

Well, I made it through my first year as RE! Now that I'm officially retired (for the second time) and have a year as RE under my belt, this year should be a breeze! I want to thank all of the Governors who make it to the Governor's meetings in St Louis for your in-person support, and those who can't but provide your thoughts and feedback via email also for your support. Although our challenge this year is going to be to bring our expenses more in line with our income, we had a great brainstorming session at the February meeting and will have a smaller group work on summarizing/prioritizing the ideas that are most realistic for the Region.

Did you ever know anyone that did anything heroic? Well, those people are amongst us. Corvette Club of Illinois member Dick Lampe is one such person. Dick first did a good deed by installing smoke detectors in his blind elderly neighbor's house. Shortly thereafter the neighbor called to say his house was on fire. Dick immediately went to his house and found him sitting on the porch steps, with flames shooting out of the windows. Dick was able to get him off the porch which was where his world ended because of his blindness. With his back and left side having 3rd degree burns, Dick dragged him to the detached garage to await the ambulance. We all hope we have a Dick Lampe by our side when the need arises!

Linda Fairlamb MW – RE

It was great to see my Corvette family at the February NCCC Meetings. At the time of this message, we still have weekends open for events. Please let me know if I can assist in any way!

We have tentatively scheduled the second Midwest Region FUNdraiser for Sept 16-17. We hope to be able to use the Alliant Center in Madison or Public Safety training facility in Columbus WI. Thanks to the Mad City Vettes members that have been working on this.

I have been working on getting my cars and trailer ready for driving season and wish to share a few tidbits. I am sure everyone has heard the adage, "An ounce of prevention beats a pound of cure." Now is the time to check the condition and age of the tires, battery and fluid levels in your Corvettes and tow vehicles. Some of our beloved fiberglass flyers can be hard on batteries due to the larger electrical load. If you have a battery that is 4 years old, just replace it. The newer batteries can lose quite a bit of reserve capacity if they are allowed to run down and get "deep cycled." As voltage drops, amperage is increased and that has potential to damage costly electrical components. Blowing from the engine side back through the radiator to the front can help dislodge any debris that could impact engine cooling and air conditioning performance. Checking brake pad wear, bleeding fresh fluid through the system and checking wheel bearings should be on your list as well. Don't forget your trailer! A wheel bearing repack, brake lining adjustment and lighting inspection can save serious aggravation when heading to and from your favorite events! Looking forward to a fun, fast and safe 2023 season!

Jeff Craig MW - RCD

Hello from the Midwest Region! Renewals are finished and Membership cards have been delivered. Thank you to the amazing Governors who make my job so easy! We have some exciting news, we have four new Governors, Tracy Adamson, Karen Grove and Ken Franklin...and a new club, Stray Vettes of Illinois! Welcome all! On a sad note, we lost a long time Governor, Jim Bodin, of the Suburban Corvette Club of Minnesota and Robert Wood, 50 year member of Kettle Moraine Corvette Club and two very dear friends of mine from Mid-Illinois Corvette Club, Jim Becker and Marguerite Gove. Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

On a happier note, it looks like spring is just around the corner. I've been seeing a few Corvettes around and am ready to get the car out and go for a ride!

Sandy Arnold MW - RMD