

# Lifter Noise

March 2025 - Volume 52, Issue 3



## What's Going On

The next meeting of the West Michigan Corvair Club will be a tech session on Saturday, April 26 at 10:00 AM. We will be installing an in-tank electric fuel pump on Scott Olivier's car. This seems to be a popular debate in the Corvair community - mechanical pump vs. electric pump. With the relatively high failure rate and lack of availability of mechanical pumps, a lot of people are switching to electric pumps. The in-tank pump seems to be more popular as they are quieter. Start time is 10:00 AM. It will be held at Jamie Reinhart's shop located in the Riverview Airport in Georgetown Township. The address is 805 Taylor St. and Jamie will have signs directing us to the correct building.

Attention WMCC board members - there is a board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 26 at 6:00 PM. It will be held at TwoGuys Brewing, 2356 Porter St. SW in Wyoming.

It is now time to pay your dues for 2025. Per the article in the January newsletter, the dues rate is now \$25. You can pay them in person at the tech session in April or mail a check to the club address which is on the last page of this newsletter. We would like to collect all 2025 dues by the end of April. If you don't pay by then, you will be dropped from the newsletter mailing list.

We have two new members to welcome to the West Michigan Corvair Club! Andy Allen lives in Holland and he owns a 1966 Corsa Coupe that was restored in 2009. He also recently acquired an early model convertible. Jacob Grover lives in Muskegon and has a 1963 Monza Convertible. Welcome to WMCC Andy and Jacob!

## President's Prose

*By Scott Olivier*

As mentioned by our esteemed Club Secretary Dave Z., the April event will be a tech session at Jamie Reinhart's shop. We'll be (hopefully successfully) installing an in-tank fuel pump to replace the original mechanical version that threatens to burn down the car. As most Corvairians probably know, there really isn't a reliable replacement for the OEM fuel pump. They all leak

## WMCC Calendar

**March 26** - WMCC Board Meeting at TwoGuys Brewing; 6 PM

**April 26** - Tech Session at Jamie Reinhart's shop; 10 AM

**May 17** - Spring Dust Off

**June 14** - Air Cooled Show at Gilmore Car Museum

**July 19** - Summer Picnic at Bob Muir's cottage

For a complete list of car shows and cruise nights, check out the [Events](#) page on the club website.

eventually, sometimes right out of the box, as my last one did. Clark's has been working on a new and improved pump for a couple of years, but it seems like its introduction is always 3-6 months away. The in-tank version is purported to be a big upgrade in terms of reliability and overcoming the vapor lock Corvair owners are familiar with.

The impending upgrade has made me think about the conflict between vintage and modern. There are many automotive hobbyists that insist on originality, even if those authentic parts and pieces cause issues. They seem to enjoy the struggle that comes with genuine OEM. There's something to be said for the nostalgia of it, even if it has its quirks and frustrations.

Modern cars are certainly more reliable than vintage vehicles, and they offer safety and convenience that people from the 60's could have only dreamed about—GPS, anti lock brakes, computer-controlled fuel management, passive restraint systems, touchscreens, entertainment systems, and on and on. To be honest, every time I put my Corvair in reverse I'm a little miffed that it doesn't have a backup camera ("oh, man...I have to turn my neck AGAIN?"). We've become spoiled, but we have to admit that life as a car owner is easier than it used to be. I didn't say BETTER, I said EASIER. Ease is something we've become used to.

That's where the conflict comes in. Do I keep struggling with the old mechanical pump, or do I write a check and vault forward into the present day? Do I plant my flag on the old tech, or just give up and sacrifice my genuine-ness and put something on the car that just makes it, you know, work? Well kids, I vote for work. I'd rather not concern myself with what the old guard thinks, and put a part in the car that makes me want to drive it without worry. You're welcome to disagree, but I'm doing it anyway. Oh, and you're all invited to help. I'm sure there are others that are thinking about making the same conversion, and this will be a great way to get a demo for how to do it. Someday I'll get around to doing something about the sketchy brakes.

Hope to see you there!

Scott

## Zoup Off Recap

This year the Zoup Off was held at a new venue - TerryTown RV. Why would we hold an event at a camper dealership? They also have quite a car museum on site. WMCC member Jamie Reinhart, who maintains the cars in the collection, arranged for us to have our Zoup Off there this year. We had a great conference room with an amazing view of the collection. There was plenty of time to tour the museum but the main event was eating.

Once again we had a vast array of soups and desserts to eat and judge. Once the dust settled, Ryan Counterman had the best soup and Julia Cole had the best dessert. After eating, there was a trivia contest that was won by Dan Konkle.



## Board of Directors

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