The Railway Tie Association (RTA) will hold its annual field trip will Sunday, June 1 through Wednesday, June 4 in western Tennessee and western Kentucky.

Participants should plan to arrive early Sunday evening to attend the welcome reception sponsored by Koppers Inc., where David Caldwell of the Hardwood Market Report will be the guest speaker.

Key sponsors for the field trip include Koppers Inc., MiTek Industries, Burke-Parsons-Bowlby Corp., and Thompson Industries.

Attendees will have the opportunity to explore many different railroad supply and manufacturing facilities. The trip will also include a visit to the Canadian National Switch Yard in Memphis, Tenn.; Miller Lumber Company and Casey Jones Village in Jackson, Tenn.; Temple Inland in Johnsonville, Tenn.; Allison Sawmill in Waverly, Tenn.; Koppers’ Guthrie, Ky., treating facility; Progress Rail in Mayfield, Ky.; Burke-Parsons-Bowlby’s Fulton, Ky., treating plant; Batesville Casket Co. in Batesville, Miss.; and Cleveland Track Works in Memphis.

Hotel reservations for June 1 and 3 can be made by calling the Comfort Suites – Cordova in Memphis at (901) 213-3600 by May 14 (rate of $119 plus tax, including breakfast, per night). Reservations for the night of June 2 can be made by calling Country Inn & Suites in Clarksville at (931) 645-1400 before May 5 (rate of $99 plus tax, including breakfast).

For more information on the field trip, contact Debbie Corallo, RTA administrator, at (770) 460-5553. Check www.rta.org/meetings.aspx for event updates.

RTA’s annual field trip will take participants throughout the Tennessee/Kentucky region to explore the finest the tie industry has to offer in manufacturing excellence. Last year’s event is pictured.