

MIDWEST REGION

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Region News

Is 2020 over yet? As I write this it is not but 2021 is sounding more encouraging based on new Covid-19 vaccine news that is hitting the airwaves. It gives me hope that we can return to a level of normalcy at some point in 2021. As I was preparing to write this article, I reviewed my Winter 2020 article and if I only knew what lie ahead when I wrote it. Maybe it was better that I did not know.

When in-person Governors meetings could not be held earlier in the year and the severity of the pandemic became clear, Region leaders decided that we needed to stay in touch more frequently than our normal Region Governors meeting dates. Our Officers and Governors joined monthly video conferences to assess the constantly changing situation across our three states. They contributed many insights and perspectives to help us make the best possible decisions for our Clubs and the Region overall. This close communications have proven to be a benefit that will put us on firm ground as we start to prepare for 2021. I want to again thank all of our Governors and Officers for your time and efforts and encourage all of our Governors to join in.

The Region also continued to follow all of our normal processes which kept us moving forward. We held the annual Officer election, and I would like to announce our Region's Officer team for 2021. First, **Sandy Arnold, Mid-Illinois Corvette Club** will return as our Membership Director, **Russ Tharp, Route 66 Corvette Club** will continue in his Treasurer position. **Jeanne Cassel, Wisconsin Corvette Club**, will again be our Secretary, **Joan Thomas, Mad City Vettes** continues as our Webmaster and I will be returning as Region Executive.

Ray Bair, Windy City Corvettes, Competition Director, has held this position for the past three years and will be moving on. **Chris Milewski, Wisconsin Corvette Club** will step into Ray's role. I want to thank Ray for effectively leading our Region Competition program. He devoted much time and effort to this role and was also a powerful voice in the NCCC Competition Committee. Ray has kept our Competition program running smoothly while overseeing a schedule of 225+ events each year. This is a big job, and we appreciate all that he has given to the Region. Chris has been very active in Region events these past years and I am sure that he will continue where Ray left off. I want to wish them both the very best. Our Region leaders have agreed that we will plan for a normal year in 2021 and obviously adjust as situations require.

Region Recognition:

Despite this year's challenges our Region clubs and members were able to contribute in unique ways in their communities and personal lives. I would like to recognize a few significant accomplishments.

Sabrina Milewski, Wisconsin Corvette Club received her 1st degree International Black belt in Kukwon Tae Kwon Do this year. Congratulations to Sabrina. Also, **Wisconsin Corvette Club** raised \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Windy City Corvettes donated \$10,000 to the Illinois Spina Bifida Association in October. This was part of a new initiative coordinated between the club Charity Committee and ISBA. A matching fund program was started to encourage others to match the club's donation. The program was a huge success.

Lyle Nienow, Corvettes of Minnesota and owner of Lewiston Chevrolet and Buick dealership in Lewiston, Minnesota, celebrated 100 years of the dealership being in business. He hosted a huge show at the dealership, with a goal of having a Chevrolet from every year since 1920 on display. He had well over 100 Chevrolets beginning with a 1920 Chevrolet truck through a 2020 C-8 Corvette. Only missing were the 1943 and 1944 years, when no cars were built during WWII. Several COM members were able to attend this fabulous display. Congratulations to Lyle!

Finally, I would like to again recognize **Max Allers, Corvettes of Minnesota**, for winning the 2020 American Graphic Design Award. This is his 8th year in a row winning the award. Congrat's (again) to Max.

Please keep sending me your clubs/members accomplishments for future articles.

Wishing you all a warm and safe holiday season.

Larry Pagliaro MW - RE_

Membership News

Hello everyone! Hope you are well! By the time you read this note, renewals will be complete, and the snow will be blowing here in Illinois. I want to thank our amazing Midwest Region Club Governors for making renewals so easy this year! With COVID -19 still hanging around and on the rise, we are again on a lock down. I hope we start seeing some relief soon!

Sandy Arnold MW - RMD

Competition News

The much-abbreviated 2020 Midwest Region competition season featured 11 Region-sanctioned Rallye events spread over 3 weekends from July to September. Many thanks to **Badger State Vettes, Brew City Corvette Club, Windy City Corvettes, and Wisconsin Corvette Club** for hosting the Rallyes. These clubs showed how it can be done safely. It was great to get together and then get out on the road and enjoy the Wisconsin and Illinois countryside.

We cannot know how much the pandemic may restrict our ability to hold events in 2021, but the Midwest Region is planning a full slate of sanctioned competition opportunities. **Chris Milewski** and I are already working together to coordinate planning activities and pass the RCD baton. Midwest clubs are also planning a number of social events and some non-sanctioned driving school/track days. Check our region website frequently for 2021 schedule updates and details <https://www.mwregion.com>.

I enjoyed serving as our RCD, especially connecting with our clubs, members, and the other RCDs, and I hope to see you all in 2021.

Ray Bair MW - RCD