



eNews

Official Publication of the Southwest Section
National Corvette Caravan

Presented by Zip Products, Club Glove USA, Ghost Shield

Top Story

Registration Now Open

In eNews6 at the end of January, South West Section Captain, Bill Herold, announced that, for the first time, there will be a registration fee. Going to fee-based registration was a difficult decision for the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team because the '94, '99, '03, '09, '14 and '19 Southwest Caravans did not charge a fee. Both the 2014 and 2019 Southwest Caravans lost money. Since the National Corvette Museum does not provide financial backstopping for any of the Sections, the Captains take all the financial risk. The Captains for 2014 and 2019 both had to cover significant financial shortfalls after the two events concluded.

When Captain Herold took over in July of 2021, one of his first policy decisions was the Southwest Section was going to charge per car for the Caravan. At an Organizing Team Meeting in mid-January, the fee was set at \$100.00 and Registration was set to open in Q2 2023.

Registration will be done the "old fashioned" way. SW Caravaners will complete a Registration Form and mail that and a check to Commander Paula Megowan, the Section's CFO.

At the end of this issue of eNews is a fillable .pdf into which you can enter data using your computer or tablet. You will print the last page of this eNew then mail the finished form with your check to Paula Megowan who will email you back a confirmation.

The \$100 Registration Fee is in addition to the National Corvette Museum's fee for the National Corvette Caravan. NCM has not announced the fee for the 2024 Caravan but Section XO, Commander Hib Halverson, told the eNews that he anticipates the National Caravan registration will be between \$35 and \$50.

Other News

New Logo and QR

You couldn't have missed the new Southwest Corvette Caravan logo. We wanted something red, white and blue. We found it in the Pacific Northwest Section's logo. The Southwest Organizing Team wishes to thank Captain John Warren of the Pacific Northwest for allowing us to modify the design of his logo to fit our needs.

You also can't miss the QR code. Part of Captain Bill Herold's interest in moving the Organizing Team into the "digital age" is the addition of a QR code to every issue of the Southwest Caravan eNews. If you print a copy of the eNews for a fellow Corvetter, all he/she need do is select the camera app on a smartphone, point it at the QR and you'll land on the Southwest Section page on the National Caravan website which is chock full in info on the Southwest Corvette Caravan.

San Diego Feeder Caravan Leader Named

Southwest Section Captain Bill Herold appointed Alex Best a Caravan Lieutenant. Best will act as the Local Leader for the greater San Diego area Feeder Caravan. Alex and wife, Gloria, live in Poway, own a '17 Grand Sport with amazing Racetrack Yellow paint and yellow wheels to match. We won't miss Lt. Best's GS on the Caravan, that's for sure. The Bests are members of the Corvette Owner's Club of San Diego.



The color of the body and wheels on Lt. Best's C7 GS should be renamed "Arrest Me Yellow"

Lt. Best will be responsible for planning, organizing, and leading the Feeder Caravan from the San Diego area to Pasadena on 21AUG the day before the main Caravan leaves for Bowling Green. San Diego Caravaners should have no problem seeing their Lead Car.

Sponsor Profile: Zip Products

Zip Products, one of the top suppliers of both OE and aftermarket Corvette Parts has been a sponsor of the Southwest Section eNews since 2011 making it the SW Section's longest running sponsor. Zip's sponsorship of eNews for the '14, '19 and '24 Caravans has been invaluable. The SW Caravan Organizing Team greatly appreciates Zip's 21-year tradition of supporting National caravanning. Zip Products has been around for 45 years. Who they are and how they got to where they are today is a great story. Zip's history has all the markings of the "American Dream".

In 1977, Wayne Walker, a Corvette owner and enthusiast needed a fuel line for his 1961 Corvette. A friend showed him how to bend and flare lengths of seamless, steel tubing. Walker's outstanding

handiwork with a flaring tool was quickly noticed by other friends with Corvettes. They began asking Wayne to make fuel lines for them. Virtually overnight, Zip Products was in business.

What began as a part-time hobby headquartered in Walker's garage quickly grew into a thriving business. Hitting the road to attend every swap meet and Corvette show possible, Walker placed himself and his products directly in front of his customer base. During the first 10 years, Zip's one-page list of inventory grew into a 128-page full-color catalog. The Corvette aftermarket was taking its first steps and Zip was leading the way.

Along the way, Wayne Walker's passion for and knowledge of Corvettes grew as he restored some of the rarest Corvettes ever produced: '63 Z06 Big Tank Coupe, '67 L88 427 Convertible, '69 with the mythical ZL1 427 and a host of fuel-injected small-block C1s and C2s.

As Walker searched and found parts he needed to restore his own Corvettes, he was, also, committed to making those parts widely available to other Corvetters working on their cars. That put Zip Products at the forefront of suppliers to DIYs in the Corvette hobby.

A brick-and-mortar store with walk-in and mail-order capabilities was the next logical step. Zip's new home was at 8067 Fast Lane in Mechanicsville, just outside of Richmond, Virginia. What a perfect place for a Corvette parts supplier—on a street named "Fast Lane" in a town named "Mechanicsville!"



Zip Products' global headquarters on Fast Lane outside of Mechanicsville, Virginia

In 1994, David Walker, Wayne's son, took over the reins at Zip Products. The 2024 Caravan will come in David's 30th year at the helm of one of the largest Corvette parts suppliers. He has built the company into one of the industry's leading purveyors of parts and accessories for America's Sports Car.

Today, Zip's warehouse includes more than 25,000 of the newest-available and best-quality parts a Corvette DIY can buy. Zip's inventory is showcased in seven different, generation-specific, hard-copy catalogs that go out to hundreds of thousands of Corvette owners. Those catalogs often find a

shelf life right alongside the service manuals in a Corvette owner's garage. From early model restorers to racers driving C8, fans of America's Sports Car rely on Zip to keep their beloved Corvettes on the open road.

In February 2021, Zip broke ground on a new building on its Mechanicsville campus. This new space triples Zip's capacity for service work and provides additional on-site storage space so Zip can stock larger quantities of quality Corvette parts. The new building also provides room for Zip to expand its manufacturing capabilities, growing the list of Corvette Parts reproduced in-house.

Southwest Section XO, Commander Hib Halverson has been a Zip Products customer for about 20 years. "Sandy and I own four Vettes, a '71 Big-Block hotrod, an '04 ZO6 LeMans Collector Edition, a '12 ZO6/ZO7 and a '18 ZR1. The '04, the '12 and the '19 have been Lead Cars in previous Caravans. Every one of those cars has parts on them that I bought from Dave Walker's Zip Products. In fact, I just finished restoring the trim on the C5's center stack and torque tube tunnel with Zip's stuff." Halverson told the eNews. "Some of those pieces, I probably could have found elsewhere for less, but I get them from Zip because Walker's people are quick to fill orders, quick to ship them and provides excellent customer service. Plus, because they have so much warehouse space, almost all the time, the parts I want are in stock and that makes the orders show up even quicker.

"About ten years ago, I visited Zip Products in Virginia and was amazed to find out its service shop is one of the more popular Corvette shops in that part of the state. Dave Walker gave me a tour himself and I met Justin Abbott who runs the service department and is Zip's performance and racing expert. If I lived in eastern Virginia, I'd have Zip do the work on our cars I couldn't or didn't want to do myself. I've been on the Organizing Team since '02 and the Southwest Section wouldn't be what it is today if it wasn't for Zip Products."

When placing phone orders with Zip's sales team, you don't get just an "order taker." You talk to someone knowledgeable about Corvettes. Zip's parts professionals have over 100 years of experience with America's Sports Car that they are glad to share while you work to restore or modify your Corvette. Zip Products' contact information is at the end of this issue of the eNews.

Help us Out-Be a Caravan Patron

The National Corvette Museum, which sanctions the National Corvette Caravan, does not fund Caravan Sections. It is up to each Section Captain and team to raise the money necessary to put on their events. The Southwest Section relies on sponsorship, Route Book advertising, and registration fees to fund most of its activities. Generous Caravaners also have a tradition of chipping in to help the Organising Team put on the event.

Want to show your support for the Southwest Section of the Caravan in a special way? Become a "Southwest Caravan Patron". Each person donating \$100 or more to the Southwest Caravan Organizing becomes a "Patron" and will be listed on a page in the front of the Southwest Caravan [Route Book](#) Donations from Southwest Caravan Patrons. At this point obtaining major sponsorships, selling advertising, and significant income from Registrations is about six months in the future, so the Organizing Team is relying on money lent to the Organizing Team by its members to fund its work, so until then...we need your help.

Those interested in the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team's Patron Program should contact Section XO Halverson at the email address or phone number listed in the "Information" section below.

The Southwest Caravan Organizing Team thanks Patrons:

Janet Cherry

Bill and Viola Herold

Harvey and Jane Price

Tony and Paula Megowan

Doug and Loretta Campbell

Hib and Sandy Halverson

Where to Get Caravan Information

We have a [page on the National Caravan website](#). We, also, have this Southwest Caravan eNews, a tradition going back to 2003. If you are not an eNews subscriber and want to start getting it, send email to SWeNews@netmotive.net and simply type "subscribe" in the subject field and the body of the email. Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/919416625640194>

Finally, you can email or call members of the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team for information.

Capt. Bill Herold: swcaravancaptain@gmail.com 805 402 7490

Cmd. Tony Megowan: tmegowan@outlook.com 805 659 5056

Cmd. Doug Campbell: zo6devilcar@gmail.com 805 766 4606

Cmd. Loretta Campbell: lorettaecampbell@gmail.com 805 258 1004

Cmd. Hib Halverson: SWsectionXO@netmotive.net 805 685 6865

For information on the Orange County Feeder Caravan:

Lt. Janet Cherry: wuwublu@gmail.com

For information on the San Diego area Feeder Caravan:

Lt. Alex Best: los-snorenios@cox.net

Thanks for reading

Yeoman L. Sharke, Editor



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2024 Southwest Corvette Caravan Registration Form

Corvette Owner Name			Unisex T-shirt size
Owner Address			
Owner City		Owner State	Zip Code
Corvette Year	Model Coupe or Conv., Stingray, ZO6, Grand Sport, ZR1, etc.	Color	License No.
Owner Email Address			
Second Participant Name			Unisex T-shirt size
Second Participant Email Address			

Shirt sizes are: S, M, L, XL and 2XL.

Key in your information to this form and then print it.

Make a check to "Southwest Corvette Caravan" for \$100.00

Mail the form and the check to:

**Paula Megowan
CFO Southwest Corvette Caravan
7511 Wilson St
Ventura CA 93003**