



# AROC Convention 2027

Convention Planning Update

13 April 2026

Peter Jones, Convention Planning Chair

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# Agenda

- Opening / Attendees
- President's Comments
- Bottom Line Up Front
- Location/Date Update
- What Will Happen in the Next Two Weeks
- Comments/Discussion
- Closeout





## President's Comments

Brewster Thackeray

## Bottom Line Up Front



- Over the last 2 weeks:
  - Culled location candidate list from 4 to 3
  - Completed evaluation of properties using standardized criteria
  - Developed first, second, third choices
  - Briefed Board, got direction
  - Began negotiations with first choice hotel
- Date confirmed: Saturday, 24 July – Sunday, 1 August
- Planning based on 300 registered attendees, 150 rooms
  - Capability to expand to 400 attendees, 200 rooms
- Vendor participation equal to 2026 Utah convention

# Marriott Westfields

- Location: Chantilly, VA (approx. 5 miles south of Dulles Airport)
- 324 rooms, 12 suites
- Offer: \$189/night + tax, no parking/resort fees
- F&B Minimum: \$48,000
- Banquet up to 600 persons
- Overflow: Hyatt Place, 1.2 mi
- Concours: Offsite

*Summary: 20% F&B discount; 10% restaurant discount; suites included in \$189 rate; larger banquet space; “restaurant row” 2 miles*



# Gaithersburg Marriott



- Location: Gaithersburg, I-270 Exit 10
- 284 rooms and suites
- Offered rate: \$189 + tax
- F&B Minimum: \$50,000
- Banquet: 480
- Overflow: Springhill Suites, Courtyard, easy walking distance, 0.2 miles away
- Concours: Offsite, location TBD



*Summary: Good location, but no offer of F&B or guest dining discount; highest tax & service fees; suites not included in group \$189 rate; lots of close alternative dining options*

## DoubleTree Dulles

- Location: VA-28, across from Dulles Airport
- 400+ rooms and suites
- Proposed rate: \$149 + tax
- F&B Minimum: \$25,000
- Banquet: 600
- Overflow: Holiday Inn, Westin
- Concours: Offsite, location TBD



*Summary: Older hotel, very noisy location, in an industrial area. Parking could be a problem*

# National Conference Center



- Location: Landsdowne, VA (Approx 4 mi east of Leesburg)
- 917 rooms, 78 suites
- Proposal rate: \$189
- F&B Minimum: \$98,000 (estimated)
- Banquet: TBD
- Overflow: Multi in Ashburn, 4 mi
- Concourses: Onsite



*Summary: With the exception of the suites, all rooms are single occupancy. A suite with 2 people is \$328/night plus taxes. We have removed this property from consideration*

Track Distances are all  
Roughly the Same (except Annapolis)



Hotel	Distance to Summit Point (one way)
Westfields Marriott	55 miles
Gaithersburg Marriott	60 miles
DoubleTree Dulles	51 miles

# Our Hotel Rack-and-Stack



"Leaning"	Hotel	Comment
1	Westfields Marriott	Responsive, recent renovations
2	Gaithersburg Marriott	Close second
3	DoubleTree Dulles	Noisy, older facility

***Based on the value shown in the proposals and on-site visits, the Chapter Board has directed that we begin detailed contract negotiations with Marriott Westfields.***

***If we cannot come to an acceptable conclusion with Westfields, we will decline their offer and begin discussions with Gaithersburg.***

# Timeline

- After Board review and direction we began formal negotiations with Marriott Westfields 10 Apr
- We have gone through 3 revisions of proposed contract, 4<sup>th</sup> under consideration
- Major sticking points: advance payment amount, schedule of payments
- Still expect contract signing end of April



# Subcommittee Status



Vice Chair
Budget Manager
Track & Autocross
Theme & Publicity
Tours
Pre-Tour
Sponsors
Vendors
IT / Convention Website

**Other subcommittees will be needed over next months**



Need help



On track



Starts soon

## Admin Points



- If you and your spouse/partner /family want to volunteer, please give me separate email addresses
- Date 7/24-8/2 is pretty solid
- Central PA and Delaware Valley AROCs want to participate .. Maybe sponsor and event?
- Convention is 16 months away!
- Next Zoom in 3 weeks

# Conclusions and Next Steps



- Next Committee Zoom: Monday, 4 May, after the Club Membership meeting at Vicino's, Silver Spring. More info to come from Brewster
- Please consider volunteering for one of our committees
  - If everyone does a **little**, nobody has to do a **lot!**
  - Click the link on the emails or send me a message:

[Alfa2027convention@gmail.com](mailto:Alfa2027convention@gmail.com)

OR

571.490.5364

- Email “blast” with slides download link will be coming out in next 1-2 days



# Questions Discussion

Peter Jones, Convention Planning Chair

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