

**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-engine, air-cooled automobile grabs as much attention today as it did 60 years ago!

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WEB

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



Peter's '65 Corsa 140

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Apr 4th
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)**

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 12 SFBA members and no guests this evening.

The biggest news this month is that Peter found a Corvair! He bought a '65 Corsa 140 (see page 5). As you may or may not know Peter has been looking for a Corvair coupe, either an early model, preferably a '64, or later coupe. He has taken his time, looked at several, and asked all of the right questions. He initially referred to our group to find out what to look for (and look out for). He also used Corvair Basics as it has a chapter on how to purchase a Corvair. It looks like he found just the car he wanted. It pays to be patient. Congratulations!

This month I heard from Vince Petrie of Central Coast Corsa. He want to let us know that CCC now has Zoom meetings on the third Wednesday of the month starting at 6:00 PM. These will be general Corvair and tech-talk discussions rather than chapter news. Everyone is welcome. For the March meeting (which has passed as I write this) the meeting ID was 115 276 0788. He did not mention if this was a permanent ID number or not. To be sure, contact Mike Thomas VP CCC [mthomasslo@gmail.com].

It's that time of year again and SFBA Corsa memberships are due. I know it's easy to put this off until "tomorrow", but just pretend tomorrow is here already. As you probably know already we try to keep everyone's due date the same. The first of January every year. Those that receive a printed newsletter, the label shows your next due date (if there is one). For others, if you don't remember your due date you can email Josh to find out. He maintains the master SFBA Roster list. A list of those that have paid can be found on page 9.

It's that time of year where the rain is subsiding, and the

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<https://facebook.com/CORSA-San-Francisco-Bay-Area-Chapter-579950135376455/>

Merchandise <https://www.etsy.com/listing/1163514879/san-francisco-bay-area-corvair-club>

temperatures are warming up. Perfect for Corvair outings! Josh worked up a last minute find drive as you can see on page 6. Tito of Silicon Valley Corsa has also set up a fun Spring Cruise. Details on

(see **Letter** on page 7)

On The Cover: . This is Peter's newly acquired '65 Corsa 140 hp coupe. Perfect for what Peter wants to do. Have a good looking car that he can drive and have fun in, and also work on. See the story and more photos on page 5.

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 available 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

March 7, 2024

Josh got the regular meeting started around 7:00 PM following a short Board meeting. When the room was opened, Ray, Josh, Harry and I were quickly joined by Seth, Christy, Jeffrey, Paul, Don, Buck, Cameron and Peter. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Harry reported that the bank balance stood at \$4366.26.

Membership: Josh did not report any new members this month although a few have expressed interest. Harry said the the last CORSA Club Membership form asked for a current list of Officers and the latest roster. Josh said he would take care of it.

Old Business: Nothing mentioned.

New Business: Josh received an email from someone in Nevada that is helping a lady sell her Corvair after her husband died. She has a '60 Monza Coupe, a solid project car that use to belong to Chuck Forge (a Porsche racer).



Chuck used to use the Corvair to test race tracks amongst other things. It's a Californis car and has all of the paper work. No price has been set yet. See Josh for more details.

2025 National Convention: Buck asked about the 2025 Convention in Santa Maria. He has access to many cones to line the auto-cross and can help

set things up. Josh will get him in contact with Vince Petrie of Central Coast Corsa, the host club for the convention. Josh said they will certainly need Concourse judges. You would only be assigned a limited area (tires, interiors, etc.) and they train you so you don't have to know about everything. Buck said years ago he brought a race car to a convention in Lake Tahoe and entered in the concourse as a lark. When the judge asked "show me your turn signals" Buck stuck his hand out saying "this is left, and this is right". "Now test the horn" and Buck responded "beep, beep". He didn't score very high in this regard, but it was fun and he almost got a bronze medal. At VairFest this year we will have a good opportunity to gauge just what help will be needed.

Events: Ray said there were Stage First events (a cars and coffee type gathering) at the Marin Civic Center. This is a fascinating building designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Josh said the California Auto Museum in Sacramento has a Corvair display. Also the Autorama at Cal Expo has a car coral and the Sacramento club has an area reserved for Corvairs. If interested in bringing your Corvair, contact Josh for the forms to fill out.

Tech: Peter found the Corvair he was looking for! He bought a '65 Corsa 140, 4 speed from Terry Brunke in Colorado. It is being shipped out and should arrive in a few days. Terry's father Al Brunke raced Corvairs. Peter said the car ran well but didn't have much power. Body seemed solid, nothing but some surface rust and the interior seemed pretty clean. The first thing

he will do is a through cleanup and then go through the engine. Terry also has other Corvairs for sale. A Rampside that needs some work, a '63 or '64 Monza that was in Car and Driver a while back. While Peter was in Colorado he called his wife who happened to be watching an Elvis special at the time. Turns out Elvis bought his wife, Priscilla, a '63 Corvair.



You guessed it, Peter's new Corvair is now named "Priscilla" compliments of his wife. Seth said a lot of good changes were made in '65, the best shifting trans and of course the 140, 4 carb engine. Lots to keep you busy. Peter said he thought the spark plug wires seemed loose. Maybe the wrong boots were used? Seth said "I have a solution for that!" Seth suggested to check the fuel and brake line hoses for leaks and tighten (or replace) where necessary. Peter said it had a '66 limited slip trans axle. Peter asked if the SFBA Club roster was available. Josh said it is not online because some members objected to having their info generally available. But if you want to talk with someone regarding some Corvair specific issue, contact Josh or Clark and we will put you in touch with those that can help you out. You can also try the Corvair forums. There's the CCF forum run by

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

Coming Events in 2024...

Apr 4th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Apr 27th	10th Annual Casa Robel High School Car Show, Orangevale, CA
May 2nd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
May 3 – 5th	A Northern California Tradition, Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
June 21-23rd	Vairfest 2024 "Vairs in the Village" at Heritage Park in Arroyo Grande, CA
July 21-26th	Corvairborne, International Corvair Convention, Dayton, OH, host hotel is the Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 Patterson Blvd. See www.daytoncorvairclub.com for more information.
Oct 25-27th	Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, Palm Springs, CA

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2024

Thursday Jan 5 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Feb 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Mar 7, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Apr 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday May 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jun 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jul 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Aug 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Sep 5, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Oct 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Nov 7, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Dec 5, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Meet "Priscilla" - Peter Tachis

What's in a name. Under the advise of my late father I tend to name my cars after women. He's the guy who helped me build my first engine, a 312 CID Thunderbird V8. Why name cars after women? I asked. His answer was "because they are unpredictable."

BTW, I was 14 or 15 years old at the time.

I present **Priscilla**, a '65 Corsa 140hp 4 sp



Last Minute St. Patrick's Day Cruse

Hi Everyone,

We hope you all had a great St Patrick's Day weekend and enjoyed the beautiful weather.

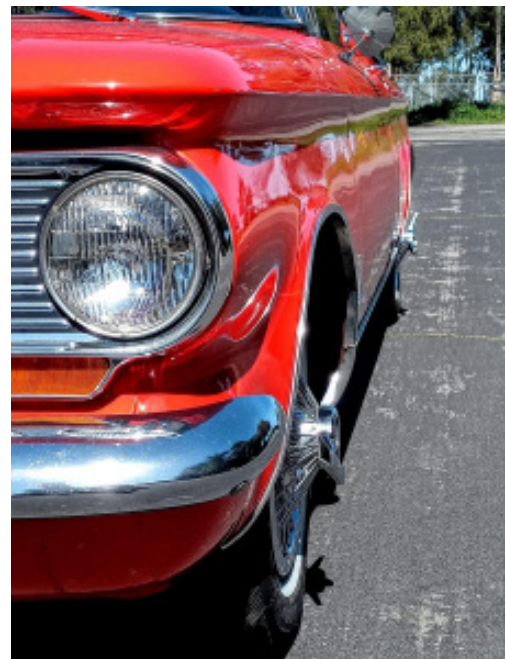
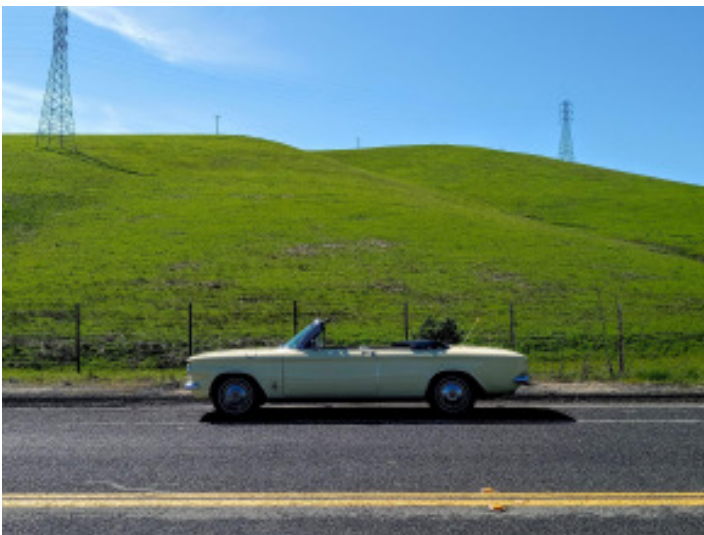
The last minute cruse was a success in that we think we found a really fun route to do again later in the spring. Only 2 Corvairs and 3 members, but

this was the original idea before we decided to invite everyone at the last minute.

The hills were a beautiful spring green and the Port Costa stop was a lot of fun. When we do this one again, we may either work in more backroad driving or include a historical stop at the John Muir house or somewhere else

of note. The drive itself was fantastic with only a few cars and some bikers who seemed to enjoy our company on the road. A couple of pics are attached.

Josh Deitcher
SFBA CORSA
sfbacorsa.org



Silicon Valley Corsa Spring Cruise

Silicon Valley CORSA is doing a Spring Cruise Saturday, Mar 30th.

Our brother club, Valley CORSA will be doing a cruise spearheaded by Tito Garrett:

The basic idea is we'll meet at 10am at the Starbucks on Hillsdale in San Jose (the same place as Ronnie's Morning Get Together). From there, we'll take back roads to the coast where we'll have lunch in the Santa Cruz area. After lunch, we'll caravan up to Canepa in Scotts Valley for a tour of the facility. And then folks are free to go home at their own leisure and whichever direction they need to. I'll give everyone the exact route on the day of, but you can expect the total round trip to be under 100 miles, which is about the same as the last tour we did.

Obviously, everyone would love for you to drive your Corvair, but I understand people's cars may not be ready for a tour or they're not comfortable driving them that far yet, so you can participate in whatever you want. The

order of preference, though, is

1. Corvair
2. Some other classic
3. Something interesting
4. Whatever you got

Reply to this email by next Saturday March 23 to let me know if you're coming, so I can get an accurate headcount for lunch and Canepa.

Basic Details

Meet

- Starbucks, 1815 Hillsdale Ave, San Jose Sat March 30th at 10am

Drive

- Leg 1 - about 50 miles on back roads to the coast
- Leg 2 - about 10-15 miles to Canepa
- Leg 3 - Return home (the starting point) to Starbucks will be about 20 miles from Canepa

Lunch

- Restaurant TBD, but feel free to pack a lunch if you like

Email Tito to RSVP for the Valley event

in Santa Cruz (wgarrett@gmail.com)

Got a route in mind that would be fun to cruise? Send us a message and let's make it happen! Corvairs are meant to be driven. When we get them out on the road, it gives them and our club some positive exposure. Plus, it's good for the soul. We must have had 4 or 5 Corvair stories shared with us yesterday and a couple of people inquired about the club.

Happy (almost) spring everyone. Have a great week!

Josh Deitcher
SFBA CORSA
sfbacorsa.org

Classifieds..

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 (corvaiguru@gmail.com)

FREE CORVAIR PARTS

Cleaning Out The Shop: '60-61 Turbo/ 4 Speed engine case and heads. T1226YR, no tin, exhaust, turbo, etc. '63-64 engine long block THO3Z, with distributor, auto bell housing, some tin, no exhaust. Might be good for restoration. All likely need rebuild. Engines in Carmel Valley, you pick up. Buck Jones (831)917-5952. (06/22)

Letter...

page 7. Now we want to hear from you. If you have an idea for a fun drive, stop by the next meeting and let us hear about it!

Our next Zoom meeting will be Thursday, Apr 4th starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent to all and will contain a link to the meeting making it easy to join.

Minutes...

CORSA and the Corvair forum run by Scott Howey. Both have very knowledgeable members. Peter asked about oil. He heard that Mobil 1 10W30 was a good oil to use. But with or without Zinc? Seth said 10W30 was good for our area and Zn is not necessary for older engines. They already have Zn plated out where it is needed (lifters, cam shaft, etc.). It doesn't wash away and more would not be needed.

Jeffrey asked about gas additives. Would they help pinging? Josh said he uses Lucas Octane Booster and adds it to



He lives in a hilly area and his Corvairs don't ping at all. Jeffrey asked if this helps "after running". Seth said that was usually caused by carbon build up in the chambers. Some people dribble some fluids through the carbs like Sea



Christy suggested using a spray bottle to give you better control. Jeffrey said he was taking his Corvair to Mel's tomorrow to pin point the cause of the noise he has been hearing. He suspects it's the flywheel (Ouch!). While it is up on the rack he will replace the thermostats. He pick up some NOS units from Scott Morton. He is still not sure if he will be getting the Nash Fan this year or not. It depends if the extra unit they always make is needed or not. He either will getting a fan or his check back.

Seth said he has a new product to replace the lower barbell (lower strut rods) for the rear suspension on late models. They are adjustable so you can change the camber easily. When racing a street car, at the track you can set the camber for the race and then set it back for the drive home. It is \$325 for the pair. Christy ask where Seth advertised his products. Seth said mainly on the Facebook Corvair Racer's page and Corvair Owner's Group. Seth said his new steering box is selling well. It looks like it will be a constant item. People will either want quicker steering or to replace worn gears. Christy asked if it would affect the steering radius. Seth said no, not like shorter arms. Seth said he wished he has access to the factory shorter arms. Nobody is making them but he is trying to work with a new

outfit that makes similar arms. Seth said the factory quick-steering arms were designed for 4" rock hard 650/13 tires. With 7" sticky tires you won't like quick steering! Christy asked about adding the new steering box to his '63. Seth said for that year it will bolt right in. For other years he has adapters available.

Don said that Dan Smith's son was selling off his Corvair collection that is stored in Antioch. Don went to look at a Lakewood for someone in Connecticut. It's a California car with minimal rust but it lacks an engine and trans. But the guy backed out. Clark asked how Dan was doing. He moved to Oregon several years ago. Don said he was fine but recovering from a bad car accident. They will be selling the Antioch property and clearing out all of the Corvair stuff.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:03 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



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Vairfest 2024, "Vairs I- The Village"

VairFest 2024 Registration is Opened

Our Chapter website has been updated to include the **registration form** for VairFest 2024, June 21 - 23. Please follow the instructions on the form. If you have questions, call or email Vince at 805-481-5757 or vwvince@pacbell.net

This year's theme is "***Vairs in the Village***". We're still working on the t-shirt image, but it will include a rooster or two.

Once again, we'll be awarding trophies in 12 categories as follows:

Early 2-Door coupe	Early Convertible
Late 2-Door hardtop	Late Convertible
Four Door (including wagons)	Forward Control
Specialty	Daily Driver
Work in Progress	Long Distance
Spectators Choice	Best of Fest

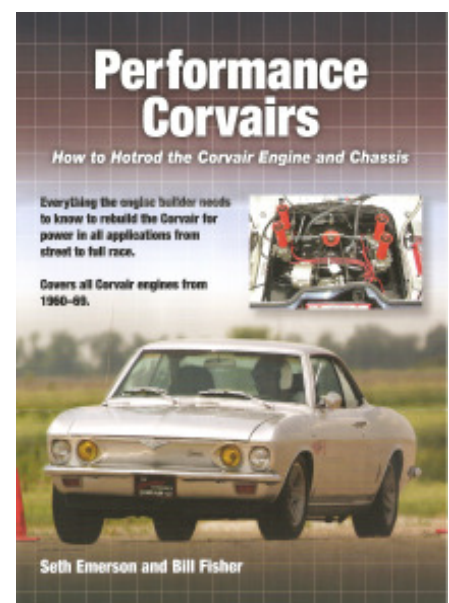
So plan to get your Corvair ready for another fun weekend in beautiful Arroyo Grande.

SFBA Corsa 2024 Renewals

This is our best guess of who has already renewed their SFBA membership for 2024. This is to serve as a reminder, nothing more. If we made a mistake, please let Josh or Clark know!

Clark Calkins
Roger Chang
Cameron Coulter
Robert Coon
Phil Dalforno
Josh Deitcher
John Heiser
Harry Kypreos
Robert Langdon

Adam McPhillips
Joe Miller
John (Skip) Polacchi
Tony Richards
Ed Rodrigues
Jeffrey Ross
Alan Smith
Pete Tachis
Greg Vargas



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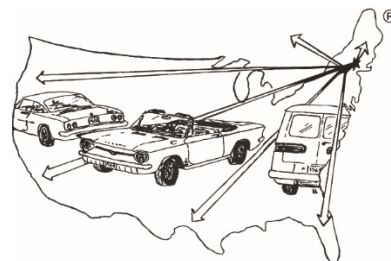
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Classifieds..

'61 Corvair Monza 900, primary driver has moved to Boston. "Moxy" is now for sale. Many pictures available on Craigs List. Berkeley area.



Asking \$2000. Contact Steve Lautze (510)280-4341 or steve.lautze@gmail.com (09/23)

CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

The Sacramento club is selling two turn key engines.

1962/1963 102 hp engine \$1500

1962/1963 80 hp engine \$1000

interested persons should email sfbacorsa@gmail.com

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

1 Pair Late 110 rebuilt heads - \$250

1 Pair Big Valve Heads, Bill Thomas.all new parts, angle port exhaust, rotated manifold, w/mod carbs, linkage - \$1700 firm

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

1 All New Parts for an early 102 hp NOS crank, cam, 0.030 pistons & barrels+heads etc. You assemble - \$700

We still have other misc items

(see "Classifieds..." on page 7)

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Monza Cvt, 140 HP with Corsa Dash. New paint, new Corsa wiring harnesses, new rear hubs, and other parts. Single carb (have 4 carb set up), electric fuel pump. Top in good condition. Have before & after photos. Many spare parts. Taking offers.



Jeffrey Hayer 650-796-8109 (02/24)

'64 Rampside. Josh saw this Rampside in person at Goodguys. He looked it over and could find no flaws.



Beautiful restoration inside and out. (Hayward) \$22K obo (510) 823-6540 (05/23)

'63 Rampside, does not run, it's been sitting for few years, needs new plugs, flush gas, replace ignition points.

'60 sedan Runs & Drives, needs valve job, needs new fuel tank. \$7,500 obo for both (916) 896-4448 Sacramento (05/23)

Corvan and Lakewood Wagon, I'm going to be selling this vehicle's once I



get them to start and stop, I was hoping if anyone knows who will interested in buying as is or the repairs I'm going to do? Alfredo Pinon, Whittier, CA. Open to offers (480)768-7280 (05/23)

'63 Convertible, Napa area. No other details given. Contact Charlie Augustine (707)252-8139 (10/23)

(see "Classifieds..." on page 10)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

March 2024

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
03/01/2024	Beginning Balance				\$4,670.30	
03/01/2024	Newsletters (Sep-Feb)	1019		(304.04)	4,366.26	
03/01/2024	Newsletters (Mar)			(43.03)	4,323.23	(**)
03/24/2024	Dues (checks)		\$50.00		4,373.23	
03/25/2024	Ending Balance		\$50.00	(\$347.07)	\$4,373.23	

(**) This newsletter expense has not been turned in.


SFBA CORSA

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