



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / December 2025—Volume 51—Number 12—Issue 603



## ***Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter***

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / December 2025—Volume 51—Number 12—Issue 603

***Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, December 6, 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.....	Jim Arellanes
Meeting Notes.....	Dave Huntoon
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Corvair Parts for Sale.....	Curtis Shimp



Vulcan Corvair Enthusiasts

***On the Cover: Early Corvair Advertising for a Winter Day***

***Merry Christmas from the Vulcan Corvair Club (lower right)***

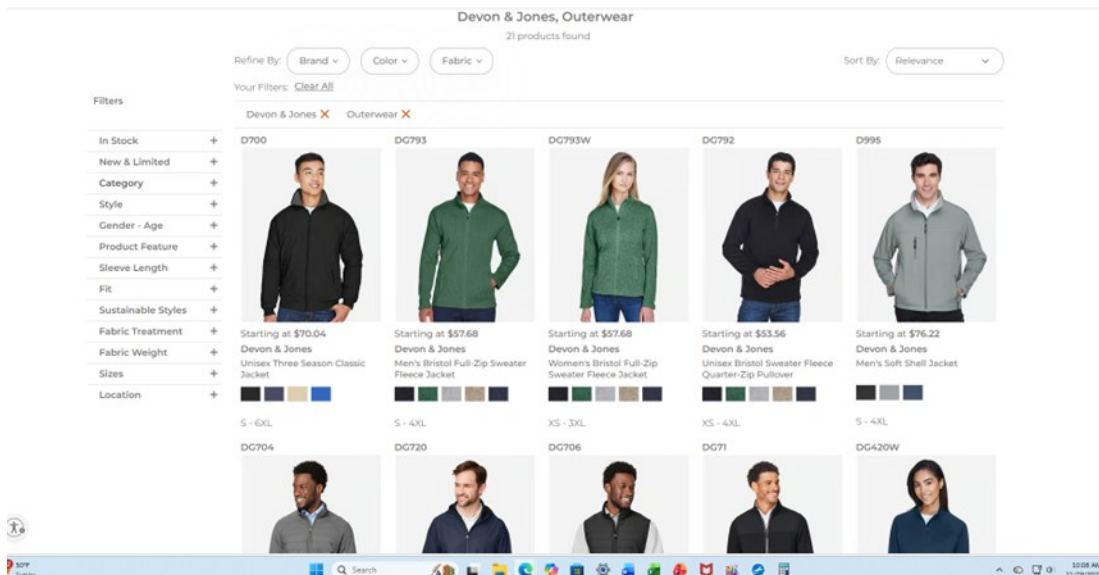
# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO



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Treasurer - Jim Arellanes	505-515-5526	<a href="mailto:james.arrellanes@icloud.com">james.arrellanes@icloud.com</a>
Membership - Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	<a href="mailto:guadalupe.arrellanes@icloud.com">guadalupe.arrellanes@icloud.com</a>
Programs - Brenda Stickler	505-344-2039	<a href="mailto:tounce66@msn.com">tounce66@msn.com</a>
Newsletter - Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	<a href="mailto:stevegongora@msn.com">stevegongora@msn.com</a>
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## CNM December 2025 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson Program - Jackets

Rowan Apparel no longer stocks the Devon and Jones jacket the members are currently wearing so for this month's program we will go through the current jacket inventory and try to come to a consensus. I am certainly willing to get another



jacket, in another color and style. It may be possible for each of us to order a unique style of jacket, but I will have to confirm with Rowan.

## Xmas Party

Do not forget to set your calendar for December 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm at Mimi's Café for our annual Xmas party. If you wish to participate in a gift exchange, please keep the value to \$10. We can hammer out details at the meeting if we want to make this a while elephant exchange (number of steals for example).

## Elections Finalized

With great pomp and circumstance and late-night politicking we have selected officers for 2026. Just one change to the positions: Jim Arellanes will be our new treasurer. Thanks Jim!!!!

And thanks to the rest of the team:

Greg Nelson – President

Rogert Gold – Vice President

Jim Arellanes – Treasurer

Dave Huntoon – Secretary

Lupe Arellanes – Social Coordinator

Steve Gongora – Newsletter Editor

*Continued on page 3*

## Report for CNM Treasury

### Account for November 2025

Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
1-Nov-25						\$6,096.00
1-Nov-25		25.00	Anderson, Jon & Debbie	1 year Membership	25.00	\$6,121.00

## 64 Monza

With the holidays upon us I have made little progress on the Monza other than installing the glove box. After Christmas I plan to park my butt in the garage every week until I get all the 'cosmetic' fixes completed. Details to follow in subsequent newsletters.

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### **CNM Meeting—November 1, 2025—David Huntoon**

Treasurer reports \$6096.00 plus need to add Jon Anderson \$25.00

A nice article on our Rt 66 cleanup appeared in the Nederland Corvair Club newsletter. Their editor, Ralf Verhees, had traveled Rt 66 several years ago and saw our roadside sign. He asked about it and Greg sent him some info on our participation. By the way the Nederland newsletter is more like a glossy magazine! Impressive. You can find it online.

David Huntoon will buy the Forever Stamps on the internet for CNM.

For our recent members, name tags are available at 'ALL SPORTS'. Just drop in and give them your name. Already bought and paid for. Same goes if you lost or damaged your name tag.

Tarmo mentioned the interior and wheels are nearly completed on his most recent project. He is getting ready to paint the interior. The Loadside doesn't have a name yet.

Dave is still waiting for his Chinese Tires. The 13", 14", and 15" tires are harder to find.

Lupe Arellanes has heater issues – It gets cold with heater on.

Larry Yoffee has a nice '65 140 red convertible but is looking for a comparable LM coupe. Possible trade even up?

Russ McDuffie – leaking fuel from mechanical fuel pump. Needs to remove pump. He is also dealing with an oil leak.

Steve's Corvair van is getting stripes painted at MAACO Paint Shop.

Jim Arellanes said that bikers really liked his Corvair (Don't know it that's bicyclists or motorcyclists.)

Our new treasurer, Jim, Arellanes is completing the turnover process with Steve. Steve, Greg, and Jim will add signatures at Wells Fargo.

Our next event is the Christmas lunch at Mimi's at 1PM on December 13th.

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## November 19, 2025 Board Meeting Notes

Greg Nelson, David Huntoon, Lupe and Jim Arellanes, Rita and Steve Gongora joined in a Zoom meeting.

Greg attended the planning commission for the State Fair and there was talk of eliminating the weekend Flea Market.

Greg asked if there was a theme to this year's CNM activities.

We talked about having lunches after the meeting. I told them we used to meet at some restaurant after every meeting before COVID.

Lupe Arellanes would like CNM to participate in the Annual Balloon Fiesta Car Show. Steve Gongora said he would provide her with a name for the car club in charge of the event.

Two members were inquiring about CNM jackets. Greg followed up at Embroidery Plus

*Continued on page 4*



on Montgomery. They didn't have the same jacket available as the last order but they can sew our logo onto any jacket that we bring. Steve said he was going to check with Aramark for additional pricing of jacket and logo.

The annual CNM Christmas dinner will be a Mimi's at 1:00 PM and Lupe would like for everyone to bring a gift \$10.00 or under for give away.

Dave Huntoon provided 200 Forever Postage stamps for CNM.

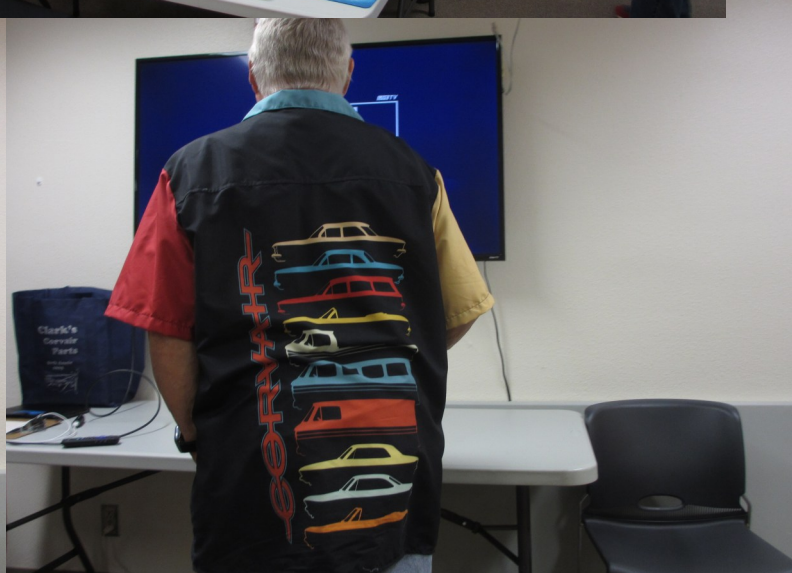
Steve will be sending an updated member list.

Rita suggested to add the Origami in the Garden to our 2026 itinerary. They are normally closed on the weekends but we can check in to a special tour for Saturday.

Route 66 Highway is 100 years old in 2026. There were suggestions for CNM to do something special to celebrate the event.

## Photos from November 1, 2025

### CNM Meeting—Photos by Steve Gongora



## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

### *A “Master” Class in Early Brakes—Robert Gold*

I first want to say what gets me through the woes of various repairs on my classic (read - old) Corvairs. Just when I think I’ve fixed all the issues, a new one will crop up. What keeps me going is summed up in my saying, “It’s worth the hassle if it has a happy ending”. I should also admit that a lot of those problems are a result of my over-enthusiasm concerning buying cars. Take for instance a recent purchase I made from Dave Langlois of a nice looking 63 red Spyder. As the old saying goes, “It’s a looker”. My main regret with that purchase is my not knowing much about its brakes.



I first want you see the master cylinder that was installed in that 63. Notice something strange? Yep, it’s a dual master cylinder in the place of the stock single one. For sure it is a safer option, but it caused a real headache when Dave delivered me the car along with his opinion that the master cylinder was BAD. I at first ordered the 67-69 dual master Dave suggested. That didn’t work so I arranged for another shop to work on it. I have to tell you it was quite a drive across town to the repair shop when the pedal stops under an inch from the floor. After getting to the shop alive I decided I needed to share what I learned about dual master cylinders. Maybe that would save someone’s life. Lol.

The shop I took it to wasn’t very helpful at first. They just couldn’t figure out how to obtain a replacement master cylinder. It is here that I get to tell you about Keith at Keith’s Wheel Alignment. I stopped by to see if he knew what was going on. It turns out he did! He had me look on the side of the cast iron shell of the master cylinder and there stood several numbers cast into the side. Mystery solved! Keith thought it was an early 60’s Chevy, he was wrong on that one. I got my magnifying glass and flashlight and found the Bendix manufactured part number and looked it up online. After consulting Dr. Google I discovered this master cylinder went to a 74 Jeep CJ5! Weird. But it was true, and of course the Bendix dual master cylinder is no longer being made. Lucky for me Raybestos does make that master cylinder and I bought it from Walmart at a bargain! All this leads to a happy ending. I now have a 63 Vair with a Jeep master cylinder. It sure beats the “Flintstones” brake system the Spyder had when I bought it. I hope my story helps if you are faced with a car in which someone had “improved” the car’s brakes.



*CNM Annual Corvair  
Christmas Luncheon at  
MiMi's Café*



*Saturday, December 13*

*at 1 pm · Mimi's Cafe*

*4316 The 25 Way, ABQ NM 87109*

*RSVP by phone/text 505-515-9897. Lupe A,*

## Dues Due

send your Dues to:  
**CNM Treasurer**  
**Jim Arellanes**  
**57 Granny Trail**  
**Tijeras, NM 87059**

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

*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

CNM Renewal Date	Status	Last Name	First Name	CNM Renewal Date	Status	Last Name	First Name
February-24	DUE	Finch	Phil	March-25	DUE	Heil	William
May-24	DUE	Domzalski	Mark	April-25	DUE	Gold	Art
June-24	DUE	Riggs II	Fred	May-25	DUE	Edeskuty	Fred
July-24	DUE	Piatt	Lloyd	November-25	DUE	Battaile	Corbett
November-24	DUE	Kitts	Maggie	December-25	DUE	Huntoon	David
December-24	DUE	Johnson	Alex	December - 25	DUE	Lawerence	John
January-25	DUE	Wiker	Anne				

## CLUB EVENTS

TYPE	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Club Matters	Dec 6	10:00 AM	Members' Meeting--1st Saturday, 10am: Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110
Social	Dec 13	1:00 PM	Annual Christmas Luncheon 1pm @ Mi Mi's Cafe, 4316 The Way, Albuquerque, NM
Club Matters	Dec 17	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters			Deadline for Newsletter -4th Friday
Social	SPRING	TBD	Origami Park -- Group trip North Tijeras; South Santa Fe
Social	SPRING	TBD	CNM Anniversary Luncheon
Social	SUMMER	TBD	Fathers' Day Car Show in Edgewood
Social	FALL	TBD	State Fair Car Show
Social	FALL	TBD	Balloon Fiesta Car Show



Dick Cochran December 5      Diane Tweedy December 5  
Mike Piper's December 6      Jimmy Arellanes December 16  
Greg Nelson's December 17      Lube Lubert's December 21  
Fred Riggs II's December 31

*Happy Anniversary!*  
Mark & Elizabeth Domzalski  
December 11

## *An "F" in Corvair 101—Ignorance is no excuse—Robert Gold*



In addition to driving our wonderful Corvairs another thing we routinely do is try to find someone competent to fix our rides. Alas, we are not all as knowledgeable as Dave Huntoon or Tarmo Sutt. With this said let me show you an online ad that I discovered when I was looking for someone to fix the brakes on my 63 Spyder:

*[https://www.facebook.com › WheelAlignItWheelAlign It II | Albuquerque NM - Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/WheelAlignItWheelAlignItII) Our team specializes in suspension and alignment solutions for all vehicles, including those that are lowered, lifted, or customized. We also provide alignment.*

So folks, what conclusion would you draw from the ad? To me it meant this business knew something about classic or modified cars. They also mentioned online their ability to work on other problems including water pumps

and such. After reading all this I was not prepared for my reception when I drove my 63 over to their shop. I won't go into too much detail but after I asked them to do brake work on my car the guy running the shop asked me, "What kind of brakes does a Corvair have?" WHAT??!! A shop that specializes in custom and classic car work doesn't know what kind of brakes are on a 63 Corvair? Sadly, I should have left immediately but I stuck around to see what they could do for me. It ended with the boss saying he MIGHT be willing to work on my car, but if it needed parts he wouldn't store it at his shop and I'd need to bring it back. What he was asking was for me to drive a car with a brake problem home! It was at that point I got out of there and luckily my car got me home safely.

What should we take away from my experience at this shop? First, do what I did and check them out online to see what kind of work they do. But I also suggest you check out Yelp to see what their customers say. That is something I didn't do. If I had I would have read the following rating:

***"Beware", please check reviews on google before you go to Wheel Align II. This will save you a lot of money and disappointment.***

Happily for me, I avoided the disappointment, and I would recommend you Corvair folks do the same and find the right shop for your car.



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## *A Corvair, A Candidate, and an Important Car Show.—Robert Gold*



To be honest this report began as a normal car show report. On November 1 I entered my 66 Corsa in Phil Lovato's Feed NM Kids car show. Phil has hosted this show for a number of years at his vehicle repair business, Phil Lovato and Sons. He sponsors the show as a means to raise funds and food for the charity, Feed NM Kids. His last two attempts were not treated very well by "Mother Nature", but this year the cool morning gave way to a glorious day. In response, turnout was stellar.

However, rather than simply talk about what kinds of cars showed up I've elected to tell a tale related to politics in our community. Sadly, my Corvair was the only one at the show, so I had to park next to a



random "X" ride. I found an open spot between a pre-war



ride and a Mustang. This turned out to be a significant place to be, because I was parked next to a candidate for Mayor of Albuquerque, Louie Sanchez.

I should note that I've lived in a number of large cities, such as St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, and Nashville, before arriving in the Land of Enchantment. Living in those other places provided little chance of me meeting any sort of major political candidate, but that is not the case in Albuquerque. Looking

back, I vividly remember standing around in downtown when our then Governor, Bruce King walked by, by himself. For any of you who remember Bruce, he loved shaking people's hands. Before I knew it I was shaking hands with the Governor. It was just him and me. What a memory.

Though Louie does not rise to the level of Bruce King, he was a current candidate for mayor. I was struck by the fact that he had set up with his hotrod Mustang with nothing more than a small table of promotional water bottles and information sheets. It was only two days before the election and Louie was "Hanging with the Homies", as nice as he could be. After a moment I built up the courage to talk to him. I won't say whether I voted for him, but the very fact he was a car guy meant a lot to me. He was even kind enough to say that though he had the Mustang he mostly had Chevys before that. I found him gracious and I want to thank him for his support of a worthy cause and his kindness to me.





## LED Lights for a Corvair—John Lawrence



LED Headlight Box and Info

I installed LED lights in my 66 Monza Sport Coupe, replacing the original type incandescent. The LED bulbs I chose were direct plug in replacements which do not require any wiring changes, relays or flicker filters. I first replaced the AC T3 headlights with *Octane Lightning* LEDs. I rarely drive at night, but when I do a well lit road is necessary for these old eyes. These bulbs are direct plug-and-play replacements for the 5 3/4" sealed beams. They came with two types of bulbs - halogen H4 and LED. They are similar in look to the original headlights. This feature was attractive to me because



Hi and Lo Beam LED Bulbs

many of the LED headlights now offered have a much different look than the conventional vintage ones. The set of four I ordered from Amazon cost \$200. The headlights were aimed and I was eager to see how well they performed. The first experience driving home in the dark with the new headlights was - well, like night and day. The new lights illuminated the road much better with a bright well focused pattern. I felt more comfortable and safe with these new LEDs. Oncoming traffic did not seem to be bothered by the lights. This can be a problem with some of the new style headlights. The high beams made a brighter light pattern but did not seem to increase the pattern distance much. This was not a concern as the pattern has a long reach. Having had success with the headlights, I decided to change out the rest of the exterior lights. I found LED re-



Flasher, and 1156-1157-57 Replacement LED Bulbs

placements for the 1156 (back-up) and 1157 (stop/turn signal/tail/parking) bulbs on Amazon. They are also a direct one-for-one replacement for the original bulbs. The LED turn signal bulbs require an electronic flasher because the current draw is too low to trigger a conventional flasher. The flasher is a direct plug in replacement but requires connecting a ground lead. Amazon was the source for the flasher too. The two 1156 and four 1157 LED replacement bulbs cost \$30 and the flasher was \$8. I bought the LED replacement for the license light (type 57) from AeroLites. Its cost was \$7. The new LEDs are brighter than the original type bulbs and more visible especially in daylight. The total cost for this change over was about \$250. This is not an insignificant amount, but I feel it was well worth it given the increased safety factor.



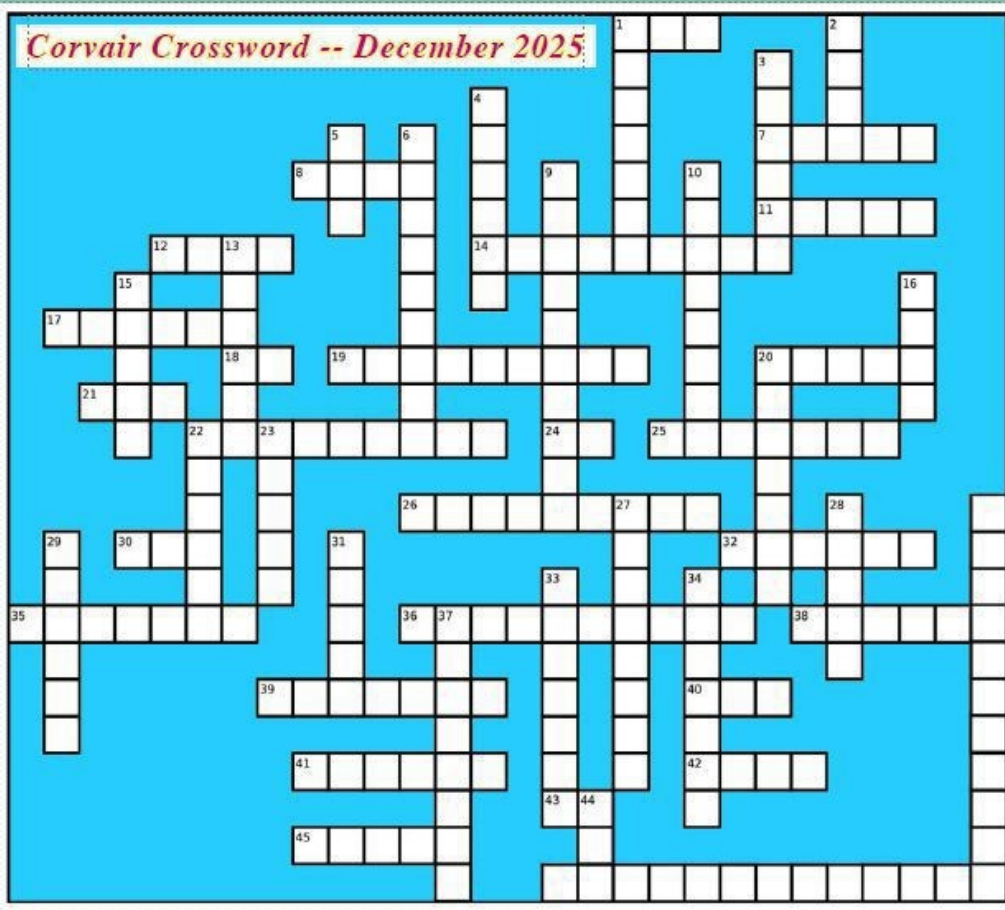
The Corvair with the new LED headlights

Overall, I am pleased with the LEDs and recommend doing this, especially for the headlights.



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Crossword Puzzle created by Jim Pittman



**Across:**

1. How many cylinders?
7. Typical transmission gears
8. Number of carbs for 140s
11. Tried to kill the Corvair
12. Ready, Willing, Able
14. It's the season
17. Composed a reference book
18. Edison's company
19. 1911: Founded by race driver
20. Popular email provider
21. Engineering school
22. Our newsletter
24. Big city or Southern state
25. Cartoon character
26. A unique feature
30. Powerglide gears
32. Big Brother
35. Decade of our favorite car
36. Popular Fall destination
38. Sixties was Corvair's
39. Your clutch shouldn't
40. Greenbrier is one
41. Steve is ours
42. "Start Your Engines!" in 1911
43. Don't stop
45. Not heavy, not dark

**Bonus:**  
One who predicts the future

**Down:**


1. They all had 150s
2. Where's the engine?
3. They power vehicles
4. Not alternating current
5. Older email provider

6. Greg is ours
9. New Mexico town, county
10. Popular pickup
13. First newsletter editor
15. Where's the party?
16. An epic

20. Military officer
22. Founding Father
23. National organization
27. Station Wagon
28. Nemesis
29. Corvairs definitely are

31. A favorite model
33. Not the enemy
34. Why we're here
37. Maybe best engine
44. X loses

**Bonus:** Our Founding Year



Answers to posted in next month's newsletter !!

Build your own custom worksheet at [education.com/worksheets-generator](http://education.com/worksheets-generator)  
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**For Sale**—Curtis Shimp—Silver City, New Mexico,

Ph: 575-534-9576, email: [clshimp57@gmail.com](mailto:clshimp57@gmail.com)

3, 164 CID crankshafts. One, standard diameter ready to use, \$200, one nitrided (&), standard diameter, ready to use, \$200, and one standard diameter but needs to be reground, \$100.

One set of 6 used, connecting rods for 164 CID (numbers 1 thru 6). Clark's core value \$35/ea. All for \$60.00.

2, 180 hp turbo heads (#3878568), used. Very good condition but no valves.

\$100.00 each. I can deliver to the Christmas party on 12/13 at Mimi's.