

Convention Overview by Keith and Donna Lee, Convention Chairs

Come “Share the Light” at the Annual GREA Convention, May 7-9, 2019, at the Augusta Marriott in Augusta, Georgia. Below are a few highlights and some helpful hints.

The **First General Session** will begin at 3:00 pm **Tuesday** afternoon.

- The Top 10 Spotlight Ad Awards will be given.

Tuesday night will be our *Lighthouse Beach Party* banquet.

- You are invited to wear your GREA t-shirts or anything ‘beachy’.
- There will be dancing at the beach party following the meeting.

Wednesday will begin with our *Memorial Service* at 8:00 am.

- Our “*I’m Gonna’ Let It Shine*” Local Units *Awards Brunch* will follow at 9:00 am.

This will be held in three separate venues:

- Areas 1 – 6
- Areas 7 – 12
- Areas 13 – 18
- Following the Brunch, breakout sessions will be at 11 am and 12 noon.

Breakout Sessions include: Veterans Remembrance/Normandy, Technology Today, Senior Safety, Silver Sneakers, AMBA-New Website, AMBA—Products, Unit Leadership Meeting

Wednesday afternoon – free time. See some possibilities below.

Wednesday afternoon – As an alternative to sight-seeing, you may select one of two options for a special afternoon session which will occur from 2:30–3:30 pm.

Best Practices to Grow Your Unit or Humorous Teacher Stories

Wednesday night will be our “Share the Light” banquet.

- The Membership Awards and Units of Distinction Awards will be given during this banquet.
- Dress will be business casual.

Thursday morning—We will end the convention with the **Second General Session** starting at 8:30 am.

Suggestions for Wednesday Afternoon

Patriot Riverboat Tours - Scenic 1 hour tour along the beautiful Savannah River in a covered platoon boat equipped with restrooms. View wildlife, beautiful homes, the fall line, the marina and the downtown area. Call 803-730-9739 for reservations. Cost is \$12. See www.patriotboattour.com for more information.

Petersburg Boat Tours on the Augusta Canal—Cost is \$12 (senior rate) and includes discovery center & boat tour. Call 706-823-0440 for reservations. See www.augustacanal.com for more information.

Lucy Laney Museum of Black History --\$5 (senior rate) (706) 724-3576

Boll Weevil Cake Decorating Class — across the street from the Marriott. Participants will decorate their own 6-inch cake. Call 706-828-7470 for pricing and reservations.

Space is limited in each of these. Please call early for reservations.

There will be a handout with more options for shopping, dining and tourist attractions in your conference packet.