

**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-engine, air-cooled automobile grabs as much attention today as it did 60 years ago!



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Look for us on the Web!
<https://www.SFBACorsa.org>

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**Bruce's Yenko Stinger
Nearing Completion**

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

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 14 SFBA members and no guests. Pretty good attendance I thought.

I heard from Vince Petrie of Central Coast Corsa and SFBA. He said that the Vairfest 2024 registration was now open. See page 9 for details or visit their web site at www.centralcoastcorsa.org.

I heard from a friend that the Car Meet-Ups at Perko's in Lafayette will be coming to an end. The last day will be Sunday, February 25th. It seems like the Lafayette Police station will be expanding and taking over this area. My friend didn't know if the drive-thru coffee kiosk would be moving, closing, or maybe just the parking lot would be affected. I hope this info is wrong as these get-togethers were a lot of fun and Hedrick was nice enough to include our Corvairs event though we were out numbered by the Corvettes and Chevelles!

I told Josh about this and he said "This is good to know. I can reach out to my buddy Tony who does the meet-ups at El Cerrito and San Francisco about backpacking onto his events if we want to keep doing "in persons". Another alternative is the coffee shop/winery that is right down the street from my house here in Rodeo. It's on the waterfront and there is a lot of parking. Coffee and wine are available and there is indoor and bay front seating. Open to other suggestions too. Maybe a topic for our next meeting?"

It's that time of year again and SFBA Corsa memberships are due. As you probably know already we try to keep everyone's due date the same. The first of January

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

President Ray Welter, 5240 Belvedere St, Oakland CA 94601 - Ray.Welter@gmail.com

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

every year. From talking with Harry and Josh, the list of people that have renewed this year is as follows:

(see *Letter*. on page 7)

On The Cover: Bruce's '66 Yenko Stinger is nearing completion. Here you can see the reworked engine has been installed with the four carbs with inlet venturies and the dual "trumpet" exhaust. In this photo you can see that Bruce is replacing the engine deck seals. The suspension parts have been beautifully powder coated. See more photos 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).

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Minutes of the Last Meeting

Feb 1, 2024

Josh got the regular meeting started around 7:00 PM following a short Board meeting. When the room was opened, Josh and I were quickly joined by Ray, Harry, Carl, Seth, Chris, Bruce, Christy, Jeffrey, Peter, Don, Paul, and Lane. I hope I included everyone. Josh indicated he would have to bow out early this evening, work has been crazy and he is exhausted. Ray, Clark, and Seth will take over.

Treasury Report: Harry reported the bank balance stood at \$4385.30.

Membership: Josh did not report any new members this month although a few have expressed interest. Remember SFBA Corsa dues for 2024 are due now.

Old Business: Nothing mentioned.

New Business: It is that time of year again, SFBA Club dues for 2024 are now due. As in the past we try to keep everyone's due date on the first of the year. This makes it easier on us to plan events. A list will be published in the next newsletter.

Events: Another Open House at Gabe's Sterling Restorations in Fairfield is in the planning stages. Looking at early Summer.

As the rains diminish look for Cars and Coffee events to start up again.

Tech: Seth said his business is soaring! Filling orders for his quick steering option is keeping him very busy. He

said when Flaming River stopped selling their quick steer option, he found another company that was making reverse steering Corvair boxes for street rod use. He talked them into making the regular steering boxes and at the same time offer a quick steer option. The result is a quick steering box very similar to the '65-'66 factory quick steering option. This is a direct replacement for '60-'63 models and other years need an adapter. With pent-up demand he is very busy at the moment although he doesn't expect to demand to keep up. After all he is retired and not looking for another "job". He is now working on a new item, a suspension option for late model Corvairs (performance oriented).

Chris reported that he found the mysterious reason why his Corvair was not running too well. On a pressure test cylinder #1 showed only 20 psi while others were ~120 psi. David Gray came over and pull the head and found that an exhaust stud had pulled out. The rocker arm had fallen off and there were a couple of broken rings. Besides replacing the piston, he had to replace the block as that stud had already had a insert installed. Chris had the car towed to David's shop in Vallejo (it's good to have AAA!).

Chris said he is cleaning out his garage and found lots of parts for Power Wheels that the kids no longer need. Rather than throw them away, what can he do? Bruce suggested using Google and look for a special interest group and tell them what you have. There are groups for virtually everything these days.

Bruce reported that he was looking at a Greenbriar in Southern California. It

was on ebay and from the pictures it looked fantastic but not cheap (maybe \$20k).



It's near where his son lives in Huntington Beach so he put down a \$2500 deposit and flew down to check it out. The outside looked perfect. A great paint job and the interior was pristine. But looking underneath he found that this had not been touched at all! There was rust everywhere and in places he could put his finger through. And there were brackets missing or broken and not replaced correctly. Bruce felt it would take \$20k to fix this up. He told the guy that this car was not as described but the guy would not give him his deposit back. Just then the guy's wife mentioned that the banks were closing soon but Bruce felt the "Bank of Bruce" is already closed. He said he felt sorry for the person that does buy this. Carl said that he has known friends that have bought cars after only seeing pictures and had them shipped to Australia only to find they are so rusted they were worthless. Off to the crusher they go.

Bruce has been working on this Yenko Stinger. He took some suspension parts to MPC Powder Coating in Rohnert Park. What a wonderful job they did,

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

Coming Events in 2024...

Mar 7th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Apr 4th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
May 3 – 5th	A Northern California Tradition, Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA
June 21-23rd	Vairfest 2024 "Vairs in the Village" at Heritage Park in Arroyo Grande, CA
July 21-26th	Corvairborne, International Corvair Convention, Dayton, OH, host hotel is the Marriott at the University of Dayton, 1414 Patterson Blvd. See www.daytoncorvairclub.com for more information.
Oct 25-27th	Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, Palm Springs, CA

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Progress on Bruce's Yenko

Picked up the front suspension components from MPC powder coating in Rohnert Park. They did an amazing job smoothing out all surfaces and gave me the best results ever on powder coating.

Check out how smooth the crossmember turned out! Check out

the factory supplied quick steering arms

Next project is to put it all back together with new Koni shocks and original hardware where possible.

While I had the front end out for powder coating and rebuild I was able to see the hidden vin. The vin matched all

data plates and paperwork. Very important for a Yenko. This is the original body which is very hard to find

Check out the gas tank area - no rust anywhere in the body area. Super clean!



See *Stinger...* on page 6

Stinger...



If you look closely you will see the “hidden” VIN number



MPC
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Owner / Operator
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Corvair For Sale

Good evening all,

A gentleman walked up to us at the Carmichael Cars and Coffee and asked

if anyone was looking to buy a Corvair. I'm sharing the information here but please reach out to him if you have

any questions. His name is Gary. This is an Arizona phone number but he's here in California. 520-429-4960

Dean James, RCCC



Letter...

Clark Calkins
Roger Chang
Cameron Coulter
Josh Deitcher
John Heiser
Harry Kypreos
Robert Langdon
Joe Miller
John (Skip) Polacchi
Tony Richards
Pete Ts
Greg Vargas

Note that this is only a first try and my records are not perfect. If you have paid and are not listed, please let me know. Also some have paid for more than one year and may not be included

in this list (yet). We will be refining this list in the coming months.

As I write this on the last weekend before I must mail this month's newsletter, I found no event information to post. So I sent off last minute emails to those I knew were working on their Corvairs to see if I could get any update info and/or pictures to include. Bruce came through with an abundance of info on his Yenke Stinger. Thanks Bruce, you saved my bacon once again!

Our next Zoom meeting will be Thursday, March 7th starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent and will contain a link to the meeting making it easy to join.

Classifieds..

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)

Minutes...

look at how smooth the cross member turned out! Beautiful!



He said that once the front suspension is out, replacing the gas tank is an easy, five minute job! He thought when replacing the tank, it would probably be easier and quicker to drop the front suspension first. Seth said that this works only on West Coast cars. On Eastern cars the suspension bolts are so rusted they are very difficult to remove. Out here we have it easy. Bruce said on a D.C. car once the license plate has been on for a few months, it will never come off!

Bruce said that Eric's car is nearly done over at Gabe's. He is ready to start installing the many Sprint options he has been collecting (many still in original wrappers). He has the Hands wheels,



(see above) and the shifter, and badges. Bruce said he was looking for a particular seat belt for his '65 and Eric

found him a brand new, still in the box, Saddle color belt. Perfect! How does he do it?

Bruce said he is looking for some parts for his '69 that Bill Borland's son may know of. Seth said he would forward the contact info to Bruce.

Bruce said he was having trouble in getting the glove box to open and close correctly on his '69. When he took it off he marked the screw holes so he could reassemble it the same way. But it didn't open properly and he is having trouble getting one screw off (he over-tightened it). He will have to cut a hole in the box to get it apart. He has another box from Clark's. Another issue is the wiring. When he puts the car in reverse, the GEN light comes on. Also the right turn signal does not flash. The left turn signal works properly and all of the exterior lights work and show up brightly. Seth said, regarding the GEN light, put the car in reverse and unplug the wires going to the trans and see which one (or both) have power. Then look at the wiring diagram to see how this wire could be getting power. The turn signal is different, Bruce said all three lights (right front, right rear, right dash) come on brightly but do not flash. Seth and Carl suggested to try another flasher. Chris said there is a flasher made for LED lights that does not rely on amperage to flash. (Editor's note: It just occurred to me to remove the flasher entirely and see if the right turn signal lights still come on? This would indicate that the right turn signal is getting power from some source other than the flasher. Maybe it's a steering harness wiring issue. Possibly the horn and right signal lines are reversed?).

Jeffrey said he took his Corvair to Mel's hoping to track down the noise he has been hearing for months now. And, of course, down at Mel's it made no noise. He will try again in a couple

of weeks. Jeffrey inquired about a Nash fan. He was told that he just missed an order but they always order one more fan than necessary in case one does not come out as expected. Jeffrey is hoping he will be able to get one from this batch. This will be about \$1900 with the color and options he wanted. Carl said that's a bargain. He paid \$3k (AUD). But it is a very high quality product and worth it. Jeffrey is thinking of a Gold color to contrast the Black sheet metal. Should look fantastic. Bruce said he saw one that was Copper colored and had Copper fuel and oil lines. Looked crazy.

Peter said he was still looking for a Corvair. He was interested in one in Southern California (Beverly Hills Car Club). Bruce said "No!", definitely stay away from that. Bruce suggested he talk with Eric. He might have reached his limit and may be willing to part with one. He has several very nice Corvairs. Seth said he might have one for Peter, they will talk. Chris said that David Gray had Corvairs he would like to sell. Peter did go down to Mel's and talked with him and came away with lots of ideas.

Carl said that he and his wife came down with COVID. It has had him laid up for some time and he has not been able to work on his Corvair much. But by next meeting he will report on how well it runs. Clark said how about calling in from his garage that way we will be able to see and hear it start up. Good idea, he will try that!

Clark said when he changed the coil on his '69 he, somehow, wired it in reverse. He has since fixed this but wondered if it would still have enough voltage to start the engine? Clark said he didn't

See Minutes... page 9

Vairfest 2024, "Vairs I- The Village"

VairFest 2024 Registration is Opened

Our Chapter website has been updated to include the **registration form** for VairFest 2024, June 21 - 23. Please follow the instructions on the form. If you have questions, call or email Vince at 805-481-5757 or vwvince@pacbell.net

This year's theme is "***Vairs in the Village***". We're still working on the t-shirt image, but it will include a rooster or two.

Once again, we'll be awarding trophies in 12 categories as follows:

Early 2-Door coupe	Early Convertible
Late 2-Door hardtop	Late Convertible
Four Door (including wagons)	Forward Control
Specialty	Daily Driver
Work in Progress	Long Distance
Spectators Choice	Best of Fest

So plan to get your Corvair ready for another fun weekend in beautiful Arroyo Grande.

Minutes...

think the coil was polarized as such and might work either way. But the points may wear differently. Seth said it would be easy to find out, with the ignition "on" pull the center coil wire and hold it close to ground. Now ground the negative side of the coil and you should see a spark.

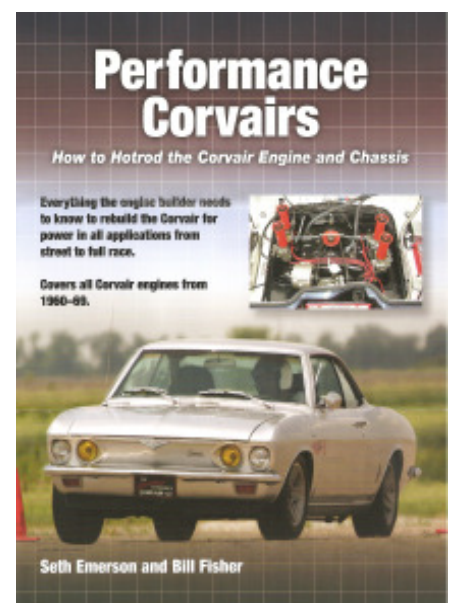
Carl mentioned that he is going to the Convention in Dayton, OH this year and he will be making a presentation. On the return he might have a few days lay-over in San Francisco. We will have to see if we can setup some Corvair event to coincide with this.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:16 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary



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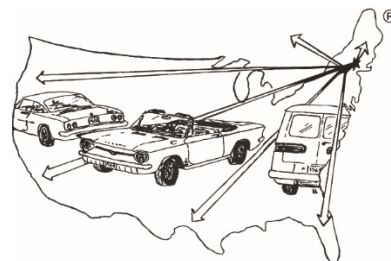
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Classifieds..

'61 Corvair Monza 900, primary driver has moved to Boston. "Moxy" is now for sale. Many pictures available on Craigs List. Berkeley area.



Asking \$2000. Contact Steve Lautze (510)280-4341 or steve.lautze@gmail.com (09/23)

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

(see "Classifieds..." on page 7)

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Monza Cvr, 140 HP with Corsa Dash. New paint, new Corsa wiring harnesses, new rear hubs, and other parts. Single carb (have 4 carb set up), electric fuel pump. Top in good condition. Have before & after photos. Many spare parts. Taking offers.



Jeffrey Hayer 650-796-8109 (02/24)

'64 Rampside. Josh saw this Rampside in person at Goodguys. He looked it over and could find no flaws.



Beautiful restoration inside and out.(Hayward) \$22K obo (510) 823-6540 (05/23)

'63 Rampside, does not run, it's been sitting for few years, needs new plugs, flush gas, replace ignition points.

'60 sedan Runs & Drives, needs valve job, needs new fuel tank. \$7,500 obo for both (916) 896-4448 Sacramento (05/23)

Corvan and Lakewood Wagon, I'm going to be selling this vehicle's once I



get them to start and stop, I was hoping if anyone knows who will interested in buying as is or the repairs I'm going to do? Alfredo Pinon, Whittier, CA. Open to offers (480)768-7280 (05/23)

'63 Convertible, Napa area. No other details given. Contact Charlie Augustine (707)252-8139 (10/23)

(see "Classifieds..." on page 10)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

February 2024

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
02/01/2024	Begining Balance				\$4,385.30	
01/26/2024	Newsletter (Feb)			(45.64)	4,328.12	(**)
02/24/2024	Dues (checks)		\$170.00		4,506.66	
02/24/2024	Dues (PayPal)		\$90.00		4,596.66	
02/29/2024	Ending Balance		\$280.00	\$49.91)	\$4,596.66	

(**) Newsletter expense has not been turned in.


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