

MIDWEST REGION:

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Prolog

Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow on Ground Hog Day so we all know that means an early Spring. In the Midwest Region, that is great news. Our first sanctioned events start the last weekend of March and we need all of the weather help that we can get. I can recall an April Autocross in the snow at the Tire Rack in South Bend, Indiana some years ago. Just goes



to show you what a hearty and dedicated group of members we have in the Midwest Region as the snow did little to hamper attendance. We are just so anxious to cure ourselves of Cabin Fever. Dr. Phil, Punxsutawney Phil that is, sent great news to our region this year.

Region News

I want to welcome Jeff Craig as the new Governor of the Saint Louis Corvette Club and thank Rich Luebecke for his contributions over these past years. Rich introduced Jeff at our February Governors meeting in Saint Louis. The Governors also approved a number of needed region Bylaw updates at this meeting. The majority of these updates were required, as a matter of documentation, for changes that have been previously approved or implemented. Examples are the sunset of the Regional Championship series and elimination of the wording for the former regional newsletter that was replaced by our region website. There were a few additions, for example, a process for removing region officers. Check out the regions website for these changes. At the April regional Governors meeting a Nominating committee will be formed to identify candidates for 2014 regional offices. If you are interested in pursuing a regional officer position, please contact your club Governor.

2013 Convention in Bowling Green, KY

We learned this weekend that many events for the 2013 Convention in Bowling Green have already met their entry limits. This is very positive news with the expectation that this year's convention will be not only a fun-filled week but also a financial success. There are a number of interesting tours planned as well as traditional competition events and the nightly parties. We will have access to the National Corvette Museum and a number of C7's will be on display. Windy City Corvettes will be hosting Game Night on Thursday with a Corvette version of Family Feud being planned. This should be a lot of fun as many of us contributed to the "Survey Says" input at the February National Governors meeting. We are also expecting a return of Valve Cover racing which has been a very popular "competitive" event at past conventions. Wine tasting is also on schedule with regions being asked to contribute to the array of wines that will be available. I hope that you all can join us in Bowling Green.

Electronic Age Growing Fast Within the Region

I reported last time that our Governors used the new NCCC electronic voting system for national Officer elections and rule changes last year. NCCC agreed to fund an upgrade of the system for regional use and our Governors tested the system over the winter with good success. We had 17 of the 31 club Governors test the system. At our February meeting, the Governors agreed to begin using the system within the region. We will be establishing procedures for its use not only for regional officer elections, eliminating paper ballots, and associated mailing expenses, but also to gather information on a variety of topics where club input is essential. This can be a huge benefit for clubs whose Governors cannot easily attend regional Governors meetings. I would hope that all club Governors would participate in using the system to help guide and direct the region.

Epilog

At each National Governors meeting members who have passed on are honored with a moment of silence. The list seems to grow longer with each meeting and at the February meeting our region list was the largest read. I share this not to be a downer but a reality-check. As we start the 2013 Corvette season we should ensure that we do not miss an opportunity to cherish each other's company. Paul Haack chaired the February National Governors meeting due to Hal Bellamy's absence and Paul made a comment that vividly supports my closing thoughts to you. He stated, "We join NCCC for the car and we stay in NCCC for the people." As we start the season, remember those who are no longer with us and use their memory as a reminder to enjoy every encounter that you have with NCCC members wherever we gather. That is what it is all about.

Submitted by: Larry Pagliaro, Midwest Region RE

Competition News

I am writing this Spring article while it is snowing outside, and I am looking forward to the upcoming competition season. Additional Autocross events in Rantoul during July and our October Fundraiser will bring the total events to 205. A Workers program will reward those non-competitors who come out to help run events and chairpersons for the first time in the region. Competition and Worker awards will be presented at our March Awards Banquet. For 2012, 53 Men and 29 Ladies received awards, and the top five clubs were recognized. Congratulations to Dale and Carolyn Samuelson – 2012 Men's and Ladies Champions; and Windy City Corvettes – 2012 Club Champions.

Competition Database

The new Competition database has been a challenge in its first year, but all events have been entered. Once members become familiar with it, tracking and looking up event information will be much easier. The error checking and mileage calculations should make event results more consistent and accurate. Mileage will now be calculated by postal code from an entrant's residence to the event site.

Revised Standard Operating Procedures

As a region, we must continue to move forward with the changing times. In reviewing our SOP's there were rules that were inconsistent with the way we currently operate. Approved changes include setting the head tax at the Sanctioning meeting for the following year, closing the sanctioning period December 15th instead of January 15th, renaming the Permanent Number program to the Assigned number program and reducing the requested competition number charge of \$10 per event to \$10 per day for Region Members. New rules defining our Workers program were defined.

Submitted by: Bill Docherty, Midwest Region RCD