

MIDWEST REGION:



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Region News

It is getting closer. Spring that is. As I write this article, we are still in the depths of Winter and just coming back from our February Governors meetings in Saint Louis. Our first region events are just about a month away. Cabin Fever is killing me so I cannot wait, as I am sure all Midwest Region members will agree. We have had a rough Winter.

However, before we totally move into 2014, I have some unfinished 2013 business. Our Congratulations to **Ed Cassel, Wisconsin Corvette Club** as Men's 2013 Champion and **Linda Fairlamb, Northern Rays Ltd**, our Ladies 2013 Champion and **Nancy Bailey, Northern IL Corvette Club**, our Workers Champion. These honors were announced at the Governors meeting by **Bill Docherty**, our Regional Competition Director this past weekend. Congratulations to Ed, Linda and Nancy as well as all members of **Windy City Corvettes** previously announced as the #1 club.

I would also like to welcome a new Governor to our team. **Jay Randall** took on the position for **Suburban Corvette Club** in December. We all look forward to working with Jay in the future.

I am one of the judges for the 2014 NCCC Club Newsletter contest and two of the fourteen entries are from the Midwest Region. Both **Central Illinois Corvette Club** and **Sunburst Corvette Club** have entered the contest and both have very competitive newsletters. I am very happy that our region clubs are now in the running. Good luck to both clubs, and there are many quality newsletters in the contest this year. If you want additional information about entering the Newsletter contest, please review the requirements on the NCCC website. Entries for 2014 are closed but will open later this year for 2015. Entries are being accepted for the NCCC Club Website contest until July 13, 2014. We have some great Websites in the region, which I think would do quite well in that contest. Please give some thought.

I would like to cover some topics that were discussed at the February Governors meetings. **Dave Heinemann** of **Windy City Corvettes** announced that he was running for President of NCCC in the election that will be held later this year. **Sylvia Hoaldrige**, NCCC Director of Publications (Blue Bars Editor) will be moving on from that position near the end of this year. If you are interested in seeking additional information about this role, please contact your club Governor as a starting point. Sylvia has held the position for the past 12 years and is looking forward to transitioning it to another qualified member. **Debbie Lindsey**, NCCC Director of Sponsorship is planning to have an NCCC display at Bloomington Gold in June. We will be promoting NCCC as well as selling NCCC charity raffle tickets. More information will be available in the coming months and I will be contacting our region's Governors for member support of this event. An NCCC booth has been set up on other national Corvette Shows in the past so having it in our own back yard is exciting. We would like to get as many Midwest Region helpers as possible. Again, more to come... **Gary Cockriel** of the **National Corvette Museum** honored us by attending our Regional Governors meeting to do a Q&A regarding our recent purchase of an Acre at the Motorsports Park. Gary did a great job of answering both prepared questions as well as impromptu questions from our Governors. He then attended the National Governors meeting in the afternoon where he upped the pace of the presentation covering current NCM news and topics such as the next steps in repair work of the Sink Hole, the recovery and restoration of the affected Corvettes as well as announcing a new special event titled Sink-Hole De Mayo that will occur on the 5th of May. (Gary's joke, not mine). I personally thought the museum staff did a great job of quickly establishing and communicating recovery and repair plans, which now allows for some light-heartedness. Thank goodness, no one was injured and thanks to Chevrolet for helping with restoration efforts. Gary Cockriel and Mitch Wright will be our Regional Motorsports Park team contacts going forward. **Bill Docherty** is heading our Motorsports Park planning team of **Arnie Bailey, Northern IL Corvette Club**, **Francis Richmond, Great River Corvette Club** and **JW (James Weddington), Chicago Crossroads Corvette Club**. **Gary Kelly, Badger State Corvettes** has also played a key role in initiating our region's involvement. Watch for more information on our access to the Motorsports Park track, in 2015.

Larry Pagliaro, Regional Executive MW-RE@corvettesnccc.com

Competition News

The 2014 competition season is here and our region has 205 events scheduled, March through October. Whether you like to attend Rallies, Concours and People's Choice, or Autocrosses, you have plenty to do this year. Most flyers should be out by the time this is published, so you can plan. Remember that every competition event is also a social event. Drive out and see why we have so much fun at our events. Competitors always get together for dinner and guests are welcome.

Windy City Corvettes, the 2013 Region Champion Club, organized our Annual Awards Party in March. **Ed Cassel** and **Linda Fairlamb** were the 2013 Champions and 43 men and 24 women earned 200+ points. **Nancy Bailey** was our first Worker's Champion. Congratulations to them, and Thanks to all who supported our competition events last year.

The Midwest Region is planning to hold an event at the new NCM Motorsports Park in 2015. We hope to hold a High Speed Driving Experience with a day at the Museum. We hope to be able to have a Touring session to allow NCCC members to drive their Corvettes behind a Pace Car and experience the new track.

Dale Samuelson, a member of MW-167 **Northern Illinois Corvette Club**, is our new NCCC VP of Competition. Dale and his wife Carolyn are die-hard competitors and well known throughout NCCC. We look forward to working with him and all the RCD's.

Planning is underway for our Annual Fundraiser at Rantoul Aviation Center in October. **Crossed Flags Corvette Club** and **Mad City Vettes** donated 10 sanctions for this weekend. The weekend has been successful enough to allow us to waive the event Head Tax again for 2014. I am looking for Team Leaders for Registration, Tech, Workers, and Clean-up. Please e-mail me if you can fill these positions.

I admire courage and the ability to bounce back from life's adversities. **Jim Butler and Catherine Rees** lost everything in the Washington, IL tornado last year. Members of **Mid-Illinois Corvette Club** helped them salvage some of their possessions. As I write this, the frame of their house is almost complete and they have purchased a new special edition Corvette. I have heard that Catherine plans to autocross this year. Go, Catherine!

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