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PreRun4 a Success

Southwest Caravan Section Captain, Tony Megowan, recently completed a 1710-mile trip which preran much of the 2019 Southwest Caravan Route. PreRun4 covered the route in reverse, starting in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, which we will visit on Day 6 of the trip, and ending in Henderson, Nevada, where we will be on the first night of the trip.

"Before we started on PreRun4, we knew the route fairly well—we'd run either the all or part of it, three times before," Capt. Megowan told the eNews. The two key objectives of PreRun 4 were to: 1) meet with groups associated with our evening events in Cape Girardeau and Kansas City to begin planning those events and 2) locate facilities at which we can form-up the Caravan prior to morning departures.



Section Captain Megowan, at left, flanked by Rick Essner and Reg Swan of Corvettes of Southeast Missouri, discuss the Cape Girardeau event. At right are: restaurant owner, Bonnie Metz and Visitcape Director, Brenda Newbern. Image: eNews Staff

"In Cape G., we met with members of Corvettes of Southeastern Missouri and the Cape Girardeau Convention and Visitors Bureau who are planning and organizing an event on the last night of the Caravan. Four Sections, Southwest, Pacific Central, Oklahoma/Texas Pan Handle and Kansas/Missouri, will arrive on the afternoon of 27 August. That evening there will be a show-and-shine on the streets of downtown Cape Girardeau in the same area where we partied during the 2014 Caravan. For 2019, we're adding live music and a beer garden. Food service have not been finalized, but one idea on the table is a catered dinner like we



Section Captain Megowan and Museum Events Director, Hillary Dunnegan, talk about the Aug 26th dinner. The Museum's Super Constellation is in the background. Image: eNews Staff

had in 2014. In any case, Corvettes at the Cape will be bigger and better in '19 and a key reason for that is we are arriving earlier allowing more time for an evening event.

"In Kansas City," Megowan continued, "we met with the staff at the National Airline History Museum to start planning for our gathering there the night of the 26th. The plan is for the Southwest Section and the Pacific Central Section to come to the Museum for a catered, sit-down dinner. Following that will be a presentation about the Museum's Lockheed Super Constellation, a long-haul, airliner which first flew in 1956 and was the state-of-the-art at the end of the propeller-driven era when air travel was a more unique experience than it is, today."

Southwest Section XO, Commander Hib Halverson, accompanied Cap Tony, on PreRun4 and, together, they located and inspected large parking areas to use for Caravan Departures in Kansas City, Missouri; Colby, Kansas and Grand Junction, Colorado. Departure points have already been located in Pasadena, California; Henderson, Nevada, Cape Girardeau, Missouri and Bowling Green, Kentucky. The only city in which the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team has not found a departure point is St. George, Utah and, on PreRun5, later this year or early in 2019, the SW Caravan Organizing Team will address that issue.



The rest of PreRun4 was an adventure as Capt. Megowan and XO Halverson crossed the Rocky Mountains on Interstate 70. "The weather around the (Eisenhower/Johnson) Tunnel and Vail Pass was forecast to be: snow showers with up to half-an-inch accumulation and temperatures in the low-30s," Commander Halverson told the eNews. "I knew, once we got down to Aspen, the snow would stop and the weather for the rest of that day's run to Grand Junction and final two days of the trip would be beautiful. I knew the 'Blue Bullet' would be fine driving through snow showers as long as the snow turned to slush once it stuck and, since it was not supposed to go below 30°, ice would not be a problem because the road stays warmer than the air. Not wanting to use two days to detour south into New Mexico and Arizona, I decided before we left Colby, Kansas that morning we'd stick to the Caravan route and go right up I-70 through whatever snow showers we found."

On Wednesday, 7 Nov., after the "PreRun4 snow adventure" in the Vail area the previous day, Megowan and Halverson in the Blue Bullet, which was the SW Section Lead Car in 2014, crossed the high desert of eastern Utah on I-70 and, once again, experienced the exceptional beauty of the area. Section Captain Megowan, said, "I can never get enough of the beautiful scenery between Green River and Salina Utah on that 105-mile stretch of highway."

Other News

San Diego Feeder Caravan

Southwest Section Captain, Tony Megowan, announced that Doug Glenore has been appointed to the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team. Caravan Commander Glenore, a member of Corvettes of Temecula Valley, will set-up and lead the San Diego/Riverside County Feeder Caravan which will leave Paradise Chevrolet in Temecula on Thursday morning 20 August. In addition, Doug will lead SW Section fund raising activities in the San Diego/Riverside area.

Traditionally, the Southwest Section's departure point has been centrally located in California. For the 2019 Caravan, that location is Pasadena. Feeder Caravans, usually one from the Central Coast area, one from San Diego County and one from Orange County leave starting points in those areas on the morning before the main Caravan departs. The San Diego Feeder will arrive in Pasadena in the late afternoon on the 20th.

All Caravaners from San Diego and eastern Riverside Counties are encouraged to join the San Diego Feeder Caravan. For more information contact Commander Doug Glenore at dglenore@yahoo.com

Blankee Benefit

Southwest Section CFO, Commander Paula Megowan, tells the eNews that the first lot of 2019 Caravan stadium blankets is nearly sold out. Any Southwest Section Caravaners who donates \$125.00 or more to the Organizing Team gets a one of these blankets and will be listed in the 2019 Route Book as a "Blankee Benefactor". Also, clubs can group-order special versions of the blanket unique to their club. The minimum club order is 12. Any club with members registered for the Southwest Section which makes a donation to the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team of \$1800.00 or more will receive a dozen Stadium Blankets with the Club's name sewn into the Blanket just underneath the Southwest Section logo. To order blankets contact Paula Megowan at (805) 659-5056.



The SW Section Stadium Blanket. Image: eNews Staff.

Corvette Racing Toolbox Raffle

As the Southwest Section's fund raising activities get into high-gear, Section Captain Tony Megowan says that 2019 Caravan National Chairman, "Admiral" Jeff Duda, announced a raffle of a Corvette Racing "Jake" inspired rollaway tool box. The Southwest Section Organizing Team has some tickets for this raffle and is selling them in order to raise money for SW Section events.

Corvette Racing Sonic Tool Box Raffle

Raffle Tickets \$10 each or 3 Tickets for \$25

Winner to be drawn at National Corvette Museum 25th Anniversary Event
Saturday Aug. 31st, 2019

Winner Does **NOT** Need To Be Present To Win

Includes Free Shipping To Your Home Address – Raffle For Empty Tool Box

Fundraising Raffles Benefiting the National Corvette Museum, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit



The rollaway was supplied by Sonic Tools which is a sponsor of Corvette Racing in the 2018 season. The box has the Corvette Racing, Jake and Sonic logos on the drawers and on the back has a large Jake graphic. Tools and the towel roll shown in the image above are not included with the rollaway to be raffled. Tickets are ten bucks each or three for \$25 and can be ordered Tony Megowan by emailing him at tmegowan@outlook.com or calling him at (805) 659-5056.

Thanks for reading
Yeoman L. Sharke, Editor



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