

MIDWEST REGION

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This is my first term as the Midwest Regional Executive – I hope I can live up to the standards of our past RE's. A special thanks to outgoing officers Linda Fairlamb, Regional Executive; Sandy Arnold, Regional Membership Director; and Diane Wagner, Regional Treasurer. Your service is appreciated. I welcome new officers Steve Grabenstetter, Regional Membership Director and Gordon Green, Regional Treasurer.

I'm always excited to see activities and events that our clubs are involved in and here is an example of just such an event:

Winter 1993, for thaw-breaking fun, the **Wisconsin Corvette Club** (MW-075) instigated a *Chili Challenge* with other area Corvette Clubs. It was fun, and it didn't take long to add a *Chocolate Challenge*, and then *Salsa*. This year, March 2, Wisconsin Corvette Club hosted **Badger State Vettes** (MW-246), **Brew City Corvette Club** (MW-598) **Muskego Corvette Club**, and **Ozaukee Corvette Club** at the *Delafield Brewhaus* in Wisconsin for the 32nd ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF, the 30TH ANNUAL CHOCOLATE BAKE-OFF, and the 23RD ANNUAL SALSA COMPETITION.

This gastronomical gourmet affair draws upwards of 60+ participants. Some will bring "taster trays" or muffin pans with liners numbered to track their selections from large chili crockpots keeping warm on long tables, the overloaded table of chocolate desserts, and the salsas. This year's Chef's Hat Winners were – for Salsa **Babs Brand**, Wisconsin Corvette Club, Chocolate winner was **Brandy Muex**, Brew City Corvette Club, and the 2025 Chili Winner was **Roseanne Wesolowski** from Muskego Corvette Club. **WCC** selected our local **Ronald McDonald House** to receive the proceeds from a well-stocked *Silent Auction*, and *50/50 Drawing*. The clubs alphabetically rotate Host Responsibilities, and **BSV** is scheduled for 2026.

On a more serious note, the Midwest Region mourns the loss of one of our members who was influential in the Corvette world at the Club, Region, and National level. Gary Kelly was a founding member of Badger State Vettes. He served as Club Governor, Midwest RCD, and NCCC Vice President of Competition. He was a Regional Champion at least five times and was NCCC Mens Champion in 1983. Gary was also a huge supporter of the National Corvette Museum. Gary's attention to detail was well known and he was responsible for re-writing and formatting the NCCC rulebook that we still use to this day. Gary's professional life was spent as an electrical engineer at Delco Electronics. Gary – we will miss you; may you Rest in Peace.

The Midwest Region is hosting the NCCC 66th Annual Convention in the Wisconsin Dells. Check out the NCCC web site for details. The host resort is huge and has enough to offer that you might not need to leave the resort all week. But you don't want to miss the many tours and other activities available, and the competitive events are all held at world class venues. Don't miss this opportunity to spend time with fellow NCCC members enjoying Americas only sports car! Midwest Region members – we need your help to make this work. Come for the full week, come for a day or two, but please come and volunteer to help. Let us know when you can be here, and we will find something for you to do – see you there.

Dale Samuelson MW – RE

There is still a chill in the air, but Spring is fast approaching with the promise of squealing tires, the roar of engines, glistening Corvettes on display and getting together with our friends again.

The Midwest Region will be very busy with 210 Low Speeds, 30 Rallyes, 10 Car Shows and 4 Concours. Starting the season off with our first joint FUNdraiser in Bowling Green, Ky, we are partnering with the Southeast Region on April 5-6. We host a 3-day FUNdraiser at Rantoul Memorial Day Weekend and a 2-day at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, WI. Using FUNdraisers for the Region avoids the use of the dreaded HEAD TAX to fund the Region. Please support our FUNdraisers! Events are held almost every weekend through October 18/19, our Last Chance autocross.

If that isn't enough to keep our members busy, the Midwest Region is hosting the 2025 NCCC Convention at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. We look forward to welcoming NCCC members to this picturesque area. Wisconsin is known for its Dairy, World Class cheese, Bratwurst, and my favorite, beer. New Glarus Spotted Cow will be featured in hospitality. Registrations have been rolling in and competitive events are still filling. Tours showing off unique Wisconsin attractions are filling fast.

Dale Samuelson, from Northern Illinois Corvette Club has done the Region's timing for as long as I can remember; and does it very well. They have invested in new equipment for 2025 so we can hope for a trouble-free season. Dale puts a lot of effort into timing, so let him know you appreciate him.

With all there is to do, I hope to see many of you at our events and at the Convention.

Bill Docherty MW - RCD