

Lifter Noise

December 2024 - Volume 51, Issue 12



What's Going On

This month is our annual Christmas Party! It will be held on Saturday, December 7 at the home of Scott and Heather Olivier. Social time will start at 3:00 PM with dinner being served around 5:00 PM. The club will provide a main course. We are asking everyone else to bring either a side dish, appetizer, or dessert plus their own beverages. The Oliviers address is 9469 Lake Gerald Dr. NE in Sparta. You can park "nose in" across the street from their house in the common area (see map below).

Our next event after the Christmas Party is the Zoup Off. As stated in the November newsletter, we are looking for a new venue for the Zoup Off as we no longer receive a discounted rate from Rockford Ambulance so that venue is now cost prohibitive. We would need a venue of a similar size that will allow us to plug in a large number of crock pots as well as bringing our own alcohol. If you have any ideas, let me know. If we cannot find an alternate venue, then we would return to Rockford Ambulance for one more year.

Our new president, Scott Olivier, will have a few words to say later in this newsletter.



WMCC Calendar

December 7 - Christmas Party at Oliviers; social time 3:00 PM, dinner time 5:00 PM

President's Prose

By Scott Olivier

Hi y'all! It's good to be back in Michigan after our 3 ½ year "sabbatical" in Tennessee, and I'm deeply honored to have been re-elected as president of WMCC. Many thanks to our outgoing president, Dave Dykwell. I've enjoyed your monthly articles, Dave! I also look forward to working with the members in our new board alignment: Dave Dykwell, Doug Lectka, Dave Ziebarth, John Cole, Ryan Counterman and Steve Vander Helm.

A brief personal Corvair update: after flawlessly transporting me 600+ miles from Nashville to our new home in Sparta, the ol' gal's fuel pump decided to give out. It was of undetermined age, so I guess it was just a matter of time. Doug was gracious enough to supply a box of old pumps to test to see if I could find a good one in the batch, which I've yet to do. Member Dennis Willson recently put an electric pump on his, and reported happiness with it. I may just take the plunge and enter the world of electric and be done with the issue. I have the whole winter to think about it, I suppose.

Speaking of winter, Christmas is nearly upon us. We'll be hosting the Christmas party at our new place on December 7th, which is exciting. For those that attended the holiday party at our place in Rockford a few years ago, you'll remember twenty-five or so people being smashed into our living/dining room that probably had a fire department-mandated limit of ten. Our new place is a bit more spacious, so we welcome a crowd. We'll be supplying a Honeybaked ham and a turkey (not sure how we'll figure out oven space), a giant mess of mashed taters, and mac 'n' cheese. Bring a side or dessert if you please, and your own beverages. As Dave D. mentioned in last month's newsletter, parking is free. We're looking forward to seeing everyone again!

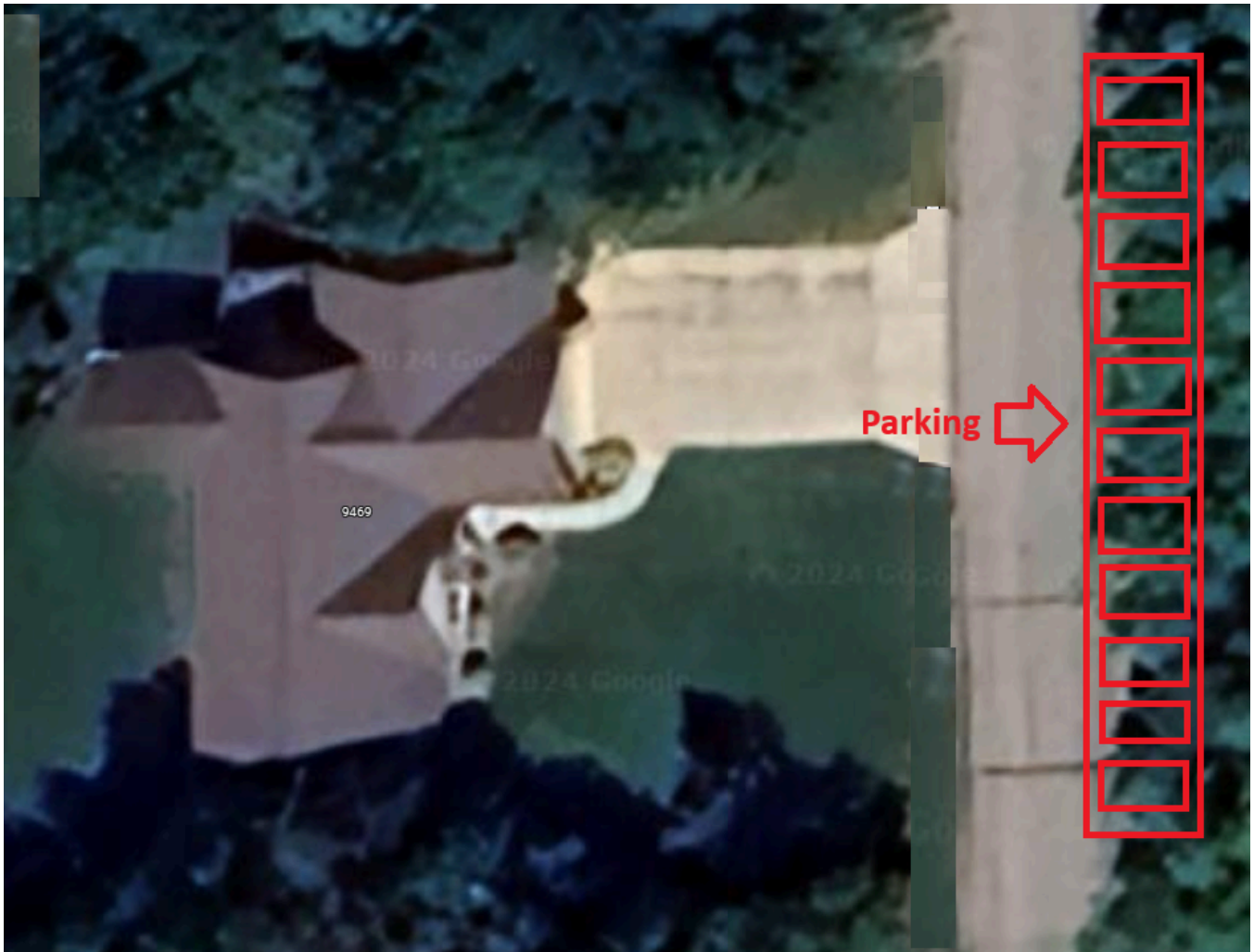
One more thing—I haven't shoveled snow since 2020, so please pray for a light snow season. My twenty-year-old Toro and my back will thank you.

See you at the party!

Scott



Christmas Party Parking Map



WMCC History - Christmas Parties

Our last look back at the last 50 years of the West Michigan Corvair Club will look at Christmas Parties.

When we first started having Christmas Parties in 1974, they were held at area restaurants. We first started at Finger's Restaurant on Plainfield. Terry Finger was a member of the club at the time. The featured dinners were the chicken dinner for \$6.00 or the sizzler dinner for \$6.50 (prices indicated in the 1977 newsletter). The chicken dinner was a specialty for Finger's. It would be great to pay these prices today!



West Mich. Corvair Club



DECEMBER 1984

December Meeting will be our Annual
CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

Date: Tues. Dec. 11TH
- 2nd Tuesday -

Place: Fingers Restaurant
4981 Plainfield Ave. N.E.

Time: "Happy Hour +"
6 - 7:30
Eat about 7:30

MENU: Your Choice of Fingers Chicken
or A Sizzler Steak Dinner.

PLEASE - Let us know your choice by the
form below or Call Rob 243-1732 before
MON. Dec. 10TH. Guests welcome also!

2 Chicken
ck for 17.50
mailed 12/5

In 1986 the party moved to Hungry Lion where dinner choices were: 9 oz. prime rib, 8 oz. sizzler on a skewer, boston scrod, or marinated chicken. Each dinner also included soup, salad bar, beverage, and potato for \$10.65 which included the tip.

Between 1989 and 1992, we bounced around to various restaurants: Brann's on Alpine, Duck's Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge, Mulberry Restaurant.

We finally settled on Brann's on Division where we could have our own private room. We were at Brann's almost every year between 1993 and 2004. Dinner was \$15 per person and you got to choose from three or four entrees.

There is a gap in our history (and my memory) so I'm not sure what happened between 2006 - 2010. We did not have a party between 2011 and 2014 as we decided December was too busy to have a meeting/party. We also did not have parties in 2020 - 2021 due to COVID.

The party was revived in 2015 but this time a WMCC member hosted it at their home. The club provided the main dish and everyone else brought sides, appetizers, or desserts. Our hosts over the years included Jamie and Tanya Reinhart, Scott and Heather Olivier, Dave and Marilyn Dykwell, and Doug and Becky Lectka.

For a time we had a white elephant gift exchange at our Christmas Party. Usually these were gag gifts but we actually did have a white elephant that got regifted for a number of years.



A couple of pictures from the 2022 Christmas Party.

WMCC History - That's a Wrap

I hope you enjoyed the look back at the last 50 years of West Michigan Corvair Club history. I even learned a few things. If anyone has any other memories they want to share, let me know and I can put them in a newsletter in 2025.

If you want to read more, I did a series of articles for our 25th Anniversary in 1999. The newsletters from 1999 can be found [here](#).

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