

**CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO**  
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Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / July 2026—Volume 52—Number 7—Issue 610



***Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter***

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / July 2026—Volume 52—Number 7—Issue 610

**Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, August 1, 2026 10:00 AM (July cancelled )**

**North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center , 7521 Carmel Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113**

***This Month:***

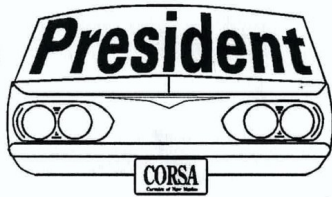
President’s Letter.....	Greg Nelson
Treasurer’s Report.....	Jim Arellanes
Calendar of Events.....	Lupe Arellanes
Tri-State in Montrose 2026.....	Steve Gongora
Board Meeting.....	Steve Gongora
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	Lupe Arellanes
North Tijuana Corvair Club.....	Steve Gongora
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Corvair Repair Desert.....	Robert Gold
Message for Utah Tri-State.....	Nathan King
Hemming Great Race.....	Steve Gongora
Tri-State Photos.....	DeGroot & Gongora
CORSA 2026 Convention.....	Val & Sasha Doppenberg



***On the Cover: Aerial Shot from Arie DeGroot (Phil’s Father)***

***Shady Hats in the Park (lower right)***

From the  
Greg A  
Nelson



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Treasurer - Jim Arellanes	505-515-5526	<a href="mailto:james.arrellanes@icloud.com">james.arrellanes@icloud.com</a>
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## CNM July 2026 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson

### July Meeting

No meeting this month since our meeting falls on the Fourth of July, so instead we are planning on meeting for lunch at Jason’s Deli on Louisiana at 11:00am. Hope to see you all there.

### TriState Recap

Got to hand it to the Pike’s Peak Club, they put on an excellent Tri-State this year. I met Robert Weinberg at the Sandia Casino gas station as planned and we left together. However, Robert asked how fast I planned on driving and since my answer was not even close to his suggested speed, his comment was “See you in Montrose.” I was not actually that bad. I was only behind him by 20 minutes. And that included all my pit stops. The drive up 550 was gorgeous. Typical northern New Mexico geology. And then the view slowly gave way to mountain forest. The drive through Durango occurred right at lunchtime so the streets were remarkably busy. It did turn me off as a future Tri-State location, but....., I will get back to that shortly. The drive from Durango to Silverton was harrowing to say the least. The road had fresh gravel and no guard rails. One mistake and it is a quick trip to the bottom of the valley. After Silverton it was smooth sailing into Montrose. It was great to see all the familiar faces milling about the hotel parking lot when I arrived. At the unofficial get together at the bar that evening I sat and chatted with the Pipers and other folks from RMCC. The car show the following morning was great and there were thirty-eight cars on display. CNM member Larry Yoffee gets the prize for being the only club member to bring a car. Curtis Shimp usually brings one, but he was flying to Italy for a wedding soon after and could not risk a breakdown. After the show I played tourist and paid a visit to the Museum of the Mountain West. They boast



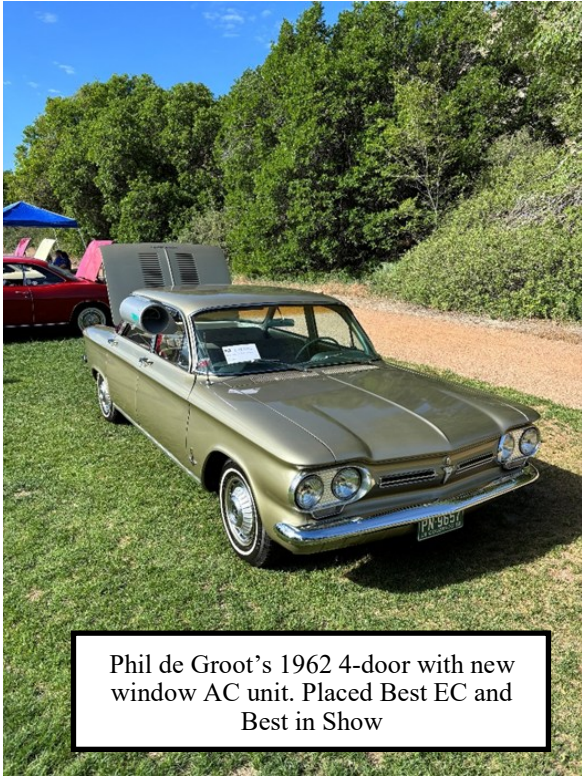
Stunning view between Durango and Silverton.

*Continued on page 3*



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Continued from Page 2— President's Letter



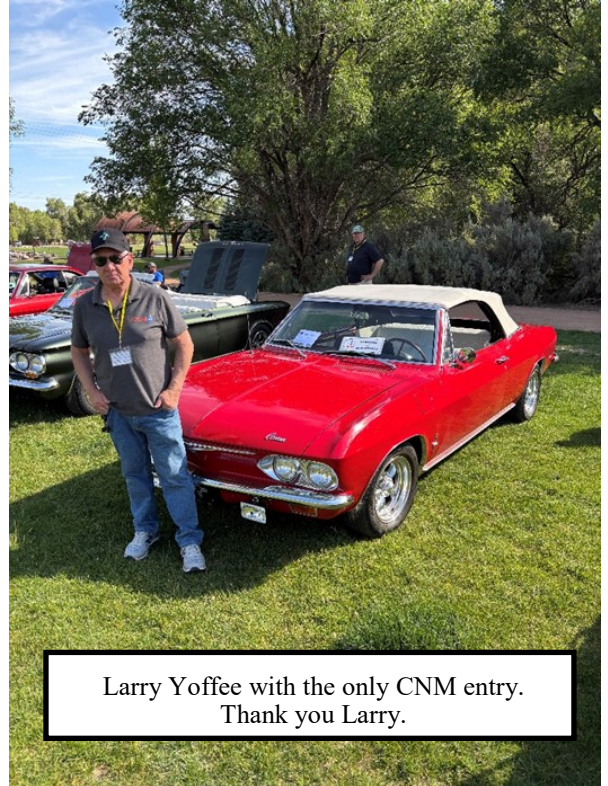
Phil de Groot's 1962 4-door with new window AC unit. Placed Best EC and Best in Show

500,000 items on display. I do not doubt that number. Finally, it was time for the banquet and raffle. My fellow club members said the dinner was great and I walked away with two raffle prizes. If anyone needs wheel covers for a 1966 let me know. The following morning it was time to return home but not the same route we took on Friday. Instead, I took Highway 50 east through Gunnison and then eventually south on 285 through Española. It added 40 minutes to the trip, but the scenery was well worth it.

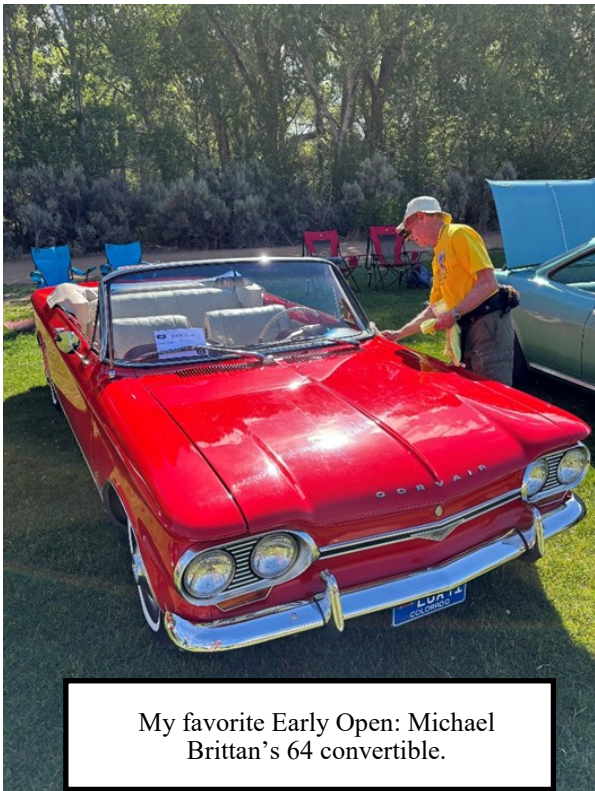
Tri-State Future  
Since the Bonneville club is hosting next year's Tri-State in Moab, Utah the Colorado clubs have asked if they can adjust

the schedule, so they do not host consecutive years. Both Colorado clubs and CNM agreed, so that means RMCC will host in 2028 and we push back a year to 2029. I mentioned Durango in the above article and originally thought it was too crowded. What about Raton? Well, unfortunately that would mean an

11-hour drive for the Bonneville club. So back to Durango which



Larry Yoffee with the only CNM entry. Thank you Larry.



My favorite Early Open: Michael Brittan's 64 convertible.



A wonderful surprise: Tony and Linda attended the car show.

Continued on page 4

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Continued from Page 3— *President's Letter* brings it back to a 7-hour drive, 5.5-hours for PPCC and 6-hours for RMCC. It would be only 3.5 hours for CNM. I will in the future chat with RMCC and ask if they have started looking for a destination and let them know we are looking at Durango.

## August Program

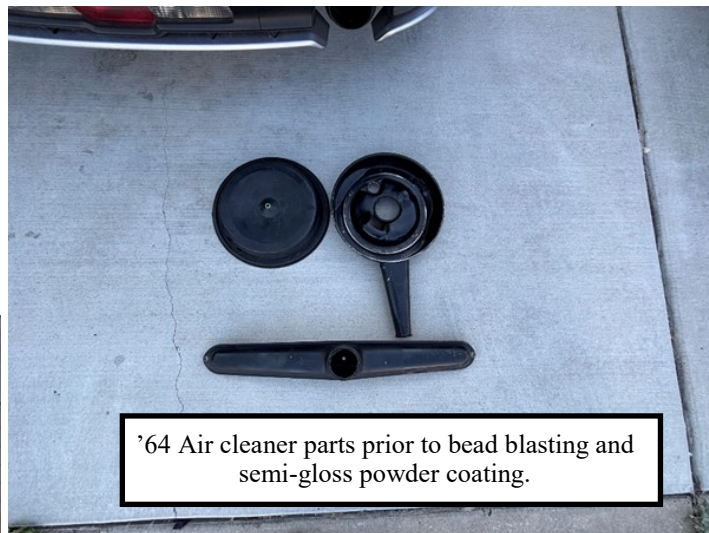
I will show photos from the Tri-State trip including the entry vehicles and Museum pictures.

## 64 Monza

On 6/22/26 my Clark's package arrived. Inside are the seat upholstery and gas lines. Before installing the gas lines, I will run the pump and check for debris just past the faux pump's split to the carburetors. The air cleaner's components are at Duke City Powder Coating and Sandblasting. Why? After seeing



Front seats removed



'64 Air cleaner parts prior to bead blasting and semi-gloss powder coating.

all the pristine engine compartments at the Tri-State I am going to endeavor to get my 1964 engine-bay looking the same. In time for the State Fair? Maybe. The seat covers will go to the House of Covers, and I am guessing the rear seat bench will need new stuffing because there was a bunch of it falling out of the seat.



## Trash Pick Up

July 11<sup>th</sup> is the next visit to our Mile Markers. Club members cleaned the bottom section in June, so we will be back at the top of the mile. Park just east of Mile Marker 6 sign in the west-bound lane on the open shoulder.

Report for CNM Treasury							
Account for July 2026							
Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance	
1-Jun-26							\$6,441.00
26-May-26	1849	70.00	Morgan, Mark	CORSA & CNM dues - 1 year - Due March 2027	70.00		\$6,511.00
17-Jun-26	5261	250.00	Arellanes, Jim & Lupe	- CNM Dues & Donation	200.00		\$6,711.00
				Dues for CNM 26 Months - Due Aug 2028	50.00		\$6,761.00
25-May-26	13856	50.00	Gongora, Steve & Rita	- CNM Dues - 26 months due - June 2028	50.00		\$6,811.00
23-May-26	1383	25.00	Dinsdale, John	- CNM Dues 1 year - Due 4-2027	25.00		\$6,836.00
14-Mar-26	8159	50.00	Sutt, Tarmo & Kay	- CNM Dues - 26 Months - Due 11-2028	50.00		\$6,886.00

Continued on page 4

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## Great Race

Tarmo, Steve, Dave and I ventured to the Sid Cutter Pavilion parking lot to see the Great Race vehicles make their overnight stop in Albuquerque. They are travelling on Route 66 westward from Springfield, Illinois to Pasadena,



Steve's work van.



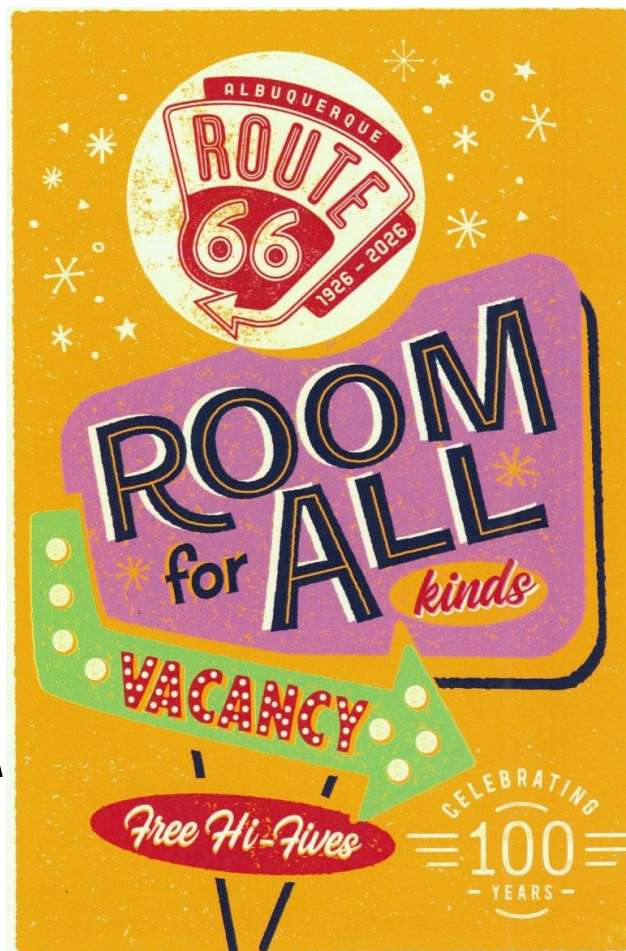
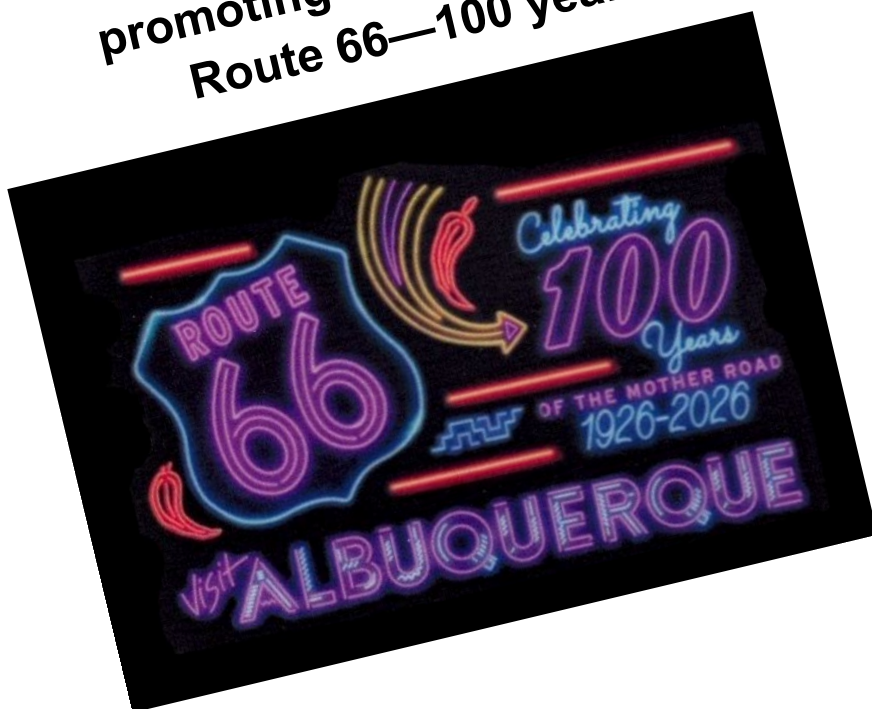
The first six of 135 entries in The Great Race.

Califor-

nia.



Some of the logos used in promoting Albuquerque and Route 66—100 years.



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## Schedule of Events

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Club Matters	Saturday, July 4,	CANCELLED	Members' Meeting--1st Saturday, 10am: North Domingo Baca Center, 7521 Carmel Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113, Room 7
<b>Social</b>	Saturday, July 4,	11:00 AM	LUNCH MEET UP: Jason's Deli on Louisiana Blvd Rd NE; <b>PLEASE</b> RSVP by email
Club Matters	Saturday, July 11,	8:30 AM	TRASH-PICK UP on Route 66; meet at Cider Bar; 340-364 NM-33; frontage parking lot
Club Matters	Wednesday, July 15,	7:00 PM	Board Meeting--3rd Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters	Wednesday, July 22,	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting -- 4th Wednesday, 6:30 PM; Manzano Mesa Senior Center, 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
<b>Car Show Invite</b>	Saturday, July 18,	8:30 AM	Route 66 Car Show Series; Sandia Peak Tramway; 30 Tramway Rd, Albuquerque, NM 87122;
Club Matters	Friday, July 24,	--	Deadline for Newsletter -4th Friday
Club Matters	Saturday, August 1,	10:00 AM	Members' Meeting--1st Saturday, 10am: North Domingo Baca Center, 7521 Carmel Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113, Room 7
Club Matters	Saturday, August 8,	8:30 AM	TRASH-PICK UP on Route 66; meet at Cider Bar; 340-364 NM-33; frontage parking lot
<b>Car Show Invite</b>	Saturday, August 15,	8:30 AM	Route 66 Car Show Series; Sandia Peak Tramway; 30 Tramway Rd, Albuquerque, NM 87122;
<b>Social</b>	Saturday, August 15,	<b>TBD</b>	Origami Park -- Group trip North Tijeras;
Club Matters	Wednesday, August 19,	7:00 PM	Board Meeting--3rd Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters	Wednesday, August 26,	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting -- 4th Wednesday, 6:30 PM; Manzano Mesa Senior Center, 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Club Matters	Friday, August 28,	--	Deadline for Newsletter -4th Friday
Club Matters	Saturday, September 12,	8:30 AM	Route 66 Car Show Series; Sandia Peak Tramway; 30 Tramway Rd, Albuquerque, NM 87122;
<b>Social</b>	Sunday, September 20,	TBD	State Fair Car Show
<b>Social</b>	Sunday, October 11,	TBD	Balloon Fiesta Car Show
			TBD=To be Determined/Changed



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## Tri-State 2026 – Montrose, Colorado – Steve Gongora



This year's Tri-State was held in beautiful Montrose, Colorado. The Tri-State event was originally named for the three states represented by participating clubs: Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. The four clubs involved are the Rocky Mountain Corsa, Pikes Peak Corvair Club, Bonneville Corvair Club, and Corvairs of New Mexico.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of our Tri-State gatherings. Travelers from Albuquerque enjoyed a scenic drive through majestic mountain landscapes on their way to Montrose.

A total of 38 Corvairs were displayed at Cerise Park, and more than 100 people attended the banquet. We extend our sincere thanks to the Pikes Peak Corvair Club and Kathy Green for hosting such a memorable event.

Only two individuals have attended Tri-State events continuously throughout its 50-year history, dating back to 1976: Steve Gongora and Steve Goodman. Montrose offered visitors plenty of attractions and activities. Highlights of the trip included visits to the Museum of the Mountain West and several of the town's unique thrift stores.

We are already looking forward to next year's Tri-State, which will be hosted by the Bonneville Corvair Club in Moab, Utah.



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

CNM Board Meeting – 6-17-26 7:00 PM

Greg Nelson, Robert Gold, Jim & Lupe Arellanes, David Huntoon, and Steve Gongora logged in to Zoom for a board meeting on the third Wednesday.

Since two meetings in a row were cancelled due to the Tri-State in Montrose and the North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center is closed on July 4<sup>th</sup>, Greg Nelson has set up a breakfast at **Jason's Deli at 2105 Louisiana Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110** on the Saturday, July 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. Please let Greg know you are attending to set up the appropriate room for the club. You can reach him at [fesedu@comcast.net](mailto:fesedu@comcast.net)

Greg and Dave were going to help Robert Gold with adjusting his linkage on his car but other attention had to be given to the alternator. It seems that you shouldn't let loose rags get left in the engine compartment to get swallowed by the alternator. The shifter will be looked at on the next visit.

Greg, Dave and Steve met our fellow CNM member, Dick Cochran from Grants, NM on June 15<sup>th</sup> at Jason's Deli. Dick has been instrumental in putting on Corvair adventures to the Grants Mining Museum, the Arches south of I-40 and a trip to the Mystery Rock in Los Lunas. Thank you, Dick for your continuing support of our club. He is planning for our club for another adventure to Grants in late September.

Jim and Lupe Arellanes are in the process of transporting their convertible to Robert Weinberg's garage for further evaluation on their transmission.

We are checking to see if Robert Weinberg is opening his garage for a club tour.

We discussed the success of the Tri-State trip with 38 Corvairs showing at the park and over 100 people at the banquet. There was discussion in Montrose about changing the rotation of the hosting clubs. Next year the host club is the Bonneville Corvair club and the Tri-State will be held in Moab, Utah. The year after the host club will be Rocky Mountain Corsa, the CNM will be the host 2029.

The treasury stands at \$6886.00 with donations and membership dues.



## Happy Birthday

James Richardson July-5

Debbie Anderson July-6

Robert McBreen July-7

Mark Domzalski July-8

Tarmo Sutt July-8

Valerie Nye July-10

Larry Blair July-15

Kelli Pogue Morgan July-19

Kay Sutt July-31



**Mark Morgan & Kelli Pogue July-19**

**Dick & Linda Cochran July-18**

# **North Tijuana Corvair Club—(reprinted from 2017)**

How did this club start? It was the brainchild of Marsh Hesler when he belonged to the San Diego Corvair Club. He felt the southern Corvairs didn't have enough representation. So his patch ridden mechanics lab coat and his Sombrero were all it took to ignite this unusual Club. He and his wife Carole moved to Colorado in 1993 and settled in Estes Park. His charisma and unique talents kept the Tijuana Club alive when he started attending the Tri-State events. Rita Gongora took the torch and shortened the name to the Tijuana Corvair Club and has recruited many member since the infectious spark started by Marsh. Every year a new member or more are recruited to the club by the selection committee (Rita) and adorned with a sombrero. The mission of the club? Who knows? But who needs an excuse to have a good time with fellow Corvair owners and the opportunity to have a unique bond together. The membership continues to grow each year. We contacted Marsh earlier this year and unfortunately he is not able to travel as he would like and the club continues to grow each year. All members of the Tijuana Club please rise and be recognized.



**Tijuana Club over the Years**



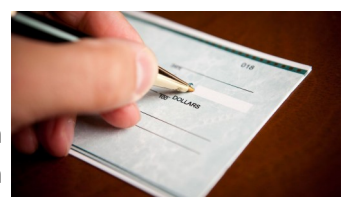
**Dues Due**

**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 = \$60.00 or 26 months = \$120.00  
 If you want to pay CNM and CORSA to Treasurer: Both memberships 12 months = \$85.00 or 26 months = \$170.00

CNM Dues Due July 2026			
Johnson	Alex	Dec 2024	Due
Lawrence	John	Dec 2025	Due
Hall	Pat	Apr 2026	Due
Lubert	Lube	Apr 2026	Due
Yelich	Joel	Jul 2026	Soon
Weinberg	Robert	Jul 2026	Soon

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



## *An Editorial—Are we living in a Corvair repair desert?*

*Robert Gold*



It occurred to me not long ago that I'm not getting old. Rather, I AM old. With all those years I've seen a lot of things and since I got my first Corvair in 1982 I've seen lots of trends in the Corvair loving community.

On the positive side we see how our CNM members are embracing more and more high-tech replacements to parts contained in our beloved cars. However, this brings up the question of where is this work to be

done? For example, Steve Gongora seems to be able to locate vendors who can do amazing things to his classic cars. Sadly, that is not the case for many of our CNM members.

I should point out that recently we seem to have lost a couple that recently purchased a nice early 4-door. The flaw is that they were not mechanically inclined and found themselves dependent on the kindness of others in the club to keep their classic on the road. This lack of professional support seems to have caused them to drift away from Corvairs and with that CNM.

I've jokingly said that, "Corvairs are a hobby, not a form of transportation." By that I mean we know our cars will have problems, but we justify our love of these rides noting that they provide something more to us than merely a means to get from point to point. What I'm now asking, has the environment degenerated so much that getting necessary repairs for our cars is getting to be such a process that our enjoyment of our cars is beginning to go away? After all, if you can't drive your classic, it becomes only expensive "lawn art".

I don't know if I have the answer, but I'd like to make a suggestion. First, I find as the years go by, many of the mechanics I depended on are gone because of one reason or another. I laud certain of our CNM members who try fill the void, but real pros should be available when you find a problem we amateurs can't solve.

My suggestion is that we maintain a listing of shops that our members have used along with descriptions of their experiences at these places. A great example for me is when, by chance, I heard at a meeting the positive results of using Keith's Wheel Alignment. Because of that comment I have used Keith's a number of times and my cars can now stay on the road.

Why can't we get the word around to our members where to go when things go wrong? I suggest the title could be something like, "CNM's List". What do you think?

Robert Gold, Mechanically Challenged.

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## Message for Tri-State Clubs from Nathan King

CNM Officers, Utah club needs help with 2027 Tri-State—Moab, Utah

As our club begins discussing hosting the Tri-State event, I wanted to reach out to gather some input from clubs that have hosted or helped organize the event in the past.

Could you share what your club typically plans when hosting the Tri-State? For example, what types of activities or events you usually organize throughout the day or weekend.

I'd also appreciate any insight into what it typically costs your club to host the event, as well as what you usually charge attendees for registration or participation.

Another thing we're trying to understand is the amount of manpower needed. About how many volunteers does it usually take to run the event successfully?

When hosting do you typically use CORSA's insurance for the venue, or do you go a different route for event coverage?

Finally, moving forward with hosting, would there be anyone in your club who might be willing to help or assist during the event? As our club is really small we only have 5-10 active members

Any advice or lessons learned from your experiences would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and for helping us plan a great event for the Corvair community.

Best regards,

Nathan King President—Bonneville Corvair Club—Chapter 840



## Hemmings Great American Race – Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – Steve Gongora

What stated out as a recommendation from a friend, and later a news release in the paper, ended up as a way for club members to meet participants and watch hundreds of cars traveling through the country on a timed rally race. I heard about the race from a friend where I teach. He asked if I was going to attend the rally at the Balloon Fiesta Park on June 24<sup>th</sup>. I told him that it was Rita's birthday and I didn't know the plans. I saw the promotion in the Albuquerque Journal and shared it with a few Corvair members. When the day came, Rita had plans with a friend that afternoon and I was able to go the park. While driving down Alameda I followed the signs that took me to the north side of the park to a remote parking area. A few other classic cars were parked and we boarded a golf cart transport to get to the field. As soon as I arrived a couple of people hopped on and said there was room for more show cars. I stayed on the cart and thought to myself, what a great opportunity to show my van. It was quite the effort to make it back to the south side of the field. You had to drive all the way back to Alameda and snake your way down to the area where the other show cars were. I had a skeptical look from the attendants as I attempted to show my car because of the logos on the side of the vehicle. They thought it was a commercial vehicle. First of all, they didn't know what kind of car it was. I assured them that a 1964 Corvair van should qualify as a classic. Once parked, I met Greg Nelson, Tarmo Sutt and David Huntoon to welcome the cars as they arrived and drove through the entry pillar gates. Each time two balloon gondolas on either side spewed a blast of gas and more warm air that you would want to feel on an even hotter day. There were about 50 to 60 local cars that were there showing the support for the race and about 127 cars participating in the race itself. Tarmo knew about a 1966 Corvair Corsa that was in the race and we were able to see them arrive and talk with the crew. I remember Oliver and Jenny were the two navigators. The driver's name escapes me at this time. You could see my van from where they parked. They had never seen a Corvair van and were very interested in checking it out. They not only saw the van but picked up important information to help them. I showed them a tool I use for replacing a fan belt and Tarmo shared some information about keeping the engine cool driving through Death Valley. Tarmo shared his phone number just in case of any issues. What a great afternoon.

Rossie Morris, a local machine shop owner, used to race his classic in the Great American Race. He used to share great stories about his adventure and was a great speaker. He met with our club a few times and I'm sure many a Corvair engine around Albuquerque was touched by his business, Sundance Motors.



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Photos from Tri-State Montrose, Colorado June 5, 6, and 7, 2026

photos by Arie DeGroot and Steve Gongora



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO



2026 CORSA International Convention in Gettysburg



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Hemmings Great Race—June 24, 2026—Balloon Fiesta Park—Steve Gongora

