
NAIL-RAY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER MARCH 2003

2003 NAIL-RAY ANNUAL MEETING TENNESSEE, HERE WE COME!

The 2003 gathering of the Nail-Ray Association will be June 6-8 in the Memphis area of western Tennessee. Our hosts Clarene and James Russell have a wonderful weekend of sightseeing, visiting, and fellowship planned for us!

Planned activities include a get-together dinner at the Russell's home on Friday evening, June 6; a private bus tour of the Memphis area on Saturday, June 7; a banquet and business meeting at Dunn Clubhouse on Saturday evening, June 7, and worship service at the Collierville United Methodist Church on Sunday, June 8.

Where To Stay

A block of rooms has been set aside for the Nail-Ray Association at both the Comfort Inn and the Hampton Inn in Collierville. These motels are right next to each other on the north side of Poplar Avenue (highway 72/57). Please call the motel of your choice and make your own reservation by May 15. Tell them that you are part of the Nail-Ray group. June is a very busy time for tourism in the Memphis area, so any rooms remaining in our block will be released on May 15.

Comfort Inn, 1230 W. Poplar Ave., Collierville, Tennessee, 901-853-1235. Double room, smoking or non-smoking, \$66.70 + tax, includes continental breakfast. Check-in time, 3:00 p.m.

Hampton Inn, 1280 W. Poplar Ave., Collierville, Tennessee, 901-854-9400. Double or king room, smoking or non-smoking, \$82.20 + tax, includes continental breakfast. Check-in time, 3:00 p.m.

Dinner at the Russell's Home, Friday Evening (6/6)

Clarene and James are looking forward to "having all the cousins we have known for so long in our home." Dinner is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. The Russell's daughter Kathi and their grandson Alex will be on hand, so we will all get to see who has "stolen their hearts, hook, line, and sinker."

The Russells live at 506 Peterson Lake Road, Collierville, Tennessee. From the motel (either Comfort Inn or Hampton Inn), turn left and proceed east on Poplar Avenue, which becomes highway 72/57. At the 5th stop light, turn left (north) onto Peterson Lake Road. At the third street on the right, turn right (east) onto White Road. The Russell's home is at the southeast corner of Peterson Lake Road and White Road; the driveway is to White Road.

Bus Tour of Memphis, Saturday (6/7)

We have chartered a private motor coach for our tour of the Memphis area. Clarene Russell will serve as our tour guide. The tour departs from the Comfort Inn at 8:15 a.m. and will return by approximately 4:00 p.m. Highlights include ...

Graceland: Elvis Presley's mansion preserves and displays numerous artifacts from the legendary life and career of "the King."

Duck Walk at the Peabody Hotel: At eleven o'clock each day, the famous Peabody ducks parade through the Grand Lobby of the Peabody Hotel.

"Jade Exhibit" at the Peabody Place Museum. Officially titled "Chinese Art in the Imperial Tradition", this special exhibition showcases some truly amazing jade and ivory sculptures from the Qing Dynasty, the "last great dynasty of ancient China."

Rock and Soul Museum: This Smithsonian museum in the Beale Street Entertainment District of downtown Memphis preserves "the original music, genuine instruments and countless artifacts of the music that changed the world."

Clarene has arranged for special group discounts for all admission fees. A flat fee of \$25.00 will cover the transportation plus admission fees to all the above attractions. Send check with reservation to Dr. Rebecca Markel, Treasurer, Nail-Ray Association, 2455 Tamarack Trail, Apt. 14, Bloomington, IN 47408. We need a final count by May 10. Lunch (at your own expense) will be at the Rendezvous Restaurant.

Banquet and Business Meeting, Dunn Clubhouse, Saturday Evening (6/7)

Our Saturday evening banquet and business meeting will be at Dunn Clubhouse. Our hosts, Melvin Dunn Russell and his wife Donna, will serve "all you can eat catfish." (Let us know if you can't eat catfish, so we can make special arrangements for you.) Plan to leave the motels by 6:00; dinner will be served at 6:30. Cost: \$10 per person. Send check with reservation to Dr. Rebecca Markel, Treasurer, Nail-Ray Association, 2455 Tamarack Trail, Apt. 14, Bloomington, IN 47408. We need a final count by May 10.

Worship Service, Collierville United Methodist Church, Sunday Morning (6/8)

We have been invited to join the congregation of Clarene and James' church in Collierville for Sunday morning worship service at 8:30 a.m.

This worship service is the final planned activity for the Nail-Ray weekend. Those members remaining in the Memphis area are encouraged to go out for brunch with the Russells after the worship service and then return to the Russell home for additional visiting.

Optional Nearby Activities

We hope you can plan to come a few days early, or stay a few days after our meeting, so you can soak up some of the rich history and culture of this fascinating area. Options include...

Memphis Queen Line: Paddlewheel riverboats run ninety-minute sightseeing cruises on "America's greatest river."

Beale Street Entertainment District: One of America's most famous musical streets, includes the restored home of W.C. Handy, "Father of the Blues."

Chucalissa Museum: Archaeological park, museum, and authentic reconstructed pre-Columbia village built on a Native American Temple Mound complex.

Mallory-Neely, Magevney, and Woodruff-Fontaine Houses: The Victorian Village Historic District in downtown Memphis preserves these three quite different 19th century homes. Built in 1836, the Magevney House, a small white clapboard cottage, is the oldest middle-class residence still standing in Memphis. Built in 1852, the Mallory-Neely House is an Italianate mansion which represents one of the finest examples of "High Victorian" style found in the country. Built in 1870, the Woodruff-Fontaine House is a fully restored three-story French Victorian mansion, furnished with period furniture and accessories.

Memphis Pink Palace Museum: Built around the 1920's mansion of the founder of the Piggly Wiggly grocery chain, Tennessee's most visited museum features regional history exhibits, an IMAX theater, and a planetarium.

National Civil Rights Museum: "Interpretive exhibits and audio/visual displays bring to life the most significant moments of the civil rights struggles and victories."

Fire Museum of Memphis: "America's premier interactive fire museum" built in a turn-of-the-century fire house in downtown Memphis.

National Ornamental Metal Museum: "The only institution in the Americas devoted exclusively to the preservation and promotion of fine metalwork."

Gibson Guitar Factory: See how the "world's finest guitars" are made.

Children's Museum of Memphis: "Hands-on, interactive exhibits allow children to discover science, math, health, art, and more."

Memphis Zoo: Over 3000 animals are on display; featured exhibit is the elaborate new Panda House.