

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

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Vairs at the Vault - Napa

***Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Sept 1st
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)***

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 9 people join in. A little light but considering we had a meet-up the weekend before and a picnic coming up in just two days, not bad.

At the meet-up in Lafayette, we had three Corvairs show up. Don drove his '67 Cvrt, Roger came in his '65 Coupe, and Elizabeth (whom we haven't see since the Dinner last year) drove her pretty '67 140 Cvrt. Paul and I drove other cars for a total of five SFBA members. It was an enjoyable morning although the donuts were gone by the time I got there. There are some pictures on page 9.

Our annual SFBA/Valley Picnic came off without a hitch. We had a great turnout with 25 people and at least 22 Corvairs! The weather was great and the food delicious. We went through 18 burgers, 10 hot dogs, and two tri-tips not to mention the various side dishes. I wish to thank everyone for making this a picnic to remember! See pictures on pages 5-6.

As you can see from the cover, the •gVairs at the Vault meet-up has been scheduled for 10:00 AM Saturday, Aug 26 in Napa. The address is 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd near the junction of Hwy 29 and 221. See map on page 8. If you are planning on attending, let Josh or I know so we can plan refreshments and also bring a folding chair to take a load off your feet! We intend to have Chevy Historian, Dave Newell and also Arlette Pat and Carl Kelsen (our Australian members who are here on vacation). This is a rare opportunity to see and hear about Bruce's beautiful Corvairs in person.

I received the following email from Matt regarding his father-in-law Henry von der Mehden.

"You don't know me, but there is a chance you know of my father-in-law Von (Henry von der Mehden). Family legend goes like this (if I get it correct): He was selling cars for Les Vogel Chevrolet in San Francisco and involved with the sports car scene in the bay area when

On The Cover: Vairs at the Vault has been scheduled for August 27, 2022 in Napa. This is a rare opportunity to see the beautiful and historic Corvairs that Bruce has collected over the years. You have been seeing pictures in the Spyder Web, now this is your chance to see them in person. The Vault is located at 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd. Close to the airport at the junction of Hwy 29 and Hwy 221. See map on page 9.

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

he was asked by executives at Chevy to start a Corvair club in the region in the early sixties. From there the Nor-Cal-Vairs was created which later turned into the Northern California Chevrolet Sports

(Continued on page 10)

Minutes of the Last Meeting

August 4, 2022

The regular meeting started at 7:00. At the prior Board Meeting with Josh, Harry, Ray, and myself, Josh mentioned that he has been recovering from a nasty rash caused by his cutting down a large Agave plant in the front yard. Turns out he was allergic to the sap. Who would know? When the meeting was opened we were quickly joined by Don, Joe, Jeffery, Paul, Rodney, Buck, and Hayden. Hope I didn't forget anyone.

Treasury Report: Harry reported that the bank balance stands at \$4,865. Josh has some money to send in and Clark has not sent in the newsletter expenses lately. So this figure is only approximate.

Membership: Josh reported that there were two perspective members.

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

New Business: Bruce is arranging for us to see his Corvair collection which is currently stored at The Vault in Napa out towards the airport. This should be a great event. Details are being worked out now and notice will be sent out so there will be time to reply (so food arrangements can be made). The date will be either Aug 27th or 28th to coincide with Carl's visit!

Events: At the last Meet-Up at Perk's in Lafayette on July 31, three Corvairs show up and five SFBA members came. Not too bad considering the close proximity with the next meeting and Picnic.

Our annual SFBA/Valley Picnic will be this Saturday, August 6th at Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont. SFBA will supply the burgers, dogs and condiments (and Valley will be bringing Tri-Tip as before). Just bring a side dish to share (salad, munchies, desert, sodas, etc.). This year Joe will get there early and reserve a couple of tables in our

usual spot. I will try to get there early enough to get the BBQs ready by noon. Bring chairs to sit on (the concrete benches get hard!), hats and sunscreen. No word on any mask requirements so be prepared. Ray and Harry have other family commitments but will try to make it for at least some of the time.

Our next SFBA Meet-Up will be at The Vault in Napa, the last weekend in August. If you miss this, we are also planning on Perk's Drive Thru in Lafayette on Sunday, Aug 28th. Corvairs show up around 10 AM but others get there earlier (and the donuts go fast!).

Tech: Josh reported that he now has the engine installed. The engine sat a little higher on the cradle because of the deep Aluminum oil cover plate. So in addition to his Quick Jack he had to use a separate bottle jack to raise the car enough to get the engine under the rear sheet metal. Once it was under there he could remove the extra bottle jack and proceed with the installation. Now he is working on the shrouds. He had to modify early model shrouds for the 140 engine (chokes, extra carbs, etc). He installed Roger Parent throttle linkage and said they work great. The pivot is definitely worth the price!

Jeffery has been driving his newly acquired '61 Raffle Car a lot. He recalled on one trip to Berkeley the throttle linkage came un-done, Being new to Corvairs, he had the car towed home and called Zacky in SF who told him what to look for. It turned out to be a bad connection under the car. He got it fixed and drove it to Mell's for a more permanent solution. He says he has a huge learning curve with Corvairs. When he got the car it came with zero documentation. Initially when he first got the car, he started it up and let it idle. It died after a few minutes and he couldn't get it re-started. He called a neighbor who tracked the issue to a

blown fuse in the electric fuel pump circuit. He didn't know it had an electric fuel pump! It's been running great ever since (he keeps some extra fuses handy!). He noticed a minor back-fire at times and Mell said the left (driver's side) carb was not getting enough gas. He will work on that. Jeffery asked about engine numbers and Josh showed him the "Corvair Junkyard Primer"



that he had. Josh said this has everything you need to know. Jeffery, who has a Porsche Boxster, said he was surprised how well the Corvair handled. Jeffery said he did move the spare tire to the front, but Ray said he doesn't carry one at all. "That's what Haggerty is for!". Ray use to carry a spare in the back, but with extra wide tires it rubbed on the deck lid and he kept wondering "what's that noise?".

Don talked with Steve Heater about his Corvair for sale. It's a real project car! No interior or suspension (everything is there but not in the car) and the engine is complete but in boxes. Don said that Steve still makes the late model spoilers that he started many years ago. These are steel that he has shaped, you will need to weld and finish. But they look great!

Paul has his engine all done. He will test run it before installation (just to be sure!). For the re-build he did everything except split the case. Paul did a compression check and found 160 psi in all cylinders. He had the heads worked on by Ken Hand (Handy Car Care, Fowlerville, MI). Ken put in deep seats and added "dimples" (staking?) to keep them in. He also added "Singh

(See [Minutes..](#) on page 8)

Coming Events in 2022...

August 4 th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
August 6 th	SFBA/Valley Picnic, Quarry Lakes Park in Fremont, CA. Noon till ?
August 27 th	Vairs at the Vault, meet-up to see Bruce's Corvairs. 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd, Napa. 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. RSVP to Josh (SFBAcorsa@gmail.com)
September 1 st	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
September 10 th	18 th Annual Orinda Classic Car Show, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
September 10 th	Ageless To Anarchy, "The Biggest Little All-Corvair Show in Southern California", 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Zimmerman Auto Driving Museum, 610 Lairport St, El Segundo, CA
October 6 th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
October 28-30 th	Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, Palm Springs, CA

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2022

Thursday Jan 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Feb 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Mar 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Apr 7, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday May 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Jun 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Jul 7, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Aug 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Sep 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Oct 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Nov 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

Thursday Dec 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

SFBA/Valley Corsa Picnic

August 6, Quarry Lakes Park, Fremont, CA





SFBA CORSA Members & Friends of the Club

Hi Everyone,

Here is a brief email of all things happening Corvair locally for the month of Aug and leading into Sept!

* This Sunday is SFOB classic car meetup at Ocean Beach in SF. Intersection of Lincoln and Great HWY. 7am-10am. Members who live in the city and the peninsula turn out for this event. Join them! Bring a jacket!

* Vairs At The Vault is happening on Sat Aug 27th! 10-2. Napa Vault 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd, Napa. Member Bruce Mooers has been gracious enough to host an open house to showcase his Corvairs and for you to bring YOUR Corvair and show it off. This is a club meetup and a chance to see some really rare and beautiful Corvairs.

As of this writing, we have 32 commits. Please, if you have not yet and plan to attend, send an RSVP. Also, if you are planning to attend, bring a fold out chair so you have something to sit on! The club will be providing refreshments. This is going to be an event that you do not want to miss!

* For those who cannot attend the Vault meetup, we will still be doing our casual inperson meetup Sun Morning at Perks in Lafayette. This will be on Aug 28th at 10:00 AM. Always good to have a few Corvairs there to show to other classic car enthusiasts and curiosity seekers!

* Our brother club, South Coast Corsa, are doing their Ageless 2 Anarchy show at the Automotive Driving Museum in El Segundo on Sept 10th. 10-3. Literally a mile down the road from LAX. If you can't drive down, FLY! It's worth it! Info *here*

* Some Corvairs have been coming up for sale. See below. ??

1967 Monza 110 pg. Black/Black. Nice car. Original AC car. AC is out, but has everything to put back together. Lots of work done including fresh transmission rebuild, brand new tires and cragar wheels. Drive it home! Located in Vallejo. Asking \$6900. Open to offers. Call or text Abel (510) 736-3743

1967 Corvair Monza, 110hp, 4 speed for sale. \$1,000
Contact Phone: (916) 622-6172. Please text messages for additional information to SFBA member Travis Fowler. Travis is assisting the owner of this Corvair. The engine was rebuilt and runs. Located in Carmichael

1964 Monza Convertible. 110 hp, 4 Spd. Red/Black
Asking \$24,000 or Best Offer.
Call Marc Cooper for additional information (916) 862-3699

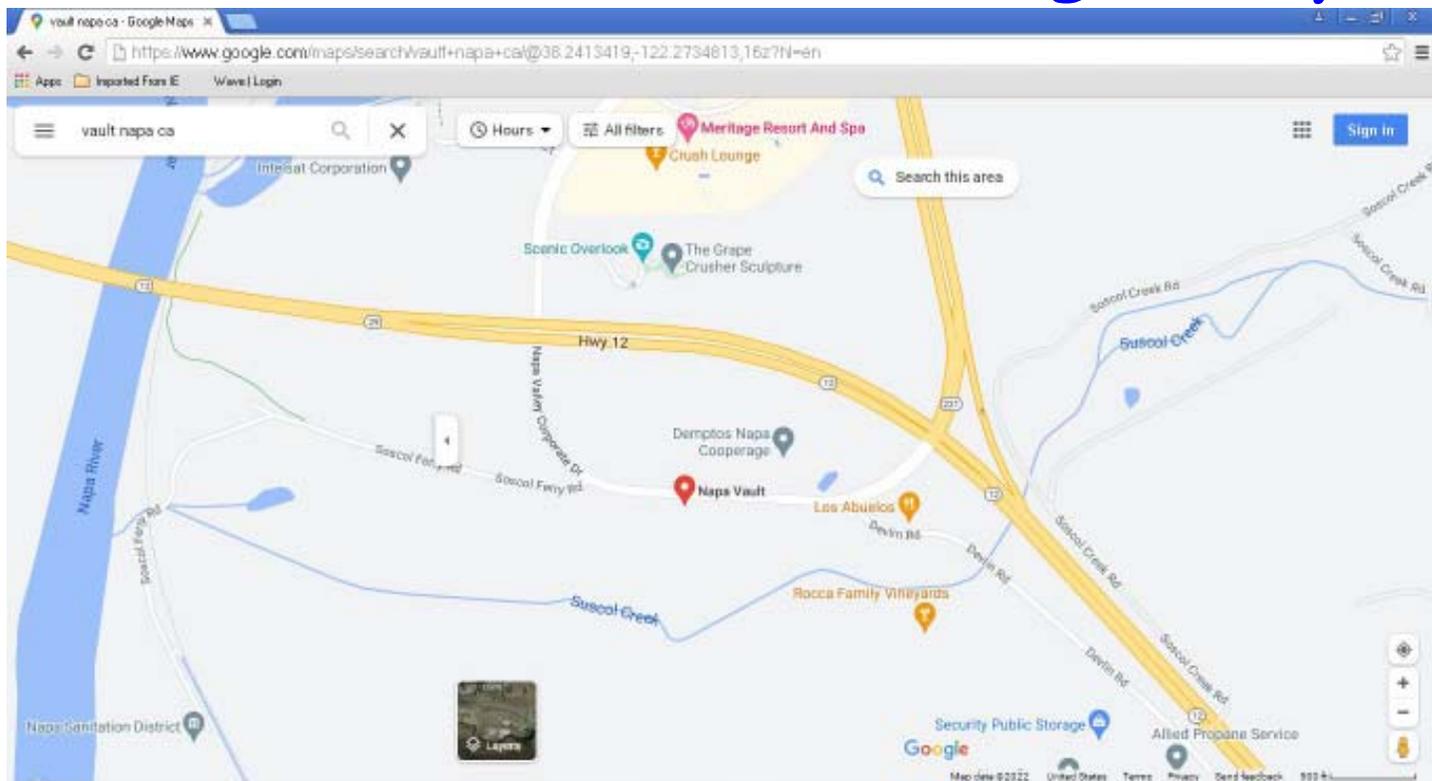
*.The monthly zoom meeting will be here before we know it! Thurs, Sept 1st. 7pm. We should have a lot to talk about!

If there is any missed info, let us know and we will put it in the newsletter or share in the next supplement email!

Thanks!

Ray, Harry Clark & Josh
SFBA CORSA
sfbacorsa.org

Vairs at the Vault - Google Map



The Vault, 1055 Soscol Ferry Rd, Napa.

Minutes...

Grooves" to help with detonation. Apparently even with higher compression you can run regular gas (but Paul won't). The workmanship was fantastic but Ken does take some time so be patient. To ship the heads, Paul used a Home Depot bucket and bolted the two heads together with a 2x4 spacer (as Ken recommended). The UPS driver just put a tag on the handle and away it went! He thought the cost was under \$100. Paul asked Josh if he used the electronic controller when he added an electric fuel pump. "Yes", he used a Revolution Electronics unit.



Josh ran a wire from the distributor but Paul can take the signal off the tachometer which is easier to get to.

Hayden, perspective new member, is looking for a Corvair. He would like a late model turbo but wants it to be reliable ("I only have room for one car"). Ray said the turbo carbs are a bit fussy but otherwise the turbos are not too bad. But for real reliability he suggested that a 110 engine might be a better choice. Others agreed, the 110 is almost "bullet proof". Josh said that with a 95 hp engine you can use regular gas. Hayden asked about EFI as he doesn't like carburetors. There are several people that add EFI to Corvairs. One is Black Hawk Engineering, Ray showed a couple of pictures of engines that had been con-



verted.

They look impressive, Josh showed a couple of pics of Steve Lovejoy's car that was converted by Ray Segman. Also impressive.

Someone asked if Yenko ever made a turbo Corvair? Buck said "no" as there was no class for racing turbo charged cars. And since Yenko made cars just for racing, there was no point. Buck said he sent some heads to Mike Labeck (Mike LeVair?) in Tennessee using a heavy cardboard box from Costco. Worked fine. Cost was \$165 one-way.

Joe said he has been tracking fuel leaking issues with his 140. One of the secondaries leaks after the engine is shut down. He ended up lowering the float level (specs called for 1 1/16 and he used 1 1/2). Buck suggested the next time he cleans the carbs, after the cleaning boil the parts in water for

(see *Minutes..* on page 9)

Meet-Up At Perk's July 31, 2022 Photos



Minutes...

several minutes. Helps clear up many of the very small (and inaccessible) ports. Be careful when using wire, if you enlarge the holes you will have bigger problems on your hands. Josh said he uses green Simple Green (diluted 10:1) and an ultrasonic cleaner. Ray also uses an ultrasonic cleaner but uses purple Simple Green (a bit stronger). Josh said that Lane uses an old crock-pot filled with antifreeze. Parts come out looking brand new! Joe is looking into adding a catalytic converter to his Corvair. Buck said to be careful and find one made for this size engine. It can be done. Joe found that his oil filler cap was leaking a bit. The gasket had a small dimple in it. He

replaced it with a leather gasket he made. Clark asked if this was suppose to be air tight? He remembered that there was a small bleed hole in the gasket. Joe will check. Others suggested that Joe's engine had excessive blow-by. Maybe a compression check would be in order. First measure the compression "dry" and then sqirt a bit of oil in the cylinders and do it again. A noticeable increase may indicate worn or broken rings.

Swap & Sell: Paul said there were two late model Corvairs for sale on "Corvair Central". A 180 cvrt with telescoping steering wheel, but lots of

work.

Ray said on "Barn Finds" there were two Corvairs. A '63 beauty \$13k and a '64 Spyder cvrt in Washington. Mecum had a '62 Spyder coupe go for \$17k. Rodney said he still had the two Corvair wagons but he will be leaving for Tennessee by mid month so don't wait.

Meeting adjourned about 9:00 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

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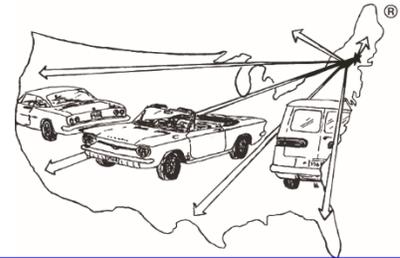
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Letter...

Club. I believe that those clubs laid the foundation for what this club came to be.

Last year my in-laws asked that my wife and I take "The Vair" out of their garage as they were no longer driving it regularly and it was starting to have issues from lack of driving. I tried to drive it home but didn't even make it down the block before crystalized fuel clogged the carburetors. After a couple months and my first and second ever carburetor rebuilds I had "The Vair" back on the road. Well, between the delay of getting the car on the road and Von's declining health, I wasn't able to bring him down to one of the regularly scheduled meet-ups. I was able to get him in touch with a couple people from this club and that was greatly appreciated. He passed away recently and we have been preparing for a celebration of his life. In doing so I have col-

lected some of his memorabilia and photos that I think would be of interest to the membership. One of the first photos in the link below is of me taking him for a ride in the car shortly after the carb rebuilds (<https://photos.app.goo.gl/eYqWVsMJ8GgygCSa7>). If you remember Von and Rosie, feel free to reach out to Velvet ... Rose via email (hrvondm@gmail.com)."

Dave Newell sent in a nice response (which unfortunately I don't have room for) describing how instrumental Von was in getting SFBA and possibly Valley started and the association between Nor Cal Vairs and our Corvair club.

If you can attend our "Vairs at the Vault" event coming up that's great. But for those that can't make it we are still planning on a Meet-Up at Perk's

in Lafayette on Sunday, Aug 27th. Come on by!

Keep the newsletter interesting by sending in pictures and stories of you latest projects. Even if you only change the oil, 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, September 1st starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339.

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Corsa 140 coupe. Blue with black stripes. Los Angeles built car #148 Comes with replacement engine block and overhauled 4 speed. Has seat frames. Needs interior. Has telescoping wheel. All glass. Will need tow. Open to offers. Steve Heater (408) 505-1860 (08/22)

'65 Corsa convertible project car- 60% done welding all seams on car, rust free body, on rotisserie, tele wheel, complete 4 speed diff/trans gone thru with new seals/gaskets, fully rebuilt trailing arms, most all parts are with car, but will need to be reinstalled by buyer. Larry Tustison (760) 518-0323 in San Diego. (03/22)

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

'65 Turbo engine with carb, needs dist, fuel pump and exhaust, was gone thru several years ago with new seals and checked all components for clean and wear. all found to be in very good condition. Larry Tustison (760) 518-0323 in San Diego. (03/22)

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

CORVAIRS WANTED

WTB Early or Late model coupe. PG or stick. Teen looking for Corvair to drive, have fun with and learn on. Needs to be running, driving & mechanically sound. Located in Monterey County but will travel to Bay Area or Sacramento area for right car. Email Oliver at oliver3baenziger@gmail.com

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)

FREE CORVAIR PARTS

Cleaning Out The Shop: '60-61 Turbo/ 4 Speed engine case and heads. T1226YR, no tin, exhaust, turbo, etc. '63-64 engine long block THO3Z, with distributor, auto bell housing, some tin, no exhaust. Might be good for restoration. All likely need rebuild. Engines in Carmel Valley, you pick up. Buck Jones (831)917-5952. (06/22)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

July 2022

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
07/01/2022	Begining Balance				\$4,661.74	
07/26/2022	Newsletter, August			(\$45.52)	\$4,616.22	
07/31/2022	Ending Balance				\$4,616.72	
July Totals			\$00.00	(\$45.52)	\$4,616.22	estimate

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