

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 394

JULY 2026

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

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**Ray is Holding Phil's
Recovered Seat. Nice Job!**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, July 2nd
@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 no guests this evening. A pretty good turnout I thought.

I have pretty much finished our move to Fairfield. We have the Clearlake house on the market and now I (or we) can relax for a while and catch up on other duties. I still have the Walnut Creek house so my old address and email will work for some time as I gradually transition to new addresses. Of course the cell phone remains the same.

We held our third Work Day on Saturday, June 20th at Don's house in Antioch. Ray, Chris and I arrived around 10:00 AM and, over some donuts, discussed what we wanted to do. The main thing was that Don had his lift available which would of tremendous help. Read about the account on page 5.

Vairfest is coming up next weekend. I will be going down on Friday and returning Sunday so I will miss the Drive to Avila Beach. I have been there before and it's a fun little town. But stay away from Pirate's Cove Beach!!!

Remember, if you work on your Corvair (even if it's only to change plugs or adjust the brakes), take pictures 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, July 2nd 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. If the link does not work (as has happened in the past),

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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

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

Merchandise <https://sfbacorsa.com/sfba-club-merchandise/>

you can go to <https://www.zoom.com>, click on "Meet" and then "Join a Meeting". Enter our permanent meeting number (above).

On The Cover: At Work Day #3, one of the items to finish up was recovering the rear seat of Phil's Corsa. Ray and Clark worked on this and here is Ray showing the result. Not too shabby!

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.

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Minutes of the Last Meeting

June 4th, 2026

Josh got the regular meeting started around 6:44 a bit early but others were already checking in. When the room was opened, Josh, Ray, Peter, Buck and I were quickly joined by Lane, Carl, Herb, Seth, Don, Christy, Vince, Chris, and Jeffrey I hope I included every-one.

Treasury Report: The bank balance as reported in the last newsletter stood at \$3887.37.

Membership: Josh did not report any new members this month

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

New Business: The SFBA/Valley Picnic was brought up and the date has been tentatively scheduled for Aug 8th at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. This is the same place it has been held for the last several years.

Another Work Day at Don's house in Antioch has been scheduled for Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 AM.

Events: Tito, from Valley Corsa, arranged a fun drive from Niles to Alameda to take a tour of the Hornet aircraft carrier. Josh reported that he, Hal, Ken, Seth, Tito, Francisco, Scott Lyon, and someone else he couldn't remember went. It was a fun day and they had a great tour of the carrier. Brought back many memories. All of the Corvairs did well. On the way home Josh blew out an exhaust gasket

and his car started making lots of noise, but he made it home!

Vairfest in Arroyo Grande is coming up for June 26-28th. Vince reported that they had 28 Corvairs entered. They hope for a few more. The Sunday drive will be to Avila Beach and maybe see some whales. This is a great little town for having a cup of coffee and people watching (and maybe trying some Doc Burnstein's ice cream). Vince said they had 13 awards made up for the various categories and many raffle prizes. So your chances of winning are quite high.

Shadelands Classic Car Show will be this Sunday, June 7th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Shadelands Ranch Museum in Walnut Creek. Chris intends to go so there will be at least one Corvair. He said this event usually attracts 300 or so cars.

2026 Convention is Gettysburg. Carl asked how many SFBA members were going to the Convention in Gettysburg? Seth is the only one in the meeting tonight that is going. It is too close to Vairfest. Vince said that Central Coast Corsa had three people going. All driving. Paolo Galli is driving his Corvair with his new billet head engine. This engine has separate heads for each cylinder. He must have confidence in it to drive that far. Carl is first flying to LAX and then on to Minneapolis - Saint Paul where there is a flight simulator conference (Flight Sim Expo) that he wants to attend. From there he goes to Vermont for a few days and then to Harrisburg. And then, finally on to Gettysburg. Might as well make this a real vacation!

Napa Vault. A date for the Napa Vault event has not been set yet. Bruce is thinking September sometime. It will be after Car Week and before the Fan Belt Toss. Josh will keep on top of this so this doesn't slip away as it did last year.

2028 CORSA Convention: The event organizers will be looking for volunteers to help in the many areas (Parking, Registration, Car Show, Concourse, Autocross, etc.). This will be coming before you know it, so think where you might be able to help out. I am sure right now they are just looking for a show-of-hands.

Tech: Vince said a Rampside in Oakely just sold for \$10k. It's a '63 model with a rare floor shifter. He was trying to find out when GM went to the floor mounted shifter. Josh said that the gal that sold it had contacted him as she wanted it to go to a Corvair guy. Josh sent the word out but it sold quickly. Josh will reach out to the buyer to join SFBA or another local club. Seth suggested that Corvanatics may be able to help with the shifter changer dates.

Carl said his engine is coming along well. His mechanic has some questions about the distributor. Carl gave him Seth's contact info. Carl is using a Stinger distributor, and it is difficult to align everything along with the A/C stuff. Luckily, he has a high mount A/C as Seth said that distributor will not work with a low mounted unit. Seth said when he goes to Conventions, he checks out all of the Corvairs with A/C to see how the distributors had been mounted.

(See *Minutes..* on page 9)

Coming Events in 2026...

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| June 22-26th | CORSA International Convention, Gettysburg, PA, Host hotel Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8397 |
| June 26-28th | VairFest, Heritage Park, Arroyo Grande, CA |
| July 2nd | Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339" |
| Aug 6th | Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339" |
| Aug 8th | SFBA/Valley Picnic, Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. 12:00 PM until ? |
| Oct 23-25th | Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, at the Double Tree by Hilton Golf Resort |

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2026

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

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

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

Thursday Apr 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

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

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

Thursday Jul 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Aug 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Sep 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Oct 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Nov 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Dec 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Work Day #3 for 2026

Ray, Chris, and myself met at Don's house in Antioch to, hopefully, finish up Phil's Corsa. We had a couple of items we wanted to finish up. First was complete the re-upholstery of the rear seat (the bottom part had been done before but now the top (fold-down) section remained. Second was to check on the throttle linkage. At the last Work Day we noticed the throttle was very hard to push and seemed "sloppy". We would also like to evaluate the condition of the rubber suspension components and possibly the brakes.

Initially Ray and I started on the rear seat. The first step was to transfer the emblems off the old seat cover to the new. Each emblem had two pins which penetrated the seat cover and had a retaining clip on the underside. We used an awl to puncture the cover and this work well. The next step was to attach the covering to the frame. We

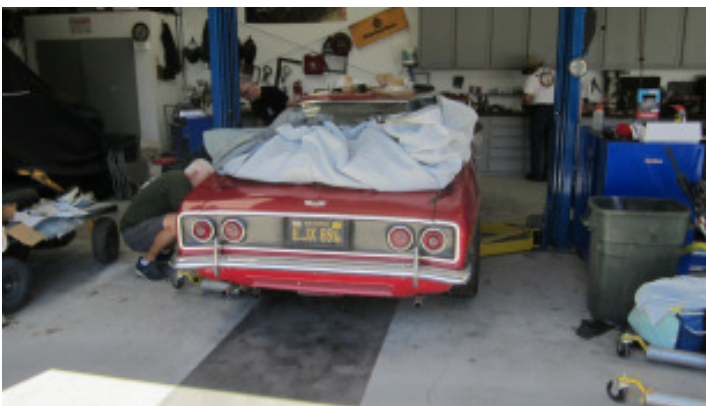
re-used the foam. The seat cover in this case is stapled down and does not use hog rings. Don had borrowed a stapler from Johnny, his neighbor. The edges of the seat frame had cardboard inserts that held the staples. This is a two-man job. I would hold the new seat cover in position and Ray would staple it. The staples aren't very strong and it takes several staples before you can move on to another location. It took a while and we proceeded slowly trying to eliminate wrinkles as best we could..

While we were working on the rear seat, Don and Criss were working on the throttle linkage. We got the car on the lift and removed the cover plates exposing the throttle linkage, clutch cable, and emergency brake. Right off we noticed one end of the throttle linkage looked very odd. At one point a small, 1/4", rod was hooked to a large, 5/8", hole. No wonder the linkage seemed sloppy, look at all that play. There was a

missing rubber piece and we hadn't bought a new one. Luckily Don had some rubber pieces left over from another project. The OD was correct but the hole through it was too small. Chris found a rat-tail file and, with lots of patience, proceeded to enlarge the hole until it fit perfectly. The linkage was re-assembled and it worked much better.

We were running out of time and it was decided to put the remaining work off until the next Work Day.. Ray noticed that some of the rubber components in the add-on rear anti-sway bar were cracked or missing. Maybe we can order new ones and have them for next time.

Taking a break once in a while, I took a few pictures as shown below. Enjoy!



Here we got the car positioned on the lift. Don is adjusting the lifting arms.

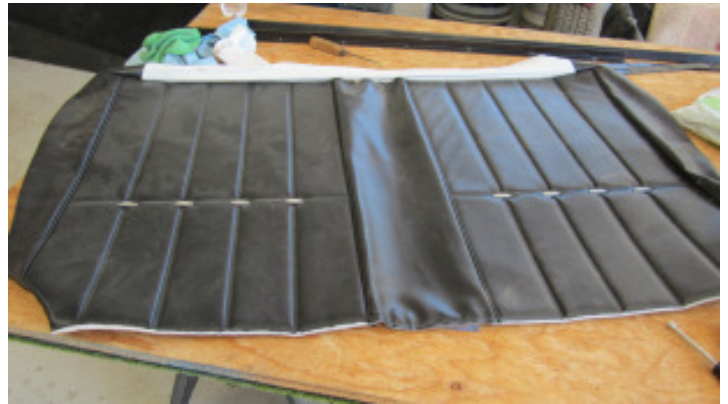


Starting to raise the car. Proceeding slowly, being sure it is well supported.

Work Day...



Here Ray and I are transferring the emblems. Luckily the emblems were positioned right on the seams making it easy to position the new ones.



Now the emblems are finished. We used a small nut driver to attach the retaining plates. Worked well.



We re-used the cardboard backing and carpet as these were in good shape. Ray is starting to attach the metal brackets.



Now the rear seat is done! All of the brackets have been attached and it looks great. Now to put it back in the car.



On the throttle linkage, we found this large 5/8" hole that was attached to a 1/4" bent rod (next photo). Something is missing-



This is the rod that attached to the linkage at left. No wonder it felt sloppy. We assumed the rubber piece is totally gone.

(See *Work Day...* on page 7)

Vairfest 2026 - June 26th - 28th

Home Convention 2026 VairFest & More Past Events Contact Us Join our Club Links Library

Welcome to
Central Coast CORSA

We are a car club dedicated to the preservation and enjoyment of the
Chevrolet Corvair

Located on the Central California Coast in San Luis Obispo and
Northern Santa Barbara Counties
Join us for outings, tech sessions, and our annual

VairFest Corvair Car Show

All Corvair enthusiasts are welcome (whether or not you own a Corvair)

Since 1975 Central Coast CORSA #934 has been a chapter of CORSA, Inc., (Corvair Society of America, Inc.) a non profit organization for the preservation and collection of the Chevrolet Corvair Automobile



VairFest Corvair Car Show [Click here to follow us on Facebook](#)

Three-day event held every June
Click the **VairFest & More** button at the top for location, details & registration form

Work Day...



Don and Chris finished up on the linkage and got the cover Wrapping up, Ray Don, and Chris discuss the next steps. plates reinstalled. Ready to lower it down.

SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

| Date Posted ===== | Subject ===== |
|----------------------|--|
| Jun 18, 2026 | Upcoming Weekend Events |
| Jun 16, 2026 | 40 Corvairs and parts for individual sale |
| Jun 15, 2026 | June 2026 Spyder Web Newsletter |
| Jun 12, 2026 | Upcoming Weekend Events |
| Jun 8, 2026 | From the CPF: Tie-downs and the gas heater |
| Jun 6, 2026 | Vairfest 2026 Update |
| Jun 5, 2026 | Upcoming Weekend Events |
| Jun 1, 2026 | Rampsides for sale |
| May 28, 2026 | Upcoming Weekend Events |
| May 27, 2026 | The Difference Between Trailer Tires and Regular Car Tires |

Every purchase supports the club

Visit our SFBA CORSA store and see the variety of items available to add to your Corvair collection or to give as a gift to that Corvair lover in your life. Every purchase gives SFBA a small commission which helps the club in a big way.

Along with club branded merchandise, you will also find Corvair specific merch available for purchase. Our supplier, Zazzle, often has sales, so check in often to save even more.



Minutes...

Jeffrey said he has now started the engine he had been working on at Mel's. A 140. He found there was something wrong with one of the heads so this was replaced. Now he is dealing with a fuel leak. One of the chrome lines he got from Clark's refuses to seal. He tried some Loctite in the threads and this helped. Seth that these are flared fittings and the threads are not what's leaking. You can get special copper washers for these fittings called "SAE Inverted Flare Gaskets". They come in various sizes, Seth thought the Corvaire lines needs 3/16 size. They are available from many places.

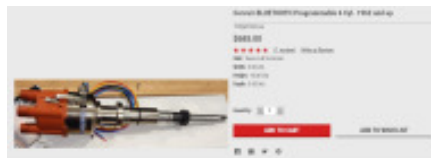


Carl said the chrome was too hard and does not seal well. Vince said that the Tech Guide suggests using dental floss for leaking lines. Seth said when tightening these fittings, use a special flare nut wrench to prevent rounding off the nuts. Good quality Snap-On wrenches not the ones Harbor Freight sells. Josh said he has Snap-On wrenches he got off ebay. Seth said to be sure

and tighten the large fitting in the carb first and then the flared fitting. Order is important here!

Christy said there was a YouTube video about the road repairs required for a Corvaire bought at the Fan Belt Toss last year. Amazing, but they made it home!

Josh asked about 123 ignition distributors. These are Blue Tooth enabled and quite expensive. More info at 123ignitionusa.com



Seth said he has a few customers that tried these. They have impressive specs. He thought the market for these had to be turbo guys. Via your smart phone you can set the advance/retard curve. Josh said that Ray Segman sells SafeGuard which is a knock sensor that is capable of retarding the spark on individual cylinders if it hears detonation. Christy said he had two of these. One on his Ultravan and the other on his Greenbriar. Seth said SafeGuard works along with your distributor. The

123 distributor and SafeGuard may run upwards on \$1k. Josh said even at \$1k it's worth it if it saves an engine. Lane said you can buy a lot of octane booster for that. Or fill up at Super Stop in Sunol with their 100+ octane gas.

Don said he had his lift cleared off so we can put the Corvaire up in the air and work on the throttle linkage. The next Work Day will be June 20 at his house in Antioch. Josh said the good thing about Phil's car is that it's a desirable '66 140 with no rust anywhere and the paint is very good. He may have Gabe look it over also.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:05 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



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Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Corsa 140 Convertible, kept in garage, great shape, mileage uncertain (speedo not working) . Asking \$12,000 OBO. Harrison Alter, doctordad@gmail.com (05/26)



'65 Corsa Turbo Coupe, 180 4 speed, new tires, wheels, brake hoses, master cylinder, battery. Rebuilt turbo. Motor has Roller Rockers, Al valve covers & deep oil pan. Garaged.



Asking \$16,000 OBO. Contact Gordon (707)758-5111 (6/26)

CORVAIRS 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)

Brian Dowdey - Classic Car mechanic and Corvair specialist. Everything from tuneups to engine rebuilds. Good rates. Located in Winters, Ca. (530) 520-1414 briandowdy53@gmail.com

CORVAIRS WANTED

Early Model Hardtop in good driving condition, original paint. Contact Ben Nourma at bennourma@gmail.com. (02/26)

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 - Buck Jones

June 2026

| Date | Activity | Check # | Credit | Debit | Balance | Status |
|------------|--------------------------|---------|--------|-----------|-------------------|--------|
| 05/01/2026 | Beginning Balance | | | | \$3,105.81 | |
| 05/26/2026 | June newsletter (stamps) | | | (12.41) | 3,093.40 | ** |
| 05/31/2026 | Ending Balance | | | (\$12.41) | \$3,093.40 | |

** Expense or Credit that has not been turned in yet. Bank balance shows \$3,887.37

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