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!

Spyder WEB

VOLUME 393 **JUNE 2026**

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https://www.SFBACorsa.com

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Cameron's Very Nice '65 Corsa Turbo For Sale

Next SFBA Zoom Meeting Thursday, June 4th @7:00PM (#243 888 8339)

Letter From the Editor

I hope you were able to attend our last meeting. By my count we had 12 SFBA members and no guests this evening. About average turnout I would guess.

Just a reminder that for VairFest this year, there are special hotel rates available. Call the numbers listed by June 5 and mention "VairFest 2026". Three hotels with lower rates are The Agrarian ($199 Thurs & Sunday, $279 Fri & Sat) (805)574-6040, The Hampton Inn & Suites ($239 1 King, $249 2 Queens) (805)202-2110, and the Best Western Casa Grande Inn ($179 Fri, $229 Sat 1 King, $225 Fri, $245 Sat 2 Queens) (800)780-7234.

At the Cars & Coffee last month, Gage mentioned that he has several Work Shops set up for this year already. The next on the lsit is Welding class. So if you missed one from last year, this is you chance. The members that went to previous Work Shops, mentioned how good they were.

I have now moved to Fairfield (mostly anyway). I intend to keep the Walnut Creek house for a while but sell our Clearlake house. Even two houses is more than I care to take care of. I had the Corvair towed to Fairfield (see pictures on page 6) as I wasn't comfortable in driving it down the mountain with its flakey brakes. Luckily, when I last updated my insurance through JC Taylor, I added towing which was an extra $5/yr. The Clearlake house is now cleaned out and the garage is empty. After a lot of work it will go on the market shortly. Fingers crossed!

At the last meeting, Bruce showed pictures of his '65 Corsa Turbo (see page 7) which he acquired from Marc a few years back. It's beautifully restored. He just drove it to Yountville and back to shake it out. He reported that it ran great.

I just received an email from Tony. He ran into someone in Petaluma selling a '65 Turbo coupe. He sent me lots of pictures. See page 8.

Remember, if you work on your Corvair (even if it's only to change

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

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**, 5401 Victory Ct., Fairfield, CA 94533 - (925)407-7822 CaCalkins@astound.net
Treasurer	**Buck Jones,** bjonestranscon@outlook.com

Committees

Membership	**Joshua Deitcher**, 375 Harris Ave, Rodeo CA 94572 (510)388-4986 SFBACorsa@gmail.com
Library	**Dave Newell**, 1481 Hamrick Lane, Hayward, CA 94544 - (510)782-4265 chevrobilia@yahoo.com
Newsletter	**Clark Calkins** (address above)
Internet/Web	*email :* CaCalkins@astound.net https://www.sfbacorsa.com 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/

On The Cover: Tony ran into this beautiful '65 Corsa Turbo for sale in Petaluma. See Classifieds for more details.

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 avialable for $15/yr. Memberships begin on January 1 of each year (first year is prorated at $2 per month).

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

May 7, 2026

Josh got the regular meeting started around 6:51 a bit early but others were already checking in. When the room was opened, Josh and I were quickly joined by Lane, Herb, Seth, Don, Christy, Harry, Jim, Vince, Bruce, Craig and Gabe. I hope I included everyone.

Treasury Report: Buck was absent this evening, but reported vis email that the bank account stood at $3887.37 after membership renewals of $123.47 and expenses of $35.00.

Membership: Josh did not report any new members this month. Membership is holding steady at around 75.

Old Business: Nothing discussed.

New Business: Not necessarily Club related, but Clark reported that he has almost completed his move to Fairfield. He had the Corvair towed from Clearlake down to Fairfield. The brakes are not good and he was hesitant to try and drive it the 65 miles down the mountain. The Corvair has JC Taylor insurance, and towing was an extra $5/yr on top of the annual $75 charge. The plan now is to take it to Sterling Restorations and have Gabe look it over to see what he can do to make it presentable. David Gray will take care of the engine. It currently runs, but poorly. It definitely needs attention.

2028 CORSA Convention: This will be held in Sacramento! The host hotel will be the Hilton Arden West on 2200 Harvard St. The head-hunter that found this hotel secured a very desirable rate for us. Of all of the choices, the Hilton offered the best amenities plus the lowest room rates. CORSA is hoping to use the nearby Cal Expo for their autocross event (fingers crossed). This hotel is close to lots of things plus the light rail will quickly get you downtown. The railroad museum in Old Town is a must see! Josh was asked if the hotel offered a happy hour like Embassy Suits did in San Luis Obispo. He didn't think so but food and drinks are available.

Phil's '66 Corsa: Clark reported on the last Work Day. He and Lane went to Don's house to work on Phil's car. They were able to get the rear door cars installed along with the new ash trays Don acquired from Steve Morton. With a little effort they were able to install the rear sill plates (it's a job locating the screw holes through the carpet). Then they focused on finishing up the Dynamax like sound deadening material. Last time they ran out of material but Don had purchased more. The next step was installing the front carpeting. Using the old carpet as a guide, we got the shift level positioned properly as well as the throttle pedal. Before installing the throttle pedal, we checked the linkage to the engine but something didn't feel right. Maybe there is some binding causing it not to work well. And Lane thought the linkage to the carburetor didn't look right and we wanted more time to check this out. We thought we should get it on the lift to be sure the linkage was set up correctly. After all, once you install the pedal, its location on the splines is now fixed. It was getting late and since the lift was currently occupied, it was decided to put this off until the next Work Day. We still have to 1) finish recovering the rear seat, 2) get the carpet + pedals installed, and 3) verify the condition of the brakes and rubber hoses.

Events: Our last Work Day was May 2nd at Don's house in Antioch. We had Don, Lane, and myself. Josh couldn't make it as he had a wedding to attend. Our next Work Day has not been set up yet. Don will let us know the time and date, stay tuned.

Vairfest is on the schedule for June 26-28th. Vince and Jim let us know that the deadline for registration, melodrama tickets, and T-shirts is May 26th, so don't wait. This year the organizers have made special room rate deals with several local hotels. See their web site for more details. Lane asked if there was any way they could fill out the form online rather than just mail it in. "Not yet" Vince said, no one has volunteered to set this up. Maybe next year. For details, go to https://www.centralcoastcorsa.org or the direct URL is https://vwgiunta.wixsite.com/vaitplay. Seth said he wouldn't make it this year as the Convention is scheduled for the same time. "They didn't consult with us", Vince said! Christy said he was having trouble registering, the browser was not cooperating. Josh said he would email the form to Christy and he can just mail it in. Vince said they already have 15 Corvairs registered and are hoping for 30 this year. According to Vince, Tod Mullin (sp?) might be coming and selling his hats

(See ***Minutes..*** on page 9)

Coming Events in 2026…

June 4th	**Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = ”243 888 8339”**
June 22-26th	**CORSA International Convention, Gettysburg, PA, Host hotel Wyndham Gettysburg, 95 Presidential Circle, Gettysburg, PA 17325-8397**
June 26-28th	**VairFest, Heritage Park, Arroyo Grande, CA**
July 2nd	**Regular SFBA meeting at 7:00PM via Zoom, ID = ”243 888 8339”**
Oct 23-25th	**Great Western Fan Belt Toss & Swap Meet, at the Double Tree by Hilton Golf Resort**

SFBA CORSA Meeting Schedule 2026

Thursday Jan 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Feb 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Mar 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Apr 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

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

Thursday Jun 4, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Jul 2, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Aug 6, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Sep 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Oct 1, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Nov 5, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Thursday Dec 3, 7:00 PM SFBA Regular Zoom meeting, ID = “243 888 8339”

Work Day #2 for 2026

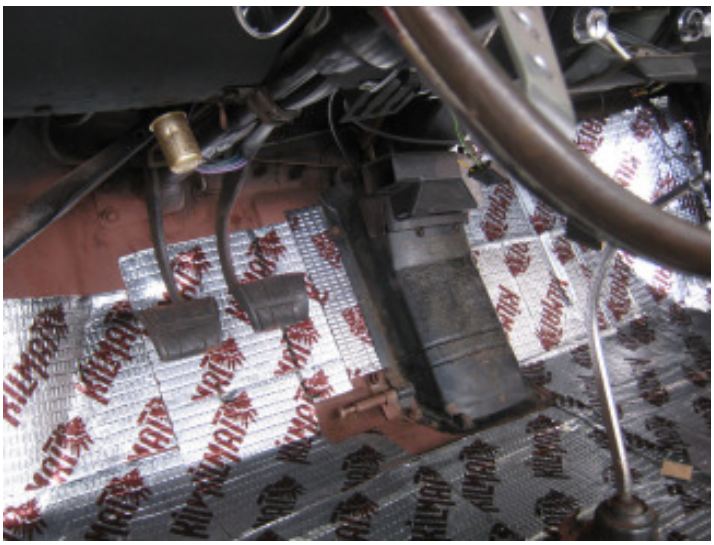








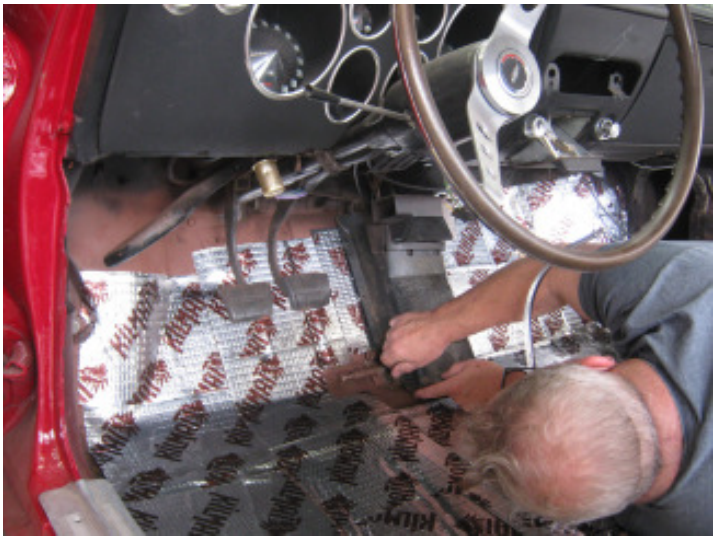




(See ***Work Day...*** on page 6)

Work Day...





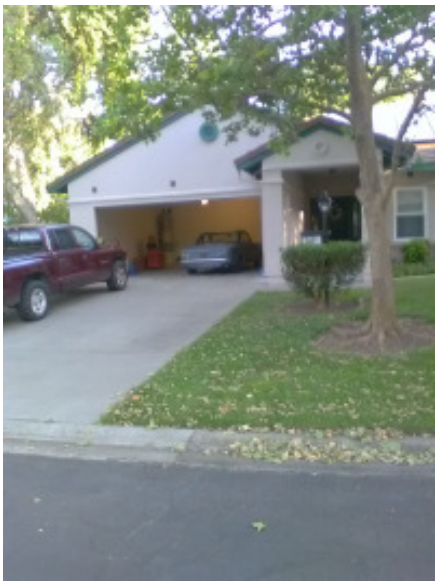




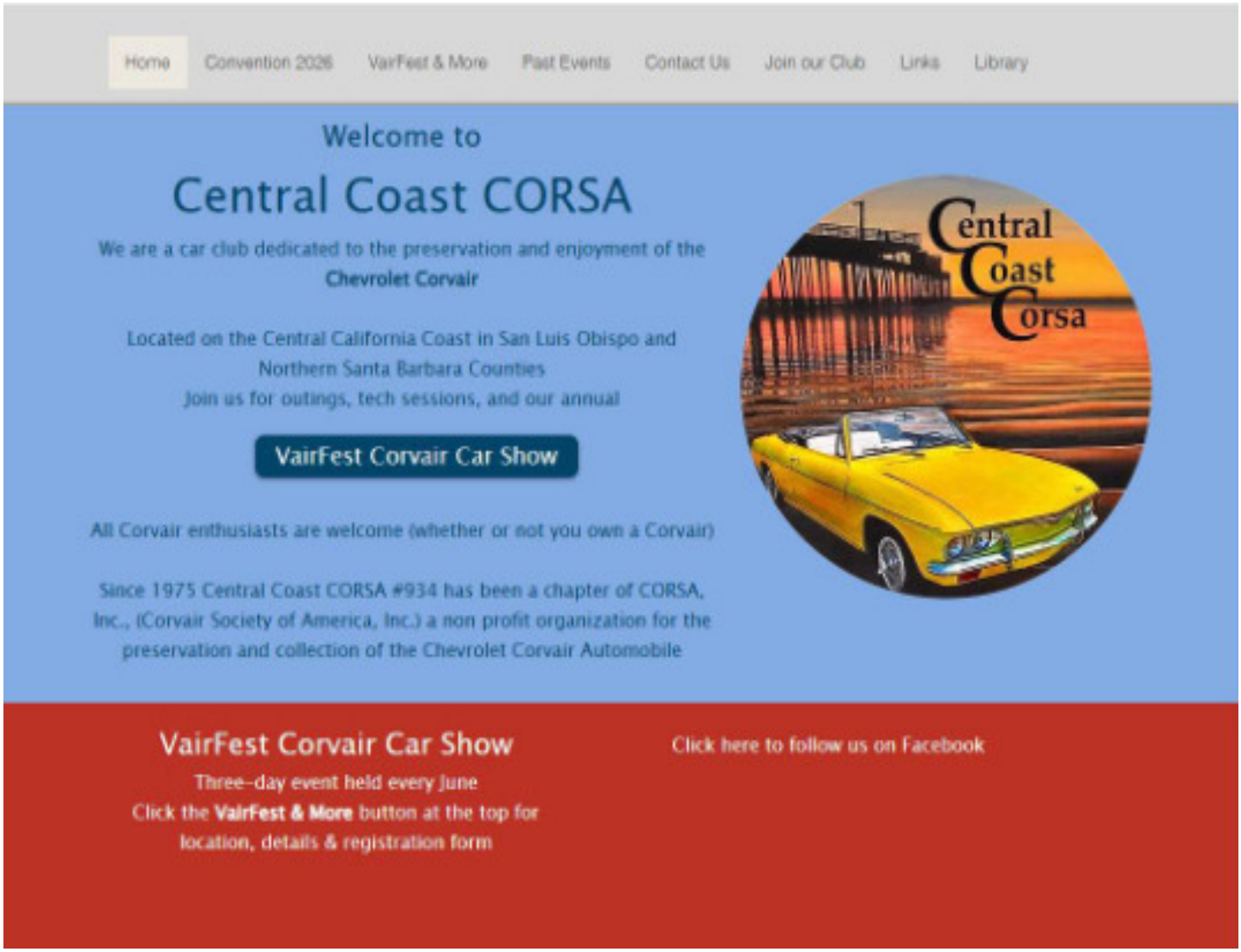
Clark's Corvair On the Move







Vairfest 2026 - June 26th-28th



Bruce's (Marc's) '65 Turbo





SFBA Web Site Tech Topics This Month

Date Posted	Subject
========	==========
May 22, 2026	Tech Tip ~ LM Dash Gauge Modification
May 21, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
May 18, 2026	From the CPF ~ Remote Mirror Option Introduced
May 16, 2026	USS Hornet Spring Tour
May 15, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
May 14, 2026	Today in Corvair History ~ The Last Corvair Rolls Off the Line
May 12, 2026	Corvair Documentation
May 10, 2026	Happy Mother's Day from SFBA CORSA
May 9, 2026	Today In Corvair History ~ GM announces end of production on the Corvair
May 7, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events & Monthly SFBA Meeting
May 5, 2026	From the CPF ~ Chevrolet Announces The Spyder
May 4, 2026	May 2026 SpyderWeb Newsletter
May 2, 2026	Tech Tip ~ Noises From The Rear
Apr 30, 2026	Upcoming Weekend Events
Apr 28, 2026	SFBA Work Party Sat May 2nd

Cameron's '65 Turbo





and T-shirts. Josh said he also come to local cars and coffees and attracts a good crowd. Josh said maybe Steve Morton from Idaho would come down, he has lots of Corvair stuff.

The Fan Belt Toss is coming up (the date has been set for Oct 23-25, 2026). It will be at the same hotel as last year.

2026 Convention is Gettysburg. Jim said a member of his local club (Central Coast Corsa) just bought a Corvair and intends to fix it up and drive it to the Convention and will then sell it. He would then fly home. At least that's the plan.

Clark reported on Gabe's Cars & Coffee. From SFBA, he, Paul, and Tony showed up and there were maybe 15 cars. Two Corvairs, Paul's 63 Spyder and Gabe's new (to him) '65 Monza coupe plus several supercharged mustle cars. Gabe provided coffee and donuts. Thanks! Gabe has scheduled the next Cars and Coffee for Saturday, May 30th at his shop in Fairfield. Gabe said he has a Welding workshop scheduled for May. And there are four other workshops already planned for the year. Check his web site at https://www.sterlingrestorationsnv.com for more details.

A date for the next Napa Vault event has not been set yet. Bruce is thinking of September some time. It will be after Car Week and before the Fan Belt Toss.

Tech: Bruce said he drove his '65 Turbo convertible (Marc's car) to Yountville and back. This is the farthest it has been driven since it was restored (maybe 20 miles). It ran great. Now he wants to get a '66 quick steering box and column installed.

Craig said he just got his '65 Evening Orchid Corvair running again. He was having trouble with his center mounted Holly carburetor. Bruce said he never has had any trouble with the stock 4-carburetor setup, but he knew that others preferred the center mount setup. Lane said a carburetor shop in Onterio does a real good job of setting up Holly carbs. Craif sid his shifter is "loose" and the telescoping steering column need attention. He has talked with Seth who suggested taking some measurements to pinpoint the problem. Seth said to get the numbers off the Holly (by the air horn) as this tells the rebuilder exactly how the carb was originally configured.

Seth said he just took an old Corvair to Mel that was going to be junked (nobody wanted it as it had not been registered in many years and DMV wanted more than the car was worth). At Mel's they took off any parts that were salvageable and will crush the remainder. A sad day but you can't save them all! Seth said for the first time, he now has three running Corvairs. One is licensed and two are non-opted.

Gabe talked about his newly acquired '66 Corvair. The next step is to remove the drive train and then he can clean up and paint the engine compartment and the underneath areas. Seth asked what color the engine compartment was? Gabe said it was Black. Seth said this means it's an American assembled Corvair as Canadian Corvairs had the engine compartments painted the same color as the body. This makes it more work for the restorer. Gabe said he found water in the trunk and wondered how it got there. Seth said a common leak point on late model Corvairs is really a design issue. A panel below the windshield is welded on the "wrong" side and can trap water causing it to rust faster. This also allows water to enter the interior soaking the carpets and also the truck. Jim said it might enter through the wiper motor holes if the drain passages were clogged. Seth said Clark's sell two types of truck floor mats. Either rubber backed (as original) and felt backed. The felt backing was to allow water to escape and not be trapped underneath, causing rust. So obviously leaky trucks are common.

Christy said on his '63 Corvair the original owner installed quick steering arms and now it has a large turning radius. Seth said he must have just installed longer arms and that's what happens. Christy should just install the original arms. The way it is, will cause the tires to "argue" on tight turns because of the Ackerman effect.

Bruce showed pictures of his 13 mile Mist Blue Corvair which is very similar to Gabe's Blue Corvair. Vince showed a picture of a '65 Corvair with 35k miles on it. It is a 110 A/T and will be for sale shortly. Bruce is still having electrical issues on his '69. Something with the wiring harness he can't seem to find. When he puts the car in reverse, the brake light on the dash comes on and not the backup lights. Also the right turn signal lights do not flash but the left ones do. Jim said he had a similar issue with his turn signals that was caused by a pore ground. Seth said to put the car in neutral and ground the wire going to the master cylinder to

see Minutes... on page 10

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Letter...

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, May 7th 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. If the link does not work (as has happened in the past), you can go to https://www.zoom.com, click on "Meet" and then "Join a Meeting". Enter our permanent meeting number (above).

Minutes...

see if the brake light comes on. Bruce said when he starts to car in neutral, the dash brake light comes on dimly, but in reverse it comes on bright. Seth asked if the rear brake lights work? Bruce said yes. Seth said this means the wiring from the column to the rear lights is okay. The issue is the wiring into the column.

Jim said he just installed new carpets on his '64 convertible. It was a job getting the pieces lines up. The carpet came from Clark's. Josh said at least with his convertible and top retracted, you can stand up, making the installation easier!

Swap & Sell: Nothing specifically mentioned.

Meeting adjourned about 8:36 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Clark Calkins, secretary

Corvair Classifieds

CORVAIRS FOR SALE

'65 Corsa 140 Convertible, kept in garage, great shape, mileage uncertain (speedo not working) . Asking $12,000 OBO. Harrison Alter, doctordad@gmaill.com (05/26)



'65 Corsa Turbo Coupe, 180 4 speed, new tires, wheels, brake hoses, master cylinder, battery. Rebuilt turbo. Motor has Roller Rockers, Al valve covers & deep oil pan. Garaged.



Asking $16,000 OBO. Contact Gordon (707)758-5111 (6/26)

CORVAIRS 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 (corvairguru @gmail.com)

Brian Dowdey - Classic Car mechanic and Corvair specialist. Everything from tuneups to engine rebuilds. Good rates. Located in Winters, Ca. (530) 520-1414 briandowdy53@gmail.com

Treasurers Report - Buck Jones

May 2026

Date	Activity	Check #	Credit	Debit	Balance	Status
04/01/2026	**Begining Balance**				**$2,994.75**	
04/8/2026	SFBA Renewals		$100.00		3,094.75	
04/9/2026	SFBA Renewals		$23.47		3.118.22	
04/26/2026	May newsletter (stamps)			(12.41)	3,105.815	**
04/30/2026	**Ending Balance**		**$123.47**	**($12.41)**	**$3,105.81**	

**** Expense or Credit that has not been turned in yet. Bank balance shows $3,887.37**

CORVAIRS WANTED

Early Model Hardtop in good driving condition, original paint. Contact Ben Nourma at bennourma@gmail.com. (02/26)

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)

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