



eNews

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Top Story

2011 Recap

Most of the Southern California/Southern Nevada Caravan Organizing Team's work in 2011 focused on pre-running parts of the Caravan route which will be new in 2014.

Last summer, Section Captain, Hib Halverson, scouted parts of old Route 66 in the Mojave Desert between Ludlow and Fenner. That trip, "Prerun 1" was detailed in eNews #4.



On Historic 66, SCSN Capt. Halverson, waits at the BNSF grade crossing North of Goffs, California. Caravan veterans may recognize the 2G ZR-1 as one of the lead cars from the 2003 Caravan. Image: Sandy Halverson

In early September, the Captains of the three largest Caravan Sections in the Western U.S. preran the full Caravan route from Ontario, California to Bowling Green, Kentucky. Captain Alton "Tuna" Dobbins, of the Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle Section, Captain Holt Davis of the Arizona/New Mexico Section and our own Captain Halverson decided a full prerun, early in the planning process, was necessary because of the change from a 5-day to a 6-day trip and new Caravan routing in the States of California, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Missouri.

The first day of PreRun 2 was a one car show with Capt. Halverson and his Wife Sandy scouting more of old 66 in the eastern Mojave between Fenner and Goffs and then over to US95. The best part of those two days was the Halversons', visit to Williams, Arizona which will be the first overnight stop on the trip. They met Chamber of Commerce President, Gioia Goodrum, for dinner at famed Rod's Steakhouse which is known for it's great food along with the big, plastic steer on the sidewalk out front. After dinner the Halversons and Ms. Goodrum discussed the types of first-night events the

Caravan and the City of Williams could stage. They, also, met with the Mayor and the Chief of Police. Bottom line: the people of Williams really wants the Caravan to visit their City. Finally, the Halverson's toured the Winchester Steakhouse, a old-west-themed banquet/party facility in Williams which specializes in western-themed, dining and dancing for large groups.

Williams is about 45 minutes closer to our starting point in Ontario than is Flagstaff, which was used for the 2003 and 2009 events. Williams is also a much more "car friendly" town than "Flag", has reasonable hotel costs and, being the last Route 66 town to be bypassed by Interstate 40 has a Mother Road ambience which Capt. Halverson feels is a better fit with Caravaners. That first night in Williams, the SCSN OT will stage a social event for all Caravaners. The specifics of that event will be announced at some time in the future.

On the way to Williams on the first day of the trip, the Caravan will visit portions of old Route 66 in the eastern Mojave Desert and it will make its traditional stop for ice cream in Seligman, Arizona and the world famous Snow Cap Drive-In.

In past Caravans, the Arizona/New Mexico Caravan Section Captain has elected not to join with neighboring Sections, however, for the 2014 event, National Chair, Paul Mariano, appointed a new Captain, Holt Davis, to lead the Arizona/New Mexico Section. Shortly after his appointment, Captain Davis announced that his Section would join with the our SCSN group and "Tuna Dobbins" Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle Section for the trip to Bowling Green. In fact, Davis and some of his Caravaners from the Phoenix area will arrive in Williams to join us on the first night of the trip. Additional AZ/NM Caravaners from eastern AZ and western NM may join along the way with the final contingent of AZ/NM Caravaners joining in Albuquerque New Mexico on the second night or the third morning of the Caravan. For more information on the second night of the trip in Albuquerque, see the AZ/NM Section page on the National Caravan web site at: www.corvettecaravan.com/az-nm/

The Southern California/Southern Nevada Section will spend it's third night on the road in Amarillo, Texas and that night will have the SCSN and the Arizona/New Mexico Sections joining for an evening event the details of which will be announced at a later date. On Sunday morning, Caravaners from the Oklahoma/Texas Panhandle Section will meet SCSN and AZ/NM Caravaners and all three Sections will depart Amarillo, headed for Tulsa Oklahoma and the fourth overnight. For more information on that subject, see the OK/TXPan page on the National Caravan site at: www.corvettecaravan.com/ok/

Other News

"Feeder" Caravans: help wanted!

In past Caravans, the Southern California/Southern Nevada Section has organized "feeder" Caravans which start the day before the full Section leaves Ontario California. In 2003 and 2009, we had two of these, one which started from San Diego County and a second which started from Santa Barbara. For 2014, the SCSN Organizing Team would like to have a third starting in Las Vegas and joining the main group in Kingman AZ. We tried to do this in 2009 but were unsuccessful in finding a "Caravan Lieutenant" to serve as the Las Vegas Valley local leader who organizes the Las Vegas area Caravaners.

The San Diego and Santa Barbara Feeders will leave the San Diego area and Santa Barbara on Thursday morning, 21 August 2014 and arrive in Ontario late that afternoon. The Southern Nevada Feeder will leave the Las Vegas area on Friday morning, 22 August 2014 and will meet the main Caravan in Kingman at lunchtime.

The SoCal/SoNev Organizing Team is putting the call out now. We are looking for Corvetters who plan to go on the Caravan and who want to take a more active role in the event. We need local leaders for the San Diego Feeder Caravan, the Santa Barbara Feeder and the Las Vegas Feeder. Volunteer for this and you'll receive an immediate promotion from "Caravan First Class" to "Caravan Lieutenant"....but you won't get a raise in pay. You will get listed on the Staff page of the Route Book as a "Caravan Lieutenant" and you can get a "Local Leader windshield header for your Caravan car.

Local Leaders need to reside in or near the places where those Feeder Caravans will start. They need to be members of the National Corvette Museum. They need to have experience organizing and leading groups of 20 or so cars in caravans. Most importantly Local Leader/Caravan Lieutenants must want to be a part of the Team which puts on the 2014 National Corvette Caravan. Interested? If so, contact Section Captain, Hib Halverson by email at: captainscsn@netmotive.net or by phone at 805-685-6865.

Preliminary Registration Information.

Last Fall, Captain Halverson and his Wife, the Fairest Sandra the Red, Duchess of Goleta, ended PreRun 2 at the National Corvette Museum's "Anniversary Weekend". That weekend is, also, the time when Caravan National Chairpeople, in this case, "Admiral" Paul Mariano, will convene a national Captain's meeting.

During the meeting last September, the NCM's Events Director, Roc Linkov, announced that there will be a single registration process for both the Caravan and the Anniversary weekend event. The National Caravan fee is \$5.00 for NCM members but is waived for Lifetime NCM Members. The Labor Day event costs all NCM members \$15.00 and non-members \$25.00. Some Caravan Sections may have additional charges for meals or social events.

Early Registration for the 2014 Caravan will begin some time after this year's Labor Day event. There will be no road tours listed at that time, but early registrants will be notified when the tours are listed and they will get first choice once they are listed. The cut-off date for registration will be August 15, 2014. On-site registration will be available at our Ontario departure event but Caravan/Labor Day event badges will not be available to those who register on-site.

This preliminary information is subject to change and additional registration information will be available at a later date.

Route Book 2014: Will it be Dragged, Kicking and Screaming, into the Digital Age?

Caravan Commander Tony Megowan, the Route Book Project Director, tells the eNews that the Southern California Southern Nevada Section Organizing Team is considering issuing a digital version of the 2014 route book which would be posted somewhere on the web on either the night before we leave Ontario CA or on the first day of the trip. Additionally, the OT is thinking about

making those web pages accessible via QR boxes to Caravaners using Apple iPhones, iPads or other "smart" mobile devices with Internet access plans. For an example of how this would work, read this QR box with your Internet-capable, mobile device and you should be taken to the SCSN web page.



Any eNews reader with an opinion on this idea and who wants to comment, please let us know how you feel by emailing Route Book Project Director, Cdr. Tony Megowan at tmegowan@interlogics.net

2014 Lead Car Ordered.

Section Captain Hib Halverson announced just before our deadline that the Lead Car for the 2014 Southern California/Southern Nevada Section will be a Carlisle Blue 2012 Z06/Z07. When asked why not a C7, he replied, "Well...a Lead Car needs to be ready to go two months before the event and we need time to add modifications we've done to every lead car since 2003, mainly the addition of radio equipment, mods to the cooling system for extended idle time during desert use in the summer and special, Caravan graphics. Knowing that it might be difficult to get a C7 soon enough to do all that, I decided to order a C6.

Then, why not a 2013 60th Anniversary 427 Convertible we asked?



Ok. It's not a Z06. Well...duh! An image of a Grand Sport in Carlisle Blue with the Chevrolet Accessories white stripe was all we could find. Generally, this is what the 2014 SCSN Section's Lead Car will look like. Yellow Z06 drivers, take note. This view is what you'll see as it passes you. Image: GM Communications.

"The fairest Sandra the Red, and I are not "convertible people," Halverson added. "She's fair-skinned and there's skin cancer in my family so Convertibles don't cut it. Also, I'm one of those lunatic-fringe hardcores who wants a 'street/track car' so the obvious choice is the 1LZ Z06 w. Z07 and B92. Sandy is smitten with the Carlisle Blue exterior, which is a one-year (2012) color. But most importantly, our National Chairman, Paul Mariano, has a Yellow Z06 and everyone knows that Blue Z06es are quicker and faster than Yellow ones; so we had to order the car in Carlisle Blue.

"Another reason I took the 2012 was I got a heck of a deal on it from Tom Henry Chevrolet in Bakerstown PA, where I bought my C5, Sandy's HHR and our Blazer. Plus, GM had \$3000 bucks worth of GM Card "top-off" cash and \$1000 worth of incentive cash on a 2012 Vette at the time. Seemed like a no-brainer to do that deal.

"Having the car 18 months before the event will allow the Organizing Team plenty of time to equip it with CB and UHF radios, a Fluidyne radiator, ECM reprogramming, some aftermarket goodies from sponsor Zip Products and a "Clear Bra" from sponsor Transhine Auto Detailing."

Organizing Team Main Office Moves

The main office for the Southern California/Southern Nevada Organizing Team has moved. The new address is: SCSN Section 2014 Corvette Caravan, 228 San Napoli Dr., Goleta CA 93117. Ph. 805-685-6865. email: captainscsn@netmotive.net

Thanks for reading
Yeoman L. Sharke, Editor



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