

**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 60 years ago!



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

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**2025 Autorama at
Cal Expo**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, June 6th
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)**

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 10 SFBA members and no guests this evening. This is about typical these days.

Vairs at the Vault 3 has been scheduled for Saturday, September 14th in The Vault Napa. This is right off Hwy 29 on Soscol Ferry Rd which is near the airport. A map and directions will be provided when we get closer to the event.

At the last meeting we heard Josh report on the progress Burce has made on his Yenke Stinger. They got the engine installed and started it up. Boy was that loud! But after making some adjustments it didn't restart so Paolo Galli (who worked on the motor) wanted to check it carefully before proceeding. Fortunately, the issue was only a carburetor problem! It's now running great. Bruce plans to install it June 7-8 and maybe take it to the Fathers Day show, June 16th at Meritage Resort in Napa. He is still having a few electrical issues with the '69 coupe.

Planning for the 2025 National Corvair Convention is well underway. Most of the convention tasks that have been identified have been spoken for. At the last meeting Vince Petrie joined us and reported that only the Parking task remained. Josh and I said that SFBA would take this on (possible with help from Valley Corsa). CORSA has prepared a check-sheet for this task (as well as all the others) that Josh and I can follow. As we get closer to the Convention date, we will be looking for volunteers to help us out. You will hear more about this in the future.

I received the following email from Steven Schnier, a long time SFBA member in Orinda. "Greetings Clark: My wife and I are now "downsizing" and I am starting to receive signals that it is time to find a new home for my 1964 Spyder

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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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>

Coupe. I thought you might know of a member of our greater Corvair family who would be interested. The Palomar Red, 4-speed, turbo-charged, Kelsey Hayes outfitted Spyder is in excellent condition. The only noticeable scars it bears after

(see **Letter** on page 8)

On The Cover: . The Autorama at Cal Expo in Sacramento has come and gone this year. Here is a picture I "borrowed" off the SFBA Web site showing the "Corvair Coral" showing Eric Vandenburg's beautiful Lakewood with surfboard.

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

May 2, 2024

Josh got the regular meeting started around 7:00 PM following a short Board meeting. When the room was opened, Josh, Harry and I were quickly joined by Chris, Carl, Lane, Vince, Cameron, Don & Seth. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Harry reported the bank balance stood at \$4655.81.

Membership: Josh said a new member, Don Houghton from Berkeley joined. Welcome!

Old Business: Nothing mentioned.

New Business: Josh is planning another Fun Drive, probably through the Delta. This should be nice during the summer. Outside Rio Vista there is the Western Railway Museum that we have visited before (20 or so years ago).

Events: Josh went to the Cars 'N Coffee at The Vault in Napa, Bruce had his Corvairs there and Josh drove his Yellow '64. Lots of very nice cars. See some pictures on page 5. Josh said the Sacramento Autorama would be this weekend. The Sac group will have lots of Corvairs there. He and Hank will be going.

Cameron went to Stanford for a car show. He got there too late to enter his Corvair so he parked on the edge of the other entrants. He got lots of attention.

Josh said the Breakfast Club Rally was having an "Air-Cooled Affair" event and wanted some Corvairs to show up to offset the VWs and Porches. Vairs at the Vault III is planned for Saturday, September 14th! See flyer on page 7.

Lane said Niles was having a car show this Sunday. They always have lots of cars.

Vince said the deadline for Vairfest T-shirts will be May 21st. So get your registrations in now.

Gabe is planning on another Open House. The date has not been set. Josh will check into this.

Tech: Chris said Dave has installed the cylinder head inserts and is now in the process of reassembling the engine. He should be back on the road soon.

Vince said that the 2025 Convention planning is progressing well. They still needed help with someone to take on parking. Josh and I said SFBA will take this on. Vince said there was a large dirt area they were hoping to use for RV parking but they are not sure if this will be available. With Planes Of Fame moving from Chino to Santa Maria there may be something planned for this area. Anyway, our job will be to access the available space and decide on how cars should be parked (CORSA already has a check-list for parking we will use). Then we will need to line up volunteers to help out such

that no one needs to commit more than a few hours. There will be neat T-shirts available for the Parking Staff! Vince said when he was going to a Cars 'N Coffee near him (central Coast) he had a lifter that made lots of noise. It took a few miles before it quieted down. He said that his Corvair had been sitting too long and likes to be driven. Seth added that they need to get hot also. Vince said the damper doors open and close a lot to keep the engine at the correct temperature. Seth said to tell if the doors and thermostats are working correctly, drive the car until it gets pretty hot and then pull over and quickly check the doors. You should be able to see them close. But be quick as the engine cools off fast. Obviously if they stay open the thermostats are no good. If they stay closed, then you have real issues! Lane asked if anyone had tried the after-market thermostats that are available. They use a bi-metal spring as opposed to a bellows. No one at the meeting had tried these. Carl said that if they fail, they better fail in the open position. Clark wondered if they would have enough force to overcome sticky doors. Vince said in the Tech Guide there was an article on how to rebuild failed thermostats. He has not tried this. When replacing thermostats, Vince suggested using a hot air gun to get the bellows to expand and then hooking up the connections is easy. It might take two people, but what a great idea. Josh suggesting writing this up for the next Tech Guide!

Josh said when he went to The Vault for a Cars 'N Coffee and Bruce had

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

Coming Events in 2024...

June 6th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
June 21-23rd	Vairfest 2024 "Vairs in the Village" at Heritage Park in Arroyo Grande, CA
June 22nd	Breakfast Club Rally Presents "Air-Cooled Affair"
July 4th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
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.
Aug 17th	SFBA/Valley Picnic. Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont, 12:00 til ?
Sep 5th	11th Annual "Autos of Alamo" Festival. Free Admission to the public.
Sep 14th	Vairs at the Vault III, the Napa Vault, 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd, Napa, CA. 10:00 AM til?
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"

Cars 'N Coffee at Napa Vault

Josh went to the Cars 'N Coffee that was held at Napa Vault in Napa. Same place Bruce stores his cars. Lots of nice cars showed up and, of course, Bruce had his Corvairs which garnered lots of attention. Josh drove his Yellow '64 Monza convertible. Not sure if Eric had any of his cars there. Josh took a few pictures (below).



Corvairs in Pacifica...

Here is photo that Cameron Coulter sent in of his '64 Monza convertible at a show in Pacifica a couple of weeks ago. What a beautiful day! Looks like everyone is prepared for a full afternoon of car talk.



Air-Cooled Affair

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2024.

Southern Marin to Rohnert Park via Point Reyes, CA.

\$50. Gates 7:30am, event 8am.

Air-Cooled Affair® returns for round 006. ACA006 is a special limited-capacity event focused exclusively on vehicles powered by air-cooled engines from Porsche and other manufacturers (VW, Corvair, Tatra, Trabant, NSU, BMW, Citroën, Fiat, Morgan, etc.).

Meet at an undisclosed location in Southern Marin for a little pre-rally social hour over some caffeine. At 9am, leave in 3 groups (HARE, TORTOISE, and SNAIL) 5 minutes apart for a ~100 mile gallop over mountains, through redwood forests, coastal towns, and rural farmland, coming to a rest around noon in Rohnert Park, where you can grab some lunch and/or a beer or just head on home.

What does your \$50 get you? Only this: a parking pass, rally decal, a PDF with rally info and route directions, a Google Map and downloadable .kml file, and an amazing morning out on Northern California's best backroads with a crüe of like-minded drivers.



<https://www.breakfastclubrally.com/events/bcraca006>

Vairs at the Vault III



11TH ANNUAL "AUTOS OF ALAMO" FESTIVAL

Thurs. Sept 5, 4 - 8 PM
Alamo Plaza Shopping Center

PRESENTED BY:

Free Admission to the Public

SOLD OUT LAST YEAR
Recommend you Pre-Register (\$30) Online at www.AlamoCa.org (subject to space availability)
Call AIA 925-247-8081

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It's a fact: people don't mind scrolling to read an email, as long as it's relevant and interesting. Make sure your message follows through on the promise in your subject line, and use several short paragraphs if you have a lot to say. When in doubt, challenge yourself to write less and add links that support your topic.

Performance Corvairs

How to Hotrod the Corvair Engine and Chassis

Everything the engine builder needs to know to rebuild the Corvair for power in all applications from street to full race.

Covers all Corvair engines from 1960-69.

Seth Emerson and Bill Fisher

Minutes...

his Yenko Stinger there. They just got the engine installed after it was rebuilt by Paolo Galli. They got it started and it was very loud inside one of the cubicles! After a couple of adjustments they went to restart it and it didn't start. Not wanting to take chances, the following day they pulled the engine as Paolo wanted to check it thoroughly. This is too important of an engine to break!

Seth said he received a call from someone in San Jose that had a Corvair that was blocking his driveway. It had been sitting outside, partially covered since 1980 or so. It was only good for parts. Seth arranged to haul it to Mel's to take it apart. The owner was a racer and had an 8-track AM/FM cassette radio installed. Face plate and all. Seth will see if he can get it working again. He asked where to find 8-track tapes? Lane said eBay has a ton of them. When Seth got home from Mel's he couldn't find

his 9/16 Snap-on socket. He has had it for 40+ years and will look some more when he returns to Mel's. Carl said he will have to buy another one before he can find the old one. How true!

Carl said that 50 years ago he started a Chevrolet Club in Australia. It has been going strong ever since. He was recently interviewed on the radio about the club. The interviewer has a weekly program "Cars and Guitars". He indicated he wanted to do a special on Corvairs and Carl indicated he would be more than willing to help. Carl said he still hasn't started his '69 Corvair. He found a couple of gas leaks around the carburetors which he had to fix. When he went to time the engine, he noticed that the harmonic balance did not have any timing mark and he checked closely. He called Clark's (from whom he bought the balancer) and they had no answer. Clark suggested he find a pulley with a good timing mark and

check the alignment between the key slot and the timing mark (use a degree wheel). Anyway, Carl thinks he has the timing set close enough for the engine to start. Vince said a Central Coast Corsa member just sold a '65 Monza to someone in Australia. He will see if he can get contact information for Carl.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:02 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Letter...

60 years are peeling paint on the hood and a slight scrape from the right front wheel well to the right rear wheel well. I have not gotten around to taking care of those blemishes. Frankly, and I think understandably, this is not a fire sale, and I am probably looking for a reason not to sell her. But, I would be responsive to a reasonable offer. Do you know of anyone who would appreciate this fine representative of the marque? Steven Schnier stevenschnier@gmail.com 415.244.2094"

Josh received the following email from David McKim. "Hello! I have a '64 Spyder convertible located in Los Altos, Santa Clara County. I have done or had work done to it (most serious was to repair a head where a valve seat had come out) but I don't have it

running yet. It has not been driven since the valve seat problem arose in 1969. My Dad did some cosmetic work to it at times unknown. A year or so ago I put the lower end together. (I had a lot of Corvair engine experience, having owned both a 1962 convertible and a 1965 and doing work on my Dad's '62 sedan). My Dad took the engine apart in the late '70's and discovered the valve seat problem. I could not find the alternator or the carburetors when I reassembled it. I would like to sell the car, whether as a project or for parts. My Dad bought the car in '71 but never processed the paperwork with the DMV. I have the original bill of sale but the pink slip had been lost by the former owner. The DMV no longer has any record of this car. To get a title and registration would require

that the car first be made drivable and then taken to the Hwy Patrol for inspection and approval. This is because there is no DMV record and the Spyder would be treated as a home made car. Would any of your members be interested in this vehicle? It would have to be trailered to any new destination. I have attached a photo of the salient paperwork given to my Dad in 1971 and could send pictures of the car if there is any interest. Thanks, David McKim, phone: 650-918-8422"

Remember that if you work on your Corvair (even if it's only to change

See Letter... page 9

Vairfest 2024, "Vairs In 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.

Letter...

plugs or adjust the brakes), take pictures and send them to me. When we see others working on their cars it gives us the incentive to do the same!

Our next Zoom meeting will be Thursday, June 6th starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent and hopefully it will contain a link to the meeting making it easy to join.



New 2019-2025 Clark's Corvair Parts Catalog!

Free with a parts order (you pay shipping)

- Over 500 pages in 1 volume
- 330 interior color samples on 8 pages
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Index takes you right to the page

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Rohnert Park, CA 94928

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email gompc@sbcglobal.net

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)

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

'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

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)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

May 2024

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
04/01/2024	Beginning Balance				\$4,571.79	
04/26/2024	Newsletter (May)			(43.03)	4,528.76	(**)
04/30/2024	Ending Balance		\$0.00	(\$43.03)	\$4,528.76	

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

SFBA CORSA

1907 Alvarado Ave
Walnut Creek, CA 94597



FIRST CLASS

To:

The advertisement has a black background with yellow and white text. At the top left is a small photo of a dark-colored Corvair. To its right, the text "Performance Corvairs" is in yellow, followed by "Silicone Wire Systems" and the websites "www.perfvair.com & www.wireset.com" in white. Below the photo, "Seth Emerson" is written in yellow, with "Owner" in white underneath. At the bottom left, the address "3462 Kirkwood Dr. San Jose, CA 95117" is in white. To the right of the address is the phone number "(408) 24RACER" in yellow. At the bottom right, the email "E-mail to: sethracer@aol.com" is in white. A yellow wrench icon is on the far right.

Ramsell Auto Sales

Right in the Heart of Midtown

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1349 W. San Carlos
San Jose, CA 95126

Corvairs Bought & Sold - Always in Stock!

The advertisement has a white background with black and red text. At the top left, it says "SEND \$10.00 FOR CATALOG" in black. To its right is a red palm tree logo. Further right, "PARTS & REPAIR" is written in black. Below the palm tree, the word "CALIFORNIA" is in red, and "CORVAIRS" is in large, bold, black letters. Below that, the phone number "(951) 284-3555" is in large, bold, black letters. At the bottom, the address "15090 LA PALMA DRIVE • CHINO, CA 91710" is in small black letters.

Mike's Corvair Parts

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www.CaliforniaCorvairParts.com