

Lifter Noise

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What's Going On

Our event for June is the Air Cooled Gathering at Gilmore Car Museum on Saturday, June 15. We will be meeting at the McDonald's in Caledonia, 9383 Cherry Valley Ave SE (M-37) at 8:00 AM to caravan to Gilmore Car Museum. We will be leaving McDonald's at 8:30 AM. If you take your car, the show fee is \$20 and that covers two people. If you don't take your car, the admission fee is \$20 per person.

Our summer picnic and 50th Anniversary celebration is scheduled for Saturday, July 20 at Fallasburg Park in Lowell at noon. Look for more details in the July newsletter.

If you look to the right, you will see the schedule of our club events for this year. 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.

Welcome Home... almost

WMCC members Scott and Heather Olivier currently reside outside of Nashville, TN but are in the process of relocating back to Grand Rapids. Over Memorial Day weekend, he drove his Corvair 565 miles from Tennessee to Michigan. Scott said that is the longest trip he made in his Corvair. It is now tucked away in Dave Dykwell's garage until Scott and Heather close on a home in late June.



WMCC Calendar

June 15 - Air Cooled Gathering at Gilmore Car Museum, 9 AM - 4 PM; meet at Caledonia McDonald's at 8 AM

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

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

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

August 3 - Red Barns Spectacular at Gilmore Car Museum, 9 AM - 4 PM; meet at Caledonia McDonald's at 7:30 AM

September 17 - WMCC Board Meeting at TBD, 6 PM

October 12 - Fall Color Tour

December 7 - Christmas Party

President's Prose

By Dave Dykwell

Ditto, ditto as they say. Our shared Spring Dust-Off with the DACC went as planned, including dark gray, blowy, cold and wet weather as seems to be our common theme. But, we had a decent turnout and the weather started to get nice just as people started to leave. Torre Miller has a great place for this type of event with the tranquility of the Grand River rolling by us while we shared the warmth of the mammoth fire pit. Cooper told me it was one of his favorite events of the year!

Attention ALL members ... please check out the Club Calendar on the website for all the up and coming events or activities. Next on the Club agenda is the annual All Air-Cooled Show at Gilmore (Saturday, June 15th). Dave Z. will send out all the details in an email before the event. I understand the Volvo and Saab clubs will have their separate gatherings there as well. The more the merrier (profitable).

We need your HELP! If you did not notice, the ultimate spot for our annual Zoup-Off, the Rockford Ambulance Building, is no longer affordable as it once was. We are now charged the going rate (\$300) which really cuts into our budget. So, I want to ask **all** members to start booting up their RADAR for a potential meeting spot. Ya, churches and the like are plentiful, and usually less expensive, but we need our casual freedom. We'd like to find a spot similar to the Ambulance Building so we can enjoy our beverages of choice and be by ourselves. Any and all ideas are welcome. Just let Dave Z. or myself know where and we'll check the place out further. Or, we'll simply have to cut back on other expenses like the games and raffle prizes which we'd rather not do.

A while back I wrote about GM, BMW and Honda cutting back on the whole EV thing. Now, Ford has joined the enlightened, telling their dealerships to stop all EV investments while they eat roughly \$5.5 billion in losses this year. The auto and gas PACs have been vigorously advertising against Biden's EV initiative and dealerships are crying about unsold inventories (both new and used). And to make matters worse, GM will be discontinuing manufacture of the ever infamous Malibu this November 24 – the last of the four-door family cars. A sad day. But, as they say ... Timing is EVerything.

Your Board will be meeting June 5th to finalize plans for the All Air-Cooled Show, and most importantly, our 50th Anniversary Picnic. Your feedback, ideas and suggestions are still desired so don't be shy. Send Dave Z. or me anything you've got by email or text even IF it includes Corn Hole and Black Balloons!

Monthly Auto Fun Fact: The largest Internal Combustion Engine V-8 ever made was by Ford. The GAA was a 32 valve, DOHC, all aluminum dual ignition, 1,100 cube motor pushing out 500 HP @ just 2,600 RPM on regular gasoline. A torque monster that produced 1,000 lb feet @ just 2,200 RPM. Especially built and perfectly matched to the Sherman Tank. The precision-built German tanks wouldn't start in zero degree weather while the sloppy Ford's ran reliably.

“Have you ever noticed that some people have no idea what they're doing, and a lot of them are really good at it.” - George Carlin

Respectfully, DAVE

Spring Dust Off Recap

After deciding to postpone a week, the host changed his mind and decided that we were a go for our original date of May 11. It was a cool, wet day but that didn't stop five Corvairs from the West Michigan Corvair Club from making the trip to Lansing to meet up with the Detroit Area Corvair Club. There was a large bonfire to keep everyone warm. Despite the less than ideal weather, everyone had a good time.



Photo from a Facebook post by Norm Witte.

WMCC History - Car Shows

The title of this section sounds vague as we have participated in countless car shows over the years. This article is about car shows that the West Michigan Corvair Club has hosted.

The first evidence of a car show hosted by WMCC is September 23, 1978. We hosted an event at Milham Park in Kalamazoo where we sent invitations to 14 different Corvair clubs to participate. At one time there were 65 Corvairs on display. It looks like the same event was held in 1979 and then it never happened again. This is probably due to the fact that there were three other large Corvair shows that were frequently attended - Corvair Homecoming in Detroit, Tri-State meet in Bryan, OH, and Michiana meet in Three Rivers.

The idea of WMCC hosting a show was revived in 1989 when we hosted a show at Ronda Tire in Jenison. Ronda Tire even supplied a trophy for the people's choice winner. There were 22 Corvairs at this first show. In 1990 it appears that this became an "all make" show and it was last held in 1992. It could be argued that once it became an all make show, we really didn't host it but we did attend.

The next iteration of the WMCC hosted car show started in 1997 in Bangor, MI. We held a "car display and swap meet" at Restorations Plus on M-43 on May 17. We had 23 Corvairs present at this show along with 4 - 5 vendors selling parts. We had a grill going with plenty of food. We had people's choice

awards in the following categories: early model, late model, and Forward Control. There were no FC vehicles that year.

After two years at Restorations Plus, we moved west on M-43 to the Don Cleveland Antique Auto Museum and Antique Shop in 1999. This was also a celebration of the 25th anniversary of our club. This venue was a great fit as there were cars on display in the museum as well as some petroliana. It also offered a lot more space for us as this show continued to grow.

In 2002 we lost access to the Don Cleveland museum for a variety of reasons. We switched venues and the date to coincide with the Red Barns Spectacular at Gilmore Car Museum in August. We continued to have the people's choice awards through 2012. In 2014, we changed the date again but not the venue; we moved the event to June to coincide with the All Air Cooled Show. 2014 was also the last year we billed the event as the "WMCC Car Display". After 2014, we would just attend the show as a club for most years.

Below are a few pictures from our WMCC Car Displays through the years.



Two photos from 1997 Car Display at Restorations Plus.



Left - 1999 Car Display, Right - 2000 Car Display; both at Don Cleveland Antique Auto Museum.



Left - 2012 Car Display, Right - 2013 Car Display; both at Gilmore Car Museum.



Left - 2016 Air Cooled Show, Right - 2018 Air Cooled Show; both at Gilmore Car Museum.

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