



Lifter Noise

Volume 31, Issue 4

June, 2004

What's Going On. . .

Upcoming Activities

- June 15-19 Corsa International Convention, Lexington, KY
- June 19 Car show at Graber Chevrolet, Midland, MI
- June 22 General Meeting in Holland
- June 26 Car show at Allegan Airport
- July 6 Board Meeting
- July 21 General Meeting at Rosie's in Rockford
- August 3 Board Meeting
- August 7 WMCC car display at the Red Barn Spectacular
- August 27-29 Detroit Area Corvair Club Homecoming

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June is here and what a month it is. The first thing to note about this month is that it officially marks the 30th anniversary of the West Michigan Corvair Club.

The WMCC charter was officially recognized on June 7, 1974. There have been many things that have come and gone since then. Nixon, polyester, 8-tracks, but the Corvair still remains and with it so does our club.

We will have an official celebration of our 30th anniversary as part of our show in August. This will allow us to share it with a few more people.

Also this month is the CORSA Convention in Lexington, Kentucky. Steve Ridderman, Ryan



Counterman, Bill Wright, Dave Ziebarth, and Norm Witte will represent the club. It remains to be seen how many of them will be driving their Corvairs.

We have also been invited to a couple car shows that are being held this month. The first will be on June 19 at Garber Chevrolet in Midland, MI. The show will run from 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There will be food and prizes.

The second is a show at the Allegan Airport. It is on June 26 and will run from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm with registration until noon. Entry fee of \$10 per car. For more information call 269-673-4157.

Our monthly meeting will be held a week later than normal because of a scheduling conflict with the CORSA Convention. We will be meeting on June 22 at 7:30 pm at the Ice Cream Junction in Holland. Look for the map on page 5 for directions.

Around the Club

Dan Konkle has put his racer on the road. It has become his "regular" driving car. He has even civilized it with the addition of a passenger seat and a new exhaust system complete with a muffler.

Steve Ridderman has put his father's Rampside back on the road. Steve is glad to have this project on the road.

I will be getting a little paint and repair work done on the '66 in a couple weeks.

There hasn't been an abundance of reports on happenings in the club. Please pass on reports for inclusion.

Last month I forgot to mention that Randy Merrill had rejoined the club. We welcome him back.

May Meeting Highlights

We had no official meeting for the month of May. Instead a group of us showed up at Ryan Counterman's for a work night on his '65 Corsa V8 car.

A few things were accomplished on the car that night. A disc brake conversion was done on the front axle. This was done using the "bolt-on" kit that can be bought from the Corvair vendors such as Wall's and Clark's.

Of course the big event of the night was firing up the V8 for the first time. It came to life and filled the garage with sounds uncommon to most Corvairs. Gary Gruetzmacher and Ryan spent a little time in the car trying to get the timing set.



Ryan showed off his new gauges and how the dash is go-



ing to look once complete. Also he showed the modifications that were made to the trunk to accommodate the radiator and the new power brake booster.

When we left there was still a lot left for Ryan to work on. The brake lines needed to be installed, an exhaust system needed to be fabricated, the rear brakes needed to be assembled, and an interior put in.

The goal was to have the car ready in time to drive to Lexington for the convention. At the June Board Meeting, Ryan said he was still planning on taking the car to Lexington. However, a few little details will keep him from driving it down. We look forward to seeing this car on the road soon.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Here is the list of those with special celebrations this month.

If you haven't already let me know of special dates for you, please do so.

It's another way of helping us to get to know each other a little more.

Birthdays in June

John Koning	June 03
Randy Merrill	June 04
Dot Vander Pol	June 10
Ryan Counterman	June 20
Dan Konkle	June 27

Anniversaries in June

Rob & Linda Van Sledright	June 01
Verne & Barb Metcalf	June 10
John & Cathy Koning	June 11
Norm & Joy Witte	June 16
Steve & Mary Ridderman	June 21

Who Am I?

Last month our pictured member was Norm Witte.

Norm has been a member of the club since late 2002. Since he lives in the Lansing area he doesn't make too many meetings. So now is our chance to get to know Norm a little better. Here's his biography:

"The first car I ever rode in was a '60 Corvair my dad bought new on his teacher's salary.

"I stumbled on my first Corvair, a '65 Corsa in Detroit, where I found it abandoned in a garage. I bought my second, a '66 Monza, after I got out of school. I planned to use that Monza to rebody the first car.

"This plan was abandoned when I bought my third Vair, another '65 Corsa, in 1987. I promptly sold the other two to my cousin.

"Last year I bought my fourth Corvair, a '65 Monza convertible.

"I graduated from Michigan State in 1984 and Wayne State Law School in 1987. I am the owner of a two member law firm in Lansing, Michigan and practice bankruptcy, telecommunications and commercial law.

"My wife Joy and I married in 1989 and we have four children: Jacob, 13; Allison, 11; Seth, 9; and Caitlin, 6. Other hobbies include photography, model building, racquetball, drawing and the study of military history."

Here's another little known fact about Norm. Norm served as a law clerk in 1986 in one of those buildings next to the Calder Plaza in Grand Rapids. As Norm mentioned above, he had just started his Corvair purchases about that time. You can imagine his surprise then one Friday that summer when he looked out the

window to find the Calder Plaza full of Corvairs. It seems he was a spectator of the 1986 CORSA Convention while having to work.

I still need pictures and biographies of members to include in this spot. Please send them to me. I can accept digital photos via e-mail or I can use 35mm slides or any photograph. If need be I can even use 35mm negatives. I will return all photos when I have copied them.

And if you're worried about your writing skills, don't be. I don't worry too much about mine and still I manage to put this whole publication together.

This month's photo is of a member who isn't around too much any more. It seems he's already put in enough time since the club started.

The car was fairly new at the time of the picture.

For those of you who can't guess this one the identity will be revealed next month.

And if I can get another picture of a member by then we will continue with this feature.



WMCC Car Display

As a reminder we will be having our car show within a show at the Gilmore Red Barn Spectacular on August 7. The show will go from 9 am to 3 pm.

As mentioned last month the grounds are spectacular and the barns are filled with interesting cars of all vintages.

One of the barns (the newest on the property) houses the muscle cars of the 60s and 70s. It also has a display of

Corvettes. There is also a Delorean and the last Camaro sold.

Don't forget we will also be having the official 30th anniversary party for the club on this day.

Mark this day on your calendar and plan to come out and enjoy the day.



Spring Dust Off

May 8 started a little dreary. But the weather was not going to keep us from enjoying our first outing of the spring.

Dan Konkle, John Cole, Dave Ziebarth, and Steve Ridderman met with Corvairs at the Krispy Kreme to caravan to East Lansing. John Koning had also come out with the Corvair, but he took it home to get his family and a water pumper for the drive.

The drive was wet at best. As we neared the barns of Jim Neal the rain let up. When we arrived it was still overcast but not raining.

Shortly after our arrival the Detroit Area Corvair Club showed up. They came in a variety of cars from a 1960 sedan to an UltraVan. They also brought along a motorized tricycle that all the children were afraid to try riding.

Rob and Linda Van Sledright came along also, but on their own time in their Corvair.

After some time was spent talking and looking over a '65 Corsa that was brought in as a potential project for any-

one wanting to spend the money, lunch was served. Thanks go out to Norm and Jim for supplying drinks and chips and to everyone who brought



a dish to pass.



Jim Neal's 1969 Triumph

A group then went to the Ransom E. Olds Transportation Museum. Now that Oldsmobile has ceased production, the museum has become a refuge for the newest orphans from GM. The last cars produced from each of the Olds models was on hand for viewing. As

were many of the older cars from Oldsmobile's rich history.

By the end of the day the sun was shining and the temperatures were rising for a nice drive back home.



Norm and Jim did a wonderful job in preparing the facilities for the group. So a special thank you to them for their work and hospitality in hosting this event for the past two years.

Treasurer's Report

April 30 through June 1

Beginning Balance		\$1848.06
Income		
Dues	\$15.00	
Disbursements		
Postage	\$21.00	
Ending Balance		\$1842.06

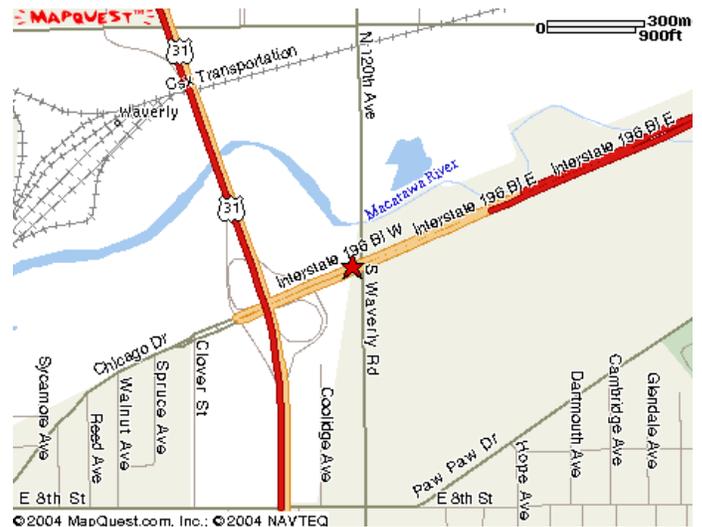


June Meeting Location

The June meeting will be held at the Ice Cream Junction in Holland. It is located at the corner of Waverly and Chicago Drive.

From Grand Rapids take I-196 to exit 55. Take Chicago Drive (Business Loop 196) to Holland.

From anywhere on the lakeshore take US-31 to the Chicago Drive (Business Loop 196) exit.



June Board Meeting Minutes

- 1) Meeting called to order by President Steve Ridderman.
Members present: Steve, Bob Janei, Bill Wright, Dan Konkle, John Cole, and Ryan Counterman.
- 2) Treasurer's Report was handed out by Bob.
- 3) Business Discussion:
 - a) June meeting will be held on June 22 in Holland.
 - b) Discussion of car shows on June 19, 26, and September after Labor Day.
 - c) Discussion of by-laws update to include dues increase.
 - d) WMCC Car Display in August:
 - i) Published in Old Cars Weekly and CORSA Communique.
 - ii) Food Concessions:
 - (1) John will check into a cake
 - (2) Ask Dave Ziebarth to handle purchases of food
 - (3) Steve and Bill will supply grills
 - iii) Invitations to be sent to charter members and also regional Corvair clubs.
 - e) July Board Meeting will be on July 6.
 - f) August Board Meeting will be on August 3 to discuss final details of show.
 - g) Possibility of a club outing to Witte's Woods near Clare, MI was mentioned.
- 4) Meeting adjourned at 8:42.

Classifieds Ads

Corvairs - 1964 Spyder, 1966 Monza Convertible - the 64 has less than 5000 miles on the rebuilt motor but needs the valves adjusted to get running. Car is from Oklahoma and is 90 percent rust free. The 66 needs the carbs adjusted to run correctly; body is in good shape no rot holes just minor faults. Both cars have had the brake systems totally rebuilt front to back. Parts include turbos that work all associated extras as well. Generators, alternators spare bumpers, bumper guards, turbo heads 140 heads 140 motors and so much much more !!!!!!! Have all the receipts as well. Asking \$7500.00 for the lot plus a 65 Corsa parts car. Jim Sourbeck, Grand Rapids, JSourbeck@aol.com or (616)

444-7223 (pager) or (616) 241-4230 (home); easier to page after 5 PM.

1961 corvair monza 4dr all org 26000 act miles ex shape burgandy color ex inside evrything works automatic 190 6cyl asking \$5000. Gary Miller, Waterford, MI, 248-674-3083, tech480@juno.com

1965 CORVAIR MONZA convertible. Manual top, new brakes, fair tires, tachometer 4-speed manual, new clutch, pilot & throw-out bearing, new brakes, wire wheel covers, no major rust, fresh tune-up, rebuilt carbs, not sure of mileage, needs new boot, top is in very good condition, white over white, good driver. \$3,500. Jim Crame, (616) 452-2816. Grand Rapids, MI. Internet pictures <http://www.buickclub.org/westmich/corvair.htm>.

Next Meeting: June 22 at Ice
Cream Junction in Holland

You're ahead with the engine behind.



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WEST MICHIGAN CORVAIR CLUB

About the WMCC and our Newsletter

Lifter Noise is the monthly publication of the West Michigan Corvair Club. Deadlines for articles and classified advertising is the first of the Month and should be mailed to the editor at: John Cole, 104 Spruce Ave., Holland, MI 49423 or e-mailed to wmcc@corvair.org. All material is subject to editing.

Membership in the West Michigan Corvair Club is on an annual basis. Individual dues are \$15.00/year. Junior membership (17 years & younger) are \$7.50/year. Family memberships are \$16.00/year. Dues are pro-rated if joining during the year.

Meetings are typically held the third Tuesday of the month at Brann's Restaurant, 4157 South Division, Wyoming, MI. E-mail wmcorvair@comcast.net for verification of time and location.

Original articles are the property of the WMCC and are intended for use in our publications. Articles may be used by CORSA or any CORSA chapter with credit given to the author and/or *Lifter Noise*. Any other use must have written permission from the editor.

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