

**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 395

AUGUST 2026

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 2026
- 5 SFBA/Valley Picnic
- 6 SFBA Web Site Tech Topics
This Month
- 9 Treasurers Report
- 9 Corvair Classifieds



**Sterling Restorations Has
Their Own Line of Products**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Aug 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 9 SFBA members and no guests this evening. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend. At the last minute I ran into computer issues (again!) and by the time I got my PC functioning again, the meeting was already over. Don't you love Windows 11?

Our annual SFBA/Valley Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 8th starting around noon (but come early and keep me company). SFBA is supplying the burgers and hot dogs and Silicon Valley is contributing Tri-Tips again this year. Just bring a side dish to share (salads, desserts, munchies, etc.). I will get there early to stake out a couple of tables with views of the lakes and parking lot and some shade. It's advisable to bring lawn chairs as the cement benches get kind of hard after a while and maybe a hat to keep the sun off. Extra shade wouldn't hurt either. Don't forget to drive your Corvair. Last year we had 8 or 9 Corvairs but we have had upwards of 15 or so in the past.

Our last Work Day, #4 was held on Saturday, July 25. Unfortunately, I was out of town as I had to go to Palm Springs for a sister-in-law's 80th birthday party. Boy was it hot! 120 degrees and very humid. I have not heard how this event went so there is no report in this Spyder Web.

I am in the process of getting my Corvair ready for Gabe to start on the body. I have removed the bumpers and some of the chrome pieces. There is more to do but I want to get as much done as I can. If Gabe or his workers have to do this, they do have to charge. I am trying to bag and label everything so I can put these back on. I need to eventually replace most of the chrome after 60+ years of use, so if you know of a source of '64 Corvair coupe chrome parts that are in good shape (not necessarily NOS), please let me know. Of particular interest is the front grill,

the head light bezels, and the wheel well trim pieces.

I just received an email from Great Plains Corvair Club president and SFBA member Eric Player. Eric wrote and produced a film

(see *Letter...* on page 8)

On The Cover: Looking at Sterling Restorations web site shows they have their own line of products. These are what they use and get the great results we have seen. They also have a list of their hands-on work shops which we have heard good things about!

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.**

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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

Vice-President Peter Tachis ptachis@gmail.com

Secretary Clark Calkins, 5401 Victory Ct.,
Fairfield, CA 94533 - (925)407-7822
ClarkCalkins@gmail.com

Treasurer Buck Jones, bjonestranscon@outlook.com

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
chevrobilia@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://sfbacorsa.com/sfba-club-merchandise/>

Minutes of the Last Meeting

July 2, 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, and Peter were quickly joined by Lane, Don, Chris, Jim, Harry and Jeffrey I hope I included everyone. Notably I wasn't present as my PC picked a bad time to act up.

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 but he met a few prospects at Vairfest last month.

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

New Business: The SFBA/Valley Picnic is set for Saturday, 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, July 25 at 10:00 AM.

Josh said the Club's web site is now one year old and, if you don't know, there is a search bar on the page. You can type anything (like "vapor lock") and it will bring up lots of relevant info.

Events: The Vairfest was a huge success. Jim said there were 30 Corvairs entered in the show and lots of raffle prizes. Jim showed his '69 Corvair for the first time. All totaled he had three

cars in the show. A '64 convertible, a Corvan 95, and his '69. Jim said, one Central Coast member, Susan Sturgan (sp?) entered her '61 Lakewood. Club members had just helped her get it running. She has owned this since '76 and was so appreciative. She took home the "Daily Driver" award. Jim said Michael, from Palm Springs, won the "Farthest Away" award.

Josh said the 2026 Corsa National Convention was well attended with lots of cars. It was reported that they had many walk-ups, more than last year. This is good but it makes planning difficult. Josh said that CPF is now called the Corvair Historical Society. The mission stays the same, just a change of names. They will also move the museum back to Ypsilanti, MI where they expect higher foot traffic. Supposedly Palo drove his Corvair with his new engine. This engine has induvial hears for the cylinders. There was no report on how this did on such a long drive. Vince said a Central Coast Corsa club member had just bought a Corvair and drove it to the Convention after getting it fixed up. He made it with only some minor issues with the points. He intended to sell it and fly home. Well, it didn't sell so he left it on consignment at Corvair Ranch.

The Great Race this year ran from Springfield, IL to Pasadena, CA. Josh said the Owl's Head Museum in Maine entered a couple of Corvairs driven by some high school students. Sponsored in part by CORSA and maybe CPF.

Phil's '66 Corsa: Ray reported on the last Work Party #3 at Don's house in Antioch. Clark, Chris, and Ray showed up and spent a few hours working on the rear seat and throttle hookup. Ray and Clark finished up recovering the rear seat. It's a fold down seat and they were able to reuse some of the original material. The cardboard backing was stapled in and it takes a number of short staples to hold everything in place. Chris and Don had the Corvair on the lift where they could work on the throttle linkage. They found one bell crank which was missing some sort of insert. Looking around the shop Don found a rubber bushing off his Land Cruiser which had the proper OD. Chris found a rat tailed file and proceeded to enlarge the center hold to fit the tie rod. Then they cut it to length and assembled it. The linkage has much less slop now. They then worked on getting the geometry correct for the center-mounted Holy carburetor. Don said there are still some details to work on like installing the seats, installing and connecting the radio, clean up the dash, and other items. Don thought this would take a couple more Work Days.

Tech: Jeffrey went to the estate sale of Robert Langdon. Robert, a long-time SFBA member, had many Corvairs on his property near Sonora. There were supposed to be several wagons and Ultravans along with a number of other Corvairs. When Jeffrey got there, he thought the remains had been pretty well picked through. The Corvairs that were stored outside were rust buckets full of acorns and other debris. And

(See *Minutes..* on page 7)

Coming Events in 2026...

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 ?
Sep 3rd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Oct 1st	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
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"

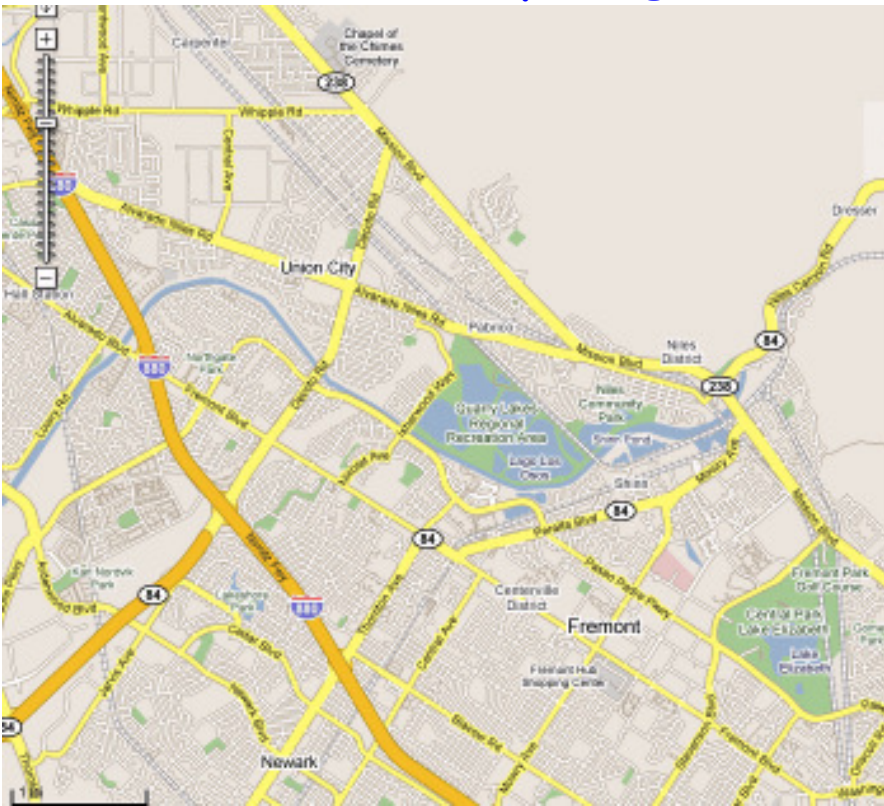
Thursday Oct 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

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"

SFBA/Valley Picnic - Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont

Saturday, August 8th, Noon till ?



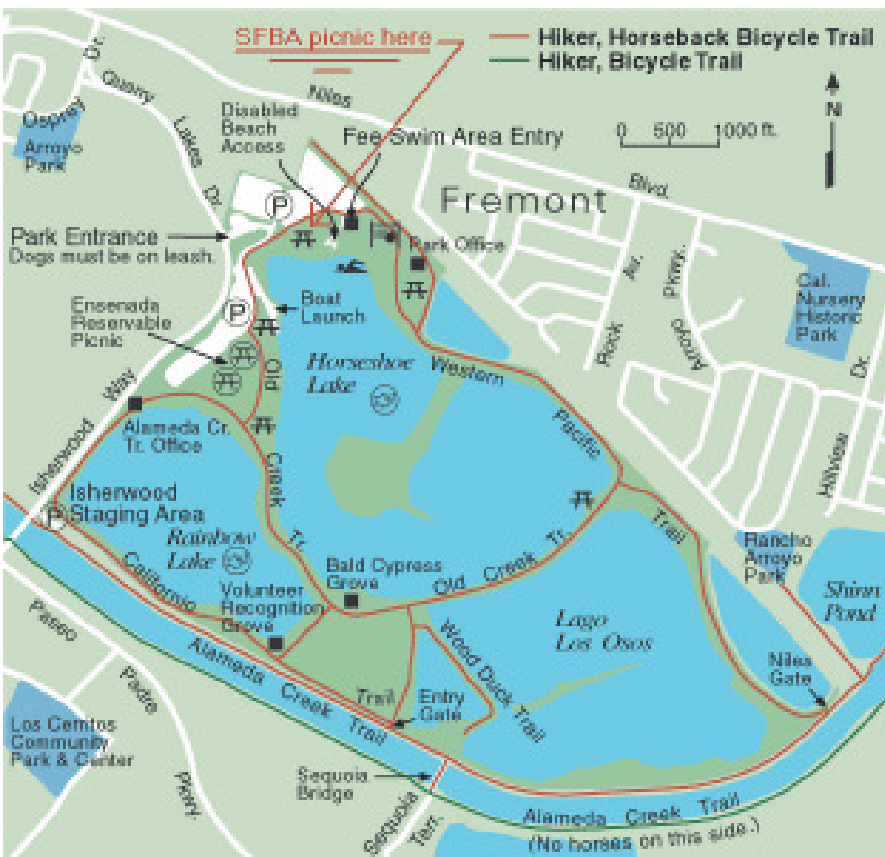
Our Annual SFBA/Valley Picnic will be at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. If you haven't been there before this is a very nice park with plenty of green grass and lakes for fishing, swimming, etc. See the park's web site for current Covid restrictions. The city does charge a bit to drive into the park (about \$5 a car; a bit more for dogs) and swimming is also a little extra. If you choose, you can park outside the park and walk in. We won't be far from the entrance kiosk. There is plenty to do there for both kids and adults. Lots of hiking trails around the lakes. I will get there a bit early and try to reserve a suitable spot on the North side (see maps below). The BBQ should be ready to go by noon. The Club will provide the basics (burgers, dogs) so just bring a side dish to share (a salad of some sort, munchies, a dessert, sodas, or whatever) and your appetite. Help in managing the BBQs is always appreciated. This is usually a sunny park so sun screen and hats may be in order (we will try for a shady spot but no guarantees).

Getting There:

From I-80 in Fremont, take the Decoto Road (Hwy 84) exit East. Turn left on Paseo Padre Parkway, then right on Isherwood Way. Proceed to the park entrance on the right.

From Mission Blvd (Hwy 238) in Fremont, turn South on Nursery Ave. (away from the hills) and right (West) on Niles Blvd. Turn left on Osprey Drive and left on Quarry Lakes Drive. Proceed to the park entrance on the left.

For more information check out their web site (http://www.ebparks.org/parks/quarry_lakes).



SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

Date Posted =====	Subject =====
Jul 31, 2026	Tech Tip: Carburetor Overhaul
Jul 30, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Jul 23, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Jul 22, 2026	Artificial Intelligence or Artifice
Jul 21, 2026	SFBA Work Party July 25th
Jul 15, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Jul 14, 2026	Tarps off! ... or on
Jul 10, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Jul 9, 2026	CORSA Board Of Directors
Jul 6, 2026	July 2026 Spyder Web Newsletter
Jul 4, 2026	Happy 4th From SFBA!
Jul 2, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Jun 29, 2026	1966 Monza Convertible For Sale
Jun 27, 2026	Tech Tip ~ Noises From The Front
Jun 25, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events

Minutes...

the ones in the barn were locked and the son, who was showing Jeffrey around, didn't have the keys. He ended up not getting anything. Jeffrey said he had been to other Barn Finds and you take your chances. Luckily this was not too far away.

After the last meeting, Jeffrey went out and purchased some copper flare washers and these fixed his fuel leak issues. He rebuilt the carbs not knowing that the primaries and secondaries had different butterfly values. There is an extra air hole on the secondaries so they won't work for the primaries. Guess how he found that out? He is hoping to install the engine by mid August and take it down to the Fan Belt Toss.

Jeffrey is planning on attending this year's Fan Belt Toss and is considering

if and how to tow his '61 Raffle car. Lane said he has trailered his Corvair but prefers flat towing. He purchased a Tow Bar from Harbor Freight which attaches to the bumper. He has Blue Tooth enabled magnetic lights that are controlled from the cab. Easy! Lane has driven his Corvair to the FBT in the past, but it's too many hours in the 50 year old seats without A/C. "I ain't doing that again!". Jeffrey drove his '67 to Vairfest a couple of years ago. No real issues except for a vapor lock problem in Paso Robles. Took him a while to get it started. It was suggested that, under these circumstances, he hold the throttle full open while cranking. Ray suggested he open the hood and go inside and have a cold one and wait 20 minutes to let it cool.

Josh said he saw Tom Keosabian's land speed record Corvair on Bring-A-Trailer. This is a '65 Corsa Turbo. It was clocked at 165 mph (157 average in both directions) at Bonneville. It ran on propane he thought.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 7:45 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



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
to use including the
shopping cart

Click on the color sample
"pop-up" window

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



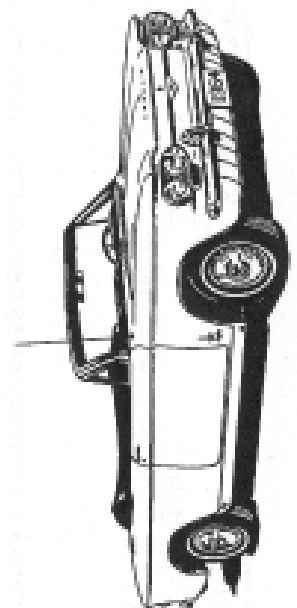
Letter...

called Harmless that is currently being shown at the Jackson Film Festival. And, of course, a Corvair is in the movie! Congratulations Eric, hope this does well!

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, August 6th 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), you can go to <https://www.zoom.com>, click on "Meet" and then "Join a Meeting". Enter our permanent meeting number (above).



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)



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

July 2026

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
07/01/2026	Beginning Balance				\$3,837.73	
06/26/2026	July newsletter (stamps)			(12.41)	3,825.32	**
07/8/2026	Zoom Meetings			(169.90)	3,655.42	
07/8/2026	Word Press (3 yrs)			(452.00)	3,203.42	
07/31/2026	Ending Balance			(\$634.31)	\$3,203.42	

** Expense or Credit that has not been turned in yet. Bank balance shows \$3,300.88

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