65 2dr, 110/4spd. Call: Dustin Crowl, 326-0342.

Program/Tech Talk - Various Tech Talk. Discussion of various car museums. The Imperial Palace Museum in Las Vegas will be sold this summer and possibly broken up. Better see it soon.

Raffle: Winners - Dave Lynch: Magnetic pickup tool, Barry: Shop towels, Paul Dunn: Year of Cats (UA Wildcats) book. **Next month's prize donors: Paul D., Allen E., Dave L., Don R.**

JOE: No joke (Hey! Whatever happened to all the jokes?!).

Meeting adjourned sometime around 9:29:43 PM, more or less.

Respectfully submitted, Herb Berkman, Secretary

MAY 2000 TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING CASH ON HAND.....\$2074.33

INCOME: (ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE)

Ads.....	00.00
Raffle Tickets	13.00
Merchandise.....	2.00
Name Tag Fines.....	<u>00.75</u>
	15.75

DUES:

Chris Cunningham.....	15.00
Richard Figaroa.....	<u>16.00</u>
TOTAL DUES:	31.00

TOTAL INCOME (ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE).....\$46.75

EXPENSES: (ACCOUNTS PAYABLE)

Stamps	<u>21.78</u>
Picacho outing (prizes, food, drinks).....	<u>125.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES: (ACCOUNTS PAYABLE).....	<u>146.78</u>

ENDING BALANCE: (CASH ON HAND).....\$1974.30

Respectfully Submitted,

Allen Edvick

PHOENIX II

Not Fantasy - Not Virtual Reality
This Sci-Fi Cruiser is full size and operational!



Editor's Note: The first part of this article was taken from www.geocities.com/area51/3831. The author doesn't mention his name anywhere, but we thank him!

This van was the second of two fiberglass Phoenix vans I built. It was finished after three years of evenings and weekends in the mid 1980's while I worked at an aerospace firm. In 1998 I sold it.

I saw plans for this vehicle in a 1978 Popular Mechanics magazine. The Quincy-Lynn Company was the designer. Look at designer Bob (Quincy) Riley's website (www.qriley.com). He shows how homebuilt constructions takes place.

This fiberglass space van started out as a 1971 VW van. The entire body is made from raw materials. It's a fiberglass/urethane foam sandwich construction over a metal roll frame. The foam is cut to shape, glued over the metal frame then the entire shell is fiberglassed inside and out.

I modified Quincy-Lynn's plans to make it much more functional. I put sliding windows in the front doors and built a power clamshell curbside door for a real spaceship effect. The front has five headlights which makes people scratch their heads as if they are looking at a UFO.

I also utilized a Transvair adapter kit to install a six cylinder Corvair engine and automatic transmission to give it more pep and more glide.

Due to the increased utility, this van has seen the US from Florida, to Indiana, to California. It's not a van that's parked in the garage 350 days a year. It gets out! And wherever the Phoenix II goes, it's not just a trip - it's a parade. I've taken long distance vacations with the Phoenix II to the beach in Galveston, Texas; the Indianapolis 500; Hollywood, California; Lake City, Colorado; Orlando, Florida. Wherever the Phoenix II is, heads turn and crowds gather.

MORE ABOUT PHOENIX II:



Phoenix II Features and Specifications

Chassis: 1971 VW Transporter (160,000 miles)
- four-wheel independent suspension
- front disk brakes
- manual gearbox steering
- air conditioning can be added
- seats seven with removable center seat
Engine: - 110 hp Chevrolet Corvair air cooled six cylinder (35,000 miles since rebuild)
- dual carburetor normally aspirated
Transmission:
- 2-speed Corvair automatic (15,000 miles since rebuild)

Body:

- fiberglass over urethane foam sandwich
- 2.5 inch tubular satin black bumpers
- Double sunroofs
- Interior geodesic lighting

Paint:

- Imron Urethane metalflake

Front door:

- electric latch / manual lift / pneumatic lift
- front slider windows

Side door:

- electric power dual ballscrew upper door / electric linear actuator lower step

Driver dimension upper limits

- Height: Six feet tall to fit in driver seat under ceiling
- Weight: 190 lbs to fit behind steering wheel

Editor's Note: The following is from Bob Riley's website (www.rqriley.com).

PHOENIX

A VW-Based Van That Expands Tent-Trailer Style

One would hardly guess that Phoenix was designed and built nearly 20 years ago, long before downsized vans were fashionable. Closed up for driving, Phoenix has the sleek look of a modern sports van. Its low frontal area coupled to a curb weight of only 2,000 pounds make it a low-rolling-resistance featherweight, even by today's standards. That, along with its VW van chassis, translates into 25-mpg highway fuel economy and nimble handling.

Nitrogen-cylinder-assisted gull-wing doors provide easy entrance into the low-profile cab. Two bucket seats in front allow central walk-through space into the rear. The rear is set up with bench seats along each side. Each bench seat has a lift-up top so food, clothes, and other bring-alongs can be stored underneath. Storage area totals about 14 cubic feet per side.

Phoenix expands tent-trailer style into a large room with stand-up height in the center for a six-foot adult. With the camper expanded, the section along each side that normally forms the back of the bench seat now extends out

horizontally to become part of the bed (one bed along each side). Each bed measures 72 x 59 inches. Overall, the unit measures 12 feet wide across the bed area. The seat area is covered with three-inch-thick foam padding, which then serves as a built-in mattress when the camper is expanded.

Appliances are located across the extreme rear, above the engine cover. A sink is on the right, a mirror-faced ice box is in the center, and a two-burner propane stove is on the left. The stove uses disposable cylinders, which are the only kind legal in the absence of a power-vented stove hood. Water is carried in a 9-gallon plastic

tank located under the ice box.

The cost to build Phoenix is about \$2,000. The body is made using a unique foam and fiberglass construction. For more information on how to build the body, visit the website.

Phoenix was first featured in Popular Mechanics magazine, in March, 1978. Mechanix Illustrated magazine featured a restyled version called "Renegade" in their March 1984 issue. Phoenix/Renegade was used as a background vehicle in the movie *Total Recall*.



Length: 165 inches
Width: 72 inches
Width Expanded: 144 inches
Height: 71 inches
Track: 60-1/5 inches
Wheelbase: 94-1/2 inches
Body Construction: Fiberglass over foam composite



Vairs & Spares

For Sale: 1962 4-Door Monza, Automatic, Factory air conditioning, 85K original miles. \$3250. Call Dick (520) 299-4723.

For Sale: Corvair parts- Large outdoor yard full of Corvairs and Parts, Call Barry Cunningham at (520) 747-9028.

From one Corvair lover to another...

Corvairs

By

Creative Stitches

2710 Cancun Court

Grand Junction, Co. 81506

(970) 245-4722

Member of Corsa and Tucson Corvair Association

CORVAIR ENGINE REBUILDING

Denny Wycoff

Motor Machine and Supply

1401 W. Glenn 85705

(520) 792-1156

LOCAL CORVAIR PARTS

from

TUCSON CORVAIR ASSOCIATION

TCA has a large stock of new and used parts for all models of Corvairs.

Support the Club and save a little money!



Contact Al Crispin

722-9445

