

# Michigan

"Where it all began"



Volume 11 Issue 1

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## Dates to Remember

**SACC dues > National and Chapter  
are due Dec. 1**

**Please renew ASAP**

**See page 11 for renewal application**

**Michigan Chapter will be planning  
2021 activities assuming the Covid  
restrictions will be lifted soon.**

## 2021 SACC

## COVENTION NOTICE

**Tentative August 25-28, 2021**

**Host Hotel: Fairfield Inn & Suites  
Mechanicsburg, PA**

**See pages 3-6 for more info**

**Don't forget our website**

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



## From President's Laptop

January 2021



Happy New Year fellow Michigan Chapter members,

By the time you read this, Covid-19 vaccines should be three weeks into distribution so we're making progress. There is a light at the end of the tunnel and I don't believe it's a train. Looks like my first vaccine was scheduled this week. The 2021 SACC National Convention planning is full speed ahead for late August and resumption of Michigan Chapter club activities is hopefully just over the horizon.

Michigan Chapter Spring Membership Meeting has been scheduled for the Brookshire Inn in Williamston, MI on Sat, 24 April, 2021 from 11:30AM – 2:00PM. [Brookshire Inn and Golf Club \(brookshiregolfclub.com\)](http://brookshiregolfclub.com)

**This, of course, is assuming the State of Michigan indoor seating ban has been lifted. To keep you updated, if you plan to attend our Spring Meeting, please RSVP to [swh73@comcast.net](mailto:swh73@comcast.net) with your current e-mail address so that if Plan B is necessary, we can let you know.**

Plan B would be an outdoor meeting in May when it's warmer.

In case you haven't looked at the SACC National website lately, [THE SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB](http://THE SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB), notice that the membership renewal link has been updated in two ways. The first, renewing online, does not affect Michigan Chapter members because we collect National dues for them. The second update, for the four SACC Chapters that collect both National & Chapter dues directs renewing members to the chapter websites. For Michigan Chapter that is [www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com](http://www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com) In the meantime, it's time to start thinking of club events you'd like to suggest for the 2021 driving season. If it is fun and interesting to you, please share with us.

The 2021 SACC National Convention will be hosted at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, in Mechanicsburg, PA in conjunction with Corvettes at Carlisle 2021. For those of you who are planning to attend the 2021 SACC Convention or just thinking about it, MISACC members will be attending and are planning on caravanning. Further info available at our Spring Meeting.

Just so you are aware, you must register separately for Corvettes at Carlisle

Secure event passes at: [Corvettes at Carlisle | Carlisle Events](http://Corvettes at Carlisle | Carlisle Events)

If you are seriously considering going, SACC has reserved a block of rooms, but as some of you know, all hotels in the area fill up during the Corvettes at Carlisle event, so we recommend you make your reservations well in advance of the August convention dates. Full details are included in this newsletter.

Assuming you folks have cabin fever as bad as we do, here's hoping to see you on April 24<sup>th</sup> in your favorite Corvette.

Make every mile of seat time a good memory!

Bill Huffman, Pres.

Michigan Chapter SACC

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



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

## MI SACC EVENT CALENDAR

### *Come to the MI SACC Chapter Planning Meeting*

April 25, 2020 (Tentative)      11:30am      or outdoor in May  
WE will advise Spring Planning      Champion: Bill Huffman

August 25-28, 2021 SACC National Convention      Carlisle, PA

Contact: Bill Huffman [swh73@comcast.net](mailto:swh73@comcast.net) for caravan information

See page 4 for message from SACC National Board



Message from the MI SACC Board to all SACC members of Michigan  
Michigan Chapter has suspended all activities until further notice.



**Don't forget our website**

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



## From SACC National Board

January 2021



**From:** "Ronald Dill" <[rondill1@msn.com](mailto:rondill1@msn.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 2:19:42 PM  
**Subject:** 2021 SACC National Convention

OK Folks,

People have been working hard on the plans for the 2021 convention. The agenda is not fixed in concrete yet, but we have worked out the necessary details for the host hotel. For your information, early arrivals should check in on Tuesday Aug 24. Normal arrivals should check in on Wednesday Aug 25. Check out is pretty much up to you and based on your individual plans. However, the SACC National Convention is officially over Saturday evening (28 Aug.) after the buffet and Corvettes at Carlisle is pretty much over by about 3 PM on Sunday, Aug 29.

A block of rooms have been reserved for "SACC Car Club 2021" until 11 August; however, if you plan to attend the SACC National Convention -- **PLEASE** -- make your reservations as early as possible. The convention planners have no crystal ball, and are planning parking, meals, tours, etc. with NO IDEA as to what the attendance may actually be. Your advance registration and room reservations will provide the needed attendance clues.

We understand that Covid 19 has created an unstable environment and it is difficult for you, as well as us, to make firm plans with no idea how well the population will react to the vaccines. In spite of the unknown, we are proceeding with our National Convention planning as if all will be back to normal in August 2021. Rest assured, we will keep you informed when and if changes occur.

### Convention 2021 Host Hotel

Our host hotel is the Fairfield Inn & Suites, in Mechanicsburg, PA. It is situated just off of Highway 81 at Exit 57, about 10 minutes from downtown Carlisle and the fairgrounds where Corvettes at Carlisle is held. There is a country road available from the Fairfield Inn to the fairgrounds, with much reduced traffic. This country road will most likely be the route of choice for our C1's. The Fairfield Inn address is 503 Winding Creek Blvd, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055. The address for the main gate (Gate 3) at Corvettes at Carlisle fairgrounds is 1000 Bryn Mawr Rd, Carlisle, PA 17013, although there are multiple gates with different addresses.

The Fairfield Inn & Suites was recently constructed and formally opened in December 2020. The Fairfield Inn has assigned us a meeting room off the main entrance area where SACC National will meet and provide your registration packages, conduct small group meetings, and where our local buffets will be served. The Fairfield Inn will provide a large dedicated parking area for our Corvettes, tow-vehicles and trailers. This dedicated parking area will be cordoned-off for SACC National usage and nighttime security will be provided.

### Convention 2021 Host Hotel Reservations

Reminder, SACC has reserved a block of rooms, but as some of you know, all hotels in the area fill up during the Corvettes at Carlisle event, so we recommend you make your reservations well in advance of the August convention dates.

Convention rate is \$129 per night plus 9% taxes, available now through August 11. You can make reservations online at: [https://link.edgepilot.com/s/454c18b5/79wzKea2yEiTy59TSN3d\\_g?u=https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1606246924033%26key=GRP](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/454c18b5/79wzKea2yEiTy59TSN3d_g?u=https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1606246924033%26key=GRP), or by calling Marriott reservations 1-888-236-2427 and tell them you are making reservations at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, 503 Winding Creek Blvd, Mechanicsburg, PA, and are with the "SACC Car Club 2021." There are several room configurations available; they are shown online, or if calling for reservations, ask for available room configurations.

### Ron Dill

(Editor -- Solid Times, SACC Eastern Regional Representative)

**409 Seawane Circle**

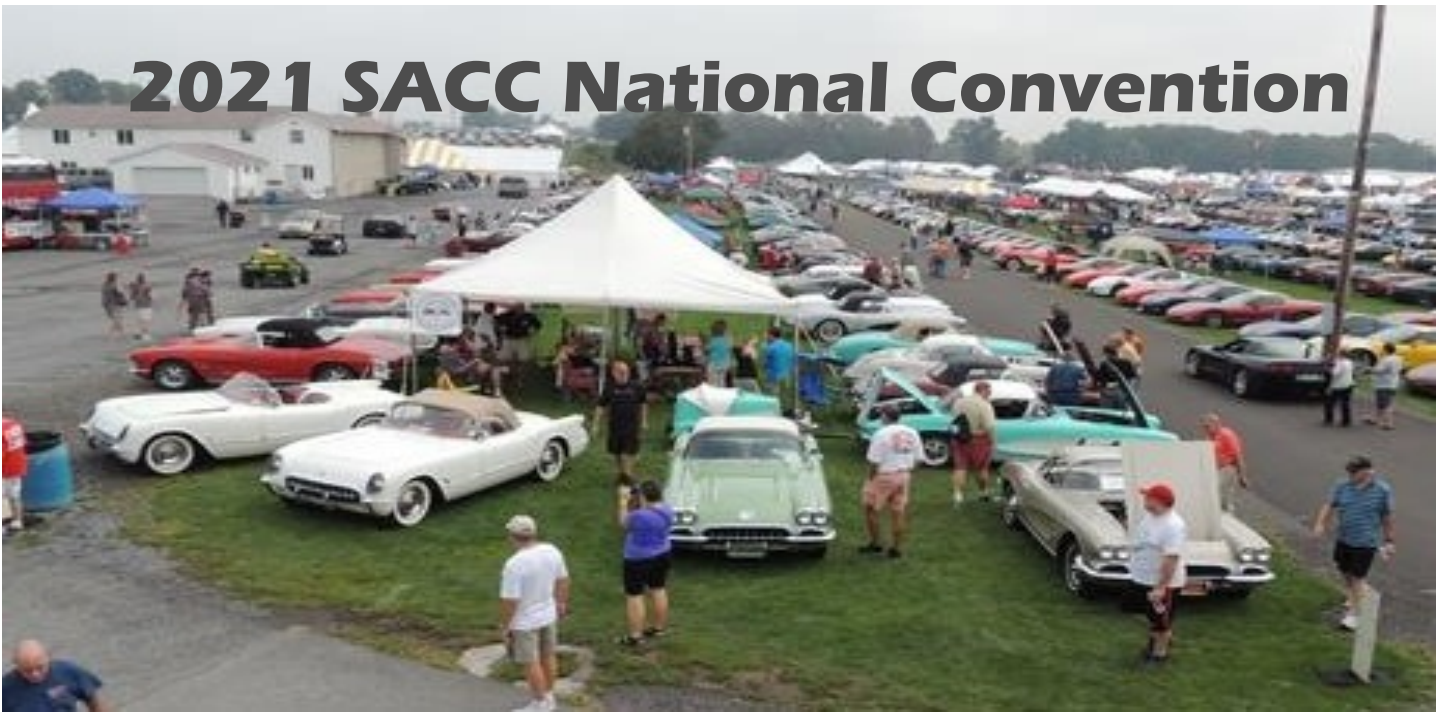
**Auburndale, FL 33823**

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**Cell Phones, Ron: 757-880-5445; Sandy: 757-867-8725 (Please leave a Voice Mail)**

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

# 2021 SACC National Convention



## 2021 SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB NATIONAL CONVENTION

**AUGUST 25- 28 - Mechanicsburg, PA**

This year's SACC National Convention will be followed by Corvettes at Carlisle. If you've never attended a SACC convention or a Corvettes at Carlisle event, this is your year as we have scheduled the events so they coincide with one another. Normally each event would be busy within itself. However, we have arranged the convention schedule to allow our members to attend both the SACC National Convention and Corvettes at Carlisle, without the pressure of having to select one over the other or being rushed from one to another.

Our host hotel is Fairfield Inn & Suites in Mechanicsburg, PA. Once these sell out, there is no guarantee members will be able to stay at the host hotel and may have to seek accommodations in Mechanicsville, Harrisburg or Gettysburg, as the Carlisle area sells out a year in advance for this weekend.

The SACC National rate is \$129 per night plus 9% taxes, and it is available now through August 11. You can make reservations online at:

[https://link.edgepilot.com/s/454c18b5/79wzKea2yEiTy59TSN3d\\_g?u=https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1606246924033%26key=GRP](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/454c18b5/79wzKea2yEiTy59TSN3d_g?u=https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1606246924033%26key=GRP), or by calling Marriott reservations 1-888-236-2427 and tell them you are making reservations at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, 503 Winding Creek Blvd, Mechanicsburg, PA, and are with the "SACC Car Club 2021". Space is limited and will go to the first callers.

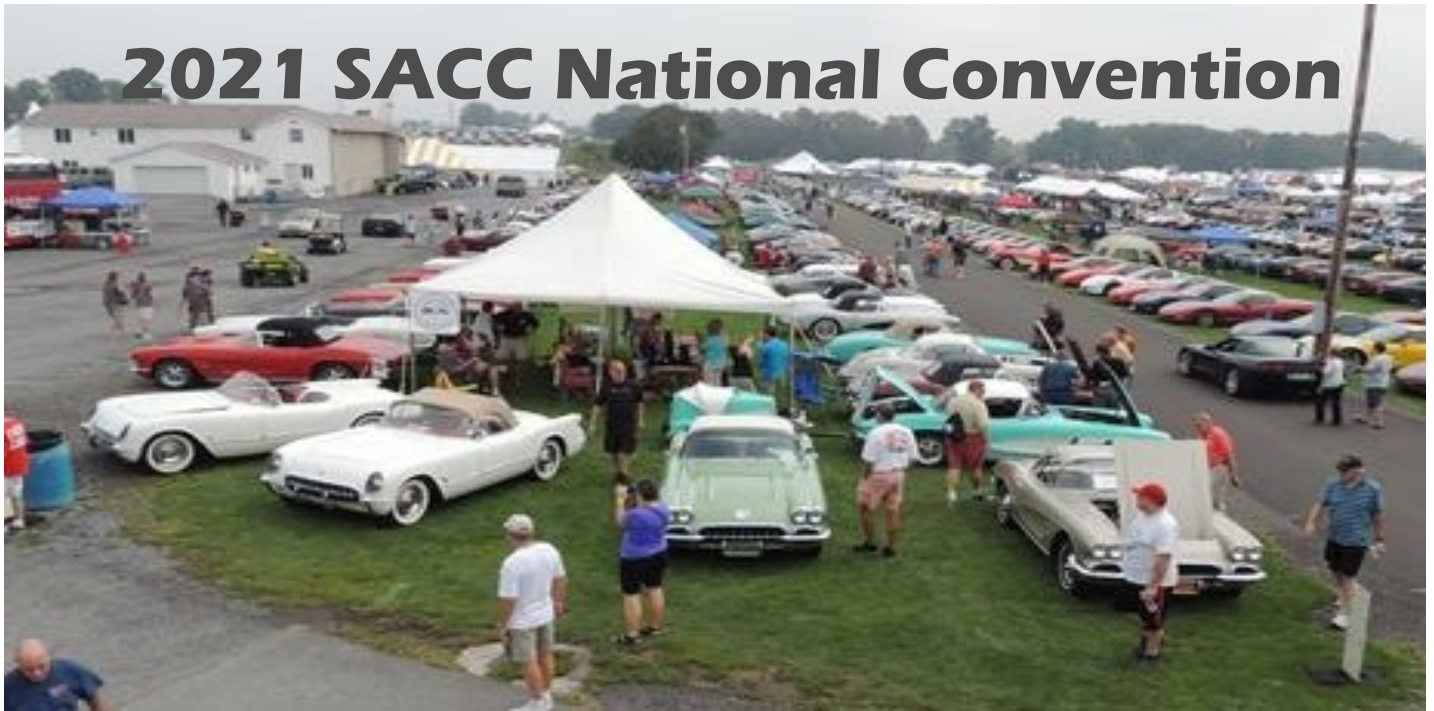
Any un-booked rooms from our block, will be released on August 11.



**Don't forget our website**

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# 2021 SACC National Convention



## 2021 SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB NATIONAL CONVENTION

**AUGUST 25 - 28 - Mechanicsburg, PA**

**Continued from page 4**

The tentative convention schedule is as follows:

<b>Tuesday, 8/24</b>	Early arrivals.
<b>Wednesday, 8/25</b>	Board Meeting, Annual Business Meeting & Reception Dinner at the Allenberry Resort.
<b>Thursday, 8/27</b>	TBD.
<b>Friday, 8/28,</b>	TBD
<b>Saturday, 8/29</b>	Although the convention officially ends Saturday evening, some may choose to return to the Carlisle Fairgrounds on Saturday, to soak up more ambiance and Caravan* to Carlisle Fairgrounds*,
<b>Sunday, 8/30</b>	More of Corvettes at the Carlisle Fairgrounds

PLEASE NOTE: Corvettes at Carlisle requires separate registration

See [Corvettes at Carlisle | Carlisle Events](#) for more information



**Don't forget our website**

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



# Florida

"A Florida senior citizen drove his brand new Corvette convertible out of the dealership.

Taking off down the road, he



pushed it to 80 mph, enjoying the wind blowing through what little hair he had left. "Amazing," he thought as he flew down I-95, pushing the pedal even more.

Looking in his rear view mirror, he saw a Florida State Trooper, blue lights flashing and siren blaring; He floored it to 100 mph, then 110, then 120. Suddenly he thought, "What am I doing? I'm too old for this!" and pulled over to await the trooper's arrival.

Pulling in behind him, the trooper got out of his vehicle and walked up to the Corvette. He looked at his watch, then said, "Sir, my shift ends in 30 minutes. Today is Friday. If you can give me a new reason for speeding – a reason I've never before heard – I'll let you go.."

The old gentleman paused then said, "Three years ago, my wife ran off with a Florida State Trooper. I thought you were bringing her back."



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# They Destroyed the First Chevy Corvette's Wooden Body Bucks and We're Still Mourning Them

**These works of art should have been saved for a museum instead**

BY KRISTIN V. SHAW

JANUARY 9, 2021

Molded Fiber Glass Companies founder Robert Morrison is largely hailed as the father of the molded fiberglass body of the Chevrolet Corvette. Based in Ashtabula, Ohio, Morrison was known as a highly competitive go-getter who convinced GM to build the new roadster in fiberglass instead of the usual steel. Fiberglass was an intense hand-built process back then, and as the 'Vette started rolling off the line, the company used these wooden body bucks in order to create the mirror-image molds to shape the curves of the sports car.



© General Motors - Provided by The Drive

But these were not your typical body bucks made from any old wood. No, the Corvette body bucks were carved from exquisite Polynesian mahogany, and the pictures show that they were also standalone works of art. The craftsmen who build these sculptures were very skilled, and the body bucks should be in a museum somewhere we can all gaze in wonder. Unfortunately, all we have left are these photos.





© General Motors - Provided by The Drive

General Motors Chevrolet didn't know that the sleek roadster would cause so much buzz when they brought it to the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel for Motorama in 1953. Crafted in fiberglass and equipped with a six-cylinder engine, Chevy named it Corvette after a class of small warships. Perfectly timed to appeal to both soldiers returning home from World War II and the recovering nation, the Corvette stood apart from the rest of the lineup in the Chevrolet fleet.

As the story goes, the brand made the decision to construct the Corvette in steel instead of fiberglass. Before they could begin, however, they had a change of heart, and Morrison received a middle-of-the-night call. Waking his family, the Morrisons toasted the Corvette, which became their primary source of income for many years. In fact, the Morrisons' basement became Ground Zero for the vehicle in the beginning stages; GM engineers worked next to MFG staff on a makeshift workspace on a ping-pong table.

The wooden body bucks were used for the very first Corvette at the Motorama auto show and for some time after. They were carefully and meticulously hewn from mahogany, which is often chosen because it is less likely to warp, shrink, or swell than other woods. The fact that it's a rich, beautiful color is a side benefit. During that period of time, sheet steel or aluminum were often hammered over body bucks to create panels for vehicles.

Sadly, every one of the mahogany body bucks destroyed when Chevrolet didn't need them any longer. At least we have a shiny new mid-engine C8 to distract us.

Article reproduced from The Drive website: [thedrive.com](http://thedrive.com)



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**donjuanandlosamigos.net**

**Vanguard Motor Sales**

**248-974-9513**

**vanguardmotorsales.com**





# Michigan

"Where it all began"



Volume 11 Issue 1

## Thanks to All for their Generous Support of 2019 SACC National Convention

**Platinum Sponsor:** Corvette Central  
**Gold Sponsor:** Paragon Corvette Reproductions  
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Dave & Sue Ruby  
Bill & Debi Stalder

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Motor Cities National Heritage Area  
National Corvette Museum  
Paragon Corvette Reproductions  
Vanguard Motor Sales  
Zip Corvette

**Don't forget our website**

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



**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 > [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 2021 Volunteers

President: **Bill Huffman**  
2200 N Sandstone Road,  
Jackson, MI 49201  
sw7373@comcast.net

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Canton, MI 48188  
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Secretary: **Cheryl Lemieux**  
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choochoooharry@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 National SACC Membership questions to:

Lucy Badenhop, SACC NATIONAL  
P.O. Box 2288  
N. Highlands, CA 95660-8288  
badenhop@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 Ruby, Editor  
Michigan Chapter of SACC  
30120 Lincolnshire E.,  
Beverly Hills, MI 48025  
cell: 248-514-2677  
druby@comcast.net

