

# Lifter Noise

March 2024 - Volume 51, Issue 3



## What's Going On

Our next event on the calendar is our Spring Dust Off. It is scheduled for Saturday, May 11 and we will be meeting up with the Detroit Area Corvair Club. More details will be published in a future newsletter.

We may try to get a meeting together for April. Details will be in the April newsletter if it comes to fruition.

It is also time to start paying your dues for 2024. Dues are still \$18 for the year. You can mail a check to the club address on the last page of this newsletter.

Lost and Found - there was a plate and white plastic spoon left at the Zoup Off. Shoot me a message at [zvair65@gmail.com](mailto:zvair65@gmail.com) to claim them.



## WMCC Calendar

**May 11** - Spring Dust Off

**July 11 - 14** - Corvair Homecoming; Ann Arbor, MI

**July 22 - 25** - CORSA International Convention; Dayton, OH

## President's Prose

By Dave Dykwell

Once again our annual Zoup-Off was a big hit. Great turn out, plenty of tasty soups and desserts, plus kids and babies to liven things up. Competition was tough. Our Pinewood Derby event had 14 adult and five youth entries so the racing action was also hot. Congratulations go to Leo Zerrilli for first place Youth Division and Matt Peterson for winning the Adult Division. Thanks again to John Cole for obtaining, setting up and skillfully adjusting the vintage *official* track.

We have a few pending club activities in the works starting with an April general meeting at the fantastic Terrytown RV and Car Museum. A must see. This will be on a Saturday morning and the exact date is being confirmed through Jamie R. (possibly 4/13). The Club has also been in contact with DACC for another "joint" Spring Dust Off. Tentative date is May 11, with a rain date of May 18. We'll meet in Lansing at a private home. As we confirm the details and draw closer to these events we'll shoot out the notices.

Speaking of pending, have you noticed how many predictions never really happened? Bank branches disappearing, paperless society, flying cars, gas at \$10 a gallon, are just a few. However, we do have hands-free driving and autonomous cars (still in need of a few tweaks) and life-like robots. If Bezos and Musk are right, we'll all have our own **Rosie** before long. Can't wait for my **Meal-o-Matic**.

You have to laugh or congratulate GM, Honda and BMW for their latest announcements on the future of our beloved cars. All three companies are pulling back on EV's and re-focusing on hydrogen and hybrid powered engines. They realized building EV's is expensive without government subs. Battery materials are limited, expensive and non-sustainable. Owners realized that maintenance is expensive and they don't do well in the cold. Used EV's are sitting on dealer lots plummeting in resale value. Do I sense another generation of lemons?

Recently, I read an interesting article by James Gilboy from Blackstone Labs, 2/28/24. For classics or collectors that are rarely driven, tests were run to determine what degrades today's oils quicker; time or mileage? Water content, flash point, viscosity, acids and insolubles were analyzed. Cars with no oil changes for 5, 10 and 15 years still tested fine. A Porsche with 10 year old Mobil1 and 776 miles still tested good. Mileage and engine hours are most important. Recommendation from Blackstone; if your oil is still "whiskey color", you're good. Did you know that both Honda and Toro tell you oil changes on their small engines are not needed ... the owner's manuals tell you to simply ... add. Humm?

Auto Fun Fact: May 2023, USDOT reported SUV sales at 53.5% and Pick-ups at 19.4%, totaling 72.9% of total sales, leaving 2 & 4 dr. cars at just 28.1%.

\*Another BTW, did you see that DACC's "**Helping Hands**" **Garage Squad** has recently raised and donated \$10,000 to the Ypsilanti Auto Heritage Museum? Reported by Chris Stark, Hagerty Insurance, 2/13/24. Very cool!

OK, I've milked a cow but I'd like to know; How do you milk an almond?

Respectfully, DAVE

## Club Website

Even though social media seems to be the main “go-to” for everyone these days, we still have a club website, <https://www.corvairst.org/chapters/chapter495/>. Our website has a list of events, pictures of past events, and pictures of our cars. It has come a long way since the first version of it was launched in 1998. It was originally hosted by Iserv which is still a technology company in Grand Rapids. In 2001, it was moved to the “CORSA servers”. I have that in quotes as the servers pretty much consisted of a bank of computers in some guy’s basement. If he lost power, there was no website. In 2022, it was finally moved over to a secure server where it resides today.

Here is what the homepage of the club website looked like in 2006.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed website for the West Michigan Corvairst Club. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with links: Home, Info, Events, Ads, Photos, and Links. The main content area features the club's logo, a title, and several paragraphs of text. At the bottom left, it says 'Last updated on 1/7/06'.

**West Michigan Corvairst Club**

The West Michigan Corvairst Club is chapter #495 of the [Corvairst Society of America](#). We are based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan with just over 40 members.

Our next general membership meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21 at 7:30 PM. The meeting place and agenda is yet to be determined. [Look here](#) for an update in late January.

The WMCC website has a new look! All pages have been updated to have a consistent, clean look.

If you are interested in joining the WMCC, we have an application that you can fill out and send along with your club dues. [Go to the info page](#) and click on the link for the desired format.

This page's [WebCounter](#) count says that you are visitor number  since 1/19/01.

The [events](#) page was updated on 1/7/06.  
The [ads](#) page was updated on 10/12/05.

Last updated on 1/7/06.

Here is what the homepage of the club website looked like in 2012.



The screenshot shows a light yellow-themed website for the West Michigan Corvairst Club. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with links: HOME, INFO, EVENTS, ADS, PHOTOS, and LINKS. Below the menu is a Facebook icon and the text 'Updated on 9/16/13'. The main content area features the club's logo, a title, and several paragraphs of text. At the bottom left, it says 'Updated on 9/16/13'. At the bottom right, there is a banner for 'Our 40th Year!'.

**WEST MICHIGAN CORVAIRST CLUB**

The West Michigan Corvairst Club is chapter #495 of the [Corvairst Society of America](#). We are based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan with around 35 members.

Our next membership meeting is on Tuesday, September 17 at 6:30 PM. Meeting location is at Fricano's, 5808 Alpine NW.

We have a date set for our color tour -- Saturday, October 12. We will be making our way to Pentwater to participate in their Oktoberfest festival. More details will be available soon.

For more information on either of these events, send us an [e-mail](#).

Show off your pride in the West Michigan Corvairst Club by buying t-shirts and other items with the WMCC logo! We have an [online shop](#) that allows you to purchase various items with the WMCC logo.

If you are interested in joining the WMCC, we have an application that you can fill out and send along with your club dues. [Go to the Info page](#) and click on the link for the desired format.

2013 CORSA International Convention website: <http://www.valiation2013.com/>

2013 CORSA International Convention [Facebook](#) page.

The [ads](#) page was updated on 9/16/13.  
The [events](#) page was updated on 9/8/13.

This page's [WebCounter](#) count says that you are visitor number  since 1/19/01.

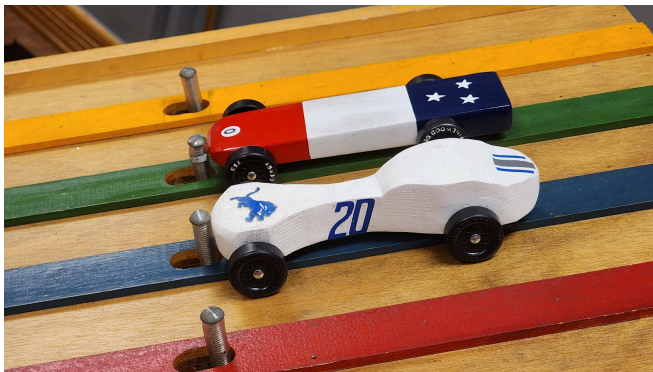
**Our 40<sup>th</sup> Year!**  
*Get the New 2012-2018 Catalog*

## Zoup Off Recap

The Zoup Off continues to be a popular event with the West Michigan Corvair Club. On February 17 we had 30 people gather in the community room at Rockford Ambulance. This year there were 12 soups and seven desserts to judge. Once all of the sampling was done, voting commenced. There was initially a tie between two of the soups so we had to have another vote to break the tie. Once all of the votes were tallied, Dave and Marilyn Dykwell were determined the winners in the soup category. They also won the best dessert! A clean sweep! I hope they have a lot of room on the trophy shelf for two trophies!

Once our bellies were full, we moved on to the highly anticipated Pinewood Derby. We started with the Youth Division where we had five entries. After some great racing, Leo Zerrilli came out the winner with Gabe Koning in second place. Every participant in the Youth Division received a prize. Up next was the main event with 13 cars trying to secure victory, including one that was shipped from Tennessee. The racing was set up as a double elimination with best out of three per heat. After some highly contested racing and a few photo finishes, the finals came down to Matt Peterson vs. John Koning with Matt coming out victorious. Once the main event was done, the track was open to exhibition racing. Dave Dykwell brought his old Pinewood Derby car from 1968 and it still zoomed down the track very well.

Thank you to John Cole for getting the track, setting it up, and running the Pinewood Derby. Also thank you to Dave Dykwell who was the official who made sure every car was up to snuff.



## WMCC History

Over the years, we have had various meeting places. Early on, we would meet at the homes of different club members. Once we became a larger group, we held our meetings at the Grand Rapids Public Museum (the old museum over on Jefferson). We met at the museum starting in 1974 until 1989. After that, the meeting spot moved to Kool Chevrolet. We eventually moved to a private room in the basement of Pizza Hut on 44th St. and Kalamazoo where we met until 1997. In 1998, we switched venues to a banquet room at Tommy Brann's. That lasted until 2013 when we decided we had enough of Brann's. Starting in 2014, we rotated our meeting places to various restaurants around the area. During the summer months, we would usually meet at a park, someone's home, or have special summer events that would take the place of the regular membership meetings.

When the club started in 1974, annual dues were \$6.00 per person. In 1989, dues were increased to \$8.00. Also in 1989, the club decided to have an additional \$5.00 surcharge for WMCC members who were not members of CORSA. However, it doesn't appear that was ever implemented as there was some additional discussion around it in 1992 but again, it doesn't appear to ever have been implemented. The thought was that the additional surcharge would supplement the fee the club has to pay to CORSA as non-CORSA members were getting CORSA benefits when the club held an event. Annual dues were increased to \$12.00 in 1993 and then to \$15.00 in 2002. Our current rate, \$18.00, was put in place in 2005.

## Board of Directors

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