

# The USS Askari (ARL-30) Association

Will have its 1913 Reunion with the MRFA Reunion

President - Lee Daley

Vice President - William Powell

Secretary - Steve Klosterman

Treasurer - Ed Toth



If you have not made your reservations you may want to do so ASAP. Also when making reservations please mention you have a guest attending. We see where some of you have made reservation and you did not add your wife or guest. Also in some cases your reservations are being made by your Spouses or Girl Friend's name only. So it shows only she's the one person who's attending She's the person who made the reservation.

It would make life a lot easier on Georgie and George, and Frank and help them in keeping their records straight. In other words if you have a guess attending please let them no their name when making reservations. It also helps George when he's making your reunion name tags up. And lets Georgie no who and how many folks we need to expect. It can become pretty confusing when we have 1200 or 1300 attending. We do have an excellent reunion planned for those of you who have never attended a reunion plan on doing so' you want be disappointed.

Happy New year to everyone. Albert [mrfa@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrfa@bellsouth.net) Reunion Info below don't wait till the last minute////

# 2013 "MRFA Reunion"



**Indianapolis, Indiana**



**August 28th to September 1, 2013**

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**Marriott.**  
INDIANAPOLIS EAST



**"Welcome Message"**

**Welcome MRFA Army and Navy Team from Lisa Howe,  
Director of Sales:**

**Many of you would be interested to know that your new host hotel, for the 2013 Indianapolis meeting of the Mobile Riverine Force Association, has completed a**

**\$30 Million Dollar renovation! We are the [Indianapolis Marriott East](#) and we look forward to welcoming you here [August 28-September 1, 2013](#). Our spectacular new lobby and great room space energize and satisfy with ever-changing natural lighting and rich natural textures and space. With the addition of 23,000 square feet, we now have 75,000 square feet of meeting and event space (all column free and on the same level) offering nearly unlimited flexibility to customize room size and shape to create the perfect mood and setting for any event.**

**Our facility has also gained high praise for an enhanced patio area located within the center of the three-hotel campus. Our "[Outdoor Oasis](#)" features water features and lush landscaping—A perfect place to gather, connect, and relax. The Marriott has also launched an elegant new restaurant. The Skylight Bistro and Wine Bar serves a "[fresh to table](#)" menu using Indiana ingredients by day and becomes an upscale wine bar by night. Sixty-six skylights create a spectacular, ever changing play of light to make your dining experience memorable. The meeting space is technologically advanced featuring redundant high-capacity, high-speed internet connections to ensure reliability and easy access.**

**In addition to the [Marriott Hotel](#), the campus features a [Fairfield Inn & Suites](#) and a [LaQuinta Inn & Suites](#). The Fairfield offers 63 guest rooms including 4 Whirlpool Suites, 10 Spa Kings, and 4 Executive Suites. A heated indoor pool, whirlpool, exercise room, and business center are also featured. The [LaQuinta](#) offers 123 spacious standard double and king guest rooms. In addition to a heated outdoor pool, the facility also provides guest laundry facilities. Our campus offers something for everyone. We are honored to have been chosen as the host hotel for your future meetings and will do whatever it takes to make you feel welcome and accommodated.**

**Within the [Indianapolis Marriott East courtyard](#), a special fountain was erected to [honor all five divisions of the Armed Forces](#). Each step within the fountain represents a conflict the United States has been in. The water flowing down over the steps represents [our country's fallen soldiers](#). Three large torches are lit every night above the water representing "[life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness](#)." A flag for each division of the Armed Forces flies above the fountain. The fountain is located inside our outdoor Oasis. This space features outdoor fireplaces and large patio that connects to an indoor pool enclosed with glass doors. The doors can be opened to create an outdoor entrance to the pool. This tranquil space, located at the heart of our campus makes our property unique and enhances the overall experience for our Marriott guests.**

**You may want to access the [hotel's web site](#) to see a photo gallery of the hotel:**

**[www.indianapolismarriotteast.com](http://www.indianapolismarriotteast.com)**



# 2013 Reunion Information

## Plan of the Day

There is no dress code. Dress to be comfortable. Always wear a pair of comfortable shoes if you plan on visiting the local sites. Most of all, just come and have a great time.



**When:** Wednesday **August 28th** until check-out on Sunday **September 1st**.

**Location:** The **Indianapolis Marriott East** - 7202 East 21st Street · Indianapolis, Indiana 46219 - **Indianapolis Marriott East** is located in Indianapolis's East neighborhood and local attractions include Indiana State Fairgrounds and Pepsi Coliseum and Children's Museum of Indianapolis. Regional points of interest also include Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

**Hotel Features:** The **Indianapolis Marriott East's** restaurant serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. A bar/lounge is open for drinks. Room service is available during limited hours. The hotel serves buffet breakfasts (surcharges apply). Recreational amenities include an indoor pool, a spa tub, and a fitness facility. This 3.5-star property has a business center and offers small meeting rooms, audio-visual equipment, and business services. Wireless and wired high-speed Internet access is available in public areas (surcharges apply). This Indianapolis property has 75,000 square feet of event space consisting of banquet facilities, conference/meeting rooms, a ballroom, and exhibit space. Wedding services, concierge services, and tour assistance are available. Guest parking is complimentary.

Additional property amenities include gift shops/newsstands and laundry facilities. This is a smoke-free property.

**Guest Rooms:** The **Indianapolis Marriott East** has 315 air-conditioned guest rooms featured with coffee/tea makers and complimentary weekday newspapers. Beds come with premium bedding. Bathrooms feature shower/tub combinations, complimentary toiletries, and hair dryers. Wired high-speed and wireless Internet access is available for a surcharge (**MRFA will be exempted from this surcharge**). Guest rooms offer multi-line phones with voice mail. Televisions have premium satellite channels and pay movies. Rooms also include electronic check-out and trouser presses. Guests may request refrigerators and wake-up calls. Housekeeping is available daily. Guest rooms are **all non-smoking**.

**Registration:** You may start making reservations on **October 1, 2012**. The cut-off date for making reservations is **July 28, 2013**. The in-house reservation department phone number is **317-352-1231 - Ext 1114**. When making the reservation through the reservation department all you have to do is mention that you are with the "**Mobile Riverine**".

The reservations page is online with our "**Group Code**" at:

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<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/inddt?groupCode=rivriva&app=resvlink&fromDate=8/27/13&toDate=9/2/13> \*\*\*

**Rooms:** Special Room Rates for our MRFA Group are **\$79.00 per night**. These rates are good **three days prior to the reunion and three days following the reunion**.



**Hospitality Rooms:** If a group would like an individual Hospitality Room contact [Liz Lindauer](mailto:lindauerl@indymarriotteast.com), Events Manager ([317-322-3716 ext. 1255](tel:317-322-3716), [lindauerl@indymarriotteast.com](mailto:lindauerl@indymarriotteast.com)). The rate is \$125 per day. [Stephanie Linton](#) suggested to \*\*\* **book the hospitality rooms quickly.** \*\*\*

**Parking**: Complimentary on-site parking for our reunion participants.

**Handicap Home Health Depot Scooters**: To rent a handicap scooter all this number and ask for **Kathy** or **Paula**: **(317) 346-6400**: The requirement is a **\$400 deposit** and the scooter will be delivered to the hotel. If there are **no damages** to the scooter, the **rate upon return will be \$150** for rental, delivery, and pick-up for the **dates of August 28-September 1, 2013**. The MRFA is **not responsible** for the delivery of the scooter or for the payment.

**Notifications and Fees**: The following fees and deposits are charged by the property at time of service, check-in, or check-out:

- (1) **Pet fee**: \$75.00 per pet
- (2) **Pet deposit**: \$75.00 per stay
- (3) **Fee for in-room high-speed Internet (wired & wireless)**: **Free to MRFA Guests** with Room Reservations.
- (4) **Buffet breakfast fee**: \$15.95 per person (approximately).

The hotel will provide **complimentary transportation to and from Castleton Square Mall** at a prearranged time with departure from the Hotel in the morning and departure from Castleton Square Mall in the afternoon. Service will be offered on a **first come, first serve basis**.

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The **Indianapolis Marriott East**  
**Does Not provide Shuttle Service.**  
Please note other options below.

**Complimentary Transportation**: The hotel **does not** provide a Shuttle Service. They do provide **complimentary transportation** to and from the Indianapolis International Airport on a **prearranged scheduled basis**.

We may have a few changes on the transportation schedules. If so then we will keep you updated in the "**River Currents**" newsletter and **here on our website** prior to the reunion.



If you are flying, and have friends flying, then please try to work your air travel around each other. The **Indianapolis Marriott East** has never offered this service before and it will all be a work in progress. The airport is a good ways from the Hotel and **the cost per taxi runs around \$45.00 or \$50.00.**

**!!! IMPORTANT --- \*\*\* Flight Information Form \*\*\* --- IMPORTANT !!!**

To provide the complimentary transportation on a prearranged scheduled basis,

Click **HERE** to fill out the form and e-mail it back to **LindauerL@indymarriotteast.com**,  
fax to Liz @ **(317) 352-9775**, or mail to:

**Liz Lindauer - Event Manager  
ATTN: 2013 MRFA Reunion Flight Info  
Indianapolis Marriott East  
7202 E 21st St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46219**

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**Other Forms of Transportation:**

- Area Airports other transportation - Indianapolis International Airport, In - Airport Phone: **(317) 487-7243** - The Indianapolis Marriott East Hotel is 21 miles west - The hotel does not provide shuttle service.

**Carey Indiana Limousine Service:** This is a shared ride and the fee is \$32.76 (one way) - Reservations are required.

**Bus service:** Free (one way)

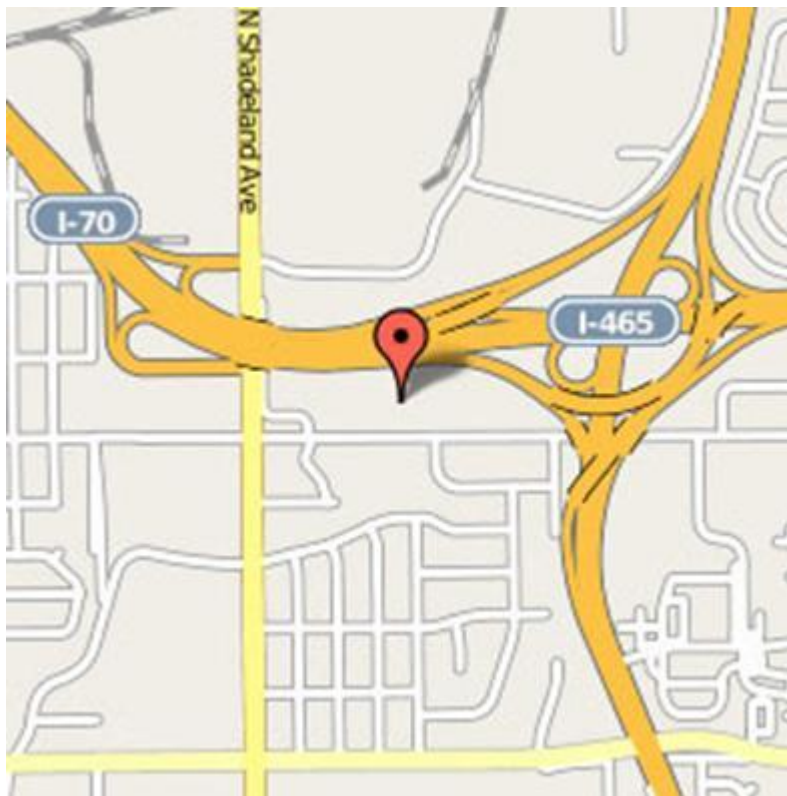
**Subway service:** Free (one way)

**Estimated taxi fare:** \$45.00 (one way)

**Greyhound Bus Station:** 6 miles west

**Amtrac Train Station: 6 miles west**

**Car Rentals: Nearby - Hertz - 1321 North Shadeland Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46219 - Phone: [1-317-353-2173](tel:1-317-353-2173)**



**Indianapolis Marriott East - Location**

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**\*\*\* HELP US BY REGISTERING IN ADVANCE FOR THE REUNION \*\*\***

**(((( \*\*\* CLICK [HERE](#) to View and Print the 2013 MRFA Registration Form \*\*\* ))))**

**Note: The \$50.00 MRFA Registration Fee does not include any Lodging or Food.**

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**\*\*\* WE ARE SEEKING A FEW GOOD PEOPLE \*\*\***

We are seeking **a few volunteers** that are familiar with computers to help at our **registration desk**. This will help speed up the process of getting everyone registered more quickly and on your way. We always have to make changes to some of the name tags. If you would like to get involved in assisting at the Product Table or Dance, etc. then please Contact:

**Georgie Arding**: [mrfamembership@mabeltel.coop](mailto:mrfamembership@mabeltel.coop)

**Albert Moore**: [mrfa@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrfa@bellsouth.net)

**Frank & Linda Jones** (Dance Setup) - [frank@raffertylighting.com](mailto:frank@raffertylighting.com)

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**Dining Options**: The hotel will be providing our participants with a **10% discount for all food and beverages purchased in the Hotel restaurant**. You have to **wear your name badge** when asking for this discount.

**Buffet Lunch**: We will have a **Buffet Lunch on Saturday, August 31 from 1300-1430**.



**Marriott Deli**: \$10 Per Person - Chef's Freshly Prepared Soup; Selection of (2) Salads (House Made Kettle Chips and Dip; All

American Garden Salad; Spring Mix Garden Salad; Classic Caesar Salad; Tortellini Pasta Salad; Red Skin Potato Salad; or Creamy Cole Slaw), Sliced Premium Roasted Top Round of Beef; Roasted Turkey Breast; Hickory Smoked Ham; and Genoa Salami; Assorted Fresh Deli Style Breads and Buns; Cheddar, Swiss, Pepper Jack, and Provolone Cheese; Sliced Tomatoes; Crisp Lettuce Leaves; Sliced Red Onions; Kosher Pickle Spears; and Assorted Condiments; Chef's Selection of Assorted Desserts; Coffee; and Unsweetened Iced Tea.

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## **Schedule of Events**

**Registration:** You may start making reservations on **October 1, 2012**. The cut-off date for making reservations is **July 28, 2013**. The in-house reservation department phone number is **317-352-1231 - Ext 1114**. When making the reservation through the reservation department all you have to do is mention that you are with the "**Mobile Riverine**".

**Products Sales:** MRFA Products will be available at the 2013 Reunion.

**MRF & 9th I.D. Museum Room:** The room will be open from **10 am to 5 pm daily**. Bob Pries and Quentin Sommers will watch over the room and answer any questions.

**From the Delta to the DMZ Dance:** Will be held **Friday Evening - August 30th**. There will be a DJ playing your favorites of the '60s and '70s music. Board Member, Frank Jones and wife Linda, will be hosting the Dance.

**Guest Speakers** Will begin at **10:00 am on Saturday August 31st** preceding the Memorial Service. We will announce the speakers as soon as they are confirmed.

**Memorial Service:** Will be held **Saturday morning at 11.00 am** and the **Missing Man Ceremony**.

**Flags and Certificates:** Will be presented to widows, sons and daughters of our fallen brothers from Vietnam. Also to the relatives, who will be in attendance, of those who have passed since Vietnam.

Master Chief Chet "Gunner" Stanley, assisted by Don Blankenship, will do the honors.

**Daily Raffles:** Our Raffle Queen, Mable Springer and her staff, will do the **Raffles and 50/25/25 Raffle.**

**Additional Events:** Will be published in future issues of "**River Currents.**"



Indoor Pool

**"Freedom Fountain"**



**The Hotel Ownership & Staff are very Patriotic and supportive of our Nation's Active Duty personnel and Veterans!**

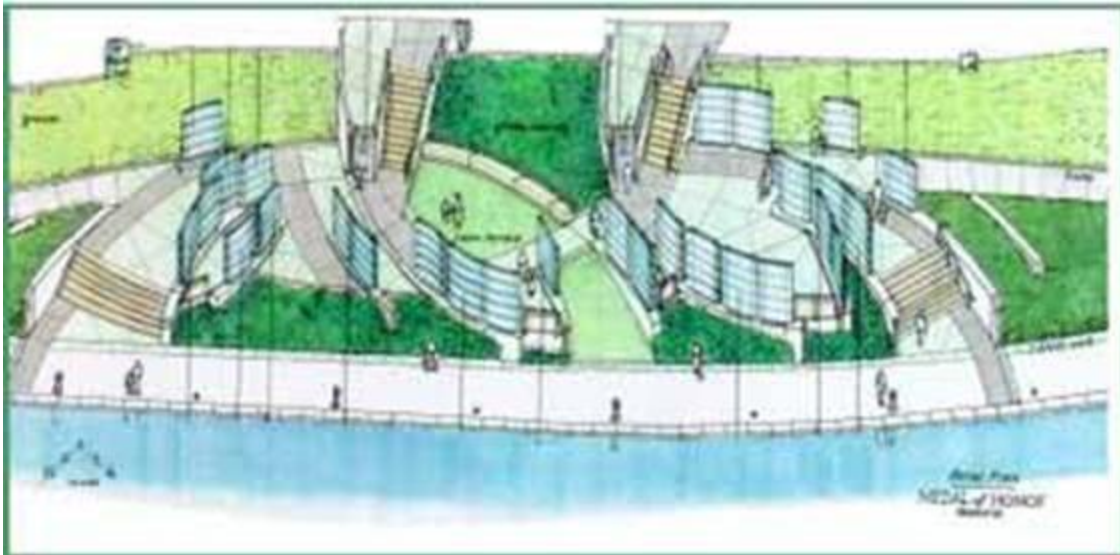
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**Indianapolis Attractions:**

## **Medal of Honor Memorial:**

**In June 1998, a New York Times reporter attended the annual meeting of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society in upstate New York. He wrote about its members and the courageous acts that earned them our nation's highest award for military valor. Eight hundred miles away, John Hodowal, chairman of the Indianapolis-based energy company IPALCO Enterprises, and his wife, Caroline, read the article. They were so moved by the story that they began thinking of ways to bring broader recognition to these extraordinary individuals. They and the IPALCO staff began doing research on these men and the lack of widespread awareness of their valor. While conducting this research, IPALCO officials learned that no memorial had ever been built to recognize the 3,436 Americans who had received the Medal of Honor. As a result of this startling discovery, IPALCO decided not only to bring the Medal of Honor recipients to Indianapolis, but also to build them a memorial that would provide lasting recognition.**

**Site preparation for the Indianapolis Medal of Honor Memorial began in November 1998 and construction began in January 1999. The Memorial was unveiled and dedicated May 28, 1999, with 96 Medal of Honor recipients present. Located on the north bank of the Central Canal in White River State Park in downtown Indianapolis, the site is adjacent to the Military Park. The city's first recorded Fourth of July celebration was held there in 1822. During the Civil War, it was a military camp used for the recruitment and training of troops.**



The memorial is a group of 27 curved glass walls, each between 7 and 10 feet tall. The walls represent the 15 conflicts, dating back to the Civil War, in which acts of bravery resulted in the awarding of the Medal of Honor. Information about the 3,436 medal recipients are etched into the glass walls. Steps, benches, and a grassy area provide seating for visitors. Each day at dusk, a sound system will play 30 minutes of recorded war stories about medal recipients and their acts. As each story is told, lights illuminate a portion of the memorial to highlight the war or conflict being discussed. Most of the stories have been recorded by Medal of Honor recipients.

**Materials:** A concrete base, curved blue/green plate glass panels, aluminum and stainless steel supports, Indiana limestone in shades of buff, gray and pink.

**Designers:** Architectural landscape artists Eric Fulford and Ann Reed of ROAMworks, an Indianapolis landscape design firm. The firm also is working on projects at the Eiteljorg Museum and in Broad Ripple Village in Indianapolis.



**Sponsor:** IPALCO Enterprises, an Indianapolis-based energy company, proudly donated the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial to the country and each Medal of Honor recipient. IPALCO Enterprises, Inc., One Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46204, Mailing address: PO Box 1595, Indianapolis, IN 46204-1594.



The **Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument** is a 284-foot tall monument built from gray limestone and bronze in a neoclassical style in the center of Indianapolis, Indiana. The structure commemorates Hoosiers who were veterans of the Indiana War (1776 to 1865). The Colonel Eli Lilly Civil War Museum is in the monument's lower level while a 30-foot statue of "Victory" tops the obelisk. The view of the surrounding area from the 250-foot high observation deck is simply spectacular.

**Indianapolis Motor Speedway**, located in Speedway, Indiana (an enclave of Indianapolis), is the home of the most famous race in the world, the Indianapolis 500.



**It has existed since 1909 and is the original "Speedway," the first racing facility historically to incorporate the word. With a permanent seating capacity for more than 257,000 people and infield seating that raises capacity to an approximate 400,000, it is the largest and highest-capacity sporting facility in history (by comparison, the world's largest stadium seats 150,000 spectators).**

**Considered relatively flat by American standards but high-banked by Europeans, the Motor Speedway is a 2 1/2 mile, nearly rectangular oval with dimensions that have remained essentially unchanged since its inception: four 1/4 mile turns, two 5/8 mile long straightaways between the fourth and first and second and third turns, and two 1/8 mile short straightaways, termed "short chutes," between the first and second, and third and fourth turns.**

**A modern infield road course, constructed between 1998 and 2000, includes the southern parts of the oval to create a 2.6-mile (4.2 km) track. Altogether, the current grounds have expanded from an original 320 acres (1.3 km<sup>2</sup>) on which the Speedway was first built to cover an area of over 559. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975 and designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987, it currently remains the only such landmark to be affiliated with automotive racing history since its inception.**

**Besides the Indianapolis 500, NASCAR's Allstate 400 at the Brickyard (formerly Brickyard 400) also takes place there. The Speedway also hosted the United States Grand Prix for Formula One from 2000 to 2007, the inaugural race drew an estimated 225,000 which set a Formula One attendance record. It was also the venue of the opening ceremonies for the 1987 Pan American Games.**

**Between August 19, 1909, and July 29, 2007, 226 automobile races took place, with 125 separate drivers winning. After winning the Grand Prix in 2006, Formula One driver Michael Schumacher holds the record for most victories among the 500, 400, and Grand Prix with five, although all having come on the infield road course. A.J. Foyt, Al Unser, and Rick Mears each won four times in the Indianapolis 500 on the rectangular shaped oval track, and Jeff Gordon has also won four times on the oval in the Brickyard 400. No driver to date has won any combination among the three events,**

with only one driver (Juan Pablo Montoya) having competed in all three.



On the grounds of the Speedway is the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Hall of Fame Museum, which opened in 1956, and the Brickyard Crossing Golf Resort, which originally opened as the Speedway Golf Course in 1929.

~ [Medal of Honor Memorial](#) ~

<http://www.medalofhonormemorial.com/>

<http://www.medalofhonor.com/Memorial.htm>

~ [Indianapolis Motor Speedway](#) ~

<http://www.indianapolismotorspeedway.com/museum/>

~ [USS Indianapolis \(CA-35\) Museum](#) ~

<http://www.ussindianapolis.us/>

~ [Indiana War Memorial Museum](#) ~

<http://www.in.gov/iwm/warmemorial/>

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## **American Legion National Headquarters**

Located on the downtown Mall.  
Free tours of the building to include the Museum and Library

<http://www.legion.org/homepage.php>

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**Come Join us for another Wonderful Event!**

**Albert Moore - President (MRFA)**  
**Roy Moseman - Vice President (MRFA)**

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