



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / September 2023—Volume 49—Number 9—Issue 576



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / September 2023—Volume 49—Number 9—Issue 576

**Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, September 2nd, 10:00 AM  
Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108**

This Month

President’s Letter .....Gregory Nelson

Treasurer’s Report.....Steve Gongora

Meeting Notes.....Lupe Arellanes

Board Meeting Notes.....Lupe Arellanes

Tribute to Jim Pittman.....Club Members

Rampside Story.....Steve Gongora

Carnegie Library.....Lupe Arellanes

Events.....Tarmo Sutt, Brenda Stickler, Lupe Arellanes, David Huntoon

Calendar of Events.....Board of Directors

Dues Due Date .....Membership Committee



**Cover: CNM Members enjoying the New Mexico Council of Car Clubs—All Clubs Picnic**

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO



Pres -	Greg Nelson	505-400-8670	fesedu@comcast.net
VP -	Brenda Stickler	505-856-6993	tounce66@msn.com
Sect -	Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	ispeakmedicare505@gmail.com
Treas -	Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	stevegongora@msn.com

Newsletter

Jim Pittman has retired as the CNM newsletter editor after an amazing 47 years!!! Steve Gongora and I will take over the job but please don't expect Pulitzer Prize level reporting for the first few months. The newsletter will be available online, obviously, with a few paper editions going out that Steve will print from home. The club will save a few \$\$ as our coffers, while still robust, could be better.

Meeting Programs

For September's meeting Shawn Kukowski will be on hand to talk about his Corv8. I first saw this very interesting vehicle at the Rio Rancho Park-in-the-Park car show this past

April. They'll be a lecture and then after the meeting (or before if you arrive early) we can head to the parking lot to see it in person, so we'll conclude the meeting a few minutes early.

State Fair

September 17<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the State Fair and by tradition it features a Corvair Car Show (and GTOs). We'll meet at the southwest corner of San Pedro and Central, in the grocery store parking lot. When entering the lot veer to the left (GTOs to the right) and park. Just before heading into the fair, we'll take a few photos in the parking lot. Be sure to bring a lawn chair, sunscreen, and water.

*(Continued on page 11)*

Report for CNM Treasury

Account for August 2023

Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
5-Jul-23						\$3,164.15
1-Aug-23	2593	-96.37	Jim Pittman	35 Newsletters - 14 pages for August 2023	-65.44	\$3,098.71
				30 Stamps @.87 each	-26.10	\$3,072.61
				30 Envelopes @ .161 each	-4.83	\$3,067.78
1-Aug-23	6309	25.00	Lloyd Piatt	CNM Dues - 1 year	25.00	\$3,092.78
1-Aug-23	214	130.00	Richardson/Zelle	Tri-State 2024	130.00	\$3,222.78

**Meeting Notes: Lupe Arellanes**

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM

Brenda Stickler reminded everyone of the State Fair Show on September 17, 2023. Everyone is to meet at San Pedro and Central at 7:00 AM. All Corvairs will caravan into the State Fair grounds and set up for the show. This is a car show you don't want to miss.

Route 66 Trash Pickup is scheduled for Saturday, September 9, 2023 at 8:00 AM.

Car Council Picnic—August 13, 2023, Oak Flats on South 14. Bring your own lunch and drinks.

Steve Gongora reported a treasury balance of \$3067.78 with a check to be deposited.

A committee needs to be assembled to figure out a transition with a plan for communicating with club members with regards to newsletter and website. A motion was set to write a tribute to CORSA for Jim's contribution to CNM.

Tarmo, Dave, and Steve helped Bob Kitts with his Greenbriar to get the car running.



## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Steve Gongora was to give a talk on his restoration of a 1962 Rampside. He brought a computer to show photos of the restoration and the story of how it started its life in Oregon. He will talk about how he sold it on Bring a Trailer.

Tarmo talked about his 1965 4-door Corvair. It was sold at Ed Black's Chevrolet (a former CNM sponsor). Tarmo owned the car for over 26 years. It was a very solid car. He used parts from the 4-door to complete his museum quality 66 Corvair Turbo Convertible. Unfortunately, time and rodents filled the engine compartment with debris. When Pat Hall needed Tarmo to help retrieve a 1961 Loadside, somehow the deal turned into a trade. Tarmo swapped his 4-door Corvair for the Loadside of Pat's. Now both cars will continue to meet the streets.

Brenda Stickler is planning a trip back the Los Luceros Plantation in October. Be sure to put it on you calendar.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM



### ***Board Meeting: Lupe Arellanes***

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. Members: President Greg Nelson, VP Brenda Stickler, Sect Lupe Arellanes, and Treas Steve Gongora.

Topics: Programing for October Meeting—Greg will have an owner of a Corvair V-8 to talk about his restoration.

Deadline for Newsletter: 8/25/23

Content will be available online. Webpage has general information, newsletter, links, gallery, and more to come.

Elections in October: Greg, Brenda, and Steve have elected to stay on as officials. Secretary will be open for elections.

Greg will be able to attend the Tri-State 2024.

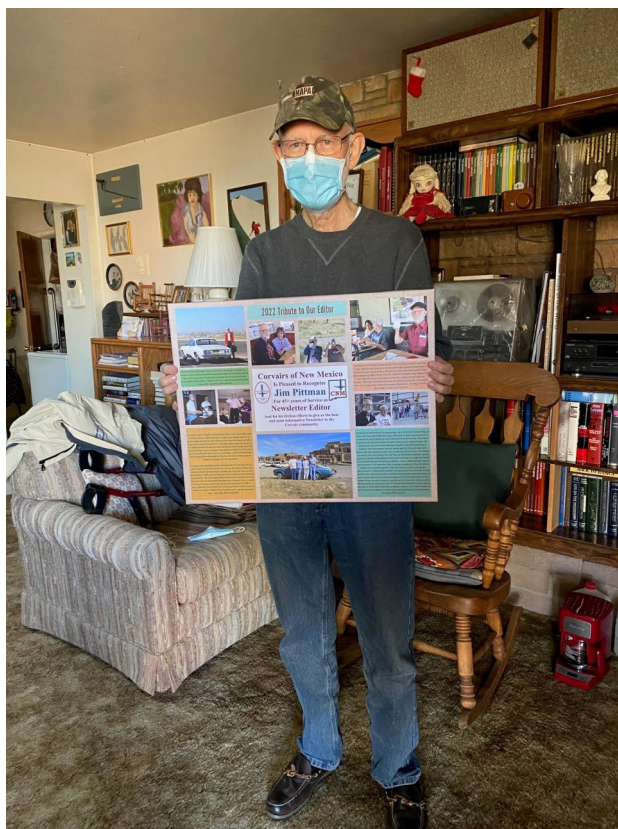
Lupe has volunteered to be in charge of membership. That is lists, upcoming dues, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

Updates to Tri-State will be listed in the newsletter and the Tri-State website.—Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM

**Jim Pittman— Newsletter Editor**

Jim,

How can we express adequate thanks for all you have contributed to CNM for so many years? Your energy, dedication, friendship, kindness, knowledge (both technical and “corporate”), common sense and your unflagging love of Corvairs and CNM have been the glue that has held CNM together. You have catalogued the advances in the technology surrounding the Corvair and worked to recruit and educate new generations of the lovers of all things Corvair. Likewise, you have marked the life events of our members, both joyous and sad. Your acute understanding and love of history have made you a unique and invaluable chronicler of all things Corvair and CNM.



shared your level of dedication, kindness and love to the members of our club. So our thanks extend to you both for your many years of service.

You have left big shoes to fill, Jim. CNM has decisions to make regarding how all the functions you and Heula have performed will be apportioned, and volunteers will have to be recruited to fill those positions. Club members now must step up to accept responsibility for the continuation of CNM. Things will change. But change is inevitable and the volunteers who step up will determine the direction and form CNM will take going forward.

How can we express our appreciation, Jim? I know of no other way but to simply say “thank you, and my best wishes to you and Heula going forward with your lives’ journeys.” I hope you will continue to grace club events,

so we can continue our long-term communication and friendship.

When you married Heula, we were all so happy for you. Little did we know that you brought someone who

Kay Sutt

Jim,

Well.....things do change. I certainly respect and understand your decision. I am honored to have enjoyed your friendship thru the years. All the best, Dave Huntoon

Jim, with deepest gratitude, I accept your resignation as of July 31st, 2023. We are all so thankful that we as a club, we recently have expressed to you the awesome gift of having you keep the communication line for our club open, for so many years.through our Only CNM Recognition Plaque. Thank you for dedication, amazing editing, your volume of pictures and article of our club present and past,Calendar Charts and your many articles and subjects you introduced to us.

You are such a great friend to so, so many of us. Heula and I shared many years with the other active women in our club through the Sunshine Committee. Both of you have been a “shining Example” of how to share you Love of Corvairs and enjoy all of the precious friendship that were amazingly attached.

Love to you two- Brenda Stickler

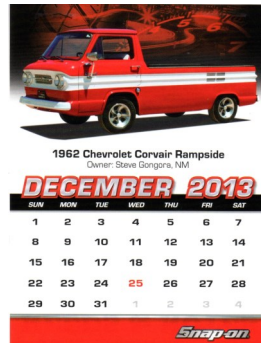
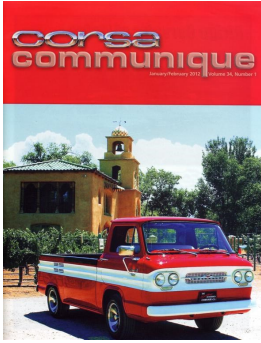
Jim,

We’ve known you since our first official CNM meeting a you have been a anchor and admired member since its inception. Our club has benefitted from your insight and we have flourished as a result of your long-term commitment to a task that no one else can do. The “*Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter*”. We have been fortunate and can’t thank you enough for your dedication of this monumental task of assembling information on a monthly basis for so many years and producing a top-notch publication that is hard to beat. With the newsletter approaching nearly 600 publications, we extend our gratitude and wish you and Heula the best. Steve and Rita Gongora



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

**1962 Corvair Rampside by Steve Gongora** I was invited to talk about my Rampside I owned for over 9 years. The history is amazing. The truck was slated to be a flower pot before Bob Slusher rescued it. Two daughters wanted to pay tribute to their father after his passing. They were going to fill it with dirt and plant flowers. Bob purchased it in Oregon. By the way Bob Slusher was as former Western Director for CORSA. Mark Domzalski bought the vehicle from Bob, moved to Placitas and drove the truck to Los Alamos on a daily basis for many years. When Mark saw that Francis Boydston was selling his Rampside, he was ready to put his Rampside on the market. I worked out a trade with Mark Domzalski for this truck. Mark replaced the engine. This 1962 Corvair Rampside is special. This unique ¾ ton truck was designed by Chevrolet for convenience and durability. The ramp lowers on the passenger side for easy loading. I owned this truck since 2002. A friend inspired me to watch Jay Leno's restoration of his Rampside which inspired my transformation of this vehicle. I used the truck on a regular basis for nine years before its current condition. After six months of paint and body work, I was able to get hold to continue the rest of the restoration. I changed the interior to include full leather bench seat and custom door panels. The seat contains extra pockets on the front cushion and the rear lean back. The stereo packs a punch with powerful amps and a subwoofer. The wheels are from a Chevrolet S10 series vehicle. The doors are fully lined with a sound proof material. You can't hear the motor running when inside the cab. It is a truly amazing smooth ride and presence. The truck has been featured in worldwide publications. In 2012, it was the cover photo for the CORSA Communique, whose publication is distributed worldwide. It was on the calendar for Snap-On in 2013, also distributed beyond the United States. It was the cover and the month of May for the 2014 Route 66 calendar. This photo shoot resulted in a poster, playing cards and special coffee mugs. Everywhere it goes brings a mob and cameras are pulled out when it's on the road. The vehicle was so clean I was afraid to take it out except for car shows. I placed the truck on a website called Bring a Trailer and it was on auction for one week. The buyer owns a private museum and now many people can enjoy this beauty for years



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

**COSTS:**

Registrant 1> \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50/\$65 → \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant 2> \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$50/\$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:** Early Bird \$50 Adult; price increase after March 1, 2024 → \$65.

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](mailto:tristatecorvairs@gmail.com)

Visit our website *Virtual Visitors' Center* to view excursion ideas: [www.tristatecorvairs.com](http://www.tristatecorvairs.com)

**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.

## 2024 Tri-State News—Lupe Arellanes

**City Selection:** Las Vegas, New Mexico.

**Dates:** May 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> 2024.

**Host Hotels:**

Banquet Hotel: The Historic El Fidel Hotel.

Accommodation: 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:** Early Bird \$50 Adult; Price Increase after March 1, 2024 → \$65.

**Seeking Silent Auction Donations.** Members can bring items to any monthly meeting. Asking for items valued at \$20+. Rita & Steve Gongora will create 5 large basket auction items from donations and additionally purchased items. Are you a quilter? We would appreciate any auto-related creations for our auction.

**Seeking Keynote Speaker Ideas.** Should you have any connections with someone who you would like to see speak at our event, please email us [tristatecorvairs@gmail.com](mailto:tristatecorvairs@gmail.com)

**Seeking T-Shirt Design Ideas.** Send us your rough ideas whether it be a drawing or a picture of other shirts. If your inspiration idea is selected, you will WIN a FREE Shirt. Your winning inspiration will be forwarded to our graphic artist to develop further. Please email your ideas to: [tristatecorvairs@gmail.com](mailto:tristatecorvairs@gmail.com)



While in Las Vegas, New Mexico,

visit...The CARNEGIE LIBRARY

Carnegie Library: located on 500 National Ave, Las Vegas, NM 87701, (505) 426-3304. Hours: 8a-5p M-F, Sat 8a-2p.



The Carnegie Library was funded by a \$10,000 grant from Scottish-American and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, and was one of 1,679 libraries constructed between 1886 and 1917 through Carnegie’s program. Carnegie devoted forty million dollars to his library project. Of those, about 750 are still functioning as libraries today. The Las Vegas library was designed by the firm Rapp & Rapp, built in 1903 and opened in 1904. The building itself recalls Monticello with its dome resting on an octagonal drum, recessed portico entry, arched windows with sandstone details, and brick masonry work. Its neoclassicism is in keeping with the building’s facing the library park and its immediate neighborhood. (Information provided by [www.lasvegasnm.gov](http://www.lasvegasnm.gov))



## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

A Report on my July/August Corvair Activity – Tarmo Sutt

I attended the July 4<sup>th</sup> Pancake Breakfast and Car Show on the Santa Fe Plaza. I arrived at 4:40 AM and was the 55<sup>th</sup> car to arrive. About 115 cars were in the show, but I was the only Corvair. It was a warm morning, and as usual there were many people and lots of people interested in the car. Best of Show was a 1956 Chevy Nomad owned by Buddy Roybal.

The next Cruise Night on the Plaza in Santa Fe is Friday, August 25, 4 – 9 PM. A total of ~80 cars are expected. If you are looking for a fun evening, check it out. It's lots of fun in a relaxed atmosphere.

My buddy Ray Montoya and I trekked to Los Lunas twice to help Pat Hall work on the '60 4-door Corvair he's working on to put back on the street. We helped him replace the windshield on our first trip (good practice for me, since I need to do that for my truck too). Next time, we helped finish up installation of the brakes Terry Price had helped him start, and we bled the brakes. That took 3-4 passes due to various minor problems. We also helped with miscellaneous other minor things, and Pat was able to take the car off the lift and drive it by the end of the day.

Steve Gongora, David Huntoon and I spent a day at Bob and Maggie Kitts working on his Greenbriar van. We completed carburetor work so Bob was able to drive it again. Thanks, Maggie, for the treats you provided to keep us motivated!

I started working in earnest on the '61 Loadside I acquired from Pat Hall this month too. I was fortunate to find a new shaded and tinted windshield at a reasonable price, so it is now safely packed in my storage building, ready for installation when I get the interior metal cleaned and painted. I started disassembling the engine too. The carbs came off and I took off the top of the motor. It was, thankfully, pretty clean. Next, I removed and cleaned the oil pan. It was also remarkably clean for a car that has been sitting almost 20 years. I'm hopeful once I get things cleaned up and checked I will be able to start the engine without having to completely rebuild the engine.

All in all, a good month for Corvairs at the Sutt house!



Tarmo's Loadside was loaded on a trailer and brought back to Santa Fe. The engine is original and the next step is break-down and cleaning of the parts. Here are photos of the engine before any parts are removed and the last shot is schroud-

ing and carburetors removed. The Loadside is on the road to recovery for being roadworthy. We can't wait to see the progress and evolution of this restoration. Everything Tarmo touches is pure perfection.

Steve Gongora



## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Here are a couple of photos from Bob & Maggie Kitts home. Tarmo Sutt, David Huntoon, and Steve Gongora worked on this beauty. Bob put a lot of attention to this Greenbriar. It has a 140 HP motor with front disc brakes. The van has quite a history. It belonged to Jerry Goffe. It was a limousine to Mary Travers from Peter, Paul and Mary when Jerry picked her up from the airport. I can imagine the thoughts in her mind when Jerry drove her from the airport.



Tarmo's 1966 Turbo  
Convertible getting  
ready to drive the  
Santa Fe  
Plaza Show  
July 4 - 4:30 AM



CNM was represented at the NMCCC Picnic on Sunday August 13 at Oak Flats on South 14. Shown here are from Left to Right: Anne Wiker, Brenda Stickler,



David Huntoon, Linda Soukup, Tony Berbig. Attending but not in the photo, Lupe Arellanes and family.





# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## NMCCC All Clubs Picnic—Sunday August 13, 2023

“ We could not ask for better weather on this day to mingle with other car enthusiasts.” —Lupe Arellanes

Stopped by the Car Council picnic for about an hour. Not as many cars as normal but the Studebaker club made a nice showing. My

Corvair and a nice early Ford pickup caught my eye. JDs late Mustang so I had to talk Mustangs for awhile. The Clements showed up after a bit with a dark blue '52 Ford sedan with overdrive. That meant we talked V8 flatheads with overdrive for 30 minutes! The number of cars may have been down but it makes no difference. Always something to learn.....

David Huntoon





# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

## Schedule of Events

Saturday, September 02, 2023	10:00 AM	Meeting	Highland Senior Center 131 Monroe St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108	ph 505-767-5210
<b>Saturday, September 9, 2023</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>	<b>Old Route 66 Cleanup ... Start at top of mile marker</b>		
Wednesday, September 20, 2023	7:00 PM	Board Meeting via Zoom		
Sunday, September 17, 2023	7:00 AM	NMCCC - State Fair Car Show - Meet at San Pedro and Central to enter		
Sunday, September 24, 2023	7:00 AM	NMCCC - The traditional Swap Meet will be replaced with a low-key car show & cruise with food and music . Stay tuned.		
Wednesday, September 27, 2023	7:00 PM	NM Car Council Meeting - 4th Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center 501 Elizabeth St SE		
Friday, September 29, 2023	9:00 PM	Deadline for October Newsletter		
Monday, October 02, 2023	***	Target for completion of newsletter		
Saturday, October 07, 2023	10:00 AM	Meeting	Highland Senior Center 131 Monroe St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108	ph 505-767-5210
Wednesday, October 18, 2023	7:00 PM	Board Meeting via Zoom		
<b>Saturday, October 21, 2023</b>	<b>9:00 AM</b>	<b>Trip to Los Luceros</b>		
Wednesday, October 25, 2023	7:00 PM	NMCCC Meeting—4th Wed./Manzano Mesa Senior Ctr 501 Elizabeth St SE		
Friday, October 27, 2023	9:00 PM	Deadline for October Newsletter		
Monday, October 30, 2023	***	Target for completion of newsletter		

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

<b>Membership: / Dues Due Dates:</b>	
<b>Due in July</b>	<b>Inactive:</b>
Lube Lubert - inactive as of Aug 25, 2023	Leroy Rogers as of June 25 2023
<b>Due in September</b>	
Dave and Jan Allin - inactive as of September 25, 2023	Irv & Katherine Brock - inactive as of September 25, 2023
Clifton & Katie Trujillo - inactive as of September 25, 2023	
<b>Due in October</b>	
Troy Ward - inactive as of October 25, 2023	
<b>Due in November</b>	
Jon & Debra Anderson - inactive as of November 25, 2023	William & Sharon Heil - inactive as of November 25, 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



*(Continued from page 1)*

Good News TriState (picture)

My last niece graduates next year the same weekend as the Tri-State. Thirteen high schools will graduate over 4 days at the Cowboy's Stadium in Frisco, Tx. That means there is 8% chance her school graduates on Thursday which would mean not missing any of the TriState. Well, I got lucky. I hit the 8% and she graduates on Thursday night. I'll be able to attend all 3 days. [Alisyn is my last niece, but my cousin's daughter is a freshman this year so that's a 2027 graduation. A different school district. I'll cross that bridge later.]



AMC-Channel TV Show

Dark Winds is a Navajo-based police drama set in the '70s. Season 2 is currently airing. There is a scene in one of the early episodes set in a 'store'

which is the Cerrillos Turquoise Mining Museum, a.k.a. the Casa Grande Trading Post. I know that because that was the club's July field trip. This week's episode also featured a late model Corvair. My first thought was 'who owns that car?' Does anyone know who owns it? Anne Wiker and the Heils own yellow late models. Any guesses?

Elections

It's that time again. I don't mind continuing as President. Steve will stay on a Treasurer. Lupe will resign as Secretary but will become the Membership Coordinator. Brenda can stay on as VP if no one else raises their hand. If someone wants to be considered for one of these positions, we can certainly have a good old-fashioned muckraking election. Haha, just kidding.

We want to wish the following CNM September Babies a Wonderful Birthday:



Jamie Anderson  
Gordon Johnson  
Emery Ward  
Curtis L Shimp  
David Huntoon  
Mathew Lawler

Janet Johnson  
Leif Ward  
Connie McBreen  
Christian Deyermond

