

Michigan

“Where it all began”



Volume 13 Issue 1

Dates to Remember

National and Chapter SACC dues > due Dec. 1, 2022

MI SACC Planning Meeting

Brookshire Inn, Williamston, MI

Saturday, May 6, 2023

11:30 am to 2:00 pm

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MI SACC 2023/2024 Lighthouse Tours

See pages 3-6 for
proposed itinerary



Crisp Point Light, UP

Don't forget our website www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com

From President's Laptop

Spring 2023

Michigan Chapter members,

Daylight Savings Time is here, the spring equinox has passed, the crocus are blooming, the robins are back and the temperature is above freezing; i.e., Corvette driving season is fast approaching.

All you snowbirds can load up and start home now! You missed it. What did we miss? Winter! It was mild up here till late Feb/early March when California rain turned into inches of Michigan snow.

April 1 is much more than April Fool's Day; it is time to free the toys from the pole barn. Time to pull off the cover, disconnect the battery tender and "Drivers, start your engines."

First event is our Spring Membership Meeting at 11:30- 2 PM on Sat, May 6 at the Brookshire Inn in Williamston, MI where we will select Michigan Chapter events for the 2023 driving season.

The only other event already on the calendar is the **SACC National Convention**. The 2023 SACC National Convention will be May 31- June 2, 2023 in Bloomington, IL. Stef and I are planning to attend and you are welcome to join us, but must be there by noon, May 30 so we will be leaving May 29th. The route planned is I-69S to Ft Wayne, IN, then west on US-24W to I-55S for a short distance to Bloomington. If you are interested in attending, at this late date, contact Mary Rae Brockhouse at secretary@solidaxle.org

Looking forward to 2023 and 2024, the Michigan Chapter Board is putting a lot of effort into what we believe will be a very enjoyable series of tours that we are calling the **Michigan Lighthouse Tour**. We would welcome your involvement in planning. If you live in or close to any of the tour segments, we would encourage you to share local information on restaurants, rest areas and best views. See page 4 for preliminary outline of possible tours.

All SACC Members who are Michigan

residents, whether Michigan Chapter members or not are invited to join us for whatever distance you or your car are comfortable with. There is something uniquely satisfying about driving in a traveling car show. Everybody we meet has a smile, a wave and often a personal story of the one they had that got away. Please join us if you can.

Make a note to join us at the Spring Event Planning Meeting on Sat, May 6, 2023.

Remember, every mile of seat time is a good memory!

Bill Huffman, Pres.

Michigan Chapter SACC

solidaxlecorvettemi.com



Fort Gratiot Lighthouse



MI SACC Event Planning Meeting

Brookshire Inn,

205 West Church Street, Williamston, MI

11:30 am–2:00pm All are Welcome.

Bring your thoughts on events and activities,

particularly for

2023/2024 Lighthouse Tours Planning

please advise Bill Huffman swh73@comcast.net

by April 30, if you plan on attending.

Eagle River Lighthouse





An invitation for all SACC National members whether or not you are members of Michigan Chapter:

The Michigan Chapter is proposing a 2023/2024 series of weekend Lighthouse Tours.

There are **129 Lighthouses**; we are not short of destinations. Just your interest to drive...

Draft Lighthouse Tours for consideration. See page 6 for Lighthouse map of Michigan.

- 1) Port Huron to Bay City on M-25, #11 to #18, overnight at Frankenmuth. Possible Fall Color Tour.
- 2) Bay City to Mackinaw on US-23, #21 to #37, one or possible two days on to 2023 or 2024 August Crossroads Corvette show . Possible overnight at Alpena on Thunder Bay. Passes thru Standish, Au Gres, Tawas, Au Sable, Oscoda, Harrisville, Alcona, Alpena, Presque Isle, Rogers City and Cheboygan
- 3) Mackinaw City to Traverse City on M-119, US-31, #38 to #49, overnight at or near Traverse City. Passes thru Cross Village, Harbor Springs, Petosky and Charlevoix. Could be the return route from 2023 or 2024 Corvette Crossroads.
- 4) Ludington to Traverse City on US-10, US-31 & M-22, #59 to #50, overnight in Ludington, Traverse City or both. Passes thru Manistee, Frankfort, Empire, Leland and Northport. #49 is a short drive on Old Mission Peninsula.
- 5) St. Joseph to White River on US-31 & B-15, #68 to #60, overnight in Muskegon. Passes thru Benton Harbor, South Haven, Saugatuck, Holland, Grand Haven and Muskegon

Each of these areas may have special annual events that we may become a part of **OR** which would impact the planning and dictate the Tour +/- timing. (ex. Tulip, Cherry & Blueberry Festivals)

Michigan Lighthouse Tour is a series of weekend road tours in 2023 and 2024. The tours would allow SACC Members to join us for a day or two when they (or their car) are comfortable. The planning is in the beginning stages and will take some time, early 2023, to establish the routes, rest stops, lunch and dinner, not to mention motel accommodations. To measure your interest and possible willingness to participation, **please attend the May 6 Event Planning Meeting** or respond as soon as possible to Bill Huffman swh73@comcast.net

Don't be shy, we need your feedback. If a Lighthouse Tour appeals to you, please express your interest by responding as requested on page 5.



Michigan Lighthouse Tour

We are in need of volunteers that have local knowledge and an interest in assisting with the planning and organization of MI SACC's 2023/2024 Lighthouse Tours.

The proposed routes were driven last fall or early 2023; daily distances and travel times noted to provide C1 time for driving, sight seeing, including meals and lodging.

Please see page 4 for the proposed Tours

Please express your interest below in becoming a member of the Tour planning team.

Pick a Tour and begin your journey....

#1 Port Huron to Bay City _____

#2 Bay City to Mackinaw City _____

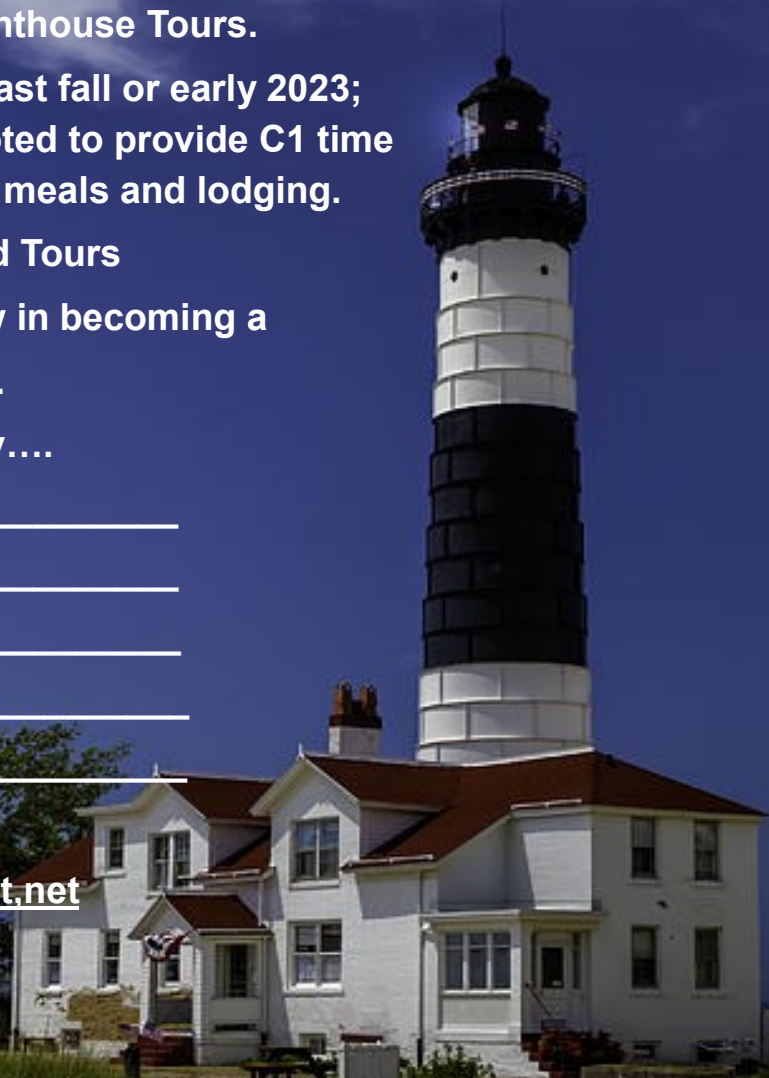
#3 Mackinaw City to Traverse City _____

#4 Ludington to Traverse City _____

#5 St. Joseph to White River _____

Your choice. Pick one and contact

Bill Huffman swh73@comcast.net



Big Sable Point Light, Ludington

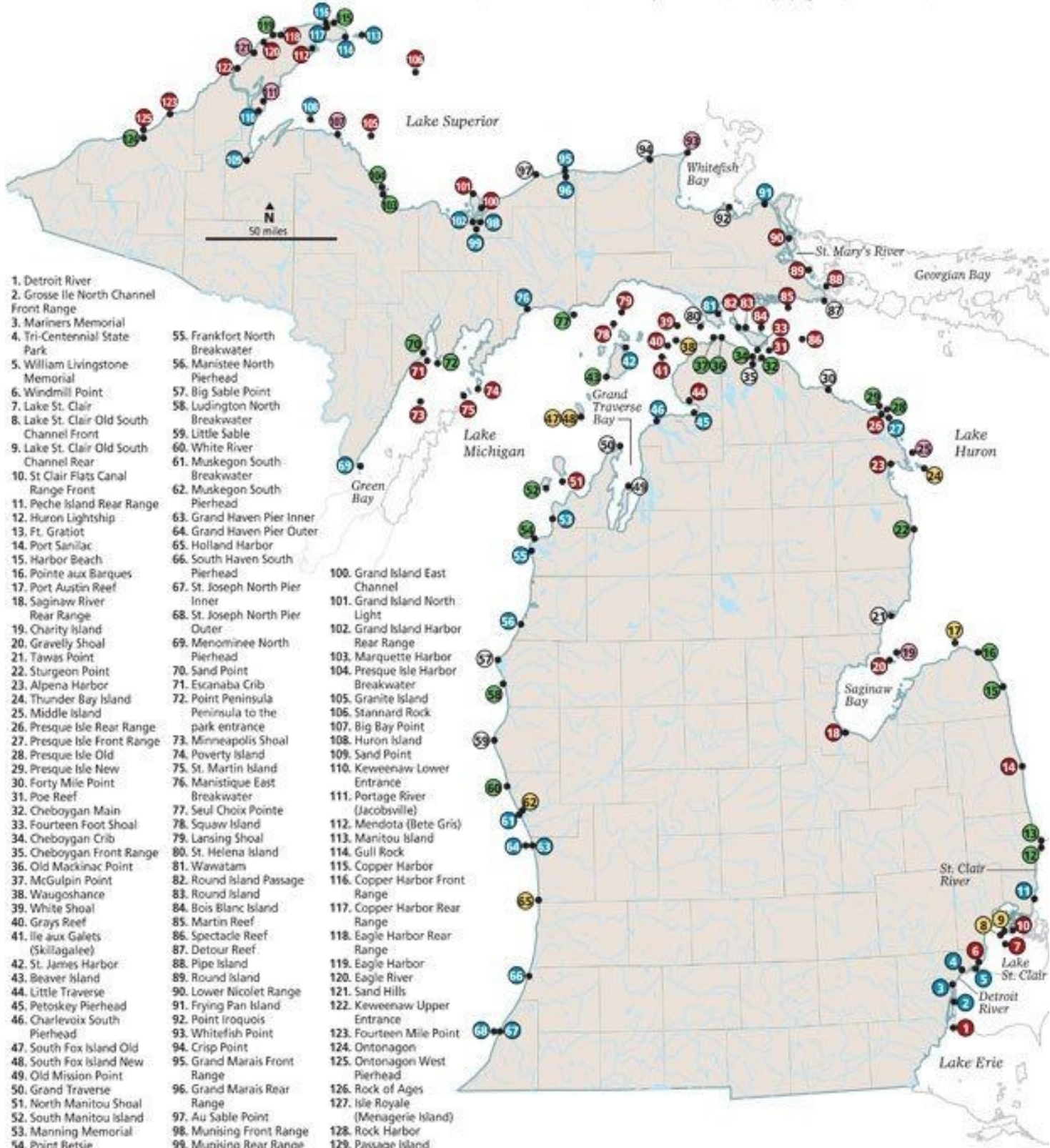
MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSES

Lighthouses and navigation lights circle the Great Lakes. This map shows only lights in Michigan.



KEY TO SITES:

- Open to the public on a regularly scheduled basis
- Open to the public on a limited schedule
- Grounds, pier open, but buildings closed to the public
- Offers a lighthouse keeper program
- Bed-and-breakfast
- Not open to the public



1. Detroit River
2. Grosse Ile North Channel Front Range
3. Mariners Memorial
4. Tri-Centennial State Park
5. William Livingstone Memorial
6. Windmill Point
7. Lake St. Clair
8. Lake St. Clair Old South Channel Front
9. Lake St. Clair Old South Channel Rear
10. St. Clair Flats Canal Range Front
11. Peche Island Rear Range
12. Huron Lightship
13. Ft. Gratiot
14. Port Sanilac
15. Harbor Beach
16. Pointe aux Barques
17. Port Austin Reef
18. Saginaw River Rear Range
19. Charity Island
20. Gravelly Shoal
21. Tawas Point
22. Sturgeon Point
23. Alpena Harbor
24. Thunder Bay Island
25. Middle Island
26. Presque Isle Rear Range
27. Presque Isle Front Range
28. Presque Isle Old
29. Presque Isle New
30. Forty Mile Point
31. Poe Reef
32. Cheboygan Main
33. Fourteen Foot Shoal
34. Cheboygan Crib
35. Cheboygan Front Range
36. Old Mackinac Point
37. McGulpin Point
38. Waugoshance
39. White Shoal
40. Grays Reef
41. Ile aux Galets (Skillagalee)
42. St. James Harbor
43. Beaver Island
44. Little Traverse
45. Petoskey Pierhead
46. Charlevoix South Pierhead
47. South Fox Island Old
48. South Fox Island New
49. Old Mission Point
50. Grand Traverse
51. North Manitou Shoal
52. South Manitou Island
53. Manning Memorial
54. Point Betsie

55. Frankfort North Breakwater
56. Manistee North Pierhead
57. Big Sable Point
58. Ludington North Breakwater
59. Little Sable
60. White River
61. Muskegon South Breakwater
62. Muskegon South Pierhead
63. Grand Haven Pier Inner
64. Grand Haven Pier Outer
65. Holland Harbor
66. South Haven South Pierhead
67. St. Joseph North Pier Inner
68. St. Joseph North Pier Outer
69. Menominee North Pierhead
70. Sand Point
71. Escanaba Crib
72. Point Peninsula Peninsula to the park entrance
73. Minneapolis Shoal
74. Poverty Island
75. St. Martin Island
76. Manistique East Breakwater
77. Seul Choix Pointe
78. Squaw Island
79. Lansing Shoal
80. St. Helena Island
81. Wawatam
82. Round Island Passage
83. Round Island
84. Bois Blanc Island
85. Martin Reef
86. Spectacle Reef
87. Detour Reef
88. Pipe Island
89. Round Island
90. Lower Nicolet Range
91. Frying Pan Island
92. Point Iroquois
93. Whitefish Point
94. Crisp Point
95. Grand Marais Front Range
96. Grand Marais Rear Range
97. Au Sable Point
98. Munising Front Range
99. Munising Rear Range

100. Grand Island East Channel
101. Grand Island North Light
102. Grand Island Harbor Rear Range
103. Marquette Harbor
104. Presque Isle Harbor Breakwater
105. Granite Island
106. Stannard Rock
107. Big Bay Point
108. Huron Island
109. Sand Point
110. Keweenaw Lower Entrance
111. Portage River (Jacobsville)
112. Mendota (Bete Gris)
113. Manitou Island
114. Gull Rock
115. Copper Harbor
116. Copper Harbor Front Range
117. Copper Harbor Rear Range
118. Eagle Harbor Rear Range
119. Eagle Harbor
120. Eagle River
121. Sand Hills
122. Keweenaw Upper Entrance
123. Fourteen Mile Point
124. Ontonagon
125. Ontonagon West Pierhead
126. Rock of Ages
127. Isle Royale (Menagerie Island)
128. Rock Harbor
129. Passage Island

Speedlimit? What Speedlimit? Spring has Sprung!



SPRING CHECKLIST

It's just about time to "think spring," and with that comes a few things you should do before driving your car the first time after storage. If your car has been in storage for less than six months, follow these steps:

1. While being stored, the battery should have been disconnected, taken out or had a battery tender hooked up. If not put a trickle charge on the battery to bring it back to full charge. Make sure the cables are disconnected during the charging process.

2. Inspect the fuel system. Be sure the choke and throttle linkages move freely and the system is free of any leaks. Check fuel lines for signs of deterioration. Due to advances in refinery procedures, modern pump fuel remains stable for at least six months, so if you topped off the tank prior to storage the fuel should be fine for start up. (I use STA-BIL keeps fuel fresh for up to two years)

3. Inspect cooling system. Look for cracking or loose fan belts and leaking or deteriorating radiator and heater hoses. Check that coolant is clear of debris, at the proper level, and is still a rich green color.

4. Inspect the engine for signs of oil leaks and that the oil level is up. If the oil wasn't changed prior to storage, change it now; otherwise wait until after the initial start up (Step #12 below). Also check transmission, brake, and differential levels and inspect for leaks.

5. Inspect the ignition system for signs of cracking on ignition wires and related wiring connections. Check the distributor cap for moisture or deterioration.

6. Inspect the brakes and suspension components for any signs of deterioration. Be sure all components are operating freely and functioning as designed, including the emergency brake.

7. Repair any problems found prior to start up.

NOW YOU'RE READY :

8. If the battery was removed, install the fully charged battery into your classic. Remove the ignition wire from the coil and turn the engine over several times. You should do so until your oil pressure gauge needle moves up – if you have a too late light, let it spin for a 10 count.

9. Reconnect the ignition. Also remove the air cleaner lid (Not necessary for fuel injection! HA!) and check that there is fuel squirting in the carburetor when you move the throttle. Reinstall the air cleaner lid.

10. Get in the driver's seat and follow your usual starting procedure. **Be sure the vehicle is out of gear.**

11. Let the engine idle until it reaches operating temperature. Closely monitor engine operation, watching for leaks, or malfunctioning systems. Listen for noises such as knocks or rattles.

12. After the engine has warmed up, shut it down. Change the oil and filter, if not done in Step #4, this clears the engine of any moisture that gathered inside over the winter. Check for any leaks in general once again on and around the car.

13. Check the inflation of the tires and spare, adjust as necessary. Now you can start it up and check the brakes for proper operation.

14. Take a 30-minute ride close to your home. Check again for any fluid leaks when you return home.

15. Finally, give your classic a good wash and wax. It's time to take a spin and enjoy the road with your classic.

NOTE: If your car has been in storage longer than six months, a more thorough inspection and procedures may be required. Storage for long periods of time can actually leave the car in a state of disrepair due to deterioration. It is good to reserve this type of inspection and start up to a trusted mechanic.

A Bit About Me - 1957 'Fuelie' Corvette

57' Corvette Fuel Injection
 Vin No. E57S105533
 Owner: Dave & Sue Ruby



57' Production	6276	Engine	
Fuel Injection	712	V8 Cast Iron Block & Heads	
Fuel Injection with 4 speed - C20		DuPont Competition Cam & Solid Lifters	
Base Price	\$4,176.22	Bores & Strakes	3.88 in. x 3.06 in.
Options		Displacement	262 cu. in.
Heater	\$ 119.40	Compression Ratio	12.5:1
Wonderbar AM Radio	\$ 109.10	Induction System	Ramjet Fuel Injector by Rochester
Parking Brake Alarm	\$ 5.40	Maximum Power	262 hp @ 6200 rpm
Car Key Light	\$ 9.69	Maximum Torque	270 lb ft @ 3400 rpm
Washboard Washers	\$ 11.00	Transmission	Close Ratio Four speed by Borg Warner
Whitewall Tires	\$ 31.00	Weight	2,726 lbs.
Two Tone Paint	\$ 19.40	Performance	
White Soft Top	NC	0-60 mph	5.7 seconds
Power Folding Top	\$ 138.90	Top Speed	132 mph
282, 283 HP	\$ 484.20		
Positraction Rear, 4:11:1	\$ 48.45		
4 Speed Transmission	\$ 188.20		
TOTAL	\$4,421.57		

Everybody has a story, and every acquisition of a C1 has its story. Here's mine.

Born in St. Louis, grew up in the 50's in California where I was exposed to the greats of Rock n' Roll: Elvis, Buddy Holly, and Chuck Berry. What better way to spend your youth? However, I do remember nights with the radio turned down and I was enjoying Nate King Cole and the Platters, when the peace was interrupted by complaints related to the gear shift location? A complaint I never fully understood. I often toured the southern California beaches where I discovered the surfin' sound of the Beach Boys and that memory remains within me today.

I am a well-maintained California based 1957 'Fuelie', repainted in 1995 after years of exposure to the California sun and subsequently featured in a Sotheby's auction (1997) with 26,000 miles showing on the speedometer. (Frankly, I do not know if those miles are accurate. I lost count sometime in the early '70s.) My next recollection is an auction in a very large facility on Lake Michigan in Chicago a year later.

During the dark hours in storage, I wondered where I might end up, experiencing very little love and having only traveled, on my own, 27 miles in those two years, I felt alone and unwanted.... Abandoned!

Who knows what tomorrow will bring? It has been said "Good often comes to those who wait". What ever will be, will be..

In February of 1999, I became aware of human traffic in and around my stablemates. Roman hands and Russian fingers touching our curves, opening doors and hoods, investigating our innermost parts without regard of our privacy or feelings.

We understood we were special. We're not jelly beans, ripe for the pickin'. We were proud C1s and worth the wait for a true enthusiast. We were all descendants of the original created by General Motors in 1953 and housed in Proteam's C1 pole barn in Napoleon, Ohio, approximately 40 of us, with birthdays from 1953 to 1962. There was a variety of colors, all were roadsters, and several had the optional removal hard top. The early years were easy to spot, mostly white, with an automatic transmissions and without roll-up windows.

However, Proteam was not interested in lookers or tire kickers, they were only interested in selling Corvettes and do not willingly encourage visitors. All visitors are greeted by a glass enclosed lobby with a pedestal mounted sign-in book. It is noted to sign in and identify what you were looking for. You then wait until you are greeted by "Follow me!". This is the typical 'no nonsense' reception for every visitor, potential buyer or not..

After touring my C1 pole barn, which is one of several pole barns each dedicated to specific models, and viewing several of the 'jelly beans' my potential buyer was asked "Are you here to buy, if not, you are wasting my time?" The potential buyer responded "That is not the question! The question is **Are you prepared to sell a C1?**". The seller responded "No games! What are you interested in?"

The buyer, who had passed me several time without stopping, gave me a through look each time. This potential buyer had noted a beautiful silver blue '62, (not my favorite color!) but, was told, "It is sold!" He then spotted a red 1961, but the paint was just OK, not to his liking. Following the "No games!" response, the potential buyer turned and point to me, the only '57 in the bunch and said, "Let's talk about the 1957 'Fuelie'." Finally, the first real expression of interest; .an admirer; I was elated.

I could hardly keep from blowing my horn and I tried not to blush, but the Shoreline Beige cove gave me away. A two weeks later, I was off-loaded at 30120 Lincolnshire E, Beverly Hills, MI. Yes! Beverly Hills Music to my California ears.

" AAAH!!, Beverly Hills, Home at last!" I would hope this will inspire your C1 to tell its story.

**Welcome to the Michigan Chapter
SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB**



Michigan Chapter SACC Membership or Renewal Application - New ___ Renewal ___ Yr. ___
Michigan Chapter Membership requires membership in the National SACC organization.

For record keeping: MI SACC collects both National and Chapter dues and submits your National dues to SACC National.

	1 year	3 years
Michigan Chapter SACC dues @ \$15.00 a year:	\$15.00.	\$40.00
Michigan Chapter SACC windshield decals: ___ decals @ \$5.00 each:	_____	_____
National SACC yearly dues, renewable December 1st :	\$45.00 *	\$130.00*
	Total : _____	_____

*SACC National and MI SACC offer one year or three year dues options.

Chapter dues include our quarterly Chapter Newsletter "Michigan"

National Membership includes the quarterly magazine "On Solid Ground"

SACC National publishes an annual membership & roadside assistance roster. The roster contains names, phone numbers, city & state, but no street address. It also has a field to indicate that you are willing to help if a traveling SACC member needs roadside assistance in your area.

If you do not want your name listed in the roster initial here: _____

If you do not want to participate in the road side assistance program initial here: _____

FAILURE TO INITIAL ABOVE INDICATES YOUR PERMISSION TO BE LISTED IN THE ROSTER.

If you are a new member: SACC National will send you a National membership number separately.

If you are an existing National member please insert your National membership # _____

Please make checks payable to: MI SACC and mail to: **Paul Lemieux**
MI SACC Treasurer
403 Loris Lane
Oxford, MI 48371

Questions: contact Paul Lemieux > jpvet9@gmail.com

Applicant Name _____ Co-Applicant: _____

Address _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone _____ Work/Cell: _____

E-Mail _____ Fax: _____

Corvettes presently owned - please include the VIN # for all C-1's

I will enjoy participating in these club activities: Driving tours ___ Get away weekends ___
 Museum tours ___ Historic site/shop tours ___ Car Shows ___ Tech sessions ___ Race events ___
 Newsletter Contributions ___ Tour/Event Planning ___ Other _____

I would be interested in attending the planning meeting Yes ___ No ___

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I am currently a member of the following automotive clubs/organization _____

Visit our website: www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com

**Michigan Chapter SACC
2023 Volunteers**

President: **Bill Huffman**
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Solid Axle Corvette Club

The Solid Axle Corvette Club is for enthusiasts who drive and show America's first sports car., our beloved C1's. The Solid Axle Corvette Club invites you to share our enthusiasm and dedication to the Solid Axle Corvettes, and to enjoy the fellowship of our members.

SACC is the initials of the Solid Axle Corvette Club. So, just what is a solid axle Corvette? The rear axle housing on all 1953 to 1962 Corvettes was a one-piece shell. The rear differential (rear gears) and the axles were mounted within this rear axle housing. (The rear axle housing is sometimes called a solid [or straight] axle housing.)

Beginning with the 1963 model year, Corvettes had an independent rear suspension (IRS). The rear differential is built into the center housing: universal joints and short shafts (called jack shafts) transfer power to the rear wheels. Each rear wheel reacts independently to the road surface, and has earned the nickname "rubber axle".

The Solid Axle Corvette Club (SACC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, care, history, and enjoyment of the 1953 to 1962 Corvettes. Ours is a family oriented club with membership covering all members of your family. You do not need to own a Corvette to join.

Road Rules

The *Michigan* is the quarterly newsletter for the Michigan Chapter of the Solid Axle Corvette Club and is published four times yearly (Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter). It is published in PDF format, and e-mailed to members in good standing.

Membership in the Michigan Chapter is open **only** to members of the parent organization, the Solid Axle Corvette Club. The Solid Axle Corvette Club is a non-profit organization, serving members with an interest in 1953—1962 model year Corvettes. Ownership of a Solid Axle or any Corvette is not necessary to become a member of the organization.

The newsletter provides a forum for members to communicate with other members. As a result, the newsletter will often contain member opinions. Those opinions should not be construed as an endorsement by Michigan SACC or the parent organization, SACC.

Direct Questions to:

National SACC Membership Chairman

Lucy Badenhoop, SACC NATIONAL
P.O. Box 2288
N. Highlands, CA 95660-8288
badenhoop@comcast.net

Michigan membership dues, inquiries and corrections to the address list should be directed to the Treasurer:

Paul Lemieux
403 Loris Lane
Oxford, MI 48371
jplvet9@gmail.com

Membership renewal and application form on page 9

Please submit articles for publication to the editor.

Generally, articles for publication should follow the broad theme of anything of interest to the Solid Axle Corvette community". Suggested items for publication would include how-to articles, parts information, performance issues, scheduled events, restoration or repair information, and personal stories.

The Michigan Newsletter editor can be reached at:

Dave Ruby, Editor
Michigan Chapter of SACC
30120 Lincolnshire E.,
Beverly Hills, MI 48025
cell: 248-514-2677
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