

**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.com>

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***Linda, Sahara, and Barbara
at the SFBA/Valley Picnic***

***Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Sep 3rd
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)***

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 11 SFBA members and no guests this evening. Not bad considering Summer vacations were winding down.

Our annual SFBA/Valley picnic was fairly well attended. We had 15 people (7 from Valley and 8 from SFBA) and four Corvairs (3 lates and 1 early). Last year we had 25 people with 8 Corvairs. The weather was actually quite pleasant. It was predicted to be hot which may have kept a few people away. There was plenty of food this time unlike last year when all of the hamburgers were eaten. I am not sure if there was any tri-tip left, as this always goes fast. People were packing up and leaving around 3:30 after an enjoyable day. Enjoy the pictures that Chris and I took on pages 5-6.

I don't know about you, but I have received several scam emails lately that are Corvair related. It seems like the scammers are getting more clever and the messages are more realistic. So as a reminder always check the URL if you are asked to click on anything. And don't call a phone number without verifying it first.

I have not heard if we are going to have a Napa Vault event this year or not. I know these are difficult to plan with Car Week and the Fan Belt Toss coming up, but time is running out. So check the Club's web site for last minute updates. There may not be time to include a notice in the newsletter.

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 start-

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 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://sfbacorsa.com/sfba-club-merchandise/

ing 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).

On The Cover: Chris took this picture of our annual SFBA/ValleyPicnic. Fantastic weather this year. Here we have Linda, Sarah, and Barbara enjoying the mild Fremont climate.

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

August 6, 2026

Josh got the regular meeting started around 6:45 a bit early but others were already checking in and there wasn't any SFBA specific business for the Board to discuss. When the room was opened, Josh, Buck, Peter, Ray, and I were quickly joined by Seth, Herb, Chris, Christy, Carl, 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 \$3300.88 after expenses were paid.

Membership: Josh did not report any new members this month

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

New Business: Josh mentioned that CORSA elections are coming up and there is a seat for Western Director that is open. He will not be running. After 6 ½ years he is taking a break. But if you like the way CORSA is heading (or even if you don't), consider running for this open seat

Events: Our annual SBFA/Valley Picnic is coming up this Saturday at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. SFBA will provide the ham burgers and hot dogs while Valley is bringing Tri-Tips again. Everyone is welcome, just bring a side dish to share. Like salads, desserts, munchies, drinks, etc. But by all means come, have a good time, and drive your

Corvair! This time of year the weather can be warm so bring a hat, sun screen, and maybe a chair to sit on (the cement picnic tables get hard after a while).

Phil's '66 Corsas: Ray reported on the last Work Party at Don's house in Antioch. This time it was only Ray and Don. Others weren't available. They got the rear seat installed. It was a real pain to get the hinges aligned. Even finding the mounting holes was difficult. They used an awl to probe the carpet and eventually found them. Hopefully they won't have to remove the seat. Installing the seat belts is another issue. They could not find the seat belt hardware. When it was removed, it was placed in a plastic bag and labeled. But, try as they might, they could not find the bag. As Christy said it will turn up as soon as they purchase the replacements. Don and Ray felt it will take one or two more Work Days to complete the project. We need to have a party when this is done!

Tech: Jeffrey got his 140 engine installed, but he has an issue with the carburetor linkage. Jeffrey totally rebuilt the engine with Mel's help from ground up. Split cases and all. He had to replace one of the carburetors and bought one from somebody, but it was a case only. He scrounged through parts that Mel had to get it running but didn't realize that the butterfly valve he used was for a primary carb and he was using it on the secondaries. Primaries have an extra air bleed hole (presumably for idling) which amounts to an air leak on

the secondaries. Jeffrey installed an electric fuel pump but will probably go with a mechanical pump when he takes it to the Fan Belt Toss. Jeffrey said he will be going to Mel's tomorrow to work on the carburetor linkage, the secondaries are not even opening. Seth said he may stop by to lend a hand (after all Jeffrey bought the linkage from Seth). Josh said he had had trouble with his 140 linkage. In his case, the secondaries were not closing. He found he had tightened the throttle shaft too much. Backing off ¼ turn did the trick.

Clark said he has taken off all of the easy-to-remove chrome pieces from his Corvair and is preparing to take it to Gabe to begin the restoration process. Gabe originally indicated a mid-August time frame. He said he will be looking for replacement chrome pieces as his really show the 60+ years of use.

Herb said on one of his early Corvairs started running real badly. He had the engine worked on and as the engine was being re-assembled, on the last carburetor the mechanic said "what's this O-ring doing here". Somehow an O-ring got sucked into the carburetor and was choking off one-half of the engine. He said one thing he has learned, if it's late and you are tired, wait until tomorrow. Or else you will end up spending hours fixing things you broke the night before! Herb said when buying a car, he always looks for a solid body and good paint. He figures he can fix the rest if necessary, but body work is a real art. He said on his Model

(See *Minutes..* on page 9)

Coming Events in 2026...

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

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 2026

photos by Clark and Chris

What a beautiful day for a picnic! Attending from SFBA we had myself, Chris, Peter and Jeanette, Scott, Bob, Jeffrey, and Ray. From Valley we had Seth and Barbara, Hal and Linda, Ken, Sarah, and JJ. Scott, Jeffrey, Chris, and JJ drove their Corvairs. Bob was nice enough to get there early to reserve a couple of tables. Looking at the pictures, you can tell the trees were freshly trimmed, so we didn't have as much shade as before. Thankfully Chris brought a pop-up canopy and someone else brought an umbrella!



(See *Picnic..* on page 6)

Picnic...



Pictures from the 2025 Fan Belt Toss



SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

Date Posted	Subject
=====	=====
Aug 20, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Aug 18, 2026	From the CHS: 1964 Sales Dept Archive
Aug 15, 2026	Corvair Horn Buttons
Aug 14, 2026	Tech Tip: Metallic Brake Shoes
Aug 13, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Aug 11, 2026	From the CHS: 1965 Head Gaskets
Aug 6, 2026	SFBA Monthly Meeting and Upcoming Weekend Events
Aug 5, 2026	Fan Belt Toss Registration Now Open
Aug 3, 2026	Aug 2026 Spyder Web Newsletter & SFBA/Valley Picnic
Aug 1, 2026	Racers Electric Fuel Pump Kits

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...

A, he has taken the transmission out at least three times. He is now very knowledgeable about these. Seth said that there are some things he doesn't want to get good at!

Ray said he is now working on a '62 Spyder. He is rebuilding the front end. He was over at Don's pressing some pieces together when Don said, "something doesn't look right". Ray said he agreed but checking the pictures he took before starting on this, he said "that's the way it was before". Turns out the previous owner did not put it together correctly and Ray just blindly copied what he saw. Now he always checks with the Corvair books. Ray said, for his motorcycles, the books show every part in detail with exploded views and part numbers with cross references. Is there anything similar for the Corvair? Josh said he has a GM Parts Catalog (P&A 38). It shows almost every part with interchangeability. Ray said when he and Don were trying to figure out the throttle linkage on Phil's car, they used the Clark's catalog. It looked like a three-year-old drew the figures. He figures in this day with Photoshop and PowerPoint there is no reason not to have high-quality illustrations. Carl said he is sure that Clark's has the GM Parts Catalog but, for some reason, does not use some of the illustrations. Maybe there is copyright limitations? Josh doesn't think it's a copyright issue, with the dealings he has had with GM (through CORSA) they are only really picky with using the Bow Tie symbol.

Carl said he now has his rebuilt engine back in his Corvair. He spent all of yesterday getting the rubber seal properly installed. Now his fingers are very sore. The original issue turned out to

be a small washer that, somehow, got into the combustion chamber. This probably happened many years ago where it got lodged in the intake manifold. It must have recently worked loose causing the issues Carl experienced. Carl said the washer didn't do a lot of damage, but he felt it was time to totally rebuild the engine (after a \$2000AUD bill to Clark's!). This is a reminder to all of us to always block off the intake manifold when the carburetors are removed. Carl said he is currently waiting on new carburetor bases from Clark's. He expects to have the engine running by mid-September.

Josh said he gets at least one email per week from people looking for a Corvair mechanic. Luckily we have four at least between San Jose, San Francisco, and Winters. He thought about putting a page on the Club's web site but decided against it. Everyone has their own preference and he doesn't want the Club to get in the middle. So for now he just answers the questions individually.

Peter said he is very proud of himself. He has been driving his car for three

days now and he actually has heat and defrost! First time since he bought it. He will take the small victories.

Christy said he is having a 90th Birthday Party October 18th and we are all invited. At the big Yellow Barn and there will be ice cream and cake! There will be more info in the next newsletter and on the Club's web site. Also he is starting to pare down his Corvair collection.

Swap & Sell: Christy said he is selling his '64 500. A beautiful car. Asking \$12,500

Meeting adjourned about 8:15 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



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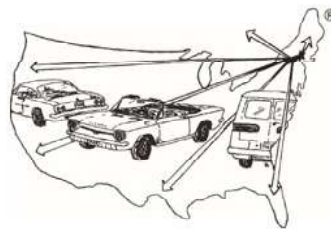
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Corvair Classifieds

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)



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

August 2026

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
04/01/2026	Beginning Balance				\$3,105.81	
04/26/2026	Aug newsletter (stamps)			(12.41)	3,093.40	**
04/30/2026	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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