

**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!



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Look for us on the Web!

<http://Clubs.Hemmings.com/CorsaNews>

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Welcome - Barn Party!

**Next Meeting - Thursday July 11th
7:00PM - Black Bear Diner - Danville**

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. We had ten members show up. There were no guests this time. It was nice to see a couple of Corvairs in the lot. Adam mentioned that as he was walking in to the restaurant, a couple of women were looking at Lane's convertible saying how these were "banned" at one time. He was surprised as they didn't look old enough to remember those days.

Here is a photo of Tony and Patrick Smith. Pictured is Pat's 64 Monza that Tony sold to Pat's grandfather in 1974 for \$100! It has remained in his family ever since. Quite a return on investment! See Tony's article on page 7 about this neat story regarding the early days of the Club.



At the last meeting Tony recounted the history of how SFBA came to be. In the real early days, 12 to 15 people would meet at Tony's house if San Francisco. Several people (Doug Hargrove, Steve Lovejoy, Tom Sims) would

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- Vice-President** Harry Kypreos, 7840 Creekside Dr,
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- Secretary** Clark Calkins, 1907 Alvarado Ave.,
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- Treasurer** Harry Kypreos, (address above)

Committees

- Membership** Joshua Deitcher (address above)
- Library** Dave Newell, 1481 Hamrick Lane,
Hayward, CA 94544 - (510)782-4265
- Newsletter** Clark Calkins (address above)
- Advertising** Paul Lacey, 16550 Blackberry Hill Rd,
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drive from Modesto. Lovejoy came up with the name "Spyder Web". From there they moved to a bank building in Hayward and membership exploded. Then Dave arranged for them to meet a GM Training

(see [Letter...](#) on page 10)

On The Cover: It's that time of year again when Christy Barden has his "Barn Party" at his home in Nevada City. The whole town is invited and there is special parking for old cars and a "Corvair Coral" for ours. Christy has a wonderful collection of nicely restored Corvairs and an Ultra Van that made the cover of *Communique*, April 1980 (I think it is the same van).

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

June 6, 2019

The meeting was called to order 8:10 by President Josh Deitcher. We had ten members and no guests this evening. Adam finally got his '65 Corsa back from Mell's after a 4 ½ year restoration project. But he now has transmission troubles. He brought in 2 large books with photos of the restoration project. What an ordeal!

Treasury Report: Harry reported that the bank balance stood at \$3656.52 after deposits and newsletter expenses.

Membership: reported no new members.

Old Business: Buck said that he is on the waiting list for a hangar at the Monterey Airport for his Corvair powered Zodiac 610 shown in last month's Spyder Web. One space came up but it was large and they wanted to reserve it for a twin engine plane. Buck would have loved to have it!

New Business: Josh has been working on the Club's web site (see below). Many improvements. Boy, times have changed! There was talk about setting up another Tech Session later in the year but nothing definite yet. Next year the Convention will be in San Diego. It's not too early to start planning. Maybe we can setup a caravan?

SFBA Web Site(s): A new web site has been setup for our Club. The address is "https://sfbacorsa.org". You should check it out! Josh has done a great job. It has sections for "Member's Cars", "Spyder Web", "Upcoming Events", and other links. He already has several pictures of current member's cars but is looking for more. Please help him by sending photos of your car! This site will replace the old

Hemmings site that Clark has been using for decades. Soon to be included will be 20 years of Spyder Webs for the archives (and even older ones if we can find and scan them in). Josh has also setup an Instagram account at "https://www.instagram.com/sfbacorsa/" which has lots of pictures and posts and a Facebook page at "https://facebook.com/bayareacorvair/" and a Facebook Group page at "https://www.facebook.com/groups/bayareacorvairs/". These are a tremendous improvement over the previous Hemmings SFBA page which was mainly a Spyder Web storage and distribution area.

Events: The Barn Party was great. At least 150 people came. There were 2 Ultra Vans. Besides Christy's Corvairs there were maybe 20 old cars. Christy asked Tony if he would bring back an old comic strip that Tony created for the early Spyder Web called "Vair Wars". A spoof on Star Wars with Christy as "Han Solo" and his Ultra Van as the "Millennium Falcon" and Ralph Nader as "Ralph Vader" who drove a Pinto. Sounds like fun!

The Vairfest in Arroyo Grande is coming up. Several members are planning on going. Also the International Con-

vention is fast approaching. This year it is in St. Charles, IL. I am sure Seth will be going and maybe Buck. Buck said that at the Convention this year they were planning on showing a video that GM had prepared to help defend the corporation in the various law suits that had been filed. This was to educate the lawyers so they could better prepare a defense. This still a very sensitive issue and no cell phones, cameras, or recording devices will be allowed.

Our Annual SFBA/Valley Picnic will be in August at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. Lots of fun. Plan on attending! Harry asked how to best prepare to attend a Convention. Buck suggested that you try to stay at the host hotel (register early!) as many events will take place right there. Also plan on attending a few non-Corvair events so the wives will enjoy the time also. Corsa always sets up several of these events and they are quite good. Also if you are planning on selling parts, make sure they are really clean. They sell much faster and you don't want to haul stuff home. And if you want to spin your car once in your life, the autocross is the place to do it!

(see *Minutes...* on page 10)

Treasurer's Report - Harry Kypreos

| June 2019 | | | | | | 6/19/2019 |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------|--------|---------|------------|-----------|
| SFBA Corsa Treasurer's Report | | | | | | |
| Date | Activity | Check # | Credit | Debit | Balance | Status |
| 6/1/2019 | May Beginning Balance | | | | \$3,714.52 | |
| 6/15/2019 | May & June Newsletters | 17 | \$0.00 | \$58.40 | \$3,656.12 | |
| June Totals | | | \$0.00 | \$58.40 | | |
| 6/18/2019 | Ending Balance | | | | \$3,656.52 | |

Coming Events...

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| June 21-22 nd | Vairfest at Heritage Square Park in Arroyo Grande. Hosted by Central Coast Corvairs. For more info or to enter your car go to www.centralcoastCorsa.org or mail@centralcoastcorsa.com . |
| July 11 th | Regular SFBA meeting, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville, CA |
| July 23-27 th | 2019 Corsa International Convention, St. Charles, Ill |
| Aug 3 rd | SFBA/Valley Club Picnic at Quarry Lakes Park, Fremont, CA |
| Sept 5 th | Regular SFBA meeting, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville, CA |
| Oct 3 rd | Regular SFBA meeting, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville, CA |
| Oct 5 th | Tech Session (tentative - may replace regular meeting). Location and theme to be announced. |
| Oct 25-27 th | 2019 Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet at Sunrise Park in Palm Springs. Hosted by Corsa West |

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2019

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Thursday Jan 3, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Feb 7, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Mar 7, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Apr 4, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday May 2, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Jun 6, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |

Thursday Jul 11, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Saturday Aug 3, 12:00PM | SFBA/Valley Club Picnic at Quarry Lakes Park, Fremont, CA |
| Thursday Sept 5, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Oct 3, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Thursday Nov 7, 7:00 PM | SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA |
| Saturday Dec 7, 6:00 PM | SFBA Holiday Dinner (location to be announced) |

Christy Barden's Barn Party 2019



Here is Tony and Christy catching up on old times. What a beautiful area Christy has. Plenty of room for all of the cars and people. Great weather too!





Pat Smith in the Early Days of SFBA Corsa

- Tony Richards

AUTHOR'S NOTE: For clarity, Pat Smith Sr. is referred to as "PAT". Pat Smith Jr. is referred to as "PATRICK".

Years ago, back in 1973, when Corsa SFBA was meeting at First Federal Savings & Loan in Southland Mall in Hayward, we had a new member join our group, Pat Smith from Half Moon Bay.

His car was interesting: it was a Fathom Green '69 Monza convertible with a turbocharged 180hp engine and a Corsa dash. The plates on Pat's '69 convertible read: "DEIDRE" after Pat's oldest daughter.

He and his wife Cheryl both had kids from previous marriages and between them had five kids. They later had a sixth child together, Patrick.

Soon Pat acquired a Frost Green '69 convertible, 110hp/Powerglide that his wife Cheryl drove around. Later Pat found a NEW '69 Monza convertible abandoned in a body shop in San Francisco with only 9.7 miles on the odometer.

Story goes that a guy returned from Vietnam and bought the car from Les Vogel Chevrolet and drove it away and got in a minor accident. He thought the car was jinxed and went back to the dealership and traded for a Camaro instead.

Somehow the Corvair wound up in the body shop, forgotten about until Pat found it and bought it.

Anyway, in 1973 I had bought a 1964 Monza coupe from a guy in Mill Valley for \$25. The car didn't run but had a straight body and perfect interior, plus a 4-speed transmission. If I did not buy it, it was going to be junked.

I had to save it, so I bought it and had

it towed to my parents' house nearby. My dad was not thrilled, but kept quiet about it. I was not in a position to fix the car and wondered what I was going to do with it.

The only thing I did to the car was put a dash plaque on the ashtray from my "Marin Mystery Tour" a club event I sponsored in 1973.

A few months later Pat indicated that his dad was looking for a project and might be interested in the car. He lived a few blocks from Pat in Half Moon Bay. They came up and looked at the car, paid me \$100. and trailered it home.

Pat painted the car with black lacquer and got the car running. It was a little jewel when they were finished restoring it, virtually a showcar. I saw the car finished one time and thought it was beautiful.

Around 1979, I lost touch with Pat and never heard from him until about 2009 when he was in town. What a difference thirty years makes. We met at Pete's Cafe in Burlingame for dinner. He had relocated to Arkansas.

He had no Corvairs but was restoring a '55 Mercury with a glass canopy roof. The '64 Monza coupe I had sold to his dad was in Texas with his aunt after his dad passed away.

Last year, out of the blue, Pat had called me up and said he had sold everything and retired to the big island in Hawaii. Pat was restoring a Ford Bronco.

His son Patrick now had the black '64 Monza coupe and was living near Sacramento.

Recently, on the Facebook site "Corvair Community of Northern California" a post showed up of a dash plaque from

the Mystery Tour in 1973. I made a comment.

The author of the post was Patrick and the car the dash plaque was on was the '64 Monza coupe! Patrick had it now and we chatted on Facebook about his dad. He gave me Pat's contact information.

In March of this year I was in Hawaii on the big island and looked up Pat. I visited him at his house and saw his Bronco. He also has a beautiful '67 Ford Galaxie 7Litre convertible with bucket seats.

I went to the VairFest in Roseville this April and met up with Patrick He was driving the '64 Monza I had sold his grandpa 45 years ago! I had not seen Patrick since he was a toddler.

We had a nice visit looking at all of the Corvairs!

On the next page see pictures of Pat's current home in Hawaii and cars.



Here is Pat in the early days of SFBA. Interesting outfit!



Here are pictures of Pat's house in Hawaii and his current car collection.. A Nissan driver and a very nice '67 Ford Galaxie. In the upper right picture Pat is showing me the Galaxie's engine.

WELCOME TO THE
2019 GREAT WESTERN FAN BELT TOSS AND
SWAP MEET
AT SUNRISE PARK
The World's Largest Yearly All-Corvair Swap Meet

WHEN

- Friday October 25, 2019 starting at Noon (or whenever the field is ready and no earlier!)
 - Saturday October 26, 2019 from 7:00AM until 5:00PM
- Sunday October 27, 2019 from 7:00AM until approximately 11:00AM
 - On-line Registration will be available, starting in June, 2019



HOST HOTEL

Travelodge by Wyndham (Formerly the Quality Inn)
1269 S Palm Canyon Dr.
PALM SPRINGS, CA 92264

Special Corvair Rates (tentative): \$78.00 Single; \$80.00 Double

Call direct: 1-760-507-4431; Mention "Fan Belt Toss"

Overflow hotel: Vagabond Inn, 1699 S Palm Canyon Drive.

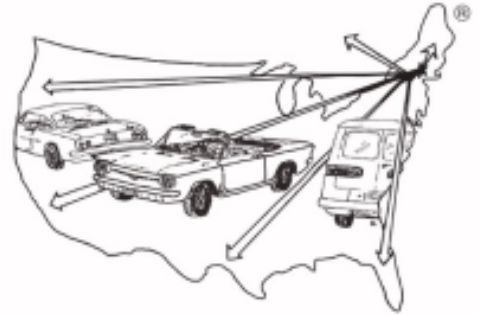
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Minutes...

Swap & Sell: Josh said he still has the Corvair parts available (see the list posted a few months back). All free to SFBA members and very reasonable to others.

Tony has a couple of late model bumpers that are good.

Clark also has a couple of late model bumpers that are decent. These are from Fred and Marlene and any proceeds would go to the Club.

Tech: Josh received the new linkage parts from Roger Parent. He purchased parts for both his '64 and '65. Everything came bagged and labeled. Nice! It was suggested that he balance the carburetors prior to installing the new linkage. Josh also purchased new throttle pivots. He will let us know how the installation goes but he was impressed with the quality of the parts. Lane said he was planning to make his own manometer to balance the carbs on his '64.

Harry wanted to know which valve cover and oil pan gasket works best? Clark's sells several different types (cork, rubber, combination, etc.). Most said they used cork (the cheapest option) with good success. Buck said that silicone rubber was better if you will be taking

the covers off often. In either case a slight coating of gasket sealant was recommended. For the oil pan gasket, Buck suggested installing 4 1/4x20 studs to hold the gasket in place while installing the pan. Then just replace the studs with the regular bolts after the other bolts had been installed.

Adam said he has transmission problems with his '65 that he just got back from Mell's. It won't stay in gear. Looks like a synchro issue. Rather than rebuild the transmission he is now looking to just replacing it. Buck suggest he get a '66 Saginaw if he can as these were much stronger than the '65s. He may have to re-drill the mounting holes but that shouldn't be a problem.

The subject of LED replacement lights came up. Adam has replaced most of the lights on his car with LEDs. The exceptions are the head lights and the oil pressure light. He said that Sylvania makes plug-n-play replacement bulbs. Not cheap (maybe \$25 each). Also Adam said that the LED dash bulbs were not dimmable.

(see *Minutes...* on page 11)

Letter...

center on Marina Blvd and at least 50 Corvairs and 100 people would show up! Then the club moved to Orinda and met at the library for many years. When Orinda built a new library, they closed the old facility. We tried a room in the new building but couldn't get it for long. We then meandered for a year or so (a Hofbrau in Orinda, Harrys Hofbrau in San Leandro, a pizza parlor in Dublin, etc.). Finally Kevin Thompson arranged for use to meet at a Safeway Office building in Dublin. We met here for a few years and then moved to Denny's in Danville. After a few years Denny's abruptly Denny's closed without warnnig. We went back to Harry's in San Leandro for a while. When Denny's re-opened as Black Bear Diner, we started meeting here again. Fingers crossed this will stay open for years!

Our next meeting will be Thursday, July 11th at Black Bear Diner in Danville. This is a week later than normal to avoid the July 4th holiday. We start around 7:00 PM. As usual Josh or I will get there a bit early so we can get a convenient table in the back. The weather is nice now so drive your Corvair!

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'64 Corvair Spyder Convertible, Car looks and runs great. Lots of upgrades and documents. Email for details. Located in Pleasanton.



Asking \$9.5k, contact Rick Wilcox at shadowcs22@aol.com (06/19)

'66 Corvair Monza Coupe 110 Auto Trans. Runs well. Body solid. Good paint & chrome. Interior is very good.



Asking \$8400. Contact John (916)631-9407. Sacramento area. (03/19)

CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

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

1 Pair Late 180 Heads, custom rebuilt \$850

Late Bumpers, new set front & rear w/ guards. Rechromed. \$375

1 Pair Late Rear Control Arms w/ rebuilt bearings w/ backing plates - \$275

3 Pair Late Heads - All rebuilt, 1 pr 140, 1 pr 110, 1 pr 95. Call for price.

4 Custom Kelsey Hayes K/O wire wheels & hubs to fit a **late** 65-69 w/ tires, \$1850

1 Pair Bill Thomas 4 Carb Heads, all rebuilt w/angle port exhaust \$1250 firm.

1 Complete Ultimate 140-Carbs + linkage, all new w/cleaners, \$800.

1 Rebuilt 95 HP Short Block w/new GM cast S.T.D. barrels, \$650.

1964 Rear Air Grill (NOS) \$125

1964 Rear Air Grill, very good. \$65

1964 NOS Major Turbo Carb Kit, \$55

We have other parts so inquire please.

MISC CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE - OUT OF AREA

Eight Corvairs and 6 shipping containers of NOS and used parts. Must be purchased as a lot. No picking! \$18,500. Located in Willits Contact Josh Deitcher (510) 388-4986 vondeitch@gmail.com for more info. (08/18)

FC parts in Cloverdale. Various parts. Contact Brian Osborne for prices & details. Call or text (707) 479-1595 (08/18)

Minutes...

SFBA History: Tony recounted the history of how SFBA came to be. From the earliest days when they met at his house in SF to where we ended up today at Black Bear Diner. This would make a great article (hint!).

Meeting adjourned about 9:10.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Mike's Corvair Parts

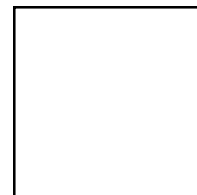
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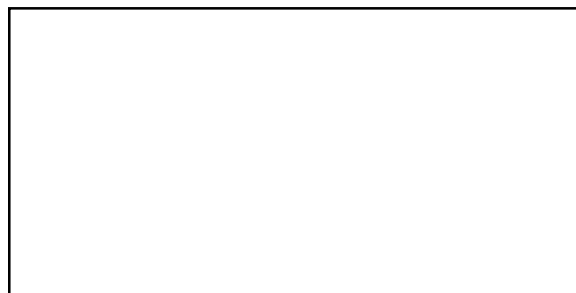
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