

# Michigan

“Where it all began”



Volume 13 Issue 4

## Dates to Remember

SACC dues > National and Chapter are due Dec. 1  
See page 19 for 2024 renewal application

*National membership is required  
to be a Chapter member*

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*Corvette Drag Racing See page 9*

Don't forget our website

[www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com](http://www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com)



## From President's Laptop

Aug/Sept 2023

Michigan Chapter members,

August was a busy month for members of SACC's Michigan Chapter.

The Troy Traffic Jam on Aug 6th, America's Corvette Show at Clarkston on Aug 12<sup>th</sup> where editor Dave Ruby's '57 fuelie took People's Choice, Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> Rockin Rods 'n Rochester, Woodward Dream Cruise on Aug 19th and Corvette Crossroads in Mackinaw City on Aug 26th were Michigan Chapter Club Events.

We just returned from Corvette Crossroads in Mackinaw City. This year, with the show returning downtown to the wharf next to the craft show & the Mackinaw Icebreaker Museum, the turnout of both Corvettes and casual spectators was the largest I have personally seen in many years. With the sunshine, 75-degree weather and a mild prevailing breeze off Lake Huron, it was a superb day.

In Stock C-1 class, SACC Member Ron Struck took first place with a black '62 w/red interior, our red/red '60 took 2<sup>nd</sup> and Paul & Cheryl Lemieux's 'white/red '59 took 3<sup>rd</sup>.

New SACC & MI SACC members Steve & MaryJane Gould joined us this year for their first Crossroads from Manistee in their recently purchased white/black '60. So, to Steve & MJ, congratulations on your successful durability/confidence run.

At our Spring Membership Meeting, we selected Paragon Open House as a club event for Sept 16<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, due to the merger of Corvette Central & Paragon by new owner, Legendary Sports, the Swarts Creek facility on Jennings Rd has been closed and operations moved to Sawyer, MI. **The Open House Event is Cancelled.**

Our **Saturday, September 30<sup>th</sup> Club Event** will be **Segment 1 of our Great Lakes Lighthouse Tour**. Segment 1 from Port Huron to Port Austin, we will start about 10 AM in Port Huron, have a 4.5 - 5 hour driving tour of approximately 200 miles, enjoying the Lake Huron's scenic coastline, plus lighthouses & rest stops, ending in Lapeer for dinner. There are 4 lighthouses (Numbered 109, 108, 106 & 105 in the tour guidebook) on this tour that we can have access to. The others are either private, under renovation or inaccessible.

### Here is the itinerary:

10 AM- Meet for breakfast at Bob Evans, 2190 Water St, Port Huron, MI.

11 AM- Caravan to Lightship Huron Museum, 800 Prospect Place at Pine Grove Park to begin tour.

**Balance of schedule is based on time spent at various lighthouses. Assume ½ Hour min for each.**

Enclosed in the following pages are pictures and description of the 4 lighthouses, a map showing their approximate location in the state plus info regarding distance between stops and a state map of the highlighting the tour route. Since I do not drive the '60 at night, we will spend the night at a Hotel on Saturday night and drive home Sunday. Sounds like a great weekend to me!

**Those in the Detroit Metro area may make it a same day event and be home before nightfall.**

Please note:

If you would like to participate in this event, Paul Lemieux **must have your response** for Dinner YES or NO

Lodging YES or NO

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

Bill Huffman, Pres.



**Don't forget our website: [www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com](http://www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com)**



### **Lighthouse Tour (4.5 to 5 hours driving tour)**

**10:00 am** Bob Evans for breakfast on Water Street, Port Huron

**11:00 am** Leave to visit #109 Lightship Huron south on M-25S

**If you do not wish to eat breakfast, the tour will begin at 11:15 at #109 Lightship Huron**

**#109 Lightship Huron Museum** at Pine Grove Park, was the last lightship on the Great Lakes and is now open to the public from April through mid-December. Contact the museum for specific times and hours of operation. Lightships were like floating lighthouses anchored in areas where it was too deep, expensive or impractical to construct a lighthouse. Huron lightship was stationed at various shoals on Lake Michigan until 1935 when she was transferred to Corsica Shoals in Lake Huron.

**#108 Fort Gratiot Lighthouse** is the first lighthouse in the state of Michigan, was constructed north of Fort Gratiot in 1829 by Lucius Lyon, who later became one of Michigan's first U.S. Senators.

**#107 Port Sanilac Lighthouse** is privately owned > will not be on the tour

**#106 Harbor Beach** is a "sparkplug lighthouse" located at the end of the north breakwall entrance to the harbor of refuge on Lake Huron.

**#105 Pointe aux Barques Lighthouse** ranks among the ten oldest lighthouses in Michigan. It is an active lighthouse maintained by the US Coast Guard on Lake Huron.

**Then proceed to Lapeer for dinner via M25– M24 to Lapeer**

**RSVP for dinner a week in advance to Paul Lemieux, in addition, if you plan on joining the tour at #109 or elsewhere please advise Paul.**

**Tour related questions:**

**Please contact Paul Lemieux ASAP [jplvet9@gmail.com](mailto:jplvet9@gmail.com)**



# MISACC Lighthouse Tour Part One > #109 to #105



## #109 Huron Lightship



The HURON Lightship was the last operating lightship on the Great Lakes and served for over 50 years when she was retired in 1970. She is permanently moored on the banks of the St. Clair River in Pine Grove Park.

## #108 Fort Gratiot Light

Fort Gratiot Light, the first lighthouse in the State of Michigan, was constructed north of Fort Gratiot in 1829 by Lucius Lyon, who later became one of Michigan's first U.S. Senators.



## #106 Harbor Beach Light



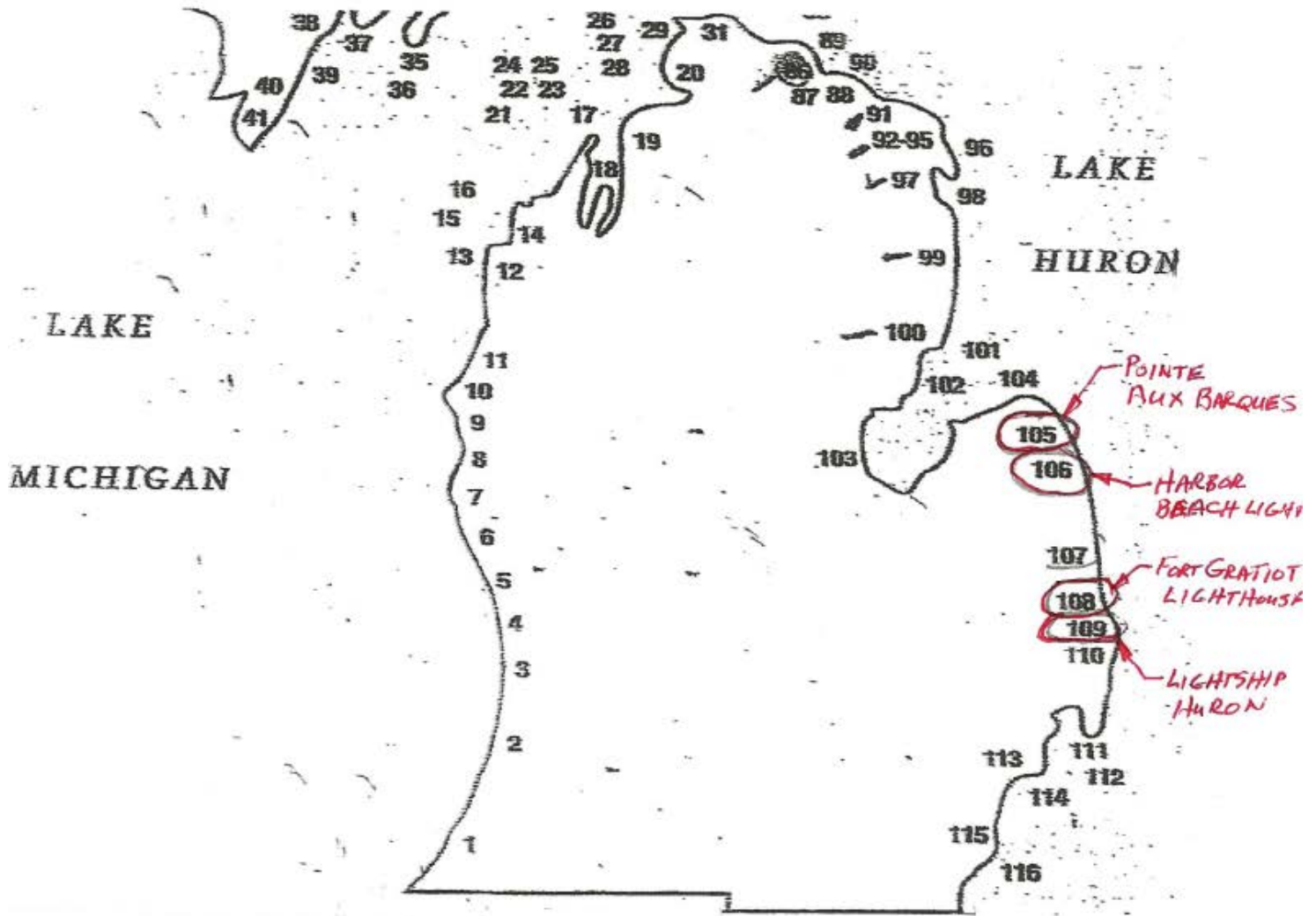
The Harbor Beach Lighthouse is a "fireplug", was built and began to shine its light over the lake in 1885. The outer shell of the lighthouse is made of cast iron. Brick and plaster line the inner walls. The lighthouse is unique because of its six decks with rooms. It can be toured on Saturdays throughout the summer. The tour cost is \$20 which includes a short boat ride to and from the lighthouse, tour of the lighthouse and the Girce House Museum.

## #105 Pointe aux Barques Light

The original Pointe aux Barques Lighthouse was constructed of stone taken from the shore of Lake Huron in 1848. The keeper's house and separate tower were located on a three-acre clearing hacked out of the dense wilderness.

By 1857, the ravages of shoreline weather and a fire in the interior of the house created the need for a new structure. The new keeper's house and attached 89-foot tower were built of the finest brick available. The light is still an active aid to navigation, making Pointe aux Barques one of the oldest continuously operating Lights on the Great Lakes.





10am Those wanting breakfast meet at Bob Evans @2190 Water St, Port Huron

11am All meet at #109 Lightship Huron Museum 800 Prospect Place at Pine Grove Park for the beginning of the tour.

Balance of schedule is based on time spent at Lighthouses

#108 Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, 2802 Omar St. is about 2 miles north on M25

#107 Port Sanilac Lighthouse is privately owned ( we are not going to stop here) but Lexington Park which is 26 + miles from the last lighthouse is a good scenic view stop

#106 Harbor Beach Light, there is another scenic stop 13 miles after Port Sanilac then continue 18 miles to Harbor Beach

#105 Pointe Aux Barques Lighthouse, this house is 14 miles north of the last house

Continue driving M25 43 miles to Unionville take M24 South to Lapeer

Reference page 19 of the June/July Newsletter for additional details



# Solid Axle Corvette Club Michigan Chapter 2023 Events Information

**Gilmore Car Museum Corvette/Camero**, Hickory Corners, MI – Sunday, July 16, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Pre-registration required online** and cost is \$20 per vehicle, which includes admission for the driver and one guest. Participant gate open from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Questions: contact [jronayne33@gmail.com](mailto:jronayne33@gmail.com)

**Champion: John Ronayne**

**Troy Traffic Jam Classic Car Show**, Columbia Center, Troy, MI – Troy Historical Society,

Sunday, August 6. In order to park together, there is an area for clubs to meet up and drive in at the same time.

Questions, contact Joe Feko [jfeko@wowway.com](mailto:jfeko@wowway.com)

**Champion: Joe Feko.**

**Corvettes America Car Show**, Everest Collegiate High School and Academy, Clarkston, MI – Saturday, August 12, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Proceeds from the silent auction are donated to local charitable organizations.

[Corvette America Show - America's Corvette Club \(americascorvetteclub.org\)](http://americascorvetteclub.org)

Questions contact: [choochoooharry@comcast.net](mailto:choochoooharry@comcast.net)

**Champion: Harry Jones.**

**Woodward DreamCruise**

**Champion: Dave Ruby**

NCRS invitation to MI SACC join them in downtown Birmingham on August 19, 2023

**Corvette Crossroads**, Mackinaw City, MI - Saturday, August 26, 2023 starting at 9:00 a.m. –

*(Note: Weekend trip – travel up Friday, return Sunday or Monday; suggest reservations at Riviera Motel, phone 231-436-5577 or [www.shawdowofthebridge.com](http://www.shawdowofthebridge.com).)*

MISACC block of rooms are spoken for. Presently, the Huffmans, Lemieuxs, Rubys, and Ronaynes, are planning a caravan to the event. Location; Saturday 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Mackinac Island Ferry Co. parking lot (Straits State Harbor) 409 S. Huron Ave. Mackinac Bridge Parade 7:00 pm

Questions? Contact Bill at [swh73@comcast.net](mailto:swh73@comcast.net)

**Champions: Bill Huffman**

**Paragon Reproductions Open House > CANCELLED**

**PARAGON IS GONE All goods and services are now available at Corvette Central**

**Lighthouse Tour Part 1 Sept. 30**

**See pages 3 thru 6 for complete Tour info**

Breakfast at Bob Evans, (I69 Exit 274 A-B on Water Street) Port Huron, leave for #109 Lightship Huron on M-25 just south of I 69 then proceed North on M-25 to last lighthouse is #105 Pointe Aux Barques in Port Austin. We will take M-25 to M –24 to Lapeer for dinner. Presently, six couples have expressed interest. RSVP for dinner to Paul ASAP

**Contact Paul Lemieux at [jplvet9@gmail.com](mailto:jplvet9@gmail.com) for times, meal reservations**

**Please advise Paul Lemieux if you are interested ASAP**

**Champion: Paul Lemieux**

**Fall Color Tour:– TBD October 7-8 or 14-15.**

**Champions: John & Kandy Ronayne**

**MISACC Christmas Lunch**, Location TBD - Saturday, December 3, 2022



## MI SACC EVENT CALENDAR

<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>CHAMPION</b>
May 31– June 3	SACC National Convention	Bloomington, IL	B HUFFMAN
July 16	Gilmore Corvette/Camero	Hickory Corners, MI	J RONAYNE
August 6	Troy Traffic Jam	Columbia Center, Troy	J FEKO
August 12	Corvettes America Car Show	Clarkston, MI	H JONES
August 19	Woodward DreamCruise	Birmingham, MI	D. RUBY
August 26—27	Corvette Crossroads	Mackinaw City, MI	P LEMIEUX
CANCELLED	Paragon Open House	Swartz Creek, MI	B HUFFMAN
Sept. 30	Lighthouse Tour 1	Port Huron. MI	P LEMIEUX
Oct 7-8 or 14-15	Annual Color Tour	Dexter, MI	J RONAYNE
Dec 2	Christmas Luncheon	TBD	B HUFFMAN



**Don't forget our website**

**[www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com](http://www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com)**





Note from MI SACC member Jim Dillon ([jim@dillonreo.com](mailto:jim@dillonreo.com)):

I just finished a book on Corvette drag racing and it is up for sale on Amazon.

It covers the years 1961-1981 which I refer to as the golden era. It is 223 pages with 450 pictures, many of which are Solid Axle cars. It is entitled *Corvette Drag Racing: The Golden Era*.

It has a cover price of \$39.95 but Amazon has it listed for \$31.86.

As you may know, no one has ever written a book on Corvette drag racing and I felt it was about time. I would bet there are a few guys in the club that have some interest in drag racing.

Once anyone sees the book on Amazon they can take a look inside at a couple of pages. I am including the cover art.

Take care, Jim



Jim Dillon's 1962



## President's Message

*I hope everyone has enjoyed the events we have had to date and look forward to seeing you at our picnic July 15th.*

*It is with great sadness that I report my 1961 Jewel Blue/White Corvette caught fire and burned to the ground in May. It is a total*

*loss and can't be salvaged. It was the love of my life and I'm so sad this happened.*

*Dennis Conte* President, SACC, Red River Chapter



Dennis and his C1 attended the 2019 Convention

## OFFICIAL CONVERSION CHART

### When Interpreting Antique Car Ads

IF IT SAYS:	IT REALLY MEANS:
Rare Model	Nobody liked them when they were new
Older Restoration	Can't tell it's been restored
Needs Engine Work	It's been frozen for 30 years
Used Oil	Just throws it out
No Rust	Body & fenders missing
Rough	It's too bad to lie about
One Owner	Never been able to sell
No Time To Complete	Can't find parts anywhere
Needs Interior	Seats are gone
May Run	But it never has
Low Mileage	Third time around
May Need New Parts	Keeps breaking down
29 Coats of Paint	Needs that much to cover rust
Clean	It sat out in the rain yesterday
Best Offer	About what I expect to get
Always Driven Slowly	Won't go any faster
Prize Winner	Hard luck trophy 3 times
Stored 25 Years	Under a tree
Real Show Stopper	Orange/Purple fenders
Easy Restoration	Parts will come off in your hands
Ready To Show	Just washed it
Top Good	Only leaks when it rains
Good Investment	Can't ever be worth less

**Question:** I have a 62 Corvette with a rear light problem. Changing the signal light position turns on and off the brake lights, when I hold the brake down. I can find a position about midway between up and down on the turn signal, when the brake lights work and another position slightly up or down, where just the driver's side works. When either signal side is active, the brake on that side is off (not sure if that is the way it was designed to work). I have done the following without success: replaced the rear wiring harness, replaced the turn signal harness (twice), ran separate ground wire for the rear harness, and ran a separated fuel tank ground wire. I only succeeded in stopping my fuel gage movement when the lights were activated.

**Answer from Doug Prince, SoCal Chapter Advisor:** This is a frequent problem with C1 Corvettes, although most of my experience has been with 58-62s. The first area of concern is usually the turn signal harness. All electrical to the rear of the car runs through this switch with the exception of the gas tank sender. You have an all-too-typical grounding problem, since you have already replaced the turn signal switch and the rear harness. Your problem probably lies with the rear tail light socket to housing ground as this connection becomes corroded overtime. I drill a very small hole between the tail light housing, where it meets the tail light socket, and screw in a small sheet metal screw between the two. This will create a proper ground for the tail light housing and the tail light socket. Since we are dealing with a fiberglass car, grounds are very important for proper electrical function. Good luck with this problem but this should solve it for you.

**Answer from Chip Werstein, SoCal Chapter Advisor:** Although grounding could be a problem, my guess is that your canceling cam assembly is worn out (you did not indicate that you replaced it) and/or your turn signal cup is loose.



## Best of the Bowties - Corvette & Camaro Show

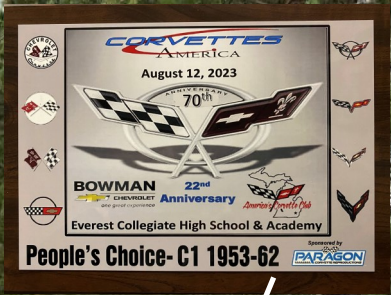


Bill Huffman —1960 Corvette



Tom Gamache—1954 Corvette





Joe Feko—1961 Corvette

Harry Jones  
1960 Corvette

Dave Ruby —1957 Corvette



Joe Feko —1961 Corvette



Harry Jones —1960 Corvette



DOWNTOWN ROCHESTER

23rd Annual

# Rockin' Reds n' Rochester



Ram's Horn  
Restaurant & Bar

August 13, 2023



CEDEARBROOK  
SENIOR LIVING  
ROCHESTER

Proceeds to Benefit Leader Dogs for the Blind and other Lions Charities

## Dream Cruise Warmup

**Awards** in classes for Custom Cars, Hot Rods, Muscle, Specialty Vehicles, Pro Street, Street Rod, Pre-1950 Classic, 50's Classic, 60's Classic, 70's Classic, 1980-2000, 2001-present, Corvette '53-'67, Corvette '68-'96, Corvette '97-2013, Corvette 2014 to present, Sports Car, Vintage, Truck & Motorcycles (vintage)

Proceeds to Benefit: *Leader Dogs for the Blind*™

And other Lions charities



Harry Jones — 1960 Corvette

Dave Ruby — 1957 Corvette

# Berkley CruiseFest Friday Aug. 18, 2023



# Woodward **DREAM CRUISE**<sup>®</sup>



# Woodward **DREAM CRUISE**<sup>®</sup>





# Woodward **DREAM CRUISE**<sup>®</sup>



Dave Ruby—1957 Corvette  
among the Tri-Fives



# Corvette Crossroads 2023



Paul Lemieux —1959 Corvette

Bill Huffman —1960 Corvette



Bill Huffman

Paul Lemieux



34th Annual Corvette  
Crossroads Auto Show  
August 26, 2023

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

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 AND WILLINGNESS TO HELP 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 > [jplvet9@gmail.com](mailto:jplvet9@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](http://www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com)**

**Michigan Chapter SACC  
2023 Volunteers**

President: **Bill Huffman**  
2200 N Sandstone Road,  
Jackson, MI 49201  
swh73@comcast.net

Vice Pres: **Tom Gamache**  
45451 Augusta Drive,  
Canton, MI 48188  
tsgama22@comcast.net

Secretary: **Cheryl Lemieux**  
403 Loris Lane  
Oxford, MI 48371  
cherylleieux9@gmail.com

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

Editor: &  
2nd V. Pres. **Dave Ruby**  
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Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
druby@comcast.net

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2056 Fox Glen Court,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
choochooharry@comcast.net

Director-at-Large **John Ronayne**  
923 Penniman Avenue  
Plymouth, MI 48170  
jronayne33@gmail.com

# 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 3.

**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.,  
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cell: 248-514-2677  
druby@comcast.net

