

# Cactus Chapter Volvo Club of America

Serving Arizona Volvo Owner's since 1996  
FIRST QUARTER 2010



In 2010 we have already seen great participation and an awful lot of fun in the Cactus Chapter Volvo Club of America (CCVCOA)!

We started the year off with a member meeting held at Jay Norton's home on January 9th. Elections of new officers, committee chair persons, and directors with a discussion of desired 2010 events filled our time together. Members, Directors, and Officers have been busy beavers in creating an active, action packed 2010 schedule of events. A report of these early 2010 activities are detailed in the following pages. Other exciting opportunities to participate still await you! There are plenty of ways to get active, participate, host, and make our club the best ever.

**January 16<sup>th</sup> – Barrett Jackson First Annual Invitational Road Rally and Cruise In.**

**February 13<sup>th</sup> – Technical Session** hosted by member John Manning: Topic Replace the AW-70 transmission in a 1985 245.

**February 20<sup>th</sup> – "Road to El Rey" Club drive and Lunch to Globe Arizona** to soak in the beauty and the green chiles.

**March 13<sup>th</sup> – Arizona All Volvo Day Member Appreciation Luncheon and Meeting.**

## Barrett-Jackson Road Rally and Cruise In January 16, 2010 *By Steve Westwood (1984 245 turbo-Rooty)*

The Barrett-Jackson Invitational Road Rally and Cruise in began at the SkySong and ended at the Pavilions on January 16, 2010



The call came in from Barrett-Jackson's Public Relations diva Danica Solesbee, and our troops rallied, to offer CCVCOA and Volvo Sports America (VSA) participation in this First Annual kick off to the infamous Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auction weekend of events.

Eight 1800's stood proud, flanked by two staunch 240's as we staged to begin the road rally under the sails at the SkySong Center in Scottsdale. Side by side the Volvo's motored down usually busy Scottsdale Road, today there was a Police escort to steady the pace.

Taking up the rear, I was paused by the classic lines and exhaust note of Loring Kohrt's baby blue 1800 and the sight of his darling Margaret waving her scarf out the passenger window. I shared in the excitement of the on-lookers; the exhilaration will be forever etched in my mind.

We collectively finished the tour at Scottsdale's Pavilions where thousands of on-lookers awaited our arrival while the volunteers cheered and waived the coveted checkered flags.

THANK YOU

*Barrett-Jackson*

AND THE FINE VOLUNTEERS!



**CACTUS  
CHAPTER**  
**VOLVO**  
**Club of America**

## A Friend In Need Is a Friend Indeed... February 13<sup>th</sup> Tech Session: John Manning and his AW-70 Transplant

By John and Sue Manning, Ivan Insua, Jack Johnson, Jon Yares, and Steve Westwood

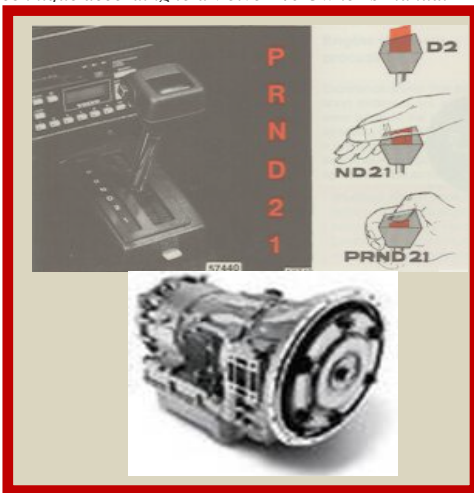
Seemed like a good reason to get out of the house pick up fresh flowers, bottle of vino, and a lovey dovey card for the missus on Valentines Eve.

However the comraderie and knowledge we shared was a love story all its own. Sue Manning spoiled us with fresh cookies, aromatic coffee, bagels, delicious sandwiches, and a thirst quenching supply of fresh cool water. John Manning is a lucky and impeccable man. His garage tidy and organized, 1985 245 wagon secure on jack stands, tires removed, jacks and tools ready, nitrile gloves ready for use and shop towel rolls ready for use! Jack Johnson also delivered with several specialty tools he carries to assist Volvo motorists in need.

The old AW-70 four speed automatic came out like a text book example with the oversight of Ivan's vast knowledge of the rear wheel drive Lego like Volvo's. "This bracket must be removed to gain access to the flex plate" was spoken by Ivan in his zen like voice. John complied and readied the socket wrench and 'adjustable' breaker bar for the surgery. Steve was busy removing the driveshaft and comparing the belly of this beaut to his own 245 collection. No major issues encountered by this dedicated bunch of gear heads in the well planned removal of the tired old AW-70. John had secured a replacement from our friends down south at the RevolveStore ([www.revolvestore.com](http://www.revolvestore.com)) in Tucson that had fresh seals and was ready to go. Jon Yares snapped up great photos to record the entire event. Ivan swapped out the Overdrive solenoid from the old gearbox and went through the wiring repairing any thing suspect. After a trip to the local auto parts store for supplies, Ivan performed wire loom magic on the old unit, improving the looks, durability, and functionality on the factory unit. During this time the others looked for a suitable rear main seal installation tool. John found it in the pantry disguised as a tin can of Green Chile Enchilada Sauce! The can's outside diameter made it a cinch to install without injuring the new rear main seal – very MacGyver like! Hours got short as John had a family commitment and we all had to find a florist between here and home. On the drive home I thought "how great are the folks in the Cactus Chapter"...happily willing to help out a true friend, indeed, it was fun!

The next day John single-handedly installed the replacement and learned how easy heli-coil inserts are to use in an over used bolt hole. By the following Saturday, John and Sue were on the road in their Volvo to enjoy a different style of green chiles at the El Rey in Globe.

*Pictured below is the Aisin Warner AW-70 and its shifting operation technique according to a Volvo 240 Owner's manual*



Installing the rear main seal, with spice!



Day 1: Prepared for surgery



Day 2: Ready to go back in the car



I have you now you bugger!

## 2010 Cactus Chapter Volvo Club of America Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairpersons.

Secretary/Treasurer - Brian Woodbury  
Vice President and VSA Liason - Jay Norton  
President - Steve Westwood

Event Program Chair – Ivan Insua  
Membership – Jon Yares  
Web Site/ Multi Media / Social Networks – Randy Pace  
Telephones- Jack Johnson and Jon Yares  
Tucson Coordinator- Open  
Flagstaff Coordinator-Open

Director Emeritus- Mel Filreis  
Director/Past President- Jon Yares  
Director – Randy Pace  
Director-Jack Johnson  
Director-Jay Norton

Meetings are held regularly in addition to the event schedule,  
contact Steve Westwood at [sewestwood@cox.net](mailto:sewestwood@cox.net) or by phone  
at (480) 830-7235 if you would like to join us!

Cactus Chapter Annual Dues are due: March 2010 to March 2011  
They remain a bargain of only \$15. Visit the club website at  
[www.cactuschapter.org](http://www.cactuschapter.org)

Contact VCOA at [www.vcoa.org](http://www.vcoa.org) to update and maintain your  
National dues and membership



### 2010 Proposed CCVCOA Program Calendar

March 13 AZ All Volvo Day Member Appreciation  
March 27 Volvo Yard Sale at Jon Yares

April 11 Copperstate 1000 Field of Dreams  
April 17-18 British European Auto Tour (BEAT)  
April 25<sup>th</sup> West Valley Club Meeting (host?)

May 15<sup>th</sup> Central Yavapai Cruise to Jack Johnsons  
May 29<sup>th</sup> Club Technical Session

June 12<sup>th</sup> Mid-Sommar Pool party and 245 mini tech session @  
the Westwoods in Mesa

July 7<sup>th</sup> Cocopai tour in Northern Arizona hosted by Rory  
Madden, VCOA Board of Directors  
July 21<sup>st</sup> Tech session service and prep member cars headed to  
National VCOA Meet in Kalamazoo, MI

August 14-15 VCOA National Event

September 11<sup>th</sup> CCVCOA Service Day and color guard to –  
Recognize Men and Women of our Armed Forces, Police/Fire,  
and our Freedom  
September 25<sup>th</sup> V.O.L.V.O. Wine country tour-Cottonwood,  
Clarkdale and Camp Verde area

October 9<sup>th</sup>-Fall Volvo Day-The BIG show

November 6<sup>th</sup> Rally on the Old Pueblo in Tucson  
November 20<sup>th</sup> Club Tech Session day-oil changes

December 11<sup>th</sup> Year in Review and 2011 discussion

The purpose and mission of the Cactus Chapter of the VOLVO CLUB OF AMERICA is:

"to encourage the ownership, operation, maintenance, and recognition of all VOLVO models; to act as a source of information; to promote activities and events that will encourage proper maintenance and operation; to provide for members a camaraderie and a focal point for common interest; to arrange for member discounts on a variety of products, parts, and services; to promote safe driving and the use of safety devices."

This CHAPTER is intended to be the focal point of activity within the CLUB. Its purpose is to provide an organization at the local level for the planning and carrying out of activities supporting the objectives of the CLUB and which can respond to the needs of the CHAPTER members. Our CHAPTER will have meetings for the purpose of planning activities and to conduct other such business as may be necessary to the operation of the CHAPTER. Activities may include but are not limited to gathering to promote the restoration, care, safe use, and enjoyment of VOLVO automobiles as well as gathering camaraderie and to participate in other such events as may be of interest to the members.

## THE ROAD TO EL REY

Photos and text by Ivan Insua, author & Mel Filreis



*El Rey is known for handmade tortillas, pan-fried shredded beef tacos and flavorful green chili.*

The VDO turbo gauge indicated just a couple clicks past atmospheric as I rounded the first hill past Superior. "Still plenty of torque to spare," I thought. This was by no means a race up the mountains (besides, it was raining). This was a journey to green chili burros and non-high fructose corn syrup Coke in glass bottles. This was the Cactus Chapter VCOA lunch run to Libby's El Rey Cafe, a quaint Mexican food restaurant nestled in Globe, Arizona.

Saturday morning, February 20: we started the drive at around half past nine at the Home Depot parking lot on the U.S. 60 and Crismon Road, east of Phoenix where several club members had gathered with their respective rides.

Brian drove the oldest car in the group with his 1970 1800E, followed by Steve's 1984 245 Turbo "Rooty" and John's 1985 245 sporting a new AW-70. My family and I represented the 1990s with our last-year-of-production 944 Turbo, while Jay his wife and friends rounded out the 2000s with their new V50. Mel joined the group thanks to a ride from Steve. Jon Y. and his wife drove their brick as well—a Scion xB.

My wife and 15-month old daughter joined me on today's outing. I would like to think it was to share tales of the Swedish Brick; although, I suspect the food may have been the most persuasive element.

We headed off on our scenic journey. The weather channel wasn't joking this time about rain and temperature drops. About ten minutes into our drive I had to activate the wipers. I would later learn that this would be the first time in a long time Steve and Brian has had precipitation fall upon their vehicles. Fortunately, their hours of waxing paid off as the water simple beaded off the mirror finishes.

The view from the windshield was stunning. The right combination of moisture and temperature created clouds that touched the mountains within our side of the Tonto National Forest. Occasionally, the clouds would separate allowing rays of sunlight to peer though onto the landscape, creating a rich shadowing effect better than any default screensaver.

By eleven on the dot, we arrived. I surveyed the modest footprint of El Rey and seriously wondered if the Club would fit. But, like a well-packaged Ikea flat box, all members fit successfully inside, occupying three medium-sized tables. The kindness of the locals was evident when a party of four voluntarily moved, without a word from us, to allow the Club to sit together.

El Rey is known for homemade tortillas, pan fried shredded beef tacos, and flavorful Green chile. Our table was greeted by a smiling waitress and a basket of chips. The accompanying salsa was certainly spicy, slightly chunky with a hint of sweet flavor. For my main course, I enjoyed a green chili burro, enchilada style with rice and refried beans. It probably wasn't low-fat (it didn't taste low-fat), but I, and I suspect most of my cohorts, weren't too concerned.

The Cactus Chapter members were enjoying their time together as a club.

The drive back home was marked by more rain and another drop in temperature. The Volvo tracked confidently through the bends with help from the all-season rubber. I had no intention of testing them, but the ABS was available and ready. The Swedish designed climate control kept the family warm and dry. I followed Brian and his 1800 for most of the way from Miami to Superior admiring the clean, graceful lines of the classic.

It was a wonderful day to enjoy a Saturday with the Club. Although the weather might normally be described in news broadcasts as inclement, it brought about some spectacular scenery that we don't often see in Arizona. Rather than spend the morning indoors in front of a television, we all had a chance to drive off, have a warm meal and mingle with friends.



Members, please submit your articles and photos of adventures or tech sessions to the Cactus Chapter Volvo Club. Know of a great place you are excited to share? Let us know.

Have a special skill you can lend to the club to make it better? Let us know.

We will publish quarterly newsletters for the enjoyment of our members and Volvo community.

Please submit electronic items to Steve Westwood at [sewestwood@cox.net](mailto:sewestwood@cox.net)

Thank you!