



FALL 2014 TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE MEETING



Welcome to the Fall 2014 meeting in the Washington DC Metro Area, home of the Nation's Capital! My husband, Dan, and I consider hosting this meeting a distinct honor and privilege, and thank all of you for joining us in Tysons Corner, Virginia.

The fall foliage should be at peak colors this coming weekend. The weather is not always predictable, but you can generally expect daytime highs to be in the high 60s (10°C to 20°C) with nighttime lows in the low 40s to mid-50s (5°C to 12°C). Rain may be in the forecast; you'll want to add a jacket or raincoat to your suitcase!

Getting Around:

Centrally located between Dulles International Airport (IAD) and Reagan National Airport (DCA), the newly renovated Sheraton Tysons Hotel is easily accessible from both. From **Dulles International Airport (IAD)**, you can reach the hotel in a short 15 minutes by car, as the Dulles Access Road is designated for airport traffic only and moves quickly. Taxi fare should be approximately US\$30, or the Super Shuttle is available for US\$25 by calling 800-258-3826 or 703-416-7873 for advance reservations. Please note that rail service is NOT available from Dulles.

A taxi directly from **Reagan National Airport (DCA)** is approximately US\$45 and takes 35 minutes without traffic. Super Shuttle also runs from DCA for US\$24 per person with advance reservations at 800-258-3826 or 703-416-7873.

Additionally, the Sheraton is located only 1.5 blocks from the new **Metro Silver Line "Spring Hill" Station**. The subway line takes about 45 minutes to reach DCA airport. To get from Ronald Reagan National Airport (DCA) via the Metrorail, board the "Metro Blue Line" at the airport heading towards Largo Town Center. Transfer at the "Rosslyn" stop onto the "Silver Line," heading towards Reston/Wiehle. Disembark at the Springhill Station, where you can take a taxi or head to the "Kiss & Ride" area and wait for the hotel shuttle. *See below for peak pick-up schedule as well as the phone number to call during off-peak hours.*

Hotel shuttle service pickup from the Kiss & Ride area of the Spring Hill Metro Station during busy times and inclement weather:

- Shuttle service will be scheduled for commuting guests from 7AM to 10AM and from 4PM to 8PM, picking up every hour on the :10s (7:10AM, 8:10AM, 4:10PM, etc.).
- Guest pick-up will be located at the designated Kiss & Ride area of the Spring Hill Metro Station.
- For non-peak time pick-up from the designated Kiss & Ride area, please contact the hotel at 703-448-1234.

Driving is also an option since the hotel is located close to Interstate 495, or the Beltway, around the DC area. Don't be shocked by the many lanes and all the traffic! The Sheraton Tysons Hotel offers free parking for our group during the day; however, overnight guests will be charged a special reduced rate of \$5 per night to park. If you do not drive to the meeting or rent a car, you can easily traverse the area by public subway system, taxi or hotel shuttle service.

Things to Do:

The hotel is conveniently located to downtown Washington DC, Tysons Business District, Virginia countryside, parks and historical sites. Nestled in the newly developed Tysons West, you will encounter the conveniences of urban life combined with a retreat feel of being surrounded by Virginia's natural beauty and history.

The Spring Hill Silver Line Metrorail stop allows you to go directly into Washington DC with numerous stops, including Tysons Corner Center (the region's premiere shopping and dining location), Smithsonian, US Capitol and Foggy Bottom, Metro's closest stop to Georgetown. Also, a single transfer connects you to the Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery, Union Station, Chinatown and various other popular stops throughout the nation's capital.

Sunday afternoon is a good time to tour the **Smithsonian Museums** in Washington DC or the **Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum – Steven F Udvar-Hazy Center** which displays thousands of space and air artifacts, including the space shuttle, Discovery. The Center also offers the Airbus IMAX Theater and an Observation Tower for a bird's eye view of Dulles International Airport (no admission, just a bus ride and IMAX cost). Tours run hourly Sunday afternoon. *Museums are not open in the evenings.*

If you're looking for delicious food, look no further than Tysons Corner. There are many restaurants close by, and we suggest you talk to the hotel concierge for more details on finding the cuisine of your choice. The Sheraton offers a shuttle to the Tysons Corner Shopping Center and Tysons Galleria Mall with over 500 stores and restaurants.

We also have many planned events to give you a break from technical meetings throughout the week. All event flyers are available on the website, and we are still taking registrations for some of the events.

A special note for Saturday Early Birds. Enjoy dinner and a fun night of billiards and music at the Iris Lounge, located at 1524 Spring Hill Road, McLean, VA. Meet in the lobby at 6:45 to take the hotel courtesy shuttle to the Iris Lounge or feel free to walk or take a taxi. Your name will be on a "will-call" list at the lounge when you arrive.

A good starting point to plan your trip is www.visitdc.com. Other links to several helpful websites are available on the Committee site.

Thank you again for joining us in the Washington DC Metro Area for the Fall 2014 Meeting!

Best regards,

Jane & Dan Verner
Fall 2014 Meeting Hosts
Potomac Electric Power Co.

