

**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!



VOLUME 384

SEPTEMBER 2025

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

IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Letter From the Editor
- 3 Minutes of the Last Meeting
- 4 Coming Events
- 4 SFBA Corsa Meeting Schedule 2025
- 5 SFBA/Valley Picnic 2025
- 8 SFBA Web Site Topics this Month
- 11 Treasurers Report
- 11 Corvair Classifieds



**SFBA/Valley Picnic
Quarry Lakes Park**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Sep 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 14 SFBA members and two guests this evening. A good turnout, Summer time must be over.

As was mentioned last month, we are looking for a replacement Treasurer and Club VP as Harry, who was performing these tasks, is stepping down. He will keep helping out for a while until we find a replacement. It's a good time to remind our members that the Club runs on volunteers. By spreading the work among several individuals, there is a minimal burden on anyone and the Club becomes more vibrant and open to change. You would be involved in the Club's day-to-day activities as well as future planning plus it's a great way to learn about Corvairs. If you would like to help out, please let Ray, Josh, or myself know.

Our 2025 Holiday Dinner is coming up. The exact date has not been determined but December 6th or 13th would be most likely. This year we are looking for a different location. The last two years we have been The Blackhawk Grill with a Museum tour afterwards. Nice but a change seems in order. Put on your thinking caps and bring your ideas to the next meeting.

Our Annual SFBA/Valley Picnic was held earlier this month. It was another full house with 25+ people and 8 or 9 Corvairs. Even Mel came this year! This is the first of our picnics he has attended. It was great to meet and talk with him. The weather was perfect and for the first time I can remember, we ate all the food. No left over burgers, dogs, or tri-tip. No one left hungry but packing up was much easier. See pictures on page ??

Don sent in this update on Phil's Corsa. *"Last week I was going to drill the new hole for the a pillar plastic piece as we had discussed. When I looked at it I noticed that my repair*

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

President Ray Welter, 5240 Belvedere St, Oakland
CA 94601 - Ray.Welter@gmail.com

Vice-President Vacant

Secretary Clark Calkins, 1907 Alvarado Ave.,
Walnut Creek, CA 94597 - (925)478-8909
CaCalkins@astound.net

Treasurer Vacant

Committees

Membership Joshua Deitcher, 375 Harris Ave,
Rodeo CA 94572 (510)388-4986
SFBACorsa@gmail.com

Library Dave Newell, 1481 Hamrick Lane,
Hayward, CA 94544 - (510)782-4265
chevrobia@yahoo.com

Newsletter Clark Calkins (address above)

Internet/Web email : CaCalkins@astound.net
<https://www.sfbacorsa.com>
<https://www.instagram.com/sfbacorsa/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bayareacorvairs/>
<https://facebook.com/CORSA-San-Francisco-Bay-Area-Chapter-579950135376455/>

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

had cracked again and the piece looked bad. During my search for the rear 1/4 door panel piece I discovered that you can order repro pieces from Clark's. I ordered up a pair and they arrived yesterday. I tried to

(see **Letter...** on page 7)

On The Cover: We held our annual SFBA/Valley Picnic at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. A wonderful turnout on such a beautiful day. Good food, comradery, what more could you ask for?

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 Zoom on the first Thursday at 7:00 PM of each month. Details are included in the newsletters. 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 at \$2 per month).

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.

USE OF MATERIAL: Written permission from the Editor is required for all original material for any use other than reprinting in a Chartered CORSA Chapter newsletter. **Permission must be sought in advance for material reprinted herein.**

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Aug 7, 2025

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 Peter, Seth, Don, Herb, Chris, Carl, Lane, Paul, Vince, Buck, and Laura Crosby. We had two guests this evening, Jeff Whitney, and Ian Wright from the Oakland Aviation Museum. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Harry is still filling in as Club Treasurer until a replacement steps up. The bank balance, as reported in the last newsletter, was \$3,079.04.

Membership: Josh reported that we had one new member, Laura Crosby, Welcome! Josh also said there were a couple of other prospective members.

Old Business: Nothing mentioned.

New Business: Josh reported that the Club's new web site was becoming quite active. He said there were over 200 users and growing. The new SFBA Corvair emails that are being sent out have been well received. Carl said that he thoroughly enjoys them!

2025 Convention: Josh said this Convention was profitable, in part, because of the participation of the other clubs in the area. The results of the Survey CORSA conducted were very positive. About the only complaint was the wind. But at least that kept the temperatures down. Carl said his wife, Arlette, was hesitant at first but said she thoroughly enjoyed herself!

Events: The annual SFBA/Valley picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 9th at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. Check for a map and directions in the newsletter. As usual, SFBA will provide burgers and hot dogs and Valley will bring tri-tip. For everyone else just bring something to share (chips, salads, desserts, etc.).

Chris said that the Alamo Car Show was today and the Danville Car Show would be this coming Sunday. Unfortunately he will not be able to attend until his neck brace can come off.

Lane said the Castro Cruise Night will be on August 23rd. They always get a large turnout.

The Oakland Aviation Museum is having a Corvair Cockpit Day on Sunday, September 7th at their facility off Doolittle. It's from 10:00Am to 4:00PM. There will be a live band from 1:00 to 3:00. Drive your Corvair and get in for free and receive a free lunch. Besides Corvairs, there will be lots of historic planes. Josh will send out an RSVP form shortly.

The Cars and Cabernet event was a big hit. Peter said there were six or so Corvairs and many other very nice cars. A good crowd and, as always, the Corvairs drew a lot of interest.

Gabe is still planning on having another Open House and Bruce is planning on another Vairs at the Vault. When the dates do get set, there might not be too much lead time, so keep an eye out for an email announcing the events. Details will be included in a future newsletter if possible.

The next VairFest is scheduled for June 27, 2026 at Heritage Park in Arroyo Grande again.

Phil's '66 Corsa: Don said that the package tray area was about 80% complete. The bucket seats should be recovered in the next couple of weeks. Then Don will be setting up another Work Party to finish up the rear seat covering and get the new carpets installed, and install the front seats. Don said we were missing some pieces. At the top of the door opening, at the rear, there is a plastic piece with two screws. He can't find these in Clark's catalog. Seth said he had those and would bring them to the Picnic on Saturday. Chris asked about the gas pedal. Don said the new gas pedal does not come with splines already cut. When it is put together and tightened the assembly process cuts the splines. You just need to position the pedal properly before it is tightened down. Seth said this was not critical as there are other places where the throttle can be adjusted. One thing on the agenda we haven't looked at are the brakes. They seemed to work well on our limited journeys, but they should be inspected to ensure the linings and hoses are in good shape.

This project is winding down and the car is looking pretty good. Keep this in mind as we approach putting this up for sale. A '66 Corsa 140, LA built, one owner car is very desirable.

Tech: Peter said he had just had a knee replacement. He asked the doctor

(See *Minutes..* on page 7)

Coming Events in 2025...

Sep 4th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Sep 7th	Corvair Cockpit Day at the Oakland Aviation Museum, 8252 Earhart Rd (by the airport).
Oct 2nd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Oct 24-26th	Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet, host hotel is the Double Tree by Hilton Golf Resort Palm Springs, in Cathedral City, CA
Nov 6th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec	SFBA Holiday Dinner. Date and location to be determined.

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2025

Thursday Jan 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Feb 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Mar 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Apr 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday May 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jun 5, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jul 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Aug 7, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

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

Thursday Oct 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Nov 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Dec 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

SFBA/Valley Pic-ic 2025

Pictures by Josh



(See *Picnic...* on page 6)

Picnic...



Minutes...

“How long before I can drive?”. The doc said two weeks. He then said “I have a clutch..”. Then it will be 6-8 weeks!

Laura is in the process of getting a '65 Monza which is coming from Florida. She had lots of help from the Florida Corvair Club in evaluating the car and is looking forward to its delivery. Seth mentioned that when she joins CORSA she will receive a copy of the Corvair Basics book which has lots of information for new Corvair owners. Laura said the car will need a new padded dash. Josh said “no problem”, Clark’s sell them. And replacement is easy if you are young and limber (and a pain if you are not). She asked about insurance. Josh mentioned Haggerty’s (and there are others) and insurance is fairly cheap (depends on the car’s value). But the car needs to be kept in a locked garage. Josh said that if the insured value is over \$14k or so then the insurance company may want additional supporting information. Josh said he had an extra '65 Corvair Shop Manual he would give her. Chris said he had the '65 Shop Manual on disc. He likes to print the pages he is interested in and toss them when they get dirty. Vince mentioned that the Fan Belt Toss in Palm Springs was coming up and is a

great place to learn about Corvairs. Lane said the VairFest, next June, in Arroyo Grande is also a good source of information and is a lot closer. Josh said one piece of advice he has learned is to always allow an extra 45 minutes to go anywhere in a Corvair. Anytime you stop (even at a light) you will be asked “what kind of car is that?”, “weren’t those unsafe?”, “my grandfather had one of those”, etc.

Lane said he now has his 140 engine torn apart. He dropped a valve seat and it not only damaged the head but the piston and rings as well. He has the parts on order.

Carl said when he purchased his Corvair, he had heard the horror stories and did procure an extra fan belt and practiced its replacement but in the 6000 miles or so he drove the car it never gave him any trouble. Herb chimed in saying that while he does carry a new fan belt, he has never had to use it.

Carl asked about how to drop the engine in his Corvair. He had a four-post lift and a sliding jack. But how far should the rear hang over the lift? Josh said that Bruce had done this and should be able to help. Lane said to

remove the engine you only need to lift the car 30” or so

Seth said he heard about two people that were looking for Corvairs. One wants a very nice Rampside and the other wants a Yenka Stinger street car. They know the costs and are willing to pay for them.

Josh said that Steve Morton, in Idaho, was looking to rent some space in Northern or Central California to store cars and or parts. Steve does a lot of business buying Corvair collections in California. He wants a place to temporarily store stuff until he can move it home. Josh said Cameo’s '65 Convertible is being shot for a Levi’s commercial. Keep an eye out!

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:12 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Letter...

install the new piece and it fit even worse than the old one, if fact I could not even get it close. This lead me to compare the 2 pieces to see if there were any differences between the 2. Sure enough I noticed the bottom edge that fits up next to windshield was much longer and was not slipping in/ fitting properly. This lead me to look at the driver side old piece and I saw that the lip was shorter on it.

I took the old passenger side piece and sanded 1/4 to 3/8 off the end and now it fits like a glove and ALL the holes line up. I will modify the new piece now and we should be all set. Wanted to let you know what I found out.”

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

tures and send them in 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, Sep 4th starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent containing a link to the meeting making it easy to join.

SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

Date Posted =====	Subject =====
Aug 24, 2025	Corvair Cockpit Day RSVP
Aug 23, 2025	Tech Tip ~ Cylinder Head Deflashing
Aug 20, 2025	SFBA notes on the website, daily emails and a future "Letters to the Editor"
Aug 19, 2025	Corvair by the numbers
Aug 18, 2025	Just for fun ~ The most expensive part
Aug 17, 2025	Do you know about the "Electrovair"?
Aug 16, 2025	Corvair – An Exciting Automobile
Aug 15, 2025	Uh-Oh... The Bolt
Aug 13, 2025	A Brief Story of Offenhauser
Aug 10, 2025	California License Plates and our Corvairs
Aug 7, 2025	Zaki Nadiri ~ Corvair Unlimited
Aug 5, 2025	First time engine re-build

Sterling Restorations - Fairfield, CA



Sterling Restorations

@SterlingRestorationsNV - Cars

Send Message

Home Groups Reviews Videos More ▾

Like



About

See All

1076 Horizon Dr. Ste. 5
Fairfield, CA 94533



Create Post

Photo/Video

Check in

Tag Friends



Registration is now open!

Early Registration Ends
October 1st, 2025

[Click Here to Register](#) or go to www.GWFBT.com

New Location!

DoubleTree by
Hilton Golf Resort
Palm Springs

[Book Your Hotel](#)

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
- All new text & layout
- More photos & information
- Includes all new parts as of 2/1/19



Catalog - **Free** with a parts order (you pay shipping)

Order just a 2019-2025 Catalog

USA - order Cat-9 \$8 (catalog & shipping) using credit card or sent in money

International - you pay the actual shipping (starting at approximately \$30 shipping)

Check the website - Many Improvements!

Catalog pages much "sharper"

Index takes you right to the page

Ordering a part with color options?

Many screens now larger & easier

Click on the color sample

to use including the

"pop-up" window

shopping cart

Clark's Corvair Parts®

400 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

413-625-9776 Fax: 413-625-8498

www.corvair.com email: clarks@corvair.com





CHEVROBILIA

DAVID NEWELL 1481 HAMRICK LANE HAYWARD, CA 94544 510-782-4265

chevrobilia@yahoo.com



ORIGINAL CHEVROLET LITERATURE & MEMORABILIA

Sales - Service - Parts Cars & Trucks

Jewelry - Model Cars - Data Books - Posters - Films

Brochures - Photographs - Showroom Giveaways - Awards

BOUGHT ——— SOLD ——— TRADED



Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'66 Corsa 140 Runs excellent. Starts first try. New exhaust, electronic ignition, electric fuel pump. 4 carbs rebuilt.



I have a list of everything that has been done. Brakes need work, light rust at bottom of windshield. \$10k firm. SFBA member Jamie Torres jamie@gritsf.com. (3/25)

'62 Rampside, in process of being restored. Runs & drives but needs brakes. Pink in hand, registered non-op. Many details on SFBACORSA.COM web site. Asking \$1,500 firm. If interested,

send an email to sfbacorsa@gmail.com and we will give you the sellers contact info (08/25).

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)

CORVAIRS WANTED

Late Model convertible, preferably a Turbo. Must be driveable and in showable condition. Contact John Muhlner via email at jbmuhlner@earthlink.net. St. Helena area. (05/25)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

August 2025

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
07/01/2025	Begining Balance				\$3,079.04	
06/26/2025	Aug newsletter (stamps)			(12.41)	3,066.63	**
07/10/2025	SFBA/Valley BBQ			(63.06)	3,003.57	**
07/10/2025	SFBA Renewals via Paypal		25.00		3,028.57	**
07/30/2025	Ending Balance		25.00	(\$75.47)	\$3,028.57	

** Expense or Credit that has not been turned in yet. Bank balance shows \$3,146.98


SFBA CORSA

1907 Alvarado Ave
Walnut Creek, CA 94597



FIRST CLASS

To:




Performance Corvairs
Silicone Wire Systems
www.perfvair.com & www.wireset.com

Seth Emerson
Owner

3462 Kirkwood Dr.
San Jose, CA 95117

(408) 24RACER
E-mail to: sethracer@aol.com



Ramsell Auto Sales

Right in the Heart of Midtown

Tim Ramsell



Phone
(408) 293-0343

1349 W. San Carlos
San Jose, CA 95126

Corvairs Bought & Sold - Always in Stock!

SEND \$10.00
FOR CATALOG



PARTS & REPAIR

**CALIFORNIA
CORVAIRS**

(951) 284-3555

15090 LA PALMA DRIVE • CHINO, CA 91710

www.CaliforniaCorvairParts.com

Mike's Corvair Parts

Corvair Parts at a Discount

(New, NOS, Used, and Reproductions)

(eBay Auctions, eBay Store, Web-Site)

web-site: mikescorvairparts.com

email: mdeklotz@earthlink.net

phone: (949) 294-5699