



WWW.CORVAIRS.ORG

# Corvairization

Letting the Good Times Roll Since 1975

September 2008

Volume 33, Number 3

## Overlooked RMC Member Also Enjoyed Convention! by Jonni Berkman

[We missed Jonni in John Drage's Convention review, probably because she was working or racing the whole time. She was kind enough to share her story - Ed.]

—from The Denvair News, newsletter of Rocky Mountain Corsa, Sept. 2008, Eric Schakel, Editor

I wanted to be a part of the Corsa International Convention in Ventura this year, since I started out with Corsa West in LA many years ago.

Jack Pinard, who headed up the Willow Springs Time Trials, took me up on my offer to help and gave me the title of 'Registrar'. Time trials were set just before the Convention began but were not a part of the convention week. Craig Nicol attended, towing down CORSA X, Herb's autocross, concours car. Craig let me drive it on the track too. I had never driven on a race track before. It was great fun and even though I finished last, it was a great day for me, driving CORSA X and being able to feel a part of the car I had been in so many times in the past. It was a great feeling.

When the convention in Ventura was still in the planning stages, attending many Corsa West meetings gave me the opportunity to know everyone involved and to volunteer my help. Herb and I had attended and participated in so many conventions in the past that I didn't want that to end just because Herb couldn't be a part of it. I felt that helping with the convention would be just as much fun as participating had been.

I was so right!

Well, Corsa West certainly took me up on my offer. On Monday I worked until 8pm at the registration table with JC Salazar and others. Tuesday I also

spent time at the registration table until I was needed along with two other ladies to record concours scores. The three of us spent four hours tabulating scores until a couple of others came by to help since it was such a lengthy job. I also managed to find time to officiate the finishes of the valve cover races along with one other person, just the two of us.

Wednesday found me timing everyone at the start and finish of the economy run. Randy Wicks also had me help with an alternative map due to the fire problems in the area. We had a secondary route mapped out, just in case. I also had spent time making spread sheets to aid with the cars and entrants with a formula to calculate elapsed times for the economy run.

I was supposed to help with the rally on Thursday but Craig Nicol asked me to navigate with him in CORSA X. I couldn't possibly turn him down and the feelings of riding in the car that Herb and I had rallied in so many times in the past will stay with me forever. We finished fourth and I enjoyed every minute of being in the car navigating for Craig.

Friday was autocross day and due to timing equipment issues Tim Chew who was heading up the event asked me and one other person to use stop watches to time each entrant. The event lasted until

3pm and neither of us wanted to stop so we timed every car. The faster of the two stop watches was used to record each car's time.

I thoroughly enjoyed working the convention and would like to do it again. I kept myself busy helping and sincerely feel that I helped to contribute by being a worker as well as a competitor. I know Herb would be very happy and proud if he knew that I had worked so many of the convention events and even got to navigate in the rally. I'm not really sure what got into me, wanting to do all I did. I think I did it for me, our old club Corsa West (we have been members since the early 1970s), Herb, and Corsa International. It was also great to see all of our friends at the convention.

## Thanks for a great week!

I would like to thank CORSA WEST for a great convention and also for giving me the opportunity to spend so much time working around all of the events. I felt a great sense of accomplishment for being able to race CORSA X for the first time, at the Time Trials prior to the Convention, as well as navigating for Craig Nicol in the rally. Thank you, Craig, for bringing the car to Ventura. I think Herb would be proud and happy that I continued to be a part of the club we joined in the early 1970s. Thanks again for the memories.

Herb and Jonni Berkman were (Jonni still is) also members of the Tucson Corvair Association as well as a few other Corvair Clubs. —Ed.

## 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 America (COSA) chapter 857.

Monthly Meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, except November and December. One technical/social events planned for each month, except July and August.

Membership Dues are \$15 for individuals and \$18 for families. Initial dues are \$19 for individuals and \$22 for families (includes name tags). Make checks payable to Tucson Corvair Association.

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

COSA Membership Dues are \$38 per year (\$76 for 26 months) and include subscription to the COSA Communiqué, 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 \$3 per 4-line ad to non-members. Deadline for materials submitted for publication in the Corvairsation is the 10th of the month.

Business Mail Address: 1026 South 7th Avenue, Tucson, AZ, 85701-3010. Web Site Address: [www.corvairs.org](http://www.corvairs.org)

### PRESIDENT

Bill L.  
P.O. Box 85572  
Tucson, AZ 85754  
520-205-1777

### VICE PRESIDENT

Vacant

### RECORDING SECRETARY

Ryan Green  
4233 East Lester  
Tucson, AZ 85712  
520-331-7949  
[rgreen@axiaappraisers.com](mailto:rgreen@axiaappraisers.com)

### TREASURER

Barry Cunningham  
362 Bull Run Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85748  
520-733-7387  
cel:520-312-4514  
[bcunningham19@cox.net](mailto:bcunningham19@cox.net)

### MEMBER AT LARGE

Bill Maynard  
3605 N. Vine  
Tucson, AZ 85719  
520-325-8497  
[billfromtucson@webtv.net](mailto:billfromtucson@webtv.net)

### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Barry Cunningham

### CORVAIRSATION EDITOR

Chris Cunningham  
1026 S. 7th Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85701  
520-670-9676  
c:520-240-9035  
[arizaim@hotmail.com](mailto:arizaim@hotmail.com)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dave Lynch

### ASSISTANT EDITOR/WEBMASTER

Van Pershing  
4842 West Paseo de las Colinas  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
520-743-9185  
[tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com](mailto:tucsoncorvairs@yahoo.com)

### LIBRARIAN

Bill Maynard

### MERCHANDISE CHAIRMAN

Don Robinson  
2044 Shalimar Way  
Tucson, AZ 85704  
520-297-1356  
[fourcorvairs@hotmail.com](mailto:fourcorvairs@hotmail.com)

# TCA 2008 Events at a Glance

## SEPT

24 WED

### **TCA General Membership Meeting**

Mimi's Cafe, 120 S.Wilmot, Tucson, AZ  
Parking Lot Bull Session: 6pm. Optional dinner at 6:20pm, meeting starts at 7pm.

## OCT

1 WED

### **TCA Board Mtg.**

Franklin Museum, 3420 North Vine, 326-8038. 6:30pm. All comers are welcome.

22 WED

### **TCA General Membership Meeting**

Mimi's Cafe, 120 S.Wilmot, Tucson, AZ  
Parking Lot Bull Session: 6pm. Optional dinner at 6:20pm, meeting starts at 7pm.

## NOV

5 WED

### **TCA Board Mtg.**

Franklin Museum, 3420 North Vine, 326-8038. 6:30pm. All comers are welcome.

19 WED

### **TCA General Membership Meeting**

Mimi's Cafe, 120 S.Wilmot, Tucson, AZ  
Parking Lot Bull Session: 6pm. Optional dinner at 6:20pm, meeting starts at 7pm.

27 THURS

**Thanksgiving Day-** Go for a hike today with your favorite Corvair.

## CAR SHOWS

JULY-NOV

SATURDAY

**Little Anthony's Car Show Dates:** - 7010 E. Bdwy. 9/27; 10/11; 10/25; 11/8.

SEPT 26-28

**25th Annual Run to the Pines Car Show—** Pinetop, AZ Info: Bob -928-368-5325 or Ted -928-368-5332.

OCT 18

**Tucson Classics Car Show** – St. Gregory School Info:520-320-3689.

NOV 8

**Cops & Rodders** - Hi Corbett Field, Tucson, AZ. Info: Capt. Rich Harper-520-791-5211 x1106.

JAN 24

**15th Annual Collector Car Show**, Tubac AZ Info: [carnuts@cox.net](mailto:carnuts@cox.net), or [www.carnuts.org](http://www.carnuts.org).

# Tucson Corvair Association Regular Membership Meeting Minutes

Mimi's Café, 120 S. Wilmot, Tucson, AZ

August 27, 2008

Members Present: Bruce Robinson, Don Robinson, Barry Cunningham, Marcy T., Bill L., Allen Elvick, John Frugoli, Chris Cunningham, and guest Joe Hiller.

## **President Bill L. called the meeting to order at 7pm.**

Motion to suspend meeting until completion of food service made by Barry Cunningham and seconded by John Frugoli.

**Approval of the Minutes:** Motion to approve the July minutes was made by Chris Cunningham, seconded by Allen Elvick. Motion was unanimously approved.

In the absence of Recording Secretary Ryan Green, Chris Cunningham volunteered to take notes for the meeting.

**President's Report:** There was discussion brought up by guest Joe Hiller regarding a qualified mechanic to work on member's Corvairs. Bill L. informed Mr. Hiller that Bill Maynard is informally known as our resident Corvair mechanic.

Bill L. discussed the possibility of a new award, or renaming our existing award given annually to members who demonstrate a contribution to the Club far and above the norm (Bryan Lynch Award), for founding member Gordon Cauble. The discussion included a Herb Berkman Award, Honorary members, and Life members.

**Vice President's Report:** Position vacant.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Barry Cunningham reported an opening balance of \$2533.69 and ending balance of \$2,500.71 for the month of July. \$32.98 was spent on the Corvairsation newsletter.

**Raffle:** The raffle was suspended due to a small membership turnout.

**Tech Talk:** Don Robinson, the Merchandise Chairman, has TCA caps, and TCA coffee mugs for sale: He noticed a Corvair in the ADS classified ads (1961 Corvair coupe). A short discussion of other Corvairs for sale ensued.

Barry Cunningham distributed some interactive Internet information concerning "speed bumps."

Barry also contributed information about how car thieves now have the ability to record the sound frequency of electronic remote car locks. They retrieve the sound frequency by listening nearby a car in a parking lot, for instance, and use it to break in the car later when the owner is gone.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made by Barry Cunningham at 8:15pm and seconded by Don Robinson. Motion to adjourn was passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Cunningham

## Welcome New Member

**Joe Hiller** attended the August TCA meeting and became our newest member immediately following the meeting at Mimi's Cafe. Joe is a faculty member in the University of Arizona Agriculture and Life Sciences College.

He drives a 1968 convertible with a 140hp (4 carburetors), and a 3-speed transmission. Yes, that is correct. Now, there is a rare combination of engine and transmission, not to mention, the fact that 1968 models are not often seen either.

We look forward to seeing Joe and his Corvair at our upcoming events. We all want to go for a drive in your car!

## 1968 U.S. Corvair Production 15,399 Cars



|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| 500 coupe, model 10137         | 7,206 |
| Monza coupe, model 10537       | 6,807 |
| Monza convertible, model 10567 | 1,386 |

## About our mailing panel photo:



The Trashmen were a rock and roll band formed in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1962. The group's lineup was Tony Andreason on lead guitar and vocals, Dal Winslow on guitar and vocals, Steve Wahrer on drums and vocals, and Bob Reed on bass guitar. The group played surf rock which included many elements from garage rock.

The Trashmen's major notable hit was 1963's "Surfin' Bird", which reached #4 on the Billboard Hot 100 in the latter part of that year. The song was a combination of two R&B hits by The Rivingtons, "Papa-Oom-Mow-Mow" and "The Bird's the Word". The earliest pressings of the single credit the Trashmen as composers, but following a threat from their legal counsel The Rivingtons were subsequently credited as composers. It was later covered by many artists, including The Ramones, The Cramps, The Beach Boys, Pee-Wee Herman, Equipe 84, and even the thrash band Sodom. It has been used in several movies and television shows (such as well-known scenes in Stanley Kubrick's Full Metal Jacket and John Waters' Pink Flamingos). It is featured in the soundtrack in the video game Battlefield Vietnam.

The Trashmen went on to have other hit singles on the charts, the Billboard #30 hit "Bird Dance Beat" in 1964[1]; they would be prolific enough to later release a four CD box set of their work.

The Trashmen continued to release great follow up singles. In 1964, "Bird Dance Beat" reached #30 in The United States, becoming a mega hit in Brazil. In Canada, "Bird Dance Beat" was a top 10 hit, as well. The Trashmen went on to have 5 other charting singles and 14 albums.

The group disbanded in 1967 but reunited in the 1980s, they played together until the death of Steve Wahrer, who died of cancer in 1989. Tony's brother, Mark Andreason filled Steve's shoes as drummer. In 1999, The Trashmen played in Las Vegas, Nevada at The Las Vegas Grind to a full house. Since then, they have reunited to play select gigs including Chicago (July 2007), Spain (September 2007), Chicago (November 2007), Wisconsin, and Cleveland (March 2008). The Trashmen played for the first time in over a decade in their homestate of Minnesota, when they played the birthday bash for KOZY Radio at the Reif Center in Grand Rapids. The Trashmen returned to Grand Rapids, where they played in 1964. They have since been touring Europe and the US with successful 2008 gigs in Germany, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Belgium, Italy, and Austria, with many more playdates on the calendar.

—photo submitted by Bill L. Words by [www.Wikipedia.com](http://www.Wikipedia.com).

## *A Visit with "Mr. Corvair"*

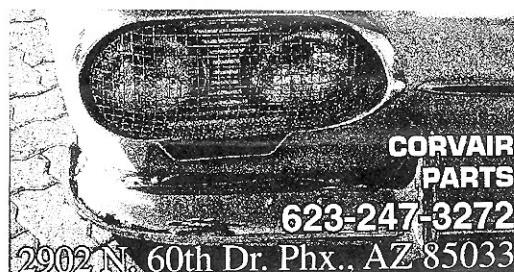
How many times have you read those unique, funny, sometimes confusing advertisements in the CORSA Communique for rust-free Corvair parts? Many times, I'm sure. Is this guy real, or what?

On a recent business trip to Phoenix, I got the chance to visit with "Mr. Corvair," Charles W. Dye. When I phoned him, I was immediately invited to come by for a visit to discuss Corvairs and other things. So I got directions and visited Charles for almost two hours. I found Charles to be an excellent host, interesting, and well versed in Corvair lore. I really had a good time as we discussed politics, people, the world condition, and (yes) Corvairs. Charles served in the Navy on a destroyer during WWII, then completed a full career, as did his wife, at Alcoa in Phoenix. He lost his wife this past July after a long fight with cancer.

Charles purchased his first Corvair in 1960 and loved it so well that he purchased a Lakewood in 1961 for the family. He drove both cars over 100,000 miles between Iowa and Phoenix. Over the years, Charles collected hundreds of abandoned and forlorn Corvairs, supplying rust-free Arizona cars and parts throughout the country to Corvair lovers and restorers. This was strictly a hobby, and when Phoenix regulators began to clamp down, Charles was forced to close his 375,000 square-foot storage yard and to dispose of his collection. Most of these cars were crushed! "Boy, that really hurt."

Mr. Corvair is still actively helping Corvair lovers find rust-free parts through his friends Larry and Gary in Tempe, Arizona. Larry and Gary have a storage yard exclusive to Corvairs - and what a supply of parts they have! In a variety of buildings, and many Greenbriers, they have almost anything you would need to bring your project to original. They are old and tired bodies (the cars, not Larry & Gary), but not rusty. They also participate in many Corvair meets and keep Arizona club members' cars going. Larry is the parts guru, and Gary does the wrench bending.

I really enjoyed visiting Charles, Larry, and Gary. I felt right at home, with a common bond for old Corvairs, used parts, nuts and bolts, and chrome. What a bunch of down-to-earth guys. Those ads are real!



—from Corsa Communique April 1995

# NEW LOCATION in 2008 !

All vendors & car show on **PAVEMENT** this year



Saturday  
& Sunday  
October 25 &  
26, 2008

## 31st Annual CHVA Old Cars & Parts

### Swap Meet & Car Show

Check-in for Swap Meet is 3:00 p.m. Friday &  
6:30 a.m. Saturday & Sunday



#### SWAP SPACES

- two parking spaces -  
\$25 for 1 day or \$35 for both days

#### SWAP MEET

Saturday 7:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
Sunday 7:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

OVERNIGHT SECURITY PROVIDED

#### CAR SHOW

Sunday ONLY  
10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

#### ENTRY FEE

Please bring 3 canned goods or any non-perishable food items for the **Community Food Bank**

\$10 with food donation  
Or \$15 without food donation

1988 & Older Vehicles only



#### TROPHIES !!!!

... Including Best of Show, Club Choice & many others !

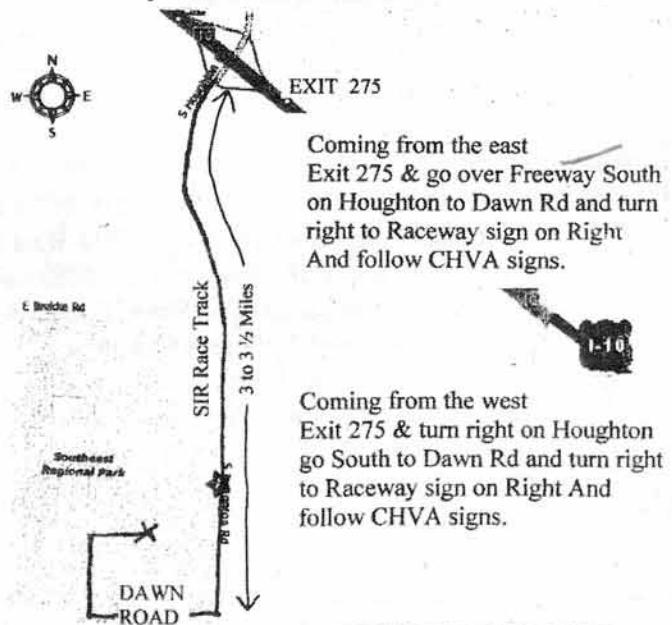
For more information contact:

Lou @ (520) 293-3178  
Or 1-800-484-1097, enter PIN #2984 OR

Juanita or Bob @ (520) 887-7767  
Evenings 6:00—9:00 p.m.

Presented by the **Southern Arizona Contemporary Historical**

**Vehicle Association.** Charities supported by this event include the Tucson Community Food Bank and other charities.





Monthly Newsletter • September 2008 • Vol. 33 No.3  
Corvair Society of America Chapter 857



**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETINGS** are held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. November meeting is on the third Wednesday. The December meeting is our annual Holiday party.

**MEETING PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2008:**

Mimi's Cafe 120 S. Wilmot, Tucson, AZ

A parking lot bull-session starts at 6pm. Optional dinner starts at 6:20pm.  
Meeting starts at 7pm. Guests are welcome.

**SEPT RAFFLE PRIZES**

**Raffle Prizes** for the September meeting will be furnished by:  
John Frugoli, Bill L, Dave Lynch, and Ryan Green..



*Tucson Corvair Association  
1026 South 7th Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85701-3010*

*September 2008 • Volume 33, Number 3*



*The Trashmen and their Corvair Greenbriar circa 1963.*