



CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / May 2024—Volume 50—Number 5—Issue 584



CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / May 2024—Volume 50—Number 5—Issue 584

Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, May 4, 2024 10:00 AM

Highland Senior Center, 131 Monroe St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108



This Month:

President's Letter.....	Greg Nelson
Treasurer's Report.....	Steve Gongora
Tri-State Thanks.....	Steve Gongora
Meeting Notes.....	David Huntoon
Board Meeting.....	Steve Gongora
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	Membership
Calendar of Events.....	Board of Directors
50th Anniversary Logo Stickers.....	Steve and Dave
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Tale of a Rt 66 Cleanup Miracle.....	Robert Gold
Memory Lane.....	Membership
Registration.....	Tri-State
Jim Pittman's 65 Monza issue.....	Jim Pittman
Search for a New Corvair.....	Tarmo Sutt
Board Meeting Photos.....	Greg Nelson

On the Cover: John Lawrence's new Corvair



Corvair Tri-State Logo 2024



Pres -	Greg Nelson	505-400-8670	fesedu@comcast.net
VP -	Robert Gold	505-856-6993	beisbol30@msn.com
Sect -	David Huntoon	505-281-9616	corvair66@aol.com
Treas -	Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	stevegongora@msn.com
Mmbrshp-	Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	ispeakmedicare505@gmail.com
Programs	Brenda Stickler	505-344-2039	tounce66@msn.com

CNM May 2024 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson

TriState

Well Folks, just one more club meeting before the 39th TriState. And, we have a menu for Saturday night's banquet at the El Fidel:

Coffee/Tea

Mini Shrimp Cocktails

Herb Crusted Beef Tenderloin

Baked Chicken Breast

Roasted Fingerling Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetables

Salad

Dinner Rolls

Carrot Cake



Continued on page 3

Report for CNM Treasury

Account for April 2024

Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
27-Mar-24						\$5,305.68
17-Apr-24	2604	-2969.63	El Fidel - Balance on Banquet - Meals & Facility		-2969.63	\$2,336.05
25-Apr-24	2605	0.00	Voided Check to El Fidel - Lost Check - Found		0.00	\$2,336.05

Tri-State Las Vegas—May 17,18, 19—Steve Gongora

I would like to thank all of those volunteers involved in making this year's Tri-State a success. Lupe Arellanes spearheaded the team along with her husband Jim in setting up places, events and things to do in Las Vegas. Greg Nelson, Lupe and Jim made several trips to Las Vegas to make sure things were in order. Brenda Stickler has worked hard in creating the goodie bags and has worn many hats.

CNM members contributed items for the gift baskets and it was our friend Joan Punt and Rita Gongora who assembled works of art that will be available for sale and auction at the event.

Anne Mae Gold and Lupe used their talents for creating beautiful Corvair laden mementos.

Kay Sutt was a monumental part of the team with her creative trophies for the car show. Kay has made stunning textile masterpieces for past Tri-States.

Dave Huntoon and Pat Hall will share their time for the car show event.

Many thanks to Tami Moore for her continuing time and energy as a webmaster for the Tri-State.

Continued on from Page 2

No program this month as we'll discuss final details for the TriState.



There will also be one more Board meeting before the Tri-State. Normally it is scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month. At the April Board meeting we decided to push it earlier to Sunday May 12th at 3pm at Rita and Steve's house. And yes, we realize it's Mother's Day. I usually call my mom early in the morning.



Ray & Lilly's 64 Four door
I assisted Dave Huntoon replacing the accelerator pumps in the Gonzalez's beautiful Green '64 Four-Door. Dave brought the pumps to last month's meeting. As you can see in the photo (right) the accelerator cup is slightly damaged. After completing the installation R&L were gracious enough to let me drive since I've never driven a Corvair with a PowerGlide transmission (both of mine are manuals). I'm happy to say that the car made the trip without any issues.



Continued on Page 4

continued from page 3



Lupe and Jim's Convertible

I'm also assisting Dave in getting L&J's car up and running. On our first trip we determined that the electric fuel pump was dead as a Dodo. Lupe has procured a replacement pump, and we are scheduled to install it on Friday the 26th.

Déjà Vu?

And now to continue the saga of my Spyder. No, the photo below does not refer to my ordeal last month trying to get the Spyder to the shop. This is my second attempt with a different fuel pump. Dave followed me and the car only made it 2 miles down the road. We spent 3.5 hours swapping out the fuel pump six times (4 spares) to no avail. So once again I towed it home. I swapped out the fuel pump, with the working pump from my '64. This should work. Right?

Sigh. I only made it 1/2 mile. But I was smart enough to drive east on Academy towards Tramway. It's uphill. I was able to get turned around and coasted downhill all the way home.

Next, I put the car up on jacks and what do you think I found? An electric fuel pump is already installed working in tandem with the mechanical pump!!! The plan is to remove the mechanical



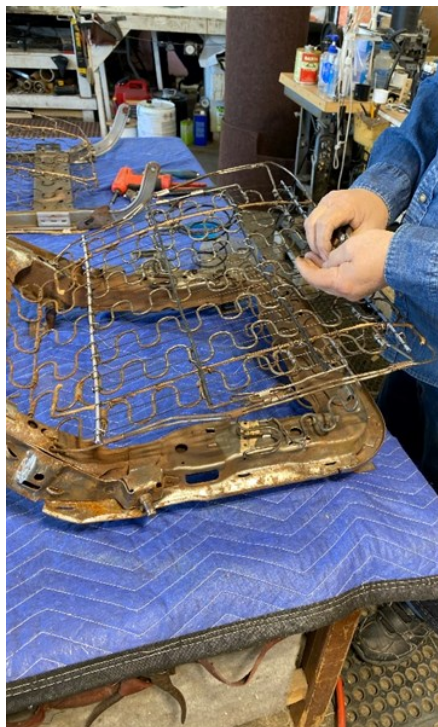
pump and use a Clark's By-Pass plate. Stay tuned for details.



Continued on Page 5

continued from page 4

I do have good Spyder news. I took the front seats to House of Covers for new foam and extra spring reinforcement. And I got none other than the man himself, Steve Gongora (with decades of experience), to work on them. Juan Encinas was the master welder to repair and reinforce any frame and spring issues.



May 11th Trash Day

Our next scheduled trash day is the second Saturday of May 11th. We will meet at the 'top' of our mile near the Mile Marker 6 sign at 8:30 am. We limit the time to one hour and then as usual we'll meet at the Roots Farm Café afterwards.

Palo Duro Senior Center Car Show

We been asked to bring a few Corvairs to the Senior Center on Comanche just east of San Mateo on Wednesday, May 15th, from 9:30am-11:30am. Please note that this is the Wednesday before the Tri-State. If you can be there it would be greatly appreciated.



CNM monthly club meeting David Huntoon 4/6/24

15 members present.

Treasurer reports \$5305.68 on hand and up to date

VP absent / no report

Our next RT 66 cleanup will be 4/13 at 8:30. We will concentrate on the lower third of our section.

Car show season is in full swing with events from Las Cruces to Farmington and places in between.

More info on the New Mexico Car Council website. nmcarcouncil.com

The Phone Museum now has a plaque recognizing our visit last year. Very interesting tour.

Final arrangements for the TriState banquet concluded. Menu determined.

More Tri-State items discussed. T-shirts, car show items, goody bags, posters and historical notes.

Things seem to be well in hand to have a good time.

thx, David

Board Meeting April 17, 2024 5:30 PM

Greg Nelson, Robert Gold, Lupe Arellanes, David Huntoon, Brenda Stickler, Steve & Rita Gongora

Check written for banquet - Greg will take to Las. Vegas \$2969.63 balance

Posters \$30.00 for Greg Nelson - Posters for sale @ \$5.00

Larry Yoffee donated posters (Red River) - Bought red Convertible from Dave Langlois

Posters will be protected with envelopes that will be for sale at the Tri-State

NM Magazine gave permission to use any information about Las Vegas as long as they are credited.

Andy Baca was contacted to invite local people to display their cars.



Birthdays in May

Anne Mae Gold - 5-28

Pat Hall 5-22



Anniversaries in May

Corbett Battaile & Erin Collins 6-9

Robert & Anne Mae Gold 5-13

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

MAY 2024						
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

JUNE 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	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

JULY 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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	2	3

Saturday, May 4, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Sunday, May 12, 2024	3:00 PM	Board Meeting—8419 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87111
Wednesday, May 15	9:30 –11:30 AM	Palo Duro Senior Center Car Show—5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110
Friday May 17, 18,19 2024	All Day	39TH ANNUAL CORVAIR TRI-STATE IN LAS VEGAS, NM
Wednesday, May 22, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 th Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday May 24, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, May 27, 2024	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Monday June 1, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Wednesday, June 19, 2024	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, June 26, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 th Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday June 28, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, July 1, 2024	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, July 6, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Wednesday, July 17, 2024	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, July 24, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 th Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday July 26, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, July 29, 2024	*****	Target completion of newsletter



Guess What? Corvairs of New Mexico is celebrating their 50th year as a club. It started with Pete Colburn collecting information from the Motor Vehicle Department and connecting with like minded people getting together to start something which has lasted probably longer than anyone could have imagined. Pete was able to connect with Jim Pittman, Francis Boydston and Dale Housely and met at the home of Pete's parents. The rest is history as they say. David Huntoon suggested we create a sticker for this special event and he has window stickers available. **Get yours at the next meeting!!**

Dues Due

send your Dues to:
CNM Treasurer
Steve Gongora
8419 Palo Duro Ave NE
Albuquerque, NM 87111-3238

Due in March

Mark Morgan - inactive as of April 2024

Due in April

John Dinsdale - inactive as of May 2024

Due in May

Mark & Elizabeth Domzalski - inactive as of June 2024

Joel Yelich & Valerie Nye - inactive as of June 2024

Due in June

Steve Johnson - inactive as of July 2024

David Pierre - inactive as of July 2024

Fred Riggs II - inactive as of July 2024

Due in July 2024

Lloyd Piatt—inactive as of Aug 2024

Inactive:

John & Tracy McMahan - inactive as of February 2024

Phil Finch - inactive as of March 2024

Clifton & Katie Trujillo as of Sept 2023

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

The Tale of a Rt 66 Cleanup Miracle—Robert Gold

I'm sure most of you have at least one piece of jewelry that you like most of all. For me, in addition to the wedding ring from my beloved, Anne Mae, that piece of jewelry comes in the form of a WWII era friendship bracelet. It lives alongside two other similar bracelets on my left wrist. This particular bracelet is made up of individual sterling links that at the time you could buy at a jewelry store to build a complete bracelet.



This type of bracelet came into fashion 'way back during the first World War. The idea was to get the public to buy these links and trade them with friends, thus building a complete "friendship" bracelet. I discovered these bracelets while touring through Ebay. Surprisingly, the bracelets are quite inexpensive even though they are sterling and by this time, are quite old. This type of bracelet fell out of fashion after the war but returned with the onset of the second World War. The links by that time were a bit different but resulted in the same type of friendship bracelet.

The WWII bracelet included links containing the symbols associated with the war, such as a propeller that stood for the Army Air Corps. You could also buy links with a blue star to represent a relative who was risking their life for our country. Anyway, I came upon a bracelet on Ebay that contained links for the Marines, Army, and Navy in addition to the Army Air Corps. It was quite a find and over the years it became my favorite.

I'm telling you this so what does it have to do with our long running cleanup along Route 66? Well, here is the rub. For the April cleanup I showed up and along with Dave Huntoon and Greg Nelson walked along the shoulder and picked up quite a lot of trash. I would encourage anyone who hasn't done this to join us in the future to make Rt 66 a nicer place to drive. I guarantee that if you participate you'll feel wonderful for helping the environment. I carried that glow all the way home when I realized a horrible thing—MY BELOVED BRACELET was gone! I should mention that I have lost a couple of these bracelets in the past, never to see them again. Obviously, this was quite a sad event for me since I really, really liked this bracelet.



Usually after one of my bracelets goes missing, I spend a lot of time looking, looking, looking for it, knowing that I'd probably never see it again. On the day of the cleanup I started to mourn my loss knowing that it could have been lost ANYWHERE. I would think of it lying along some anonymous section of RT 66 never again to grace my wrist.

With all this in mind, and after looking, looking, looking around my house I gave up on the idea of ever seeing the bracelet again. I'm sure you can see this coming, but I'll say it anyway, I FOUND the bracelet! No, it hadn't dropped off along the highway or at any one of the many places I went to that day, like at Sam's, where I go to get gas. As I got ready to go to bed, I randomly looked down next to the bed and there it was!!! I still can't believe it. I had the bracelet back. My first thought was to somehow weld it to my wrist so this would NEVER happen again, but my second thought was to share this story with you of my Rt 66 Cleanup Day miracle.

Thinking about all this I feel this is an opportunity to publicize the wonderful things being done by the CNM membership by picking up trash along the highway. The picture above shows my children, Sara and Javi, holding the broken remains of our sign many years ago. I tell this tale because I'm still amazed that I have my bracelet to wear again. As Joaquin Andujar, a professional baseball player put it, "You can sum up life in two words—You Never Know". – Robert Gold

Memory Lane—1st CNM meeting at Galles Chevrolet—Can anyone remember the date and members?



Tri-State Registration: Here is a registration you can fill and send for the Las Vegas, NM Meet.



Accommodations:

The Castaneda &
The Plaza Hotel

Car Show Hotel:

The Castaneda Hotel

Banquet Hotel:

The Historic El Fidel Hotel

The Castaneda Hotel, a historic Fred Harvey House has 18 rooms reserved for out-of-state attendees with a 2-night minimum. Overflow attendees will be directed to the historic Plaza Hotel.

Phone Calls ONLY for Reservations: (505) 425-3591 for both hotels; mention "Corvair Tri-State" for our negotiated 15% discount; prices per night range from \$84 to \$143/night; payment collected upon reservation.

All are Welcome to our 39th Corvair Tri-State May 17, 18, 19, 2024 in Historic Las Vegas, New Mexico

COSTS:

Registrant 1> _____ @ \$65 → \$ _____

Registrant 2> _____ @ \$65 → \$ _____

Address/City & State: _____

Club Affiliation: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Order your Event T-Shirt/Crew Neck: @ \$30 ea. → \$ _____

Car Show Entry: (S,M,L,XL,XXL,XXXL ...): _____ Grand Total \$ _____

1> Car Year: _____ Car Body Style: _____ Car Color: _____

Car Points Interest: _____

2> Car Year: _____ Car Body Style: _____ Car Color: _____

Car Points Interest: _____

Banquet & Car Show Cost: \$65. Adult

Send this form and a check payable to: "Corvairs of NM"; mail % Steve Gongora, 8419 Palo Duro NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111; Email questions to: tristatecorvairs@gmail.com

Visit our website *Virtual Visitors' Center* to view excursion ideas: www.tristatecorvairs.com

2024 Tri-State News

... by Lupe Arellanes

City Selection: Las Vegas, New Mexico;

Dates: May 17th-18th-19th 2024.

Host Hotels:

Banquet Hotel: The El Fidel Hotel.

Accommodations: The Castaneda Hotel & The Plaza Hotel.

Car Show Hotel: The Castaneda Hotel.

The Castaneda Hotel, a historical Fred Harvey House, has 18 rooms reserved for out-of-state attendees with a 2-night minimum. Overflow attendees will be directed to the historic Plaza Hotel. Call for Reservations: (505) 425-3591 for both hotels; mention "Corvair Tri-State" for our negotiated 15% discount; prices per night range from \$84 to \$143/night; payment collected upon reservation.

Banquet/Show Cost: \$65.00 Adult



Email to Steve Goodman from Jim Pittman—April 26, 2024

Hi Steve,

Just got the latest DripLine and on Page 10 I saw your tech article on harmonic balancer failure.

I was instantly transported back to October 17th, 2001 when I drove my 1965 Monza to our Corvairs of New Mexico board meeting at HOUSE OF COVERS. When I got there, the Corvair was trailing a line of leaking fluid!

We all had a look. There appeared to be a fuel pump leak -- it was too dark to determine that the leak was oil, not fuel. And there was a strong smell of leaking gasoline. Steve Gongora said I could leave the car in his lot until we could get a new fuel pump installed. I got a ride home with our secretary, Chuck Vertrees.

A few days later when we installed the fuel pump it became obvious that there was an oil leak, but at the time it was too dark to diagnose the source. So the car had to stay in the lot a few days more.

When we had time to check out the car during daylight we found the harmonic balancer had been working its way off and by now had started to cut into the oil filter. This was just like you described in your article.

On December 1st Steve installed a rebuilt Dale harmonic balancer. After cleaning up the messy engine compartment the Monza was finally ready to drive again. I wrote up this adventure in the January 2002 issue of our ENCHANTED CORVAIRS newsletter.

Steve Gongora was the hero of this episode in the life of my 1965 Monza as he provided a safe storage location for the car while we obtained parts and then did the installation of a new fuel pump and a new harmonic balancer.

Maybe I should try to get my article reprinted. Maybe the editor of the DripLine could use it as a follow-up to your article? I'll copy this email to the editor just in case. I can easily email a PDF of the page of our January 2002 newsletter with the article.

I appreciate that you are still contributing interesting and useful articles to the DripLine.

Hope you are surviving the bad winter weather in Denver. As for us, we have had a mild winter so far. It's still wind season and will be hot summer here any day now. We are getting by, coping with our "getting old" complaints as best we can.

Jim Pittman

Search for a New Corvair by Tarmo Sutt

It pays to know people when you are searching for a new Corvair.

John Lawrence is a Vintage Car Club of Santa Fe member I've known for several years. John buys cars of all types, uses them and then resells them when the "hankering" for a new car strikes. This time it was a Corvair he was "hankering" for.

He contacted me because he knew I was a long-time Corvair fan, and he thought I might be able to help him in his search. John had been looking online and asked me to check out a couple of cars he was interested in on bringatrailer.com. He bid on one '66 Monza, but lost it in the final minutes of the bidding process, so his search went on.

Another friend of his saw another Corvair for sale In Taos on Facebook, and he asked me if I would like to come along to look at the car and help drive both vehicles back to Santa Fe if he bought the Corvair. Long story short . . . after a total of five meeting contacts

Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11

with the seller and no meeting ever successfully achieved, he gave up on that possibility.

A few days later I called Steve Gongora about some Corvair parts I thought he might need, and he mentioned to me that Steve Johnson, Gordon's son, had his mother's '66 Aztec bronze Monza with power glide and air conditioning about ready to go on the market since his mom is no longer able to drive it. She owned the car 20 years and it is reported to have originally been a Galles Chevrolet car. I immediately contacted John to let him know it was coming on the market soon.

John called Steve right away, and a meeting was arranged at a Double Eagle Airport hangar, where Steve works and stores the car. I drove down with John, again to help drive home if he bought it. We drove to Albuquerque with high hopes, and John wasn't disappointed.

A thorough inspection of the car showed it to be exactly what John wanted, except it has an automatic transmission, which was not his first choice. The drive around the airport revealed it was a sound car, and the asking price was in the range John was wanting to pay. So, the two men shook hands and the deal was concluded.

I drove the car part way home to get my impression of the car, and John happily drove it the rest of the way to enjoy his new acquisition.

This story just goes to show how important knowing people is in acquiring any vintage car. Thanks, Steve, for the tip which helped keep another Corvair in New Mexico.



CNM Board April Meeting—Photos by Greg Nelson

Lupe Arellanes was presented with a CNM jacket complete with Corvair patches that have been placed over the last 50 years. Heula Pittman donated the jacket and it went to the right owner.



Lupe sitting in some of the gift baskets created for the Tri-State in Las Vegas, New Mexico