

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.com>

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**Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, Nov 6th
@7:00PM (#243 888 8339)**

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 10 SFBA members and no guests this evening. I am sure the attendance would have been higher but my last minute reminder email didn't include the Christy-Link which makes it very easy to join the meeting. Just an oversight on my part. I heard from several people, like Carl, who said they need this to attend the meeting as they didn't remember the meeting number. Now that I know how important this is, I will try to be more diligent in the future.

At the last meeting, Peter volunteered to take over the Vice President position vacated by Harry. Thanks, Peter, for stepping up! We still have an open Treasurer position that we need to fill.

Our 2025 Holiday Dinner is coming up. The exact date and location have not been determined. The most likely date would be December 6th or 13th. Any later would surely clash with other parties, family gatherings, etc. Peter and Laura have made some suggestions for a location but, as of this writing, no decision has been made. It's hard to find the perfect place as we have a diverse membership from San Jose to Novato and Stockton to San Francisco. Be sure to come to the next meeting and bring your ideas.

As the front page of this newsletter reminds us, membership in CORSA is important. And now it's time to vote for CORSA Directors. There is one West Coast seat that is open and, as of now, Scott Howey, is running unopposed. But even in this case it's important to cast your vote as it shows the CORSA Board that the West Coast is active and participates, making it more likely they will listen to our needs for future events. Enough said.

On The Cover: CORSA membership is important for us. It's easy to overlook or put off joining, but membership in CORSA is what supports our hobby.. Without their help there would be no Conventions or Communicate. See the note by Dave "Motorhead" Watson on page 5.

Current SFBA Corsa Officers

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

Vice-President Peter Tachis ptachis@gmail.com

Secretary Clark Calkins, 1907 Alvarado Ave.,
Walnut Creek, CA 94597 - (925)478-8909
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Treasurer Vacant

Committees

Membership Joshua Deitcher, 375 Harris Ave,
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SFBAcorsa@gmail.com

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<https://www.instagram.com/sfbacorsa/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bayareacorvairs/>
<https://facebook.com/CORSA-San-Francisco-Bay-Area-Chapter-579950135376455/>

Merchandise <https://sfbacorsa.com/sfba-club-merchandise/>

I received the following email from SFBA member John Muhlner, "Good afternoon, Clark, I believe we have communicated before, but nevertheless, I would like to invite you and the Corvair Club, of

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

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 Zoom on the first Thursday at 7:00 PM of each month. Details are included in the newsletters. 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 at \$2 per month).

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Minutes of the Last Meeting

October 2, 2025

Josh got the regular meeting started around 7:02 PM. A bit later than usual as Josh was having Zoom issues. When the room was opened, Josh, Ray, Harry and I were quickly joined by Peter, Seth, Herb, Lane, Vince, and new member Laura. Welcome! I hope I included everyone. I am sure others were trying to join the meeting but my reminder email lacked the Christy-Link. An over-sight on my part! I guess a number of people depend on this.

Treasury Report: Harry is still filling in as Club Treasurer until a replacement steps up. The bank balance, as reported in the last newsletter, was \$3,211.98.

Membership: Josh reported 4 new members Jim Pennell from Arroyo Grande, Laura C, Gregory D, and Rodney E from San Francisco and Vince from Central Coast Corsa.

Old Business: Josh mentioned that the Club was still looking for a Club Treasurer and V.P. to take over for Harry. The VP's job is to fill in when pre

New Business: As Josh was talking about the open Club positions, Peter Tachis stepped up and volunteered to be Club VP. Thanks a lot, this helps enormously.

Events: Corvair Cockpit Day at the Oakland Aviation Museum was well attended. Lane reported the Corvairs garnered lots of attention.

Gabe's Open House was a fun event. Clark reported there were 20 or 25 in attendance and half were SFBA members. Herb drove his '64 Convertible

and said he really enjoyed the day. This year Bruce and Eric couldn't make it. Bruce was not feeling well and Eric had just moved to Idaho This year the event was scheduled at the last minute as it was difficult to find a suitable time. Gabe is very busy right now.

The Vault event has officially been scrubbed for this year. It was becoming impossible to find a suitable weekend. Next year we have to start our planning earlier.

Don't forget the Fan Belt Toss is coming up Oct 24-26th. This will be at a new location this year.

The next VairFest is scheduled for June 27, 2026 at Heritage Park in Arroyo Grande again.

2027 CORSA Convention: Josh said the 2027 Convention will be just outside Nashville, TN. Probably in May. CORSA saw how well the last Convention went and it had an earlier than usual start. May is better than July in Nashville.

Phil's '66 Corsa: Don couldn't make it this evening but he had sent pictures of the recovered front bucket seats. Johnny did an outstanding job! Last month Don reported that one of the rear windows was hard to roll down, it appeared to be binding on something. This was fixed, Don found an adjustment point to correct the out of aligned tracks. Next up on the agenda is to recover the top off the rear seat (the bottom was recovered a few months ago), install the new carpets,

and get the radio installed. Josh has checked the radio and it works perfectly. Maybe Phil had it rebuilt. Lastly we need to go through the brakes and suspension which look good but still need to be checked.

Tech: Josh said a friend of his, Laurance Jones, just acquired Lu Goni's old Corvair. Paul Lacy picked it up years ago and now Laurance has it. He took it to Mel to get it checked over. Lu was an SRFBA and Valley member for many years taking on many duties. Clark said she was the Newsletter Editor when he took it over on '96.

Josh said as he was driving home from the SFBA/Valley Picnic in August, his Corvair started to run VERY rough. It had been running very well too. He pulled over and figured it had to be something simple. After careful inspection he noticed the rubber cross-over tube was split. A massive vacuum leak. He was able to fashion a tourniquet out of an old Latex glove and this worked well enough to get him to an auto parts store. There he purchased some rubber tubing. This worked well enough to get him home where he could fashion a more permanent solution. Josh said it just goes to show even when your Corvair is running great, things can change in a hurry.

Herb said years ago he was driving home from work (San Ramon to San Pablo) when his generator went out. And it was raining. He continued to drive just hoping to make it home. He said just as he was pulling in the engine quit but he was able to coast into the

(See *Minutes..* on page 8)

Coming Events in 2025...

Oct 24-26th	Great Western Fan Belt Toss and Swap Meet, host hotel is the Double Tree by Hilton Golf Resort Palm Springs, in Cathedral City, CA
Nov 6th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec 4th	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"
Dec 6th or 13th	SFBA Holiday Dinner. Date and location to be determined.
Jan 1st	Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = "243 888 8339"

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2025

Thursday Jan 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Feb 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Mar 6, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Apr 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday May 1, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jun 5, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Jul 3, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Aug 7, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Sep 4, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"
Thursday Oct 2, 7:00 PM	SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = "243 888 8339"

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

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

Important Message from CORSA Board Of Directors

This is Dave Watson, your CORSA Membership Chair—many of you know me as Davemotohead.

As your Membership Chair, my primary mission is to recruit new members and retain our current ones, while supporting the growth and success of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA). Today, I'm reaching out to the entire Corvair community to ask for your support in keeping this great organization alive and thriving.

Since joining the CORSA Board of Directors last August 2024, I've been working closely with fellow board members to modernize operations and make improvements that reflect the needs and interests of today's Corvair community. But here's the hard truth: Over the past five years, CORSA membership has declined significantly—we are now at one of the lowest levels in our history. This trend must change, and we need your help to reverse it before we reach a critical tipping point.

CORSA was founded in 1969 to celebrate and preserve the legacy of the Chevrolet Corvair. For decades, it's been the heart of our hobby—supporting local clubs, hosting national events, publishing the Communique magazine, and offering resources that enrich the Corvair experience for everyone.

Without your membership dues, CORSA cannot survive. It's that simple. And I truly believe we cannot afford to let this historic organization fade away. Since 1969, CORSA has served you—the Corvair community—with pride and dedication. It's time for all of us to give back.

Here's just a glimpse of what your CORSA membership makes possible:

- * The National CORSA Convention
- * Support and insurance for local clubs and events like the Great Western Fanbelt Toss, Homecoming, Spring Fest, and more
- * The award-winning Communique magazine
- * Exclusive access to Corvair merchandise, apparel, technical guides, and books
- * Discounts on Hagerty insurance (in most states)
- * And many other member benefits and resources

The current board is working hard to bring CORSA into the modern era—upgrading the Corvair Center Forum, developing new merchandise, and planning exciting changes to the Communique. These include fewer board reports and more high-value content like tech articles, club spotlights, racing and off-road reports, EV updates, and member builds. We're also working on revamping the CORSA website to make it more user-friendly and engaging.

My goal is simple: put CORSA back at the top as the go-to hub for everything Corvair. We want CORSA to be the place where all Corvair enthusiasts feel welcomed, represented, and inspired. But we can't do it without YOU.

This is your club. We're simply the volunteers working on your behalf, and we want your ideas, input, and involvement to help shape the future of CORSA.

(see [CORSA...](#) on Page 6)

CORSA...

On a personal note: I've been part of the Corvair community since I was a kid. I've always tried to give back through videos, tech support, advice, parts, and tools—and now, as part of the CORSA leadership team, I'm more committed than ever.

But again, we need your support. Your membership matters. The more support CORSA receives, the more we can do to serve the community, your local chapters, and the Corvair hobby as a whole.

So, please—do me a favor.

- * If you're not a member of a local CORSA chapter, find one and join!
- * If you're in a local chapter but not yet a CORSA member, now is the time to join and get involved!
- * You do not need to be in a chapter to join, we provide fantastic online support.

Let us know what you need from CORSA—your feedback is welcome and encouraged. Together, we can build the best version of CORSA yet.


Visit Corvair.org and go to the sign up page to join, if you have any problems call the Club office listed on the web site for help.

We want you back!

Sincerely,

Dave Watson, CORSA Membership Chair

Welcome to the Corvair Society of America



Since 1969, CORSA is the national club dedicated to the enjoyment of the Chevrolet Corvair. You are now a part of a group with a legacy of expertise and brand identity for the Corvair.

As a member you can:

- Access current and past issues of the club magazine, The Communique, for cars, events and technical information
- Find chapters or other Corvair owners near you
- Check out merchandise, publications and vendor discounts available to members
- Free for members advertising; find + sell parts and cars
- Access the only Corvair Registry available

Special for Members:

- Annual International Corvair Convention
- Hagerty Insurance Discounts, (where state laws allow)
- Online video Meet Ups with Corvair experts









Join the CORSA On-line Community:

- CORSA Corvair Center Forum message board for help by Corvair experts
- Post photos of your car on Instagram and Facebook
- Check out CORSA You Tube Channel

Support the advocacy of Corvairs

- A place and organization to share Corvair events and stories to expand the visibility of these unique cars in the classic car community

Your Guide to CORSA Member Services

-  Gateway to online member services, news, events and to locate other CORSA members
corvair.org
-  Mail: CORSA Executive Secretary Paul Bergstrom
P.O. Box 68, Long Lake MN 55356
-  Email: corsacluboffice@gmail.com
-  Talk to the club office: 630-403-5010
-  Show your car and interact with other Corvair owners on Instagram [corsa_corvair_offical](https://www.instagram.com/corsa_corvair_offical)
-  Learn: Videos on Corvair Society of America You Tube Channel
-  Follow Corvair Society of America Facebook Page
-  Learn and Share: Join the CORSA Corvair Center Forum community of Corvair Owners
[Corvair Center](#)

SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

Date Posted	Subject
=====	=====
Oct 25	IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM CORSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERSHIP CHAIR DAVE WATSON
Oct 24	GM Expert: It wasn't Ralph Nader who Killed the Corvair
Oct 23	Upcoming Weekend Events
Oct 22	Member Stories ~ San Francisco Old Car Picnic
Oct 20	What is a Judson Supercharger
Oct 18	Revisiting Great Articles ~ Water-Cooled Corvair Engine Offers Technical Delight
Oct 17	Voting for CORSA directors is now open
Oct 16	Upcoming Weekend Events
Oct 14	Tech Tip ~ Pressure Plate Checking
Oct 13	Bringing a '65 Corvair Corsa Back to Life: A Body and Paint Restoration Journey. Part 4 of 4
Oct 12	Bringing a '65 Corvair Corsa Back to Life: A Body and Paint Restoration Journey. Part 3 of 4
Oct 11	Bringing a '65 Corvair Corsa Back to Life: A Body and Paint Restoration Journey. Part 2 of 4
Oct 10	Bringing a '65 Corvair Corsa Back to Life: A Body and Paint Restoration Journey. Part 1 of 4
Oct 9	Upcoming Weekend Events
Oct 8	Members stories ~ Priscilla gets a makeover
Oct 7	Tech Tip~ 8 simple adjustments your Corvair probably needs
Oct 6	Decoding the Corvair Body Tag
Oct 4	New Members & SFBA Notes
Oct 3	Tech Tip ~Wheel Alignment
Oct 2	Drive Your Corvair Day & Upcoming Weekend Events
Oct 1	New SFBA & Corvair Merch



Minutes...

garage. Josh said he must have had a Corvair Angle on his shoulder! Herb explained that his Zoom background—a picture of his Corvair—is actually a painting by his father. Beautiful work!



Herb asked what brand of radio was in Phill's car. Josh said it was an original AC Delco AM/FM radio. Herb wants to replace his radio with a better one. Lane said nowadays there are many Blue Tooth replacements that work through the phone. Ray and Laura both said that's what they do. Seth said that since Herb's Corvair is an early model, the radio is easy to replace. On late model Corvairs it's much harder to get the angles pieces to fit correctly in the dash.

Herb said he has been an SFBA member for 45+ years and ever since we started having Zoom meetings, he thinks the meetings are the best they ever have been.

Vince reminded us that this meeting was being held on the 66th Anniversary of the Corvair. It came out on October 2nd, 1959.

Laura said she bought her Corvair from someone in Florida and had it trucked to San Francisco. She said the transporter was awesome. But shortly after driving it a bit, the emergency brake went out. This is vital in SF for an automatic trans which has no Park! She took it to Zack's and had it replaced. Because the car had been sitting for some time, she went ahead and had the oil changed. But after bringing it

home she notices oil leaks. She thinks it's differential fluid. Strange as it was fine prior to the oil change. She mentioned that she finally got her original Yellow CA plates approved by the state.

Laura ask where she could get car aligned? Lane said he took his to Hayward Alignment. He thought they did a very good job. The people there said they liked working on the older cars. Peter said he took his to Dito's in South SF on Mission

Peter said he is having a high temp issue with his Corvair. It's been this way since he has owned it. He just noticed one of the fan blades was broken. Could that be the cause? Vince said that is probably not the cause, but it needs to be fixed as it will cause a lot of vibration. Josh said he had an extra fan that Peter could have (one of the benefits of joining SFBA!). Seth agreed that a broken fan blade may not be the cause, but find out where the fan piece ended up. This may be blocking enough air to cause the engine to overheat. Lane asked if Peter has had the exhaust temp checked. Peter said no he hadn't. Lane said the CA fuel blend may cause the engine to run leaner and thus hotter. Lane suggested upping the main jet size, he uses #53 on the primaries.

Peter asked if anyone had tried the new carburetors Clark's is now selling. Lane said he saw the castings at the Convention in San Luis Obispo, and they looked very good. Seth said the parts are not out yet. Josh said maybe Clark's is having supply chain or tariff issues. That's what happened with the fuel pumps. Lane said it may be because of the top carburetor sections. Peter asked if there were alternatives available. Josh said with Peter's 140, central

mounted Holly is a good choice. Like a Holly 390. Seth said a 350 to 400 CFM carburetor would be sufficient for the Corvair engine. Josh said he could also go with fuel injection. There are several outfits that convert systems for other cars to the Corvair. Rather than monitoring the engine coolant, they adjust the systems to head temperature. Josh said Cameron took his Corvair to Zaky's in SF because it was running hot. Zacky installed larger jets and Cameron thinks this really woke the car up. Josh said he thinks Zacky installed #53 main jets. Seth mentioned that on the 140s, the stock jets were #48 for the secondaries and #50 for the primaries. Josh said that Cameron also used Lucas Octane Booster which may help with the CA gas.

Lane is rebuilding his 140 engine after dropping a valve seat. He has installed new pistons and rings. He had the head checked by Tennyson Machine Shop in Hayward and everything looked ok. He hopes to be finished in a week or two. But the engine is tired. He has another he is also working on. Lane asked if Seth had modified any carburetors to put the jets on the side and was it worth it. Seth said "yes" but only for racing.

Seth asked how many were going to Palm Springs for the Fan Belt Toss. Vince, Lane, and Peter were going. Josh said Eric would be going as well as Paulo with his new trick engine. Vince said at the last FBT meeting, several clubs would be helping out. It will be like a mini-convention. This year everything will be in one place. Matt's Off-Road Recovery will be the guest of honor. Check out their web site, they

(See *Minutes..* on page 9)

Minutes...

use a “slightly” modified Corvair wagon as one of their towing vehicles.



The Power Steering presentation that was missing from the Convention will be here. And like last year the Dyno will be available to tell you how much power you are really getting. Last year a '61 Corvair got over 200 HP. Peter said he would like to get to that level also. Well this is the place to find out how! Josh said he would put him in contact with Val. Laura asked who

would be driving their Corvairs? Seth said “no”, as he has to take the truck to haul all of his parts for sale. Vince said that it was too far to drive a 60 year old car without A/C. Lane will be towing his.

Seth mentioned that the CORSA Officers Election is now open and we should all vote. For our division (West Coast), Scott Howey (Flat Six Graphics) is running for Director. Right now he is unopposed but votes still matter. This shows CORSA how vibrant and active the Western Division is. Seth said the Eastern Division race would be interesting as there are several candidates. Vince encouraged everyone to at least join CORSA. Without their help there

would be no National Conventions. Seth said the Communique each month lists new members. Following the last Convention there was a huge spike in memberships, hope they stick around.

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:10 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Phil's Corvair Update

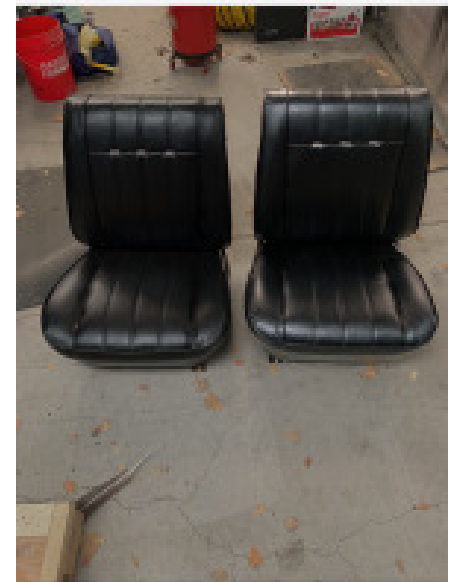
- Photos by Don



The old seats (shown on the left) definitely showed signs of use. Look typical don't they? Actually, they are better



than mine! To recover them you need to remove the emblems so they can be transferred to the new Clark's seat covers. The seat foam was also deteriorat-



ing so this was replaced as well. Don's neighbor, Johnny, a retired upholsterer, did a superb job as shown in the right two photos. We can't thank him enough!

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Letter...

which I am a member, to bring as many cars as possible to Rianda House's annual Classic Car and Wine Show on Father's Day, June 21st, 2026. Rianda House, which is in St. Helena, is a non-profit serving older adults in the upper Napa Valley by providing free physical and mental activities in order for individuals to stay active in their lives.

At last year's show we had about 100 classic cars and approximately 2,000 attendees. Cars ranged from a 1906 Ford to a 1955 MB 300 SL, as well as many older and newer domestic and foreign makes and models. This year (2026) we would like to feature all models of Corvairs. The hours of the

show are from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM; however, we do request the car owners arrive well in advance for placement instructions and to avoid confusion. The show includes food, beer, wine, entertainment and mostly fun.

On behalf of our committee, I hope to see you and the Corvairs as our featured group. If you should have any questions about our event, please reach out to me. We hope to see you and many Corvairs.

John Muhlner, Chairman 707-637-3336"

Remember, if you work on your

Corvair (even if it's only to change plugs or adjust the brakes), take pictures and send them in to me. When we see others working on their cars it gives us the incentive to do the same!

Our next Zoom meeting will be Thursday, Oct 2nd starting at 7:00 PM. Remember our permanent meeting ID# is 243 888 8339. A reminder email will be sent containing a link to the meeting making it easy to join.

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'62 Rampside, in process of being restored. Runs & drives but needs brakes. Pink in hand, registered non-op. Many details on SFBACORSA.COM web site. Asking \$1,500 firm. If interested, send an email to sfbacorsa@gmail.com and we will give you the sellers contact info (08/25).

CORVAIR PARTS FOR SALE

Set of 4 two-pronged wire wheel covers, for 13" wheels, used but would clean up nicely. Broken spot



weld on one is repairable. Asking \$250 OBO. Contact Ken Bartlett kfbartlett@gmail.com, (925)519-3795. Located in Alameda, CA (11/25)

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 (corvaireguru@gmail.com)

CORVAIRS WANTED

Late Model convertible, preferably a Turbo. Must be driveable and in showable condition. Contact John Muhlner via email at jbmuhlner@earthlink.net. St. Helena area. (05/25)

Treasurers Report - Harry Kypreos

October 2025

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
10/01/2025	Beginning Balance				\$3,081.16	
09/15/2025	Toner Cartridge			(43.12)	3,038.04	**
09/26/2025	Oct newsletter (stamps)			(12.41)	3,025.63	**
10/07/2025	New member dues		25.00		3,050.63	
10/31/2025	Ending Balance		25.00	(\$12.41)	\$3,050.63	

** Expense or Credit that has not been turned in yet. Bank balance shows \$3,236.98


SFBA CORSA

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