

YES, SOLID AXLE CORVETTES REALLY DID RACE IN THEIR DAY!



This historic photo shows a large pack of production Corvettes at the start of the SCCA national championship race at Thompson Raceway, Connecticut, on Labor Day 1960. The race was 10 laps of a 2-mile course, and a winning average speed for a Corvette would be about 65 mph. This race leader is Richard Jalbert of Providence, R.I., a consistent front runner then, and we think he ended up winning. In about 6th place is a Ferrari 250-GT (long wheelbase) which finished behind all the Corvettes. Further back come the early "bathtub" Porsche Carrera models, which were differentiated from the lesser Porsches by their powerful and expensive dual overhead cam engines.

Race car preparation wasn't too complicated back then: Remove the bumpers, hubcaps, and windshield, add a seat belt and one of those newfangled roll bars, pump up the tires and clean the spark plugs.

Thompson Raceway shown here was a 2.0 mile road course with 12 turns. This particular track was used from 1957 through 1967. Earlier sports car races had been held there as far back as 1945, utilizing the nearby 5/8 mile oval track, which still survives and is used for local stock car and open wheel racing. Parts of the road course can still be found if you look in the right places in the woods. The track history is available at <http://www.coldplugs.com>
Photo by Duncan Johnson; used with permission.



November Meeting Minutes con't

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D. Club Web Site Report

On behalf of the Web site Committee, Jon, Shoshanah, and Art presented key features of the Committee's recommended Club software—Club Express. Since we didn't have internet connectivity at Panorama City, Jon had pulled off some of the Web site pages and put them in a slideshow to demonstrate the look and feel of the site. He, along with Shoshanah and Art, walked us through many of the cool features. The new software has a \$150 set up fee, and a monthly fee of .40 per member which comes to about \$20 per month.

In the end, a motion was made to approve the Committee's recommendation to activate the new web site. The motion carried, and we have a direction for the Web site.

E. Other Business

Tax Deduction Spreadsheet – Brian will be sending out the spreadsheet via email. Many events and drives are charitable events. The spreadsheet includes a form for those of you who do itemize, and offers an example. You may be surprised by how much you can deduct.

Christmas Packages for Soldiers – Randy announced that the Lions club is putting together packages for soldiers for Christmas. Since we have a soldier that's part of our group, Randy would like to put something together for him. Randy sent around a list of suggested items, and asked everyone to have their items to him by December 1st. Mostly, our soldiers would like letters that express our support and appreciation for what they're doing.

Outstanding Member of the Year Voting – Jon sent out a description of the voting for the Outstanding Member of Year Award, and will be distributing ballots at the holiday party.

Brian's Survey – The survey will be good feedback going into next year for new officers. He will compile them into a recommendation list for the E-board.

Reminder - Holiday Party, so **NO** December meeting!!!

Let's Raffle! – Lynus won \$12.00; he will bring the January prize.

The meeting was adjourned after the raffle at 8:20. See you at the next meeting on January 9th!

Submitted by Josette Miller, Secretary

