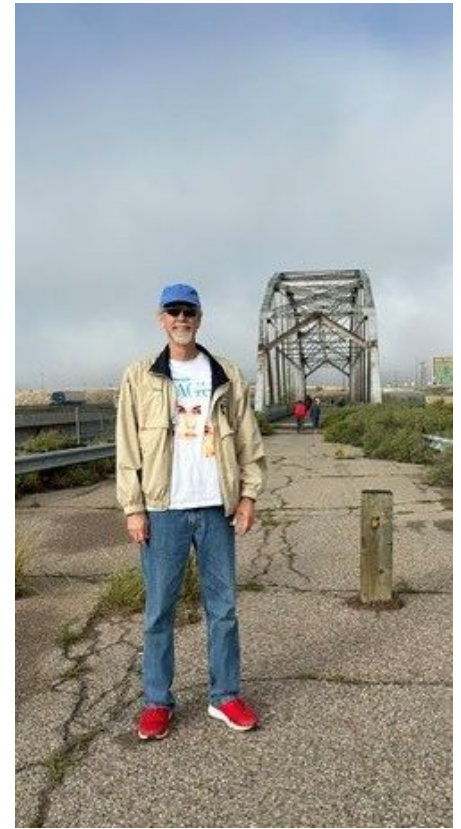




Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / October 2026—Volume 52—Number 10—Issue 613

Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, October 3, 2026—10:00 AM

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
CNM Meeting Notes.....	David Huntoon
Calendar of Events.....	Lupe Arellanes
Photos of Meeting.....	Jim Pittman
Board Meeting.....	Steve Gongora
Mining Museum Tour Photos.....	Steve Gongora
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	Lupe Arellanes
Mining Museum Tour.....	Steve Gongora
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Los Luceros Poster.....	Jim Arellanes
Message & Info. for Utah Tri-State.....	Nathan King
"Flintstones Mobile" Archeological Find at the Ninth Hole.....	Debra Heller



On the Cover: Mining Museum Photo Shot at Grants 66 Drive-Thru & Greg Nelson at Rio Puerco

Greg Nelson at Rio Puerco (lower right)

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

From the
Greg A
Nelson



President - Greg Nelson	505-400-8670	fesedu@comcast.net
Vice-Pres - Robert Gold	505-268-6878	beisbol30@msn.com
Secretary - David Huntoon	505-281-9616	corvair66@aol.com
Treasurer - Jim Arellanes	505-515-5526	james.arellanes@icloud.com
Membership - Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	guadalupe.arellanes@icloud.com
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Newsletter - Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	stevegongora@msn.com
Webmaster - Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	stevegongora@msn.com

CNM October 2026 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson



Corvairs at the State Fair

We had an amazing turnout this year with 11 Corvairs considering the number of club members who were 'out of pocket'. This year we saw the return of the club banner, and we handed out three club pamphlets by request. The weather cooperated as well because the last day of the fair was between storm systems. We occupied the same street, but the only drawback is that it is too close to the BBQ stand. It smells so delicious.



September Trip to Grants

We had a great social event courtesy of our Grants member, Dick Cochran. Steve will post photos in the final draft of the newsletter.

Continued on page 3

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Continued from Page 2— President's Letter

Elections

We will hold informal elections/volunteering at the meeting. Dave Huntoon has suggested we could combine positions such as VP and Secretary. Please consider volunteering for a year.



Trash Day – Last One of 2026!

Last pick up for 2026. We will meet once again in front of the flea market near Mile Marker 5 and scour the route to the east. Dave Huntoon and I did the west section last month. If the weather does not cooperate there is no need to show up but there will still be a visit to Roots Farm Cafe.

Anne Wiker's Late Model

I assisted Dave Huntoon and get Anne's late model up and running. There is no reverse gear. Dave bought a new shift coupler from Clark's. It did take the two of us to get the car up on ramps because it required a person in the driver's seat to stomp on the brakes as Dave pulled the car backwards up the ramps with his truck and a towing strap. He spent just 10 minutes under the car to replace the coupler but unfortunately the coupler was too long. We stopped for the day and patronized Starbucks in Edgewood. He took the coupler home and chopped an inch off the end, installed it, and got the transmission to reverse, but unfortunately the clutch cable broke. So, it is back to the drawing board.

Stay tuned for part two after the parts arrive.



Report for CNM Treasury						
Account for September 2026						
Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
8-Sep-26						\$6,662.28
8-Sep-26	Cash	170.00	Weinberg, Robert - CNM & CORSA Membership 26 months exp 9/28		170.00	\$6,832.28
17-Jul-26	2430	-120.00	CORSA - Weinberg, Robert CORSA 26 Month Dues exp 9/28		-120.00	\$6,712.28

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

September 5, 2026—Corvairs of NM Meeting—David Huntoon

13 members present

Treasurer reports \$6732 current

VP Robert reminded of the State Fair Car Show 9/20. With the usual meetup 7:00 - 7:30 at the corner of Central and San Pedro. Expecting a good turnout.

Discussion on whether the club or the individual member should be responsible for CORSA membership dues. No decision yet.

The Bonneville club would like our participation via ZOOM in the planning of next years Tri-State. We will of course help. Tri-State in Utah – Tom Gwyther – Planning committee. Trying to get a sense of how many rooms to block. Suggested to talk with Denver and PPCC. Steve Goodman – excellent source for information. Advertise with CORSA. Maybe the MorrVair will be there – Matt Winder owns a towing and recovery business using a modified Lakewood. Check out the many videos on YouTube for his adventures.

The Grants tour was discussed with more details. Meeting at Rio Puerco Bridge exit on I 40 at 9:00. Mining museum, lunch, etc.

Mining Museum Tour – Rio Puerco Bridge – Details given by Dick Cochran – Room reserved at a local restaurant. Accurate representation of a Uranium Mine. After the tour you are on your own.

Sunday October 4, 2026 is the Ballon Fiesta Car Show and a sheet was passed around if you wish to be part of their car show. Park outside the balloon park. Wait for the balloons to take off and then the cars can be driven onto the field. Less people looking at the cars. Here is the link to register:

<https://www.fiestaofwheels.com/>

Our annual Los Luceros tour just north of Española on the Rio Grande is set for 10/17 with a meetup at Buffalo Thunder Casino. Bring a lunch.

Tuesday October 27, 2026 is a visit to the Origami Park in Cerrillos on NM14. It is a \$10.00 donation for adults. Meet at Shell Station N 14, Cedar Crest. 10:00 AM. Afterwards we will have lunch at the Mineshaft in Madrid, NM.

Steve also compiled all our newsletter on a flash drive for RustyVair. With help from Jim Pittman of course. Thanks Jim!

Tarmo showed photos of his 62 Loadside progress. He hired someone who replaced his complete metal floorboard in Tarmo's garage. Talk about service!!



CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Schedule of Events

TYPE	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Club Matters	Saturday, October 3,	10:00 AM	Members' Meeting--1 st Saturday, 10am: North Domingo Baca Center, 7521 Carmel Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111
Car Show - FYI	Sunday, October 4,		Balloon Fiesta Car Show; https://www.fiestaofwheels.com/ to upload a photo & get approved
Social	Saturday, October 17,	9:00 AM	Annual Los Luceros Park Walk & Brown Bag; caravan from Buffalo Thunder Casino
Club Matters	Wednesday, October 21,	7:00 PM	Board Meeting--3 rd Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters	Friday, October 23,		Deadline for Newsletter -4 th Friday
Social	Tuesday, October 27,	9:00 AM	Origami Park -- North Tijeras; South Santa Fe; meet at Shell Gas Station
Club Matters	Wednesday, October 28,	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting -- 4 th Wednesday, 6:30 PM; Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Club Matters	Saturday, November 7,	10:00 AM	Members' Meeting--1 st Saturday, 10am: Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110
Club Matters	Wednesday, November 18,	7:00 PM	Board Meeting--3 rd Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters	Wednesday, November 25,	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting -- 4 th Wednesday, 6:30 PM; Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Club Matters	Friday, November 27,		Deadline for Newsletter -4 th Friday
Club Matters	Saturday, December 5,	10:00 AM	Members' Meeting--1 st Saturday, 10am: Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110
Social	Saturday, December 12,	TBD	HOLIDAY LUNCHEON !!
Club Matters	Wednesday, December 16,	7:00 PM	Board Meeting--3 rd Wednesday via Zoom, 7pm
Club Matters	Wednesday, December 23,	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting -- 4 th Wednesday, 6:30 PM; Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Club Matters	Friday, December 25,		Deadline for Newsletter -4 th Friday
TBD=To be Determined/Changed			



September 6, 2026 Meeting Photos—Jim Pittman

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Board Meeting 9-16-26—Steve Gongora

Greg Nelson, Lupe & Jim Arellanes, David Huntoon and Steve Gongora signed into Zoom for this month.

Greg Nelson was to spearhead this year's State Fair Car Show due to unforeseen circumstances.

The State Fair show is set for September 20, 2026. Greg suggested we meet at Robert and Ann Mae's home and caravan to the corner of Central and San Pedro. Time to be announced.

Lupe was to have a board meeting with the Utah Tri-State Committee. Tom Gwther and Lupe waited for the meeting and no one else logged on. She was able to join us for the CNM Board Meeting.

The Tri-State is being hosted by the Bonneville Corvair Club in Utah. The dates are June 4 – 6, 2027 in Moab, Utah. Information for the hotel is listed on their website. You can access the information on our CNM website - <https://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter871/tri-state.html> Some of the related topics of the Tri-State included campground locations, trailer parking, and car wash facilities.

Elections are set for October. Please consider running for office and keeping this a great club.

We have many activities scheduled for the coming months:

September 20 – State Fair Car Show

September 26- Trip to Grants, NM to tour mining museum, with a historical caravan along the way from Albuquerque to Grants. We are to meet at the Rio Puerco Bridge at 9:00 AM

October 4 – Fiesta of Wheels Car Show at the Balloon Fiesta

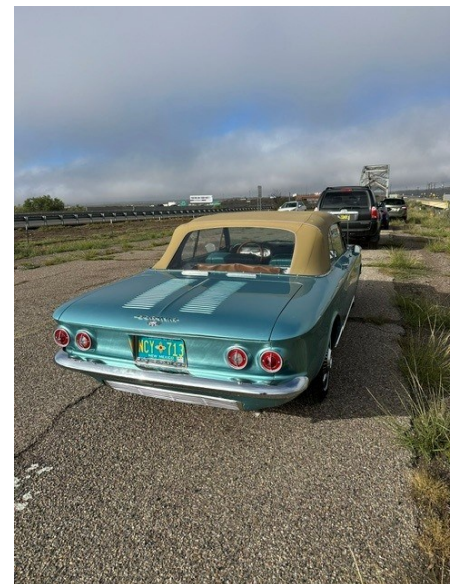
October 17 – Trip to Los Luceros. We are to meet at Buffalo Thunder parking lot at 9:00 AM

October 27 – Origami in the Garden – Meet at the Shell Station on North 14 near Frost Road at 9:00 AM. Lunch at the Mine Shaft Tavern in Madrid, NM

Dave talked about the CNM Facebook page and that it has many followers and requests for information as well as cars and parts for sale. A good topic to talk about at the meeting.

Here is the link: [Corvairs of New Mexico Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/corvairsofnewmexico/)

or <https://www.facebook.com/corvairsofnewmexico/>



CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Mining Museum Tour Sepetember 26, 2026



CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Mining Museum Tour September 26, 2026



BIRTHDAYS:

Karen Piper Oct-7
Erica Anderson Oct - 25
Jon Anderson Oct-27
Terry Price Oct-27

Trip to the Mining Museum

We started our journey at the Rio Puerco bridge. Considering the weather had been raining, it was super that we had sunshine and a clear day to start this wonderful journey. Waiting at the bridge was a great photo opportunity. David Huntoon came to meet us with his beautiful Corvair convertible. He was not able to join us. Steve & Rita Gongora, Greg, Nelson, Anne Wiker and Ken, and Tarmo rode his motorcycle from Santa Fe. Jo and Eva joined Steve and Rita. Dick Cochran, our leader, started us off eastbound on I 40. We were able to exit and join old Route 66. The roads were great. The scenery was fantastic. If you brought your itineraries, you were able to see many points of interest, including where Ernest Hemingway supposedly wrote part of *The Old Man and the Sea*. Once we got to mile marker 117 we headed south. We proceeded to the Sandstone Bluff Overlook and climbed to the overlook to see a vast lava flow. At the top of the sandstone were pockets of water. It was great to see these water areas as we were able to see them back in 1990. I took photos of the same pond then and now.



We continued on to La Ventana. This is a short walking distance from the parking lot. The arch was amazing to see. One thing that amazed me is how clean the restroom facilities were. No vandalism and no trash. This is the way they are supposed to be. Treated with respect.

We continued back north to reach the road leading us to Grants. Dick Cochran had selected a wonderful place to eat. It was called the Cafecito. They had a table reserved for us and we filled it. The lunch menu was fantastic. After lunch, we reassembled at the mining museum. Tarmo had to head back to Santa Fe. Dick gave us a great tour of the facility. What is interesting about this mining museum is that they dug out the basement and lowered all the major equipment down before they built the museum. The basement is replicated as an actual mine. You can't tell the difference if you were in a mine or on the bottom basement. They did an excellent job.

After the tour, we took advantage of the Route 66 arch, which was directly west of the museum for a great shot. After the photo shot, we headed back to Albuquerque and were able to talk about our wonderful day on this great tour hosted by Dick Cochran. This is the third time that we've done the tour and we look forward to the next one.

Dues Due

Makes Checks Payable to: CNM or Corvairs of New Mexico

Schedule of Dues:

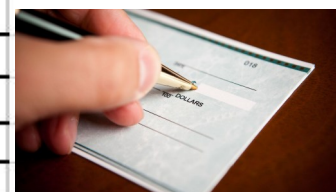
CNM: 12 months = \$25.00 or 26 months = \$50.00 -

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

Alex	Johnson	24-Dec	OVER DUE
Larry	Blair	26-Feb	OVER DUE
Lube	Lubert	26-Apr	OVER DUE
Joel	Yelich	26-Jul	OVER DUE
Jon	Anderson	26-Oct	Due Soon
Dick	Cochran	26-Nov	Due Soon
Robert	Gold	26-Nov	Due Soon

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



**CNM Annual Trip to the Los Luceros Historical Site.
Don't forget to mark your calendars!!**

LOS LUCEROS HISTORIC SITE ANNUAL WALK & BROWN BAG

Experience New Mexico History!
An educational adventure with hands-on learning.

..... DISCOVER:

- Historic Adobe Buildings
- Traditional Agriculture,
- Acequias (Irrigation Ditches)
- River & Wildlife

FOR: Corvair Club Members & Families

- 📅 DATE: Saturday, October 17
- 🕒 CARAVAN TIME: 9:00 am
- 💰 COST: Adult \$7.00; Child: \$0.00
- 📍 Caravan Location: Buffalo Thunder Casino
- 👉 Space is Limited! REGISTER NOW.

RSVP:
tristatecorvairs
@gmail.com

VISIT nmhistoricsites.org/los-luceros

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,

<https://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter871/tri-state.html>

Nathan King President—Bonneville Corvair Club—Chapter 840

WESTERN STATE CORVAIR EVENTS

Tri-State Corvair Meet

Sponsored by the Bonneville Corvair Club
will be held in Moab, Utah
June 4 - 6, 2027



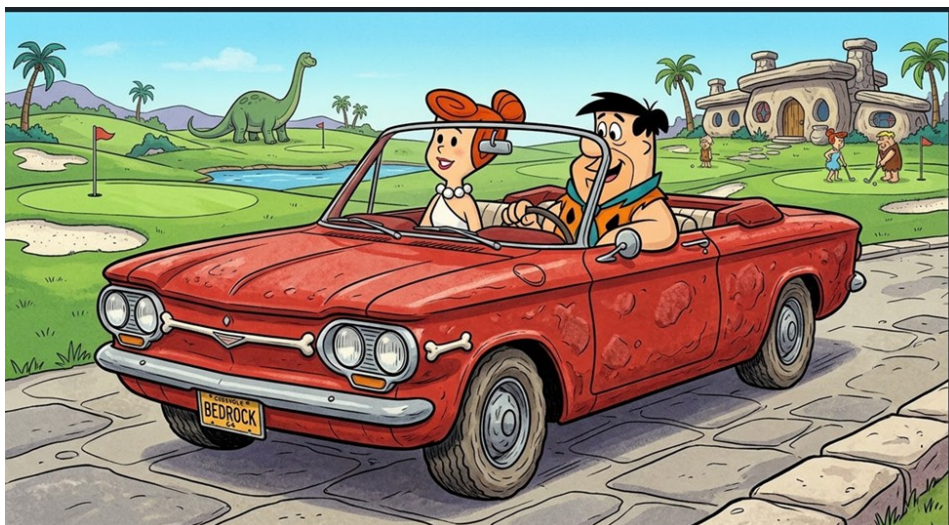
> The Bonneville Corvair Club is pleased to host the next Tri-State Corvair Meet in beautiful scenic Moab, Utah on June 4-6, 2027. Please save the date.

The host hotel is the [Moab Valley Inn](#) with a room rate of \$169.00. Please mention CORVAIR27 when you make your reservation to receive this special room rate. The hotel direct line is 435-259-4419.

We're planning a great weekend of fun for you and your Corvair. Don't miss it!

CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair “Flintstone Mobile” a 1978 Archeological Find at the Ninth Hole—Debra Heller



Debra Heller is part of my Spin Class and shared her and her boyfriend's experience in Chicago of how they found a Corvair at the golf course. She has a few more stories to share in the future. Thank you Debra for the great story.

*Steve Gongora—Spin Instructor—
JCC of Albuquerque.*

The year was 1978. A bell-bottomed young couple was out for a Saturday night flashlight walk in suburban Chicago, because apparently that counted as entertainment before streaming services. As they wandered near the ninth hole of a quiet golf course, Will spotted something shiny poking out from a tangle of dirt, leaves, and vines. Naturally, instead of doing the sensible thing and walking away, Will and I moved closer. I held the flashlight while Will brushed away the debris with his hands, slowly revealing what appeared to be an automobile fender—because every romantic evening needs a little light excavation.

This was quite a find for Will. As the oldest male in a family of seven siblings, he had become the household's unofficial emergency repair department. Will's dad worked long hours and sometimes traveled out of town, so Will learned how to persuade hot water heaters, leaky plumbing, and assorted household disasters to keep functioning “just one more day”—a phrase that, in our world, usually meant anywhere from 24 hours to three years.

This was before *MacGyver* and long before YouTube instructional videos, so Will's repair education came from instinct, desperation, and whatever was available in the junk drawer. His automotive skills were legendary. He proudly claimed he could fix a broken radiator with super glue and soda cans—or “pop” cans, as we called them in Chicago, preferably Royal Crown Cola, because even a desperate repair deserved local flavor. We were the only couple at prom who arrived in a vehicle whose body appeared to be held together almost entirely by duct tape and optimism. Still, Will was about to face the greatest automotive challenge of his 17-year lifetime.

Will, his two younger brothers, Jerry and Matthew, and I returned to the golf course the next morning with shovels in hand, looking less like a rescue crew and more like teenagers about to explain themselves to the police. To our amazement, we unearthed what we later learned—after getting the photos back from Fotomat, because instant evidence had not yet been invented—was a 1967 Corvair 500 Sport Coupe.

After finding the VIN number and reporting the car as abandoned to the local police, Will located the owner, who gladly gave him the car free of charge. Will did not ask how the car ended up buried near the ninth hole, which was probably wise. Some mysteries are better left between a former owner, a golf course, and possibly a very confusing Saturday night.

Will eventually got the vehicle running, which felt like a miracle performed with jumper cables. But there was one thing even he could not fix: the passenger-side floor was missing. On date nights, I had to sit cross-legged on the seat like I was preparing for yoga, prayer, or sudden combustion. A spark from the road beneath could have turned the evening into a very memorable campfire, and I was not dressed for that.

So hats off to Fred and Wilma for making foot-powered transportation look so effortless. Thanks for letting me share the story of the Corvair “Flintstone Mobile”—a car that proved romance, archaeology, and poor floorboard integrity can all fit into one unforgettable ride.