



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / August 2025—Volume 51—Number 8—Issue 599



## ***Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter***

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / August 2025—Volume 51—Number 8—Issue 599

***Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, August 2, 2025 10:00 AM***

***Palo Duro Senior Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110***

### ***This Month:***

President's Letter.....	Greg Nelson
Treasurer's Report.....	Steve Gongora
Meeting Notes.....	David Huntoon
Calendar of Events.....	Board of Directors
Birthdays .....	Membership
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Tinkertown Excursion.....	Joel Yelich
A New Toy.....	Tarmo Sutt
England 65 Corvair.....	David Huntoon
CNM Senior Center Announcements.....	ABQ Journal
Tinkertown Photos.....	Jim Pittman & Steve Gongora



***On the Cover: Tinkertown Travelers***

***President Greg Nelson and Steve Gongora (Treasurer, Webmaster & Newsletter Editor (lower right))***





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Secretary - David Huntoon	505-281-9616	<a href="mailto:corvair66@aol.com">corvair66@aol.com</a>
Treasurer - Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	<a href="mailto:stevegongora@msn.com">stevegongora@msn.com</a>
Membership - Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	<a href="mailto:guadalupe.arellanes@icloud.com">guadalupe.arellanes@icloud.com</a>
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## CNM August 2025 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson

### Program

More Mecum results from the most recent auctions and a preview of a couple of upcoming events.

### Tinkertown

A hand full of us made it to Tinkertown in Cedar Crest on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Even Joel from Santa Fe made it down in his vintage Porsche. After walking through the exhibit, we got a private tour of the house because Steve and Rita know the owner. It pays to know people. Jim and Lupe joined us at the Doc Long picnic grounds for lunch, also courtesy of Rita and Steve. That was the juiciest cantaloupe ever!!! Thanks again to the Gongoras. During the picnic Joel mentioned the possibility of having lunch at his house, possibly in the fall. Sounds like a good plan. We will discuss it at the August and September meetings.



### Collector Car Appreciation Show

On July 13<sup>th</sup> I met CNM's VP at the Wheels Museum for the NMCCC's Annual Collector Car Appreciation Show. It wouldn't be a proper show without Corvairs and Robert and his brother brought a pair to the show. New club member

Robert Weinberg also brought his newly purchased '65 Corsa. Robert used to own an auto repair shop on Wyoming just north of Central. He brings technical knowledge and a future garage tour to his home.



*Continued on page 3*

Report for CNM Treasury Account for June 2025						
Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
4-Jul-25						\$5,791.00
4-Jul-25	1231	50.00	McBreen, Robert - CNM Dues 26 Months exp July 2027		50.00	\$5,841.00
5-Jul-25	Cash	25.00	Weinberg, Robert - CNM Dues 1 year exp July 26		25.00	\$5,866.00



Trash Day

For last month's pickup Dave and I had a cloud of unwelcome assistants in the form of mosquitoes. They were lying in wait for us as soon as we stepped into the damp area just below the highway drainage pipe. I spent half the time swatting them off my

arms. We quickly agreed to stay out of that area until it dries more thoroughly. For August's (8/9/25) cleanup we will start at Mile Marker 5 at the usual time of 8:30am. Park in front of the Cider Bar. And then the usual visit to the Café at 9:30am.

'64 Monza

I am getting the '64 prepped for the Corvairs at State Fair Car Show on the last Sunday – September 14<sup>th</sup>. I am trying to get the rocker panels and dog legs installed before then. Currently the panel and rear dog leg on the driver's side are installed. I admit it's not body shop quality, but I did it myself and it looks ok. For safety there is a jack on the front axle and a block on the rear tire plus an extra safety jack in front of the rear tire.

Cheers everyone, hope to see ya at the meeting.  
Gregory Nelson  
President

**CNM Meeting Notes 7/5/25—David Huntoon**

8 members present

Treasury Balance \$5841.00—current

Robert Weinberg bought Johnson's red 65 Convertible. The convertible used to belong to John Stichman. John had installed a fuel injection on the engine. Robert has been showing a '47 Cadillac and a '49? Buick. Both are lovely machines.

Jerry Peevyhouse will check with Utah about the Tri-State

Car Appreciation on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> at the Wheels Museum. CNM members can show up at 7:30 AM for good placement.

Tinkertown Museum Tour is on July 19<sup>th</sup> – meet at Smith's on Tramway and Central – bring quarters for all the neat machines to watch. Bring a picnic lunch to meet afterward at Doc Long Picnic Grounds

September 14<sup>th</sup> at the State Fair (last day of the State Fair)– 7:00 AM at SW corner of the Mercado Parking lot. Enter the South gate the State Fair – San Pedro and Central.

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**AUGUST 2025****SEPTEMBER 2025****OCTOBER 2025**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

Saturday, August 2 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
Saturday, August 9, 2025	8:30 AM	<b>CNM Route 66 Cleanup on mile marker 5 in front of the Cider Bar</b>
Wednesday, August 20, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, August 27, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, August 29, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, September 1, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, Sept 6, 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
<b>Sunday, Sept 14, 2025</b>	<b>7:30 AM</b>	<b>State Fair Car Show –Meet at San Pedro and Central Parking Lot</b>
Wednesday, Sept 17, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, Sept 24, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, Sept 26, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, Sept 29, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, October 4, 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
<b>Saturday, October 11, 2025</b>	<b>9:00 AM ?</b>	<b>Los Luceros Excursion to Velarde—Meet at Buffalo Thunder Parking Lot</b>
Wednesday, Oct 15, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, Oct 22, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, October 24, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, Oct 27, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter

***Birthdays in August*****Steve Johnson 8-10****Sarah Price 8-13****Mark Morgan 8-28****Corbett Bataile 8-29**



# Dues Due

send your Dues to:

**CNM Treasurer**

**Steve Gongora**

**8419 Palo Duro Ave NE**

**Albuquerque, NM 87111-3238**

**Makes Checks Payable to: CNM or Corvairs of New Mexico**

## **Due in November 2024**

Maggi Kitts inactive as of Dec 2024

## **Due in December 2024**

Alex Johnson inactive as of Jan 2025

## **Due in January 2025**

Anne Wiker inactive as of Feb 2025

Lilian Shortle inactive as of Feb 2025

## **Due in March 2025**

William Heil inactive as of April 2025

## **Due in April 2025**

Art Gold inactive as of May 2025

## **Due in May 2025**

Fred & Brenda Edeskuty inactive as of June 2025

## **Due in July 2025**

Mike & Karen Piper inactive as of August 2025

Tarmo & Kay Sutt inactive as of August 2025

*Schedule of Dues:* CNM: 12 months = \$25.00 or 26 months = \$50.00 - CORSA: 12 months = \$45.00 or 26 months = \$90.00

If you want to pay CNM and CORSA to Treasurer: Both memberships 12 months = \$70.00 or 26 months = \$140.00

*Continued on from page 3 - Meeting Notes*

The usual departure time is usually by 3:00 with an escort thru the crowd. Bring a chair!!

Trash Day – Saturday July 12, 2025 – Park on the north side – most of the debris after the rain collects in that area. We've been taking care of the Route 66 clean up since 1996 – March through October. It was instituted by Ollie Sheflow and it is a way to show our civic duty to the highways of New Mexico. Meeting after at Roots Farm Cafe for coffee, tea or breakfast and enjoy the company.

You can find various photos and videos from the 2025 CORSA National Convention on Instagram and Facebook. (at least for those who have accounts on Instagram and Facebook)

New member – Robert Weinberg -Robert used to own an auto repair shop on Wyoming. He sold the business and building but continues to work on cars from his home in the north valley near Griegos and 12th. He has a complete shop and has welcomed the club for a tour of his garage.

## **Tinkertown Visit July 19, 2025**





## My first tour of Tinkertown by Joel Yelich

On the morning of Saturday July 19th, I drove down Hwy 14 from Santa Fe to meet up with some other members of the club at Tinkertown in Sandia Park. I had driven by the place many times over the decades on the way up to Sandia Peak, but this was my first visit. After a nice drive down the Turquoise Trail, I waited in the crowded parking lot trying to time the arrival of the others from Albuquerque. Eventually I heard the sound of a flat six as Steve and Rita Gongora's 1964 Corvan pulled into the lot. A moment later Greg Nelson appeared. We made our way to the museum as Steve explained that they were good friends with Carla Ward, the wife of creator and self taught artist, Ross Ward, who had passed away in 2002. Ross began collecting and meticulously crafting miniature circus figures in the early 60s, which evolved into a traveling exhibit. In 1981, he started building the museum's permanent structure from 50,000 glass bottles, officially opening it in 1983.



We were welcomed in by Carla at the entrance as Greg produced a bag of quarters for the first mechanical music display. Viewing the eclectic mix of dioramas, displays of curios and historic minutia was quite enjoyable. Greg disappeared down one of the corridors of bottle walls while Steve and I commented about the bayonets, wild west miniature displays, some in motion, and a pair of size 22 shoes from Louie Moilanen, aka "Big Louie", once billed as the world's tallest man, standing at 8'4" and weighing 430 lbs. One could spend hours looking at the details, especially the circus display. Eventually we came to the Theodora R, a 35-foot antique wooden sailboat docked in the middle of the Cibola National Forest, far from any major body of water. The 1936 English-built vessel was purchased in 1981 by Fritz Damler, Ross's brother-in-law. Damler spent ten years circumnavigating the globe, covering 80,000 miles before concluding his voyage in 1991. Unable to sell the boat, Damler, at Ross's suggestion, had the Theodora R trucked to Tinkertown Museum in 1994.

After some discussion of an unusual solar sensor tripod in the middle of the museum, I exited out to tour the wild west village. Responding to calls of my name, I then returned to the main entrance and we all were given a wonderful private tour of the adjoining residence by Carla. Ross' art studio inside is still filled with an amazing collection of paintings. The hidden courtyard has a mural Ross painted in 90 minutes.



I was invited to join the group for lunch up the road at the Doc Long Picnic Area now including Lupe and Jim Arellanes. I'm thankful to Steve and Rita for providing some great sandwiches from Great Harvest Bread at Montgomery and Juan Tabo and sweet melon slices. Before saying goodbye, we discussed having a garage tour up at my place in Santa Fe this fall and I'll make chile con carne for everyone.





## A New Toy—Tarmo Sutt

We are all constantly on the lookout for Corvairs, even models and toys. So, when I heard rumors that Matchbox is making a 1961 Rampside model, I spent some idle time trying to see what I could find.

I couldn't find anything locally, so I looked on Ebay, and found a red one for sale for \$9.00. That was more than most Matchbox models, but since I couldn't find one anywhere locally I ordered it. The order said about two weeks for delivery. I waited for it to come. And I waited. And I waited some more. When I finally went back to the site, I learned it was coming from Singapore, and it was due in a couple of more days. The teal blue Rampside arrived one bright day, with the customs declaration on the outside. I opened it up, and it is a pretty good representation. I was pleased.

Well, one late night I was bored and spent some more time on Ebay, and this time a red one showed up, coming from New York this time. It was only \$5.00. So, since my '61 truck is/was red I ordered it too. It came much faster than the blue one. I subsequently ordered a second red one.

I'm now the proud owner of three Matchbox Moving Parts '61 Rampside trucks. I only intend to keep two though. The other one will be a gift to another Corvair Rampside enthusiast when next we meet. But in the meanwhile I will enjoy the fruits of my labor.







The photo to the left was sent to David Huntoon. He is in contact with the current owner of Bill Reider's car. The car now resides in England. This is what Dave says:

Just got this, Bill's Corvair. Out for a 80 mile trip to a show in England. Stewart Rockliffe, ran great!

**ONE ALBUQUERQUE** senior affairs

July through December 2025

**Activity Catalog**

FOR SENIORS 50+

505-764-6400

[cabq.gov/seniors](http://cabq.gov/seniors)

Citizen Contact Center: 311

Facebook: @CABQSeniors  
Instagram: @CABQSeniors

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor | Anna M. Sanchez, Director

**GROUPS, CLUBS & COMMUNITY GROUPS**

**ABQ ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY (TAAS)**  
Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center  
TAAS is one of the largest and most active astronomy clubs anywhere. Our motto "Observe-Educate-Have Fun".  
1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month: 7:00pm-8:45pm

**ABQ FIBROMYALGIA SUPPORT GROUP**  
North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the Month: 11:30am-1:00pm

**BIBLE STUDY**  
Join us every week. Bring your bible if you have one, not required.

**Barelas Senior Center**  
Monday: 9:30am-10:30am

**Bear Canyon Senior Center**  
Thursday: 9:00am-11:00am

**Los Volcanes Senior Center**  
Tuesday: 9:30am-11:00am

**Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center**  
Thursday: 10:00am-11:00am

**North Domingo Baca Multigenerational Center**  
Mon & Wed: 9:00am-10:00am  
Friday: 10:00am-11:00am

**BIBLE STUDY (Interactive)**  
Palo Duro Senior Center  
Friday: 9:00am-11:00am  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month.

**CHEROKEES OF NM**  
Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center  
Members of the Cherokee Nation gather to discuss traditions & culture.  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 12:00pm-2:45pm

**CHEROKEE SW TOWNSHIP**  
Bear Canyon Senior Center  
Members of the Cherokee Nation gather to discuss traditions & culture.  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in July/Sept/Dec: 10:30am-2:30pm

**CORVAIRS OF NEW MEXICO**  
Palo Duro Senior Center  
Car Club founded in 1974 promoting interest in the Chevrolet Corvair. Membership is open to anyone interested in Corvairs. No requirement to own a Corvair. See you at the next  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday: 10:00am-12:00pm

**DEAF SENIORS OF GREATER ABQ GROUP**  
Palo Duro Senior Center  
Thursday: 8:30am-11:30am

Activity Catalog

The Corvairs of New Mexico is listed in the Albuquerque Activity Catalog published for the Albuquerque Journal. This is from the latest edition.



Photos from our Tinkertown Tour July 19, 2025

Photos provided by Steve Gongora & Jim Pittman





Photos from our Tinkertown Tour July 19, 2025

Photos provided by Steve Gongora & Jim Pittman

