



Club members drive Corvairs and other make cars in fun track day

Owners and fans of the classic sixties Chevrolet Corvair will honor the storied days of early road racing at a special fun day at historic Willow Springs. Corvair Time Trials on Sunday, June 22, offers any Corvair owner the opportunity to safely test their driving skill and cars handling on the twisting 1.8 mile course in Rosamond, California, one hour north of Los Angeles. The day long event is also open to other make cars driven by members of Corvair Society of America or any of its over 110 chapters.

To enter a non-Corvair make car the driver must mail check for \$150.00 before June 1. Entries will be accepted first-come first-served and drivers notified June 2. If full checks will be returned. See: <http://conventions.corvair.org/2008/WillowSprings.htm>

The event, classified as a driving school, is open to only 60 drivers. Corvair bodied or powered cars have priority. There will be many practice laps in small groups, three timed runs, then many additional fun runs. The refundable entry fee remains \$150.00 to June 1, or until 60 reached. Late entries if available will be \$175.00 non-refundable. Deposits are no longer accepted.

Novices are especially welcome in stock Corvairs. Cars will be checked for good brakes and tires, and overall mechanical condition. Shoulder harness is not needed in stock classes. Helmets are required. Convertibles must have a roll bar, and FC vans and trucks are not eligible. Top speeds on the short straights will be freeway-like 70 mph. All drivers set their own pace, and groups are set by class and experience. Head to head racing is not allowed.

Experts have entered modified and race prepared Corvairs, including several Yenko Stingers of historical interest. Included is the last Yenko, the 1968 9700 Goodyear Tire car owned by Bob Dunahugh of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Warren LeVeque of Anderson, Indiana, will drive the famous Doug Roe 1960 Spyder Roadster. Rod Bean, who set records at Riverside and Ontario tracks in the 70's in YS-077 will conduct the drivers meeting. He is now an instructor at Willow Springs schools.

The Streets of Willow Springs course is part of historic Willow Springs International Raceway complex, the first dedicated road course in the United States. WSR is used for automotive magazine testing, television and movie shoots as well as a full variety of racing events and driving schools. Spectators are welcome for \$10.00 admission.

The event is first produced by a dozen experienced West Coast Corvair competitors dedicated to preserving the Corvair racing heritage. California Arizona Racing—CAR is a new Corvair Society of America (CORSA) chapter. It was organized by Jack Pinard, known for his efforts promoting autocross and the popular Poppy Run tour. He is secretary/treasurer. Jeff Ballard, owner of SCPerformance in Ventura is president. Seth Emerson, owner of Silicon Wire Systems in San Jose, is vice-president.

Checks payable to Corvair Time Trials may be mailed to Jack Pinard—CAR, 116 E Garden Green, Port Hueneme, CA 93041. Two licensed drivers may use the same car. The event will use modified NECC rules. See: www.corvair.org/chapters/necc/ For questions corvairjack@verizon.net, cell 805 340-6533.

Corvair Time Trials are the day before start of the Monday thru Friday, June 23-27, Corvair Society of America (CORSA) International Convention at Seaside Park, Ventura County Fairgrounds, Ventura, CA. The parent organization based in Lemont, IL, has over 110 chapters with over 5,200 members. Corsa West of Los Angeles is host chapter and John Medley is chairman. See: <http://conventions.corvair.org/2008>

Corvair, called "GM's mechanical marvel" by Hemmings Classic Car magazine, was produced by Chevrolet from 1960 to 1969. It features an aluminum air-cooled rear-mounted six-cylinder engine, four-wheel independent suspension and unibody construction. GM manufactured 1.8 million vehicles in the U.S. and Canada. The complete line included coupes, sedans, convertibles, station wagons, passenger vans, delivery vans and pickups. Stock 164 cu. in. engines produce from 80 to 180 horsepower. Mid-mounted V-8's are a popular modification.

Shortly after the stylish compact car was introduced owners discovered the excellent handling characteristics and fun-to-drive quotient. Stock Corvairs soon were competing with European sport cars and winning SCCA and VARA events on road racing courses throughout the United States. Modified cars such as the Yenko Stinger thrilled drivers and fans.