





District 26 Spring 2023 Conference and Change of Watch

America's Boating Club[®]* of Golden Corner Lakes and Lake Hartwell will be co-hosting the District's Spring 2023 Conference and Change of Watch. Planning for this event is well underway. The dates of the events are Friday, March 17, through Sunday, March 19. We just might have Guinness beer available in the Hospitality Room to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

This is where it's at:

We will be holding the event at the Greenville Marriott Hotel, which is conveniently located off of I-85, Exit 54. The nightly room rate is \$108 (plus tax), double occupancy, and includes a full breakfast.

You can reserve your room now by clicking <u>here</u>. Reservations can be cancelled, at no charge, up to 48 hours prior to the arrival date. You can reserve a room at this group rate for Thursday through Sunday nights.

The hotel just happens to be next to our P/D/C Jim Wilkins' former workplace, Michelin Tires. Maybe we should have him give us a tour.



* America's Boating Club® is a registered trademark of the United States Power Squadrons, Inc.

For those that can be in Greenville on Friday afternoon, we have two fun activities to choose from:



One of these activities may be a round of golf (or two) at the Top Golf facility less than a mile from the hotel. We are planning to reserve one or more bays from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Up to 6 golfers can play on a bay. The cost is \$25 per person for two hours of fun (if we get 6 people signed up per bay).

The great thing about Top Golf is you don't have to be a good golfer to be high on the leader board. You just need to understand the way shots are scored and use that to your advantage (just ask Andrea Arterburn – who is our Treasurer for this event – she came in 3rd against some pretty good golfers and has never played a round of golf ever!).

A two (2) hour tour of the BMW plant, which is just a few miles up the road, is another activity you may want to do. We have tentatively reserved space for 45 people at 1:00 pm on Friday afternoon (attendees must arrive at the plant by 12:30 pm). The cost is \$26.50 per person.

We are sure that some attendees may want to put a deposit down on a new car while they are there.



Conference Registration will open at 11:30 am on Friday and 8:00 am on Saturday. Raffle Tickets and Poker Hands will be available for purchase during Registration (they will also be available for pre-purchase on the Registration Form at a discount!). A Hospitality Suite will be available on Friday and Saturday afternoon. A Silent Auction will be open on Friday afternoon, and on Saturday morning and afternoon.

On Friday evening, join in on some social time, good food and dancing:

6:00 pm until 7:00 pm*	Social Hour (cash bar)
7:00 pm until 8:30 pm*	Dinner (\$60 per person**)
8:30 pm until 10:00 pm*	Dancing (music provided by a DJ)

On Saturday morning, we plan to offer some informative seminars. We have three (3) meeting rooms reserved for the entire morning, so we can offer up to six (6) seminars. If weather permits, we could also include one or two outdoor activities. Listed below are some of our ideas for topics that could be offered. But, we will be soliciting input from all members in the District to ensure we are offering topics that would be of interest to them.

9:00 am until 11:45 am* Seminars

Possible Topics:

- Attract Students to ABC3 Offerings
- Involve More Women Volunteers
- Build Partnerships / Develop Relationships / Ensure a Good Member Experience
- Constant Contact Training
- Squadron Activity Reporting System (SARS) Training

After the seminars, a salad or sandwich lunch will be available, along with plans to have a guest speaker.

12:00 pm until 1:15 pm* Lunch (\$35 per person**)

For those not planning to attend any of these seminars nor the business meeting in the afternoon, we've included a list on the next few pages of some fun things to do in the Greenville area.

^{*} The times shown above are approximate.

^{**} The meal prices are approximate, as they are based on Marriott's 2022 Catering Menu. We are to receive the 2023 Catering Menu in December.

If you don't plan to attend the seminars and conference on Saturday, consider an offsite activity...



You might want to plan to head to downtown Greenville. With its wide, tree-lined sidewalks, you can stroll along Main Street and check out an engaging collection of one-of-a-kind boutiques, marquee retailers, independent coffee shops and great restaurants (including some with outdoor and rooftop seating). You can also visit the Falls Park at The Reedy, which has been ranked as one of the nation's "Top 10 U.S. Parks". This park is home to the pedestrian-only Liberty Bridge, which is the only single-sided suspension bridge in the Western Hemisphere. This graceful span provides spectacular views of the expanding city skyline as well as the picturesque Reedy River Falls below. You can find out more at www.visitgreenvillesc.com.

If that doesn't interest you, we have assembled a list of other offsite activities that you might want to consider doing. See list on next page.

We will get you started by having a Meet-and-Greet at 9:00 am in the hotel.



Other offsite activities...

Activity	Approx. Duration (hours)	Cost	Website	Reservations Recommended	Remarks		
Take a Walk or a Bike Ride							
Self-Guided Walking Tours of Downtown Greenville		Free	<u>Walking Tours Downtown</u> <u>Greenville</u> (visitgreenvillesc.com)	No	4 different walking tours are listed, with lengths ranging between 1.5 to 2 miles.		
Swamp Rabbit Trail		Free	<u>Swamp Rabbit Trail</u> (greenvillesc.gov)	No	22 mile walking and bike trail. Bike rentals are available.		
Take a Brewery or Distillery	Tour			÷			
Afternoon Delight Brewery Tour	3.5	\$54	<u>Afternoon Delight - The</u> <u>Brewery Experience</u>	Yes	Starts at 11:30 am. Visits 3 breweries.		
Six & Twenty Distillery Tour	1.0	\$15	Whiskey South Carolina Six & Twenty Distillery (sixandtwentydistillery.com)	Yes	Saturday tours start at 12, 2 & 4 pm. They will share how their spirits are made and you can meet the faces that craft them by hand & heart.		
Take a Food Tour				•			
BBQ Trail Tour	2.25	\$55	<u>BBQ Trail Tour</u> (greenvillehistorytours.com)	Yes	Visits 3 restaurants. Bring a cooler to take food home.		
Just Desserts Food Walking Tour	2.0	\$65	<u>Saturday Afternoon - Just</u> <u>Desserts — Foothill Foodie</u> Tours	Yes	Starts at 1 pm. Visit 3 dessert places.		
Visit A Museum							
Upstate Country Museum		\$12 (\$11 for seniors)	<u>Plan Your Visit - Upcountry</u> <u>History Museum</u>	No	Open from 10 am until 5 pm.		
Greenville County Museum of Art		Free	Visit Greenville County Museum of Art (gcma.org)	No	Open from 10 am until 5 pm.		
Museum & Library of Confederate History		Free	CONFEDERATEMUSEUM.ORG	No	Open from 10 am until 5 pm.		
Sigal Music Museum		\$7 (\$6 for seniors)	<u>Plan Your Visit – Sigal Music</u> <u>Museum</u>	No	Open from 10 am until 5 pm.		
See a Show							
Greenville Theater/ Big River - the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn	2.0	\$40	On The Mainstage Greenville Theatre	Yes	Starts at 2 pm.		

Activity	Approx. Duration (hours)	Cost	Website	Reservations Recommended	Remarks
Other Ideas					
Walk Thru the Grand Bohemian Hotel Gallery		\$0	<u>Greenville Hotels Grand</u> <u>Bohemian Lodge Greenville</u> <u>(marriott.com)</u>	No	
Group Lunch at a Downtown Restaurant		Menu Prices	(TBD)	Yes	Stroll Main Street, shop or other activities before and/or after lunch.

You can also go to <u>VisitGreenvilleSC</u> website to get additional ideas.

On Saturday afternoon, the conference business meeting will be held.

1:30 pm until 4:30 pm* Business Meeting

On Saturday evening, join in for more social time, good food and the Change of Watch.

6:00 pm until 7:00 pm*Social Hour (cash bar)7:00 pm until 8:30 pm*Dinner (\$75 per person**)8:30 pm until 10:00 pm*Change of Watch

On Sunday morning, we will have a farewell breakfast (for attendees staying at the hotel, the breakfast is included with your room; other attendees will have to purchase breakfast from the hotel).

8:30 am until 10:00 am* Breakfast

* The times shown above are approximate.

** The meal prices are approximate, as they are based on Marriott's 2022 Catering Menu. We are to receive the 2023 Catering Menu in December.

So, save the dates (March 17-19, 2023) and plan to join us for the first inperson District 26 Conference and Change of Watch since October 2019.

For more information, contact:

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