



A Big Music City Welcome to the Spring 2012 TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE MEETING !

Diana and I, along with everyone at **Baron USA**, welcome you to Nashville! We are very privileged and honored to act as your hosts. We chose the **Renaissance Nashville Hotel** because it puts you right in the heart of **Music City**, and we hope you will all take advantage of our Southern Hospitality and get out and enjoy yourselves.

Although we live in Cookeville, Tennessee which is located about 80 miles east of Nashville, we often get into Nashville for a night on the town in a "big city". Should your schedules permit at some time during or after the meeting and you wish to visit our plant in Cookeville, we would be glad to welcome you there.

There is always a full schedule for everyone at these meetings and we hope that the meeting flyers have given you information on the planned events, but . . . we all need to get out and relax and see the sites. Let's go find some!

Nashville is a very relaxed city. Typically, blue jeans are the dress of the day and night as well (maybe some dressier jeans in the evenings but usually jeans will suffice). Boots and your best western shirt will round out the ensemble and you can add a cowboy hat for sure. If western wear isn't your style, then just about anything goes. If the weather permits, I guarantee there will be at least one guy out there in shorts and sandals. The point is Nashville is all about having fun, so get into your party clothes and get out there.

As we walk out of the front doors of the hotel, we find ourselves on Commerce Street. Turn to the right and walk about a half a block to 5th Avenue North, take another right, and walk down the hill (just a little one) and on your left you see the **Ryman Auditorium**, the original home of the Grand Old Opry. The spouses/companions will be touring this venue so they can fill you in on tidbits of its rich history.

Continuing down 5th Avenue another half block, we come to Broadway. Turn left there and get ready to enter the fun zone. From there to the river you will find great places to eat, dance, listen to great music, or just people watch. Some places to note are **Tootsies Orchid Lounge**, a Nashville destination for good times for people from all over the world. If you run into Ashley, make sure to say hello for me. Across the street is the **Full Moon Saloon**. Further down is the **Second Fiddle**, a great honky-tonk (that's Southern talk for a bar with music entertainment). Make sure you don't miss the places across the street. There is always great music flowing out of somewhere and usually delicious aromas as well.

If you've made it to 2nd Avenue, you can stop in at the **Big River Grille & Brewing Works**, where I am sure they will have something to quench your thirst.

Let's cross the street and head up 2nd Avenue where the **Wildhorse Saloon** is located. On the left side of the street is a great little place called **Ichiban**, if you're ready for something other than Southern cooking.

Further up the street we come to **BB Kings Blues Club** and **Coyote Ugly**, for lots of high energy fun, great music, along with food and drink.

That's quite a bit for a single stroll, and we haven't even talked about 12th & Porter, the Gulch area, shopping at the Green Hills Mall, the Bluebird Café, The Station Inn, or the Lane Motor Museum, so please go to the website below where you can go for details and additional information. The hotel concierge is also standing by to assist wherever they can.

For a lot of information on dining, shopping, and entertainment, visit:
www.nashvilledowntown.com/play

Just a reminder of some of the planned events this week:

Saturday Early Birds will head to the **Wildhorse Saloon** for food & fun in this nationally recognized venue.

Nashville Electric Service (NES) is graciously offering us an opportunity on Sunday morning and Thursday afternoon, to see their newest substation which proved quite a challenge and saw tunnel boring machines in Nashville.

Sunday Evening Reception where we will have something a little different going on in the background while you meet old friend and make new ones.

The Spouse/Companion Tours will take in the "Mansions of the South", with a stop at the Belmont Mansion for lunch on Monday, and then a "Backstage Pass" to the **Grand Old Opry**, with time for shopping, lunch at Ellendale's and then the Ryman Auditorium.

On Tuesday, our luncheon speaker will be NES's own **Carla Nelson**, who will fill us in on how the trend towards electric vehicles may affect us more than we realize.

Wednesday evening will find us at the **Country Music Hall of Fame** where we will stroll through the exhibits and take in the history before we settled down to eat.

Again, welcome to Nashville!



Derek & Diana Baranowski
Spring 2012 Meeting Host
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