



# Lifter Noise

## Upcoming Events

- September 24—General Meeting, Norm Witte's, De Witt, Michigan
- October 4—Board Meeting, Pearl Street Big Boy, 7:30 pm
- October 15 & 16 — Color tour to ACD Musuem, Auburn Indiana
- November 8—Board Meeting, Pearl Street Big Boy, 7:30 pm.
- November 22— General Meeting. Election Night.
- December 6— Christmas Party

## Inside this issue:

Around the Club	1
Board Minutes	2
Classified Ads	2
The Story of a '66 Monza Convertible	3
Dog-N-Suds Trip	3

## What's Going On...

The General Meeting for this month has been scheduled for **September 24**. The location for the meeting will be **at Norm Witte's house in DeWitt, Michigan**. This meeting will be a hands-on tech session with the goal to put the engine in Norm's car and get it fired up for the first time since the rebuild.



Norm Witte's '65 Corsa convertible

**We will meet as a group in the parking lot of the Toys R Us at the corner of 28th Street and the East Beltline for the caravan to Norm's. We will leave from the parking lot at 10:00 am.** The goal is for us to arrive between 11:00 and 11:30. The club will be supplying lunch to attendees.

**The color tour is in the plans for the weekend of October 15 and 16.** This will be an overnight trip to the Auburn Cord Dusenber Museum in Auburn, Indiana. The hotel for the night will be the

Marriot in Fort Wayne. Room rate is \$89/night. Call 1-260-484-0411 to reserve your room.

The plan is to **meet in the parking lot of the 76th Street truck stop at 11:00 am on Saturday, October 15.** From there we will go south on US-131 with a lunch stop at a restaurant at the D Avenue exit. We will then travel some backroads on the trip to Auburn. The return trip will include a stop at Shipshewana.

## Around the Club

There isn't much that I have been given to report.

Ryan Counterman will soon be leaving us to go to the southern states that were hit by Hurricane Katrina. He has a job opportunity there. He will be working as part of a demolition team for the structures that are beyond repair. We wish

Ryan well with this. We hope he will be coming back home soon also. We also want him to remember us back here and keep us updated with what's going on.

Anybody else have anything they want to share with the club let me know.

# September Board Meeting

- 1) Meeting called to order at 8:30 pm by President Steve Ridderman. Members present: Steve Ridderman, John Cole, John Koning, Randy Merrill, Dave Ziebarth, Ryan Counterman, and Dan Konkle. Meeting was held at Pearl Street Big Boy in Grand Rapids.
- 2) Minutes of Previous Meeting: John Cole read the minutes of the August meeting. Approved by acclamation.
- 3) Treasurers Report: No report was given as the transition to the new treasurer was not complete.
- 4) Old Business:
  - a) Color Tour: The hotel being used for the color tour is the Fort Wayne Marriott. Rooms are \$89/night. We could get a better rate if we had a solid booking of 10 or more rooms. Since turn-out is unknown anyone interested in going will have to call and book their own room. Date of the trip is October 15 and 16. Meeting location to start the tour will be the truck stop at the 76<sup>th</sup> Street exit. Meeting time will be 11:00 am. The group will then travel to the D Avenue exit for a lunch break. Shishewana will be included on the trip back.
  - b) Gilmore Show: Thought for next year is to find activity to keep the group occupied.
- 5) New Business:
  - a) Directors will submit articles for the newsletter:
    - i) Ryan for September
    - ii) Dave for October
    - iii) Dan for November
    - iv) John Koning for December
  - b) Meeting for September will be on Saturday, September 24. Location will be at Norm Witte's for a hands-on tech session putting the engine back in his car.
  - c) Magnets: The club is purchasing some business card-sized magnets. These can then have card adhered to them for promotional purposes.
  - d) Christmas Party: Deanna Merrill has volunteered to organize the Christmas Party this year.
  - e) The Board decided to donate \$50 to International Aid to assist in the hurricane relief effort.
- 6) Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

## Classified Ads

**For Sale**—1964 Spyder convertible. Body work all done. Fair interior, stored inside many years. Top available. Needs carb work. Located south of Grand Haven. John Ellerbrock (616)844-2924

**For Sale**—1966 Monza coupe. 110/4-speed, 67,000 miles. Engine apart for valve work. Needs carpet, interior fair. Too many projects to finish. Best offer. Car in Hamilton, MI area. Contact Jerry (616)283-1953

**For Sale**—1963 Chevrolet Corvair Greenbriar van for sale! This 97% rust free van has 70,000 original miles. New battery, generator, plugs, and carb kit's. Interior is in great shape with no rips or tears. The body has minimal surface rust in a few small areas. Original 145 cubic inch motor. This van is a very presentable driver, but not a fully blown show van. It also features a four speed manual transmission, six roll down windows, original paint, and spare tire cover. The van is missing the middle seat, and is sporting bias ply tires that I recommend be replaced. This van will be offered on ebay this week. Feel free to email me to arrange a time to view the van. This is a very original 42 year old vehicle no disappointments. anon-89856203@craigslist.org

It's CLARK'S if it's

**CORVAIR**  **Parts**

CLARK'S  
30th yr.!

- Over 10,000 different new parts
- Over 3,000 used parts
- Over 670 pages of parts
- Also buying new, used, and NOS parts. Call or write Mark or Cal for quote.

steel floor panels	dune buggy	weatherstrips
steel patch panels	suspension	trim
mid engine V-8	emblems	carpets
technical assistance	interior	engine
VW bus transplant	shop manuals	wiring
	assembly manuals	

**Parts! ● Get your 2002-06 catalog ● Service!**

(CLARK'S 3 catalog set) \$6.00 rushed (U.S.A.),  
Canada & foreign more.

Includes: main catalog (over 400-pgs.), specialty cat (210-pgs.), and price list & supplement

**CLARK'S CORVAIR PARTS,® INC.**

400 Mohawk Trail Box C, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

www.corvair.com • e-mail: clarks@corvair.com

413-625-9776



# The Story of a '66 Monza Convertible

by Ryan Counterman

The day was ending up like any other. On my way home en route from Coldwater to Kalamazoo, I hear the all-too-familiar sound of the Nextel 2-way. "Beep Beep"

I glance down and see Steve Ridderman's name. I think to myself, what has he done now. So I answer the call, only to find out he has bought yet another Corvair. . .and needs my trailer. . .and wants to use his Mountaineer to haul it.

Well luckily I happened to be driving the company Super Duty home from work that day, so I said I would help him and we could use my truck.

So we meet at my house, grab the trailer, and head into Kalamazoo, into a hidden apartment complex I had never seen before. Well low and behold, there in one of the complex's garages, is a 1966 Monza convertible that hasn't been driven in a really really long time.

I am immediately intrigued. The baby blue exterior and almost perfect white interior make me wonder how this car survived. "Rusty but trusty," I think to myself.

A glance into the engine compartment reveals some adapter plate'd heads and a set of 2 barrel Pinto carburetors, with all the proper linkage. A flat tire stops us from pushing the car out into the parking lot, so Steve hops behind the wheel and hits the key. After lots of moaning and groaning from the engine, and a wide open throttle position to remedy the flooded

carbs, the car roars to life. Well actually it smoked to life. And smoked and smoked some more. Did I mention that it smoked? There was also a little bit of oil seepage. Actually it was more like an oil well exploding.

Well we found the brake pedal to be one with the floorboard, but the parking brake seemed to work *a little*. Steve managed to actually drive the car up onto the trailer, which was a surprise for both of us. After winching the car down, we towed it out to his new place of residence, we unloaded the car, and I hopped behind the wheel for a short drive-way test drive.

Steve not being one to just watch, hopped into the passenger seat and away we went. Out to the main road, I held the gas to the floor to

see what the old 110 PG could actually do.

Ok the car shifted to second, and we actually saw speeds of 65-70 mph pretty easily. Don't look back, there is a smoke cloud following us. We decide that this car would be a lot more fun if we just turned it into a beater driver than try to fix everything wrong with it.

Almost forgot, no brakes, and the gas smells like its 30 years old. Better turn around and head back. All is well, we park the car under a pine tree near his new barn, in hopes that his wife Mary will not find the new treasure, because after all, how many Corvairs does one person really need?



## Dog-N-Suds

On August 20 several members of the club took a cruise to the Dog-N-Suds drive-in restaurant in Montague. The day started with a substantial rainfall. By the time the group arrived at the destination the rain had ended.

We attracted some attention as we parked our cars at the front of the restaurant near the street. Most of us enjoyed our lunches served car side.



## WEST MICHIGAN CORVAIR CLUB

255 John Kent Drive  
Ravenna, MI 49451

Phone: 231-853-5340  
e-mail: [wmcc@corvairst.org](mailto:wmcc@corvairst.org)

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5



*You're ahead with  
the engine behind.*

## About the WMCC and our Newsletter

*Lifter Noise* is the monthly publication of the West Michigan Corvairst Club. Deadlines for articles and classified advertising is the first of the Month and should be mailed to the editor at: John Cole, 255 John Kent Drive, Ravenna, MI 49451 or e-mailed to [wmcc@corvairst.org](mailto:wmcc@corvairst.org). All material is subject to editing.

Membership in the West Michigan Corvairst Club is on an annual basis. Individual dues are \$18.00/year. Junior membership (17 years & younger) are \$9.00/year. Family memberships are \$19.00/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 [wmcc@corvairst.org](mailto:wmcc@corvairst.org) 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.

©WMCC *Lifter Noise*, 2004

### WMCC Board

**John Cole** (2005), 255 John Kent Drive, Ravenna, MI 49451,  
(231)853-5340, [jjcole@triton.net](mailto:jjcole@triton.net)

**Ryan Counterman** (2006), 5685 Douglas Ave., Kalamazoo, MI  
49004, (269)388-3079, [vairking@hotmail.com](mailto:vairking@hotmail.com)

**John Koning** (2005), 1818 72<sup>nd</sup> St. SE, Byron Center, MI 49315,  
[koning8@comcast.net](mailto:koning8@comcast.net)

**Dan Konkle** (2005), 6574 Rogueview Ct. NE, Belmont, MI 49306,  
(616)364-1009, [dankle@comcast.net](mailto:dankle@comcast.net)

**Randy Merrill** (2005), 454 South Amber Drive SE, Kentwood, MI  
49548

**Steve Ridderman** (2006), 720 West Gun River Dr., Plainwell, MI  
49080, (269)685-6377, [vaircollector@msn.com](mailto:vaircollector@msn.com)

**Dave Ziebarth** (2006), 1411 Pickett SE, Kentwood, MI 49508,  
(616) 281-3183, [dziebarth2@comcast.net](mailto:dziebarth2@comcast.net)

### WMCC Officers for 2005

**President:** Steve Ridderman

**Vice-President:** Dan Konkle

**Secretary:** John Cole

**Treasurer:** John Koning