

Lifter Noise



Newsletter of the West Michigan Corvair Club

What's Going On

Please join me in welcoming Jamie Reinhart to our board of directors! Jamie just joined WMCC this past year after moving to Jenison from Iowa. Jamie is a past president of CORSA.

Leaving the board of directors is Steve Ridderman. Thank you Steve for all of your years serving on the board.

Remember, there is no December meeting.

Our next membership meeting will be Tuesday, January 20. It will be held at Jake's Goodtime Bar and Grill, 1638 142nd Ave. in Dorr (just west of U.S. 131). The meeting will be starting at 6:30 PM. Get those old, unwanted parts out as we will be having a parts auction. It will be a silent auction with a portion of the proceeds going to charity. You will be able to set a reserve on a part if you want to get a minimum amount. There will be more details in next month's newsletter.

November Meeting Recap

We held our monthly membership meeting at Jake's Goodtime Bar and Grill in Dorr. The meeting took place a week later than originally planned due to a severe winter storm on the original scheduled date.

The main event at the meeting was the vote for the board of directors. We had five people vying for four open positions. When the votes were counted the following people were elected to the board of directors for a two year term: Dave Dykwell, Dan Konkle, Jamie Reinhart, and Dave Ziebarth.

WMCC Calendar

January 20 – WMCC Membership Meeting
January 27 – WMCC Board Meeting
February 7 – Tentative date for Zoup Off (formerly the Chili Cook Off)

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Hopefully you filled our your survey and returned it to Paul Adams. If you have not, please take the time to do so even though it is past the deadline. The board of directors wants your input on club activities.

It's never too early to pay your dues for 2015. They remain the same at \$18. You can pay them at the January meeting or send them to the club address listed on the last page of this newsletter.

After the elections, a motion was made and carried to keep the current slate of officers for another year.

Discussion then shifted to what to do if we have to cancel a meeting due to inclement weather as we do not have a formal policy in place. What we will do is decide by 2 PM and then an e-mail would go out to the membership. In the summer if there is a severe weather warning, that would cancel the meeting.

We then talked about a declaration that came out

See *November Recap* on page 3

2014 Recap

We had a great year celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the West Michigan Corvair Club in 2014.

Our first big event of the year was our annual chili cook off in February. We had nine different kinds of chili to sample with two chili's claiming the prize: John and Kathy Koning and Matt and Heather Peterson. We also had a vote to decide what the 40th Anniversary logo of the club should be. What you have seen at the top of this newsletter all year is a slightly modified version of the winning design, which was submitted by Paul Adams.

In May we held our annual spring dust off. A small group of WMCC members toured the Hastings/Battle Creek/Marshall area. They ended the day with dinner on the patio at Dark Horse Brewing Company in Marshall.



The WMCC Car Display was held in June this year as part of the All Air Cooled Show at Gilmore Car Museum. We had 14 Corvairs from our club along with seven other Corvairs. There was also a nice showing of Franklins, Porsches, VW's and other interesting cars. There was even an UltraVan that won the "Spirit of the Show" award.

Our 40th Anniversary celebration was held in July. We had a picnic at Fallasburg Park in Lowell much like they did in the early years of the club. We even had a anniversary cake!

We did something new in August with our overnight

trip. Seven couples driving six Corvairs (and one KIA) drove up to the northern lower peninsula through Harbor Springs and Cross Village through the Tunnel of Trees. We ate lunch at Leg's Inn and made our way to Mackinaw City where we spent the night after having a very nice dinner at Audie's. This is definitely something we would like to do again in 2015.



We also got soaked at a Whitecaps game in August.

The weather was not favorable for our big September event either. Only three Corvairs showed up to go to the Apple & BBQ Festival in Mears. Dave Dykwell won a trophy with his 1965 Corsa Coupe!



We got to see the fall colors during our annual color tour in October. Our tour took us through Lowell, Stanton, Remus, and the Hardy Dam before ending up at 57 Brewpub & Bistro in Greenville for dinner.

We had a lot of fun as a club during 2014. We look forward to seeing many more people and their Corvairs in 2015!

November Recap from page 1

earlier in the day declaring May 14, 2015 Corvair Appreciation Day in Ypsilanti. The reason May 14 was picked was that was the last day of production of the Corvair in 1969. This day is meant to recognize all of the people at General Motors who were involved in the design and assembly of the Corvair as well as the owners of Corvairs.

There was discussion on if we wanted to somehow participate as a club. It would be a good idea for a spring dust off but May 14 is on a Thursday so it may be difficult

for a lot of people to attend. The board will discuss further on what we may want to do.



A Die Hard Story

I think it is appropriate that we end our 40th Anniversary year with a memory from one of our long time members. Thank you to WMCC Charter Member Rob Van Sledright for the following story that he submitted.

During the 1960's and until the middle 1970's Bob O'Neill was the Corvair doctor for Corvair owners on the south side of Grand Rapids. His shop was on 40th Street just west of Division Avenue. He was almost exclusively doing full-time Corvair repairs and service.

Corvair owners living on the northern areas of Grand Rapids could get service and repairs at Chuck's Garage. He was on East Leonard Street next to what is now part of the Vitale's Italian Restaurant property. Chuck's Garage had a distinctive sign in front: a large, orange WWII bomber wing tank mounted atop a tall, steel post. No doubt a war surplus item.

One day in the 1970's, Bob O'Neill and fellow employee Scott McIntosh (Scott may have been one of the charter members of WMCC) decided to find out just how reliable the 80 hp engine was from a parted out rusty car.

They secured the engine to a wooden pallet and started it up, blocking the throttle at wide open. After about 20 minutes of hearing the engine scream at top speed, they shut it down to make a change to the test.

Next, they drained all of the oil from the oil pan and restarted the engine, again with the throttle blocked at wide open. The engine endured this test for about twelve minutes when it finally seized up.

Kids – DO NOT try this at home! At least not to a good engine!

The October board meeting was held at Woody's on October 28.

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

About the WMCC

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: Dave Ziebarth, 7769 Burlingame Ave. SW, Byron Center, MI 49315 or e-mail wmcc@corvair.org. All material is subject to editing. Original articles are the property of the WMCC and are intended for the use in our publications. Articles may be used by CORSA or any CORSA chapter with credit given to the author of the *Lifter Noise*. Any other use must have written permission from the editor. Articles are written by Dave Ziebarth unless indicated otherwise.

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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