

MIDWEST REGION

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Region News

2021 was a much better year and the Regions clubs are back to normal. The good news was that we did not have to cancel any events due to Covid-19 after March and the Officers and Governors were back to normal meetings in Saint Louis by September. It was great to get the group back together to conduct Region business in person. The Region leaders did an outstanding job keeping the Region viable during the dark days of the Pandemic, but nothing beats meeting in person, during official meetings and outside the meeting room. It is amazing how much "work" gets done outside of the actual meetings.

We held the annual Officer election, and I would like to announce our Region's Officer team for 2022. 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 **Linda Fairlamb, Northern Rays Ltd.**, will be our new Region Executive. So, this will be my closing article of Blue Bars.

Ray Bair, Windy City Corvettes, Competition Director, has held this position for the past four years and will be moving on. Sadly, we lost **Chris Milewski, Wisconsin Corvette Club**, earlier this year and Ray volunteered to step back into the role even though his personal situation was drastically changing with building a new home in the state of Washington and starting the cross-country move. He did not miss a beat for the Region in keeping our Competition program running as effectively as ever. I personally cannot thank Ray enough for stepping in. It would have been so hard to fill the role following Chris's untimely passing. Ray tells me he and Ilah will be in the Midwest Region at times during 2022. I want to extend my personal gratitude. As Ray mentions below, **Jeff Craig, Saint Louis Corvette Club**, will be moving into our RCD role next year.

Region Recognition: Windy City Corvettes donated \$8,000 to the Illinois Spina Bifida Association in December at their Christmas Share-A-Dish/monthly Meeting. ISBA leaders were in attendance to accept the donation. We want to recognize their Charity committee members, **Teresa Kocanda, Nancy Burns, Marylou Freeman and John Adamski**. They have worked extremely hard raising funds for ISBA as well as other charities and deserve the recognition.

Finally, I would like to again recognize **Max Allers, Corvettes of Minnesota**, for winning the American Graphic Design Award. This is his 11th year in a row winning the award. Congratulations (once again) to Max.

Region Party: I want to announce that the 2022 Region Party (celebrating 2021) will be March 12, 2022 and will be held at the Crowne Plaza in Burr Ridge, Illinois. The Governors approved a \$25 reduction for each attendee. Watch for an event flyer just after the first of the year. Region Party registration cut off is February 26, 2022.

So, I will sign off. I want to thank you for allowing me to be your RE for 12 total years. The role was so much easier given all the Officers and Governors who have served and had a single purpose which was working together for the betterment of the Midwest Region. We really do have an excellent team of Region/Club leaders.

Larry Pagliaro MW - RE

Membership News

As you read this note in the Winter Edition of Blue Bars, renewals are finished, our daughter's wedding is in the books (after being canceled last year), the snow is flying, cars are in storage, and I am in Florida enjoying the sunshine! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas!

The Midwest Region added 300 new members in 2021. Sadly, we lost one of our long-time clubs, Land of Lincoln Corvette Club. I am hopeful we will add a new club in 2022!

Be well and stay safe!

Sandy Arnold MW - RMD

Competition News

It was great to return to a normal competition schedule in 2021 and to see participation pick up as the season progressed. I hope that we can get all the way back to previous levels in 2022. The Midwest Region held 201 sanctioned events in 2021, including 23 Rallyes, 12 car shows, and 166 autocross events. Congratulations to our 2021 Region Points Champions: Carolyn Samuelson (Ladies), Dale Samuelson (Men), Robyn Wood (Worker), and Windy City Corvettes, Inc. (Club). Deb and Mike Alvarado are our Region Rallye Champions and our Concours Champions. Carolyn and Dale Samuelson are also our Region Autocross Champions.

I enjoyed serving as our RCD, and I and I had a great time running for points this year. This year was a rewarding opportunity to make new friends with Corvette enthusiasts, travel to new places, see old friends more often, and share many good times. I hope to see you all at the Midwest Region Party on March 12, 2022, and at the NCCC Convention in June.

In closing, I send a big Midwest welcome to our 2022 RCD, Jeff Craig, from St. Louis Corvette Club. Our Region is planning a full slate of events for 2022. Please check our website for dates and details <https://www.mwregion.com>

Ray Bair MW - RCD