



## ***Welcome To The 2005 Fall Transformers Committee Meetings***

Welcome to Cotton Country Memphis Tennessee, Home of Blues and Rock 'n Roll. My wife Sandy and I are proud to represent ABB Inc. as your hosts for this event ...and I do mean event!

We'll be staying at ***The Grand Hotel of the South, the Peabody***. For more than 120 years the Peabody has charmed its guest with luxury and true Southern hospitality. The Peabody is listed in the top 100 restored buildings in the world.

***As host for this meeting, our goal is not to be the biggest meeting, but the most successful and memorable.***

We have planned several events for you during the week, but let's do Memphis the Sandy and Randy way, ***"River City Style."***

Sandy and I actually live in Jackson, Tennessee approximately 90 miles from Memphis, but we frequently leave our work, children, and grandchildren behind for a date in downtown Memphis.

Where do we start? We always start ***"Where the Mississippi Delta begins—the Lobby Bar in the Peabody Hotel***. We relax, have a drink, and discuss our plans, which are normally "let's play it by ear." Playing it by ear downtown is influenced by which band to hear that evening on Beale Street.

Hungry? Let's step outside the hotel and locate the source of that wonderful aroma. It's ***Charlie Vergo's Rendezvous***, located just down the alley adjacent to the Peabody in a cozy cellar with tons of atmosphere. ***Slow cooked dry rub ribs!***

Next stop, check out the ***Flying Saucer*** with over 200 beers on tap, just a block away. Now we're getting closer, and you can feel the music in the air—it's ***Beale Street, Home of the Blues***. You can't do Beale without stopping in at the famous ***B.B. King's Club*** where the blues can be heard 7 days a week.

Or check out the nice relaxing New Orleans type atmosphere of the courtyard at ***Pat O'Brian's***. Then off to ***Silky Sullivan's*** for dueling pianos. Maybe a nice ride around Memphis in a ***horse drawn carriage***. The drivers are excellent historians.

As the night nears its end, we're hungry again. Stop at the ***Blues City Café*** on the way back to the Peabody for more ribs, tamales, gumbo or their famous fried catfish dinner with homemade hushpuppies.

For the best little site to see, and my favorite, go to the place where Rock ‘n Roll started. ***Sun Records***, the original studio where Elvis, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins, BB King and many more started, is a short taxi ride from the Peabody.

Another little secret is ***Lansky’s Men’s Store*** right inside the Peabody. ***Mr. Bernard Lansky*** “Clothier to the King” was a very good friend of Elvis Presley’s. Actually, Mr. Lansky allowed Elvis to buy his first tailored clothes on credit to help him get started in the music business. He put Elvis in his first suit, and his last. Go in and say hello to Mr. Lansky—it will be an experience you will never forget. Ask him about BB King, Elvis, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison and many more stars.

***Shopping***, dining, a movie, or a ***Starbuck’s*** coffee are all right inside ***Peabody Place Entertainment and Retail Center*** next door to the Peabody Hotel. Over 30 shops, restaurants and a ***22 screen Muvico Theater***. How’s that for convenience?

Are we having fun yet?

***Ruby Wilson***, known around the world as the ***Queen of Blues***, will start off the ***Sunday Evening Sunset Reception*** on the roof. That’s right! The roof of the Peabody will be the perfect setting to watch the sun set over the ***Mighty Mississippi River***. Stick around, especially the ladies, for you never know who else might show up. It could be the King himself!

The Tuesday Luncheon features ***Angelo Lucchesi***, our special guest speaker. Mr. Lucchesi will entertain us with interesting stories about the evolution of ***Jack Daniels Whiskey***. Mr. Lucchesi has worked with Jack Daniels for over 50 years and still represents them today.

Of course the main event is the ***Wednesday Social*** at ***Elvis’s home, Graceland***, where we will have a wonderful dinner and the opportunity to view Elvis’s cars, airplanes and house, or just walk the grounds for a nice relaxing evening.

We can’t leave out the companions while we are having so much fun in the committee meetings. Companion tours will include the ***Pink Palace Museum***, an ***IMAX*** movie, lunch at ***Pat O’Brian’s***, a ***Mississippi Riverfront tour***, the ***Rock ‘n Soul Museum*** and the ***National Civil Rights Museum***. Eat what you prepare as you participate in the ***Viking Culinary Arts Center*** cooking class. It’s a tough life to be a companion, but someone has to do it.

For restaurants, believe it or not, one of the best is right inside the Peabody, ***Chez Philippe, Texas de Brazil*** adjacent to the Peabody. ***Grille 88*** located at the Madison is another one of the favorites nearby.

We want to thank everyone for attending, and if you need anything to make your stay better please don’t hesitate to see me or other ABB staff members.

***Work hard and have fun!***

Sincerely,

***Sandy Williams & Randy Williams***

**ABB**

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