

Lifter Noise

September 2025 - Volume 52, Issue 9



What's Going On

We made a last minute change for our event for September. We will now be attending the Wayland Balloonfest Car Show on Saturday, September 6. The show starts at noon and runs until 2:00 PM and takes place at Wayland Municipal Airport at 3755 South Division in Wayland. There is an admission fee of \$10 per car. For those who want to rally as a group, we will meet at the Exxon gas station on 142nd Ave. just west of U.S. 131 at 11:45 AM. We will leave at 11:55 AM to go to the airport where the show is being held.

Put Saturday, October 18 on your calendar. That is the tentative date of our annual color tour. Look for more details in the October newsletter.

President's Prose - "Why Join a Club?"

by Scott Olivier

Most things I read online portend that car clubs are sliding toward oblivion. The internet is taking their place (or already has), and there's no need for a physical club when we have instant access to all the knowledge of the world at our fingertips. Why join a club when we have the technological marvel of the internet? Why should I pay annual dues to a club when I can just Google or ChatGPT my way to the answers? My answer? The people.

This is gonna get technical for a bit, but I promise I'll get back to the people.

My work allows me to interact with the internet and our new "friend" A.I. (artificial intelligence) quite a bit. I use A.I. to do a lot of the grunt work that would take me hours to do, and it performs it in mere seconds. That mysterious beast crunches data at an alarming rate. And you know what? It's not always accurate. It sometimes gives me incorrect data because it's just using stuff that's already posted on the internet as its "encyclopedia". I'm not sure if you've met the internet, but there's a lot of wrong info on it.

I'm in several Corvair-specific social media groups, and there are a lot of newbies to the hobby posting earnest questions to help them with their 'Vairs. The people who respond are often uninformed, condescending, or even hostile. I think the anonymity of the internet makes respondents care less about being right, and more about being heard. I feel bad for these

WMCC Calendar

September 6 - Wayland Balloonfest Car Show; Noon - 2 PM

October 18 - Fall Color Tour (tentative)

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

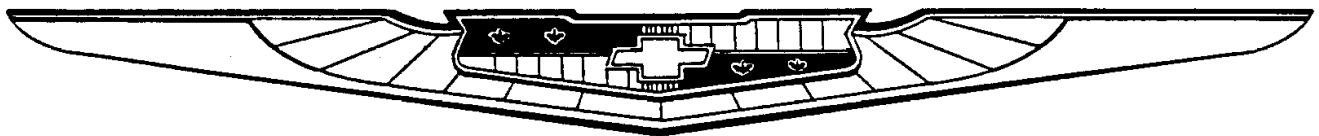
posters who are just trying to get help, and aren't getting helpful answers. It's this kind of bad info that feeds into the queries people do through search engines like Google and Bing or A.I. tools like ChatGPT.

That brings me back to the people. We have incredibly knowledgeable members in our club, and I'm certain that it's the same in other CORSA-affiliated clubs. It was the case in the Tennessee club I was in as well. Here's the difference between a club and the anonymous internet: there's an accountability in getting an in-person answer. When someone answers a post on the internet, there's little chance they'll ever meet the person asking the question. In a club, you KNOW the person. I'm not going to give you guidance that I'm unsure of because we're friends and I'm going to see you again. If I don't know the answer, we'll gosh darn find someone who does and we'll figure it out together. There's a true partnership among club members that you can't find online. We're all in this with you, and we care what happens. You're not gonna find that online.

A few side notes:

- I mentioned in a past newsletter that we need to do more tech sessions, given that the April session was one of the best-attended recent events. I've done a poor job of encouraging more such events, and will push for tech sessions to be more common. One thing we'll need is a car to work on. Do you have something on your Corvair that needs attention? Drop me or another board member an email or give us a call and we'll figure something out.
- The Fall Color Tour is coming up in October. We took a northern route last year, so we're looking to head to a different point on the compass this year. If you have a suggestion for a destination, drop me a note. If I don't get suggestions, I'll just plan a route for the club that looks interesting. It would be nice to get recommendations, though.

Happy September!
Scott



Shop Musings

by Ryan Counterman

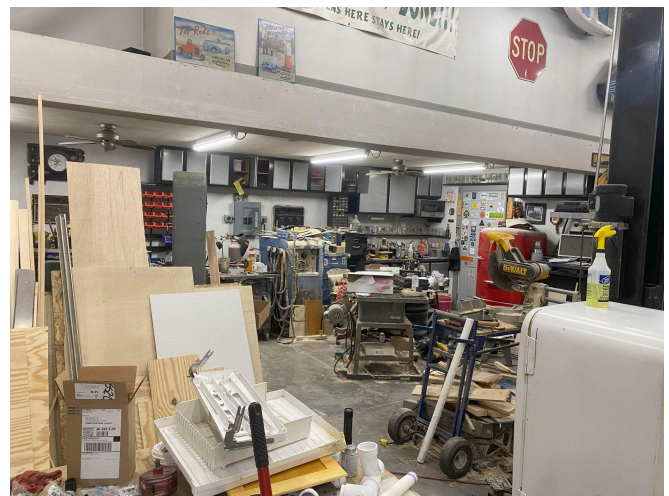
How come nobody wanted to share a picture of their Corvair workspace with the group? Most of you have been to my place. In my head I was going to do a little before and after photo but as it happens a lot with me, something else popped up and I forgot about it completely. Once that thought came back around again, I thought it was too late for a quick response, so maybe I should just write a full-blown article.

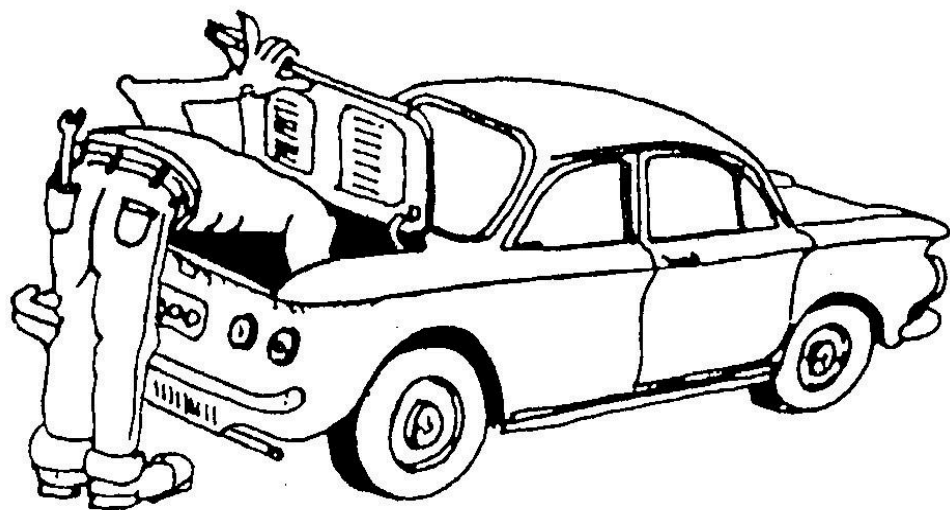
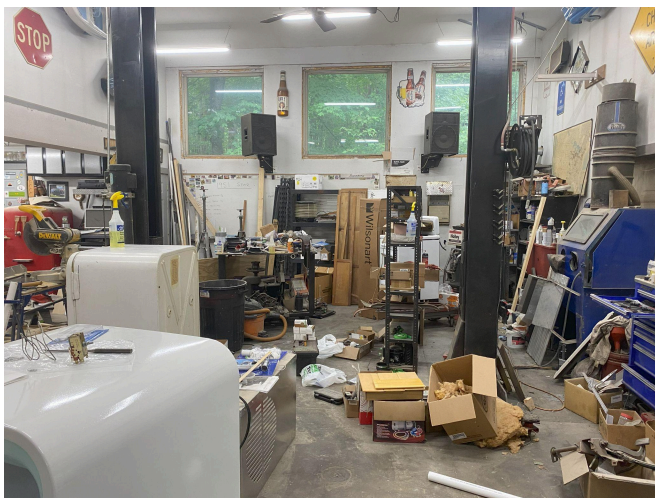
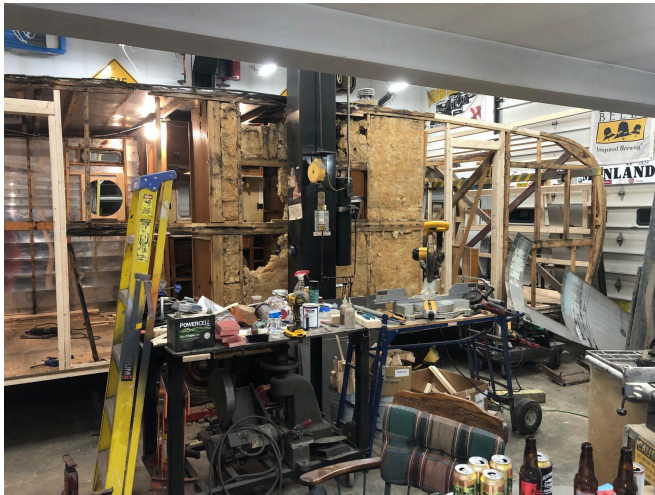


I built my shop back in 2010, and back then everything was sanitary, clean, and organized. It was so pretty I even wrote an article for the CORSA Communique (back then they were doing a “garage series”). Then I started using the shop to build multiple Corvairs and non-Corvairs for myself, repair and paint cars for others, and worked on everything from bicycles to a fire truck. As time went on, my huge 1000 sq ft shop kept shrinking and shrinking, with the addition of new tools (full machine shop, welders, sand blast cabinet, more toolboxes etc.).



3 years ago, I switched the shop from metal working / car working, to woodworking as I took on my latest project, the 1951 Star camper. At 28’ long, it stretched from one wall of the shop to the other, and getting into the shop required stepping over the tongue. The space was tight, but I needed it inside to work on it, so I dealt with it. Now that the restoration is pretty much complete, it is time to attempt to put all the tools back in their respective places, sweep the floor, and muse about what project might be next on my radar!





All GM Show Recap

There were a total of five Corvairs (four from WMCC and one former WMCC member) in attendance at the last All GM Show at Berger Chevrolet. This show was held as part of the 28th Street Metro Cruise and it was also a celebration of Berger's 100th anniversary. We arrived very early (6:30 AM) to secure our spots and it seemed like the lot was over half full of show cars at that time. Dave Dykwell has some contacts and he was able to secure some nice spots for us. Unfortunately we did not stay dry as the rains came late in the morning and lasted about an hour or two. Once the rain passed, it was a beautiful day. We hoped to have more Corvairs show up but the early meet up time as well as the weather may have played a factor.



Board of Directors

President: Scott Olivier (2026) - (586) 719-3797 or scott_olivier_mi@yahoo.com

Vice President: Dave Dykwell (2026) - (616) 885-3902 or dykwelld@gmail.com

Secretary: Dave Ziebarth (2026) - (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

Ryan Counterman (2026) - (616) 262-5467 or vairking@hotmail.com

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