Michigan

"Where it all began"



Volume 15 Issue 1

Dates to Remember

SACC dues > National and Chapter were due Dec. 1
May 3, 2025 Spring Meeting
11:30 am—2:00 pm
Brookshire Inn, Williamston, MI
Hope to see you all there

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Don't forget our website www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com



From President's Laptop April 2025

Michigan Chapter members,

Daylight Savings Time is here and the spring equinox has arrived. The robins and chipmunks have returned and the buds are out. The temperature is above freezing so Corvette driving season must be fast approaching.

I have heard that most of you snowbirds are about to load up and start home now. Come on home so you can avoid any more of the storms & tornados hitting the southern states the past few weeks.

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." In early March, trying to liberate my 2001 S-10 P/U from the pole barn, it would have started OK but was blocked by my all electronic 2005 Corvette with another dead cell battery (this is the fourth time since I bought it in 2010). There is not much worse than a 3500 pound boat anchor with a 10 V battery. C-1s are much less complicated to live with.

First event is our **Spring Membership Meeting at 11:30- 2 PM on Sat, May 3rd** at the **Brookshire Inn in Williamston, MI**Brookshire Inn & Golf Club - (brookshiregolfclub.com) where we will select Michigan Chapter events for this driving season.

The only other event already on the calendar is the 2025 SACC National Convention that will be held Aug 2-4, 2025 at Sacramento, CA. Details are in the Spring 2025 "On Solid Ground".

Looking forward to 2025, the Michigan Chapter Board is putting a lot of effort into what we believe will continue to be a fun series of events that we named the Michigan Lighthouse Tour. We welcome your involvement in planning if you live in or close to any of the tour segments. Local information is invaluable.

As we continue with each tour segment, 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. In case you missed it, we also had a nice write-up in the Spring 2025 "On Solid Ground".

Please join us at the Spring Membership Meeting on Sat, May 3, 2025.

Remember, every mile of seat time is a good memory! Bill Huffman, Pres. Michigan Chapter SACC

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2025 MISACC Events

2025 SACC CONVENTION

by Lucy Badenhoop

SACC's 2025 convention will be in Sacramento California on 2-3-4 August just before Hot August Nights in Reno Nevada, only 100 miles away. Check HAN website for separate arrangements. Details and contracts for the SACC convention are still being worked out, so a registration form will not be available until the February issue. However, you can plan on T-shirts with a 1955 Corvette theme, but I need pictures of your 1955 Corvette for the artist to design it. Please send the 1955 Corvette pictures by the end of November 2024 to Badenhoop@comcast.net and make them a separate file attachment, not embedded inside the email.

The venue is a jewel of the former Officer's Club and visiting officer's quarters (VOQ) refurbished by the new owner after McClellan Air Force Base was closed around 2000. It has easy highway access but is secluded and very private for our cars (including a security RV for nights). Room rates include a breakfast buffet (one queen \$109 or two queen beds \$129, plus tax & fees). That contract has been signed and reservations can be made now if you send me an email, I'll provide the online link.

The schedule may be modified as more contracts are signed, but count on the following activities.

2 Aug Sat

9 AM National Board Meeting - O'Club

1 PM Chapter Meeting

5 PM Welcome Reception



3 Aug Sun

Tech Sessions and/or sightseeing 9 AM-10:45 AM Tech Session 11AM-12:45 PM Tech Session Sightseeing in/near Old Sacramento Tour of Underground Sac

> Sutter's Fort California State Capitol Crocker Art Museum

California Auto Museum River front, boardwalks &

cobble streets

RailRoad Museum Train Ride

6 PM supper at special venue (Delta King paddle boat, steam train or 1950s diner)

4 Aug Mon

9 AM road tour of Gold Country (Sierra Nevada foothills)

12 noon lunch at an original Pony Express Station

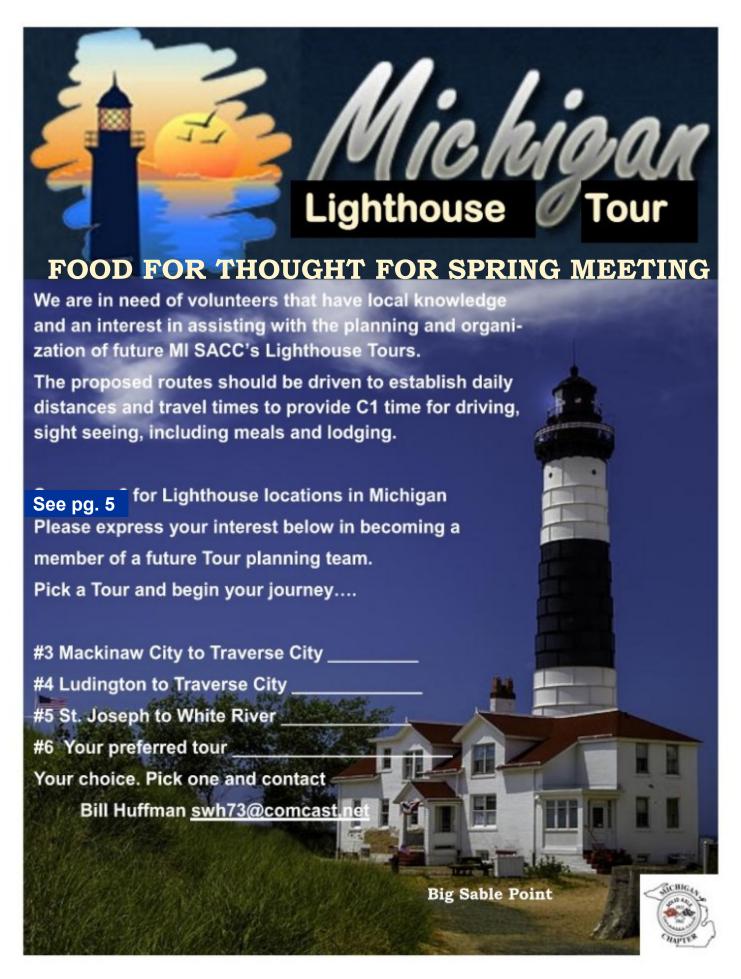
1-4 PM more road tour & sightseeing

6 PM Social Hour (no host bar) in the O'Club

7 PM Banquet & Annual Member Meeting in the O'Club

Bring the family for some living history lessons. The Sacramento region is a historical treasure for the "old west" migration about 200 years ago. The city was a major railroad center and a shipping port for river traffic from San Francisco. The air base venue has an aeronautical museum. Sacramento was also the Western end of the Pony Express Trail that started in St. Joseph Missouri. The distance of 1960 miles was covered in ten days and is re-enacted every June by volunteers carrying real mail with a special stamp. SACC members who register for the SACC convention by 30 April 2025 will receive a letter carried on horseback in the June 2025 re-ride.

The road tour on the last day of the convention will explore the Sierra Nevada foothills that sparked the gold rush and the mountain pass that was a portion of the Pony Express Trail. So, plan the trip now and register early so you can get the best selection on the hotel rooms, the T-shirts and the Pony Express letter.



* MICHIGAN LIGHTHOUSES ISLE ROYALE Lighthouses and navigation lights circle the Great Lakes. This map shows only lights in Michigan. < 000 Open to the public on a Offers a Open to the public Grounds, pier open, but buildings closed **KEY TO** Bed-andon a regularly scheduled basis lighthouse breakfast to the public SITES: limited schedule to the public keeper program Lake Superior Whitefish Bay St. Mary's River -DIOTES. Georgian Bay 1. Detroit River 2. Grosse Ile North Channel Front Range 3. Mariners Memorial 4. Tri-Centennial State 55. Frankfort North Breakwater Park 5. William Livingstone 56. Manistee North Memorial Pierhead 57. Big Sable Point 6. Windmill Point Grand 7. Lake St. Clair 58. Ludington North Traverse 47/48 8. Lake St. Clair Old South Breakwater Bay Channel Front 59. Little Sable Lake Lake 9. Lake St. Clair Old South 60. White River Michigan Huron Channel Rear 61. Muskegon South 10. St Clair Flats Canal Breakwater Green 62. Muskegon South Range Front Bay 11. Peche kland Rear Range Pierhead 63. Grand Haven Pier Inner 12. Huron Lightship 64. Grand Haven Pier Outer 13. Ft. Gratiot 65. Holland Harbor 14. Port Sanilac 15. Harbor Beach 66. South Haven South 100. Grand Island East Pierhead 16. Pointe aux Barques 67. St. Joseph North Pier 17. Port Austin Reef Channel 18. Saginaw River Inner 101. Grand Island North 68. St. Joseph North Pier Light 102. Grand Island Harbor 234 Rear Range 19. Charity Island Outer 20. Gravelly Shoal 69. Menominee North Rear Range 21. Tawas Point Pierhead 103. Marquette Harbor €0: 22. Sturgeon Point 104. Presque Isle Harbor 70. Sand Point 23. Alpena Harbor 71. Escanaba Crib Breakwater Saginaw 24. Thunder Bay Island 72. Point Peninsula 105. Granite Island Bay 25. Middle Island Peninsula to the 106. Stannard Rock 26. Presque Isle Rear Range park entrance 107. Big Bay Point 27. Presque Isle Front Range 73. Minneapolis Shoal 108. Huron Island 109. Sand Point 74. Poverty Island 28. Presque Isle Old 0 29. Presque Isle New 75. St. Martin Island 110. Keweenaw Lower 30. Forty Mile Point 76. Manistique East Entrance 31, Poe Reef Breakwater 111. Portage River 77. Seul Choix Pointe 32. Cheboygan Main 33. Fourteen Foot Shoal (tacobiville) 78. Squaw Island 112. Mendota (Bete Gris) 79. Lansing Shoal 113. Manitou Island 34. Cheboygan Crib 35. Cheboygan Front Range 80. St. Helena Island 114. Gull Rock 115. Copper Harbor 36. Old Markinac Point 81. Wayvatam St. Clati 82. Round Island Passage 116. Copper Harbor Front 37. McGulpin Point 83. Round Island 38. Waugoshance Range 39. White Shoal 84. Bois Blanc Island 117, Copper Harbor Rear Range 118. Eagle Harbor Rear 40. Grays Reef 85. Martin Reef 86. Spectacle Reef 41. Ile aux Galets (Skillagalee) 87. Detour Reef Range 42. St. James Harbor 88. Pipe Island 119. Eagle Harbor Lake 43. Beaver Island 89. Round Island 120. Eagle River 90. Lower Nicolet Range 121, Sand Hills 44. Little Traverse Detroit 45. Petoskey Pierhead 91. Frying Pan Island 122. Keweenaw Upper 46. Charlevoix South 92. Point Iroquois Entrance 123. Fourteen Mile Point Pierhead 93. Whitefish Point 47. South Fox Island Old 94. Crisp Point 124. Ontonagon 95. Grand Marais Front 125. Ontonagon West 48. South Fox Island New Lake Erie 49. Old Mission Point Range Pierhead 50. Grand Traverse 96. Grand Marais Rear 126. Rock of Ages 51, North Manitou Shoal Range 97. Au Sable Point 127. Isle Royale (Menagerie Island) 52. South Manitou Island 53. Manning Memorial 98. Munising Front Range 128. Rock Harbor 99. Munising Rear Range 129. Passage Island 54. Point Betsie

To all of our Corvette Friends,

What started as a simple gathering—just parking, chatting with friends, and raising money for Open Hands Food Pantry—has grown into something truly special. As costs rose, I knew we had to evolve to make an even bigger impact. We took things up a notch at 2024 M1 Concourse, adding food trucks, a DJ, guest speakers, and another local charity. The result? An unforgettable experience!

2025 is going even further:

Exclusive Displays - A 1965 working Corvette chassis and a real Indy Pace Car

Coker Tire and Corvette Central just said they will be here.

Special Corvette Parking - Dedicated areas for Custom & Modified Corvettes

Seminars & Racing Displays – Meet Corvette owners who build and race their own Corvettes on the track and in autocross. They'll share their experiences and expertise in our seminar sessions.

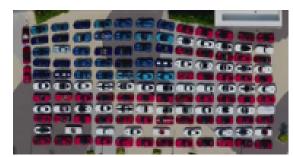
Entertainment – More vendors, a DJ, a beer garden, PAWS, and a magician.

Commemorative Keepsakes – Dash plaques & an event booklet for all attendees, plus a special Challenge Coin for those participating in our American Flag display!

Calling All Red, White & Blue Corvettes!

We're creating a massive American flag made entirely of Corvettes! If you own a red, white, or blue Corvette, we'd love for you to be part of this special tribute. Those who participate will receive a commemorative Challenge Coin as a token of appreciation.

But at its core, this event is about giving back. Every dollar raised goes directly to Open Hands Food Pantry and Checkered Flag Challenge. Cash Donations Matter More Than Ever



Open Hands Food Pantry in Royal Oak was our first charity partner. Twenty years ago, their annual budget was just \$7,000—today, it's over \$100,000, helping more than 20,000 people! They've asked us to focus on cash donations instead of food because they can purchase more at a lower cost through Gleaners, ensuring consistent, high-quality food packages for those in need.

Expanding Our Impact

When I moved Corvettes on Woodward to M1 Concourse, I also partnered with the Checkered Flag Challenge, the philanthropic arm of M1 Concourse. This initiative supports M1 Mobility, providing much-needed transportation solutions for Pontiac residents—because in Pontiac, there's no official program to help those without reliable transportation.

How You Can Help

Over the last 20 years, Verna and I—along with our incredible Corvette friends—have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to support those in need. I understand that charity isn't for everyone, and that \$40 might not fit everyone's budget. That's okay.

But putting on an event of this scale takes time and money—for the venue, insurance, tents, stage, security, printing, and more. Thanks to M1 Concourse, Corvette Central, Les Stanford Chevrolet, Verna, and me, the costs are covered. All you have to do is show up, enjoy the day, and know that you made a difference.

If this event isn't for you, we understand. But if you do attend, we promise an unforgettable day—with incredible Corvettes, great people, and a chance to give back.

We appreciate your support and look forward to another amazing year!

Registration is now open on the M1 Concourse website

Corvettes on Woodward Wednesday, August 13

M1 Concourse, Pontiac Michigan

To register M1 Concourse.com Events, scroll down to Woodward Dream Festival. Corvettes on Woodward

See you there!

Larry & Verna Courtney

MichiganCorvetteEvents@gmail.com

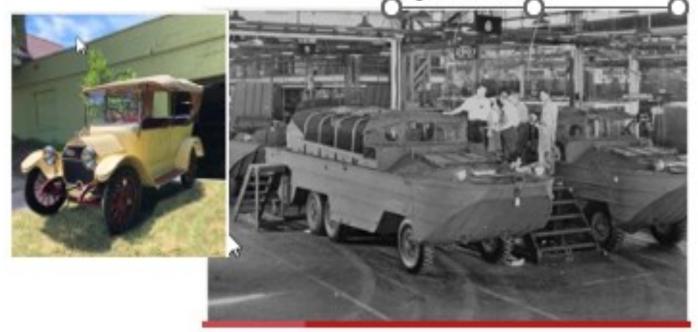




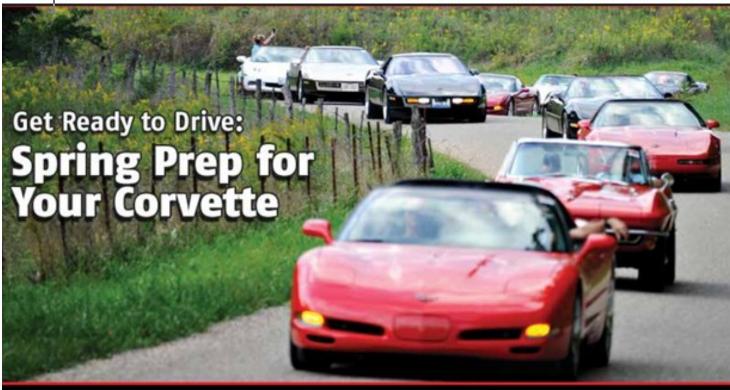
PONTIACTRANSPORTATIONMUSEUM.ORG



On the 1st Thursday of every month. Pontiac the new Transportation Museum presents a lecture about automotive history in Pontiac, MI. The subject of this Thursday's lecture is as listed in the link below. Their museum is open for free prior to the meeting They have a lot of vehicles on display that aren't GM Pontiacs but were built in Pontiac. The two previous lectures have been very interesting and educational. Feel free to pass this on to anyone that might be interested.







Whether you've endured snow, rain or just colder weather, it's time to start thinking about long, warm days on the open road. Planning and preparation in the early days of Spring will save you headaches and delays when it's time to hit the road. Mid America Motorworks gives you some tips on getting your Corvette ready to come out of hibernation.

Tires

If you have not put your Corvette on positioning jacks, be sure to move it periodically to reduce the tendency to of flat spots forming on the tires. Check the inflation of the tires and the spare, and adjust to the recommended tire pressure. It's a good idea to oil the spare tire brackets, bolt and lock now to prevent rust and highway frustration in case you get a flat tire and are unable to loosen parts. Make sure your Corvette's jack and jack handle are also in







Exhaust

Periodically start the engine and allow your Corvette to warm up to full operating temperature every 30 days, if not more often. The exhaust system will be heated up and any accumulated moisture will be burned out of the engine while its running. In addition, oil will be distributed to reduce the tendency of rust on internal surfaces. Fuel will be moved through the carb or fuel injection, which reduces the tendency of these systems to clog up from gasoline deposits. Engine heat will also dry out any electrical connections that may have drawn moisture, preventing those mysterious shorts and electrical failures due to corrosion on connectors. If your Corvette is stored outdoors, be sure to check the air cleaner for rodent nests prior to start-up.

You should also check the hangers and clamps to see if they need to be tightened or replaced. On cars equipped with O2 sensors, these should be checked for buildup or corrosion. These are simple to replace and are essential to the performance of your car.

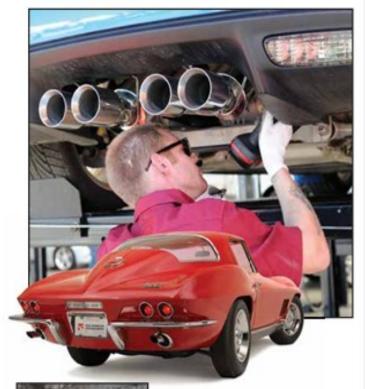
Brakes

If the roads are dry, try to drive your Corvette on a short trip or two. This will allow you to heat up the brakes and drive out any moisture. Pads may wear, but Corvette brakes rarely "wear out." Most of the time, brake system replacements are due to corrosion from moisture in the fluid. You can greatly extend the average life of the system by simply keeping the fluid fresh and moisture free.

Check the brake system. Examine brake calipers for leaks and pad condition. Be sure to check hoses and lines too. If the flex hoses look cracked or worn, be sure to get them replaced. The inner lining will often break down before the exterior wall fails. This can cause internal blockage and uneven braking. Now is a good time to bleed the brakes to remove old fluid and any water that may have entered the system. Don't forget to top up the master cylinder with fresh fluid.

Shocks

Take a look at the shocks. Are there any leaks or dented cylinders? How about the shock bushings? If these are cracked or worn, your Corvette's ride quality will suffer. While you are in this area, check the condition of the sway bar bushings and end link bushings. These must be in good shape in order for your Corvette to negotiate corners and curves as it was designed to do.













Battery



Be sure to check your battery. Clean the connections and give them a light coating of silicone grease to prevent corrosion. If your battery has caps, check the water level and add water as needed. Now is a good time to install a Battery Mat under the battery to neutralize any leakage or fumes. A trickle charger will keep the battery at full charge and will extend the life of the battery.

Interior

If you are not already using them, you may want to toss a few desiccant bags into the interior in order to remove any accumulated moisture. Mold and mildew can quickly damage an interior and a good looking ride should smell good, too!

Projects

Check your Corvette for items that need to be rebuilt or replaced prior to your first Spring cruise. Make a list of the Springtime projects you want to get done. Order the parts now to make sure that you have everything you need to complete the task. Now is the time to get that weak alternator or balky starter rebuilt. Check your service manual to see that you have all the necessary tools.

A little planning now will have your Corvette ready to roll out for miles of smiles.









Refresh & Renew A Benchtop Carb Rebuild to Prepare for Cruising Season

It's funny how some of the things we didn't think twice about doing when we were young can seem more intimidating later in life. For many rodders and car enthusiasts who came of age in the pre-EFI days, basic automotive tasks like replacing ignition points, setting valve lash, or a carb rebuild were fundamentals we learned in our teens. However, if we haven't revisited those procedures for several decades, they can feel a little foreign now.

At least that was the case when I recently set out to rebuild a carburetor. It was an old swap meet score with an uncertain history that had been sitting on a shelf for more than 15 years, so it only made sense to go through it before putting it to use. Fortunately, much like riding a bike, the rebuild process was fairly straightforward and simple, and felt pretty familiar once I dug in. Like anything, you just need to follow instructions and take things one step at a time.



Our carb rebuild subject was an old Carter AFB purchased years ago at a swap meet. The precursor to the Edelbrock Performer, the carb is a well-proven design that's simple to rebuild and adjust.

It helped that the subject at hand was an old Carter AFB – or Aluminum Four Barrel – a simple design that dates back to the 1960s. It was later the basis for the popular Edelbrock Performer – in fact, the rebuild kit came from Edelbrock. One nice thing about this carburetor design is its lack of vertical gasket surfaces, which helps minimize potential leaks. Primary metering is done with a jet and a vertically mounted needle suspended by a spring; the needle is raised and lowered into the jet (thereby adjusting fuel flow) based on engine vacuum. The metering rods and springs can be changed without taking the top off the carburetor, which simplifies some tuning processes.

One of the main goals of any carburetor rebuild is to thoroughly clean all the parts, removing carbon deposits, old varnished fuel, and general grime that can plug air and fuel passages and hinder performance. The carb rebuild kit consisted of fresh gaskets and a few wearable parts, like needles and seats. Thankfully, it also came with a selection of those little linkage retainer clips to replace the originals that often disappear during disassembly. Having instructions – and an exploded diagram of the carb – was helpful, but I still took reference photos during disassembly to help as needed when I put things back together.

As long as we're talking carburetors this month, I thought it made sense to share some highlights of this carb rebuild. It's a good reminder of one of those simple tasks most of us can tackle at home, and maybe it will inspire you to freshen up your fuel meter.



Removing eight screws was all it took to remove the top, also called an air horn. Note our plastic container to hold the fasteners and small parts we removed. We also took cell phone reference photos to help us later.



Getting everything clean is a primary goal. Small parts like the venturi assemblies were cleaned in a chemical dip canister (available at most auto parts stores). The main body and air horn were soaked in a tub of solvent to loosen up carbon deposits. Some spray carb cleaner helped with more stubborn spots.

5

CARB—continued on page 6



The rebuild kit included fresh gaskets, small wearable parts (needle and seat, pump discharge weight, etc.), and some small fasteners and other commonly replaced hardware.



While we did not replace the jets, we did remove, clean, and inspect them.



A new pump discharge ball, weight, and gasket were installed before screwing the cleaned pump jet housing back into place.





New gaskets from the rebuild kit were also used on the four venturi assemblies as they were screwed back in place.



The rebuild kit came with a new accelerator pump spring and plunger, but we ended up buying a new accelerator pump assembly, which is readily available.



Moving to the top (air horn), we installed the new brass seats (with supplied washers) for the needle-and-seat assemblies, plus a new gasket to seal the air horn to the main body.



CARB-continued on page 7



The new needle is then dropped into the seats, and the floats were attached using their original pins.



Following the rebuild instructions, we used a 7/16 drill bit to check and set the float level, and the supplied measuring square to check the float drop level. Levels can be adjusted by carefully bending the tab on the float lever.



The air horn assembly was then set back in place and secured using the eight attaching screws.



The two step-up piston springs, step-up pistons, and metering rods (which connect to the pistons with retainer springs) were then slid back into their shafts in the air horn and secured with cover plates.



We were thankful to have a few reference photos to consult when re-attaching the various pieces of linkage, like the accelerator pump arm and linkage. It was also helpful to have new clips from the rebuild kit.



We finished by installing the idle adjusting screws in the base of the body. As a rule of thumb, we started by turning the screws in until they were seated, and then backing them out 1.5-2 turns. We'll make final adjustments once the carb is on the engine and running.



Welcome to the Michigan Chapter SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB



Please include completed application with your dues renewal

Michigan Chapter SACC Membership or Re	enewal Application -	- New Renewal Yr
Michigan Chapter Membership requires me	embership in the Na	tional SACC organization.
For record keeping: MI SACC collects National and Cl	hapter dues and submits	your National dues to SACC National. 1 year
SACC National Annual dues are		\$45.00
Michigan Chapter SACC dues are		\$15.00.
		TOTAL \$60.00
Chapter dues include our quarterly Chapter Newsletter "	Michigan"	
SACC National Membership includes the quarterly magazine "On Solid Ground"		поте:
If you are a new National member please insert your National membership		New members please send several pho-
Please make checks payable to: MI SACC and mail to:	Paul Lemieux MI SACC Treasurer 403 Loris Lane	tos of all your C1 Corvettes and a face shot of you (and your spouse, together, if you have one) to:
	Oxford, MI 48371	druby1938@gmail.com
Questions: contact Paul Lemieux > jplvet9@gmail.com	Oxiora, iiii 4007 i	
Applicant Name	Co-Applican	t:
Address		
City	s	tate:Zip:
Home phone	Work/Cell:	
E-Mail		
C1 Corvettes presently owned -		
Solid Axle VIN # 1	Yr Co	olor
Solid Axle VIN # 2	Yr Co	olor
I would enjoy participating in these club activi	ties:	
Driving tours Get away weekends	Continuation of L	ighthouse tours
Museum toursHistoric site/shop tours _	Car Shows	Tech sessions
Race events Newsletter Contributions	Tour/Event Plann	ning
Other comments or suggestions		
I would be interested in attending the spring p	lanning meeting Yes_	No
Signature:	Date:	
I am currently a member of the following autor	motive clubs/organiza	tion

Visit our website: www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com

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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

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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:

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