

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / December 2024—Volume 50—Number 12—Issue 591



# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

Corvair Society of America—CORSA—Chapter 871 / December 2024—Volume 50—Number 12—Issue 591

**Next Meeting: Regular Meeting: Saturday, Dec 7, 2024 10:00 AM**

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

|                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>This Month:</b>               |                      |
| President's Letter.....          | Greg Nelson          |
| Treasurer's Report.....          | Steve Gongora        |
| Meeting Notes.....               | David Huntoon        |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries..... | Membership           |
| Calendar of Events.....          | Board of Directors   |
| Dues Due.....                    | Membership Committee |
| CNM Christmas Dinner.....        | Rita Gongora         |
| Sam's Club Gas.....              | Robert Gold          |
| Bingo/Silent Auction.....        | Steve Gongora        |
| Arts & Crafts Car Show.....      | Steve Gongora        |
| Meeting Photos.....              | Jim Pittman          |



*On the Cover: Corvair Christmas (top)*

*Map of our JANUARY 2025 Meeting Location (right)*

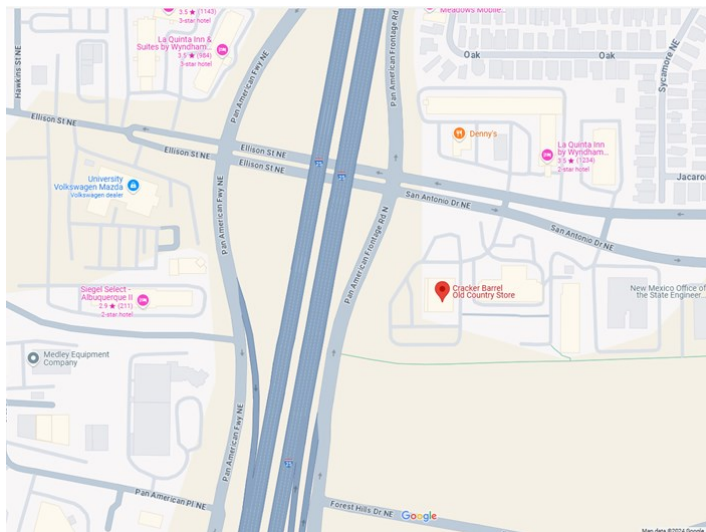


|                             |              |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--|
| President - Greg Nelson     | 505-400-8670 | <a href="mailto:fesedu@comcast.net">fesedu@comcast.net</a>                         |
| Vice-Pres - Robert Gold     | 505-856-6993 | <a href="mailto:beisbol30@msn.com">beisbol30@msn.com</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> |
| Programs - Brenda Stickler  | 505-344-2039 | <a href="mailto:tounce66@msn.com">tounce66@msn.com</a>                             |
| Newsletter - Steve Gongora  | 505-220-7401 | <a href="mailto:stevegongora@msn.com">stevegongora@msn.com</a>                     |
| Webmaster - Steve Gongora   | 505-220-7401 | <a href="mailto:stevegongora@msn.com">stevegongora@msn.com</a>                     |

**CNM December 2024 Newsletter Articles—Greg Nelson**

**Xmas Lunch**

Our annual Xmas lunch will be at the Cracker Barrel at I-25 and San Antonio. We are scheduled for Saturday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. Thank you, Rita!!



**Starting January 4, 2025**  
**CNM Meeting at Palo Duro Senior Center**  
**5521 Palo Duro Ave NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110**

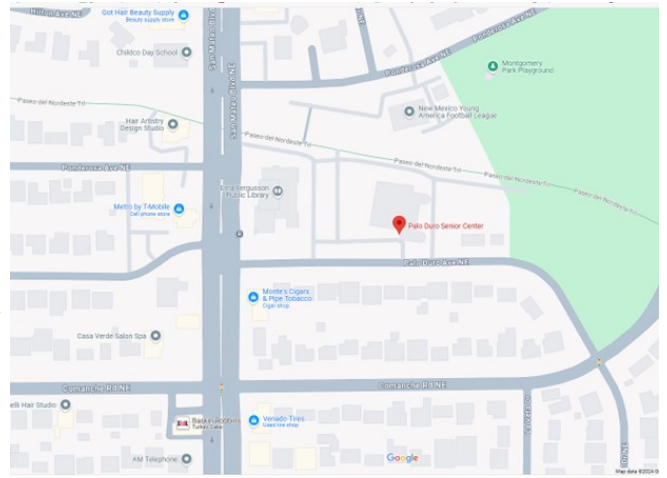
*Continued on page 3*

Report for CNM Treasury  
 Account for November 2024

| Date      | Check | Amount | Payee                           | Description                                   | Balance | Running Balance |
|-----------|-------|--------|---------------------------------|---|---------|-----------------|
| 1-Nov-24  |       |        |                                 |   |         | \$5,201.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | 230   | 140.00 | Richardson, James & Zelli, Mary | - 26 mo CNM & CORSA exp 3/27                  | 140.00  | \$5,341.25      |
| 19-Oct-24 | 230   | 25.00  | Richardson, James               | - Hat Contribution                            | 25.00   | \$5,366.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | cash  | 50.00  |                                 | Contributions for Hats by members             | 50.00   | \$5,416.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | cash  | 50.00  |                                 | Bingo Proceeds                                | 50.00   | \$5,466.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | cash  | 135.00 |                                 | Auction Proceeds                              | 110.00  | \$5,576.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | cash  | 20.00  | Robert Gold                     | Donation for Room at Manzano Center           | 20.00   | \$5,596.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | cash  | 5.00   | Anne Mae Gold                   | - Donation for License Plate                  | 5.00    | \$5,601.25      |
| 11-Nov-24 | 2610  | -90.00 | CORSA                           | - Check for Richardson, James 26 Months CORSA | -90.00  | \$5,511.25      |
| 18-Jan-24 | 13313 | 140.00 | Gadomski, Doug & Kathryn        | , 26 mon CNM & CORSA exp 2/27                 | 140.00  | \$5,651.25      |
| 18-Nov-24 | 2611  | -90.00 | CORSA                           | - Check for Gadomski, Doug 26 Months CORSA    | -90.00  | \$5,561.25      |

**We’re Moving**

Starting in January 2025 we will meet at the Palo Duro Senior Center (see the map). I will pass out mini maps at the December meeting.



**Manzano Mesa Car Show**

Aww bugger. I was not able to attend this car show despite getting the fuel system completed on the 63 Spyder. I drove it to breakfast and then when it was time to leave for the show it would not start. I mucked around with it a bit and then finally pushed the gas pedal to the floorboard and finally forced it to start with a nice cloud of smoke. It ran ok after that, but my priority was to just get it home. And I cursed it all way home. But I did get green lights all the way home.

**Corvairs for Sale**

Here are two local Corvairs for sale:

1961 Greenbrier [Albuquerque]  
The Kitts are selling their beautiful Greenbrier. Give them a call if interested: 505-507-2002. They have a small photo album they have been bringing to the club meetings, or you can see the car in person. Interested parties from Out-of-State?



We can take photos and email them to you.



1964 2-door Convertible [Albuquerque]  
Frank Bristol is selling his 64 Convertible. His phone number is 505-299-3090. The asking price is \$6,000. It has been in the garage since they stopped driving it and is in good condition. All the trim pieces are available too. Additional pictures on request (I have additional photos on my phone).



**TriState Discussion Update**

I am still in conversation with the other clubs about the future of TriState. Below are thoughts from Steve Goodman and Nathan King of the Bonneville Club.

Steve Goodman:

**TRI-STATE CORVAIR MEET - PAST AND FUTURE**

(Denair News October 2024)

by Steve Goodman

Everyone knows the beginnings of the Tri-State Corvair Meet. Briefly, in 1976 the CORSA national convention was held in Philadelphia PA in July to honor the Bicentennial of the USA. That meant lots of people, traffic, high expenses, etc., in the area. As an alternate, several CNM (Albuquerque NM) club members including Francis Boydston, Sylvan Zuercher, Bill Reider, Leroy Rogers and others came up with a plan for a mini convention in this part of the country. They reached out to RMC (Denver) and Bonneville (Salt Lake City UT), and both clubs agreed to the idea (Remember that PPCC (C/Springs) had not been formed yet). The town of Montrose in Colorado was chosen because of the close equal distance between the three cities involved. It was well attended by all three clubs. It was intended to be a one-time event. In 1985 the same group in CNM chose to try a yearly meet and rotate hosting duties the same as the Fan Belt Toss was being done in California. Both RMC and Bonneville, as well as the new PPCC, agreed to participate. CNM again chose Montrose as host city for 1986. It was well attended and RMC followed in Ouray in 1987. Next year was Bonneville's turn but turmoil in their club didn't allow that to work out, so PPCC jumped in and has been the Tri-State rotation every year since. Bonneville often has members attend but has since not hosted an event. I should note, too, that when the year ends with a '6', the Tri-State is held in Montrose as an 'Anniversary' year. It should also be noted that almost every year a small town in southern Colo or northern NM has been chosen for the event. Reasons include mountain vistas to bring Corvair owners from other states to see the sights and/or vacation in fresh scenery. Also, holding the event in May beat the tourist season, and the small towns were eager to have 100+ visitors spending money, with the Corvairs drawing locals so they would be in town spending money, too. Now we come to 2024 and beyond: The Tri-state meet has changed in recent years. Instead of a simple and brief meeting with the C of C and host motel and banquet facility and city officials for show 'n shine area, the entire weekend has evolved into work. The three host clubs are running out of workers both before the meet and during the weekend. Probably the workers are running out of steam, too. The registration process and multiple choices of T-shirts and bringing auction pieces instead of just door prizes and the number of volunteers needed to do the work has jumped a great deal. My last time as organizer was Salida in 2012 and everything was quite simple and easy to do (I organized several of the early events, and all were very easy). The thought of having one location has been suggested. In my opinion that location needs to be in the mountains PLUS be equal distance to the three original clubs. We must not dismiss Bonneville just because they don't take a turn at hosting duties. Bonneville members attend many of the events, but it is a long drive for them to Las Vegas, NM. There were members in Salida last year as well as Glenwood Springs and even in Albuquerque in 2011. Also, TRISTATE means three states: New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. That tradition is important, as is selecting Montrose (the city it all began in) as the host city each "6" year. With 2026 looming after Trinidad in '25, tradition dictates the event be in Montrose. In the beginning, the host club newsletter editor made every effort to advertise the coming event by sending articles to the newsletter editors of clubs in surrounding states. Also, the printed newsletters were swapped each month with other clubs and the articles about any meet was copied into that club newsletter. We used to always have attendees from

*Continued on page 5*

*continued from page 4 - President's Letter*

Kansas/Nebraska/Wyoming/Oklahoma/Iowa/Arizona and occasionally from California and Washington state. When I was the event organizer, I would call the clubs and visit with either president or editor too. Nothing beats the personal touch of a phone call vs the internet. Again, back to the beginning. The theme was to have a relaxed weekend showing off our Corvairs plus visiting with owners from other clubs as well as the local townsfolk who had their own Corvair stories. At the banquet some would sit with their own club members while others sat with owners from other clubs and visited while eating. Now the dinner conversation is interrupted with announcements and music, and even beginning the program during the meal makes it impossible to have a conversation over all the noise. In my opinion the friendship part of attending isn't the same. I think this dampens the interest of some to attend the event. Another point is driving our Corvairs. Albuquerque/ Denver/Salt Lake City are within 42 miles of equal distance (300-342 miles each way) and Co Springs is only 230 miles each way from Montrose. If your Corvair is well maintained and you use it often there should be a confidence level that says, sure, the car will do the trip. Along that same line is the age of the drivers. We are aging right along with the cars, but if driving 6 hours is difficult leave a day early and spend a night in a motel along the route. OR drive a brand X and still take part in the weekend meeting up with old friends and making new ones. It is not mandatory to drive a Corvair but the only way you can enjoy the weekend is to show up in something. \*FOOTNOTE: All mentions of "past" in this piece are factual, while the text regarding future events are my opinions. I wrote this piece because the Tri-State Corvair Meet has been my favorite event every year since it began. The word 'tradition' is used often; keeping that tradition going is very important to me.

**Bonneville**

My name is Nathan King! I am the club president of the Bonneville Corvair club. I wanted to reach out to other club presidents to see how they run their Corvair clubs and to make more friends in the Corvair community. I was wondering if it would be ok to be a part of your newsletter list. I had Steve Goodman in Denver Colorado reach out to me about the Tri-state. He pitched the idea of the hosting city being in Montrose, Colorado every year like the fan belt toss in Palm Springs, California. What are your thoughts about this? I know in the past the Bonneville Corvair club has taken a step back and let other clubs host it. But I would like to change that one day. I know we would not be able to take a turn for a while as I'm struggling to find new members. But I know we will have good attendance at the Tri-state. I can do my best to help with the planning or scheduling of events. Love to get to know you and your club sometime and have new friends to chat with at the Corvair events.

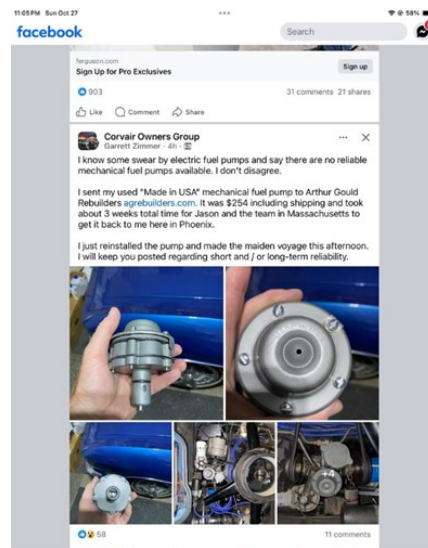
Thanks

Nathan King

BCC President

**Fuel Pump Gamble**

I ordered a fuel pump from this company and will install it after Thanksgiving and hopefully before Xmas. I will have an update soon. I will install it in the '64 Monza. Recall this engine has died twice while idling for extended periods. Hopefully, this resolves the issue. Clark's is supposed to have new mechanical fuel pumps before the end of the year.



**CNM Meeting – November 2, 2024—Dave Huntoon**

13 members present

Treasurer reports \$5201.25 current

VP Robert reports our new meeting location at Palo Duro is confirmed for our new location beginning in January.

An Arts and Craft show at Manzano Mesa will be Nov. 16 starting at 9:00.

Hoping for 10 -15 cars to show up.

The last NM Car Council meeting for this year was held several weeks ago and was to recognize Joyce Clements for all her years of hard work for the Car Council. Joyce is just stepping back a bit to relax some.

Activities chair Brenda is seeking suggestions for things to do and places to go for next year's schedule.

There will be a Bingo night and silent auction Nov. 9 at 12:00 to 2:30. This will be a revival of a popular activity that we last held maybe 5 years ago.

Of course we had more discussion about the future of our annual Tri-State event. The clubs in Colorado are in agreement and helping with a new format that lessens the burden on all the clubs. We're positive we can make this happen in the next several years.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 with more shop talk in the parking lot!

Thx, Dave

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**No Board Meeting for November 2024**

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***Birthdays in December***

**Diane Lawler 12-5**

**Mike Piper 12-6**

**Maggie Kitts 12-7**

**Kathy Blair 12-9**

**Jim Arellanes 12-16**

**Greg Nelson 12-17**

**Dick Cochran 12-21**

**Fred Riggs 12-31**



***Anniversaries in December***

**Mark & Elizabeth Domzalski 12-11**

**DECEMBER 2024**

**JANUARY 2025**

**FEBRUARY 2025**

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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   | 4   |

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 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  | 30  | 31  | 1   |

| 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  | 1   |
| 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |

Monday, Dec 2, 2024                   \*\*\*\*\*

Target completion of newsletter

Saturday, Dec 7, 2024               10:00 AM  
**87108**

**Meeting—Highland Senior Center , 131 Monroe St NE, Alb.**



**Saturday, Dec 14, 2024               1:00 PM**

***CNM Christmas Dinner, Cracker Barrel—San Antonio & I-25***

Wednesday, Dec 18, 2024           7:00 PM

Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom

Friday, Dec 27 2024                   9:00 PM

Deadline for Newsletter

Monday, Dec 30, 2024               \*\*\*\*\*

Target completion of newsletter

Saturday, Jan 4, 2025                 10:00 AM

**Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110**

Wednesday, Jan 15, 2025           7:00 PM

Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom

Wednesday, Jan 22, 2025           7:00 PM

Car Council Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123

Friday, Jan 24, 2025                 9:00 PM

Deadline for Newsletter

Monday, Jan 27, 2025               \*\*\*\*\*

Target completion of newsletter

Saturday, Feb 1, 2025                10:00 AM

**Meeting—Palo Duro Center, 5221 Palo Duro Ave NE, Alb, NM 87110**

Wednesday, Feb 19, 2025           7:00 PM

Board Meeting—3rd Wednesday via Zoom

Wednesday, Feb 26, 2025           7:00 PM

Car Council Meeting – 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

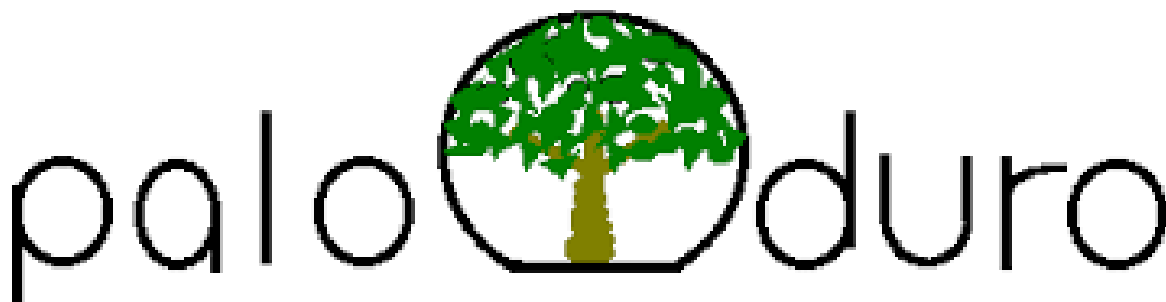
Manzano Mesa Senior Center , 501 Elizabeth St SE, Alb, NM 87123

Friday, Feb 21, 2025                 9:00 PM

Deadline for Newsletter

Monday, Feb 24, 2025               \*\*\*\*\*

Target completion of newsletter



**SENIOR CENTER**

**5221 Palo Duro, NE ■ Albuquerque NM USA ■ (505) 888-8102**

# 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**

Bob & Maggie Kitts inactive as of Dec 2024  
Dick & Linda Cochran inactive as of Dec 2024

**Due in December**

David Huntoon inactive as of Jan 2025  
Alex Johnson inactive as of Jan 2025

**Due in January**

Ann Wiker inactive as of Feb 2025

**Due in February**

Tony & Diane Lawler inactive as of March 2025  
Curtis Shimp inactive as of March 2025

**Inactive:**

Lloyd Piatt inactive as of August 2024  
Steve Johnson - inactive as of July 2024  
David Pierre - inactive as of July 2024  
Fred Riggs II - inactive as of July 2024  
Terry Hall - inactive as of May 2024  
Mark & Elizabeth Domzalski - inactive as of June 2024  
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

## Corvair Christmas Dinner—Rita Gongora

We arranged for The Corvair Club to have the Christmas Dinner at The Cracker Barrel on I-25 and San Antonio.

Here are the details: **December 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm**

We ask if you would please RSVP to the email that

Lupe sent out or call 505-220-7401 to let us know if you can attend. They are going to add extra staff to take care of the club so it is imperative to know if you are coming. Thank you in advance to make this a successful event. We will not only meet with good company but the Cracker Barrel has a fantastic store with tons of stuff to look and buy. This will be the last event of the year, our 50th year as a club. We will see you there!! Rita



**OLD COUNTRY STORE**

### **Christmas 1999 Below:**





## Gas Station Blues—A Corvair Story

Those of you who have been reading my ramblings in the CNM newsletter know I like to write about my odd experiences owning and driving Corvairs. You might remember because Clark's Corvairs ran out of oil filters I worried about the end of parts for our wonderful classics. Also remember how I took pride in promoting Lube Lubert's unique classic early model 4-door, dubbing it the "Great White Hope". Well this time I want to call attention to how a Sam's Club gas station here appeared to diss my beloved Corvair.



I really don't know if it matters much, but I always run premium (ethyl, for you real old timers like me) in my Corvairs. I kinda remember the original reason had to do with octane and pinging, but I don't really remember. All I know is how as I searched for cheap premium I discovered it is a scandal how pricing is done at gas stations. You ever notice that the price listed on the sign is only for regular gas (and diesel, but that doesn't count)? Over the years I've also noticed that going to a gas station is like gambling because when I pull up to the pump, the non-advertised price for premium could be anywhere from 50 cents to a buck more than regular. SURPRISE!

However, thanks to my true love, Anne Mae, I discovered that Sam's Club near our house sells discounted regular and premium gas. I might not be happy at the cost of premium at Sam's, but I know one thing, I won't find it cheaper anywhere else.

With all that, I really didn't expect any problems when I took my Lakewood to Sam's last week. I inserted the proper cards in the proper order (thanks for showing me how Anne Mae!) and pulled on the handle to start the flow of life giving liquid for my Corvair, but something was wrong- the flow of gas into my tank was SLOW. I'm not saying slow like I'm mildly irritated because it's slow, I mean REALLY slow. Someone called out to me. It was Gabriel (I learned his named because all of this). He knows a lot about those pumps! He smiled and asked if something seemed wrong with the pump? YES. Because he had such a great attitude, I didn't get mad (much). Sadly, he didn't know what was wrong.

So, I was faced with a pump that wouldn't pump, and being a retired scientist, I performed a quick experiment. I pulled to the next pump and tried again. Failure again. I then glanced back and noticed the guy behind me was happily pumping gas at the first pump. I then thought, Sam's doesn't like my car!! Sorry Gabriel...

I abandoned Sam's and quickly drove down the street to another gas station and filled my tank confirming my feeling that the pumps at Sam's hated Corvairs (or maybe me??!!). I was, however, determined to find out what was going on.

Phase 3 of my experiment involved motoring over to Sam's early one Sunday to try again. This time I was in my Rampside. I pulled up to a very quiet gas station and there was my old friend Gabriel. He came by and watched while I pulled out my cards to try filling my tank. He was really interested because I had become a bit of a celebrity around there because of my problem. Hoping for the best, but ready for the worst, I inserted the handle.... And it worked! No problem.



My son, Art, a Corvair owner also, has a saying I think that fits here. He says "I HATE the future". That's when he comes up against all this tech in our lives. For me it meant for some reason or such, on that day, Sam's pumps #1 and #2 didn't like my Corvair. All I can say is that we have somehow reconciled and are together again.

Robert Gold

# CORVAIRS of NEW MEXICO

## CNM Bingo & Silent Auction

at the Manzano Mesa Multi-Generational Center

Saturday, November 9, 2024

We haven't had a Bingo and Auction Event since before Covid. The Manzano Mesa Senior Center was kind enough to provide the room and time slot for our event. Our limited turnout brought big returns to the CNM bank account. Look at this month's treasury report. There were plenty of great items that CNM members brought for the auction. There were dishes and pizza brought for our enjoyment and even music. Make sure you don't miss our next Bingo adventure. Steve Gongora



**Car Show at the Manzano Mesa Multi-Generational Center**

**Saturday, November 16, 2024**

The Manzano Mesa Senior Center was in need of cars to help foster a better attendance for this year's Arts and Crafts Festival. Robert Gold and I represented the Corvairs of New Mexico along with other car enthusiasts, including JD Doran from the Mustang Club. The weather was perfect and attendance for the event was unbelievable. There were rooms full of vendors and crowds in great numbers. Food vendors were on site to make sure no one went hungry. Steve Gongora



Photos from our CNM Meeting on November 2, 2024

Photos provided by Jim Pittman





Here is Jim Pittman at his computer adding photos with his Apple computer.

