



Iowa Society of American Foresters



Iowa SAF
Brent S. Olson, CFE
2048 Oak Drive
Missouri Valley, IA. 51555

March 5, 2015

National SAF
5400 Grosevenor Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814-2198

Dear SAF 2017 Convention,

I would like to encourage SAF to consider strongly having Des Moines, Iowa be the host for the 2017 National Convention. I believe that Des Moines has excellent convention and hotel facilities, shopping and food all in a nicely compacted downtown area of Des Moines with the view of the best looking state capital in the country. The Iowa SAF would be honored to host such an event. We have some of the best grown walnut in the country. Des Moines is in the central part of the state and has a great airport to easily get in and out of the area. With centrality of the location, it would make field trip opportunities easy to go visit. We also have great connections with one of the oldest forestry colleges in the country at Iowa State University that has many research items and field trials all around the area.

It would be a great opportunity for the national convention to have a look at Midwestern Forestry Opportunities that are being done all around the heartland. We have hosted many different types of SAF meetings including the most recent Heartland Leadership Academy and many Multiple State SAF meetings. Thank you for this great opportunity and looking forward to working on this programming and activities which will make this location an excellent choice for SAF convention.

Thank you once again. Sincerely,

Brent S. Olson CF

CATCH DES MOINES



March 9, 2015

Dear Ms. Chapman,

Catch a city with vibe. Surprising attractions. Arts and culture. Shopping. Entertainment. Catch Greater Des Moines as the host city for the Society of American Foresters' 2017 National Convention.

Des Moines is the “suite” spot for meeting planners. Where the right-sized venue meets a perfectly comfortable hotel. Where a four-mile skywalk system links meeting facilities and hotels with a “cityful” of things to do by night.

Discover why it's easy to fall in love with Des Moines. With its central location, Des Moines is easy to get to and easy to get around. It's safe and affordable. Catch Des Moines and experience it for yourself.

Catch hands-on science exhibits and African wildlife at the zoo. Casino games then symphony songs. Shopping both big box stores and boutiques. Locally-owned restaurants with locally-grown foods. A getaway from the everyday.

That's why for your next event, catch the “suite” spot otherwise known as Greater Des Moines.

Sincerely,

Greg Edwards
President & CEO
Greater Des Moines Convention & Visitors Bureau

catchdesmoines.com



T. M. Franklin Cownie
Mayor

Monday, March 9, 2015

Society of American Foresters
Kelton Chapman, Meeting Services Manager
5400 Grosvenor Ln
Bethesda, MD 20814-2198

Dear Kelton Chapman:

I am honored to invite the Society of American Foresters to hold their National Convention in Greater Des Moines.

There is no better place to experience the true heartland than in Iowa's capital city. In Des Moines, you'll discover an array of attractions and entertainment in a setting that boasts a rich history, a thriving present and a very bright future. The arts and cultural opportunities here are second to none. Another favorite among visitors is downtown's all weather skywalk system, connecting the Iowa Events Center, hotels, retail, restaurants and more.

ALL-AMERICA CITY
1949, 1976, 1981
2003

Your attendees will at once feel comfortable and welcome in Des Moines. They can experience the excitement of our city and explore rural Iowa's charming beauty, just minutes away.

Of all the reasons you may choose our city, let me share the most important one: community. Des Moines is a remarkable city of thoughtful and productive people. Your National Convention is important to us, and we want to ensure its success. Thank you for your sincere consideration.

Best personal regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T.M. Franklin Cownie". The signature is written in a cursive style.

T.M. Franklin Cownie
Mayor, City of Des Moines

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400 Robert D. Ray Drive
Des Moines, IA 50309-1891

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