

Illinois and Iowa  
Caravan Handbook



To Bowling Green

September 1-2, 2009

## 2009 NCM Caravan – Illinois & Iowa

September 1, 2009

Welcome to the 2009 National Corvette Museum Caravan – Illinois and Iowa.

Our only objective (and why we've worked so hard for the past year) is to make the Illinois and Iowa Caravan a fun, safe, rewarding (and did we say) FUN experience for everyone.

Please carefully read this book before starting out for Bowling Green – believe us, it will help!

This will be the event of a lifetime for Corvette enthusiasts! Thank you for joining us as we pay tribute and celebrate 15 years of the National Corvette Museum.

See you on the road.....

Keep waving,

Steven & Annie Green  
Captain  
Illinois and Iowa

## 2009 NCM Caravan – Illinois & Iowa

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## **SCHEDULE OVERVIEW:**

### *Tuesday*

The Illinois and Iowa Caravan will start from three different Chevrolet Dealers:

Karl Chevrolet in Ankeny, IA  
Dralle Chevrolet-Buick in Peotone, IL  
Bud Weiser Chevrolet in Beloit, WI

If you meet up at Bud Weiser, then you'll be combining with the Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin caravans. This combined Caravan will travel from Beloit down Interstate 90 to I-39 to Bloomington, Illinois, where we will stay for the night and join up with the Illinois and Iowa caravan. Be sure to bring change for the I-90 toll in Illinois (\$1.00 cash or \$0.50 for I-PASS). Stopping in Bloomington will end our first day.

### *Wednesday*

We will depart (coordinated release with the help of the Bloomington police) from the six hotels that the combined caravans are staying at on Wednesday at 8:00 AM to Interstate 74 toward Champaign. There will be a Driver's Meeting at each hotel at 7:45 AM to go through any last minute changes and updates.

Our planned stop for lunch and gas is the Marion/Carbondale exit on Interstate 57. There is a good selection of gas stations and restaurants at this exit. We will use the Illinois Centre Mall for staging. We will arrive about 11:30 and leave about 1:00. This is a long leg of the trip and if you need to stop for a bio break or gas, you can join back up at this stop. Drivers should plan on a short meeting before we leave Marion.

The combined Caravans will depart the Mall and travel south on I-57 to I-24 towards Paducah. South of Paducah, we'll exit I-24 to the Wendell H. Ford (Western Kentucky) Parkway and merge onto the William H Natcher Parkway (also called Green River Parkway) toward Bowling Green.

We will arrive in Bowling Green around 5-6 PM. The Museum is staying open late Wednesday so there will be enthusiasts there to greet us as we arrive.

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### ***General Information***

Note that we will be hitting some road construction on the way to Bowling Green, KY. Please be aware that we will be slowing down through these sites to the posted limits, and obeying the lane indications.

There will be a banner for the combined Caravans, the Midwest Caravan, for everyone to sign. This will be available at every stop and we encourage you to take the time to stop and add your signature. For those who have not signed it by the time we hit Marion, I will have it in the parking lot the entire duration of that stop.

Wednesday morning, September 2 we will be departing from the Hawthorn Suites, Ramada Limited & Suites, Holiday Inn Express West, Fairfield Inn, Comfort Suites West, and Country Inn and Suites West at 8 AM. As the hotels are grouped on the East and West sides of the Interstate, we will start one hotel on each side together and once those Corvettes are moving, we will release the next hotels and so on.

### ***Illinois Rest Stops***

Interstate 24 (I-57 to Paducah)  
Mile marker #1 (just prior to Kentucky border)

Interstate 39 (Rockford to Bloomington)  
Mile marker #85, 16 miles north of LaSalle

Interstate 55 (Chicago to Bloomington)  
Mile marker #194, 3 miles south of Pontiac

Interstate 57 (Champaign to I-24)  
Mile marker #222, 14 miles south of Champaign  
Mile marker #165, 4 miles north of Effingham  
Mile marker #114, 2 miles south of Salem  
Mile #79 at Rend Lake

Interstate 74 (Iowa to Bloomington)  
Mile marker #28, 28 miles SE of Rock Island  
Mile marker #62, 12 miles east of Galesburg  
Mile marker #114, 14 miles west of Bloomington

Interstate 74 (Bloomington to Champaign)  
Mile marker #156, 23 miles west of Champaign

## 2009 NCM Caravan – Illinois & Iowa

### INTRODUCTION TO CARAVANNING:

Some participants have never been in a caravan this large. Please review this introduction carefully. If you've been in a big caravan before, you will find this introduction a good refresher.

If you only remember one thing from this page, please make it this one:

**We want this to be a courteous, safe and lawful NCM Caravan.**

This is a long trip and we will have several stops along the way. Our goal is to travel together as much as possible. If you do get separated, this Handbook and your knowledge of our stops should enable you to rejoin the Caravan in a timely manner. It is more fun if we travel together.

We are all driving high-performance cars; but with groups as large as our Caravan, we're all probably going to have a better time if we try to not drive aggressively. Essentially, that means if you get stopped for speeding, the rest of us will point and laugh at you as we pass you by!

Here's the place where I tell you that the National Corvette Caravan, its Captains and organizing committee are not responsible for your actions. If you drive irresponsibly or violate the law in the process of caravanning to Bowling Green, you are going to have to accept the consequences. We do not insure your vehicle and we do not post bail. We do, however, try to take embarrassing pictures of people doing foolish things.

The National Corvette Caravan is not a race. There is no prize for getting there first.

On the highway, the Caravan Leader will hold his speed to the posted limit. If you want to run at a faster speed, you must exit the caravan at one of the stops. If you think we are driving too fast and want to slow down and see the scenery, you can drop back from the main group. We are all going to the same place. You will know our stops to rejoin the caravan.

On multi-lane highways, Caravans will "drive right and pass left." The only exception will be if the Caravan Leader needs to move to the left lanes to 1) stay on the Caravan route at an interchange or intersection, or 2) pass a line of slower moving, non-Corvette vehicles.

Hopefully we have planned the scheduled stops so everyone will be able to make it on gas between the stops. Caravanners who need fuel, food or bio breaks between scheduled stops should feel free to stop whenever they wish. Again,

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you have your route directions in this Drivers Handbook so you should have no problem meeting up with your group leader.

Long caravans of cars running close to each other have a tendency to change lengths when the Caravan Leader or other caravanners make speed changes. This is called “rubber banding.” As the caravan speeds up, the distance between cars increases. As the speed migrates rearward, the rate of the increase will also increase. The first car speeds-up. The next speeds-up a little more to catch the first. The third car speeds-up even more to catch the second and so-on and so-forth. Once the mid-section notices the speed change, they end-up accelerating briskly. This can end with the rear-most cars having to rapidly increase speed by 40-50 mph after the leader’s speed only went up 10 mph. Once the mid- and back-runners get the speed change accomplished, they immediately have to slow down to avoid running into the back of each other once they decide they’ve “caught-up.”

The reverse of this is also true and potentially more dangerous: the lead car slows, the next car takes a split second to react, then slows more. The third car, uses up distance in reacting then slows even more abruptly and so-on and so-forth. In short order, if people are following closely, you have got drivers way into ABS trying to stop and even people wrecking.

The Caravan Leaders are aware of the rubber band phenomena and will always make speed changes slowly. If the Caravan is running tight, drivers in the middle and rear portions of the caravan must be acutely aware of this rubber band phenomena and learn to anticipate its affects.

Because ‘rubber banding’ is a part of normal Caravan movements, I advise against attempting to follow another caravan car too closely. Most accidents which occur in caravans are rear end collisions caused by following too closely combined with ‘rubber-banding.’

While many Caravanners will use General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) and Family Radio Service (FRS), the captains and some of the other organizing team members may use CB radios along with the other radios to communicate to the caravan. Some of the fun of caravanning is to get on the radio and jabber with your friends. However, when you are on the official Caravan frequencies we ask that you observe radio discipline.

The Caravan Captains have selected CB channel 10 and FRC channel 7 as the radio frequency to broadcast official Caravan information. It might be best to have 2 radios. One for the official Caravan information and the other switch to another channel to chit-chat. Smoky reports will be passed on by the first to see one. Once Smoky Bear is located, it is not necessary for everyone passing the cop make a report.

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### TRIP PREPARATION:

Some helpful hints that will make your trip more enjoyable and safe are provided for your consideration

- Portable cooler/insulated water bottle.
- Folding chair(s).
- Don't pack for months. Use the Laundromats.
- Small basic tools-screwdrivers, crescent wrench (can store in spare tire carrier of older cars).
- Pack sensibly. Use a larger suitcase for storage and smaller bags to carry in the overnight needs to the hotel.
- AAA maps for your route and/or GPS.
- Cell phone and charger.
- Batteries for portable FRS and GMRS Radios.
- Camera with extra memory chip and batteries.
- Flashlight.
- Sweatshirt/light jacket.
- Cleaning supplies - towel/rags or paper towels.
- Comfortable shoes (at least one pair not sandals or open-toe for plant tour.)
- Aspirin/Tylenol/Ibuprofen in case you are traveling with a Navigator.
- Quart of Oil.
- Ballast resistor for older Corvettes.
- Pick a Caravan Buddy or buddies to travel with.
- Notify the Caravan leader at the first sign of car trouble. Don't wait for a scheduled stop. There are places shown here that can help.
- Plastic bags.
- First Aid kit.

Perform some maintenance on your car before you leave. Make sure your tires are good enough for a trip like this. If your oil change interval will come up on the trip, change the oil and filter before you go. Lube chassis, service the transmission and axle and change the fuel filter if necessary. If you are driving a pre '84 car and you have not adjusted the steering box in a long time or it's never been done, do that. Inspect your belts and hoses and replace if necessary. Check your cooling system to ensure it is functioning property. All of this stuff is important on a trip of this length.

## EVENT MATERIAL YOU SHOULD HAVE:

Since you registered for the Illinois and Iowa Caravan you should have your NCM/Caravan credentials with you. Your t-shirts will be available at a special desk at the Museum.

You can pick up your NCM Anniversary Celebration event credentials at the Museum registration table.

## ON THE ROAD

- Headlights or Daytime Running Lights ON!
- DO NOT PASS THE CAPTAIN'S LEAD CORVETTE
- Obey all traffic laws
- Maintain a safe distance between you and the car in front of you.
- Signal your intentions when changing lanes, etc.

## ROAD ASSISTANCE

These are Chevrolet Dealers along the way in case of an emergency. Be aware the Caravan cannot wait for you if you break down. Make sure you have a buddy that can stop and help.

**Lemans Chevrolet**  
1602 Morrissey Dr  
Bloomington, IL 61704  
309-663-4311

**Ervin Baker Chevrolet**  
1100 W DeYoung St.  
Marion, IL 62959  
618-993-2621

**Trice Hughes Chevrolet**  
111 Highway 91 N  
Princeton, KY 42445  
270-365-5522

**Campbell Chevrolet**  
2151 Scottsville Rd  
Bowling Green, KY 42104  
270-781-8974

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### NCM ASSISTANCE NETWORK

Tune into 91.1 FM Events Assistance Network when you arrive in “Corvette Country” for the latest NCM news. The network transmits within a five-mile radius north and south of the NCM and will be used to broadcast traffic reports, event news, caravan updates and more during event times.

### ROAD CAPTAINS, LOCAL LEADERS & CELL PHONE NUMBERS:

| Name                        | Caravan         | Cell                         |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Steven Green<br>Annie Green | Illinois – Iowa | 815 541 9181<br>815 541 4938 |
| Rachelle Alexander          | Illinois – Iowa | 708 769 6441                 |
| Ivan Schrodt                | Wisconsin       | 920 915 2042                 |
| Ed Foy                      | Wisconsin       | 920 517 3312                 |
| Fred Severt                 | Wisconsin       | 262 689 0838                 |
| Paul Christopher            | Minnesota       | 763 300 2926                 |

### IDENTIFICATION OF LEAD VEHICLES:

All of the lead vehicles have a decal running across the top of the windshield or rear window that reads “**NATIONAL CORVETTE CARAVAN**” and the title **Captain, Co-Captain** or **Local Leader** beneath. They may also have the **Caravan 09 shield** on their rear windows. At least one of these vehicles will be at the front of the Caravan at all times.

The Captains for Illinois and Iowa are Steven and Annie Green. They will be driving a black C4 with a rear window banner that reads “Captain.”

Local leader Rachelle Alexander is driving a crystal red metallic C6, license plate X73 6846.

The Captain of the Wisconsin Caravan is Ivan Schrodt. He will be driving a 2007 black Z06 with a windshield banner that reads “Captain”.

Co-Captain of the Wisconsin Caravan is Ed Foy. He will be driving an Electron Blue C5 Coupe with a windshield banner that reads “Co-Captain”.

Co-Captain of the Wisconsin Caravan is Fred Severt. He will be driving a DSOM C6 Coupe with a windshield banner that reads “Co-Captain”.

The Minnesota Captain is Paul Christopher and he will be driving a blue C5 Z06 with the windshield banner that reads “Captain.”

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At least one or more of these vehicles will be at the front of the Caravan at all times.

DO NOT PASS THE LEAD VEHICLE – there are locations where we will be met by a police escort. The officials will be looking for these particular vehicles.

The National Corvette Caravan and the National Corvette Museum will be an exciting event. The National Caravan Leadership Team, your Captains, Local Leaders and coordinators hope you enjoy your time on the road.

### COMMUNICATIONS:

#### Radios

The official Illinois and Iowa FRS radio is Channel 7 (Privacy Code “0” or “off”.) The official Channel 7 will be used only to contact the Captains and Leaders or to listen for important information or changes. Please use another channel for private conversations.

We will have designated cars in the middle and end of the Caravan to convey messages throughout the Caravan. Do not let someone who might be lost get you lost too.

For all the chatter that makes a Caravan so much fun, pick a different channel of your choice. It would be helpful if you have two FRS radios.

### PLACES TO STAY:

*We should have made accommodations in Bloomington and Bowling Green by now. If you have not, please see the NCM web site for places to stay.*

### HOSPITALS ALONG THE ROUTE:

#### Hospitals – Dralle Chevrolet to Bloomington, IL

| City   | Name  | Address              | Phone        |
|--|---|----------------------|--------------|
| Pontiac  | OSF St. James – John W. Albrecht Medical Center | 2500 W. Reynolds St. | 815 842-2828 |
| <b>Directions:</b>   |   |                      |              |
| I-55 Exit #197, West on Reynolds St., then Hospital on right |   |                      |              |

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### Hospitals – Karl Chevrolet to Bloomington, IL

| City  | Name           | Address           | Phone        |
|---|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Iowa City, IA   | Mercy Hospital | 500 E. Market St. | 319 339 0300 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>Exit 244, south on Dubuque St, then left on E Bloomington St. |                |                   |              |

| City                                       | Name              | Address          | Phone        |
|--|-------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Peoria, IL                                 | Methodist Medical | 221 Glen Oak Ave | 309 672 5522 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>Exit 92B, turn right |                   |                  |              |

### Hospitals – Bud Weiser Chevrolet to Bloomington, IL

| City   | Name                           | Address            | Phone        |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Rockford, IL   | OSF St. Anthony Medical Center | 5666 East State St | 815 968-4400 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>I-90 Exit to State Street, West on State 2 miles |                                |                    |              |

| City   | Name                       | Address           | Phone        |
|--|----------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Mendota  | Mendota Community Hospital | 1315 Memorial Dr. | 815 539-7461 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>I-39 Exit #72, West on US Hwy 34, then right on 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave (2.5 mi), then left on 12 <sup>th</sup> St. (Meridian St.), then south on 13 <sup>th</sup> Ave |                            |                   |              |

| City  | Name                               | Address      | Phone        |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Peru  | Illinois Valley Community Hospital | 925 West St. | 815 223-3300 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>I-39 Exit #57, West on US Hwy 6, then north on West St. |                                    |              |              |

### Hospitals – Combined Caravans (from Bloomington to Bowling Green)

| City   | Name                            | Address           | Phone        |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Normal   | BroMenn Regional Medical Center | 1304 Franklin Ave | 309 454-1400 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>Exit I-55 #160, East on Market St., North on US Hwy 51, east on Beecher St., then north on Franklin Avenue |                                 |                   |              |

| City   | Name             | Address               | Phone        |
|--|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Champaign  | Carle Foundation | 210 E. University Ave | 217 383-3001 |
| <b>Directions:</b><br>Exit I-57 #235A, East I-72 (turns into University Ave) |                  |                       |              |

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| City  | Name                             | Address               | Phone        |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Mattoon   | Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center | 1000 Health Center Dr | 217 258-2525 |
| <b>Directions:</b>  |                                  |                       |              |
| Exit I-57 #190A, East on IL 16 (two miles), Left on Health Center Dr. |                                  |                       |              |

| City   | Name                   | Address          | Phone        |
|--|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Effingham  | St. Anthony's Memorial | 503 N. Maple St. | 217 342-2121 |
| <b>Directions:</b>                                     |                        |                  |              |
| Exit I-57 #160, Left on IL 33, Left on St. Anthony Dr. |                        |                  |              |

| City  | Name                      | Address                     | Phone        |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Mt. Vernon  | St. Mary's Good Samaritan | 605 N. 12 <sup>th</sup> St. | 618 242-4600 |
| <b>Directions:</b>  |                           |                             |              |
| Exit I-57 #95, Left on Broadway St., then left on N. 12 <sup>th</sup> St. |                           |                             |              |

| City  | Name     | Address       | Phone        |
|---|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Benton  | Franklin | 201 Bailey Ln | 618 439-3161 |
| <b>Directions:</b>                                |          |               |              |
| Exit I-57 #71, Left on IL 14, call for directions |          |               |              |

| City   | Name            | Address            | Phone        |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| W. Frankfort                                       | Miners Memorial | 2553 Ken Gray Blvd | 618 932-2155 |
| <b>Directions:</b>                                 |                 |                    |              |
| Exit I-57 #65, Right on IL 149, less than qtr mile |                 |                    |              |

| City  | Name               | Address         | Phone        |
|---|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Marion  | Heartland Regional | 3333 W. DeYoung | 618 998-7000 |
| <b>Directions:</b>                                      |                    |                 |              |
| Exit I-57 #54, Right on DeYoung, left on Old Bainbridge |                    |                 |              |

| City                        | Name    | Address          | Phone        |
|-----------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|
| Paducah, KY                 | Lourdes | 1530 Lone Oak Rd | 270 444-2444 |
| <b>Directions:</b>          |         |                  |              |
| Exit I-24 #7, Left on US 45 |         |                  |              |

| City  | Name                     | Address            | Phone        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Princeton   | Caldwell County Hospital | 101 Hospital Drive | 270 365 0300 |
| <b>Directions:</b>  |                          |                    |              |
| Exit #12, South on KY91, Left on Main, Right on S Jefferson |                          |                    |              |

## 2009 NCM Caravan – Illinois & Iowa

### SPONSOR INFORMATION

I want to thank my two sponsors for their support during the planning and execution of this Caravan. Their willingness to step up and volunteer to host and help means a great deal to me, and please take a few minutes to thank them as you enjoy their hospitality.

#### **Karl Chevrolet**

1101 SE Oralabor Road  
Ankeny, IA 50021  
515-299-4300

#### **Dralle Chevrolet-Buick**

102 N. Harlem Avenue  
Peotone, IL 60468  
708 258-3902

*Please give them an opportunity to quote your business when it's time to start shopping for a new or used Corvette or Chevrolet product!*

### ROUTE INFORMATION:

*Please have patience during this trip! Organizing a large number of vehicles is a huge undertaking and we will probably encounter some glitches along the way. Remember that we are all here to have fun and to celebrate a very special occasion.*

#### **Karl Chevrolet to Bloomington, IL**

**Driving Distance:** 300 miles

**Driving Time:** 4.75 hours

Head south on **US 69** to **Interstate 80** eastbound  
Follow **I-80** eastbound to Exit 290 and take **I-280** east (Quad Cities bypass)  
Take the exit onto **I-74** towards Peoria  
Pass through Peoria towards Bloomington (stay on I-74)  
Take the I-55/I-74 exit towards Indianapolis/St. Louis  
Take the appropriate exit for your hotel

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### **Bud Weiser Chevrolet to Bloomington, IL**

**Driving Distance:** 150 miles

**Driving Time:** 2.5 hours

Turn right at **Milwaukee Rd/WI-81**

Take exit 1A to merge onto **I-39/I-90** south towards Chicago

Partial toll road

Take the exit onto **I-39S** towards **Rockford/US-20**

Take the exit onto **I-39S**

Take the **I-55 S/US-51 S/I-74** exit toward **St Louis/Decatur/Champaign/Peoria**

Merge onto **I-55/US-51** southbound

Take Exit **160** for **US-150/Market St/State Hwy 9** to the hotels

### **Bloomington, IL to Marion IL**

**Driving Distance:** 230 miles

**Driving Time:** 4 hours

We will depart by a coordinated release with the help of the Bloomington Police Department from the six hotels that the combined Caravans are staying at on Wednesday at 8:00 AM

Merge onto I-55S/I-74E

Keep **LEFT** to take I-74 via Exit A toward Indianapolis/Decatur.

We'll stay on I-74 until we approach Champaign.

Merge onto I-57 via Exit 179A toward Memphis

If you need to stop for a bio break or gas, you can rejoin the Caravan at Marion.

We'll be on I-57 southbound for a LOONNGG time – approximately 185 miles!

Take Exit 54B and merge onto W DeYoung St/IL-13W towards Carbondale.

Turn **RIGHT** into the Illinois Centre Mall.

### **Marion, IL to Bowling Green, KY**

**Driving Distance:** 220 miles

**Driving Time:** 3.3 hours

Merge onto I-57 South toward Cairo

Merge onto I-24 East via Exit 44 toward Nashville (Crosses into Kentucky where we should pick up the KSP escort)

Continue on I-24 through Paducah to Exit 42

Take the Wendell H. Ford Parkway toward Princeton/Elizabethtown

Merge onto the William Natcher Parkway on Exit 77A

Follow the Parkway approximately 41 miles to Bowling Green

The Parkway exits to I-65 Northbound.

*CAUTION: This exit narrows to one lane, and is the LEFT lane. I will begin making that transition approximately 1 – 2 miles out! Once we exit, it takes a pretty sharp turn north, so I will also be slowing down about a quarter of a mile*

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*out – and please be aware of right lane traffic that will probably be trying to merge with us!*

Follow I-65 North to Exit 28

From that point, there will be Caravan Officials that will manage the Caravan.

**At that point, we have arrived, and I hope that everyone has had a great time, met new friends, and is looking forward to the NCM Anniversary Celebration!**

Thank you for joining our Caravan, and I hope that you found it worthwhile.

Sincerely,  
Steven & Annie Green  
Illinois & Iowa Captains

**2009 NCM Caravan – Illinois & Iowa**

**Autographs & Notes**