

# Javelina

# 100 Arizona Outlaws 2014



The sacred motto of the Arizona Outlaws 356 Club is “No dues, no rules, no one in charge”. Such a credo can lead to some interesting, unexpected events and the 2014 Javelina 100 was no exception for the 48 California, New Mexico and Arizona Porsche pilots and passengers in 27 cars on October 10-12.

The annual fall extravaganza began Friday afternoon with a spirited drive up winding mountain roads to the Sawmill Run Restaurant atop 9,100 foot Mount Lemmon just outside Tucson. All cars that started made it to the top, save one that began to ail just short of the summit. The occupants of that car smiled throughout and were rescued by other participants who brought them to the Sawmill Run Restaurant where glasses of cold Fat Tire Ale and lively conversation were applied to assuage their pangs of disappointment. They were ultimately rescued by AAA, stashed their car in Steve Proctor's garage and continued the event in his Boxster S.

As dusk settled, Larry and Nena Ashton lavished a catered Mexican Buffet and open bar complete with a friendly bartender on the Outlaws at their beautiful Catalina Foothills home. Guests enjoyed the food and drink, the twinkling lights of downtown Tucson some miles to the south, and tours of the spacious(!), full and well-appointed garage featuring his restored 356 Continental coupe elevated on a lift. As the evening cooled, guests staying late sat around the outdoor fireplace swapping stories.



Outlaws gathered the next morning at the Tucson Cars and Coffee under cool and partly cloudy skies. The unprecedented showing of 356s of all colors and varieties caused quite a stir. Following a short drivers' meeting, the group followed tour leader Larry Ashton as he set out for Tombstone, a lunch stop on the way to the historic mining town of Bisbee, the ultimate destination.

This is where things got interesting. After a short back-track due to a wrong turn near the town of Elgin, the Outlaws encountered the effects of an unusually heavy monsoon season. Rains had generated La Brea Tar-pit-sized potholes in the asphalt of the country road and the multi-colored thread of 356s meandered all over the road to avoid the holes. As far as we know, everyone made it to the next challenge, a water crossing resulting from the heavy rains. The 356s slowed, descended a slight decline and traversed the 6" deep water, climbing to the other side and shaking off before making the final run into Tombstone for lunch. Luckily, no one had to find out if 356s really can float like their air-cooled German cousins.



The Ashtons hosted a Mexican buffet dinner and a tour of their garage with several interesting sports cars to admire. Left: Saturday morning at Cars and Coffee in Tucson there were a few more 356s in attendance than the locals are used to seeing.

Just as the bottoms of the cars were drying off, the group meandered up to the West entry gate of Ft. Huachuca, an active US Cavalry-era Army base. This planned destination is usually manned by a Security Guard. Usually. Outlaws close to the front of the pack got out of their cars and swarmed all over the gate trying to figure out how to get someone to raise the barricade. Being men, they—well, okay WE—did not see the instructions on a huge sign at the gate that told exactly how to contact base security and enter the gate. Barbara Proctor, being a woman and thus more inclined to actually read and heed directions, noted the instructions and the group was soon traversing the huge Army base.

Story by  
Steve Proctor

Photos by  
Barb Crowley  
and  
Deborah Evans



Roy Pederson and Mary Jane Oring prepare to ford the stream.

Lunch was in historic Tombstone, with many denizens dressed in historic garb and the Outlaws in search of lunch at restaurants such as Doc Holliday's, Big Nose Kate's, The Long Branch and The Crystal Palace. After lunch, the group found their way to the quaint town of Bisbee, following sweeping open roads that included a tunnel just outside of town, the perfect place to validate operation of 356 horns.

Warm and thirsty, the Outlaws checked into their hotels and then gathered on the balcony of the Eldorado Hotel, outside Dennis and Barb Crowley's room for a post-drive cooldown. Len and Susan Erie provided copious quantities of wine and snacks and Cliff and Carolyn Berryman brought beer and wine as well. The Eldorado Hotel is a particularly prized Outlaws destination as it is about 50 yards from the Old Bisbee Brewing Company. Numerous treks were made to the bottom of the hill to the micro-brewery to fill growlers.

The last hearty partiers had to be shoed off the balcony in time for dinner at the Cafe Roka, a historic art deco restaurant a short walk to the heart of town. Cafe Roka served a five course meal, finishing with an elegant desert plate. Happy and full, the Outlaws returned to their rooms for the night. Well, some of them did. A hearty group gathered in the bar of the Copper Queen Hotel watching a college football game and teasing a feisty barmaid about her favorite team as two guys in bowler hats and vintage clothing sang equally vintage tunes.

The group dwindled a bit on the way to the next stop and later ended the evening watching an "America Has Talent" quality hula hoop exhibition in the middle of the street outside St. Elmo's Fire bar.

To paraphrase the statement that led off each episode of the television show "Naked City," there are at least 48 stories to be told about this year's event and this is but one recounting. Ask anyone who was there and you will get another perspective, maybe the one that will cause you to block out the second weekend in October next year. 🚗

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