

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / June 2025—Volume 51—Number 6—Issue 597



## ***Enchanted Corvairs Newsletter***

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 June 2025—Volume 51—Number 6—Issue 597

***Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, June 5, 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.....	Steve Gongora
Calendar of Events.....	Board of Directors
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	Membership
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Meeting Notes.....	Steve Gongora
La Vida Llena Car Show.....	La Vida Llena
Tri-State 2025 Trinidad.....	Rocky Mountain CORSA
Art Tour at Upton Ethelbah’s Studio.....	Steve Gongora
CORSA 2002 Revisited..	Sun Staff News - Jared Cook
Museum Car Show.....	Robert Gold
May Meeting Photos.....	Jim Pittman
Museum Car Show Photos.....	Lupe Arellanes
Tri-State Photos.	Arte DeGroot, Rick Beets & Steve Gongora



***On the Cover: Car Show Tri-State 2025 Trinidad (photo Arte DeGroot) (top)***

***Dave Olwine, Marcus Miller, and Curtis Shimp (right)***



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Vice-Pres - Robert Gold	505-856-6993	<a href="mailto:beisbol30@msn.com">beisbol30@msn.com</a>
Secretary - David Huntoon	505-281-9616	<a href="mailto:corvair66@aol.com">corvair66@aol.com</a>
Treasurer - Steve Gongora	505-220-7401	<a href="mailto:stevegongora@msn.com">stevegongora@msn.com</a>
Membership - Lupe Arellanes	505-515-9897	<a href="mailto:guadalupe.arellanes@icloud.com">guadalupe.arellanes@icloud.com</a>
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**CNM June 2025 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson**

Program

Since we will just be back from the Tri-State, I will have photos and videos from the event on the room monitor. If you have an iPhone and would like to show your photos/videos as well let me know before the meeting starts.

Club Meeting: April and May

The last two meetings have been eventful. Harsh weather affected the April meeting and only six of us managed to attend. East mountain club members had to contend with twelve inches of snow. At the May meeting the power to the whole neighborhood went out at 9:55am. Palo Duro staff informed us the senior center would close at 10:30am. So, we did a rush job on the officer's reports and upcoming events. Six members continued an informal meeting outside as shown in the photo below. Thank you, Lupe, for the photo.



TriState is finally here! I will be leaving Albuquerque mid-morning. Trinidad has three museums I plan to visit before Friday night festivities. There is also time set aside on Saturday to visit the local sites before the banquet at 5:00pm. Looking forward to it, see you all there.

Car Shows:

It is car show season. CNM members attended the shows below and four members, so far, have signed up for the LA Vida Llena car show on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Look for the flyer on page 8. We have a few CNM member who reside at La Vida Llena that would enjoy seeing CNM members and their cars.

*Continued on page 3*

Report for CNM Treasury						
Account for May 2025						
Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Balance
9-May-25						\$5,666.00
9-May-25	1363	25.00	Dinsdale, John - CNM 1 yr membership exp 4-26		25.00	\$5,691.00
						\$5,691.00



Continued from Page 2— President's Letter



Bill Heil & his Late Model Corvair

Cruise and Schmooze

Robert and Anne-Mae brought their Corvair powered VW bus and Bill Heil participated for, I believe, his third year in a row.



The Golds Corvair Powered VW Van

NMCCC Museum Car Show

Robert asked the membership at the May meeting to make a special effort to attend this year's annual Museum show. I even put in extra effort to fix up the '64 (see article below).



Lupe with her recently repaired convertible.



Tarmo patiently waiting for attendee questions.



This group knows how to attend a car show. BBQ grill, picnic tables and pop-up canopies.

Tarmo and Joel Yelich both brought cars from Santa Fe (but Joel's was not a Corvair, because his is also in the shop).

Corvairs for Sale

There are a couple of Corvairs for sale. Ray and Lilly are looking to sell their 4-door '64. Speak with them directly about details and price. Dave and I have worked on their car and will do additional work on May 24<sup>th</sup>. [Dave figured out that the right carburetor was not pulling enough air. He unclogged it and it ran fine after that].



Ray and Lilly at the Rio Rancho 'Park in the Park' car show.



Continued on page 4

*Continued from Page 3— President's Letter*



At the May meeting (the short one) we had a visitor. Victor Blea stopped by to let us know he wants to sell his '63. It is a parts car. The engine and transmission are intact. The front and rear windshield are missing, and the interior is missing. Victor's phone number is 505-235-9454 (posted with his permission).



Artist Show

For this month's social event we paid a visit to Upton 'Greyshoes' Ethelbah's art studio. His house is a mini-art museum, there was so much art on display. The next time you pass through the roundabout at the Menaul and 12<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, take a moment to look at the very tall art piece in the center of the intersection. That is Upton's artwork.



'64 Monza

As mentioned earlier I doubled my efforts to get the '64 Monza ready for the Museum car show. Since the rebuilt mechanical fuel pump lasted less than 5 miles I had to install the electric pump from Clark's. First task was to build new wood block pieces to extend the range of the floor jacks. I had to purchase an extended-reach floor jack to boost the rear of the car high enough to rest on the racing ramps. I sacrificed an old fuel pump and used Clark's bypass plate in the middle section. That was the easy part. Trying to figure out how to orient the fuel pump took two days. Yes, two days. Then it dawned on me. Duh. I thought the hardest part would be routing a power wire from the fuse box. Steve let me examine the setup in his Greenbrier. That helped tremendously. I had to remove the bottom tunnel and then I used a coat hanger fed from below and it popped out just underneath the dashboard. Hallelujah! Then it was simply a matter of attaching a wire to the hanger and pulling it through. Next, I crimped connectors onto the end of the wire and now the pump has power.

Oh, and for safety reasons I pumped out all the gas from the tank and stored it in four portable gas cans. I did not want to catch on fire.





To extend the reach of the floor jack, I used triple piece wood blocks. I glued and screwed together each of the sections. I had a fuel pump from Clark's Corvair Parts with a 90 degree port. I connected a hose from the gas tank to the fuel pump, then connected it to the fuel line to the engine. I used double floor jacks to lower the car in 1" increments. It took a lot of time but much safer this way.



Trash Day

We had a crew of six this month. However, we split into two groups because there was a charity bicycle ride through the canyon with a police escort. And the escort only moved as fast as the cyclists. I had to turn around, get on the highway, and get to our mile from the east end. Afterwards Dave and I made the usual pilgrimage to Roots Farm Café. Thanks to the Arellanes family, Robert and Dave. To the right is the Arellanes family with my shadow.



**JUNE 2025**

**JULY 2025**

**AUGUST 2025**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30	1	2	3	4	5	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31	1	2	3	4	5	6

Saturday, June 7, 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
<b>Friday, June 13, 2025</b>	<b>9AM - 12PM</b>	<b>Father's Day Car Show at La Vida Llena</b>
Wednesday, June 18, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, June 25, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, June 27, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, June 30, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, July 5 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
<b>Sunday, July 12, 2025</b>	<b>TBA</b>	<b>Tinkertown Museum</b>
Wednesday, July 16, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, July 23, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, July 25, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, July 28, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, August 2 2025	10:00 AM	<b>Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110</b>
Wednesday, August 20, 2025	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, August 27, 2025	6:30 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday, August 29, 2025	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, September 1, 2025	*****	Target completion of newsletter

***Birthdays in June***



Phil Finch 6-14  
 Tony Lawler 6-15  
 Rita Gongora 6-24  
 Heula Pittman 6-24  
 Tosh Gregg 6-29  
 Robert Gold 6-29  
 Clifton Trujillo 6-30



Jim & Heula Pittman 6-8  
 Corbett Battalio & Erin Collins 6-9  
 Jan & David Allin 6-9

# **Dues Due**

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

**Makes Checks Payable to: CNM or Corvairs of New Mexico**  
**Due in November 2024**  
Maggi Kitts inactive as of Dec 2024  
**Due in December 2024**  
David Huntoon inactive as of Jan 2025  
Alex Johnson inactive as of Jan 2025  
**Due in January 2025**  
Anne Wiker inactive as of Feb 2025  
Lilian Shortle inactive as of Feb 2025  
**Due in March 2025**  
William Heil inactive as of April 2025  
Mark Morgan inactive as of April 2025

**Due in April 2025**  
Art Gold inactive as of May2025  
**Due in May 2025**  
Robert & Connie McBreen inactive as of June 2025  
Fred & Brenda Edeskuty inactive as of June 2025  
**Due in June 2025**  
Jim Pittman inactive as of July 2025  
**Due in July 2025**  
Mike & Karen Piper inactive as of August 2025  
Tarmo & Kay Sutt inactive as of August 2025

*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 Meeting Notes 5/3/25—Steve Gongora**

Greg Nelson, Steve Gongora, Pat Hall, Tarmo Sutt, James Richardson, Lupe and Jim Arellanes, Jim Pittman, Robert & Anne Mae Gold, Alex Johnson, Lilly & Ray Gonzales, Victor Blea

An electric blackout forced the meeting to be conducted in the dark. A streamlined agenda took place going over the essential business in short order.

Victor Blea – Guest selling 63 2-door Corvair – He saw that we take care of the mile on Route 66. His car is covered in back yard – missing rear window. – floor rusted. Good for parts. He bought it with less than 40,000 miles on the car.

Treasury Report- \$5666.00

Bingo / Silent Auction / Potluck - successful

Upton Ethelbah – Tour at studio – only room for ten participants

Albuquerque Museum Car Show – May, Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> – meet and set up cars and help usher other cars for the show. – sign-up sheet – Robert Gold will be there at 6:00 AM – slots will be set – Go directly to the parking slots at the show. Robert will call Larry Yoffee and Russ McDuffie.

Tri-State – Trinidad , CO – Amtrak goes to Trinidad from Albuquerque, NM

Let Curtis Shimp know that he is representing CNM at the convention.

A few members gathered under the veranda outside the main entrance and shared stories and good times.

Power to Palo Duro Senior Center was resumed 15 minutes after adjournment.



# LOWRIDERS HOT RODS & CLASSIC CARS

We're inviting local car owners to showcase their rides at La Vida Llena's annual Father's Day Car Show, featuring the best of lowriders, hot rods and classic cars – a celebration of culture, community, and craftsmanship. Hosted by a local senior living community, this event is all about bringing generations together. The show is a fun and meaningful way to connect with our residents.

**Date:**

Friday, June 13, 2025

**Set-Up time:**

9:00am

**Show time:**

10:00am-12:00pm

**Location:**

La Vida Llena

10501 Lagrima De Oro Rd  
NE, Albuquerque, NM



**What to Expect:**

- A laid-back, family-friendly vibe
- Beautiful rides that represent New Mexican pride
- Live music, free food, and games for all participants
- No entry fee for car participants

**Want to show off  
your ride?**

Reserve your spot today:

505-261-7324



**Studio Art Tour—Steve Gongora**

**May 10, 2025—1:00 PM**

We were treated to a unique and enlightening experience with a tour to Upton Ethelbah's home and art studio. To start the event we sat in Upton's living room so he could hear about each of our lives. He told us of his upbringing which included a stint in the Navy and helping with Native American artists. He was challenged to dive in when he always said that he was capable of doing the art, then was presented with a hammer and chisel and was told to prove it. He kept his first sculpture and brought it out to share with the group. It was amazing. Upton has created art that remains on display at Buffalo Thunder in their lobby, there is work on permanent display at the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture in Santa Fe, and many more too numerous to mention. If you drive at the "round about" at Menaul and 12th, you will see his metal creation in the center. After our gathering in his home we were led to his work area and he shared what tools that are needed to carve the stone and he shared his experience with working with different type of stone from all over the US and the world. His favorite is the Carrara marble stone from Italy. The same stone used for statues created by Leonardi da Vinci. You don't want to miss out if we are privileged to do it again.



## Cruising Down Memory Lane

By Jared Cook - Sun Staff Reporter - June 28, 2002



Jill Torrance/Arizona Daily Sun Tarmo Sutt (left), Del Patten, Jerry Goffe, and Marcus Miller check out the engine of Miller's 64 Monza convertible Corvair at Little America Thursday.

A classic symbol of the '60s has rolled into Flagstaff this week -- the Corvair, a sporty ride that captured that imagination of a generation and was one of the first targets of consumer advocate Ralph Nader.

Corvairs of every color and year are in town while the members of the Corvair Society of America (CORSA) meet for their annual convention at Little America this week.

Themed "A Cool Vair Affair," the convention is an opportunity for Corvair enthusiasts from around the world to meet, compare notes, learn, boast and show off their own pieces of nostalgia.

The Corvair gained notoriety after its initial production because of numerous defects, and the publication of Ralph Nader's book "Unsafe at Any Speed" in 1965. The defects were corrected in the 1966 model, but the public image was tarnished enough that General Motors discontinued production in 1969.

Nonetheless, the car attracted a loyal following world-wide very early on; the Cactus Corvair Club was founded in 1962, only three years after

it began. It remains one of the most beloved classic cars in existence.

According to convention merchandiser Melvin Brown, Corvair enthusiasts associate the car with their child-hood.

"These are the cars that we grew up with," he said. "They were 'The Thing' when we were growing up."

More than 1,000 people are in attendance, with ap-proximately 300 Corvairs of all years, varieties and colors present.

The cars have been driven from as far away as North Carolina and Chicago, said Brown of Phoenix. Some attendees have come even farther. The convention roster includes residents of Australia and France.

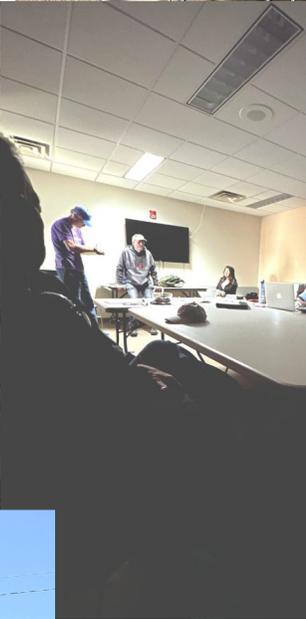
Many of the convention's activities are open to the public. Flagstaff residents are welcome to attend today's Autocross, an obstacle course race scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Northern Arizona University Skydome. The public also is welcome at the model car exhibition and judging, to be held from 10 a.m. to noon in the Coconino Room at Little America Hotel.

Saturday's Economy Run, a contest to travel a predesignated route with the best fuel economy, also may be of interest to locals. It will begin at the circle drive at Little America at 9 a.m.

Finally, a fully restored 1966 Corvair convertible will be raffled off. Tickets are available for \$2.50 each in the lobby of Little America between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. today and Saturday. The drawing will be Saturday evening at the final banquet of the convention. The winner will be notified by phone.

Photos from our meeting on May 3, 2025

Photos provided by Steve Gongora



Photos from our Museum Car Show May 18, 2025

Photos provided by Lupe Arellanes



Photos from our Tri-State in Trinidad, CO

Photos provided by Arte DeGroot, Steve Gongora & Rick Beets



Photos from our Tri-State in Trinidad, CO

Photos provided by Arte DeGroot, Steve Gongora & Rick Beets

