



# eNews

Presented by Zip Products and Club Glove USA

## Top Story

### New Departure Point

In eNews15, we reported that the Southwest Section's Departure Event on Thursday morning 22 August had been booted out of the Rose Bowl. Over the last couple of weeks, the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team's highest priority has been finding an alternative departure point.

Section Captain Tony Megowan announced on Thursday 15 June that the Pasadena Elks Lodge 672 parking lot, at the corner of Orange Grove and Colorado, would be the new departure point. *"We looked at a number of alternatives: Santa Anita Park, Glendale College, Norton Simon Museum, Eaglerock Plaza and the Elks Lodge but the first one we considered, the Elks, was the one that met our needs,"* Capt. Megowan said.

The Team is grateful to our Departure events Host Club, Corvettes Limited of Los Angeles for assisting in securing the Pasadena Elks Lodge's support. CL's President, Matt Hinson, and Club Member Dorothy McCain were instrumental in that. Turns out that Miss McCain is the Exalted Ruler of the Arcadia Elks Lodge 2025 and knew, Neil Yeager, the Exalted Ruler of the Pasadena Lodge. McCain introduced the Organizing Team to Neil Yeager who agreed to our use of the Pasadena Lodge's parking lot. Without Corvette Limited's help in getting us hooked up with the Pasadena Lodge, the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team would have had to choose a different, less advantageous location.

With the selection of the Elks Lodge for the Southwest Section's departure point, there will no need to change Caravan staging or departure times as the Lodge parking lot is actually closer to our headquarters hotel, the Westin Pasadena, than is the Rose Bowl.

## Other News

### Hotel Booking

In this issue, we're publishing a final hotel booking report compiled by Commander Doug Rosa who has directed our hotel property acquisition program and blocked rooms at most of the properties we'll use for overnights.

The booking deadline for all hotel properties we will use for overnight stops is 1 July. **If you have not booked rooms at all our overnight stops, do so immediately. You have 13 days until we release all unbooked rooms.** After 1 July, we will publish no more hotel booking reports and anyone without rooms booked will be on their own to find them.

The hotel booking report is at the end of this eNews.

## San Diego Feeder

The San Diego Feeder Caravan will join the Southwest Section on Wednesday 21 August 2019 for Departure Night at the Westin Hotel in Pasadena. Lou Long at Paradise Chevrolet in Temecula is hosting a send off lunch for Corvettes of Temecula Valley. Joining us will be Sam Rindskopf from North County Corvette Club and Carm Finocchiaro, from North Coast Vettes, along with other club members and Individuals.

We expect as many as 40 Corvetters will join us at Paradise Chevrolet for the Feeder Caravan's departure for Pasadena. We plan to meet at Paradise Chevrolet around 1:00 P.M. for lunch and then head out to Pasadena shortly thereafter. Caravan Commander, Doug Glenore, and his wife Marilyn encourage all caravaners from the San Diego and the Inland Empire to join us in making new friends, renewing old friendships before we head to Pasadena. All Caravaners from San Diego and Riverside Counties are encouraged to join the San Diego Feeder Caravan. For more information, contact Cmdr. Glenore at (951) 961-3911 or [dglenore@yahoo.com](mailto:dglenore@yahoo.com). Cmdr. Glenore contributed to this part of the eNews.



## PreRun7

And you thought all the prerun trips were done. Well...so did we until about a week ago when Darryl Van Dorn, a heads-up Caravaner from Mesquite, Arizona, emailed us asking if we knew about traffic congestion caused by road construction on I-15 in the Virgin River Canyon.

The Wednesday after Memorial Day, the Arizona Department of Transportation began a bridge deck restoration project in the canyon. We didn't know about this until Darryl emailed us because the job started after Section Captain, Tony Megowan, and CFO, Paula Megowan, did Pre-Run6 back in April.

In the first two weeks of this month, Captain Megowan was already busy finding a new departure point location, so he turned the I-15 construction problem over to Section XO, Commander Hib Halverson who was detailed to drive to the area, assess the situation and locate an alternate route between Littlefield, Arizona, the last I-15 offramp before the canyon, and St. George, Utah our second overnight stop.

*"I started by using the Internet to look at ADOT's plan for this bridge deck work as well as reports on and traffic cam images of whatever back-ups*

*there might be,"* Commander Halverson told the eNews. *"At first, what I found wasn't pretty. The project will last a year and involves three of the bridges over the Virgin River about four miles north of Littlefield. To facilitate this work, between mile posts 13 and 16, the road will be narrowed to one lane each way. With I-15 a major north-south highway in the western U.S., this was bound to cause some problems. Email reports from Darryl Van Dorn in Mesquite and Caravan Commander, Doug Rosa, in St. George told of back-ups which sometimes were miles and hours long. No freakin' way would that work for a caravan of 200 or more cars on a 100+ degree day in August."*



Halverson left his home in Goleta on Sunday 9 June, drove to the area and scouted a route around the construction which would be suitable for a 200+ car caravan. Mojave County Route 91 runs from Littlefield to the Utah line and becomes "Old Route 91" from there to Santa Clara UT. Once you leave Santa Clara, there are two possible routes to St George. Halverson scouted one of the two routes on his northbound trip then turned around in St. George and took the other route back. *"The first of the two routes, CR91 to Old Route 91 then down Dixie Drive to fifteen is the best,"* he said. *"However, the part of the drive through Santa Clara is slow, so, while the distance isn't much more than staying in 15, it takes longer. If the back up on 15 is significant, the alternate route is the better choice, but if the back-up on 15 is short, it's better to stick it out."*

*"When you get off in Littlefield, you can see the Interstate 15 as it goes into the gorge and I didn't see any back-up, so I decided to drive into the Virgin River Canyon to see the traffic congestion for myself,"* Halverson continued. *"It wasn't bad at all—maybe 7-10 minutes extra, so I think this back-up people are talking about varies considerably depending on when one drives that route. I was there on a Monday. The Caravan will be there on a Friday afternoon when more significant traffic congestion is likely."*



*Staying on 15 will be better for the Caravan. What I've suggested to the Section Captain is that, when the Caravan starts into the Valley of Fire in Nevada, which will include time for people to stop and enjoy the eye candy and take pictures, someone from the Organizing Team should head straight for the Virgin River Canyon to assess the back-up and call Tony with a report. Based on that, he will then decide whether to stick with I-15 or use the alternate route. Both routes will be published in our Route Book."*

## **Blankee Benefit**

So far, this fund-raising program has brought in \$3400, much needed funds to operate the Caravan Section, but our projected costs are higher than that. Route Book ad sales are not going as well as for previous Caravans so, if you like the SW Section Commemorative Blanket, **we need your financial support.** Nine blankets are available. Any Southwest Section Caravaner who donates \$125.00 or more to the Organizing Team gets one of these blankets and will be listed in the 2019 Route Book as a "Blankee Benefactor".

In addition, on a group-order basis, Corvette Clubs can obtain special versions of the blanket unique to their club. The minimum club order is 12. Any club with members registered for the Caravan 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 below the Southwest Section logo.



The 2019 Southwest Section Blanket.  
Image: eNews Staff

To order blankets contact Paula Megowan at (805) 659-5056 or [paula@goldandgoldcpas.com](mailto:paula@goldandgoldcpas.com).

## **We're Looking for a Few Good Advertisers**

The Caravan Route Book is an 8 ½ x 11, softcover edition distributed free-of-charge to each car on the Southwest Caravan. It contains route instructions, maps along with feature articles about National Caravaning and pictures from previous Caravans. Nearly 500 Southwest Caravaners will read this book each day of the seven-day trip to Bowling Green. Funds necessary to stage the SouthWest Corvette Caravan come from sales of advertising in this Route Book. Paid advertisements are, also, posted on the [Southwest Section FaceBook](#) page. All proceeds from advertising come right back to Caravaners because the SouthWest Caravan Organizing Team uses that money to subsidize the cost of events.

Any business owner reading this eNews who wants to attract Caravaners as customers should advertise in our Route Book. Advertising rates start at \$250.00 for an eighth page which is just a bit larger than a business card. Contact Section Commander Halverson at [CmdrSCSN@netmotive.net](mailto:CmdrSCSN@netmotive.net) for more information.

Thanks for reading  
Yeoman L. Sharke, Editor



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**Clarion Inn & Suites**

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