

### MIDWEST REGION

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### Region News

I wanted to use this article to report on updates from the February 2019 Region and National Governors meetings in Saint Louis, as this is the latest news following the long Winter break.

We had an excellent turnout of Governors and guests at the Region meeting. Three new Governors attended: **Tom McKinley, Corvette Club of IL, Karla Richmond, Great River Corvette Club and Jack Wilson of Northern IL Corvette Club.** A big welcome goes to **Bill Docherty, Windy City Corvettes,** in his new role of Treasurer. I would also like to recognize **Nancy Bailey, Northern Illinois Corvette Club** for her years of service to the Region as our Treasurer. Her time and efforts were greatly appreciated. She leaves big shoes to fill.

Bill Docherty kicked off his term by presenting the Regions 2019 Financial plan that was approved by our Governors at the meeting. Given two Region Fundraiser events this year and good financial controls, our goal is to have a profitable year for the Region. This greatly helps to ensure that we can continue to subsidize the annual Region Party and avoid having to re-introduce the Event Head Tax. The Region Incorporated this year in the State of Illinois as a not-for-profit entity, per agreement of the Governors. We discussed this need and benefits last Fall and Bill Docherty handled all the required paper work over the Winter months.

At the National Level, **Dale Samuelson, Northern IL Corvette Club** started his term as President of NCCC. New NCCC Treasurer, **Chris Reitz, Route 66 Corvette Club** took over the role from Betty Parks. The Board of Officers has worked hard to reduce expenses and it shows in the fact that for 2018, NCCC ended the year \$50,000 under budget. NCCC is heading in the right direction given the leadership of **Dave Heinemann, Windy City Corvettes,** as he starts his role as Past-President. There is a lot of Midwest Region leadership at the top of NCCC this year.

I continue to look for accomplishments of our Clubs and members from outside the Corvette world. I have found that our members are involved in a great number of activities, personal accomplishment or charity efforts that benefit others. I have been including these recognitions the past year in this article so please keep sending me updates as I am out of recognitions.

**Region Recognition: Ilah Heller-Bair, Windy City Corvettes,** completed her through-hike of the Appalachian Trail. Ilah departed the summit of Springer Mountain, GA on April 12<sup>th</sup> and completed the *2190.9-mile* hike on October 3<sup>rd</sup> by summiting Mt. Katahdin in Maine. She spent 175 days on the trail. I struggle to get 10,000 steps in a day; Ilah did about 30,000 per day (5 million in total). This is an amazing feat and one less item on Ilah's bucket list. **Max Allers, Corvettes of Minnesota,** was an American Graphic Design Award winner again in 2018, the 5th year in a row. A huge congratulation to Max on this accomplishment. **Moe and Harry Sweet, Mid-Illinois Corvette Club** started a "shoe fund" some years ago where Club members contribute throughout the year. In December, the Club takes inner-city children, from one of the areas poorest schools, to a shoe store and purchases shoes for them. Last year they purchased 65 pair of shoes! A wonderful idea that other Clubs might consider.

If you have copies of Blue Bars magazine or are looking for a specific issue, please contact **John Hibbeler, Central IL Corvette Club.** John has a collection of Blue Bars and is always looking for additional copies. Contact me at RE@mwregion.com if you need his contact info.

Finally, I hope you have made your plans and reservations as the competition season will be underway when you read this article. I am sure you will enjoy the quality events and activities held by our Regions clubs and the camaraderie that they provide. There are events in our region most every weekend of the year. I look forward to seeing you there.

Larry Pagliaro MW - RE

### Membership News

It has been a long, cold winter! Hopefully, we will start seeing more sun and warmer days..... and Corvettes!

I am proud of the Midwest Region Clubs and look forward to being the new RMD! Our membership continues to grow. As of our February 2019 meeting, our Region has 27 clubs, with 2,435 members, 50 MALs, 25 Lifetime members, and Corvette Club of Illinois is our largest club with 205 members.

There is an array of events planned in our Region, please visit the MWR website for details. The Midwest Region is successful because of its members!

Sandy Arnold MW - RMD

### **Competition News**

First, a shout out for all the Midwest Region members and Clubs who competed in 2018. I am sure that you have enjoyable (and sometimes amusing) memories. Our Region placed four Clubs, six ladies, and seven men in the top 15 Nationally, including the top lady competitor, Jan Gillespie. Well done, all!

Summer is coming, and after what seemed like too much winter, we are ready to accelerate the fun with our Corvettes, meet old friends, make new friends, visit some new and some familiar places, and hone our driving skills. Our Midwest Region competition schedule runs from March through October, already in full swing as you read this. 2019 has even more opportunities than 2018, with around 250 sanctioned events, including a couple of new autocross venues. We offer four days of car shows, 11 days of Rallyes, and 26 days of autocrosses. Plus, there will be many non-sanctioned car shows, drive-outs, and social events to sample. Check out the schedules and download the flyers on [www.mwregion.com](http://www.mwregion.com)

Our first Region fundraiser will be Memorial Day weekend, May 25-27 (21 autocross events), with a second fundraiser weekend planned for October. Many thanks to the eight clubs that donated sanctions to the fundraisers and to everyone who volunteers to work at these and other events.

**Ray Bair MW - RCD**