

# Long Thanh North Reunion— Directions and Traffic Reminders:

**8 September 2015**

If you are driving in Tucson, here are some tips about our traffic laws and other information you may need:

If you have GPS in your vehicle, the hotel's address is: La Quinta Inns and Suites, **102 N Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ**. The phone number is **520-795-0330**.

No GPS? Here's how to get where you're going:

1. If you're driving to Tucson from Phoenix, the signage will say I-10 East, even though you want to go South. It should also say "Tucson" but we can't guarantee that – some signs do, some don't. Exit at the Congress Street exit. Turn left onto Congress, continue east (street name changes to Broadway) for about 8 miles to Alvernon. At the Alvernon light, make a left turn and go about 1 block to the hotel (on your right side).
2. If you are driving to the hotel from the Tucson airport, exit the airport, and turn right (east) at the first stoplight onto Valencia Avenue. Continue east to Palo Verde Road (2<sup>nd</sup> stop light after turning onto Valencia), make a left turn and continue north about 6 miles, going under the freeway and over the railroad tracks, where Palo Verde becomes Alvernon, then continue straight ahead until you cross Broadway to the hotel.

When you return to the airport from the hotel, simply reverse these directions. But be aware that Alvernon will split into 2 directions, so be sure to stay in the **Palo Verde lane**.

3. If you're driving in from the east on I-10, take exit 270 (onto Kolb Road) and continue north to Broadway, about 25-30 minutes. Turn left and go east about 4 miles to Alvernon Way. Turn right and go about 1 block; the hotel is on your right.

## TRAFFIC LAWS:

4. U-turns are legal, and so are right turns on red. Most of the main streets are divided, so U-turns are required to get to the other side of the street. At a stop light, the U-turner has the right-of-way. If you are making a right turn on red, and there is a U-turner in the lane you are turning onto, the U-turner has the right-of-way.
5. There are a few unlighted cross-walks on main streets. The lighted ones will start with a blinking yellow light, then a solid red light. Blinking means to stop to verify there is no one in the crosswalk – if not, you may proceed; solid red means to stop and stay stopped until the light goes off – even if the crosser has made it to the other side. The unlighted crosswalks are dangerous, because the pedestrian has the right-of-way in the crosswalk. Most of our folks will step into the crosswalk and wait for the traffic to stop, but some don't. And they wear dark clothes at night, and they just start walking – assuming you will stop for them. If you don't stop, and you hit them, you will be at fault.
6. Tucson has red-light and speed cameras at several intersections. Don't goose it to get thru on a yellow, because you will be ticketed for speeding (trust me on this!). There are large white lines drawn on the street at major intersections. If you are past that line, and the light turns red, you may continue to make your left turn.

7. When you come to a red light, especially those with cameras, and are going to make a right turn, be sure to come to a complete stop, then make your right turn when able. Otherwise, it will cost you over \$300 to make that right turn. (Trust me on this one, too!)

#### OTHER INFO:

8. Cactus is the holy grail down here. It is a protected species – all types. Do not stop to dig one up, even on the side streets. It's the law. If you want to take a specimen home, there are plenty of stores that will sell them to you. Should you choose to steal one, and get caught, it's a hefty fine. The infamous Sheriff Joe Arpaio will be happy to provide you with a baloney sandwich and a cot in Tent City...to go with your pink underwear!

#### THE WEATHER

9. Bring shorts and T-shirts, your swimsuit, golf clubs, sunscreen, sun glasses, and hats. It will be warm, to say the least. It may rain while you're here, but it won't last long, and then the sun will come back out and be a little humid. So you may want to bring an umbrella...or just deal with the rain like we do!

**Be sure to enjoy yourselves. You will be in the desert southwest, with all its history and sights to see. See y'all in September.**

**Ron Richardson, Reunion Coordinator**