

MIDWEST REGION

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Region News

As I write this report, the season is in full swing and heading toward the finish line with events scheduled most every weekend. I mention each year that it was a relatively quiet time of the year for the Region's Administrative processes but shortly we will be heading into the most active time of the year. I am glad I rested up from my Administrative duties over the Summer.

Here is a test – who noticed the change that took place on our Region website on the 5th of July? As an outcome of discussions at the May Region Governors meeting about adding club social events, **Joan Thomas, MAD City Vettes**, our **Region Webmaster**, added a new link to the website titled "Social Calendar". **Jon Kurtz**, Governor of **Chicago Corvette Club** raised this topic and those attending the meeting in Saint Louis thought it was a very good idea. Since then, Joan has been adding flyers and links to social events and the idea is to invite fellow Midwest Region members to these events. Check out the social events listed at <http://www.mwregion.com/social.html> and let Joan know of future events. We know that our clubs are hosting a variety of NCCC sanctioned events as well as many social drive outs, fundraisers and others so it makes great sense to be able to share the information on all of these events. Joan can be reached at webmaster@mwregion.com.

We just returned from the 58th Annual NCCC Convention in Bowling Green, KY. It was a great week and I wanted to send my appreciation to Dick Yanko, Deb Murphy and all of the team who made this convention happen. They happened to schedule an Eclipse of the Sun while we were there – excellent timing.

I also want to send congratulations to the 2016 National award winners that were recognized at this year's Convention. Top 15 Clubs; **Route 66 Corvette Club**, 4th place, **Windy City Corvettes**, 5th place, **Badger State Vettes**, 8th place and **Sunburst Corvette Club**, 10th place. Top 15 Men's; **Tom Reitz**, 2nd place, **Jack Wilson**, 6th place, **Brian Eichhorn**, 9th place, **Bill Esicar**, 10th place and **Jeff Craig**, 11th place. Top 15 Ladies; **Chris Reitz**, 1st place (National Champion), **Janet Wilson**, 8th place, **Debbie Esicar**, 10th place and **Linda Fairlamb**, 11th place. In addition, Sunburst Corvette Club won 2nd place in the Website Contest. Check out their website at <http://www.sunburstcorvetteclub.com/main/index.html>.

This is the time of the year to start thinking about entering your clubs Newsletters and Websites in the NCCC annual contests. The Midwest Region shines in NCCC competition and we can do the same for these contests. I would ask all clubs to consider. Submissions will start near the end of the year so be watching for the details in the next issue of Blue Bars and on the NCCC website.

2018 Region Officer Candidates will be announced at our September Governors meeting with elections results to be announced in November. I want to thank **Tom Reitz, Route 66 Corvette Club** and **Jon Kurtz, Chicago Corvette Club** for leading our Nominating Committee. We also start 2018 Region Event planning in September and wrap it up in November at the Sanctioning meeting in Saint Louis, MO. Membership renewals start during this timeframe as well. More on these topics below. Our Treasurer, **Nancy Bailey, Northern Illinois Corvette Club** will present the Regions draft 2018 Financial plan in November. **Jeanne Cassel, Wisconsin Corvette Club**, our **Secretary** and **Joan Thomas, MAD City Vettes**, our **Webmaster** has to keep up with all of this to ensure our meeting documentation and website is up to date. As you can see, we are entering a very busy Administrative time of the year for our Officers and Governors.

By the time you read this article, our Competition season will be history and we will know those results and the winners of our 2018 Officer election. So our next report will be chocked full of updates.

I hope that you all took the opportunity to enjoy the most robust NCCC schedule of events of any Region. I have to thank all of the Region clubs for providing us with many ways to enjoy our Corvettes and each other's company. I really hope you took full advantage of what is available in the Midwest Region.

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Competition News

I write this after just returning from Bowling Green, KY and the NCCC Convention. What a great week! The Holiday Inn stepped up with improved service and free breakfast every day. They also added several buffets, which really came in handy, since all the restaurants were jammed due to the Eclipse. Dick and Debbie did a great job, and thanks to all those who helped make this convention run smoothly. On a more personal note, Beverly and I celebrated our 35th Wedding Anniversary during Convention. Time really does fly by.

As usual, the Midwest Region is busy every weekend until Oct. 21st. Our Fall FUNdraiser will be in Rantoul, IL on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. We plan on having a safe, 1¹-mile long course to exercise your mind and Corvette. Food will be available provided by Corvette Club of Illinois and proceeds benefit BETHS House, a shelter for women. Having successful FUNdraisers has allowed the region to fund its operation budget without the dreaded HEAD TAX.

Larry has mentioned those MW Members who earned awards for 2016 Competition Points. Congratulations to all! And let's remember to thank all the Chairpersons and workers who make it possible for us to hold events for us to show off our cars, challenge our brains and driving skills.

As this year winds down, we are already planning for 2018. The calendar weekends flip. So, it will be more challenging than usual. Thankfully, our region Governors communicate well and iron out conflicts quickly. 2018 looks to be another busy year. And speaking of next year, I will not be returning as MW-RCD. I have decided to run for 1st Vice-president – Competition for 2018/19. I have enjoyed serving the region as RCD, and I hope to continue serving the membership of NCCC for the next two years.

Remember, every competition weekend is also a social event. So, even if you do not compete, drive out to an event and meet new friends. Competitors and workers usually meet for dinner and always welcome new faces. Corvette owners are the friendliest people on earth.

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