



Mississippi River Parkway Commission

701 East Washington Avenue, Suite 202
Madison, WI 53703



**2017 MRPC Annual Meeting
Agri-tainment in Iowa's Driftless Area
Cobblestone Inn and Suites
100 North Street, Marquette, IA 52158**

Tuesday, September 19

3:00-5:00pm

Registration (*Hotel lobby*)

3:00-5:00pm

Board of Directors Meeting (*Hotel meeting room - 4th floor*)

5:00pm and 5:45pm

Shuttles leaving for Welcome Reception at Driftless Area Education and Visitors Center
(*Meet in hotel lobby*)

5:30-8:00pm

Welcome Reception - (*Driftless Area Education and Visitors Center*)

1944 Columbus Road, Lansing, Iowa 52151

Iowa's newly opened education and visitor center in Allamakee County housing interpretive displays on geology, limnology, archeology, wildlife studies, river town industries and economies and American Indian cultures.

Viewing at Mt. Hosmer

Take a panoramic view of 50 miles of the Mississippi River from the top of a 450-foot tall bluff.

7:30pm and 8:00pm

Shuttles departing for hotel

Wednesday, September 20

7:00-8:00am

Registration (*City Center - 1st floor*)

8:00-8:30am

Committee Chairs Meeting (*Hotel Meeting Room - 4th floor*)

8:00-8:30am

New Member Orientation (*City Center - 1st floor*)

8:45am - 11:45am

General Session (*City Center - 1st floor*)



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- Welcome to Iowa's Driftless Area - Edith Pfeffer, IA-MRPC Chair
- National Welcome - Karl Samp, MRPC Pilot
- Iowa Great River Road - Shawna Lode, Director of Iowa Tourism
- Community Welcome - Mayors from Marquette, McGregor and Prairie du Chien *Invited*
- Decoding the Driftless - Tim Jacobson
Exploring the rugged Driftless Region, its fascinating geology, rare habitats and unique archeology.
- Bee Branch Watershed - Terri Goodman & Deron Muehring
A multi-phased, fiscally responsible investment to mitigate flooding, improve water quality, stimulate investment and enhance quality of life within the Bee Branch in Dubuque, IA.
- Fort Madison and War of 1812 - Dr. Eugene Watkins
The site of Chief Black Hawk's first battle against U.S. troops, the only real War of 1812 battle fought west of the Mississippi. Old Fort Madison is one of the Great River Road Interpretive Centers.
- Showcasing the Great River Road by Drone - Peter Spero
Film maker, drone pilot and composer with AeroVista Innovations will share how to use drones to see views and capture video from new heights.

11:45am to 12:45pm

Box Lunch & Presentation (*City Center - 1st floor*)

Emma BigBear - Rev. Terry Landsgaard

Emma was the last full-blooded Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) living a traditional lifestyle in Northeast Iowa. She is also known for the handcrafted baskets she sold.

1:20pm Load bus (1:30pm departure from hotel)

1:30-5:00pm - Touring Northeast Iowa

Effigy Mounds National Monument

200-plus American Indian mounds located in one of the more picturesque sections of the Upper Mississippi River Valley.

Iowa Great River Road

Traveling on the parts of the scenic IA-Great River Road in Clayton and Allamakee counties.



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WW Homestead Dairy

Touring a working dairy farm to view how products are produced, including cream-line milk, ice cream, cheese and butter.

Steel Cow Studio

Born and raised Iowa Artist Valerie Miller will open her studio to share her original cow paintings and merchandise.

5:00pm-8:00pm -

Dinner Reception (*Empty Nest Winery*)

1352 Apple Road, Waukon, Iowa 52172

Family-owned and operated winery offering unique wine samplings.

- Wine tasting
- Dinner (*cash bar*)
- Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northy - *Invited*
- VJ Smith (*hosted by IA-MRPC*)

Author of *The Richest Man in Town*, he entertains and motivates while drawing on teachable moments encountered while working at a Fortune 100 company and a mid-size university.

8:45pm - Return to hotel

Thursday, September 21

8:30-10:30am

Technical Committee Meetings

- Environment, Recreation & Agriculture - (Mississippi Room - 4th floor lobby)
- Culture & Heritage, including Interpretive Centers -(Hotel Meeting Room - 4th floor)
- Transportation - City Center (1st floor)
- Marketing - City Center (1st floor)

10:45am-12:15pm

Reports: States, Technical Committees, Nominating Committee, National Office

12:40pm Load bus (12:50pm departure from hotel)

1:00pm Arrive at Winneshiek Marina for Taste of the Mississippi Lunch

2:00-4:00pm Covered Pontoon Boat Ride in Mississippi River Back water (rain or shine)



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4:20-5:00pm Pikes Peak State Park

Spectacular views from 500-foot bluff overlooking the Upper Mississippi River opposite the confluence of the Wisconsin River.

5:15pm Return to hotel

6:30-8:30pm Pilot's Banquet (*City Center - 1st floor*)

- Dinner
- Three Lads & Dad (Barbershop Quartet)
- Awards