

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!



Spyder
WEB

VOLUME 373

OCTOBER 2024

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<https://www.SFBACorsa.org>

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Vairs at The Vault III

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Oct 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 7 SFBA members and no guests this evening. This is a bit fewer than previous months but it's Summer and vacation time after all.

The Sterling Restorations Open House was a big success. Gabe put on a great event. By my count, there were about 25 people, 13 classic/race cars, with 4 Corvairs. There was entertainment (a 4 man band), and street tacos which were delicious! All provided by Gabe. New this year Gabe conducted a Q&A session which was well received. Josh brought a PA system which made it much easier to hear. There was a raffle and 50/50 drawing (neither of which I won). I didn't know the date for the last newsletter, but Josh sent out a email notice to the whole group. If you didn't receive this maybe we don't have your current email address. Let Josh or I know if this is the case so you don't miss important events!

Vairs at the Vault 3 was another great event. Almost everything went off as planned. Unfortunately, Paolo Galli was not able to make it. He had planned to be finished going through Bruce's '65 Turbo engine (Marc's former car) and he was going to install it at the event and answer questions while doing so. Would have been very interesting. But he wasn't finished, so this had to wait. Jim Pennell gave a good summary of the progress being made on next year's Convention. By my count there were 13 Corvairs and about 33 people. Not quite as many cars as last year. Lunch was provided, pizza, and subs (from Filippi's Pizza, delicious as always) plus there was beer, wine, and sodas. Following lunch the raffle was conducted. There were lots of prizes, so this took a while. In the end I won a bottle of wine and Herb Wimmer won a Go Pro!

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

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

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

(see *Letter*. on page 10)

On The Cover: . Here is a group photo of the Vairs at The Vault III crowd taken by Josh. What a wonderful event it was! Lots of people and lots of beautiful cars. There were several presentations and a large raffle. Lunch was provided (pizza, subs, beer, wine, and sodas). What a treat. I have not seen the final tally but I think the Club came close to breaking even this year!

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

September 5, 2024

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 Roger Lamb, Christy, Peter, and Seth. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Harry reported the bank balance stood at \$4605.16 which did not include the as yet undeposited \$800 generous donation from Sandy Dalforno (this was to cover expenses in getting Phil's Corvair ready for sale). Also past newsletter expenses and the Picnic BBQ expenses have not been turned in yet. Clark will provide Harry with the details shortly.

Membership: Josh did not mention any new members this month.

Old Business: Nothing mentioned.

New Business: We need to think about a Holiday Dinner (or Luncheon). Last year we ate at Black Hawk Grill and toured the Black Hawk Museum. From what I heard most thought this was very enjoyable

2025 Convention: Planning continues on next year's National Convention. Clark and Josh attended the last Planning Meeting. It was mentioned that the hotel (Radison Santa Maria) was now open for Convention reservations. Even though Marriot is taking over the hotel, they are honoring the agreed upon rate of \$119/night. There are other hotels in this area but they won't have that rate.

Events: Vairs at The Vault III will be held this Saturday, Sept 14 at The Vault in Napa. This year we are planning on

holding a raffle (lots of good prices have been lined up!) and an engine installation demonstration on Bruce's '65 Turbo. Paolo Galli will conduct this very interesting session. And if you drive a Corvair you will be given a Dash Plaque that Jeff Ramon created. Also, Jim Pennell, from Central Coast Corsa, is coming and will be giving us an update on next year's Convention. Tony and Jennett will be filming the event. Please register on-line so they know how much food to bring.

Gabe held another Open House at Sterling Restoration in Fairfield. This was Saturday, Aug 24th. The plans came into existence too late for last month Spyder Web but Josh sent out an email to let everyone know. There were about 25 folks in attendance and Gabe provided delicious food and entertainment. There were lots of nice cars there besides Corvairs. This year there was an interesting Q&A session where Gabe fielded questions providing details on how he achieves such wonderful results. Josh brought his PA system, making it a whole lot easier to hear.

Tito (Valley Corsa member) is planning on a back-roads trip from Milpitas to Black Hawk on Sunday, October 6th. Josh will be sending out an email with the details.

Tech: Roger Lamb (a newer member) joined us tonight and reported on a very nice '62 Monza Convertible 102hp he recently acquired. Roger bought this in Oregon and had the car shipped down. The body, paint, and interior are pristine. Seth asked about the shipper as he just bought one and needs to have it shipped down. Roger couldn't recall

the name but will find it and tell Seth. The was shipped covered and delivered directly to Mel's who was going to look it over (the car hadn't been driven for a couple of years). The was picked up and delivered on schedule without surprises. The cost was about \$1100, Portland to San Jose. It runs great but Roger did a compression check and two cylinders 65 and 85psi while the others were 120-125psi. He will take it back to Mel and see if, maybe, the valves need adjusting. Overall he is very happy with it. Roger, who lives in Livermore, said he would be interested in joining Tito's back-road fun drive. Maybe there will be a planned stop in Pleasanton or Dublin.

Peter said "Percilla" was behaving badly. He suspects the Pertronix ignition. The symptoms are after driving for 20 or so minutes and the engine warms up, he will turn it off and in half an hour starts it up and it runs poorly. Looses power, backfires, etc. Idling in neutral it seems okay, but under load it acts up. Seth said to check the spark. Pull the distributor wire to the coil and hold it 1/4" from a ground while someone cranks the engine over. Peter said he was replacing the Pertronix 2 ignition with regular points. Can he use a high voltage coil? Seth said if the balance resistance is in place (either built-in the wire or via a separate resistor) then the coil shouldn't matter too much. Seth said all Corvairs, except for the '64 Turbos, used a resistance wire. '64 Turbos used a separate resistor probably because they used a high performance coil (same as the Corvettes of that era). Flame Thrower coils come in several varieties. 3 ohm

(See *Minutes..* on page 7)

Coming Events in 2024...

Oct 3 rd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Oct 25-27 th	Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, Palm Springs, CA
Nov 7 th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec 5 th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec 7 th	SFBA Annual Holiday Dinner/Luncheon. Date, time and location to be determined.
2025	
Jan 2 nd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2024

Thursday Jan 5 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" (cancelled)
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"

Sterling Restorations Open House



Vairs at The Vault III



Minutes...

coils say right on them “for use without an external resistor”.

Peter took his car to Ocean Beach. Even though it wasn't as nice as some other cars, it received a lot of attention. Seth said he use to hear “...my father had one of those” but now he hears “...my grand father has one of those”. Christy said we are getting farther and farther away from people that know what these cars are! Peter said at the Picnic he and his wife heard about the Fan Belt Toss in Palm Springs and they are interested in going. It will be Oct 25/26 this year. He plans to take his truck so he will have lots of room to take home parts! Seth said the swap meet is as good or better than the National Conventions!

Clark said he and Don trailered Phil's '66 Corsa Coupe to Don's house in Antioch. The car starts easily and drives and stops well (all of 100 feet test drive). The next step is to accumulate the parts and then hold a Saturday Tech Session or two at Don's place where we can gather and get things put back together. This is a very desirable '66 Corsa 140 and the goal is to get this in saleable condition. Josh thought the brakes squeak a bit but Clark didn't notice. Clark thought the transmission was a bit hard to get it in reverse but he was not use to a short throw linkage. Josh said this was going to make someone a good driver car! Seth suggested that we include CORSA and SFBA Club memberships to the buyer. Good idea!

Seth said lately he has been buying and selling cars (unusual for him). He sold his street Monza to Chuck Van Holsen(sp?), a Valley Corsa member in Brentwood. Then he sold his race car to Larry Roe He is going to build it as an autocross car. Now Seth has to take

the V-6 out of it. Seth is buying a Corvair from someone in Oregon (use to be Charly Morgan's (sp?) car). It has a later model Vortec V-6, power glide and air conditioning. He will have the car shipped down. Jeffrey said when he had his Raffle Car shipped to him, Bruce recommended a shipper which worked great. The car was covered and picked up and delivered on time.

Jeffrey said his project car is running fine and he will bring it to the Vault. He is also going to the Fan Belt Toss but he won't be bringing the Raffle car even though he sold his Lexus and bought a Jeep with a tow package.. He does intend to show it at the 2025 Convention in Santa Maria. He noticed a slight blemish on the back fender, he talked with Gabe about it at the Open House. Right now, he doesn't have time to get it towed over and back. He wants to show it as it looks perfect and runs great. Josh said if you bring it to the Convention many people will remember it. On his project car he will take the fan shroud to Gabe to have it painted Turquoise to match the body. He will be installing a gold colored Nash Fan which should look fantastic. Jeffrey mentioned he was considering building a new engine for the Project car. He said Mel had some Webber 3-barel carbs and asked how that setup would work. Seth that would be great for a race car but questioned its reliability for a driver. Seth said when he had this setup, he had to take it to someone to turn the carbs. He couldn't do it himself. Josh said John Heiser (CCRC) has this setup and does the adjusting himself (twice a year when Ca changes gasoline blends). John will be at the Vault and is happy to discuss this. Seth said a 140 is a good alternative motor. They are available and parts are plentiful.

Christy said his drive back from Ohio was almost disastrous. He was towing his '63 Corvair with his Suburban. On the way back he stopped for the night somewhere and in the morning the Suburban wouldn't start. He suspected he had a bad coil. He unloaded the Corvair and drove it to the nearest auto parts store (15 miles away). He returned with a new coil which fixed the issue. Back on the road he made it to Winnemucca, NV where he had to replace the alternator. This got him all the way to Carson City where he needed a new module (ed: not sure what this is). He stayed in Carson City a week for Hot August Nights. Replacing the module he was able to get back to Nevada City. The total trip was 4600 miles and his Suburban was getting about 5 mpg towing his Corvair. Which works out to about \$1/mile. But “we all waste money on things, right?”. How true.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:02 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



2025 CORSA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION MAY 20-23, 2025 — SANTA MARIA, CA

Hosted by Central Coast Corsa
Info: centralcoastcorsa.org
Email: mail@centralcoastcorsa.com



Participating Clubs:



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Letter...

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, Oct 3rd starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent and it will contain a link to the meeting making it easy to join.

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Gabe Lopez
Owner / Operator

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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)

'63 Corvair Spyder Convertible, runs great, engine rebuilt 2 yrs ago, new paint, turbo rebuilt, top in good condition, new axles and bearing in rear, new car cover. Radio will need replacing & small crack in right hand mirror. Clean under carriage. Great daily driver! \$12K obo, contact Cian O Mahony in Pleasant Hill: cianomahony7@icloud.com



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

Sept 2024

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
09/01/2024	Beginning Balance				\$4,605.16	
09/07/2024	Donation		\$800.00		5,405.16	
09/13/2024	Newsletters Mar-Sept			(\$302.42)	5,102.74	
09/13/2024	Picnic BBQ			(67.25)	5,035.49	
09/31/2024	Ending Balance		\$800.00	(\$367.67)	\$5,035.49	

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