Michigan

"Where it all began"



Volume 9 Issue 5

2

SAVE THIS DATE!! MI SACC Christmas Luncheon Saturday, Dec. 7, 11:30 am at Karl's Cabin 6005 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth

Renewal Notice-Dues are Due December 1st

MI SACC Event Calendar 3-4 Winter Storage 5-7 2019 SACC Convention Sponsors 9-11 C8 Convertible Reveal 12 MISACC Dues—Publication 13-14

Inside this issue:

President's Laptop

National and Chapter Memberships Expire December 31, 2019

(unless you've paid for multiple years)

Michigan Chapter collects chapter dues of \$15 plus National SACC dues of \$45 = \$60

We then forward SACC National dues and have a record that all our members are also SACC National members. See page 13 for renewal info

Please pay by December 1,

so we can forward your SACC National dues before the end of December
If you have paid your SACC dues directly to National,
please let us know for our records

SEND DUES to:

Paul Lemieux, Treasurer, 403 Loris Lane Oxford, MI 48371

Don't forget our website

www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com



From the President's laptop Nov. 2019

Welcome back to Fall in Michigan. As I am writing this, the 2019 Color Luncheon is just ahead on my left at the Common Grill, on Main Street in scenic downtown Chelsea, MI on Sunday October 20th. By the time you read, this our next destination will be our annual Christmas Luncheon on December 7th, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm at Karl's Cabin, 6005 Gotfredson Rd, Plymouth, MI. http://www.karlscabin.com/location/karls-cabin/

December is also the time of year when most organization's club dues run out and memberships are to be renewed. We are no different. A few of us are paid up for both SACC & Michigan Chapter thru 2020 or 2021. However, for most of us, dues are due December 1st. So... save the postage and come to Christmas Luncheon instead. There would be no need for another membership application; just a \$60.00 check to MI SACC and Paul Lemieux will handle both, the National and Chapter dues.

I certainly hope you are able to join us for your share of Christmas cheer. We are holding our Luncheon early in December before our snowbirds have to pack their bags to fly south and in late morning/early afternoon so we can drive in daylight hours. Remember, this is supposed to be fun.



Speaking of fun, the Michigan Chapter Board has been working on compiling a member survey to get your input on how we, as C1 Corvette owners, can best drive our C1s & have fun doing it. Please, take a few minutes to read, choose & respond to the attached survey. Your suggestions and comments are welcomed & encouraged. Please don't be shy. Tell us what you think; tell us your expectations; tell us how the MI SACC Chapter can provide the means to further your enjoyment of C1 ownership; because we really want to know. PLEASE RESPOND TO THE ATTACHED MAMBERSHIP SURVEY.

Become engaged in the planning process by attending our Annual Spring Membership Meeting in April 2020 at the Brookshire Inn in Williamston, MI. Where we will elect the club officers for 2020 and select the C1 events for May thru December 2020. All MI SACC chapter members are welcome. Annual meeting details to follow in the Spring 2020 issue of our newsletter "Michigan".

So far, the only Michigan Chapter Club Event set in stone is the 2020 SACC National Convention in August in Carlisle and Gettysburg, PA. Reservations at https://allenberry.com/ are going fast. Don't wait or it may already be too late.

Bill Huffman, Pres.
Michigan Chapter SACC
www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com



Don't forget our website: www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com

MI SACC EVENT CALENDAR

Come to the SACC Christmas Luncheon

Saturday, Dec.7, 2019 Christmas Luncheon Plymouth, MI

Meet at 11:30am - Karl's Cabin 734-455-8450 6005 Gotfredson Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

Please RSVP to Bill Huffman

swh73@comcast.net

if attending luncheon

www.karlscabin.com/location/karls-cabin/



April ??, 2020 Spring Planning Meeting

Champion: Bill Huffman

Williamston, MI

August 26-29, 2020 SACC National Convention

Carlisle, PA

Contact: Bill Huffman swh73@comcast.net for caravan information

See page 4 and www.solidaxle.org for additional info

A message from the MI SACC Board to all SACC members of Michigan

It has been a busy year for the Chapter, hosting the 2019 SACC National Convention and continuing our typical C1 related activities; Corvettes at the Summit, Woodward Dream Cruise and Paragon Open House. Mi SACC Chapter welcomed the opportunity and was pleased that all enjoyed their experience and Detroit hospitality.

We are looking forward to 2020 which will include a caravan to Carlisle, PA for the SACC National Convention followed by Corvettes at Carlisle. We encourage all MI SACC members to consider joining the caravan of C1s to Carlisle.

The Board is also very interested in the future of MI SACC and the activities that the membership is willing to support. Please take the time to respond to the attached membership survey.

Michigan SACC Chapter Board

Don't forget our website

www.solidaxlecorvettemi.com



August 26-29, 2020

These are the corrected dates!

SACC's 2020 National Convention will coincide with the Corvettes at Carlisle event, August 26-29, 2020. Not only will they occur simultaneoulsly, but Convention activities will itie in with Corvettes at Carlisle. As SACC Convention attendees and Corvettes at Carlisle registrants, we will receive special considerations and positioning while attending Corvettes at Carlisle events.

<u>Wednesday</u>, <u>August 26</u>--Business meetings are and welcome reception that evening.

Thursday, August 27--Morning caravan to York, PA to tour the Harley Davidson assembly plant. Afternoon reserved for parts hunting at the "Fairgrounds". That evening we return to the Allenberry Resort for a reception and our Annual Banquet (yes, next year it will be at the beginning of the convention rather than at the end). Bill Miller and Lance Miler will be our guests of honor and we will have a special guest seaker.

<u>Friday. August 28</u>--We will host **Tech Sessions** at the "Fairgrounds" in the morning, and that evening attend the **Chip Miller Amyliodosis Foundation Charity Dinner**.

Saturday, August 29--Free time at the "Fairgrounds" and our C1s will be the lead cars in the annual Corvette parade in downtown Carlisle. Then we will caravan back to the Allenberry Resort, where we will have a Cruise-In & Cook Out. Shuttle service will be provided between the Allenberry Resort and the "Fairgrounds" for spouses who may not want to send the entire day at the event. Saturday afternoon there will be an alternate schedule for spouses including a luncheon and matinee performance at the Allenberry Playhouse.

The agenda and registration form will be in the winter edition of the "On Solid Ground" magazine and is on the Solid Axle Corvette Club web site (www.solidaxle.org)

Allenberry Resort Rooms are going fast

The good news is as of August 30, we sold out of our initial 30-unit room block! The bad news is we have sold out of our 30-unit room block!

SACC President Brad Bean was able to get another 10 rooms added to our convention room block, so we now have 40 rooms. But they are going quickly, so if you have not yet done so, please book your room immediately! Unless you have a Carlisle, PA, area hotel where you stay every year, the next closest hotels with rooms available that week, are 20 miles away in Mechanicsburg, PA.

When you call the Allenberry Resort: (717) 258-3211, press #1 for reservations and ask for the SACC room block for your dates, between **August 25 & 29, 2020**.

While they last, your choice will be:

Pine Lodge: \$219.00

Meadow Lodge: \$179.00 (2 queens) Meadow Lodge: \$192.00 (1 king bed)

Once our room block is booked, if they have any other rooms available, it will be at their established rate and there is nothing we can do to pull any strings. So again, if you plan to attend, please call immediately to make your reservations.

Technically Speaking...Fall Bed Time > 2019

WINTER STORAGE

Ask a dozen CORVETTE owners how each of them stored his CORVETTE last year and you will receive a dozen different answers. Methods range from abandoning the CORVETTE under a tree in the front yard, to complex routines involving raising the CORVETTE off the ground and removing the seats. There is not a "proper" method as each owner has slightly different considerations and requirements -- yet there are basic rules to follow in any storage procedure that will reduce the probability of damage during storage. In addition to the normal precautions for freezing temperature, some thought must be given to location, access, traffic around the stored CORVETTE, humidity, rodents, etc. It is important to develop a plan that you can easily follow and that you implement before winter shows its icy Artic fury.

DAMAGE YOU MAY HAVE WITNESSED!

Damage during storage results from neglect or abuse – and we've "seen it all!" Cars stored without antifreeze resulting in cracked blocks, burst radiators and heaters; old gasoline evaporated until all that's left are giant, hardened blocks of varnish knocking around inside the tank; gasoline lines, fuel pumps, and carburettors plugged with gooey aged petrol. Damaged paint, cracked glass, perforated soft-tops caused by carelessness or accidents from adults and children -- corroded chrome, scaly undercarriages, frozen brakes and mildewed interiors from damp storage. But the damage from rodents is most pervasive – those nasty creatures burrow into the seats, the hood insulation, the interior, the trunk and its endless supply of things to gnaw on – even the exhaust pipe. Nests have been found under the hood, in the trunk, in fender wells, inside the heater boxes and air cleaners, nearly everywhere. Even in a disassembled an engine - a mouse INSIDE a cylinder. I had a friend that once removed 20 pounds of dogfood from the engine bay! One CORVETTE had a perfectly round hole the size of a silver dollar gnawed right in the middle of the top (it had remained folded down all winter).

BASIC RULES

Freezing temperatures require a 50/50 solution of antifreeze and water to prevent the coolant from freezing in the engine block, radiator, or heater. A full tank of gasoline reduces the amount of water that can be absorbed by the petrol and slows the rate at which the gasoline turns to varnish. Fresh oil in the sump reduces bearing etching, caused by dirty, acidic, contaminated oil. Topped off master cylinders reduces water contamination in the hydraulic lines.

Store the CORVETTE with the top up, windows and vents closed. The folding soft top can develop nasty creases when left folded throughout the winter. Closed vents and windows make it more difficult for small furry creatures to foul or devour parts of the CORVETTE. It's always nice to clean the CORVETTE's interior prior to storage -- discarded bottles and cigarette butts do not enhance the interior bouquet. Ensure that the trunk is dry. Knowing that the trunk seal on C1's is not always positive, be sure that moisture has not dampened the contents of the trunk. Left to nature throughout the winter, this can become a very comfortable home for the nasty critters. Discharging an entire can of WD-40 (or similar product) on all the engine components, especially the bright metal or aluminium parts (carbs, coil, etc) easily protects the engine-bay. A large piece of plastic on the floor protects the frame and electrical components of the CORVETTE from moisture rising up through the concrete

Finally, take the CORVETTE on the last run of the season allowing it to heat up fully. A half-hour run is wonderful. This will evaporate all the moisture in the exhaust and engine. Park the CORVETTE in its winter home and leave the handbrake OFF. If you will not see the CORVETTE until Spring, either remove the battery to a heated environment – or fit one of the new constant maintenance battery chargers and simply leave the car plugged in all winter. If you cover the CORVETTE, use cloth, never plastic.

STORAGE CONSIDERATIONS

Consider the following questions and make your own storage plan from these concerns:

- 1) Location --Will your CORVETTE be stored close to home or in a barn forty miles away? Will the CORVETTE be stored inside or outside?
 - 2) Access -- Will your CORVETTE be locked in a building to which you will have little or no access, or will it be available every day? Will it be possible to drive your CORVETTE during the winter or will it be positioned in the corner of the garage?



Winter Storage (continued)

- 3) Traffic -- Will your CORVETTE be isolated from movement, or will the family Vista Cruiser discharge four energetic, careless children who will open doors against it?
- 4) Humidity --Will the storage area be dry or will there be melting snow forever swilling under your CORVETTE?
- 5) Temperature -- Will the storage temperatures be room temp, just above freezing, or dead cold?
- **6) Animals** --Will the family cat use the soft top as a springboard, will Spike jump against it, are there furry rodents which may use your CORVETTE as a hotel or find the seats tasty at mealtime?
- 7) Owner Maintenance -- Will you have the opportunity, time, or resolve to visit your CORVETTE every week or month?

INSURANCE

Insurance is a MUST -- even on your stored CORVETTE! Always keep a theft/damage/vandalism/fire policy in effect on your CORVETTE. CORVETTES are still stolen; garages collapse under the weight of snow; nasty neighborhood children may wish to redecorate your CORVETTE -- or worse; and fire is always a possibility. This comprehensive insurance is very inexpensive and you simply cannot afford to be without it. Be certain to establish the value of your CORVETTE with the insurance agent before the loss!

SYSTEMS PROTECTION

- 1) **ENGINE**: Fresh oil will adequately protect the engine for several months of relatively dry storage. If you are going to store your CORVETTE longer than the winter, or if the humidity is high, then start the engine at regular intervals and allow it to warm up (with the garage door open, please). If this is not possible, introduce oil into the cylinders (perhaps six squirts from a normal oil can). Turn the engine over slowly, before replacing the plugs -- by pushing while in fourth gear -- as this moves the oil throughout the head, pistons, and valves. Cover the tailpipe outlet with duct tape to prevent moisture and rodents from entering the exhaust system. Cover the air inlets at the air cleaner with tape to keep moisture from the carb internals and cylinder head.
- 2) **IGNITION**: Normally there are no preventive measures, but if you are going to store the CORVETTE for several years, oil the distributor cam. Even moderately damp storage will corrode the points. If the engine fails to quickly start the next season, drag a piece of fine sandpaper through the points to remove the oxidation.
- 3) **COOLING**: Ensure the cooling system is filled with a clean 50/50 solution of glycol antifreeze and water. Some owners suggest that Armorall or a similar product can extend the life of the radiator hoses.
- **4) FUEL**: If you plan just a winter's storage, then a full tank of gasoline with the addition of a can of "dry gas" or "Stabil" is satisfactory. If you plan to store your CORVETTE for a year or more, then drain the float bowls to prevent a build-up of varnish and oxidation of the metering needle. Leaded gasoline purchased years ago seems to last forever; gasoline purchased today goes bad after a year or so. Starting your CORVETTE with "old gas" or "bad gas" requires fresh gasoline in the carburettor just to get the engine to start running. Sometimes starting fluid (or carburettor cleaner) is necessary. Once warm, the engine will run on old gasoline.

For those of us with fuel injection, a sure fire means to start the CORVETTE in the Spring is as follows:

- a. Remove the bolt located at the top left (driver's side) rear of the Rochester injection housing.;
- b. Spray carburettor cleaner into the injection unit one thousand one, one thousand two, one thousand three;
- c. Replace the bolt; and
- d. Start the engine.
- **5) CLUTCH**: Damp storage is a real problem with the clutch, as the clutch disc can rust to the flywheel or pressure plate. You may wish to start your CORVETTE and move it back and forth even a couple of feet every so often!



Winter Storage (continued)

- 6) **SUSPENSION**: Winter storage causes no problems with the suspension. CORVETTE owners may place their CORVETTEs on jacks for the winter -- if this is done, place the stands under the outer portion of the front A Arms and under the leaf springs where the U bolts surround the axle and spring. This keeps the suspension from dropping away from the body and straining the shocks and the rebound rubbers/straps. If you place your CORVETTE on stands, then reduce tire pressure to 10-15lbs. Whether your CORVETTE is on stands or on the ground, be certain to move the wheels a couple of times during storage. Several rotations work well to prevent the bearings from rusting and will prevent flat spots from developing on the tires.
- 7) **BRAKES**: Rolling your CORVETTE back and forth prevents the brake pads from rusting to the rotors (just as the clutch disc can rust to the flywheel). Operate the brakes on a regular basis to prevent the cylinders from freezing. Some owners back off the adjustment on the brake drums so that there is no chance of the shoes rusting to the drums this also allows the cylinders to move farther while exercising the pedal. Exercise the handbrake, too! Rapidly work the handle to keep the cable and linkages free. **Always store your CORVETTE with the handbrake OFF!**
- 8) **BATTERIES:** No battery will hold its charge forever. If the battery charge is reduced far enough, the electrolyte freezes, the case cracks, and the battery is ruined. If you store your CORVETTE in freezing temperatures, then you must charge the batteries several times throughout the winter. Use a "trickle charger" or run the engine to recharge the battery. Sometimes it is easier to remove the battery! On CORVETTES with an electric clock, you may wish to disconnect the clock; this will stop the drain (albeit tiny) caused by the clock. Next to the coolant in the radiator, the batteries are the most important considerations in winter storage.

One of the truly "new and improved" devices is the battery monitor. This unit checks the battery voltage on a regular basis (minutes? seconds? milliseconds? I don't know) and if the battery voltage falls below a certain mark, a tiny charge is made – then the unit rechecks the voltage and the cycle repeats. These are truly wonderful units!

9) **BODY**: Thoroughly clean your car, inside and out, before storage. The last thing you want to do is put a car cover on a dirty vehicle. Give your ride a good handwash, polish up that chrome and apply a coat of wax to the paint. Make sure to get rid of any tree-sap drops, too.

To prevent oxidation or scratching, cover your CORVETTE with a cloth mitten. **Plastic is NOT suitable**. Plastic does not allow the CORVETTE to breathe, and can exacerbate oxidation and rusting. If you plan to store the CORVETTE in a heavy traffic zone (the family garage, for example), then additional protection is in order. Thick cardboard, a suitably supported piece of wood, or even an old mattress suspended from the ceiling prevents damage from winter tools and car doors. If the hood or trunk lid will be used for a shelf (even if just to place groceries in transit), then more protection (such as a thick blanket) is in order. Humidity is the wiring and the frame's worst enemy. Make every effort to keep the floor dry!! If you plan to store your CORVETTE outside, then keep the car well ventilated and do not allow snow to pile up, under and around the car. Park the CORVETTE on a large sheet of plastic to keep the CORVETTE dry.

Expend a whole can of WD-40 in the engine bay and on the wheels – REALLY! Another truly wonderful improvement is the car bag. Some of these are giant envelopes into which you drive your car and zip closed for the season.; many have blowers to keep air circulating.

10) **INTERIOR**: Low winter humidity dries leather seats, allowing them to contract and crack. Prepare the leather with LEXOL to keep the hide supple. Cold weather can also damage your vinyl interiors, particularly when subjected to sudden loading or usage. Be aware normal usage in cold weather may damage your interior.

High humidity may induce wiring corrosion: place a few packs of desiccant on the floor to absorb excess humidity.

Mice cause the greatest damage to interiors! They eat the seats, the foam, the carpeting, the wiring insulation – they eat EVERYTHING!! Close off access to the interior. Keep the vents tightly closed. Erect the soft top. Close the windows. Some owners remove their seats prior to storage. Several dishes of mothballs, in the footwells, in the trunk and under the hood will repel most mice. Use the "Old Fashioned" mothballs – naphthalene.

The winter storage recommendations were borrowed from University Motors in Grand Rapids

Develop your plan and store your PRIDE and JOY carefully! We'll see YOU and YOUR C1 next spring!



Michigan

"Where it all began"



Volume 9 Issue 5

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

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10.02.19

CS Corvette Convertible Revealed



 $\textbf{C8 Convertible reveal} \quad \underline{\texttt{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R67uL4Dt73Y\&feature=youtu.be}}$



Welcome to the Michigan Chapter SOLID AXLE CORVETTE CLUB



Michigan Chapter SACC Membership or Renew	/al Application - New_	Renewal_	Yr
Michigan Chapter Membership requires membership	ership in the National	SACC organi	zation.
For record keeping: MI SACC collects both National and Chapter	dues and submits your Natio	nal 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 "O	n Solid Ground"		
SACC National publishes an annual membership & roa numbers, city & state, but no street address. It also ha SACC member needs roadside assistance in your area	s a field to indicate that y		
If you do not want your name listed in the roster initial he	re:		
If you do not want to participate in the road side assistan	ce program initial here:		
FAILURE TO INITIAL ABOVE INDICATES YOUR PERMISS	ION TO BE LISTED IN THE	ROSTER.	
If you are a new member: SACC National will send you a	National membership num	ber 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 at jplvet9@gmail.com			
Applicant Name			
Address			
City			
Home phone			
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 wee	kends
Museum tours Historic site/shop tours	Car Shows Tech	sessions	Race events
Newsletter Contributions Tour/Event Plann	ing Other		
I would be interested in attending the planning	<u> </u>		
Signature:			
I am currently a member of the following autom 13	ιοτινе clubs/organizat	ion	

Michigan Chapter SACC 2019 Volunteers

President: Bill Huffman

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Solid Axle Corvette Club

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

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

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

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

Road Rules

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

