

**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!



VOLUME 370

JULY 2024

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

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**Roger Lamb's '63
Monza Cvrt**

**No Meeting This Month Due to the
Independence Day Holiday.**

Next Zoom Meeti-g will be Aug 1st

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 13 SFBA members and no guests this evening.

The SFBA/Valley Picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, August 17th at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. As we have done in years past SFBA will provide burgers & dogs and Valley will bring tri-tip again. All members, family, and guests are invited, just bring a side dish to share (salad, dessert, chips, etc.). If you forget, no worries, we always have plenty of food to go around. And by all means drive your Corvair. The parking lot is conveniently close to the picnicking area, and we have lots of beautiful cars to show off! There will be a map with directions in the next newsletter.

I missed the 2025 Convention meeting for June. I quickly glanced at the invite and saw 7:00 PM. Had I looked closely I would have seen this was Central Daylight Time rather than Pacific Daylight Time. So I was two hours late. Vince sent me a copy of the Minutes so I could catch up on what was discussed. Of particular interest is that everything is still on schedule for the Convention. The Radison, the host hotel, is being converted into a Marriot. Room price commitment is the same. The vacant lot adjacent to the airport will be used by the Planes of Fame Museum when they move in. Hopefully this will be after the Convention so the lot may be usable for tow trailer and RV parking. This is being checked into now. As mentioned elsewhere, SFBA has volunteered to handle the parking details. Our next step will be to assess the number of people necessary and then to line up volunteers. If you would like to volunteer in some way, let Josh or myself know and we will forward this information to Vince. No commitment at this point, but just so we have an idea of what help might be available.

On The Cover: . This is Roger Lamb's newly acquired '63 Corvair Monza Convertible. He just picked it up in Oregon. When he got it home he took it to Mel's for thorough checkup. Now he enjoying being a new SFBA member and looking for local car events (near Livermore).

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

I received an email from Ed Thompson who had some suggestions for the 2025 Convention logo. I forwarded these on to Vince Petrie of Central Coast Corsa for consideration. Vince sent me a revised

(see *Letter* on page 9)

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

June 6, 2024

Josh got the regular meeting started around 7:05 PM following a short Board meeting. When the room was opened, Josh, Ray, Harry and I were quickly joined by Carl, Buck, Vince, Don, Paul, Christy, Jeffrey, Peter, and Seth. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Harry reported the bank balance stood at \$4635.81. Josh said our Zoom and web site payments are coming up. The Board unanimously felt this was worthwhile expense especially since we have members from all over California and other states plus Australia!

Membership: Josh said a new member, Roger Lamb from Livermore has joined. Roger just picked up a beautiful '63 Monza Convertible. **Welcome!**

Old Business: As mentioned before SFBA has indicated we will take on the parking duties at next year's Convention in Santa Maria. We will be assessing the responsibilities to determine how much volunteer help will be required. Hopefully just a couple of hours each. We have SFBA, Valley Corsa, and CCRC to draw from so we will be looking for help. There will certainly be more about this as the task gets better defined in the months to come.

New Business: Clark said that Ed Thompson sent in some suggested changes for the 2025 Convention logo (see the cover of the May Spyder Web). Clark passed this on to Vince of Central Coast Corsa for consideration. Josh mentioned that now that the weather

has turned, there are many car events giving us the opportunity to show case our Corvairs.

Clark said he received an email from someone that was having trouble accessing the newsletters via the Club's web site. Josh said he was having a problem with one of the links and will check into this.

Events: Vairfest is right around the corner. Josh will be driving his Yellow '64 Convertible. It's been running great, so he has confidence in making the 500 mile trip. Of course, he also has his list of contacts along the way if needed. Lane will be driving his '67 Convertible and Clark, sans Corvair, is also going. Not sure if Seth will make it.

Vairs at the Vault III is definite for Sept 14. Bruce has lined up extra shade and seating (there wasn't enough last year). Josh said Craig, from Russian River, would be bringing a PA system, which should help enormously. This year the "admission fee" is to bring a Corvair related item to raffle off. This will help offset the cost of the event.

Gabe is still planning on another Open House. The date has not been set. Josh is in contact with him and will let us know when the details are finalized.

Chris said there was an Alamo car show "Autos of Alamo" for Thursday, Sept 5. There is also a Father's Day event at Blackhawk near the museum (Chris will take his Corvair to both)!. Also, every Friday cars gather at The Livery in Danville 8 – 10AM and in Lafayette (about ½ mile East of the previous

location) every Sunday 7:30 – 9:30.

In Napa there is a Father's Day Brunch and Car Show at the Meritage Resort and Spa (Bruce will take his Yenko Stinger if possible). This is close to the Hwy 12/29 and 221 interchange (maybe 1/2 mile from the Napa Vault).

SFBA/Valley Picnic: This is scheduled for August 17th this year. A bit later than usual this year to avoid other conflicts. This will be at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont as usual. Valley will be bringing Tri-tip and SFBA will provide burgers and dogs. Just bring a side dish to share. Chips, sodas, salads, desserts, etc. Friends and family are welcome. And by all means drive your Corvair!

Tech: Chris said his Corvair is now back home. Dave fixed the cylinder head issue and it is running great again. Chris said how amazed he has been at the durability of the Corvair engine. When he first got it, he was having some trouble at a car's and coffee. But he drove it home to find that it was running on 3 ½ cylinders. He didn't know, thought it was running all right. When he hears of others that blow a spark plug, he thinks "no big deal, you have 5 others. Of course it's not quite the same thing.

Ray said a friend of his who lives in Melbourne, AU sent him a picture of a nice '63 Corvair coupe he saw. Ray wondered if Carl knew about this car. Carl said "no", but it could be quite a way away from where he is.

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

Coming Events in 2024...

July 4th	Regular SFBA meeting has been canceled due to the Independence Day Holiday and the Convention coming up shortly.
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 1st	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Aug 17th	SFBA/Valley Picnic. Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont, 12:00 noon til ?
Sep 5th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
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 54 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"

Father's Day Car Show in Napa

As I was driving up the Clearlake I was looking for a place to grab a bite to eat and I saw a sign for a car show. Then I remembered Bruce talking about a Father's Day Brunch and Car Show at the Meritage Resort and Spa so I stopped by. There were lots of nice cars, new and old. I found where Bruce, with the help of his wife and sons brought his Yenka Stinger, the '76 Evening Orchid Convertible, and his beautiful Corvette. All amazing cars. While I was there Bruce started up the Stinger and boy does this sound great! You would think you were standing next to a big block Chevy! It is loud (it's a race car remember). The oil cooler is in front and the air scoop, Bruce believes, was added by the previous owner and not by Yenka If true he did a very good job.

At the same time a gentleman walking around mentioned he wrote articles for car magazines (apparently several different ones) and was very interested in the Yenka and its history. Bruce said someone else was already doing a photo shoot so maybe they can combine their material. We will have to keep an eye out for this man's article in one of the car magazines in the near future. I suspect Bruce will let us know ahead of time.

Here are a few pictures I took, mainly of Bruce's Corvairs and Corvette.



VairFest 2024 - Arroyo Grande, CA

The VairFest in Arroyo Grande was well attended this year. There were 30+ Corvairs with more Earlies than Lates which is unusual. And quite a few Forward Controls. From our Club Josh, Jeffrey, and myself made the trip. Jeffrey drove his Project Car. Josh had troubles with his Yellow '64 convertible so he and Hank couldn't drive that down. Lane was called out of town at the last moment so he and Gigi couldn't make it. From Valley Corsa there were Hal, Ken, and Vance. Hal and Ken drove down in Hal's Rampside and Vance and Allison drove down in his '62 Monza (all the way from Navato).

It was my lucky day for the Raffle. I won two hats and an oil filter. Carol won two bottle of wine and an assortment of munchies. I didn't keep track of what others may have won. And I also didn't write down which cars won the various categories, sorry! Enjoy the few pictures I took.





Minutes...

Roger Lamb (new SFBA member) asked Josh about a Corvair he saw in LA at the Beverly Hills Auto Club. Josh looked over the details. The blurb said it ran but needed service (would go 25 mph max). They were asking \$10k. Josh talked with Vince and they said, "walk away". He mentioned that Eric had a '63 Convertible and there were a couple in Oregon. Clark mentioned Steven Schnier's Spyder coupe, but Roger wanted a convertible. Roger flew to Oregon and bought a beautiful '63 Monza Convertible. He will take it to Mel's to get it thoroughly checked out. Hopefully we will see him at the Vault or our Picnic.

Peter said his car is running better. He replaced the spark plug wires and worked on syncing the carburetors. This did not go well, the engine runs but idles at 1500 rpm (Corvair 2, Peter 1). He replaced the trans and diff oil. Found it almost impossible to get all the old oil out. Peter said the temp gauge was reading about 400 F. Vince asked if this was the oil or head temp? Peter said the head temp. Buck said this was too hot, when you get above 425 F you run the risk of dropping valve seats. Peter is not sure of the accuracy of the gauge. Chris and Josh mentioned to try using an inferred temp sensor (cheap at Harbor Freight) to get a better handle on the actual temperature. After all it's a 60+ year old gauge. Overall, Peter is enjoying his Corvair and learning a lot.

Carl said he has not been able to get his Corvair started. It cranks over (possibly too fast) but doesn't fire. He thinks the lifters, which were set cold (he followed the instructions carefully), are too tight so the valves aren't fully closing. He is confident he has the timing correct even though the harmonic damper lacked ANY timing marks. Buck said

the easy test is to pull the spark plugs and do a compression test. Carl is just about to start his vacation trip to the US (which includes the Convention in Ohio where he will be having a presentation), so this will wait until he gets back to work on the Corvair again. While in the US he will stop at Durango, CO for a few days. Originally, he planned on visiting Timothy Shortle but Timothy recently died in a tragic automobile accident. It was too late to change his plans. Vince said that Timothy had about 40 Corvairs that maybe Carl could arrange to see them but Carl said a memorial service was planned in California at this same time so this is not likely. He will get to know Durango very well! Peter said this is a nice little town and he will enjoy it. Carl said he will be in Vegas for a few days around June 20th. Vince said that he could take a quick flight from Vegas to Santa Maria (Allegiant Air has a \$70 flight). Vince could pick him up at the airport and take him to Vairfest. Carl said he would seriously consider this.

Josh has been working on his Blue '64 and he thinks he may have a bad flywheel. Wouldn't you know he just had the powertrain out but didn't think to check the flywheel. Buck said once you get it out they are easy to check. Just hang the flywheel by a piece of wire and tap it. It should ring like a bell. If it doesn't the rivets are probably loose and it needs to be rebuilt. Josh said Paolo Galli was up here to put the engine in Burce's Yenko Stinger. They got the engine put in and started but had some trouble. Rather than take a chance, they pulled the engine and Paolo took it back to Atascadero for a closer examination. It turned out to be just a carburetion issue. Better safe than sorry!. This coming week they will put the engine back in.

Jeffery is hoping to take his Corvair project car to Vairfest. It's been running great. He replaced the thermostats and asked how the pivot pins should be held in. Seth said that originally there were metal tabs that get bent over to retain the pins. Over the years these break off. You can put in another metal tab that is retained by a sheet metal screw but be careful that the screw does not interfere with the door movement. Seth mentioned that if you test the doors by opening them by hand, don't let them snap closed. This will damage the bellows. Just let them close slowly by hand. Jeffrey said that when he was working on the steering wheel (he replaced the canceling cam and wiring) he didn't pay attention to how the wheels were pointed. Now his horn and turn signals work, but steering wheel is cocked as he drives down the road (we've all done this!). Seth said that when you work on the steering column, first off disconnect the battery and then make sure the wheels are pointed straight ahead. If you don't disconnect the battery, you will invariably set off the horn and you will cut yourself on something in your reaction. Jeffrey said last year while riding with Michael Namelson (sp?) from Palm Springs to Vairfest, they blew a spark plug around Paso Robles. Jeffrey texted Josh to see if there was anyone in the area that could help. Josh texted Vince and Vince suggested Paolo Galli in Atascadero. In quick order Paolo got the car fixed and they were on the road in about 3 hours. The advantages of Corvair Club membership!

Vince said at the upcoming Vairfest Mike Deklotz from Mike's Corvair Parts will be there. Mike is actively looking for more cores to rebuild. He is

See Minutes... page 9

Minutes...

interested in harmonic balancers, flywheels, clutch disks, anything that can be rebuilt. So, bring what you have and see if Mike will buy it from you.

Christy said he is going to the Convention in Dayton, OH and is taking his '63 low mileage coupe (no he is not driving it). He said he has entered the Ed Cole autocross event although he plans to take it very slowly. Since he has been going to Conventions for 50+ years he thought he would enter this at least once. Christy said he has entered the Economy Run and needs a navigator. Seth he would help out if he can.

Seth reported on an in-tank fuel pump he just installed. He got one from an EFI outfit (didn't recall exactly who: ed.). They make either high pressure pumps (for EFI) or low for carbure-

tors. Seth installed the low pressure pump and said installation was very easy (if you have a lift!). He likes the fact that there is no pump mounted on the frame but it is not completely quiet. When he first turned it on, he ran the gas into a jar to collect all of the crud. The car had been sitting for many years, so it took a while to clear out the lines. He installed an on-off switch but may consider a Revolution Controller. He also replaced the radio, he used a rebuilt AM/FM radio and installed a 4x10 speaker. The original 6x9 speaker was no longer available. He made a wood adapter plate, and the new speaker fits in the original space using the original mounting brackets. Easy, and it sounds good also. It won't win any stereo contest but it's a convertible so you can hardly hear it anyway.

Paul said he has been working on his Willeys lately but now it is time to return his attention to the '63 Spyder!

Swap & Sell: Christy said he is bringing his '63 Corvair coupe to Dayton and will be selling it. It has only 7000 miles on it. He has to start downsizing, as many of us do.

Meeting adjourned about 8:52 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Letter...

logo (below) incorporating several of the proposed changes. I am not sure if Ed was the sole proponent of these changes or others may have had similar ideas. I want to thank Ed for sending in his ideas!



I also heard from Dee Smirlis, and old time SFBA member that has switched

to CCRC since he moved. Dee saw the cover of the last Spyder Web and thought I used his photograph without giving him credit. While I didn't exactly do that, I did take a picture that was posted on our Club's web site. I should have asked Josh where the picture came from so I could give proper credit. Dee did point out the that the Wagon belonged to Wes Nicholas. It looked just like Eric's so I assumed it was his. Sorry Wes for the mistake. I typically get in a hurry to get the newsletter out and forget to give contributors credit. Sometimes I don't even know. I want to thank Dee for pointing this out. I will try to do better.

Chris Myers sent in a flyer for a July 4th Cruise in Danville. Meet at San Ramon Valley HS at 5:30 PM. This looks like a fun event!



Remember that if you work on your Corvair (even if it's only to change plugs or adjust the brakes), take pic-

See Letter... page 10

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Letter...

tures and send them to me. When we see others working on their cars it gives us the incentive to do the same!

NOTE: Our Zoom meeting for July has been **CANCELED** due to the date coinciding with Independence Day celebrations. It was felt better to cancel the meeting rather than try to reschedule with all of the other events coming up...

We plan to be back on our regular schedule come August.



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Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Monza Cvrt, 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

June 2024

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
06/01/2024	Begining Balance				\$4,528.76	
06/03/2024	SFBA Dues		\$15.00		4,543.76	
06/08/2024	SFBA Dues		\$25.00		4,568.76	
06/26/2024	Newsletter (June)			(43.03)	4,525.73	(**)
06/31/2024	Ending Balance		\$15.00	(\$43.03)	\$4,525.73	

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


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