

# Michigan

"Where it all began"



## 2019 MI SACC Chapter Announcement

Volume 9 Issue 1

The MI SACC convention planning committee has been very busy the past few months. We have Tadge Juechter, Chief Engineer, Chevrolet Corvette as our keynote speaker.

Cruises to Lingenfelter collection, Pratt Miller Racing, and the Henry Ford.

Visit to the GM Heritage Center with the possibility of being joined by Chevrolet Corvette engineers.

The year of the 1959 corvette'!!!!

### SACC

### National and

### SACC MI Dues

are due!!

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**2019 DUES  
were due by  
Dec. 1st. 2018  
See page 7  
for renewal**



# From the President's laptop

April 2019

Amazing how a little more sunshine lifts your spirits and reminds us that it's soon going to be convertible weather. Almost time to take the cover off, check the fluid levels, check the tires and fire them up.



This year is going to be extra special because..... The Michigan Chapter will be hosting the 2019 SACC National Convention in the Detroit Metro area. This will allow us to show off our cars on a big stage, close to home. Planning for our August 13-16, 2019 SACC National Convention is well underway with visits to Lingenfelter, Pratt & Miller Racing, the GM Heritage Museum, a Detroit River cruise, The Henry Ford Museum complex including Greenfield Village, the Rouge Plant tour & the Automotive Hall of Fame and concluding with a banquet that welcomes Corvette Chief Engineer Tadge Juechter as keynote speaker.

Following the convention, we have the Woodward Dream Cruise with NCRS in Birmingham. We truly believe this will be a unique opportunity and we need your participation to make this a success.

Stef & I have already registered for the 2019 SACC Convention and have registered for the NCRS Woodward Dream Cruise event on Sat, Aug 17.<sup>th</sup>. In case that's not enough excitement for you, since last year Michigan Chapter has been planning a C-1 caravan trip to Corvette Crossroads in Mackinaw City on Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> as a chill down after the convention.

Michigan Chapter's 2019 officers and club events will be selected at our Annual Membership Meeting held at 11:30 am at the Brookshire Inn, Williamston on April 27. We hope you are able to attend all of our 2019 events. Suggestions are always welcome for club events; so don't be shy.

If you like it, your fellow members would too. We look forward to seeing on April 27.

Bill Huffman, Pres.  
Michigan Chapter SACC



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

**Greetings to all Michigan SACC members  
from the 2019 MI SACC Board.**

# **Save This Date: April 27, 2019**

## **MiSACC Annual meeting**

**11:30 am at Brookshire Inn in Williamston, MI to elect club officers,  
to schedule events for 2019 and to finalize planning as  
the host chapter for the 2019 SACC Convention in the Detroit area.**

**Please contact Bill Huffman - [SWH73@comcast.net](mailto:SWH73@comcast.net) if attending**



**We are encouraging all SACC members to attend the April 27 membership meeting. We encourage all to become active in electing officers, as well as the planning and implementation of the events for the 2019 SACC Convention.**

**See our website for proposed activities and registration info.**

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







## 2019 SACC National Convention

Metro Detroit, Michigan Area

August 13-16, 2019

### **Activity Highlights**

*Hosted by Michigan Chapter SACC*



**Lingenfelter Collection** - Enjoy this impressive private collection of more than 150 unique cars in a 40,000 square foot space. Lunch will be provided on site. *This collection is not open to the public.*

**Pratt & Miller** - Pratt & Miller technology, products, and personnel have propelled Corvette Racing to the pinnacle of production-based sports car competition. Since 1999, Corvette Racing has won over 100 races worldwide and the team has won the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the world's biggest sports car race, an unprecedented eight times since 2001. The racing spirit is the power that drives Pratt & Miller Engineering - a world-class engineering powerhouse with a global footprint.

**GM Heritage Center** - This 81,000 square foot center showcases vehicles of the GM Heritage Collection, along with other artifacts on display. The vehicle displays frequently change and generally has more than 165 vehicles on display at a time. Each of these vehicles illustrates a design, technical or sales milestone or accomplishment in the history of General Motors or the automotive industry. We will have GM representatives on site to talk with and ask questions. *This venue is not open to the public.*

**GM Renaissance Center (RenCen)** - this landmark is the world headquarters of the General Motors Company. Be sure to check out the GM World vehicle display, the "Borealis" - the tallest vertical art glass sculpture in the world located in the North Lobby, the outdoor GM Plaza with a world map carved in granite and see the synchronized water fountain. Be sure to visit the shops in the GM Wintergarden, RenCen, and especially the GM Company Store to purchase GM collectibles. Walking east along the Detroit River, you'll be heading toward Rivard Plaza where the Cullen Family Carousel is located.

**Diamond Jack River Tour** - board the vessel for our chartered leisurely two-hour evening cruise with narration, presenting highlights of the Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, Canada skylines, along with historical anecdotes about both cities. Hopefully, we'll pass by a Great Lakes freighter along the way. Restrooms & snack bar available on board. **(Capacity limited for this river tour.)**

**The Henry Ford** - provides unique educational experiences based on authentic objects. Stories and lives from America's traditions of ingenuity, resourcefulness, and innovation. Step into a world where past innovations fuel the imagination of generations to come. A vibrant exploration of genius in all its forms, Henry Ford Museum allows you to experience the strides of America's greatest minds while fully immersing yourself in their stories. Step inside the bus where Rosa Parks took a stand by taking a seat. Play pilot as you explore flight innovations, starting with the Wright brothers' achievements, or make yourself at home inside Buckminster Fuller's circular Dymaxion House. Put yourself in the place of movers and shakers who blazed the trail to where we stand today.

**Greenfield Village** - experience a place where over 80 acres brim with resourcefulness and ingenuity. Where 300 years of American stories pulse with life. Step foot in the lab where Thomas Edison had his lightbulb moment. The Bagley Avenue shed recreated by Henry Ford to share the story of where he built his first car. Or the workshop where the Wright brothers taught us to reach for the sky. Discover our nation's most formative years - at the place where everything feels astonishingly real. Because it is.

**Ford Rouge Factory Tour** - Pop open the hood on game-changing technology, sustainable design and sheer American grit at America's greatest manufacturing experience. Get an inside look at the making of America's most iconic truck, the Ford F-150, and immerse yourself in modern manufacturing's most progressive concepts. Experience the awe-inspiring scale of a real factory floor as you rev up your inner engineer. This is where big ideas gain momentum.

**Automotive Hall of Fame** - Exhibit galleries with permanent and changing exhibits on the early days of the automobile, the rise of the auto industry around the globe, and the beauty of auto styling and how it has changed every part of our daily lives.

*This event is not pre-paid.*

*<https://www.thehenryford.org/visit/plan-your-visit>*

**Woodward Dream Cruise** (*This event is optional & arrangements can be made with Michigan NCRS*) - The Woodward Dream Cruise is the world's largest one-day automotive event, drawing 1.5 million people and 40,000 classic cars each year from around the globe—from as far away as New Zealand, Australia and Japan, to name a few. North American cruisers from California, Georgia, Canada and all points in between caravan to Metro Detroit to participate in what has become, for many, an annual rite of summer.

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





## 2019 SACC National Convention

Metro Detroit, Michigan Area

August 13-16, 2019

***Activity Highlights***

*Hosted by Michigan Chapter SACC*



COURTESY: GENERAL MOTORS

Tadge Juechter is chief engineer-Cadillac XLR & Chevrolet Corvette, at General Motors Co.; a position he has held since 2006. Juechter has been with Corvette since 1993. His role as Total Vehicle Systems Engineer on the C5 program involved him in all aspects of the creation of the 97MY Corvette. He was also instrumental in putting the C5 Corvette Z06 on the street. In 1999, Juechter was promoted to assistant chief engineer and he held that position throughout the Corvette C6 development and launch. He currently spends his time working on continuous improvement for current Corvette models, as well as planning next-generation features and technologies. Prior to his work on Corvette, Juechter has held a number of engineering positions in Manufacturing, Product Design, R&D, and Vehicle Development. He has been with General Motors since 1977. He holds a B.S. degree in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering from the University of Rochester (1979) and an MBA as a GM Fellow from Stanford University (1986).

Juechter didn't blink as the 2014 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray blitzed through a series of tight kinks on a California back road. One wild-eyed journalist after another was putting the coupe through its paces for the launch of the seventh-generation car, and Juechter was stuck in the right seat. No worries for the fifty-six-year-old engineer, for he had total trust in his machine. And make no mistake, the C7 is Juechter's machine. Only the fifth chief engineer in the Corvette's sixty-one-year history, he's likely to go down in the books as the one who got it right. For that he is Automobile Magazine's 2014 Man of the Year.

Corvette critics can be harsh, and those complaints are rarely unfounded. Some will contend that Chevy's engineers should not be applauded for simply fixing all the stuff that was wrong in previous versions. But Juechter's team did far more than finally bolt in decent seats: the C7 is a top-to-bottom reimagining of what the Corvette could and should be. The car is full of thoughtful engineering, from the seven-speed manual with rev matching that is engaged by using paddles to sensors that know when the tires are properly heated.

The Stingray is also a clear manifestation of what happens when a postbankruptcy General Motors gets out of its own way and allows an effective leader to oversee a dedicated team. "People probably think that everybody at GM rallies around the Corvette, but it's not like that," Juechter says. "The corporation is structured around mainstream vehicles, and the Corvette is idiosyncratic, which makes some people uncomfortable. Getting the right support is a constant negotiation." Juechter should know — he's been with the company since 1977 and has worked almost exclusively with Corvettes for the last twenty years, starting under then-chief Dave Hill. "It helps having worked on the C5 and C6," he jokes, "because you know where a lot of the land mines are."

Born in Laredo, Texas, as part of an Air Force family who frequently moved, he earned degrees in mechanical and aerospace engineering and an MBA at Stanford. Working for GM for two summers in college convinced him of one thing: he didn't want to work at GM. Today, he considers the term "GM lifer" a badge of honor.

Juechter certainly knew the importance of the C7's interior. "We put the interior designers on the track so they could understand what it's like to live in a 1-g environment, to have skin pushing on hard objects," he says. Distracting infotainment systems like Cadillac's Cue were also ixnayed.

Juechter is the most eloquent engineer we've ever met (and as an active runner, in the best shape, too), and he can be passionate about the Corvette in the way of a protective father. When former Automobile technical editor Don Sherman posited in our June 2010 issue that the C7 would have a "probable turbocharged V-6," Juechter took to a Corvette owners' gathering, angrily waving a copy of the magazine and saying, "Don't believe any of what you read — most of it will be wrong."

The 2014 Stingray's accolades aside, his team's work is hardly over, as they're in the throes of creating more powerful iterations of the Corvette. However, we'll refrain from conjecture about the next Z06 — or the Z07. We don't want to get yelled at again.

*Tadge Juechter's masterpiece, the 2014 Chevrolet Corvette Stingray, is Automobile Magazine's 2014 Automobile of the Year.*



# 07.18.19

## Next Generation Corvette Reveal Event



Chevrolet Corvette Chief Engineer Tadge Juechter and General Motors Chairman and CEO Mary Barra drive in a camouflaged next generation Corvette down 7th Avenue near Times Square Thursday, April 11, 2019 in New York, New York. The next generation Corvette will be unveiled on July 18. (Photo by Jennifer



General Motors Chairman and CEO Mary Barra and Corvette Chief Engineer Tadge Juechter inside a camouflaged next generation Chevrolet Corvette Thursday, April 11, 2019 in New York, New York. The next generation Corvette will be unveiled on July 18. (Photo by Todd Plitt for Chevrolet)

**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: jplvet9@gmail.com

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_ 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 assisting with the 2019 SACC Convention in the Detroit area Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_**

**Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

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

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

**Michigan Chapter SACC  
2018 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: **Sue & Dave Ruby**  
30120 Lincolnshire E.,  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
druby@comcast.net

Tech Advisor: **Harry Jones**  
2056 Fox Glen Court,  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304  
choochoooharry@comcast.net

Primary Business Address  
Address Line 2  
Address Line 3  
Address Line 4

# 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, 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.

**questions to:**

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 previous page.

**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 and Sue Ruby, Editor  
Michigan Chapter of SACC  
30120 Lincolnshire E.,  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
cell: 248-514-2677  
druby@comcast.net

**Direct National SACC Membership**

