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TO: **RTA MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES and GUESTS**

SUBJECT: **94th Annual RTA Technical Conference & Symposium in Tampa, FL**

The current location of Tampa was once inhabited by indigenous people of the Safety Harbor culture, most notably the Tocobaga and the Pohoy, who lived along the shores of Tampa Bay. The town grew slowly until the 1880's, when railroad links, the discovery of phosphate, and the arrival of the cigar industry jump-started Tampa's development and helped it grow into an important city by the early 1900's. One of the most anticipated events in Tampa is the Gasparilla Pirate Festival, a mock pirate invasion held since 1904. Often referred to as Tampa's "Mardi Gras", the invasion flotilla is led by the pirate ship, "Jose Gasparilla" and contributes a vast amount to the city's economy.

WHEN: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD THRU THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25TH, 2012

WHERE: Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina - Tampa, Florida

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◇ National Salvage & Service Corp. is hosting this year's President's Reception which will kick off the conference with a cruise around Tampa Bay aboard the Yacht **StarShip—ALL ABOARD!!!**
- ◇ Special Focus on the Economy with Presentations by Anita Ogbara, Director in Corporate Ratings Group, for *Standard & Poor's*
- ◇ Short Line & Regional Railroad Session featuring Mike Ogburn of OmniTrax, Tony Reck of Paducah & Louisville Railway, Scott Linn of RailAmerica, and Tony Cox of Watco Companies
- ◇ Robert Sumwalt, Member of NTSB, "Leading Organizations Safely"
- ◇ Sawmill and Forestry Issues by Teddy Reynolds of Reynolds Forestry & Jim Rosson, USDA
- ◇ Luncheon Keynote Address, by Wick Moorman, President and CEO of Norfolk Southern
- ◇ The State of Tie Disposal discussion featuring Jason Feagans, National Salvage & Service; Jeff Lloyd, Nisus; Bob Gruber, Arch Wood Protection-A Lonza Co.; Bill Taylor, DTE Energy & Steve Smith, AquaAeTer
- ◇ Class 1 Engineering and Purchasing Forums with special presentations and an update from incoming AREMA President James Carter, Chief Engineer Bridges & Structures, Norfolk Southern
- ◇ Industry Tabletop Exhibits and Product Demonstrations by RTA Member Suppliers
- ◇ Informative Reports from Railroad Supply Management Experts and Others
- ◇ RTA Wood Preservative Research Session with In-Depth Presentations by Industry Leaders
- ◇ Spouse/Guest Continental Breakfast and presentation by the Tampa Convention Visitors Bureau. Following this is a visit to the world famous Salvador Dali Museum - home of the world's most comprehensive collection of his works and then a trip to the spectacular Sunken Gardens of St. Petersburg
- ◇ Special Event Activities Including **Great Golf** at Emerald Greens Golf Course; an Exciting **Trap Shooting Event**; or Tour the **Big Cat Rescue** and take a fascinating journey through the 45 acre wildlife sanctuary that is home to 140 Lions, Tigers, Leopards, Bobcats and Lynx
- ◇ Supplier Sponsored Hospitality Suites

The Return of Gasparilla, A Pirate Mardi Gras with Game Show

Gasparilla...the pirate. The name and foundation of Tampa's traditional Gasparilla Carnival come from legendary pirate Jose Gaspar, "last of the Buccaneers", who terrorized the coastal waters of West Florida during the late 18th century. Come help us celebrate his return with a fun and interactive game show to make the night interesting!

Cordially,
Jeff

Jeffrey C. Broadfoot
RTA President

Optional Event Details and Banquet Information



Come join us as we explore a 45 acre wildlife sanctuary that is home to 140 cats representing 16 species of wild cats. Take a walk out into the plains and see Lions or Serval in waterfall enclosures. See the majestic snow leopards emerging from their air conditioned caves into the huge enclosures of simulated snow covered ledges. Experience the harmony between lions and tigers who live in prides and learn all about these elegant creatures and what you can do to preserve them in the wild. All of these cats are endangered or in danger of becoming so and in many cases their numbers have dwindled to only a few remaining individuals.



If golfing is your passion, then sign-up now to play in a shot-gun start at the beautiful **Emerald Greens Golf Resort and Country Club!** Located in the heart of Tampa and not far from the hotel, Emerald Greens Golf Resort is the only course in Florida designed by Dan Maples, the renowned architect noted for his beautiful work in the Sand Hills of North Carolina. The golf course is set upon a lush rolling landscape, and is unparalleled in quality or experience anywhere in the Tampa Bay area.

For the gun enthusiasts in the group, we are offering another outstanding **TRAP SHOOTING EVENT!** This activity will be available for up to 15 people and will be coordinated by American Trap Shooting coach and instructor, Bill Smith. Instruction provided for the beginner of the experienced shooter alike.



st. petersburg, florida



And for the spouses and guests....we have an interesting and informative tour of the **Salvador Dalí Museum.** This is the largest collection of Dali's works outside of Spain and is one of the most acclaimed collections a single modern artist in the world. Next up is a tour of

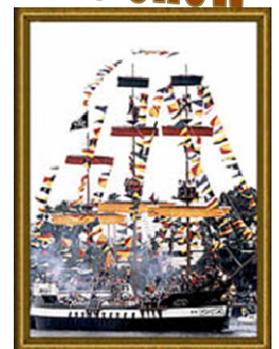
St. Petersburg's **Sunken Gardens.** There you can see over 500 species of tropical & subtropical plants amidst pools and cascading waterfalls, lushly planted in a collection more than 50,000 tropical plants and flowers. The Gardens retain their historical interest as an important example of 1930s Florida roadside commercial attraction and what started out as a man's "hobby" turned into an educational and cultural facility in the heart of St. Petersburg!



The Return of Gasparilla, A Pirate Mardi Gras with Game Show



Come help us celebrate the return of Florida's famed pirate, Jose Gaspar, in grand style! Don't forget to pack your best Pirate Attire to wear in honor the "last of the Buccaneers" who is claimed to have raided the west coast of Florida during the late 18th and 19th centuries. Sadly his life ended when Gaspar chained an anchor around his waist and leapt from the bow of his ship during an attack by the *USS Enterprise*. The fun will continue through the evening as attendees will be able to participate in an interactive Jeopardy-style game show, complete with prizes. Anyone who misses out on this event will be made to **walk the plank!**





SYMPOSIUM & TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

October 23-25, 2012 | SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23

8:00 a.m.	RTA GOLF TOURNAMENT Emerald Greens Golf Resort & Country Club <i>(Additional activities for attendees during golf outing - see end of page)</i>	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	RTA GUEST-SPONSORED HOSPITALITY SUITES	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	PRESIDENT'S COCKTAIL RECEPTION CRUISE ON TAMPA BAY - Sponsored by National Salvage & Service Corp. <i>All Aboard Promptly at 5:00 pm</i>
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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

7:45 - 8:00 a.m.	RTA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION AND WELCOME	12:15 - 2:00 p.m.	RTA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION LUNCHEON <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wick Moorman, <i>President/CEO, Norfolk Southern</i>
8:00 - 8:30 a.m.	ECONOMICS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Anita Ogbara, <i>Director in Corporate Ratings Group, Standard & Poor's</i> 	2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	THE STATE OF TIE DISPOSAL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jason Feagans, <i>Railroad Division Manager, National Salvage & Service Corp.</i> ■ Jeff Lloyd, <i>VP International Research Group, Nisus Corp.</i> ■ Bob Gruber, <i>Director, Regulatory & Industry Affairs, Arch Wood Protection - A Lonza Company</i> ■ Bill Taylor, <i>Manager Resource Recovery, DTE Energy Services</i> ■ Steve Smith, <i>Technical Director, AquaAeTer Inc.</i>
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	SAFETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Robert Sumwalt, <i>Member, National Transportation Safety Board, "Leading Organizations Safely"</i> 	3:00 - 3:15 p.m.	VENDOR-MERCIALS Vendor-Sponsored 3-Minute Presentations <i>(Must sign up in advance)</i>
9:00 - 10:00 a.m.	SHORT LINE & REGIONAL RAILROAD FORUM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mike Ogburn, <i>Managing Director, OmniTrax</i> ■ Tony Reck, <i>President/CEO, Paducah & Louisville Railway</i> ■ Scott Linn, <i>VP SE Region, RailAmerica Inc.</i> ■ Tony Cox, <i>VP of Engineering, Watco Companies</i> 	3:15 - 5:15 p.m.	ENGINEERING FORUM FOCUSED ON NEW CONSTRUCTION & AREMA PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ James Carter, <i>Chief Engineer Bridges & Structures, Norfolk Southern</i> ■ Brian Large, <i>BNSF</i> ■ Jeff McCracken, <i>Norfolk Southern</i> ■ Todd Wimmer, <i>Union Pacific</i> ■ Dale Ophardt, <i>CSX Transportation (Invited)</i> ■ Jim McLeod, <i>Canadian National (Invited)</i> ■ Gord Pozzobon, <i>Canadian Pacific (Invited)</i>
10:00 - 10:45 a.m.	MARKETPLACE IMPACTS FOR HARDWOODS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mike Snow, <i>Executive Director, American Hardwood Export Council</i> ■ David Danielson, <i>Asst. Secretary, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (Invited)</i> 	7:00 p.m.	ANNUAL RTA BANQUET & AWARDS CEREMONY <i>The Return of Gasparilla, A Pirate Mardi Gras with Game Show</i>
10:45 - 12:15 p.m.	SAWMILL & FORESTRY ISSUES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Teddy Reynolds, <i>President, Reynolds Forestry &</i> ■ Jim Rosson, <i>Research Forester, USDA, "Relationships Between Hardwood Tree Inventory, Tie Mill Locations, and Tie Demand"</i> 		

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	WOOD PRESERVATION FORUM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Jeff Morrell, <i>Professor, Oregon State University, "Oil's Well that Ends Well"</i> ■ Adam Taylor, <i>Professor, Tennessee Forest Products Center, "Scale Up Experience With Ambient-Temperature Borate Dip Treatments"</i> ■ Shane Kitchens, <i>Manager, TASKpro, "Revisiting Remedial Tie Treatments, etc."</i> ■ Michael Sanders, <i>Senior Research Associate, Dept. of Forest Products, MSU, "Alternative Wood Preservative Research Project - Phase I 'Year 4' & Phase II 'Installation'"</i> ■ Mark Manning, <i>Director, Market Development, U.S. Borax, "Fixed and Non-Fixed Boron/Wood Research"</i>
10:00 - 10:15 a.m.	VENDOR-MERCIALS Vendor-Sponsored 3-Minute Presentations <i>(Must sign up in advance)</i>
10:15 - 10:45 a.m.	OTHER RESEARCH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Greg Grissom, <i>VP Engineering, Georgetown Rail Equipment &</i> ■ Mark Huston, <i>Asst. Director Maintenance Planning, BNSF, "Wood Tie Grading Using Subjective & Objective Methodologies"</i>
10:45 - 12:15 p.m.	CLASS 1 PURCHASING FORUM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Chad Rolstad, <i>BNSF (Invited)</i> ■ Gary Hunter, <i>Union Pacific (Invited)</i> ■ Lisa Pleasants, <i>CSX Transportation</i> ■ Jon Zillioux, <i>Norfolk Southern</i> ■ Bruce Emberly, <i>Canadian National (Invited)</i> ■ Rob Churma, <i>Canadian Pacific</i>

SPOUSE/GUEST AND OTHER OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

First two events are on Tuesday, October 23rd & at an extra cost—minimums and maximums required. The Spouse & Guest Hospitality & Optional Tour takes place during the Main Business Session and Luncheon on Wednesday.

1 - RTA GOLF TOURNAMENT Golf at Tampa's Premier Golf Resort & Country Club. Even though Emerald Greens is close to Dale Mabry Highway and numerous local attractions, it's a peaceful course that rolls through pine and cypress trees.

2 - TRAP SHOOTING EVENT This exciting adventure will be available for up to 15 people and will be coordinated, once again, by American trap shooting coach & instructor Bill Smith. Instruction will be provided for the beginner or experienced shooter alike.

3 - BIG CAT RESCUE Take a fascinating journey through the 45-acre wildlife sanctuary that is home to 140 cats representing 16 species of wild cats. You will be able to see Lions, Tigers, Geoffroy Cats, Jungle Cats, Caracals, Snow Leopards, Bobcats, Lynx and more! All of these cats are endangered or in danger of becoming so and, in many cases, their numbers have dwindled to only a few remaining. Learn the history behind these furry friends and how they came to call Big Cat Rescue home.

4 - SPOUSE & GUEST HOSPITALITY & SHOPPING ON YOUR OWN The morning will start with an entertaining and informative breakfast and CVB PowerPoint presentation of the Tampa area. Following this will be a visit to the world-famous Salvador Dali Museum—which is home of the world's most comprehensive collection of his works. A guide will take you through the life of Dali and the various artistic stages of his work ending with a presentation of his master works. Next stop is an afternoon of touring St. Petersburg's beautiful Sunken Gardens. You will explore this lush botanical paradise as you stroll through history discovering some of the oldest plant specimens in the region.

2012 RTA CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

October 23 – 25, 2012 Tampa, Florida Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina

CORPORATE EXHIBIT TABLE

\$495 30" x 6' Mini Tabletop Exhibit. Limited number available! Can set-up as early as 8:00 a.m. Monday, October 22nd & needs to be torn down by Thursday, October 25th by noon

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

_____	\$3,750	Wednesday Business Luncheon Sponsor – PARTIAL Sponsorship
_____	\$2,950	Wednesday Main Business Session Continental Breakfast
_____	\$1,500	Audio/Visual Sponsorship (Logo Privileges)
_____	\$1,500	Conference Photography Sponsorship
_____	\$1,500	Wednesday Spouse Hospitality Breakfast and Tour Transportation Sponsorship
_____	\$1,500	Golf Tournament Beverage Cart Sponsorship
_____	\$1,250	Speaker's Gift Sponsorship
_____	\$1,250	Premium Conference Gift
_____	\$1,125	Conference Gift
_____	\$1,000	Beverage Sponsorship at Lunch on Emerald Greens Golf Course
_____	\$1,000	Vendor-mercials: 3 Minute Exhibitor Presentations <i>(Must be signed up as exhibitor)</i>
_____	\$975	Wednesday A.M. Coffee Break During Main RTA Business Session
_____	\$975	Wednesday P.M. Refreshments During Main RTA Business Sessions
_____	\$975	Thursday Morning Session Coffee Break
_____	\$975	Conference Signage Sponsorship
_____	\$975	Conference Programs
_____	\$850	Award Recipient Sponsor (Lodging)
_____	\$850	Big Cat Rescue Transportation
_____	\$300	AMEX Gift Card
_____	\$200	AMEX Gift Card



GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP

_____	\$750	GOLD LEVEL
_____	\$600	SILVER LEVEL
_____	\$295	BRONZE LEVEL (Individual Hole)

Your Name: _____ Company: _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security # _____
(Security # is the 3-digit validation code from back of card or 4-digit from front of AMEX card)

Cardholder name if different from above: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

TOTAL SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBIT COMMITMENT: \$ _____

*(If you are not including your credit card information, please include your check for payment)
 Please mail to the Railway Tie Association, 115 Commerce Dr., Suite C, Fayetteville, GA 30214
 If you wish to submit this form electronically, please click on our email address of ties@rta.org*



SYMPOSIUM & TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

Join Us In Tampa, Florida | October 23-25, 2012

Early Registration Information for the **94th Annual Conference**

NOTE: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES COVER ALL MEETINGS, BUSINESS LUNCHEON, PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION, AND ANNUAL BANQUET.
Please complete both the Registration AND Golf form if you want to play in the golf tournament.

Reserve Your Hotel:

Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina

Make your reservations now!

Reserve Online At:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/RailWayTies>

There is no guarantee of a room beyond Sept. 15, 2012.

Make hotel reservations under the RTA Room Block by calling 1-888-268-1616 or 1-813-221-4900 outside the U.S. **Room rate \$169.**

Early registration ends Aug. 31. Late registration surcharges: Additional \$50 per person after Aug. 31.

Full refund prior to Aug. 31. **No refunds after Aug. 31.**

Reserve Your Space:

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION (Golf registration form is at the bottom)

Name _____ Company _____

TO APPEAR ON BADGE

Address _____ Phone _____

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE USE ADDRESS ON CARD

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Business) Email: _____ Spouse Name (if attending) _____

(Personal) Email _____ (Use address you want confirmation e-mailed to)

PLEASE CHECK ALL FEES THAT APPLY. YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEES MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

- Producer, Supplier, Contractor & Consulting Member** **\$395**
- Associate Member** **\$275**
- Non-Member—Railroad, Government & Academic** **\$395**
- Non-Member—Other** **\$595**
- Spouse Participation** (Fee to attend any conference events.) **\$195**
(Spouse/Guest Hospitality Breakfast at Hotel on Wednesday, Oct. 24th)
- Salvador Dali Museum and Sunken Gardens Tour – for Spouses/Guests** (Follows hospitality breakfast) **\$135**

Optional Events For All (Additional fees are required.)

These All Take Place on Tuesday, October 23rd – Except for the Spouse Function (above)

- Golf Tournament - Tuesday Oct. 23rd** (Fill out form below.) **\$155**
- Trap Shooting Event** (max 15) – (Gun Rental, Targets, & Ammo extra) **\$95**
- Big Cat Rescue Tour** **\$110**

****Minimums & Maximums Are In Effect So Advanced Registration is Necessary****
Tours are not guaranteed to run if minimums are not met.

TOTAL PAYMENT (Include spouse fees & any optional tours or golf fee) \$ _____ U.S.

Payment Type:

CHECK

CREDIT CARD

Card # _____

Exp Date _____

Name On Card _____

3 digit CVC on back of card _____

4 digit CVC on front of AMEX _____

Billing Zip/Postal Code if different from above: _____

NOTE: Presenters and attendees who are RTA members need to check the box that corresponds to their membership type and submit that fee.

RTA GOLF REGISTRATION PLEASE SUBMIT ONE FORM PER GOLFER

Emerald Greens Golf Resort — (813) 961-1369 • Golf Chairman-Jason Feagans • (812) 339-9000

Tuesday, October 23, 2012 • RTA Tournament - Shotgun start format \$155 each player.

This is a soft-spike course. Collared shirts are required and cut-offs aren't allowed. Please note rental clubs are limited—only advance reservations can be considered. To reserve clubs, contact Daren Johnson at (813) 961-1369.

Name _____ Company _____ Handicap _____

If you have preferred playing partners for main tournament list them below (Each must register separately.)

1. Your Name: _____ 2. Preferred Partner: _____

3. Preferred Partner: _____ 4. Preferred Partner: _____

Return this form with all registration fees to:

Railway Tie Association

115 Commerce Dr.,
Suite C
Fayetteville, GA 30214

(P) 770-460-5553
(F) 770-460-5573

To submit form electronically, e-mail to:

ties@rta.org



THE RAILWAY TIE ASSOCIATION WELCOMES YOU TO



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES REGISTRATION

A striking silhouette along the Channel Riverwalk, the Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina in Ybor City overlooks Tampa Bay in the heart of Downtown, located adjacent to the Tampa Convention Center. This world-class hotel has 50,000 sq. ft. of newly renovated meeting space, full-service spa, and several delicious restaurants. Part of the Channelside District, the Tampa Marriott is among the most luxurious of hotels in the area offering private bay or city view balconies, as well as newly renovated rooms and suites.

So come join us in October -- where we will celebrate the beautiful sunrises and sunsets over Tampa Bay

Optional Activities For Everyone on Tuesday, October 23rd Which Must Be Registered For in Advance Include:

- 1) **Big Cat Rescue** – Take a fascinating journey through 45 acre wildlife sanctuary that is home to 140 cats, representing 16 species of wild cats. You will be able to see Lion, Tigers, Geoffroy Cats, Jungle Cats, Caracals, Snow Leopards, Bob Cats, Lynx and more. Learn the history behind this exotic animals and how they came to call Big Cat Rescue home.
- 2) **RTA Golf Tournament at Emeral Greens Golf Resort & Golf Course** – This Dan Maples designed golf course is set upon a lush rolling landscape and is unparalleled in quality or experience anywhere in the Tampa Bay area. Located in the heart of Tampa and is close to the conference hotel.
- 3) **Trap Shooting Event** – Once again this event is being coordinated by American Trap Shooting coach and instructor, Bill Smith and will only be open to the first 15 participants who register.



The Event Below Takes Place on Wednesday, October 24, 2012 – During the Business Session and is for Spouses & Guests

- 4) **Salvador Dali Museum and Sunken Gardens Tour** – An interesting tour of the world's most comprehensive collection of works by the late Spanish surrealist, Salvador Dali. Sunken Gardens is a botanical paradise in the midst of a bustling city. As St. Petersburg's oldest living museum, this 100 year old garden is home to some of the oldest tropical plants in the region!



- Yes, I Will Attend the **Big Cat Rescue** (see details above). **Fee of \$110.00/person**, and we **MUST** know, in advance, if you plan to attend. This event takes place on **Tuesday**, October 23, 2012 and is limited to 35.
- Yes, I Will Attend the **RTA Golf Tournament at the Mountain Course**. **Fee is \$155.00/person and you need to pre-register for the tournament**. The fee included transportation to the event, golf fees, RTA give-aways, breakfast and lunch. This event takes place on **Tuesday**, October 23, 2012.
- Yes, I will Attend the **Trap Shooting Event**. **Fee is \$95.00/person and you need to pre-register**. Gun rental, targets, and ammo will be an additional charge. **This event is limited to the first 15 people who register** and takes place on **Tuesday**, October 23, 2012.
- Yes, I Want to Attend the **Dali Museum and Sunken Gardens Tour**. **Fee of \$135.00/person** and we **MUST** know, in advance, if you plan to attend as the event is limited to 35. The fee includes transportation to both the Dali Museum and Sunken Gardens. A docent will guide guests through the various artistic stages of Dali's work ending with a presentation of his Master Works. Next, guests will be accompanied by a tour guide as they discover the wonderful diversity of nature and the joy of gardening at St. Petersburg's beautiful Sunken Gardens! This event takes place on **Wednesday**, October 24, 2012, during the Main Business Session and Luncheon.

Don't forget to check which, if any, additional event(s) above you plan to attend & mark on the registration payment form too!

Name(s): _____ Total Amount \$ _____