

Lifter Noise

May 2024 - Volume 51, Issue 5



What's Going On

The Spring Dust Off is scheduled for Saturday, May 11. We will be meeting up with the Detroit Area Corvair Club at the home of Torre Miller in Lansing. Torre will have a large tent set up for us as well as porta potties and grills. We are asking everyone to bring their own lunch, beverages, table service, and lawn chairs. Also on site will be a professional photographer and an artist who will paint a picture of your car from a photograph (there will be a fee for this). We will be meeting at the Meijer parking lot on 28th St. in Cascade (just east of I-96) near the gas station at 10:00 AM. We will promptly leave at 10:30 AM. For those who want to drive directly to Torre's house, his address is 4903 Delta River Drive in Lansing.

We have collected dues for 2024 from quite a few of you. Thank you. For those who haven't paid yet, you can pay at the April meeting or mail a check to the club address on the last page of this newsletter. Dues are still \$18 for the year. **If you have not paid, this will be your last newsletter.**

If you look to the right, you will see the schedule of our club events for this year. We may add a few more as the summer progresses. Also listed is the Corvair Homecoming hosted by the Detroit Area Corvair Club and the CORSA International Convention. For a full schedule of car shows, please see the [Events](#) page on the club website. If you know of a show that is not listed, send a message to zvair65@gmail.com and I'll get it added.

President's Prose

By Dave Dykwell

The cars at Terrytown Museum are simply totally awesome. Thanks again to Jamie R. for making the arrangements for our April Meeting. If we did not see you, well, we did have donuts and Starbucks. I have a feeling we might do this again so we can all get a good dose of true classic cars (real history).

What a coincidence. I learned that the two twins in the old neighborhood are the same two guys that created and spearheaded the FAST Drags. I remember back in 1970, they bought a GTO together and it was a show stopper. Betch ya it still is! Same

WMCC Calendar

May 11 - Spring Dust Off; 10 AM

May 18 - Spring Dust Off rain date

June 5 - WMCC Board Meeting

June 15 - Air Cooled Gathering at Gilmore Car Museum; 9 AM - 4 PM

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

July 20 - WMCC Summer Picnic and 50th Anniversary Celebration at Fallasburg Park in Lowell

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

August 3 - Red Barns Spectacular at Gilmore Car Museum; 9 AM - 4 PM

September 17 - WMCC Board Meeting

October 12 - Fall Color Tour

December 7 - Christmas Party

guys I taught how to build balsa airplanes and subsequently how to fix them. I wonder if I'd even recognize them? Or, they me? Who knows.

Not sure if you caught it, but our esteemed Governor Gretchen has recently signed into new law altering the Historical and Antique License Plates. The restrictions on driving only to club activities, parades, group outings, shows, etc.. has been lifted. Yes, the State has loosened the written rule in honor of increased tourism (gas tax). NO restrictions from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Whoot! Certainly makes these plates the best deal in – could I say, History?

Speaking of history, please join me in a hearty Congratulations to Marilee and Reggie Strobe who will be celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary this May 29th. And to think, it all started to get interesting with a Corvair and uncle Sam. So guys, here's proof, it can be done.

Your Board finalized our 2024 Calendar of Events. Next up, Spring Dust Off [Saturday, May 11th (rain-date May 18th)] make sure to put that on your calendar. The people with DACC are always a good time. We'll be doing the All Air-Cooled Show at Gilmore - back by popular demand, then the "50th Anniversary Celebration" Picnic. We've reserved an outdoor area for our event at the infamous and historic Fallasburg Park. The very site of the very first West Michigan Corvair Club celebration.

Monthly Auto Fun Fact: It was a true "game changer" when the first Steering Wheel was invented and put into production by none other than the Packard Motorcar Company. No more dislocated knee caps!

Respectfully, DAVE

April Meeting Recap

Our April meeting was held at the TerryTown RV Classic Car Museum. Jamie Reinhart once again was our host and after a brief business meeting, we got an up close look at some of the cars including a 16 cylinder Cadillac engine.



WMCC History - Spring Dust Offs

In doing research for this article, I was surprised to find out that the Spring Dust Off in its current form was first started in 2003. I thought we had them going further back than that. There were spring gatherings before 2003 but they don't appear to be official club events. It looks like in the early years, WMCC members would gather informally and rally down to an annual Corvair show in Bryan, OH. It was sometimes billed as a "mini convention". When that show took a one year sabbatical in 1985, a new event was started in Three Rivers at the home of Al Grunert. This event happened annually until 1994. The club would also participate in the Milcreek Days parade in Comstock Park that usually happened in the middle of May.

There were some other tours that took place but they were not billed as a Spring Dust Off. There was a "fun-run rally" that was held in 1988 that started and ended at Fallasburg Park in Lowell. In 1995 and 1996, there was a tour down to Bangor where a tech session was held at Gary Gruetzmacher's shop. There was also a spring tour in 1996 to the Corvair Ranch in Gettysburg, PA.

Every May between 1997 and 2001 we held our annual car display in Bangor. In 2002, it moved to August. I will have a different write-up on these shows in the June edition of *Lifter Noise*.

Our first two years of the Spring Dust Off (2003 and 2004), we met up with the Detroit Area Corvair Club (DACC) at Jim Neals' barns in Lansing. In 2005, we met up with DACC at Turkeyville in Marshall. In 2006 - 2019, we were on our own. We went to the Coldwater Swap Meet and Car Show a few times and to a spring dust off at Gilmore Car Museum a few times. There were a few trips to the Mad Anthony Corvair Show in Fort Wayne. One year we went to the R.E. Olds Museum in Lansing and one year we just went antiquing along the lakeshore. When the pandemic hit in 2020, we did a small tour and then had a socially distanced picnic at the Dykwells. In 2021, we had a static (non moving) event at Johnson Park where we just had a picnic. Starting in 2022, we met up with DACC again.

Below are a few pictures from dust offs through the years.



On our way to Lansing in 2003.



Left - at Dog N Suds in 2013; Right - pit stop in Grand Ledge in 2016



Left - at Fallsburg Park in 2020; Right - at Frances Park in Lansing in 2022



At Turkeyville in 2005

Board of Directors

President: Dave Dykwell (2024) - (616) 885-3902 or dykwelld@gmail.com

Vice President: Ryan Counterman (2024) - (616) 262-5467 or vairking@hotmail.com

Secretary: Dave Ziebarth (2024) - (616) 340-1815 or zvair65@gmail.com

Treasurer: Doug Lectka (2025) - (616) 299-1960 or douglectka59@gmail.com

Directors:

John Cole (2025) - (231) 853-5340 or jcolvair@protonmail.com

Steve Vander Helm (2025) - (616) 293-0864 or sjvander426@gmail.com

Matt Zerilli (2024) - (269) 532-4559 or matthew.zerilli@gmail.com

West Michigan Corvair Club

7769 Burlingame Ave. SW
Byron Center, MI 49315

Phone: (616) 340-1815

E-Mail: wmcc@corvair.org

Newsletter Editor: Dave Ziebarth

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