

**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 319**

**MARCH 2020**

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***Lane's '67 Convertible***

***Next Meeting - Thursday Mar 5<sup>th</sup> 7:00PM -  
Black Bear Diner in Danville***

***Tech Session/Bay Vairea Get Together-  
Saturday, Mar 14<sup>th</sup> 10:00AM/12:00PM in Antioch***

# Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. We had a good turnout (9 people). This month we were seated at a regular table as the back room was reserved for a large party. But we had the whole section to ourselves. Not bad! I was surprised that so many came with the Tech Session scheduled for the following Saturday. There was one Corvair in the parking lot, Lane's '67 convertible.



We had a wonderful time at the Tech Session a couple of weeks ago. Five members came to Don's in Antioch place to work on his '69 convertible. If you have to work on a car, this is the place to do it! We have a second Tech Session planned for Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at Don's house again where we get to finish the job. Following this Tech Session we will meet at the Riverview restaurant in Antioch where Josh has arranged another "Bay Vairea Get-Together". The first time we removed the engine/trans and rear suspension, now we will put it back in and make it drivable again!

I received a call from Dan McCormick. Dan use to be an SFBA member until he moved to Susanville in the early 2000's. He has a '64 Monza Coupe that he wants to sell. It's a 110 automatic. He has kept it running for all of

## Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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these years but has come to the realization that he won't be able to restore it properly. So he wants it to go to someone who will (not just part it out). He is asking \$3k which, as you can imagine, is quite a

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

**On The Cover:** Lane has been a regular at the Black Bear Diner meetings and he usually drives his very nice '67 Corvair Corsa convertible. Always draws attention in the parking lot. By the way if you get tired seeing the same cars, then drive yours!

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

Feb 6, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 by VP Harry Kypreos and Secretary Clark Calkins. We had nine members and no guests this evening. It was good that both Josh and Tony were able to make it and even Marc came (we haven't seen him in many months).

**Treasury Report:** Harry reported that the bank balance was about \$3557 (newsletter/BBQ expense check for \$123.57 has not been cashed) and memberships of about \$200 have not been deposited.

**Membership:** Josh reported that we have three new members, Travis Fowler from Sacramento (associate membership), Rafael Arroyo (sp?) from San Leandro has a '65 Corsa Turbo (full membership), and someone in Porterville joined as an associate for 2 years. Clark will get the details from Josh and update the Club roster.

**Old Business:** said he has had good response from the Club's web site and people have started using PayPal for membership dues. He is using his personal PayPal account which doesn't cost anything (commercial accounts start at \$35/month). This should make it easier for everyone.

**New Business:** Josh read a letter from Dave Newell regarding proposed changes to the CPF by-laws. The current board is considering the removal of term limits. These were enacted years ago with the idea of injecting new blood in the leadership of the organization every few years. Dave was against these changes.

As mentioned last month Clark picked up a 3D printer (Christmas gift) to play with and he brought in a rough draft of his first project, the plastic insert for Corvair Spyder hubcaps. You can buy

these used at about \$75 each, but maybe he can make them? He measured his part and, using SolidWorks, he built a 3D model that he reproduced in black plastic (which is what he had available). The result came out pretty good albeit not transparent so it was hard to make out the spider engraved image. The next step is to make it out of clear plastic, paint it and see if a "passable" insert can be made. Stay tuned.

The newsletter is currently uploaded to the Hemmings site (<http://Clubs.Hemmings.com/CorsaNews>) by Clark and also Josh loads it on the Club's web site (<https://sfbacorsa.org>). The Club's web site is probably more convenient, so maybe the Hemmings site should be discontinued? Clark will see how much the Hemmings site is being used and if not much then it can be discontinued. Having multiple sites is confusing to people searching for Corvair info.

Tony said that he has moved into a house outside of Petaluma. He plans to keep one of his Corvairs there. He is down to three, a rare '67 500 "stripper" with 30k miles, a '64 Monza Sedan with 44k miles. This is in addition to his '69 Malibu which he got long ago from a lady in S.F. (he left a note on the car "if you ever want to sell..." and sometime later she did!).

Clark send an ad renewal notice to Clark's to see if they want to continue their ad in the newsletter. He should hear back shortly (they are always prompt).

**Events:** We had our first Tech Session of 2020 at Don's house. It was well attended with the goal of removing the engine/trans and suspension from his '69 convertible. With the car already on his lift, this was a swift process. A

lot easier than using jack-stands and a floor jack. Afterwards we had a BBQ and discussed what we went through and what the next step would be. Don has purchased Clark's ultimate rear suspension kit so we could see what was being replaced.

Our second Tech Session is coming up on March 14<sup>th</sup>, again at Don's house where we get to reinstall the new suspension parts, then the engine and trans. We will get the car running again! No BBQ follows, instead we will meet at The Riverview restaurant in Antioch for lunch as Josh has arranged for another "Bay Vairea Get Together" this same day. The Sacramento guys will be attending again this year. The last time we had over 10 very nice Corvairs show up. Don't miss this fun day! If you can only show up for lunch, that is fine too.

Josh mentioned that the 2020 Spring Fling was being moved from the Fry's parking lot in Roseville to Lowes in Citrus Heights. This will be a bit closer for us this year. The date is April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The Sacramento club may ask for our help.

**Swap & Sell:** Rafael is looking for a good 180 turbo distributor (he might try calling Skip). Is this different than a 150 distributor? Ask Seth.

Marc is interested in selling his '65 Corsa convertible. He has had it forever (he learned to drive in it). Now he wants it to go to someone who will restore it properly. Over the years we have heard his horror stories of the places he has taken it for "repairs" only to get it back in worse shape.

Lane said there was a Blue '65 Corsa 140, 4 sp on Craig's List. San Juan Island area. Just the second owner and he wants \$4200. From the pictures it looks like it has real wire wheels (which

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

# Coming Events...

March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Regular SFBA meeting, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville,CA.
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tech Session, Don's Burkard's House, 1520 Saint Claire Drive, Antioch, CA 94509. Starting at 10:00 AM there will be coffee & donuts.
March 14 <sup>th</sup>	Bay Vairea Get Together at The Riverview Lodge restaurant, 1 "I" street, Antioch 12:00 PM.
Apr 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Regular SFBA meeting, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon, Danville,CA.nNote no meeting if we will be having a Tech Session.
Apr 25 <sup>th</sup>	Spring Fling, hosted by Classic Cars of River City, Lowes parking lot, 7840 Greenback Ln, Citrus Heights, CA. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
July 6-11 <sup>th</sup>	CORSA International Convention in San Diego. Host hotel is Crowne Plaza Mission Valley, 2270 Hotel Cir N, San Diego. See flyer on page 7.

## *SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2020*

Thursday Jan 9, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

Thursday Feb 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

**Thursday Mar 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA**

Thursday Apr 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

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

Thursday Jun 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

Thursday Jul 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

Saturday Aug 8, 12:00PM SFBA/Valley Club Picnic at Quarry Lakes Park, Fremont, CA

Thursday Sep 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

Saturday Oct 3, 10:00 AM Tech Session (tentative - location to be determined)

Thursday Nov 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular meeting, Black Bear Diner in Danville, CA

Saturday Dec 5, 5:00 PM SFBA Holiday Dinner (location to be determined)

# Tech Session, Saturday March 14<sup>th</sup> Map and Directions

Our first Tech Session for 2020 has been scheduled for Saturday, March 14th at Don Burkard's house in Antioch. We will start around 10:00 AM and talk shop over coffee & donuts. This time the focus will be on removing the engine and rear suspension of Don's '69 convertible. This should be very interesting.

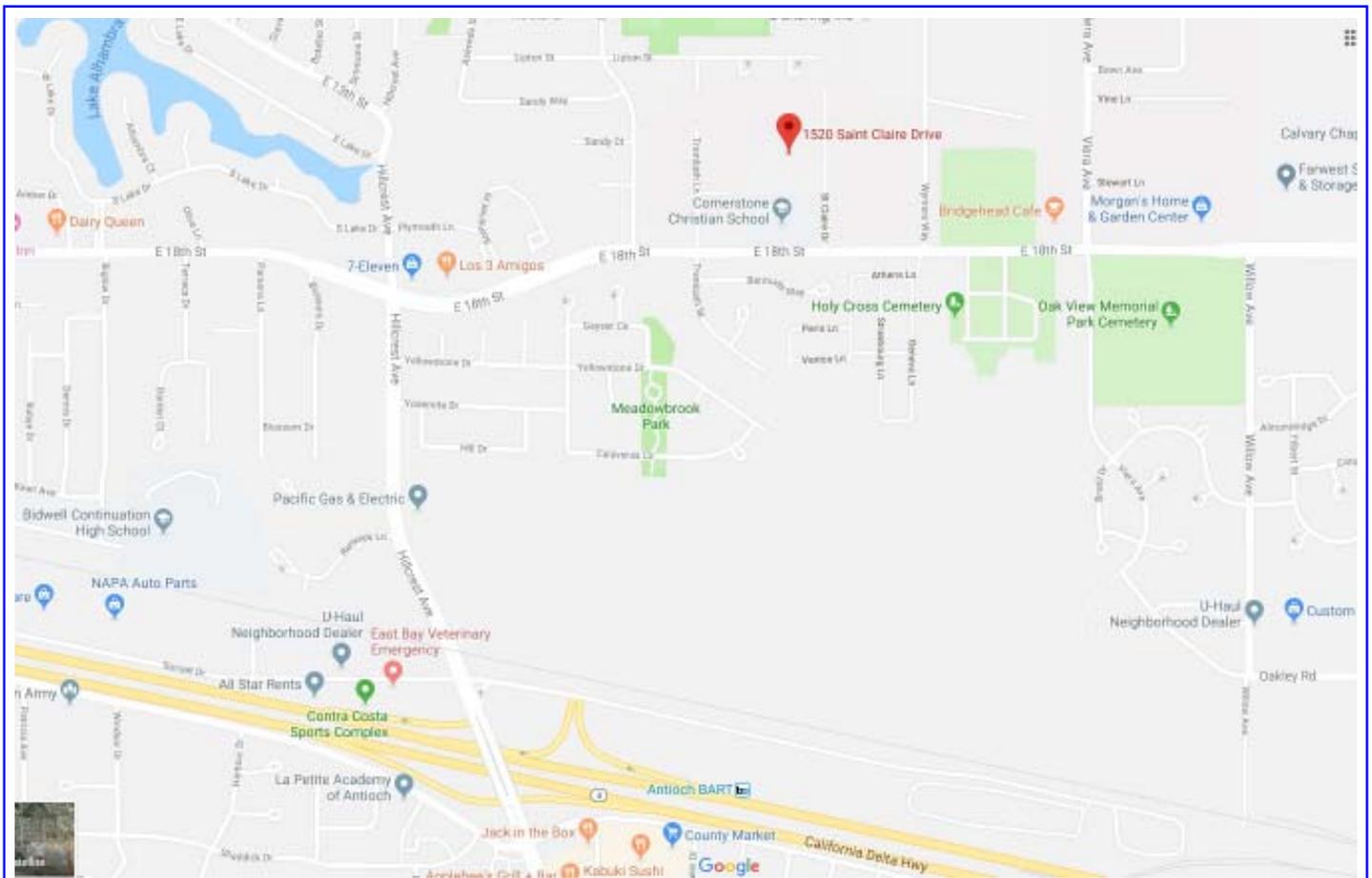
Following the "hands on" learning we will join the Bay Vairea Get Together at The Riverview restaurant just down the road on "I" street.

## Directions:

Take Hwy 4 towards Antioch, get off on Hillcrest Ave and go North (left). If coming from Brentwood, take the Hillcrest Ave exit and turn left on Slatten Ranch Rd (follow signs) a short distance and then turn right on Hillcrest Ave. Proceed on Hillcrest for ¾ miles. Then turn right at the light on East Eighteenth Street. In ½ mile turn left on Saint Claire Dr. (just past the Cornerstone Christian School). Note that Saint Claire Drive is a small dirt road

and Don's house is at 1520 which is the second house on the left. This is a Spanish style house that sits back from the road. The shop is in the back, behind the house.

Note you can park in the back by the garage. You will see other cars (hopefully Corvairs!).



**Don Burkard, 1520 Saint Claire Dr, Antioch, CA 94509**

# Tech Session Photos

It was a cool but clear morning. I got to Don's house about 9:45 and started the coffee brewing. In short order Harry, Marc, Dwight, and Roger showed up (sorry if I missed anyone). Over coffee and donuts we went over what we wanted to accomplish this morning. That is remove the engine and drive train and the rear suspension components. Don had his car already on the lift so we gathered around and checked what still had to be disconnected. Don had already started on the electrical, gas, throttle and trans connections. We started on the axels, U-joints, brakes, etc. Some of the bolts were difficult but Don had the right tools available. In short order we had everything disconnected. Don had a cart (from Harbor Freight) and we lowered the car down until the engine rested on the cart. Then we removed the front and rear engine mounting bolts. Now with the engine just sitting on the cart, this was lowered and the power train removed.

Pretty easy actually. It is worth noting that Don had tied the frame down to the lift so when the engine was removed it wouldn't tip due to the weight distribution.

With the engine out of the way, the suspension components were next. Most of the parts came out easily, however the strut rods were too tight and Don had to cut them. He had replacements anyway. We removed the heater tube as these would be replaced also. All along the way, when parts were removed nuts and bolts were bagged and labeled for easy re-assembly.

After about an hour and a half we were all done. Don and Clark got the BBQ started. Over hamburgers and hot dogs (and cookies!) we discussed what we had done and what the next steps would be. Don is not planning on rebuilding the engine at this time, just redo the suspension. But as you can

see from the photos with the engine out of the way everything is easily accessible.

Next month we will again meet here to reinstall everything. What a great learning experience this has been!

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(see *More Photos...* on page 7)



Here we are looking over the job at hand. Notice how Don has added a strap to tie the car frame to the lift. Just in case that without the engine the car may tend to tilt forward. Safety first!



Now the engine and trans have been removed. Note how the cart that Don had holds the engine perfectly. Very stable too.

## More Photos...



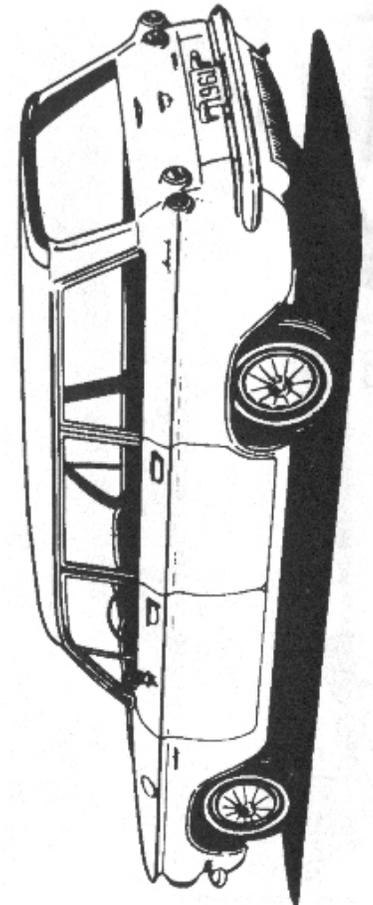
With the engine removed, see how accessible the suspension components are? The weather strip [ping hanging down will be replaced.



Now with the brackets removed, we can see what is required to remove the springs and shocks.



Here we have removed all of the suspension components. Looks pretty bare doesn't it? Now you can easily get the the heater ducks and blower motor!



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## Letter...

bit less than he has in it. Before he moved to Susanville he had Mell go through the engine. He reports that it still runs well and the interior is in good shape. He has a truck & trailer and can bring it to the Bay Area if someone down here is interested. See the Classifieds.

I also received a call from Marlene. She has gathered up some of Fred's Corvair stuff that she thought might be of inter-

est to our group. When I get a change I will stop by and see what she has.

As I mentioned last month I got a 3D printer for Christmas. Here is a shot of my first Corvair project, a hubcap insert for my Spyder (mine are in pretty bad shape). This is pretty crude but maybe you can get the idea.

We are still in need of a permanent Club President to provide order for the

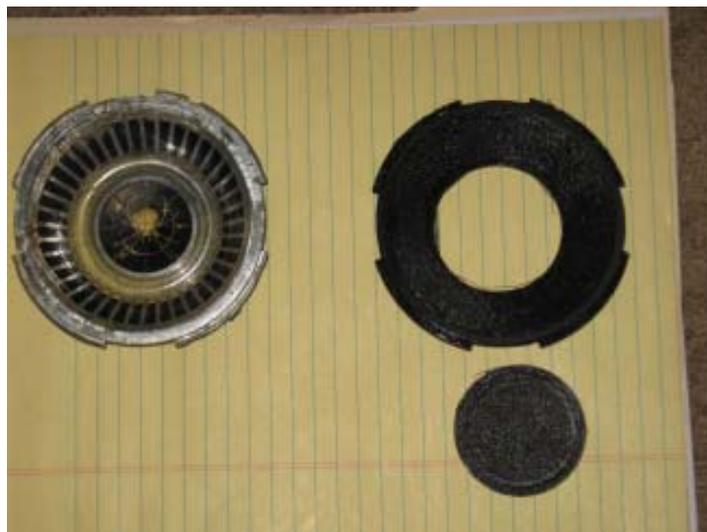
meetings and guide the Club's activities going forward. In the mean time Harry and I will do our best to keep the meetings organized and for the most part on topic.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at Black Bear Diner in Danville. The meeting will start around 7:00 PM. I will get there early to try and reserve a quite spot in the back as usual. Hope to see you there!

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A view from the back side, a semblance of a Spyder image has been engraved but it is very hard to see here.



Here is a front view. The insert was printed in two sections to avoid lots of support structure which would degrade the finish. They would be glued together.

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## Show Your Pride

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





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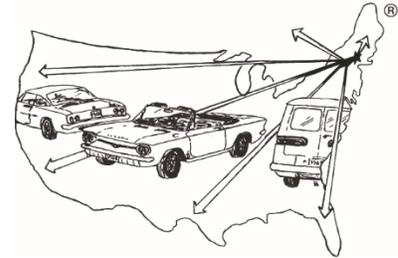
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## Minutes...

would make it a bargain) but this is not confirmed.

Josh knows someone with lots of Corvair parts (used and NOS). Also Steve Morton (sp?) in Idaho has lots of parts and drives to the Bay Area often. Last year Josh got a door, hood, and heater box for \$50 at the Spring Fling from him. See Josh for more details. He also rebuilds carbs and starters.

**Tech:** Marc was telling us of his experience in getting the interior replaced on his '65 convertible. Cost \$1100 and still didn't get done. Don mentioned that he took his car to Tri Valley Auto Interiors in Pleasanton and they did a wonderful job. Got the material from Clark's and said "here, I don't want to install this stuff" and they had no prob-

lem with that.

Josh said he purchased a rebuilt generator from Clark's and it looked brand new. Even had the correct tags! He is still interested in some motors someone in Sonoma has. Chris has not had a chance to go look at them. Lane said he still has to return some cores (steering box, pressure plate, and flywheel). He said the Post Office has a \$12 box (no weight limit) which the parts will barely fit. USPS hates this!

Josh bought an endoscope that connects with his phone, only \$40. Great for seeing in spark plug holes. Has a 6 foot reach and several attachments (45 deg mirror, magnet, etc.). Great deal!

**Racing:** No racing info was discussed. Buck couldn't make it this evening.

Meeting adjourned about 8:45.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

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# Corvair Classifieds

## CORVAIRS FOR SALE

**'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 (03/20)

**'54 Corsa Cvrt**, Marc Brutschy wants to sell his car to someone who will restore it. No price or phone number mentioned, come to a meeting for more info! (03/20)

## 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, 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

## 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](mailto: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)

## Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

February 2020

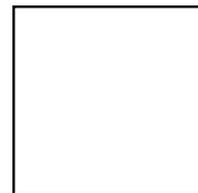
### SFBA Corsa Treasurer's Report

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
12/1/2019	Beginning Balance				\$3,669.47	
	Renewals		305.00		\$3,974.47	
01/26/2020	Ending Balance				\$3,974.47	
<b>February Totals</b>			305.00	0.00	<b>\$3,974.47</b>	

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