

**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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**Happy Holidays!
& Happy New Years!**

**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Jan 5th
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)**

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had eight people attend. A bit lighter than usual but considering the Holiday Dinner coming up in just two days and all of the other Holiday events going on, not too bad. Carl joined us for a brief time. He had to leave early as he was scheduled for some minor surgery later this afternoon (our meetings start at 2:00 PM Australia time). We wish him well!

As you read this our Holiday Dinner (luncheon actually) came off without a hitch earlier this month. Even though the weather did not cooperate (quite a bit of rain), we still had 15 people attend. John Heiser and Mike (from Mike's Corvair Parts) were going to come but the trip from Sacramento was a bit too much. But Buck, and Eugenia did make it all the way from Pebble Beach! On the way home they said it rained so hard around Morgan Hill that they were limited to 35 mph and the windshield wipers could barely keep up! In all we had a great time and we appreciate all those who braved the weather to attend! There are some pictures on page 5.

At the meeting Christy Barden gave an interesting account of the Nash Fan that he recently installed on his Ultravan. Christy lives in the Sierra foothills (Nevada City area) and pays particular attention to cylinder head temperatures as he drives up and down the hills. He was concerned that the Ultravan did not get enough cooling air (and it's difficult to hear pinging in Ultravans or any Forward Control Corvair), so he installed a Nash Fan with a Safeguard anti-knock system. He was so impressed at how much this helped that he has ordered two more setups for his Greenbriar and Rampside!

This month you will see a special ad from Clark's Corvair Parts as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary. Lots of deals and of course be sure you have their 2019-2025 catalog with the 2023 supplement.

It's that time of year again. Time for Club dues! As you

On The Cover: Happy Holidays from SFBA! At this years Holiday Dinner (or Luncheon) we had 15 members attend and all enjoyed a delicious Costco cake for desert. The restaurant staff was kind enough to cut and serve the cake and they were treated to left-overs! See some pictures 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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know we try to keep everyone's dues on the same schedule, starting in January of each year. Your dues date is printed on the newsletter (if you get a paper copy). For others we can let you know (see **Letter** on page 10)

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Dec 1, 2022

The regular meeting started around 7:00 PM. When the room was opened, we were quickly joined by Ray, Carl, Jeffery, Paul, Christy, and Chris. I believe I caught everyone. Because of so much going on this time of year a few said they would have to bug out early.

Treasury Report: Harry was not present, but the last bank balance published in the newsletter was \$4782.23

Membership: Josh reported no new members this month.

Old Business: Nothing reported.

New Business: Jeffery asked if anyone was planning on going to Ocean Beach on Dec 18th? This will be the last such meet-up for this year. It would be good to see several Corvairs show up! Josh is thinking about going.

Events: Our Annual Holiday Dinner is scheduled for this coming Saturday, Clark said he was expecting 15 to 20 people to attend (last year we had 25). When last checked the restaurant has indicated we could order off the regular menu which will make it easier. There will be only one bill and Clark will take care of getting this straightened out. Hopefully the weather holds out as some are coming from a long way off!

Jeffery said he went to the Fan Belt Toss in Palm Springs, but he did not drive his Corvair as he had planned. At the last minute it "decided" not to run. Probably a good thing as a six-hour drive with all of the semis on the road in a 60-year-old car would not be that much fun. Christy said there were 45 very nice Corvairs there. He drove his Ultravan and it took 1st place!

There was someone there that was doing dynamometer testing of anyone's car (about \$40). His Ultravan wouldn't fit but many others had their cars tested. The highest horsepower he saw was almost 200 on a "slightly modified" '60 Corvair. He did say that the parking arrangement was not good for dyno-testing as it was not easy to get cars in and out. A great service but maybe next time they will arrange parking to make it more convenient.

Tech: Jeffery said he has been helping at Mell's Vairmart on Saturdays. It's a lot of fun and he is learning a lot. He is now looking for another Corvair, maybe a project car. One that he could drive around without so much worry. He is considering a Corsa Turbo sans engine & interior, a real project car! Jeffery said that Hayden picked up one of Rodney's cars before he moved. Also he mentioned a '65 Monza coupe on Bring-A-Trailer went for \$28.5k! Ray said he still sees many drivers for \$5k to \$6k on various platforms.

Josh said SFBA member Rafael Arroyo had his '65 Corsa Turbo stolen. He got it back but with severe front end body damage. The insurance company "totaled" the car. Hopefully he will get to keep the car as the engine/trans should be fine. He is now looking for another late model Turbo. Josh is working on his '64. He added a 140 motor and is considering replacing the generator with an alternator. But people asked why? The generators worked well (maybe not as much output as an alternator, but enough for normal driving), they look more "stock", and you don't have to muck with the wiring harness.

Christy joined us a bit late as he had

trouble signing in through Zoom. He asked if we could put a link in the reminder email that Clark sends out. Good idea, Clark and Josh will look into this. He drove his Ultravan to Palm Spring, his first trip with the new Nash Fan. What a difference! He got 15 mpg and the head temperature stayed around 310 F. Going up the Grapevine he was able to go 32 mph in high gear. He even passed a few trucks! He has ordered two more Nash Fans with Safeguard (an anti-knock system available through American Pi) for his



Greenbriar and Rampside.

Paul was asking about Collector Car Insurance. Most SFBA members have this (there are several companies that offer it) as the cost is much less than regular insurance (Clark pays \$75/yr through JC Taylor). They have some restrictions like your car must be garaged, driven less than 3000 miles/yr, and only for club events, and the agreed upon value is set. Paul took his '63 Spyder to Freddy's in Concord (Concord Auto Upholstery, Fred Diaz is the owner) for a new convertible top. They charge about \$1200 to install the top (he provided the new top from Clark's). Paul said they do it right and even replaced some paper insulation with foam the way it "should be". Everything nice and tight and wrinkle free (not that easy in the cold weather).

(See *Minutes..* on page 10)

Coming Events in 2023...

2023

January 5 th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
January 29 th	Meet Up at Perk's in Lafayette. 10:00 AM
February 2 nd	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
June 16 th - 24 th	CORSA National Convention, Wisconsin Dells, WI
June 23 rd - 25 th	Vairfest, Arroyo Grande, CA

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2023

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SFBA Holiday Dinner - 2022

I thought Carol and I were arriving early to bring the restaurant the Costco cake and check on the seating arrangements they had for us. To my surprise there were several members already waiting. This is the second year we have had our Dinner at lunch time. It seems to make it easier for people to attend as there is still time for other functions in the evening. This year we were seated in the back section at a single, long table. This made it easy for us to order and converse. I hope everyone had a wonderful time. The restaurant had several parties at this time and we certainly weren't the largest. It was great that Buck and Eugenia were able to join us all the way from Pebble Beach battling the heavy rains!



SFBA Members patiently wait. From the left we have Mike, Toni, Don, David, Lane, Gigi, and Chris.



Here is a group shot that the waiter was nice enough to take. Going clock-wise from the lower-left, we have Lane, Clark, Paul, Chris, David, Toni (with Santa's hat), Mike, Buck, Eugenia, Hank, Josh, Don, Ray, Carol, and Gigi.

SFBA Member's Projects - Paul's '63 Spyder

I finally got the power train back together and in the car. I went through everything on the engine short of splitting the cases. The rod bearings looked really good (though I replaced them and put in resized rods with new bearings, moly rings, new pistons, and cylinders bored .020 over) so I assumed the mains would be as good or better. And cam looked fine so re-used, but took apart and cleaned each of the lifters, making sure to keep them with the cam lobe they came from.

The cylinder heads were rebuilt by Ken Hand. The 4 speed and 3:55 posi were also rebuilt.

I did run it for about 15 minutes on the cart prior to installing the transaxle. I'm currently running two Rochester carbs just to get everything sorted out on the car. Have about 300 miles on it so far

and all is good. I plan on installing the turbo and Carter YH as a project this winter.

Another big piece I finished recently was redoing the convertible top frame and getting the top installed. Cleaning up the frame wasn't too bad, just some brushes, solvent, and light sanding, then painting everything semi-gloss black and lubing all the joints with Lubriplate 630.

I also finished up the insulation in the package tray area to deaden the engine sound a bit. Also have to re-bleed the power top hydraulic lines which I switched to ATF from the original spec brake fluid since I replaced the pump, lines, and cylinders which were shot.

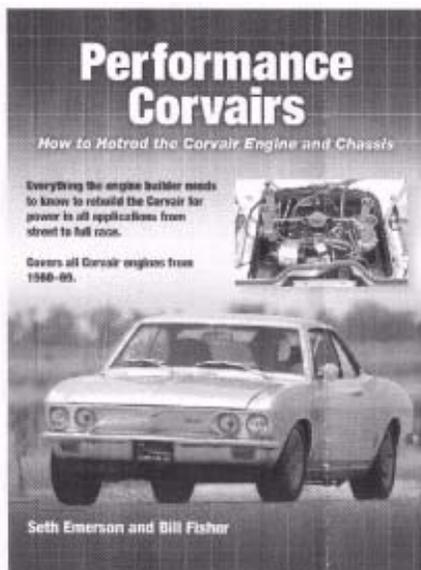
Painted and installed (a nerve wracking one man job, definitely recom-

mend a helper next time!). Had the top installed by Freddy' at Concord Auroto Upholstery off Monument in Concord, Freddy has a ton of experience with Corvairs and is a great guy to work with.

Went with the original white top from Clark's, matching the color scheme from the factory (ember red with white top).

Besides getting the turbo installed, also still have a bunch of small projects to finish it up like aligning the door and quarter glass to the new top, installing the lower shrouds, etc.. all good for those rainy days coming up!

[\(see Page 7-8 for photos\)](#)



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Seth Emerson
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San Jose, CA 95117



(more photos on page 8)

'63 Spyder



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SPECIAL SALES EVERY MONTH- each month we'll send an email (if you have signed up) and also list in a special sale section on our Home page www.corvair.com

FREE 50th MEMENTO gifts with your first order in 2023

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LIST YOUR CORVAIR FOR SALE- NO CHARGE- sell your Corvair or a spare you just don't have time for! For all of 2023 we will list it on our website at **NO CHARGE-** check the website for details (Corvairs For Sale)

CLARK CAR SHOW & PARTS SALES- See our 2023 supplement or website for more details. We expect around 130 cars, and will offer tours of our buildings including the Upholstery Dept. Cal will be giving an old fashion "slide show" showing the building of our complex and history. Parts on sale! **SEPT 16, 2023 -rain or shine**

2023 SUPPLEMENT- On our website or as a hard copy -many new repros & updates.

INTERNATIONAL CORSA CONVENTION-Wisconsin- We will be there Tues, Wed & Thurs with lots of recent repros on display. Stop by and say hello. Convention dates June 19- June 24

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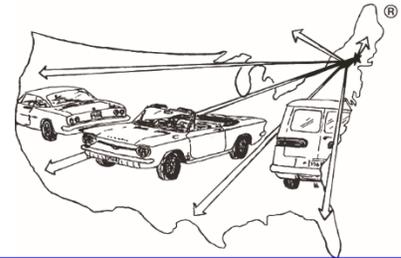
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Minutes...

Freddy knows Gabe and worked on Bruce's car as well as Elma's San Francisco car. They do great work, and quick too. Paul said his car would be done in three days! We can't wait to see the results.

Swap & Sell: Josh said Chris Rogers may be selling some of his Corvairs (he has 7!). Many earlyies.

Paul said someone on Corvair Forum had a 140 engine they wanted to give away. Josh said it was an SFBA member from San Francisco that had the engine in the back of his Kia and got stranded in Los Banos. You just have to pick it up. Condition unknown but the price is right!

Josh will be selling his '65 as he has to make room for his new car (a BMW?). The Corvair was originally a Monza but has all of the Corsa trim and accessories. And he has a spare 140 engine. Josh said John Heiser may be interested in it.

Meeting adjourned about 8:02 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Letter... (from pg 2)

when you are due. If you joined in mid-year, just prorate your dues at \$2/month to keep us on schedule. Thanks!

Keep the newsletter interesting by sending in pictures and stories of your 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, Jan 5th 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)

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

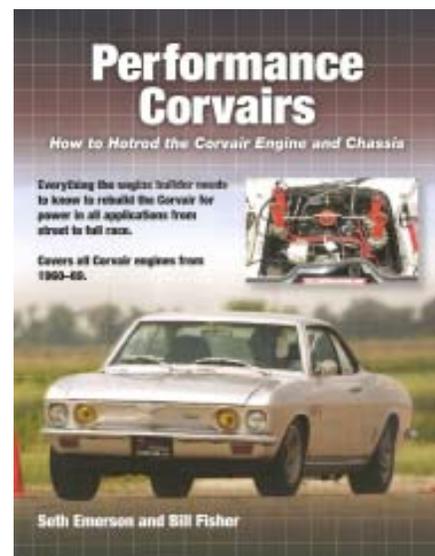
We still have other misc items

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)

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

December 2022

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
12/01/2022	Begining Balance				\$4,673.39	
12/01/2022	Newsletter, December			(\$45.28)	\$4,626.91	
12/20/2022	SFBA Dues for 2023		\$225.00		\$4,851.91	
12/31/2022	Ending Balance		\$225.00	(\$45.28)	\$4,851.91	

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