

# LIFTER NOISE

NEWSLETTER OF THE WEST MICHIGAN CORVAIR CLUB

AUGUST 2003

## *What's Going On...*

The next meeting of the West Michigan Corvair Club will be on Tuesday, August 19 at 7:30 PM. We will be meeting at C's Drive-in which is on the corner of 44<sup>th</sup> St. and US-131. ... Also this month is the annual Corvair Homecoming put on by the Detroit club. It is at the same place it was last year, but the hotel has a new name. It will be held at the Comfort Inn in Plymouth, Michigan on August 22 – 24. This is always a very nice show.

## *Coming Events...*

### *WMCC/Corvair Events*

August 19	WMCC General Meeting at C's Drive-in
August 22 – 24	DACC Corvair Homecoming, Quality Inn, Plymouth
September 2	WMCC Board Meeting
September 16	WMCC General Meeting hosted by Dave Teppo
October 7	WMCC Board Meeting
October 11	WMCC Color Tour
October 21	WMCC General Meeting – nomination of club officers
November 4	WMCC Board Meeting
November 18	WMCC General Meeting – election of club officers

### *Other Events*

August 10	Deano's 3 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Car Show, Noon – 6 PM, 1604 M-40, North Allegan.
August 16	Woodward Dream Cruise, Detroit

## *Membership Info...*

John Shipman's phone number is listed incorrectly in the membership roster. It should read (616) 361-5056.

As you see on the schedule of events, October's meeting will have the nomination of club officers. Our current officers have served for two consecutive years. Due to club by-laws, we have to elect a new slate of officers. We will also have two board member positions to fill. Please consider running for one of these positions. Also, we will be looking for a new newsletter editor for 2004. Our current editor will no longer have the time or resources available to put together the newsletter due to job responsibilities.

If you are interested in receiving an electronic version of the newsletter, you may e-mail Dave Ziebarth at [dziebarth2@comcast.net](mailto:dziebarth2@comcast.net). You will be e-mailed a link that will take you to an online version of the newsletter. Once you sign up for the electronic newsletter, you will no longer receive the snail mail version. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view it. You can download the reader from <http://www.adobe.com>.

## *WMCC Car Display... by Ryan Counterman*

On August 2<sup>nd</sup>, we had our 7<sup>th</sup> annual car display as part of the Red Barns Spectacular at the Gilmore Car Museum, in Hickory Corners, MI. We had about 20 Corvairs on display. Just about every make and model was there, including 2 Greenbriers, and one Rampside. There was even a V8 powered 'Vair on display, and was certainly the talk of the show. (Great, now I've got some competition.) Morning clouds soon gave way to afternoon sun, and Steve Ridderman fired up the grill and cooked up some huge juicy burgers and hotdogs. If you left hungry, it was your own fault, I mean hot dogs were on the house! After lunch, I sold tickets for the 50/50 raffle. \$80 was collected, and Keith Vander Pol's lucky number was drawn. He graciously donated half his winnings back to the club. We had a ton of prizes to give away (some of which were donated by Clark's Corvair Parts), and almost everyone won something. After the raffle, the People's Choice awards were given away. The winners were: Early Open – John Istenes (1964 Monza Convertible), Early Closed – Dave Teppo (1964 700 Coupe), Late Open – Dick Shank (1965 Corsa Convertible), Late Closed – Bruce McIntosh (1969 Monza Coupe), Forward Control – Mike Mehl (1962 Greenbrier).

All the Gilmore Barns were open for touring, and the Hudson Display was still there from last year. Overall, it was a great day, and fun was had by all who attended. Just as the last 'Vairs left the show, torrential downpour began, testing the working ability of our ancient windshield wipers and defrosters. What a fun day!

# *WMCC Car Display... photos by Mike & Cameron Mehl*

Look for more photos on the WMCC web site soon.



# *Board Meeting Minutes...*

There was no August board meeting.

## *Classified Ads...*

**1962 Corvair** - it's been torn apart in hopes of rebuilding. Will sell for parts but would prefer to get rid of the whole thing package deal. Car is located just outside of Zeeland. Ross Zuverink, [zuvie45@hotmail.com](mailto:zuvie45@hotmail.com).

**1962 Sedan** - Nice shape. I have too many vehicles and need to part with some. I live in Texas, but the car is in Chesaning, near Saginaw. Asking \$2995 cash. The car is at 13201 Frandsche Rd. Chesaning, MI; phone is 989-865-6581 (my father Oscar). Randy Neumeyer, 281-320-8248 (Texas) or [randycmu1@pdq.net](mailto:randycmu1@pdq.net).

**1963 Greenbrier** - Stored for years, running when parked, extra parts included. \$1500.00. Anedra or Dennis Lewis, (810) 743-2266 or [LewisLeasing@myexcel.com](mailto:LewisLeasing@myexcel.com).

**1964 Monza Convertible** - 110/4 speed. Light blue in and out, new white top, carpets, rebuilt carbs, overall nice, stored for 30 years+. \$3395. Will talk with reasonable offers. Doug Myer, Cutlerville (616) 698-9204.

**1964 Coupe** - parts car; car was brought up from Austin, Texas in February. No motor, transaxle or interior. Car is located in Brighton. Call Dan at (248) 349-6456 (home), (248) 486-8369 (work), or (248) 755-5766 or send an e-mail to [sedanrod@aol.com](mailto:sedanrod@aol.com).



**Parts** - Rebuilt 10" generator, \$85.00. Purchased rebuilt and not used Early car rear axles (2) \$75.00 each (good axles). Shocks for early (Underground p/n U3762) 2 pairs new in the box, \$40.00/pair or \$70.00 for set of 4. NOS early voltage regulator, \$35.00. 1962 Car assembly manual (new) \$10.00. Mike Mehl, (269) 345-3811 or [mimehl@parker.com](mailto:mimehl@parker.com).

**Parts** - turbo engine, taillights. 1965 and up. Six different bodies in different conditions. Four are convertibles. New parts too numerous to mention. Harry Wright, (606) 768-3226 or [rew1@mrtc.com](mailto:rew1@mrtc.com).

**Wanted** - 65-69 Corvair convertible. Looking for a daily driver. I don't need a show car and don't want a project car. Jim Bogos, home phone 810-632-6145. E-mail address: [bogey4277@hotmail.com](mailto:bogey4277@hotmail.com).

**Wanted** - 64 - 69 Monza convertible. Contact Mike at (616) 454-6664 or [MCary47487@aol.com](mailto:MCary47487@aol.com)

## *WMCC Logo Products...*

We now have car magnets with the WMCC logo on it available. These would be good to use at car shows and parades. They are \$40.00 a set. Don't forget that we also have t-shirts (\$12), coffee mugs (\$7), and static cling decals (\$1). Contact Bob Janei if you are interested in the magnets, mugs, or decals. Contact Dave Ziebarth if you are interested in a t-shirt.

## *Air Cooled in Carlisle... by Notun Witte*

I pulled our dusty and bug-spattered red 1965 Corsa in the driveway in DeWitt, Michigan on Saturday night at 8:15 on July 19, 2003. We were just returning home from my first Corsa International Convention, and what a great trip it was....

The previous Monday I loaded the Corsa with suitcases, towels, tools, helmets, maps and my two oldest children, Jake and Allie, and we rolled out the drive at about 4:15 p.m. on our way to Carlisle, Pennsylvania. We had a long drive ahead of us, by my estimation 10 to 12 hours. This was quite a long ride for a ten-year-old and a twelve-year-old in an old car with black vinyl seats, no air conditioning, no radio that could be heard over the wind noise, and no videos. But as we headed south from Lansing, the kids were excited about the adventure, and I heard no complaints.

It was a beautiful evening, with crisp clear skies. After a dinner stop, we said goodbye to our Michigan home.

We drove that night until about 11:30 p.m. The moon rose a deep scarlet, the reddest moon I have ever seen. We stopped in western Pennsylvania for the night and got an early start the next morning. We breakfasted the next day at a turnpike rest stop McDonalds and met up there with a contingency of Corvairs from eastern Pennsylvania. We caravanned with them the rest of the way to Carlisle.

We in arrived Carlisle mid-afternoon on Tuesday and had time for a dip in the pool before the valve cover races. There were some seriously engineered valve covers on hand. True to his prediction on Virtual Vairs, "Smitty" Smith's wife Helen took all the marbles with a gold-painted dual valve cover contraption.

Wednesday morning we were up early to wipe the rain off the Corsa for the car display. I decided not to enter the concours, thus sparing the kids hours of boredom while I cleaned the car. There were perhaps 250 or 300 Corvairs on display and in concours. I was surprised to see almost as many Corvairs in the parking lot.



One of the more entertaining concours entries was a '64 Monza convertible now owned by Bill Hubbell and formerly owned by John Glenn. The car is badly need of paint and interior work. Despite its unrestored condition, it still scored in the 70s. Bill's point is that no one should be afraid of concours just because their car isn't perfect. He was also establishing a baseline for future shows. It will be interesting to see where he goes with the car.

Promptly after the car show, there was a caravan to The Corvair Ranch. It was a gorgeous drive--this was my first real trip to Pennsylvania, and it is a lovely state. All the way to The Corvair Ranch, the kids were saying that we were going to have to move to Pennsylvania because it was so much prettier than the flatlands from whence we hail. They also worked on schemes to get their friends relocated. Although I appreciate their sentiments, I am not surrendering my WMCC membership just yet.

When we arrived at the Ranch, we found that proprietor Jeff Stonesifer had laid out a spread for all of us. I think he was a little surprised at the turn out, with nearly fifty Corvairs and many more water-pumpers on hand. He was a generous and gracious host, giving us the run of the place. The Corvair Ranch is worth a visit not only to see the acres of salvaged Corvairs but also to meet Jeff and his crew.



Wednesday night was the Virtual Vairs meeting, one of the events to which I was most looking forward, since I regularly participate with this on-line chapter of Corsa. It was a real pleasure to meet many of those who until last week were

just names in my in-box. I saw fellow WMCC member Beth Inman at the meeting, although we did not get a chance to say "Hi." I'll do it now: Hi, Beth!

Thursday morning was another beautiful day. Our morning was occupied by the rally. The booklet we got contained driving instructions and bonus questions, so Allison took charge of the bonus questions while Jake assumed navigator duties. The route took us through some spectacular countryside. One of the checkpoints was a local fish hatchery, which the kids loved. The last checkpoint was a local dragstrip. We got to take a blast down the track before we continued on our way. Thanks to some fine navigating, we managed a fourth in the touring class.

In the afternoon I succumbed to temptation and bought a set of carbs for my Corsa. Think that I could save on postage, I decided to change the carbs right there and avoid having to ship the cores back to the vendor. The rule of unintended consequences was in full force; the tall carb stud on the left primary stripped completely out of the head. After a short period of utter panic, I got a ride from Rick Loving and his dad to the nearest Autozone, where I picked up a helicoil and insert tool. This went in without fuss and I was back in business. In the meantime, however, the whole thing had turned into an impromptu tech session for fellow Western Michigan Corvair Club members Steve Ridderman, John Koning and myself. Without any further serious problems we got the car ready for the autocross.

Friday morning started early with the tech inspection for the autocross. After the driver's meeting, we snuck off so that I could feed the kids. When we got back the stock classes were running. For pure entertainment value, you can't beat an aggressively driven Greenbrier. The kids loved watching the vans tip and teeter around the cones. I overheard one wag in the paddock commenting that the 'Brier was a self-limiting vehicle because before it could roll, its lifting rear tires lost the ability to put power down, and the vehicle slowed. Interesting notion....



After the stock classes finished, it was time for the modified, prepared and specialty cars to run. I shot 400+ pictures at the autocross, some of which can be seen on my website at [www.wittelaw.com/personal/aircooled](http://www.wittelaw.com/personal/aircooled)

And that was it for us for the organized events at the convention. We spent some more time swimming and visiting with friends and started the long drive home Saturday morning as the econorun was staging. We could tell that the competition was serious when we saw one participant pushing his '64 sedan back from the gas station so as to conserve every last ounce of fuel. The night before, we talked to one fellow who was changing jets in his carbs and putting on a set of extra skinny tires on space-saver rims. Somehow, I didn't see this contest and my lead foot as being a good match.

We played leapfrog with WMCC member Mike Mehl on the way back to Michigan and pushed through in one day. As it had on the way there, the Corsa ran flawlessly. The kids had a great time and wished they could have stayed longer.

With next year's convention in Lexington, Kentucky, it's not that long a trip from our neck of the woods to the convention. Hopefully next year our chapter will have a great turnout. I know our family is looking forward to going.

## *Treasurer's Report...*

JULY 2003

<b>BEGINNING BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$1,469.68</b>
<b>INCOME:</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>	<b>\$3.30</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE:</b>	<b>\$1,541.38</b>

Income came from dues and the sales of WMCC logo product. Disbursements were for postage.

## *WMCC Officers...*

**President** Steve Ridderman, 720 West Gun River Dr., Plainwell, MI 49080, (269) 685-6377, vaircollector@msn.com  
**Vice-President** Ryan Counterman, 5685 Douglas Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49004, (616) 262-8887, VairKing@aol.com  
**Secretary** Dan Konkle, 6574 Rogueview Ct. NE, Belmont, MI 49306, (616) 364-1009, Dankle@aol.com  
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**Editor** Dave Ziebarth, 1411 Pickett St. SE, Kentwood, MI 49508, (616) 281-3183, dziebarth2@comcast.net

### **Members of the Board**

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## *About the West Michigan Corvair Club...*

The West Michigan Corvair Club is chapter #495 of the Corvair Society of America. We typically meet on the third Tuesday of every month at Brann's on 4157 South Division in Wyoming, Michigan. Membership dues are \$15.00 per year. Junior membership dues (age 17 & under) are \$7.50 annually and family dues are \$16.00 annually. Our web site is <http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter495/> and our e-mail address is [wmcorvair@comcast.net](mailto:wmcorvair@comcast.net).



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