

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / February 2024—Volume 50—Number 1—Issue 581



## CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / February 2024—Volume 50—Number 2—Issue 581

**Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, February 3, 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
Meeting Notes.....	Dave Huntoon
Harvey House.....	Steve Gongora
Board Meeting.....	Greg Nelson
Birthdays and Anniversaries.....	Membership
Calendar of Events.....	Board of Directors
50th Anniversary Logo.....	Steve and Dave
Dues Due.....	Membership Committee
Castenada Hotel.....	Tri-State
Registration.....	Tri-State
Tri-State Posters.....	Larry Yoffee



On the Cover: Tri-State Logos –(Top) Back of Shirt / (Right) Front



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 February 2024 Newsletter Articles**

Simple Program This Month

January's Mecum Auction in Kissimmee Florida once again had a plethora of Corvairs up for auction. We'll go through the lots and see the final gavel prices.

'63 & '64 Update

The secret to getting the hoods on and off my '64 Corvair by myself entails two items: a stick, and a Harbor Freight moving blanket folded many times to protect the paint. It did take another hour to get the alignment just right.

The front hood will stay off as I prep it for a coating of POR 15 and then a coating of Clark's trunk splatter paint followed by a coating of clear sealer. Over the Xmas holiday I placed an order with Eastwood for paint taping supplies. I'll move the car into the driveway on a windless day (I better hurry), so I don't inadvertently mist the rest of the



*Continued on page 3*

**Report for CNM Treasury Account for January 2024**

Date	Check	Amount	Payee	Description	Balance	Running Bal.
1-Jan-24						\$3,863.48
6-Jan-24	1528	70.00	Price, Terry - 1 year CNM & CORSA		70.00	\$3,933.48
6-Jan-24	2208	80.00	Stickler, Brenda - Banquet & L Shirt		80.00	\$4,013.48
11-Jan-24	3917	130.00	Dumler, Douglas & Cathy - 2 Banquets & L Shirt		130.00	\$4,143.48
11-Jan-24	1301	80.00	Schiffner, Kenneth - Banquet & L Shirt		80.00	\$4,223.48
12-Jan-24	2597	-45.00	CORSA - for Terry Price - 1 year Membership		-45.00	\$4,178.48
16-Jan-24	2598	-11.95	Steve Gongora for NM Sect of State - Filing Fee 2024		-11.95	\$4,166.53
16-Jan-24	2599	-35.00	CORSA - Filing Fee for 2024		-35.00	\$4,131.53
28-Jan-24	7484	100.00	Kitts, Bob & Maggie - Banquet		100.00	\$4,231.53

**Meeting Notes January 6, 2024 : Dave Huntoon**

13 people at our first meeting of the year.

Treasurer reports \$3863.48 with no outstanding debts.

Our VP mentioned the New Mexico Car Council has resumed meetings after the holiday recesses.

Our next club activity is later this month, 1/27, in Belen at the Harvey House museum.

Built in 1910 as a stop for the AT&SF railroad. Meeting first at Petes' Restaurant at 11:00.

TriState news includes a decision on our tee shirt logos/design.

Also asking members to help with donating snacks for the hospitality area.

*Continued on page 5*



*President's Message continued from page 2:*

garage with grey splatter paint. The tires for the '63 Spyder were eventually delivered. A single tire showed up first, then a few days later four more showed up on two different orders but on the same truck. I then spent a considerable amount of time scrubbing the blue coating off the whitewalls. I still think there is a faint blue tint in the picture. Ugh! And that's after multiple scrubblings.



Next to the tires is the hood that came with the my '64 Monza so if

anyone needs a '61 Saddle-Tan hood I have one for sale

Mystery Solved

Last month a very nice red '64 passed me by heading west on Paseo Del Norte. I was going to another club meeting, so I was unable to follow. On January 24<sup>th</sup> the same car popped up in front of me northbound on Juan Tabo. This time I was able to follow, and he pulled into the Smith's grocery store parking lot. I introduced myself and we had a pleasant conversation. His name is John Mattern, and he is a former member of CNM. Unfortunately, I was not able to give him one of our brochures since I was driving my Mazda Speed 3. I have brochures in my Mazda now. You never know when you'll need a brochure, so I'll bring a bunch to the next meeting. Please take a few for just such an emergency.



If anyone happens to see Corvairs sitting in a field, or a parking lot let me know. I'd like to try and get the back-story.

See you all at the February Meeting.

Cheers

Gregory Nelson

CNM President

**Programs Director — Brenda Stickler**

**Harvey House Museum—Story by Steve Gongora**

On Saturday, January 27 we had our first adventure of the year in Belen at the Harvey House Museum. It was a short trip from Albuquerque and we started the morning with a brunch at Pete's Restaurant across the street from the Harvey House. Jim Richardson and Mary Zelli drove from Santa Fe. Dave Huntoon came from Cedar Crest. The rest of us all from Albuquerque. All were impressed the food and the prices of the establishment and of course the service. After we finished at the restaurant we walked across the street and made our way to the entrance of the Harvey House and made our \$5.00 cash donation for each member. There were plenty of volunteers to share their knowledge of the building, railroad and history of Fred Harvey, the Harvey girls, and Belen. They are in the process of re-opening the café on a regular basis. It is run by volunteers as well. The second story was just as

*Continued on Page 4*



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Harvey House continued from page 3

impressive as the first floor. The displays in the rooms of the second story took you back to a time at the turn of the century and what it was like to live in that time frame. It was a wonderful experience. **Be sure you are there for the next event.**



*Meeting Notes from Dave Huntoon continued from page 2:*

A decision will be made concerning sending postcards to surrounding clubs about the TriState.

Postcards in the past have worked well for us in sharing information.

Finally, Tarmo brought his cleaned carbs from his Loadside with their original tags which are often lost over the years.

Original carbs as they are manual chokes. Tarmo also brought what looks like a factory plate/cover for the side of the oil cooler. No body has ever remembered seeing this before. We think it is factory as the FCs did have some equipment not found on the cars, i.e. transmission coolers.

thx, David

### **CNM Zoom Board Meeting 7:00 PM —January 17, 2024**

Attendees: Lupe & Jim Arellanes, Kay Sutt, Brenda Stickler, Robert Gold and Jim Pittman

Topics Discussed:

TriState Update attendee list. A few more people have signed up including a couple of more registered cars.

I informed members that I sent out another 21 TriState announcements to clubs in neighboring states.

[Lupe has exact numbers. I did not write them down]

Reminder email for Jan 27 Social Event at Pete's Restaurant and Harvey House Hotel to go out on Jan 25th

Kay Sutt's report on Anniversary party at Old Pecos Trail Cafe (?) may require us to rent a room (\$125?). Date: March 23, fourth Saturday, 2pm. The club will send out an RSVP to gauge interest. If we have small party, we'll just stack tables together. If we have a large party, then some members are willing to put in a few bucks (\$20) to help offset cost of room. Kay will investigate further to include ordering from menu or a fixed price menu. Restaurant prefers cash payments for large parties.

I forwarded the T-Shirt design to Kay. Design will stay as it is.

Grants member Dick Cochran sent Brenda some tourist brochures related to our Grants mining museum tour scheduled for later this year.

Brenda has seven posters from past Tristate events that will be used for raffle prizes at the Las Vegas TriState.

I sent query to CORSA asking if our Tri-State event will be listed in future CORSA magazines (it is not in current issue).

Cheers - Greg



**Belated Birthdays**  
Jim Richardson 1-7  
Mary Zelli 1-11  
Lillian Shortle 1-26

**Birthdays in February**  
Bob Kitts 2-23



**Belated Anniversary**  
Jim Richardson  
& Mary Zelli 1-6

**Anniversaries in February**  
Steve & Rita Gongora 2-14  
Tony & Tweedy Lawler 2-16

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA	SU	MO	TU	WE	TH	FR	SA
				1	2	3						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	1	2	3	4
							31							5	6	7	8	9	10	11

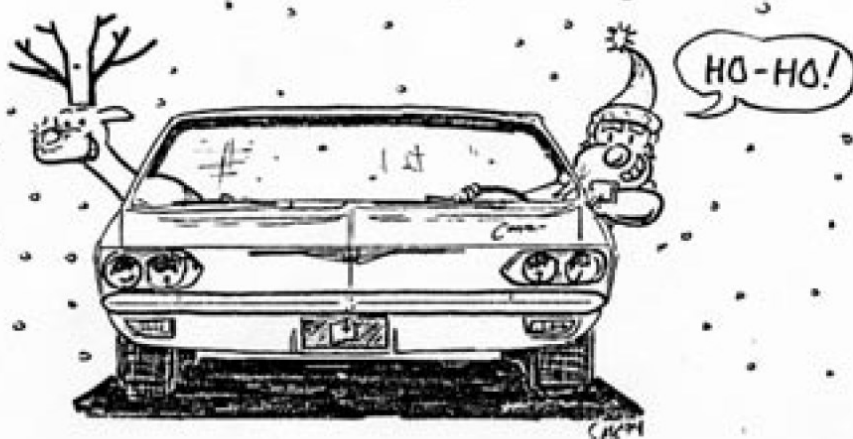
Saturday, February 3, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Wednesday, February 21, 2024	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Friday, February 23, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, February 26, 2024	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Wednesday, February 28, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday  Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Saturday, March 2, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center  131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Saturday, March 9, 2024	9:00 AM	<b>CNM Route 66 Clean-up—Roots Farm Café after clean-up</b>
Saturday, March 16, 2024??	???????	<b>CNM 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION— LOCATION??</b>
Wednesday, March 20, 2024	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Friday, March 29, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Wednesday, March 27, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday  Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Monday April 1, 2024	*****	Target completion of newsletter
Saturday, April 6, 2024	10:00 AM	Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb. NM 87108
Wednesday, April 17, 2024	7:00 PM	Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom
Wednesday, April 24, 2024	7:00 PM	Car Council Meeting – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday  Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123
Friday April 26, 2024	9:00 PM	Deadline for Newsletter
Monday, April 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!!**

# CORVAIRS OF NEW MEXICO

JANUARY '75  
#1



WINTER in the LAND of ENCHANTMENT ...

## 1st Newsletter: Story by Steve Gongora

This was the first cover of our CNM newsletter. (*We are now at issue 581*). It was drawn by our talented and one of the first members of the club, Mark Morgan. Mark was about to go in the Navy and he was dedicated to getting this club off the ground. Our first official meeting was at a garage on Bridge and Isleta. Duncan Puett was an automotive mechanic and made his place available for the first meeting. A friend of mine, Bill Seno told me about a group of guys getting together for a Corvair meeting and asked me if I was interested in joining him. I owned a 1965 Corvair Monza at the time and attended this meeting. What I found out later was that Bill Seno was a roommate of Mike Stickler. Mike and Brenda met and married. That is another story. From that first meeting, there were priorities set in motion if this club was to get off the ground. First off was to get a sponsor, a stable place to meet and get more members. Ed Black Chevrolet stepped up to the plate and offered not only their sponsorship but a meeting place in the

basement of the used car department. We were assigned a sales representative as a point of contact and we were off. Pete Colburn and I worked on the original logo for the club and the color scheme. We went to Weldy Screenprint and silkscreened license plates for our beauties. The dealership helped in spreading the word about our club, and somehow word got around and we grew. As soon as we were getting our feet off the ground, there was an oil crisis and we were not able to continue to meet at Ed Black's. Hector Gongora made the House of Covers available for meetings, and we stayed there for a few years until things stabilized with the economy and the dealership. When the time was right we went back to Ed Black's, went through a few sponsors and ended up with a gem of a man named Milton Sanchez. He took us under his wing and even bought a Corvair. As it happens with many things, "All good things come to an end". Ed Black's closed the dealership when they were bought out by Casa Chevrolet. We continued with this arrangement for some time until the dealership said that we could no longer meet there and we had to

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# Dues Due

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

## **Due in February**

Lupe & Jim Arellanes - inactive as of March 2024  
 Phil Finch - inactive as of March 2024  
 Pat Hall - inactive as of March 2024  
 Curtis Shimp - inactive as of March 2024

## **Due in March**

Steve & Rita Gongora - inactive as of April 2024  
 Gordon & Barbara Johnson - inactive as of April 2024  
 Mark Morgan - inactive as of April 2024

## **Due in April**

John Dinsdale - inactive as of May 2024  
 Art Gold - inactive as of May 2024  
 Terry Hall - inactive as of May 2024

## **Due in May**

Mark & Elizabeth Domzalski - inactive as of May 2024  
 Joel Yelich & Valerie Nye - inactive as of May 2024

## **Inactive:**

LeRoy Rogers as of June 2023  
 Lube Lubert as of Aug 2023  
 Irv Broc as of Sept 2023  
 Dave & Jan Allin as of Sept 2023  
 Clifton & Katie Trujillo as of Sept 2023  
 Troy Ward as of Oct 2023  
 William Heil as of Nov 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 7**

find a new home. Our new home became Galles Chevrolet. Our meetings were standardized and we met on the first Tuesday of every month. It was easy to remember because that was the day they tested the emergency broadcast equipment. The sirens used to sound off at noon and it was a great way to remember to go to the meeting. Another standard was the meeting time at 7:30 PM. My memory gets fuzzy and I can't remember when we changed it to Wednesdays. The time remained at 7:30 PM. The tradition was to have the meeting and meet at a restaurant after we were done. The place to go after our meetings at Ed Blacks was Sambo's which later became the Cornucopia. Walmart took over the area and all restaurants disappeared in that area. When we settled at Galles Chevrolet, we would go to the Howard Johnsons and eventually started going to the 66 Diner. They encouraged us and tailored to our needs as it was the perfect place on the "old highway" and vintage cars.

Galles Chevrolet had to move out of their facility as the property was owned by the University of New Mexico. They relocated at Candelaria and University and still made themselves available to the club. The only problem was that the room they gave us was too

small for all attendees. President Ray Trujillo had connections with the Highland Senior Center on Monroe and Central and we had a home again. It was a great place and we were content. Management changed and we were on the move. The North Domingo Baca Multi-Generational Center welcomed us and that was our new home. Don't know what happened but we needed another place. By this time, as our Corvair population has aged and the eyesight of many of members has diminished, especially driving at night, it was moved that we change the day and time again. It was thought to make it during the day and on the weekend. By this time the Highland Senior Center was once again available and welcomed us back.

I invite you to turn in your story as you remember it. That way you can validate or correct what I've said. My memory is 50 years older than when I joined the club. As to the future, we are always in need of new members, especially those that can contribute to its longevity. Many changes have come to the club and there are many more changes to come. Please consider what you can offer and help us to make it happen. The time is important now as we host our annual Tri-State event in May.  
*Steve Gongora*



*From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia*

The **Castañeda Hotel** is a historic railroad hotel located in Las Vegas, New Mexico. It was built in 1898 and 1899 by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway, and was operated by the Fred Harvey Company until 1948. After being mostly vacant for many years, the hotel was restored and reopened in 2019. The Castañeda was listed on the New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties in 1974 and the National Register of Historic Places in 1979 as a contributing property in the Railroad Avenue Historic District. It is located adjacent to the Las Vegas railroad station.

## History

In the 1890s, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway operated a small frame boarding house called the Depot Hotel where passengers could eat during lunch stops in Las Vegas. In 1898 and 1899, the railroad built a new and much larger hotel, the Castañeda, which was operated by the Fred Harvey Company. The Castañeda was the first of what would eventually be dozens of Harvey hotels along the Santa Fe lines, including the Alvarado in Albuquerque, New Mexico, El Tovar at the Grand Canyon, El Garces in Needles, California, and Casa del Desierto in Barstow, California, among others. The hotel was designed by Frederick Roehrig and officially opened on January 1, 1899. It was named after Pedro de Castañeda de Nájera, who chronicled the 1540 expedition of Francisco Vázquez de Coronado into New Mexico. The cost of construction was \$110,000, plus another \$30,000 for furnishings.

In June, 1899, the hotel hosted then-governor of New York Theodore Roosevelt at the first reunion of the Rough Riders. By the 1940s, apart from a brief boom in train travel during World War II, the hotel was losing money. It was closed by the railroad in June, 1948. The *Las Vegas Optic* wrote,

The Castaneda has been a center of social activity for the community. Its walls have resounded the oratory of locals and visitors at civic, political and fraternal banquet sessions. Evening-gowned ladies have brushed elbows with smoke-darkened railroaders. Cowboys have perched at the counter alongside eastern dandies. Politicians and salesmen have shared the lobby. Life won't seem the same with the Castaneda closed.

The hotel remained mostly vacant for the next 70 years, but it was saved from demolition by a preservation-minded owner, unlike the Alvarado in Albuquerque. Some of the rooms were sporadically used as apartments, and the hotel bar remained in operation, but most of the building was empty and deteriorating. In 2014, it was purchased by Allan Affeldt, who had previously restored the La Posada Hotel in Winslow, Arizona. Affeldt spent three years and \$6 million restoring the Castañeda and the nearby Plaza Hotel. The Castañeda reopened in 2019.

## Architecture

The Castañeda was designed by Pasadena architect Frederick Roehrig and was the first example of Mission Revival architecture in New Mexico, as well as the first Mission-style Harvey house. As such, it served as a prototype for later buildings constructed by the Santa Fe Railway, like the Alvarado Hotel. The Castañeda is a two-story, U-shaped brick building surrounding a central courtyard that opens onto the railroad tracks. A 500-foot (150 m) long arcade wraps around the front and sides of the hotel. The two side wings terminate in curved, Mission-style gables, and there is a tall bell tower above the main entrance.

The interior of the hotel contains about 30,000 square feet (2,800 m<sup>2</sup>) of space plus a large, uninsulated attic space and partial basements under the north and south wings. The south basement contains mechanical equipment, while the north basement was used for storage. In its original configuration, the hotel's ground floor contained a 108-seat dining room, 50-seat lunch counter, and a newsstand. The second floor housed 37 guest rooms.



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> \_\_\_\_\_ @\$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)

## 2024 Tri-State News

... by 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 El Fidel Hotel.

**Accommodations:** The Castaneda Hotel & The Plaza Hotel.

**Car Show Hotel:** The Castaneda Hotel.

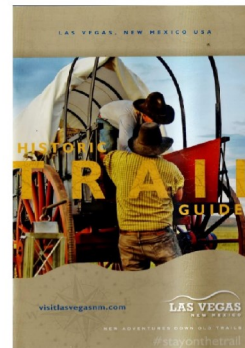
The Castaneda Hotel, a historical Fred Harvey House, has 18 rooms reserved for out-of-state attendees with a 2-night minimum. Overflow attendees will be directed to the historic Plaza Hotel. Call for Reservations: (505) 425-3591 for both hotels; mention "Corvair Tri-State" for our negotiated 15% discount;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

**Banquet/Show Cost: 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.

**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)

While in Las Vegas, NM for the 2024 Tri-State, Visit... **HISTORIC TRAILS**



**Larry Yoffee has generously donated this limited number of posters from the Taos Tri-State in 2017. The posters will be available in Las Vegas. A must addition to your collection. Suitable for Framing.**

