The Official Publication of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the Corvair Society of America --- Chapter 947

Dedicated to the enjoyment, history and preservation of the *Chevrolet Corvair* produced from 1960 through 1969. This unique, rear-engined, air-cooled automobile grabs as much attention today as it did 50 years ago!



#### **VOLUME 329**

#### **FEBRUARY 2021**

Look for us on the Web! https://www.SFBACorsa.org

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Bruce Mooers '65 Turbo Restoration

Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Feb 4th @7:00PM (#739 9816 7995)

# Letter From the Editor

hope everyone is doing well and staying Covid free. Our last SFBA Corsa Zoom meeting was very well attended with lots of people participating. Besides our own area we had members from Southern California and even Australia. Seventeen in all. Quite a turnout! If you haven't joined in you should give it a try. A PC or Mac works very well but I use an old iPad as my PC is ancient (no video or mic). Yeh I know I could add these but I am too lazy.

This month I am running more photos that Bruce Mooers has been sending me regarding the restoration of his '65 Turbo. The project is progressing wonderfully as you can see. Bruce said he was able to make such good progress because Sterling Restorations in Fairfield was just starting out and there wasn't a lot of competition for their time. From what I can see they are doing a tremendous job! And he has his '69 in the wings.

Remember if you work on your Corvair, even if it's only to replace an oil seal or spark plug wires, take some pictures and sent them to me. We are all interested in what other members are doing. It gives us more incentive to work on our cars...

It's the first of the year and our membership dues are due for most of us. See the note Josh (membership) on page 8.

It looks like CORSA has been busy. Josh and Greg (both Western Division Directors) reported that CORSA has joined with Mecum Auctions to feature Corvairs in their Car Clubs program. This includes discounts on bidder registration (if you sign up online) and there will be a booth at the auctions with CORSA literature. Additionally CORSA will have access to the auction contact information it can use for prospective new members. For us the closest auction will be in Monterey in August. See their web site (https://www.mecum.com) for more schedule information.

## Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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Francisco-Bay-Area-Chapter-

579950135376455/

Mecrchandise https://www.zazzle.com/store/sfba\_corsa

Our February meeting will once again be a "virtual meeting" via Zoom. The time and date are February 4, 2021 from 7:00PM. If you

See *Letter...* on page 10

**On The Cover:** Bruce has sent in more progress photos of his '65 Turbo project car. We can't wait to see the finished product (neither can Bruce)!

The Spyder Web is published twelve times a year by SFBA Corsa, Chapter 947 of the Corvair Society Of America (CORSA). The group meets monthly on the first Thursday at 7:00 PM at Black Bear Diner on Sycamore Valley Rd in Danville except for special occasions. Membership costs \$25/yr (membership in CORSA, \$38/yr, is encouraged). An associate membership (newsletter only) is avialable for \$15/yr. Memberships begin on January 1 of each year (first year is prorated).

Advertising space in the Spyder Web is available for \$50/yr (1/4 page), \$75/yr (1/2 page), and \$100/yr (full page). Business card size ads are \$25/yr but do not include a subscription to the newsletter. All material should be sent to the editor (address above) or emailed to CaCalkins@astound.net. Material must be received at least two weeks prior to the next meeting date.

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# Minutes of the Last Meeting

Jan 7, 2021

The Board meeting started at 6:45. We had Josh, Harry, and Clark present. We discussed bank account status and membership. With the "dry" items out of the way, the Zoom meeting was opened up to everyone at 7:00. We were quickly joined by Tony, Seth, Don, Lane, Christy, Rob, Eric Player, Joe Balderamma, Paul Beers, Bong Hung, Greg Vargas, and Carl Kelsen from Australia! There were others I am sure but I didn't keep track. In all Josh said there were 17 attendees. What a great turn-out!

Josh and Greg said that Corsa was setting up a Mecums auction to feature Corvairs. See page 9.

**Treasury Report:** Harry reported that the bank balance stood at \$4281.62. He has not received expense claims from Clark for a few months. Clark will send this in shortly.

Membership: Josh reported that there were no new members this month. The current membership total is about 58, the largest it has been in many years. Thanks to Josh's work in setting up the web pages and promoting the Club and his participation in CORSA as a West Coast Director! Josh has also been working on the Club's web site.

**Old Business:** Nothing discussed.

New Business: Nothing discussed.

**Events:** The latest news is that CORSA is still planning on holding this year's convention in San Diego in July. Next year it will be in Atlanta and the following year in Wisconsin. These last two dates are firm so if San Diego event doesn't happen then the next available time for the West Coast would be 2024. Several other Corvair events are planned for 2021 as reported in last month's newsletter.

**Tech:** Tony mentioned that he hasn't seen his cars in a few months and it was time to check on them. He wants to be sure

the tires are okay as some of them are brand new. Carl mentioned that when he stores a car he pumps the tires to 45 psi and this seems to eliminate flat spots. Interesting idea.

The subject of selling cars came up and Carl said that in Australia you needed a "road-worthy" certificate to sell any car. Similar to smog check points in the USA there were many locations to take your car for this but they are very extensive checks and cost about \$350 (US or Aus?). Besides checking things like lights, brakes, windshield clarity they also check date codes on brake hoses, tires, etc. Anything out of date had to be replaced. Clark asked about cars that were currently non-drivable. Carl said you could sell those but they had to be towed (not driven away) and then certified before being allowed back on the road. And the yearly license fee in Australia was around \$700 per car (but this included 3rd party insurance).

Harry asked about the useful life of tires. Most felt that 5 years was a good "ball park" figure but storage conditions have a lot to do with it. If kept indoors, cool and away from direct sunlight they can last much longer.

Joe said he just received the plates for his '66. He applied 4-5 months ago. To speed up the process Joe suggested sending in all of the documentation (and check!) at the same time. Otherwise things get lost. Additionally he had taken off the top engine cover plate and asked if the golden color was "normal". Seth "yes" the color comes from the oil but very careful and don't let anything fall into the engine at this point. Replace the cover ASAP! As reported a few months back, Joe has had trouble with his engine cutting out on hard left turns (a known Corvair 140 issue) and ask what air filters people were using. Rob said he uses K&M (or K&N?) and they seem to work fine.

Eric, a newer member, is looking for a

Corvair. Probably a late model. He wants something he can have fun driving to the beach in. Seth said both earlies and lates fit the bill. Christy suggested that he consider an early model. They are fun, built like a tank, and if you stick with the lower HP engines, they are very reliable. As Ben Mozetti use to say regarding the 110/AT combination "if you send your kids out you know they will come back". Seth that Eric should get the Corvair Basics book (which comes with CORSA membership) and there is a chapter on how to purchase a Corvair. It details what to look out for, specifically in regards to Corvairs. Carl said to learn as much as you can (talk with others) and buy as good a car as you can afford. He was adamant that the body should be straight (no accidents). The engine and trans can be fixed (by yourself or you can have it worked on) but body damage is much more problematic. Herb said that he still likes driving his '64. It's the most fun to drive of all of his cars. Bong said that when he bought his Corvair he thought he was buying a Camero (there was just a small picture on Craig's List). How can a Camero only cost \$6k he thought? But he bought it anyway and now he loves it!

Seth mentioned that he went to change the accelerator pump cups on his 140 over to Viton and it was very hard to get the new rubber cups over the retaining points on the shaft. He made a ramp by cutting off the point of a ball-point pen and this helped a lot. Otherwise he said it takes 15 minutes or so for each carb. He said that someone he knew 3D printed a plastic part for doing this. He was asked about main jet and said he put in #51 (stock is #50) for the primaries and #48 for the secondaries. The slightly larger jet sizes helps with today's alcohol fuels. Herb said he put in larger jets on his '64 and it has never run better!

Don has been working on his '65. Last month he asked about a funny looking

(See *Minutes...* on page 10)

# Coming Events...

Feb 4th Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Mar 4<sup>th</sup> Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "739 9816 7995"

------ Ageless to Anarchy Corvair Show, date to be determined.

June 11-13<sup>th</sup> Vairfest, Heratige Square Park, Arroyo Grande, CA.

Jul 27-31<sup>st</sup> CORSA National Convention, San Diego, CA

# SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2021 (tentative)

Thursday Jan 7, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

### Thursday Feb 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Mar 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Apr 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday May 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Jun 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Jul 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Aug 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Sep 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Oct 7, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Nov 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

Thursday Dec 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"

# SFBA Corsa Members Current Projects (Bruce Mooers Progress Photos)

Bruce has sent in more photos depicting the restoration of his '65 Turbo convertible (the captions are mine). He has been making amazing progress as you can see. Initially only the drivers side rear quarter panel was going to be replaced but after stripping down to bare metal it was decided to also replace the drivers side front fender as it would be better (and probably cheaper) than fixing the old one. Bruce was able to track down the necessary part from someone in Texas. With that done and a primer coat applied you can see how straight the body is. Bruce has the new interior parts from Clark's and the seats are currently out for recovering. Bruce is hoping to have the car finished in time for the San Diego Convention.





A couple of pictures taken after the new front and rear fenders havr been welded in place.





Someone had removed the stock radio mounting ears to install an after-market radio. Bruce some how found the missing parts and had them welded back in place. When painted you won't be able to tell anything was done!





Out in the day light it is easier to see the fit of the new panels. The cowling around the front windshield was also replaced but it's hard to see here. The photos below show the body after primer has been applied. You can see how straight the lines are now. The bottom-right photo shows the battery tray area after being repaired.





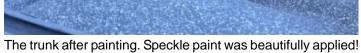




SFBA Corsa - February 2021

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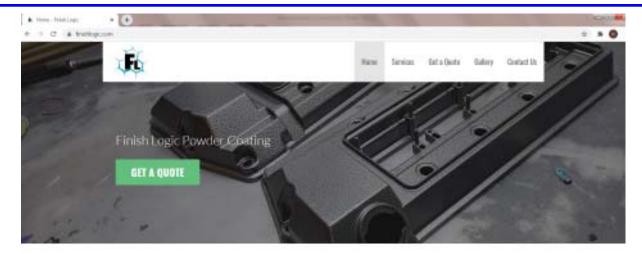








Here is the interior of the engine compartment. What a nice job they have done!









# SFBA Corsa 2021 Dues - Josh Deitcher, Membership

Hi All, I hope you are all healthy, happy and safe during these strange days.

As the membership chair, it is my duty to do the dirty work of reminding you all that with the passing of a new year, that means that dues for SFBA CORSA are due.

Before I knock the dust off of the soapbox and give my membership speil, I do want to let you all know that we are sensitive to the fact that many jobs were lost due to the pandemic and that finances might be tight. If you are reading this and this applies to you, please send me a message directly (DO NOT reply all to this email) and let's see if we can't work something out. Having YOU as a member of SFBA is important to all of us. As much as we care about these wonderful cars, we really are a family here and care about one another and we want to keep you in the fold.

Now that that is out of the way....

Dues are due! If you haven't already renewed your membership with SFBA CORSA, dues are \$25 per year for full membership and \$15 for associate membership.

Club dues are due in January and we'd

love it if you could renew soon to help with our records. If you plan to renew on your start date, that's cool. Just drop me a line and let me know so I can make a note.

We don't take your membership in SFBA CORSA for granted, and are deeply appreciative of the support every member provides in being able to keep the Corvair out in front of the public to enjoy. We'll see what 2021 brings, but we are looking forward to continuing to do our zoom meetings and (fingers crossed) meet in person at some point. The zoom account and the website and domain aren't free, so your contribution of membership does go directly to offset these costs.

We have a couple of ways to pay. You can send me a check or money order made out to SFBA CORSA to:

Josh Deitcher c/o SFBA CORSA 375 Harris Ave Rodeo, Ca 94572

Or, you can send the money via paypal or venmo:

**paypal:** (send as a friend so we don't get charged) vondeitch@gmail.com

Venmo: @Joshua-Deitcher-1

I also have a Zelle account. Send me an email for that info if you want to pay that way.

For those of you that want to renew on your start date, I will send you an email when it gets close to that time.

A reminder that while membership in CORSA is not a prerequisite for SFBA membership, we do strongly encourage support of the national organization, which works to support our local efforts through nationwide chapter promotion and their event liability insurance policy. CORSA members receive a subscription to the CORSA Communique magazine and the right to post their own classified ads both online and in print. You'll receive a membership roster with contact information in case you get stuck on the road, and leads to reputable Corvair vendors all across the country.

Membership also grants access to all the pages on the CORSA website, access to our bookstore where you can purchase CORSA Tech Guides written by real Corvair experts and CORSA monthly "meet-up" webinars where a variety of Corvair topics are discussed. And if that's not enough, please remember... Anyone who is a first time member of CORSA also receives a copy of Corvair Basics free of charge (that's worth the price of admission alone).

If you're still reading, thanks for hanging in there. Again, if there are any questions, comments or concerns, please address them to me at vondeitch@gmail.com and we will take them case by case. You will be heard!

Hope to see you all on the zoom next Thursday!

Stay safe!!!

# Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

#### December 2020

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
12/01/2020	Begining Balance				\$4,130.43	
10/02/2020	Membership Renewals		\$151.19		4,281.62	
10/02/2020	Zoom November			15.00	4,266.62	**
09/29/2020	Newsletter (Decem	ber)		42.08	4,224.54	**
10/26/2020	Ending Balance				4,224.54	
August Totals		\$151.19	\$57.08	\$4,224.54	(estimated)	

<sup>\*\*</sup> Expense not submitted yet. Bank balance reported as \$4281.62

From: Greg Vargas <vargascorvairmonza@hotmail.com>

Subject: RE: Special Announcement for CORSA Members-Mecum Auctions Partnership

Date: January 9, 2021 at 5:57:12 PM PST

To: Greg Vargas <vargascorvairmonza@hotmail.com>

#### 2021 Car Club Program Partnership

Corvair Society of America is proud to be a part of the Mecum Auctions Car Club Program for 2021. This program was established to support the car clubs, their members and the collector car community.

#### CORSA Members will get discounted tickets

Bidder Registration Discounts! Individual CORSA members can buy a Standard Bidder registration for Mecum Auctions that includes one (10 Bidder Badge and one (1) Guest Badge. The normal price for Standard Bidder registration is \$200 per auction, but CORSA members pay only \$100. This offer is available only for those of you who register online. You can also register by phone, by mail, or when you walk in the door, but you won't get the discount. You can find all the details at corvair.org- log into your account and look under "CORSA News" or "Merchandize and Special Offers."

#### CORSA will also be on display

Mecum has a car club booth at each one of its auctions. CORSA will be among the clubs represented there with brochures and sample copies of the CORSA Communique magazine. Our logo will also appear in Mecum show programs and in *Mecum Magazine*. In addition, Mecum will make available contact information gathered at the car club booth for CORSA membership prospects. The Mecum auction schedule can be found on their website at <a href="https://www.mecum.com/">https://www.mecum.com/</a>



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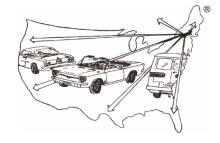
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# Minutes...

link and (as suggested by Seth) it indeed was a bent transmission linkage. He straightened it out and installed it. In working on the engine he found an exhaust stack was loose. He got a replacement from Clark's. He hopes to have the engine installed by the next meeting.

Christy said he installed one of his replacement fuel pumps (as you recall he had four rebuilt at \$135/per) and it leaked! All of the screws were loose and one was too short to even engage the threads. He is not sure if he would recommend getting pumps rebuilt by this guy even though Josh had good luck with his pump. Christy said he replaced the O-rings on his '64. The first time in 50k miles. This is his best running Corvair. Much quieter on the road than his '65 or '67.

Rob was tracking down a fuel/air leak by using starting fluid. Said this worked well (he used a long nozzle off a WD-40 can). He took his '64 to a local mechanic to get the valves adjusted. Not sure what happened but they only did one bank correctly. It ran VERY poor. When it got back to the shop he found on the passenger's side they forgot to tighten the rocker arms! He ended up doing the job himself. He used a 1/2 valve cover he got from Clark's and this worked well. He was very disappointed in the mechanic! The car runs well now but he still has a leak around the right side primary carb. The throttle shaft is loose. Seth said that Clark's sells replacement shafts (luckily the shaft wears mode than the housing). When you go to replace the butterfly valve plate, remember the screws have been peened. Be sure to re-peen them when you install the plate on the new shaft. Rob asked if anyone had experience with Wolf carburetors. They run an ad

in the Communique. Josh said that he has them on his 110 and they work well.

Paul has finished up the suspension work on his '63 Spyder and now is starting on the engine and trans. He casually mentioned that at first he replaced the fuel tank and then worked on the front suspension. He certainly should have waited until the suspension was out to work on the tank as it would have been a lot easier! Now he is wonder what was the best way to clean the oil cooler? He has the folded-fin type. Seth said that if he flushes it out with solvent to be sure a clean it thoroughly before installing it. Paul said that he did the front suspension himself but took the rear components to Finish Logic in Concord. They cleaned and powder coated the parts. Not cheap but they did a very good job. Carl said

(See *Minutes...* on page 11)

# Corvaiglassifieds

#### **CORVAIRS FOR SALE**

'62 Corvair Coupe 76k miles, started to restore but health conditions left me unable to finish. New tires, rebuilt dash, boiled gas tank, etc. I want it to go to someone who will restore it, only asking \$750 for SFBA members. Contact Niki at njustmann@gmail.com (12/20)

<u>'62 Corvair 95 Corvan</u> 95 hp A/T, color White with Gold interior, 100k miles, condition:poor (solid body). Asking \$3000 (depends on options), Oregon City, OR. Contact Josh for more details. (10/20)



**<u>'64 Monza Coupe</u>** 110/AT, engine rebuilt by Mell, good interior. Been kept

in running condition Lassen county area (can deliver). Asking \$3000. Contact Dan McCormick (510)919-9527 (03/20)

<u>'65 Corvair Sedan</u>, factory air, White with Blue interior, 90k miles. Been garaged for 15-20 yrs. Car is located in



Glendale, CA. Open to reasonable offers. Contact JP Migrditchian in Pleasanton (415)994-7949 (12/20)

### CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

'65-69 Performance Upper Trans crossmember bushings. Aluminum with high density inserts. Clark's #C2050P. Asking \$35 for the pair (that's hald price). I'll ship. Contact Buck

Jones (831)917-5952 (08/20)

**Skip Polacchi** has the following parts for sale. Best to call evenings (530)474-4227.

<u>1 Pair Custom rebuilt</u>, new seats, c'ced 180 Heads \$850

1 Pair Late 110 rebuilt heads - \$250

1 Pair Late 95 rebuilt heads \$225

<u>1 Pair Big valve, Bill Thomas</u>. all new parts, angle port exhaust, rotated manifold, w/mod carbs, linkage & Otto air filters - \$1700 firm

1 New complete Clark's Ultimate 140 carb kit, linkage & air filter - \$700

1 Rebuilt Late 95 short block w/ new S.T.D. GM pistons + barrels, resized rods w/ heads - \$875 firm

1 All New Parts for an early 102 hp NOS crank, cam, 0.030 pistons & barrels+heads, bearings etc. You assemble - \$725

1 Excelant used Posi for an early axle - \$250 firm

We still have other misc items

#### **CORVAIR MECHANICS**

David Gray: Fairfield - Retired GM/ Corvair Mechanic. Can do minor repairs, engine rebuilds, tune-ups. Located in Fairfield but can travel. Also has parts for sale. (916)531-0905 (corvairguru@gmail.com)

# Minutes...

that prior to powder coating that you need to apply an anti-corrosion coating otherwise a chip in the coating leads to corrosion and powder coating material is awful to remove.

**Swap & Sell:** Nothing mentioned this month.

Meeting adjourned about 9:00.

Respectively submitted.

Clark Calkins, secretary

## Letter...

sign in a bit late you will just join in the middle of the meeting. But that's ok, we love to have everybody join in when they can. And if you have to bug out early, that's ok too!

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