

**Southwest
Section**

Issue No. 3 5/13/22



eNews

Presented by Zip Products and Club Glove USA

Top Story **PreRun2**



4APR2022, PreRun2 near on Nevada Route 160 in the mountains west of Blue Diamond NV. Leading is Capt. Bill Herold's C7 Convertible followed by Doug Campbell's C8 and Halverson's C7 which, also, was a Lead Car for the 2019 Caravan. Image: Hib Halverson

At this point in time, with most of the 2024 Caravan planning work done, your Southwest Organizing Team, is, well...organizing. About a month ago, Southwest Caravan Organizing Team members, Captain Bill Herold, Commander Doug Campbell, and Commander Hib Halverson, pre-ran the first two days of the 2024 Caravan.



3APR2022, Capt. Bill Herold and Cmd. Doug Campbell discuss how the Group will exit the Elks Club lot in Pasadena. Image eNews Staff

On 3April, the three cars of the "PreRun2 Group" left the tentative site of the Caravan's August 2024 departure in Pasadena and tested an alternate route for Caravaners who choose not to drive the Angeles Forest Highway on the first day. PreRun2 did not include running the Forest Highway itself because, in the highest part of the Angeles National Forest, Cal Trans does not plow the road. It's closed until late Spring and reopens on 1June, so the Team will test that route then.



3APR2022, At a turnout west of the junction of the Angeles Forest Highway and SR138, Bill Herold views a distant part of the highway with binoculars while conferring with Doug Campbell about a location for a possible Caravan reform. Image eNews Staff

PreRun2 picked up the regular Caravan route at the Main Street on ramp of Interstate 15 in Victorville. From there, it took 15 to Henderson NV and the M Resort Casino and Spa, tentatively selected as our first overnight stop. While the roads around the M and a parking lot for staging departure on day ay two were surveyed on PreRun1, the PreRun2 Group evaluated the M's rooms, toured some of the property's food service, inspected its parking structure, and tested routes from the staging lot to the Interstate.



While the deal will not be finalized until sometime in 2023, the tentative plan is for Southwest Caravaners to do their first overnight at The M Casino, Resort and Spa in Henderson NV. These two rooms are typical of the accommodations Caravaners will experience. Image: The M Casino, Resort and Spa.

The eNews asked Captain Herold about the M Resort'. *"It's a step up from the now-defunct, Fiesta Henderson which we used for the 2019 Caravan. The entire facility is higher-end,"* Herold said. *"While the better accommodations and inflation are going to cost Caravaners more for the first night, the M is in a better location to start from on the second day because it's next to I-15 and, that morning, we're going north the Interstate. We all agreed that the rooms at the M are much better than those at the Fiesta Henderson. I think the parking is better, too."*

The morning of PreRun2's second day was devoted to driving the route from The M out to the Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch as well as a meeting with folks from the Ron Fellows Performance Driving School at Spring Mountain.



4 April 2022, the first agenda item for the PreRun2 Group's visit to Ron Fellow Performance Driving School was a briefing by Todd Crutcher on the layout of the Motorsport Ranch. Generally, existing facilities have a gray background and future additions are either light gray or white. Image eNews Staff.

The Fellows School, endorsed by GM, teaches Corvette owners performance driving skills with four different, two-day courses which teach basic Corvette performance driving to advanced "trackday" skills. The Southwest Caravan Organizing Team met with Todd Crutcher, Director of Marketing at Spring Mountain, Raquel Slusher, and other Spring Mountain personnel to discuss an event the Organizing Team and Spring Mountain want to jointly stage.



After a tour of Spring Mountain's facilities, everyone met in the Ranch's "Clubhouse" to discuss the Organizing Team's proposal. Foreground, L to R are: Captain Bill Herold, Commander Doug Campbell, Special Consultant to Captain Herold and nationally-known Corvette seller, Mike Furman, Rachel Slusher and Todd Crutcher. Image: eNews Staff.

During the 2024 Caravan, our stop at the Fellows School on the morning of the second day will make Caravaners more familiar with the Motorsports Ranch and what the Driving School has to of-

for Corvette owners. The Organizing Team will reveal specifics of the event once the Organizing Team and Spring Mountain reach an agreement covering the event.

Also, on the second day of PreRun2, the group drove possible Caravan Routes to and from Spring Mountain. Additionally, PreRun2 tested the route out of the Vegas Valley on the I-15, across the "Arizona Strip, and through the Virgin River Gorge, then north into Utah. PreRun2 spent its second night in Cedar City, Utah where the '24 Caravan will stop on its second day.



5April, 2022, Herold and Cambell discuss the Caravan's day-three departure staging with Laurie Garfield the SUU Guest Services Manager on one of the student lot at the University. Image eNews Staff.

Day three of PreRun2 was spent in Cedar City. Captain Herold and Commanders Campbell and Halverson met with Laurie Garfield, Guest Services Manager at Southern Utah University as well as representatives of the Campus Police Department and the University's Facilities staff. The meeting was to discuss the Southwest Section's use of one of the student parking lots on the SUU campus to stage the Caravan prior to departure on the third morning of the trip, as well as, various choices for a route the Caravan will take from the departure point, through the northern part of the city to I-15.

The last important task of PreRun2 was surveying hotels. Since there is no property in Cedar City with enough rooms to accommodate all Caravaners, Captain Herold visited several different hotels in the southern part of the city to inspect the properties and talk to their managers.

On the fourth day of PreRun2, the Group made the long trip back home to Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties in one long 10-hour drive.



6APR2022, It was a nice day for a drive across the desert. Some parts of the run home? Well, it's pretty desolate out there. Image Hib Halverson.

Upon return, eNews talked with Section XO Hib Halverson by phone about the trip. He's been on every Caravan pre-run drive since 2002 and had much to say. *"PreRun2 was freakin' awesome. Bill Herold took over the Captaincy of this Section for the '24 and hit the ground running,"* Halverson told us. *"Going to the M the first night was his idea as is visiting Spring Mountain. He found potentially great deals for hotels in Cedar City. Doug Campbell, also, new to Caravan organizing did a hell of a job. As soon as he was appointed to the Team, he showed initiative by cold-calling the people at SUU and arranging our meeting with them."*

"We did some hardcore pre-running on two parts of the trip," Halverson continued. *"We tested two different routes from the junction of Angeles Forest Highway and SR138 in Phelan back to I-15. A decision on which one we'll use will come later. We, also, looked at a backroad we could use on the second day from Spring Mountain back to I-15. Finally, that M Resort—an outstanding choice for Caravaners. Much better than the Fiesta. Yeah, it's more money, but I think most folks are still going to like it. The property's rooms are much improved, it's got better food service, a bigger parking structure, and—I'm not much for gambling, but I know there are Caravaners who might be—the gaming facilities are nicer. My Wife, the Fairest Sandra the Red, who does a lot of our event photography, didn't care for the Fiesta. When I showed her pics of the M's rooms, she said, 'Now that's an overnight stop.'"*

The Southwest Caravan Organizing Team has additional pre-run trips scheduled for this year and will be covered in future eNews issues.

Other News

National Captains Meeting

30 April, Bill Herold, Captain of the Southwest Section of the National Corvette Caravan, attended a National Captain's Meeting at the National Corvette Museum. Prior to a National Caravan, three of these meetings are held each year. They take place during the Museum's "Bash" event which is held annually on the same weekend as was the C5 Corvette's debut at the Museum back in 1997.

The first of these meetings, held three years before a Caravan, is usually a combination of a briefing for new Captains along with a list of rules and regulations with which all Captains must comply during the planning, organizing and operating their Caravan Sections. In attendance are many Section Captains, the National Chair of the event, "Admiral" Frank Sancineto and various members of the Museum staff.

The '22 "NCM" at the NCM was no different. There were no major announcements, however, the Museum did reveal a 2024 Caravan sticker that will soon be available to Caravan Sections for sale to Caravaners. Similar stickers have been issued for past Caravans and have been popular with Caravaners. The Organizing Team will purchase several packs of these stickers for future sale.

Also, GM Legal has placed additional restrictions on Caravan Organizing Teams' use of General Motors' trademarks, such as the word "Corvette" and the National Caravan logo. We are disappointed by this hard line because it further restricts Caravan Sections' fundraising.

PreRun2 Scrap Book



On the drive out to the M, the PreRun2 Group stopped in Baker for lunch and a picture in front of the World's Tallest Thermometer, one of the Two Wonders of Baker California. Image eNews Staff.



From Commander Halverson's ninth floor room, a view of the the M's incredible pool area. The chaise lounges in very shallow corners of the pool are a nice touch. Image eNews Staff



In early April, you'll find all the cool kids at Spring Mountain Motorsports Ranch. L-R: Mike Furman, Doug Campbell, Bill Herold and Todd Crutcher. Herold tried to get everyone to wear a green shirt like his. There were no takers. Image eNews Staff



Ever the salesman...Capt. Bill Herold, also a sales and marketing rep for Club Glove's Premium Corvette luggage, makes a pitch to the folks of the Spring Mountain gift shop. Image: eNews Staff

Sponsors

A Caravan section the size of Southwest depends on supportive sponsors to enable the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team to stage an event pleasing to its Caravaners. The first sponsors to step-up to help the Southwest Section put on its 2024 Caravan were [Zip Products](#) and [Club Glove USA](#).

Since 2009, Zip, the Corvette parts and accessories vendor, has sponsored the Southwest Caravan eNews and has advertised in the Southwest Section's [Route Book](#). The Organizing Team has appreciated Zip Products' valuable support over the years.

Club Glove, well known in the golf community as a maker of the finest, most durable, made-in-USA golf luggage available that is the choice of PGA Pros, is also a maker of GM-licensed, premium luggage, custom embroidered with a variety of Corvette logos.

Former Section Captain Hib Halverson said a number of years ago that sponsorship is the "...mother's milk of Caravan planning. It's a great way to get a Corvette-related product or brand in front of a captive audience of 400-or so Corvette owners and enthusiasts."

The Southwest Section offers sponsorship* opportunities with its [page on the National Caravan web site](#), with its eNews and with the 2024 Southwest Section Route Book. For information on sponsorship opportunities contact Captain Bill Herold at swcaravancaptain@gmail.com 805 420 7490

*Caravan sponsorships are not tax-deductible.

A great way for individuals to lend extra support Southwest Caravan Organizing Team during the early stages of Caravan organizing is to become a "Southwest Caravan Patron". Each person who donates \$100 or more will be a "Patron" and be listed on a special part of the Sponsor's page of the Caravan [Route Book](#) as a "Patron". Donations of \$500.00 or more will receive Route Book advertising space as well as listing as a Southwest Caravan Patron. Those interested in becoming a Caravan Patron should contact Section XO Halverson at the email address or phone number listed in the "Information" section below.

More Information

We are about 2 ½ years out from the 2024 Caravan, so there are aspects of the Southwest Section's activities which the Southwest Caravan Organizing Team is not ready to reveal nor are they on our radar as yet, but one thing we do have, even this early in the process, are ways to communicate with our Caravaners who've been with us in the past and prospective new Caravaners.

First, we have a [page on the National Caravan website](#). We, also, have the 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 body of the email.

If you'd rather not receive the eNews, reply with "unsubscribe" in the email body

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

Thanks for reading
Yeoman L. Sharke, Editor



Corvettes are all we do!
Chevrolet Corvette Parts and Accessories since 1977
562-693-5619

www.zip-corvette.com

Read DIY how-to articles at

<https://www.corvettemagazine.com>



The Standard in GM-licensed,
Premium Corvette Luggage
800-736-4568

www.clubglove.com

High-End Scheyden eyewear, too!

<https://www.scheyden.com>