

Symposium Coordinator

BOD Meeting November 2011

President Deflorio,

At the time of this writing, the 2013 Symposium Chair, Philip Legge, and myself are about to make a number of hotel site visits to Florida's gulf coast. By the fall BOD meeting a hotel contract should be close to being signed.

Soon after this site and contract are set I will be contacting a few leads for the 2014 Symposium. I have talked to a few interested parties and it will be time for some gentle prodding. Namely the west coast or the midwest.

The 2012 Symposium in Corning, New York is on schedule and registration packets should be coming in late winter 2012.

Mike Souza and his committees have done an outstanding job of reserving exhibitor booths and arranging a top notch technical program.

I will be in attendance at this meeting and I will again bring up the subject of the ASGS BOD putting on the 2014 Symposium.

Scott Bankroff

ASGS Symposium Coordinator

I had the opportunity to visit Sarasota Florida from October 10th - 12th in hopes of finding a site for the 2013 A.S.G.S. Symposium. Scott Bancroff and I toured two hotels in the area, the Hyatt Regency Sarasota and the Lido Beach Resort. Both were beautiful facilities boasting stunning views, excellent restaurants and bars as well as great meeting space. After careful consideration it became apparent that the Lido Beach Resort would be the better fit for our group. The Lido Beach Resort is located right, and I mean right, on the beach. The beach is a stunning white sand beach sloping gently into the warm Gulf of Mexico waters. Lido Beach is just a mile north of Dr. Beach's voted Best Beach in America. Next to the beach are two pools, hot-tubs, and a Tiki bar all with a free Gulf view. The rooms (most of which have a water view) are large, clean and all come with a kitchenette which includes; fridge, freezer, microwave, dishes, dishwasher, cookware, toaster, two burner range and coffee maker. The meeting space is all located in one area. Registration, papers, workshops, seminars, all will be in the same area on the 8th floor, and many of the rooms have the stunning Gulf views. The ballrooms are large and have very high ceilings which will accommodate our "special" requirements very nicely. Storage space for gas cylinders and a service elevator for equipment is easy enough to get to. Internet access is free for the meeting space as well as the guests. The main point (other than the water) which drew me to this space above others was the Lido Beach Resort's can do attitude. Anytime we (Scott and myself) presented them with a question or problem it was answered easily. The A.S.G.S. will also be the only meeting at the Lido Beach Resort at this time. Other notables about this property are: free parking, free wifi internet, no resort fees and free shuttle bus to St. Armands Circle. All for a very reasonable price of \$129 per night. Sarasota is a wonderful city! St. Armands circle is a 15 minute walk or free shuttle bus ride from the resort. There you can find shops, bars and an assortment of restaurants. Scott and I met with a

representative from the Sarasota Convention Bureau who showed us what the city has to offer. The city also has an abundance of attractions both culture and outdoors related. It is a great place to bring the family!! You can charter a fishing boat or see the John and Mabel Ringling Museum of art. There is the Mote Aquarium which has sharks, sea turtles, dolphins and a giant squid. Also of note is the G Wiz science centre. The 2013 Symposium will be July 15th to the 20th. And if you're grumbling about the heat take note that we are right on the water which keeps temperatures notably cooler. July temperatures in the city average 91 as the daytime high, for Washington D.C. they average 89 and San Antonio's average is 96. As of the moment my symposium committee looks as such: Symposium Chairs Philip Legge - Symposium Chairman Scott Bancroft - Seminar Chair Doug Navalinsky - Papers Chair Kiva Ford - Workshop Chair Arturo Ramirez - Poster Chair Much has been accomplished so far and there is much more to do. All in all we're off to a good start and I feel that the 2013 Symposium will be a great success.

Respectfully, Philip Legge