

LIFTER NOISE



Newsletter of the West Michigan Corvair Club

WHAT'S GOING ON

Another great year of activities has come to an end for the West Michigan Corvair Club. A big thank you goes out to all of our members that helped in planning our various activities for the year.

Dave Dykwell's service as president of the West Michigan Corvair Club has ended effective with the November board meeting. In his two years as president of our club, Dave was instrumental in planning many of our activities as well as getting others to volunteer to assist. He was also the driving force in putting together the plan for our club to host the 2013 CORSA International Convention. Dave will now transition into the role of Convention Chairman for the 2013 convention. Thank you Dave for all you have done for our club the last two years!

Ryan Counterman will take over as president for 2012.

Note that we will not be meeting in December. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 17 at Brann's.

NOVEMBER MEETING RECAP

The November meeting saw us return to our customary winter meeting place at Brann's in Wyoming. We had fourteen members in attendance with Dan Konkle being the only person who drove a Corvair. We got to meet one of our newer members, Jeremy Page-Wood, who hails from Portage. He brought along a couple of photo albums showing pictures of his Corvair as well as some of the other fourteen cars he owns.

The business meeting started with a treasurer's report. Doug Lectka reported that we have a balance of \$1486.98 in the treasury. Doug also mentioned that

WMCC CALENDAR

January 17 – WMCC Membership Meeting
January 31 – WMCC Board Meeting
February 11 or 18 – WMCC Chili Cook-off
February 28 – WMCC Board Meeting

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The tentative dates for the Chili Cook-off are February 11 or 18 with a preference toward the 11th. More details will appear in the January edition of Lifter Noise.

now is a good time to start paying your 2012 dues. Three people stepped up that night to pay their dues. President Dave Dykwell noted that any e-mail and address changes need to be sent to Doug Lectka and Dave Ziebarth so we can keep the club roster updated.

Discussion then turned to the 2013 CORSA convention. President Dykwell outlined the organizational structure and solicited volunteers to be part of various committees. He emphasized that convention planning activities will not interfere with the normal activities of the club. The convention committee will be meeting on

Please see *November Meeting Recap* on page 2

November Meeting Recap from page 1

the second Tuesday of every month starting in January. We also need a convention logo by March 31 and we are in the process of looking for a raffle car that we will also be using for the tech sessions at the convention.

November also brings elections to the board of directors of the West Michigan Corvair Club. President Dykwell presented the recommendation that we keep our current slate of board members to keep continuity through the convention. The membership present agreed with their vote. The only change happening is that Ryan Counterman will now be our president and Dave Dykwell will be a member at large on the board so he can focus on being the convention chairman.

In new business we discussed our chili cook-off. The proposed dates are February 11 or 18 and there is a

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING RECAP

Present: Dave Ziebarth, Paul Adams, Doug Lectka and Dave Dykwell with guest Bob Muir.

Dave Dykwell ran one more board meeting in the absence of Ryan Counterman so most of the meeting was spent discussing convention details.

Chili Cook-off – Dave Ziebarth will contact Rockford Ambulance about reserving the community room. The preferred date is February 11 with a secondary date of February 18.

Convention Logo – Paul Adams’ niece will start work on the logo for the convention. The logo needs to be concise and needs to be able to be reproduced in different sizes. We brainstormed ideas and a couple

desire to have it at Rockford Ambulance again. Dave Ziebarth will contact Rockford Ambulance to see if they will let us have the room again this year at no charge. We will also contact Clark’s Corvair Parts about donating some gift certificates. Also, the idea of white elephant gifts was suggested. Look for more details in the January edition of *Lifter Noise*.

Our next meetings will be in January:
January 10 – Convention Committee at Dave Dykwell’s house
January 17 – Membership Meeting at Brann’s
January 24 – Board Meeting at TBD

that stood out were incorporating the red barns of the Gilmore Car Museum and the Kalamazoo Air Zoon into it somehow. The suggestion was mad that maybe the logo be relatively simple and that we also produce posters that could incorporate some larger details.

Convention Contracts – Harry Jensen need to sign contracts with the various venues soon. He is concerned about parking and the number of rooms available at the host hotels. We currently have 213 blocked between the Clarion Hotel and the Holiday Inn Express. We could block additional rooms at the Best Western, Fairfield Inn, or Red Roof Inn which are all close to the host hotels. Harry also has concerns about where the swap meet would take

Please see *Board Meeting Recap* on page 5

The annual chili cook-off will take place in February 2012.



STUD OR STUDE FAN

By Double D

Certainly not the former. Rather the latter. I was like six or seven, give or take, and my neighbor worked as the General Sales Manager at Staal Buick. He had the best job ever. It seemed like he drove a different car home every weekend. He had good taste and a penchant for the latest and the greatest. I remember my jaw dropped when I spotted it in the drive way. It was the baddest car I ever saw. Two-tone silver and black with a white convertible top. Tri-tone interior with a bright red dash. Chrome buttons all over the place. Bigger than a boat and it had fins. The only thing missing was the chrome boobs like my dad's Buick had. He took all us neighborhood kids for a ride. The car easily fit eight little kids! I'll never forget that car. Enter the next weekend.

He drove into the drive way with this gold and white Chevy convertible, an Impala SS, 1958. It had wheel skirts, dual antennas and spinner hubcaps. He told me he bought it for his daughter who was getting married and asked me what I thought. I asked him if he could be my dad? I watched that car go down the street with paper streamers dragging beer cans and a *Just Married* sign taped to the trunk. It went to Arizona. For its and our own sake, hopefully it stayed there. I'll never forget that day. Enter the next weekend.

Tommy and I were late for dinner. Crap! We pedaled our bikes fifty-per till we rounded the corner, down the street and laid a patch on the driveway. I never saw it. I was more intent on dinner without a board beside the backside. I don't really remember if the board came out



but I do remember when I came out of the house after dinner... there it was. The sharpest, most unusual car I ever saw. No fins. No dripping chrome. This was a small car. A two door. It was like no other car I ever saw before. Shocked and in awe, I approached it. It was light gold with a very light tan interior. Of all the cars he brought home, this was the best ever. I couldn't get over it. It did not look like a GM car. The backend was chopped off and it had a long nose. It had a console down the center, bucket seats AND a console on the roof. It had buttons and knobs everywhere. Mr. Thrall came out and told me it was a Super Charged rocket ship. He took Tommy and I to the Root Beer Stand, but we couldn't drink it in the car like we normally did. I've wanted an Avanti ever since and someday I will own one. Maybe not the R3 unless it comes with its own mechanic, but an R2 4-speed will do. Gold.

CORVAIR SIGHTING

There was an article in the Winter 2011 issue of *Hagerty* magazine that mentions the Corvair. Those who have Hagerty car insurance may have seen this article.

The article is titled "One for Every Seat" and it is written by Jeff Sabatini. The article is about those cars that are less desirable or deemed "uncollectible" by the mainstream but have a dedicated group of individuals that love them. The

Corvair is mentioned prominently. The article mentions the Corvair Museum in Ypsilanti and also has a few quotes from Cal Clark. Cal says that the advent of the muscle car as well as a lack of support from Chevrolet dealerships is what killed the Corvair; not Ralph Nader. "The parts men and the repair guys did not like the car," he said, mainly because they had little in common with other Chevrolets.

TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

I saw this posted on the Corvair Center forum by user volleybob. He credits Charles and Ruth Peck of the Ontario, CA Corvair Club for writing it in 1977.

'Twas the night before Christmas and there in his house
Nader was sleeping as quiet as a mouse
Nader heard such a noise, he yelled "What's the matter?"
Sounds like a Corvair with it's valves all a-clatter
When all of a sudden dear Santa appeared
But he was not driving his tiny reindeer
Santa shouted "I don't mind the noise
'Cause look at my Vair, it's chock full o' toys
Toys for girls...wire wheels with spinners"
Toys for boys...Finned oil pans, that's a winner!
Nader rubbed at his eyes, couldn't believe such a sight
The nerve of this guy with his Corvair so bright
All Nader heard as the Vair whisked out of sight
Was "Merry Christmas and to all a good night"
Nader's heart beat, he was having a stroke
No! A nightmare, but soon he awoke...
All's quiet now, not a trace of the spoils
But out on the snow... a small spot of oil!



O CHRISTMAS TREE

Now here's a Christmas tree! This was sent by John Koning (I'm not sure where he got it). The lights actually light up! Now you all know what to do with those extra Corvair parts you have laying around.



Below are some raffle car candidates. I'm partial to the first one in line...

*Merry Christmas and Happy
New Year from the West
Michigan Corvair Club!*



Board Meeting Recap from page 2

place and the size of the meeting rooms available at the host hotels. The Best Western has a larger meeting room and we could possibly have meetings there. We may have to have an on site meeting with the convention committee to review everything.

Raffle Car – There was quite a bit of discussion around the raffle car. We would need to find a reasonably priced car that would fit what we want to do in our tech sessions. What can we do in three days? Also debated was how much to charge per ticket. We do want to make some money so there is a fine line as to what to sell the ticket for and not overpricing it so we don't sell any. There was also debate in not using the raffle car to do the tech sessions; there could be concerns over not fixing something correctly or getting the required work complete. Also, what would be an appealing raffle car? A convertible (early or late)? A Lakewood? A Rampside? There are still a few questions to answer.

Board Reorganization – Just a formality: Ryan Counter

man is the President, Paul Adams is the Vice-President, Doug Lectka is the Treasurer and Dave Ziebarth is the Secretary. Dave Ziebarth will continue to edit the newsletter and maintain the club web site. At large board members are Dave Dykwell, Dan Konkle and Steve Ridderman.

December Board Meeting – The December board meeting will be held on Friday, December 9 instead of Saturday, December 10. Start time is 6:30 and it will be held at Dave Dykwell's house.

**WMCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President: Ryan Counterman (2013)

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Vice President: Paul Adams (2013)

(269) 375-7998 or padams2607@aol.com

Secretary: Dave Ziebarth (2012)

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Dan Konkle (2012)

(616) 364-1009 or dankle@comcast.net

Steve Ridderman (2012)

(269) 998-1393 or sridderman1@hotmail.com

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**You're ahead with the
engine behind!**

ABOUT THE WMCC

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Membership in the West Michigan Corvair Club is on an annual basis. Dues are \$18.00 per year. Dues are pro-rated if joining during the year.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

<http://www.corvair.org/chapters/chapter495/>

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