

**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 50 years ago!



**VOLUME 337**

**OCTOBER 2021**

**Look for us on the Web!**

*<https://www.SFBACorsa.org>*

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**Bay Vairea Get Together  
Sterling Restorations  
10:00 AM Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> in Fairfield**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday,  
Oct 7<sup>th</sup> @7:00PM #243 888 8339**

## Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. We had nine people join in. A little lighter than usual. It must be vacation time. The discussions were very interesting and the time flew by.

Of special interest this month, at the meeting Seth asked if a Get Together could be setup somewhere as people are getting antsy. Maybe even at Sterling Restorations seeing how they have been working on several Corvairs lately. Josh checked into the possibility and lo-and-behold they liked the idea, and it will be great exposure for them! The shop is quite busy now but Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> was available starting at 10:00 AM. The Open House will probably run for a couple of hours and there will be refreshments. You will be able to view the shop and see the work they have been doing and ask questions. There is a map and directions on page 5.

Over the last three months, July – September, Classic Corvairs of River City has been running a transcript in their newsletter (Corvair Chatter) of a speech given by Robert P. Benzinger at the Corsa National Convention in 1975. Mr Benzinger was Senior Project Engineer at Chevrolet during the development of the Corvair engine. His insight into the actual engine design, development, and testing process is priceless. There is a lot of false information floating around and this sets the record straight in many areas. You can check into these newsletters via the CCRC web site <https://www.northern-california-corvairs.com> or from Virtual Vairs.

Josh is still collecting results from the survey regarding in-person meetings. There seems to be quite a bit of interest in these, but the devil is in the details. If you have not responded to the survey (see last month's Spyder Web) there is still time to be heard. Let Josh or I know your thoughts.

With the SFBA/Valley Picnic and Vair Fest behind us, we can get back to what our members are currently working on. Bruce has been sending me lots of pictures of his

## Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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**Vice-President** Harry Kypreos, 7840 Creekside Dr, Dublin, CA 94568 - HKypreos@epicor.com

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

**Newsletter** Clark Calkins (address above)

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Corvairs being restored so this month I will be featuring these. See page 6.

You might have noticed I “penciled” in a Holiday Dinner for this year  
(See [Letter...](#) on page 11)

**On The Cover:** Bruce Mooers '69 Coupe being worked on at Sterling Restorations. Our next Bay Vairea Get Together will be at this shop in Fairfield on Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup>. See details on page 5.

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 2, 2021

**T**he regular meeting started at 7:00. At the prior Board Meeting it was only Josh and I. Not much to go over. When the meeting was opened, we were quickly joined by Don, Dwight, Seth, Jeff, Paul, Rob, and Joe. I don't think I missed anyone.

**Treasury Report:** No Harry this evening, the back balance as reported last month stands at \$4,505.83. Clark mentioned that we received a \$35 check from Marlene and a short note indicating she enjoyed reading the newsletter. Thanks!

**Membership:** No new members were reported. By my last count membership stands at 55 plus 4 Honorary. It has about doubled over the past year or so!

**Old Business:** Seth asked again about in-person meetings. Has anything been decided. Josh said that he has received 22 responses to his survey. There was a lot of interest in attending meetings but less interest in setting them up. Not surprising. So there has not been a decision yet.

**New Business:** Seth asked and Get Together and suggested maybe a body shop that worked on Corvairs would be interested. Free advertising. Of course, the thought of Sterling Restorations came up. This seems like a good idea, Josh will check.

**Events:** Bruce went to Pebble Beach for a classic car auction. The Far Niente winery is one of the sponsors and he gets to go every year. Rough job! He said one Corvair wagon that had been modified "interestingly" went for \$70k! A Porsche 914/6 went for \$700k and a Porsche race car went for \$15 million.

**Tech:** Paul said he had his seats done from Freddy Dias in Concord. Very good and quick. Looking at an article by Richard Whitman (sp?) he started polishing some chrome pieces. He was pleased

how they came out. He has one piece that has broken, and Bruce said that King of Trim in Pacoima (LA area) could fix it (see <https://kingoftrim.com>). They can join the metal pieces and re-polish. Paul is having his transmission overhauled. He packed it up in a 5-gal bucket and sent it to Dan Drommerhausen in Torrance, CA. He charges a very reasonable \$165 plus parts and shipping.

Joe has been rebuilding his transmission and showed pictures of his progress. He bought the car so he could learn and wants to do everything himself. Here is a shot with the cover removed.



You can clearly see the brass synchros with the shifting forks out of the way. To get the gears apart, Joe used a puller from



Harbor Freight. It took some finagling, but

he got it apart.

Bruce shared several pics of his blue '69 Corvair coupe before and after going into Sterling Restorations. For paint there are one or two coats of Blue and five coats of Clear. Always use the best quality Clear you can afford r it will yellow and flake off. Bruce also said that Mike Chamorro dropped a valve seat in his Corvair. You may recall it was Mike who drove his Maroon Corvair over to Sterling Restorations so they could match the paint color for Bruce's Corvair. Bruce mentioned that he sold a Blue '66 Turbo Coupe to Eric Vandeburgt. Over the years Eric has collected every Finch Sprint Corvair option and will be putting these on the car and taking it over to Sterling Restorations for painting. Blue with proper Black pin striping.

Jeff replaced the brakes on his '65. This is the first time he has worked on brakes himself. He changed over to a dual-master cylinder setup. He replaced the hoses and lines with new stainless-steel ones from Clark's. It took several tries to get the lines in place (even after removing the gas tank). He found it easiest to start from the very front when inserting the longer lines. Some of the flared ends were not done well and leaked a bit. Especially at the 1/4" to 3/16" reducing connector block. He had a hard time bleeding the brakes until he got everything tight. Now it drives great.

On the humorous side, when Jeff first got the Corvair he had it trailered over to his house in Blackhawk. His driveway is sloped upwards quite a bit. It was a hot day (104+) and Josh came over to help and they pushed, and pushed and finally got the car off of the trailer. The driveway was so steep they decided to try and zig-zag their way up. After what seemed like hours, they had only gotten half way up the driveway and had to quit. Josh said

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

# Coming Events...

Oct 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Bay Vairea Get Together, Sterling Restorations "Open House", 1076 Horizon Dr, Fairfield, CA. Starts at 10:00 AM. Resfreshments provided.
Oct 7 <sup>th</sup>	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Oct 22-24 <sup>th</sup>	Fan Belt Toss, this is offically on! See flyer on page 9.
Nov 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec 4 <sup>th</sup> /11 <sup>th</sup>	SFBA Holiday Dinner. Tentitive. Date, time and location to be determined.

## *SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2021*

Thursday Jan 7, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Feb 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Mar 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Apr 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday May 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Jun 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Jul 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "739 9816 7995"
Thursday Aug 5, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Sep 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
<b>Thursday Oct 7, 7:00 PM</b>	<b>SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"</b>
Thursday Nov 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Dec 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

# Bay Vairea Get Together - Sterling Restorations - Fairfield, CA

**G**abe, owner of Sterling Restorations has been nice enough to invite us to an "Open House", 10:00 AM on Sunday, October 3rd at his Fairfield location. There will be refreshments and rumor has it that Bruce will bring some wine!

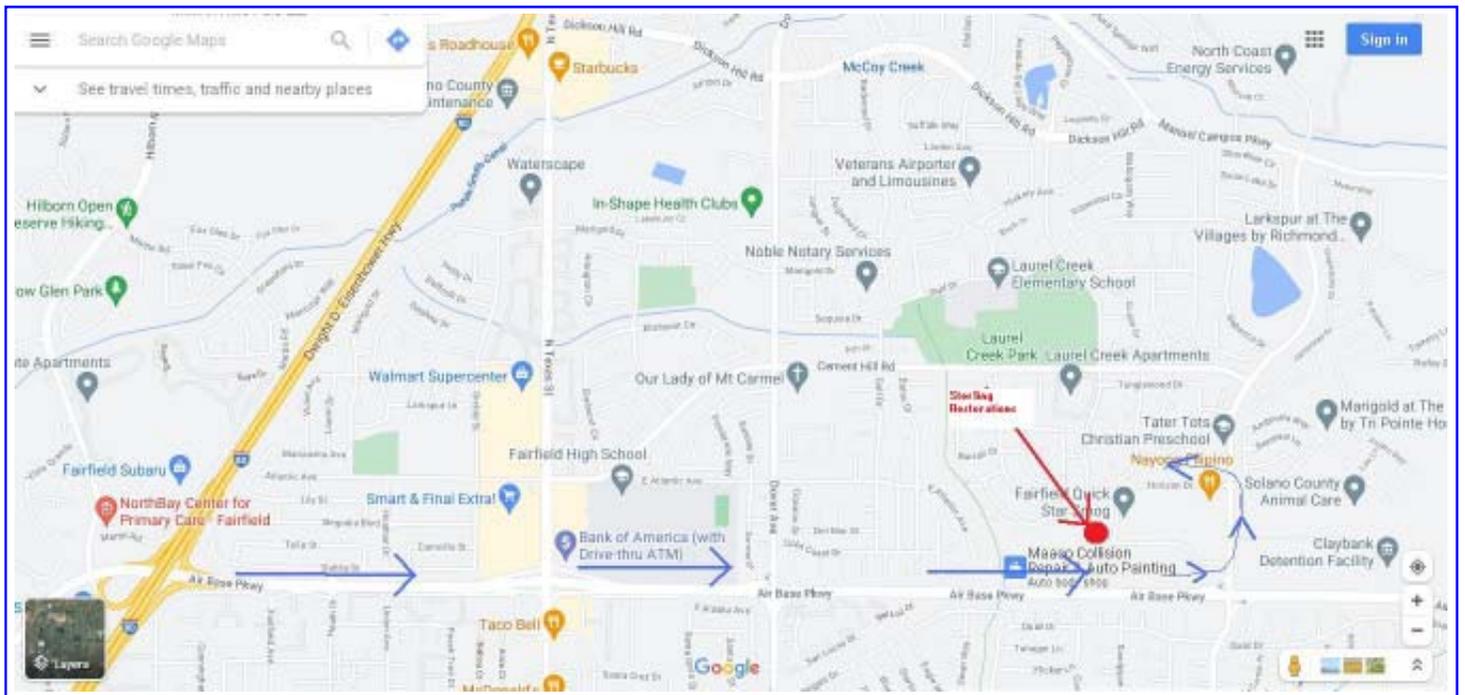
Over the past year we have been following the progress that Gabe and his crew has made on Bruce's two Corvairs (a '65 Turbo Cvrt and a '69 Corsa 140 Coupe) and Paul's '63 Spyder Cvrt. The results have been spectacular! For lots of pictures check out his web site at "<https://www.facebook.com/SterlingRestorationsNV>".

Over the past several Zoom meetings several members have expressed interest in having their Corvairs restored

and have been impressed with the work Sterling Restorations has done. Recently Seth asked if Gabe did anything besides exquisite work? He wants to get his restored but not to the extent that Bruce did. Now will be your chance to ask those questions.

Bruce and Paul have said many times how nice it has been dealing with Gabe. They have been kept informed of the progress with daily before and after photos. Sure a lot different from other restoration horror stories we have heard over the years!

**Directions:** From Hwy 80. take Air Base Parkway East towards Travis AFB. In 2 1/4 miles, turn left on Clay Bank Rd (third stop light off Hwy 80). In 1/4 mile turn left at the light on Horizon Dr. Sterling Restorations is located at 1076 Horizon Dr, Suite 5 (just past Western St, on the right side; turn in by the vacant lot. Suite 5 is half way towards the back..



**1076 Horizon Dr Suite 5, Fairfield, CA 94533 (707)287-8680**

# SFBA Corsa Members Current Projects



Bruce Mooers' '65 Turbo as returned from Sterling Restorations. What a gorgeous paint job! Look how straight the lines are.



Bruce is now starting to work on the interior. Floors were already in great shape. Here the dash, glove box, and carpets have been installed. Bruce was able to find a NOS Corsa dash.



Now the engine has been installed. What great progress! Here is a photo of the Sterling Restorations crew getting the body ready for paint.



Bruce cleaned up the '69 Corsa prior to hauling it to Sterling Restorations. It cleaned up well and was in remarkable shape.



Here the body is being painted. The plan was to use 2 coats of Blue and then 5 coats of Clear.



Bruce says to use the best quality Clear paint you can afford to prevent yellowing and flaking over the years.



Painting is now complete, getting ready to move it outside.



Here the masking paper is being removed.



With the masking removed and some trim added, you can now appreciate how straight this body is.

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## Minutes... (from pg 3)

"so, when you tried to start this car what happened?". Jeff said "Oh we never tried starting it. It's been sitting for a few years." As you can imagine when Jeff got in to start the car it fired right up! Probably should have checked that first.

Jeff said the engine is a 140 but with two secondary carburetors blocked off. He plans to get it running safely and get it painted so he can drive it. He wants to do all of the work himself so he can learn. Right now he is tracking down a load of electrical issues

Josh said that the heads he is having rebuilt are not done yet. The dropped valve seat damage must be welded, and the welder is on vacation. Hopefully these will be done shortly. In the meantime, he put on some 95 heads. The engine runs well until it heats up and then dies. He needs to check the

usual suspects, vacuum leaks and vacuum advance. It has an electric fuel pump so be sure that is working correctly. When it dies, see if the carburetors have fuel. Josh also mentioned that David Gray in Vacaville was rebuilding the engine on a Corvair for an 80+ year old that just wanted to drive the car. To get it painted he will check into Sterling Restorations.

**Swap & Sell:** When Jeff got his Corvair it came with many extra parts that he doesn't need. Wiring harness, glove box, head light bezels, gear shifter. Need something? Give him a call.

Seth is looking for a late model rear lid. Someone suggested a Pick-N-Pull in Sacramento. Josh said Doris Auto Wreckers in Hayward had a couple of late Corvairs. Seth will check these.

Josh said a lady in Watsonville will be selling her nice late model coupe. It's Red with Black interior with a 140/pg.



Bruce will be selling his '65 140, check Bring-A-Trailer.

Meeting adjourned about 8:50.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

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## Show Your Pride

SFBA Corsa T-shirts are still available and so are patches and decals, see Josh.



*Palm Springs, CA*

*43rd Annual*



**October 22-24, 2021**

**Hosted by: Vintage Corsa**

**Organized By: South Coast Corsa, Inland Empire Corvair Club,  
Corsa West, & San Diego Corvair Club**

*The Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet will be held at Sunrise Park,  
401 S Pavilion Way, Palm Springs, CA (corner of Pavilion Way and Baristo Road.*

Host Hotel: Vagabond Inn, 1699 S. Palm Canyon Dr. Palm Springs, CA

Reservations: (760) 325-7211. Mention "CORVAIR EVENT" until Oct 1, 2021 for special rates.  
\$68.00/night (king) or \$74.00/night (2 queens). Overflow accommodations can be arranged at the  
Travelodge, 1269 E. Palm Canyon Dr. Reservations: (760) 323-2775.

Mention "CORVAIR EVENT" for special rates. Hotel check-in begins Noon Friday, Oct. 22nd.

*The Welcome Party will start at 7:00 PM Friday at the Host Hotel.*

*The carshow, swap meet, raffles, food, & games are at Sunrise Park, Sat. Oct 23rd  
Banquet: Saturday evening 6-10:30PM at Indian Canyon Golf Resort,  
1100 E. Murray Canyon Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264*

For additional information email: [simcrestorations@sbcglobal.net](mailto:simcrestorations@sbcglobal.net)

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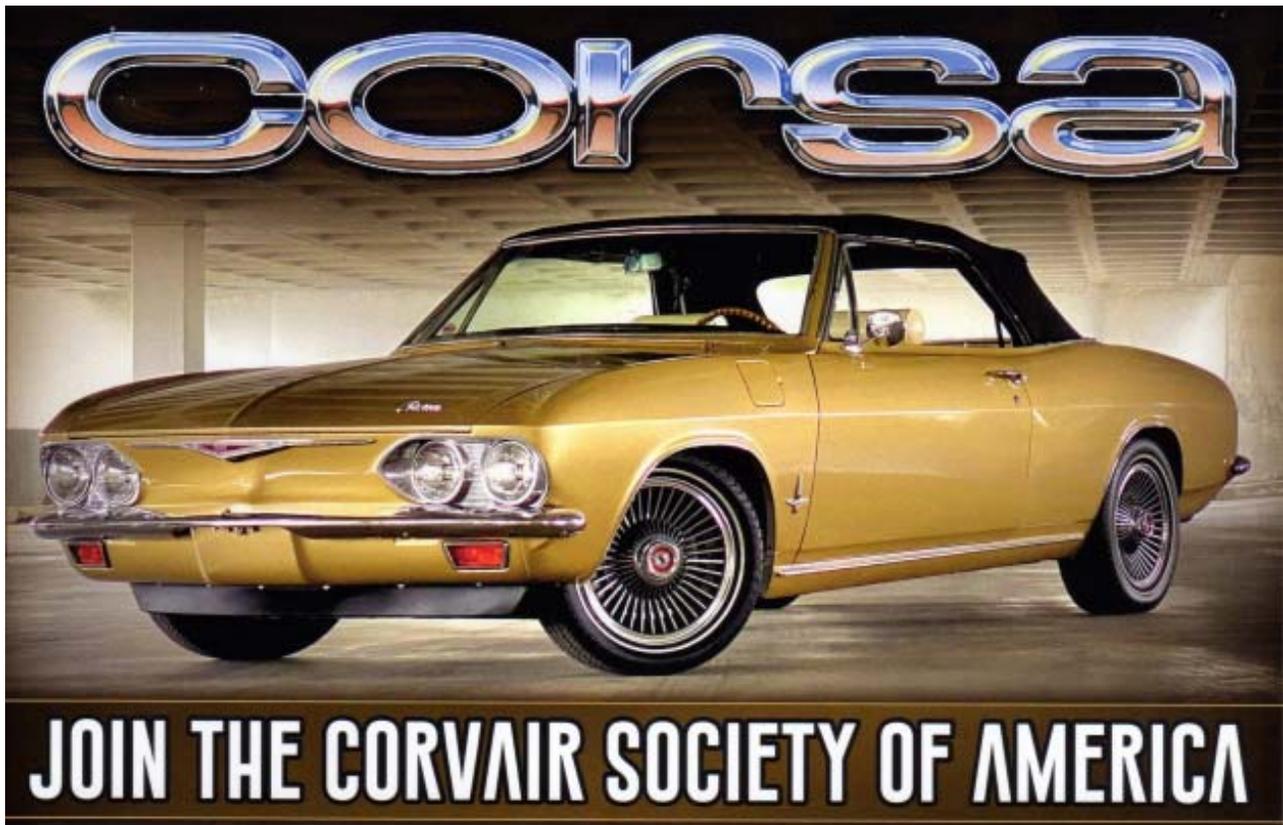
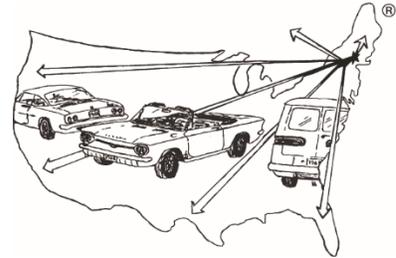
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# Corvair Classifieds

## CORVAIRS FOR SALE

**'64 Spyder Cvr** 2nd owner. Owned since 1977. Excellent Condition. Engine original, body and interior fully restored. Yellow / black. Fully documented. Located in Fremont. email [sfbacorsa@gmail.com](mailto:sfbacorsa@gmail.com) for contact info. Asking \$25K OBO (07/21)



**'64 Monza Coupe** 110/AT, engine rebuilt by Mell, good interior. Been kept in running condition Lassen county area (can deliver). Asking \$3000. Contact Dan McCormick (510)919-9527 (03/21)

## CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

**Skip Polacchi** has the following parts for sale. Best to call evenings (530)474-4227.

**1 Pair Custom rebuilt**, new seats, c'ced 180 Heads \$850

**1 Pair Late 110** rebuilt heads - \$250

**1 Pair Late 95** rebuilt heads \$225

**1 Pair Big Valve Heads. Bill Thomas**. all new parts, angle port exhaust, rotated manifold, w/mod carbs, linkage & Otto air filters - \$1700 firm

**1 New complete Clark's** Ultimate 140 carb kit, linkage & air filter - \$700

**1 Rebuilt Late 95** short block w/ new S.T.D. GM pistons + barrels, resized rods w/ heads - \$875 firm

**1 All New Parts** for an early 102 hp NOS crank, cam, 0.030 pistons & barrels+heads, bearings etc. You assemble - \$725

**1 Excelant used Posi** for an early axle - \$250 firm

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](mailto:corvaiguru@gmail.com))

## Letter...

just in case we intend to have one with Covid and all. Come to the next meeting to voice your opinions!

Keep the newsletter interesting by sending in pictures and stories of you latest projects. Even if you only adjust the carburetors or rebuild the transmission, take photos and send them in! When we see others working on their Corvairs it gives us more incentive to do the same.

Our next Zoom meeting will be Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:00 PM. Remember we have a new meeting ID# of 243 888 8339.

### Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

September 2021

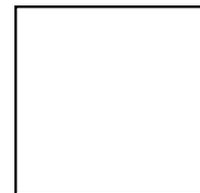
Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
09/01/2021	Begining Balance				\$4,505.83	
08/25/2021	Newsletter - September			(\$39.27)	4,466.56	(*)
09/04/2021	Member Dues		35.00		4,501.56	(*)
08/24/2021	Ending Balance				4,501.56	
<b>September Totals</b>			<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>(\$39.27)</b>	<b>\$4,501.56</b>	

(\*) Expense and dues not sent to Harry yet.

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