



Laborers Together Newsletter

Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association

“For we are laborers together with God. . .” (1 Cor. 3:9)

Editor: Mike McDaniel, MSOP Alumni Liaison

Rick Lawson, President
Preston Silcox, Recording Secretary
Volume 9, No. 1

Lee Davis, Vice President
Keith A. Mosher Sr., Treasurer
March 2014

WITH MY LOVE AND THANKS

Rick Lawson

As my time as President of the Memphis School of Preaching Alumni Association comes to an end, I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to have served in this capacity. These past four years have been one of the highlights of my twenty years as an evangelist. I'd like to thank Vice President Lee Davis, the Alumni Liaison Mike McDaniel, and the entire Alumni Board for their valuable assistance during my time in office.

My goal as president was to help MSOP remain sound, strong, and prosperous, and to advance the cause of Christ through the Alumni Association at every opportunity. In the past several years we have made several contributions to the effort:

- Added to the stacks of the N.B. Hardeman Library.
- Provided table and chairs for students use in the library.
- Appointed new Awards and Recognition Committee Chairman and

Recording Secretary.

- Provided a PayPal link for alumni to pay voluntary dues.
- Raised more than \$10,000 to remodel one student apartment to make it handicap friendly.
- Enjoyed peaceful and productive board meetings each year.

We saw a smooth transition at MSOP when brother B. J. Clarke was selected to fill the directorship vacated by brother Bobby Liddell. My close association with brother Clarke gives me added confidence that the direction of MSOP will remain the same as it has in the past. Also, together, we mourned the passing of a giant in the faith – Curtis A. Cates, Sr. As one whose life was touched in a powerful way by this great man, I know that he will be remembered with honor by this Association. I will continue to do all I can to promote MSOP and the Alumni Association. As representatives of Christ and the Memphis School of Preaching, keep up the great work!

ALUMNI NEWS

Benevolence

Our Alumni Association President, **Rick Lawson (1999)**, writes, "Thank you to all the individuals and congregations who contributed funds to be used for relief in the Philippines after typhoon Haiyan. To date, the Adairsville elders have received over \$260,000 for this effort! The funds are being distributed by the Mangaldan church of Christ, where brother Junas Sagurit, the president of the Philippine Theological College is a member. These are trusted men who are in direct contact with those who have been devastated by the storm. Stay tuned for further updates!"

Newly Married

Congratulations to **Nathaniel Ferguson (2012)** and Rachel Madaris, who were married November 23rd. Nathaniel is the associate preacher of the Adamsville, AL church of Christ.

Congratulations to **Travis Byers (2013)** and Brittney Young who were married November 9th. Travis is the evangelist of the Mount Pleasant church of Christ in Valdosta, GA.

Births

Congratulations to **Ben Phillips (2004)** and Patricia on the birth of a son, Nolan Elijah, born February 23, 2014.

Congratulations to **Josh Romo (2006)** and his wife, Ashley, on the birth of a son, Jenson Carter Romo, born October 5. Josh preaches for the 9th and Main church of Christ in San Angelo, TX.

Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Vick (2009) are the proud parents of their first child, Ruth Starling Vick, who was born 11/18/2013. She weighed in at 8 lb. 14 oz. Mother and child are both healthy and happy, and so is the father according to Donnie. Our congratulations to

them!

Congratulations to **Kaleb Hall (2013)** and his wife, Kristin, on the birth of a son, Levi Owen Hall, born November 25. Kaleb is the associate preacher of the Fayette, AL church of Christ.

Congratulations to **Luke Hall (2013)** and his wife, Melinda, on the birth of a son, Tyler William Hall, born February 10. Luke preaches for the Courtland, MS church of Christ.

Moves

Torrey Clarke (2012) is the new minister of the Collierville, TN church of Christ.

Tom Meade (1995) is the new minister of the Elkins, WV church of Christ.

Missions

Michael Hughes (1976) writes, "Purpose and Vision Missions (Michael Hughes (1976) and David Nance (1980)) is just now launching a world-wide effort at encouraging one million people to Read The Bible Through. Various follow-up efforts are being developed to ultimately win converts from among these. In the meantime, one can go to ReadTheBibleThrough.net to begin interacting with this spiritual endeavor. While at that page, we strongly encourage everyone to click on the Facebook "Like" button on the page to help build momentum for this project."

Skip Andrews (1970) writes, "The church at Dresden has successfully applied for a low power FM radio station. Within 1-3 months, maybe as soon as January, we will know if it is approved. After that, we will have up to three years to "build" the station. Helen and I will finish three years here during the middle of February. It has been a wonderful work from day one."

Billy Bland (1977, 91*) writes, “Far East/World Evangelism had successful mission trips into the Far East this past winter. Additionally, Four Seas Bible College in Singapore is doing a great job in training workers from the countries of China, India, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Vietnam, etc. Anyone wanting to inquire and/or support this work may contact Billy Bland at Far East Evangelism, P. O. Box 437, Senatobia, MS 38668, Phone 662-419-1923. This work is overseen by the Coldwater Church of Christ, Coldwater, MS.

Cates-isms Book

Dan Cates (1994) writes, “We are close to completing the Cates-isms, but if anyone wanted to respond for the first time or add anything, he needs to do so quickly at cates-isms@msop.org. Thanks!”

In Sympathy

The father of **Joel Wheeler (1986)** passed away. He writes, “My dad W.R. Wheeler Jr. passed away on Thursday Dec. 20, 2013 and his funeral was Sunday Dec. 22, 2013 at the Northport Church of Christ in Northport AL. He worked a full time job with the State of Alabama and preached at many congregations. He was a minister at Moundville Church of Christ, Centreville Church of Christ, Whitson Place Church of Christ, Cottdale Church of Christ and interim minister for Central Church of Christ as well as preaching at many congregations of the Church of Christ throughout West Alabama and Mississippi. He also married numerous couples during his life. He served as an elder of Central Church of Christ for many years. He was 89 years. He was a great example to me and my brothers.”

Lenore Whitaker Looney passed away recently at the age of 92. She was the sister of E.L. Whitaker, Jr. and Myra Martin and the mother of **David Looney (1986)** and his two

sisters, Sherrill Wade and Esther Steele. Sister Looney was a great worker for the Lord. Back in the 1990's, sister Looney and sister Martin came to Greenfield, TN where I was laboring and conducted a teacher's workshop for our ladies. Many were the comments of what a fantastic job they did. Our sympathy is extended to brother Looney and his family.

Former Forest Hill elder and honorary alumnus, **Floyd Hayes (1996, H.A.)**, passed away Sunday, December 29th. We are grateful for his many years of steadfast service.

The sister of **Billy Bland (1977, 91*)**, LaJuan Collum, passed away on January 16, 2014. Her funeral was held in Pontotoc, MS.

Rick Owens (2009), lost his father due to injuries suffered in a automobile accident. Gene Owens, 77, died on January 15, 2014. His funeral was held in Clarkrange, TN.

Harold Knipple (1970) suffered a heart attack and passed away on January 28th at the age of 72. He was living in Burlison, TN and served as a gospel preacher and as the coordinator with the Tipton County MIFA program.

The father of **Jeff Clark (1985)**, Donald Frank Clark, passed away on February 9, 2014, in Munford, Alabama. He was a retired machinist and a U.S. army veteran of the Korean War. His funeral was held at the building of the Munford church of Christ where he was a member.

Ruth Stacks, the mother of **Tommy Stacks (1982)** recently passed away.

Linda Van Winkle passed away on February 23, 2014. She is the wife of **Leslie Van Winkle (1995)** and the mother of **Phillip Van Winkle (2005)**.

Recovering From Illness

Mitchell Floyd (1971), preacher for the Floyd Church of Christ in Floyd, Virginia, is recovering from two heart attacks and a stroke he endured over the course of a week as

well as recent complications of a blood clot in his leg. He has now returned home.

Hal Johnson (1991*) is recovering at home from a heart attack suffered recently.

Patrick Swayne (2005) writes that his mother has been diagnosed with uterine cancer and is scheduled for surgery on March 7th. As his mother is a diabetic and has trouble healing, there are a number of concerns and complications that could come up along the way. He requests that we keep her and the doctors that care for her in our prayers.

MSOP Campaigns Approaching

The week following MSOP Lectureship, Faculty and Students of MSOP are to conduct Campaigns in Adairsville, GA; Tiger, Ga; Nolensville, TN and Marion, AR. We appreciate your prayers for these efforts.

Board of Directors Meeting

The annual MSOP Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting will be held in the second year classroom on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at Noon. All class representatives are urgently requested to attend this important meeting. If you are unable to attend, please contact your alternate and ask them to attend. This is your responsibility as class representative. [Please contact me if you have any questions- Mike].

Fill Out Your Alumni Form

The 2014 MSOP Lectureship Alumni Registration form is available at www.msop.org. Each alumnus needs to complete the registration form regardless of their attendance plans. Please fill it out if you haven't already.

Childcare Registration

As in past years, the MSOP student wives are pleased to provide classes and childcare for children 0-5 years during the daytime hours of the lectureship. Due to space and staff restrictions, classes will not be offered for children over the age of 5 years

old. The registration form is also available at www.msop.org.

Get Your Dinner Tickets

The Curtis A. Cates Tribute Dinner will be held on Monday, March 31, 2014 at 4:15 P.M. This will be a time of joyful remembrance and appreciation for this great and godly man who has now passed on to his reward. We look forward to having you with us. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4.50 for children.

The annual Alumni and Friends Dinner hosted by the President of the MSOP Alumni Association will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 4:15 P.M. This will be the first duty of our new president who will be elected at the Board of Directors meeting just hours before. Each year our dinner is catered by Leonard's Barbeque and is an excellent meal. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Pick them up in the school office or order them in advance by sending your check to MSOP to the attention of Sherry Brown.

2014 MSOP Lectureship

Book order information

"Still Standing: But Not Standing Still"

Book - \$23.00, CD - \$25.00, CD & Book - \$35.00 plus shipping

To order call Christian Family Bookstore at 1-800-782-8175

2013 \$23.00; 2012-2010 \$15.00; 2009-2006 \$10.00; 2005-2004 \$8:00 per set; 2001 \$20.95; 1998 \$20.95; All other back issues in print are \$5.00 each plus shipping.

GALATIANS BY J. NOEL MERIDETH

Mike McDaniel

Several years ago, brother Barry Grider asked me to compile a top ten list of my favorite books for his homiletics class. On that list is brother Merideth's outstanding commentary on Galatians. It was first published in 1981. I purchased my copy in 1985, the year I graduated from MSOP. It has been a treasured volume in my library ever since.

For a number of years this book has been out of print. However, on February 20th, an email was sent from Paul Merideth (his son) to Ted Thrasher (Director of the Online Academy Of Biblical Studies). It was then forwarded to all faculty members including myself. It read as follows:

"In 1981 my dad, J. Noel Merideth, published his commentary on the New Testament book of Galatians. It has been out of print and unavailable for many years. However, I am now able to make it digitally available as a pdf document to any who would like it. May it be a blessing to you in your study of God's word."

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B7nMhRu2ntgkaUNBRVo1V01ncEk/edit?usp=sharing>

You may study it online or download the document by inserting the above address in your search engine. I highly recommend it.

Have You Paid Your Dues For 2014?

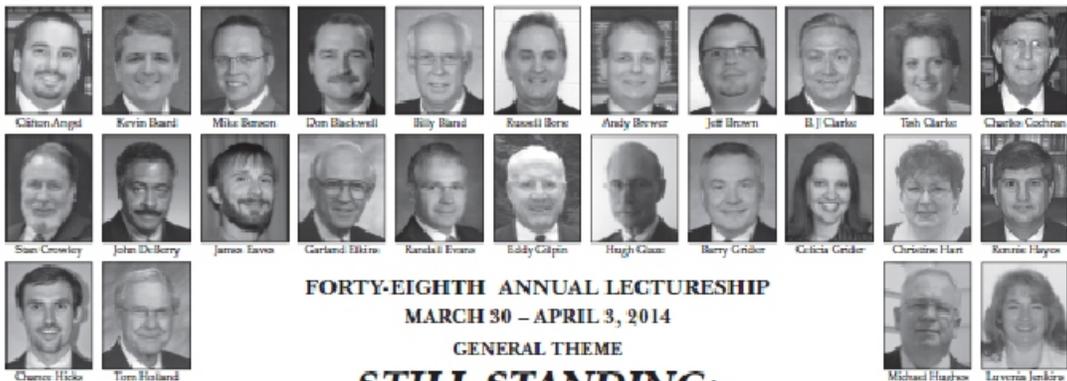
Our MSOP Alumni Association dues are \$25 a year and may be sent to MSOP in care of our treasurer Keith Mosher at 3950 Forest Hill-Irene Rd., Memphis, TN 38125. Make checks payable to MSOP Alumni Association.

If it is more expedient, just go to the alumni page of the website at www.msop.org and pay using your PayPal account. These funds allow the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association to fund special projects for the school and to send death benefits for deceased members. This is separate and apart from any contribution taken up at our annual alumni and friends dinner for a designated purpose. Please send in your contribution today or give it personally to brother Mosher at the Lectureship!

Funds Needed

Brother Bobby Liddell informed me recently that there are several students now attending with insufficient financial support. This creates tremendous stress on these students in addition to their school workload.

In addition, contributions are needed for our General Fund for necessary operating expenses. An \$100 contribution from a congregation or individual satisfied more needs in 1990 than it does now in 2014 due to higher costs. Perhaps many have never considered increasing their support to account for this. The economic downturn has caused many good works to suffer. However, I am confident that our alumni and friends will rise to this challenge as they always have.



**FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL LECTURESHIP
MARCH 30 – APRIL 3, 2014**

GENERAL THEME

**STILL STANDING:
BUT NOT STANDING STILL**

MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING

3950 Forest Hill-Irene Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38125 • Telephone (901) 751-2242

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2014

9:30-10:30 A.M. Standing On The Promise..... David Salt
10:30-11:30 A.M. Standing For God's Definition Of Marriage..... Barry Grider
CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
3:30 - 6:00 P.M. The Kingdom Of God Is Still Standing..... John DeBerry

MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2014

8:30 - 8:30 A.M. CHAPEL: Standing Requires Prioritizing One's Time..... Erik Harman
9:00 - 9:50 A.M. Still Standing Like John The Baptist..... Justin Paschall
10:00-10:30 A.M. Still Standing Against Demoralization..... Garland Elkins
LADIES** Still Standing For Christian Motherhood (Women Only)..... Cecilia Grider
11:00-11:30 A.M. Still Standing By A Brother In Need..... Donald Rhodes
C.A.S.S. Still Standing By One's Word..... Andy Brewer
LUNCH
11:50 - 1:30 P.M. Standing Up With The Eleven..... Paul Salt
LADIES** Standing For The Right In Marriage (Women Only)..... Ginny Knox
2:30 - 5:20 P.M. Still Standing Against Racism..... Eddy Gilpin
C.A.S.S. Speak Up! The Children Of Israel That They Go Forward..... Wade Webber
3:30 - 4:15 P.M. The Lord Hath Chosen You To Stand..... James Eaves
4:15 - 6:30 P.M. CURTIS A. CATES, SR. TRIBUTE DINNER - (FELLOWSHIP HALL)
6:30 - 7:30 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Standing For The Simple Plan Of Salvation..... Dan Winkler

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 2014

8:30 - 8:30 A.M. CHAPEL: Standing Requires Prioritizing One's Family Life..... Brian Burmese
9:00 - 9:50 A.M. Still Standing Like John The Baptist..... Ben Phillips
10:00-10:30 A.M. Still Standing For What God's Word Can Do For Young People..... Roy Johnson
LADIES** Still Standing For God's Role For Women (Women Only)..... Farisa Phillips
11:00-11:30 A.M. Still Standing Before The One Who Made The Sun Stand Still..... Sean Crowley
C.A.S.S. When The Charities Seemed Still, The Eunuchs Did Not..... Jeff Brown
LUNCH
11:50 - 1:30 P.M. Still Standing Where They Seemed..... Tony Lawrence
1:30 - 2:30 P.M. The King Saw Esther Standing (Women Only)..... Christine Hart
LADIES** Still Going, Still Standing, Still Speaking..... Don Blackwell
2:30 - 3:20 P.M. C.A.S.S. Stand Still And See The Great Things God Has Done In The Past Michael Hughes
SEMINAR FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS AND SUPPORTERS (MSOP CHAPEL)
3:30 - 4:15 P.M. Happy Are Thy Servants That Stand Contrastly Before Thee..... Michael Benson
4:15 - 6:30 P.M. ALUMNI AND FRIENDS DINNER - (FELLOWSHIP HALL)
6:30 - 7:30 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Standing On Holy Ground..... Tom Holland

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2014

8:30 - 8:30 A.M. CHAPEL: Standing Requires Prioritizing One's Prayer Life..... Brandon Greene
9:00 - 9:50 A.M. Still Standing Like Elijah..... Hugh Glaze
10:00-10:30 A.M. Standing In Faithfulness..... Randall Evans
LADIES** Still Standing Beside A Husband Who Is A Preacher (Women Only)..... Tish Clarke
11:00-11:30 A.M. Still Standing Before God With An Attitude Of Gratitude..... Bobby Liddell
C.A.S.S. Still Standing Before The Evil Ones Who Tell Us To Stand Back..... Ronnie Hayes
LUNCH
11:50 - 1:30 P.M. Standing Before The Judge..... David Prophaier
1:30 - 2:30 P.M. Still Standing Beside A Husband Who Is A Missionary (Women Only)..... Laveria Jenkins
2:30 - 3:20 P.M. Standing Fast In The Liberty In Christ..... Neal Pollard
C.A.S.S. Still Standing For The Severn Ones..... Chance Hicks
3:30 - 4:15 P.M. Stand Ye In The Way And See..... Keith A. Mosher, Sr.
4:15 - 6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION
6:30 - 7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Still Standing Against The Shedding Of Innocent Blood..... B. J. Clarke

THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2014

8:30 - 8:30 A.M. CHAPEL: Standing Requires Prioritizing One's Study..... Joshua Townsend
9:00 - 9:50 A.M. Still Standing Like Stephen..... Clifton Angel
10:00-10:30 A.M. Still Standing Against The Losses Of The World..... Eric Lyons
LADIES** Standing By One's Husband In A Difficult Work (Women Only)..... Susan Shelton
11:00-11:30 A.M. Losing One's Power To Stand..... Don Walker
C.A.S.S. Standing Together For Life..... Kevin Beard
LUNCH
11:50 - 1:30 P.M. Still Standing For The Whole Counsel Of God..... Charles Cochran
1:30 - 2:30 P.M. Standing For The Right In The Face Of Criticism (Women Only)..... Irene Taylor
LADIES** Why Stand Ye Here All The Day Idle?..... R. E. Knox, Jr.
2:30 - 3:20 P.M. C.A.S.S. Taking A Stand Concerning God's Vengeance..... Russell Bore
3:30 - 4:15 P.M. I Stand And Am Judged For The Hope Of The Promise..... Billy Bland
4:15 - 6:30 P.M. INTERMISSION
6:30 - 7:00 P.M. CONGREGATIONAL SINGING
7:00 - 8:00 P.M. Still Standing In Awe Of The Word Of God..... Robert Taylor, Jr.

* For all Classes meet in the School Building, Room 605

** Ladies Classes meet in the FELLOWSHIP HALL.



FOUNDATIONS

“I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon” (1 Cor. 3:10).

Training Servants Now—And For The Time To Come

At Memphis School Of Preaching

June 21-June 27, 2014

Theme: “Make Me A Servant”

What? This is a week of specialized training for young men (ages 13-19) and young ladies (ages 13-19) who want to learn more about becoming better servants for God. There will be some joint chapel services, activities, and devotionals, but the boys and the girls will be in separate classes during the day. These daily classes will include faith-building teaching on Christian Evidences, holiness and moral purity, as well as practical instruction on how to be an effective servant.

Young Men will receive training in such areas as:

- How to lead singing
- Presiding over the distribution of the Lord’s Supper
- Leading public prayer
- Effective public reading of Scripture
- Preparation of sermons and the proclamation of God’s Word in preaching. This instruction will include messages on how to study the Bible, how to develop an outline, how to introduce and conclude a sermon, etc., etc., etc.
- Preparing To Become An Elder In The Lord’s Church
- Preparing To Become A Deacon In The Lord’s Church

Young Ladies will receive training in such areas as:

- Leading other young ladies in singing at a girls’ devo, or Ladies Day program, etc.
- Preparing the Lord’s Supper (Baking unleavened bread, etc.) for worship
- Leading a prayer in a girls’ devotional or at

a Ladies Day Program, etc.

- Reading Scripture in a girls’ devotional or at a Ladies Day Program, etc.
- How to prepare and deliver a message to a Bible class, or girls’ devotional, or a Ladies’ class at a lectureship, or Ladies’ day program.
- The kind of women we need in the Lord’s Church

To prepare them in the work of the church, we will provide training in the following areas:

- How To Conduct A Home Bible Study
- Some Do’s and Don’ts For Making Hospital Visits
- Remembering Widows and Orphans
- How To Comfort Those Who Are Grieving
- Preparing A Church Bulletin/Newsletter
- Computer Training (Making PowerPoint presentations, etc.).
- How To Use The Library For Research

Who? This special week of training is open to young men (ages 13-19), and young women (ages 13-19) who submit and receive approval of their applications, recommendation forms, and medical release forms. We would love to accommodate every request to attend, but because of limited housing, the logistics of giving proper attention to each student, and finding time for sermons/speeches to be presented, we will accept applications until we have run out of housing space. Applications will be processed on a first come, first serve basis, so do not delay. Applications and forms must be received and approved by June 6th, 2014.

When? June 21st-June 27th, 2014

- Campers will arrive on Saturday afternoon, June 21st, 2014. Check-in begins at 3 p.m.
- Upon check-in, students will be assigned roommates. They will also meet the adult supervisor who will be staying with them in the available student apartments located on the campus of MSOP, or they will meet the Christian family in whose home they will be staying during FOUNDATIONS. Of course, the boys and girls will be staying in separate buildings/homes, and will be under adult supervision in these dwellings.
- After a period of orientation, there will be a cookout for the campers on Saturday at approximately 4:30-5 p.m., followed by games and mixers.
- An evening devotional will conclude Saturday's activities and the campers will go to their respective apartments/homes to retire for the evening.

- All campers will attend at Forest Hill church of Christ for Sunday services.
- The camp will continue through Friday evening, and will officially close with a banquet. Campers will leave after the banquet. Those with great distances to travel may stay Friday evening and check out by no later than 10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Cost? The camp is free. Meals will be provided by a number of generous congregations and brethren in the Memphis area. As noted above, housing is also free. The students will stay in designated apartments on the MSOP campus, (some of which are unoccupied during the summer break), or they will stay in the homes of Christians in the area. You will need some spending money for the recreational activities mentioned above.
More information and applications are available at www.msop.org.

TIME TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TO ATTEND THE LECTURES!

Hampton Inn 1280 W. Poplar Ave – Collierville (Ask for *MSP RATE*) (901) 854-9400 King or Double \$89.00 plus tax CUT OFF DATE: March 8, 2014.

Candlewood Suites 7950 Centennial Dr., Memphis, 38125 (Ask for *MSOP RATE*) (901) 755-0877 King or Double \$75.00 plus tax CUT OFF DATE: March 9, 2014.

Four Points by Sheraton 4090 Stansell Court, Memphis, 38125 (*YOU MUST* Ask for *MSOP ATTENDEES*) (901) 309-3020 1 King or Double \$69.00 plus tax *RATE*) CUT OFF DATE: March 17, 2014.

Hyatt Place 9161 Winchester Road, Germantown (Did not give us a rate) (901) 759-1174.

Fairfield Inn 9320 Poplar Pike, Germantown (You must ask for *MSP RATE*) (901)757-9100 King or Double Queens \$72.00 plus tax CUT OFF DATE: March 16, 2014.

Holiday Inn Express 4068 Stansell Court – Memphis 38125 (Ask for *MSOP RATE*) (901) 309-6474 Double or King/with pullout sofa sleeper- CUT OFF DATE: March 16, 2014 \$83.00 plus tax.

Hampton Inn 3579 Hacks Cross Road-Memphis, 38125 (Ask for *MSP RATE*) (901) 754-8454 King or Double \$84.00 + tax; King Suite CUT OFF DATE: March 15, 2014 \$94.00 + tax.