Upcoming Conference News

CPC Update
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NASIG at 30: Building the Digital Future

Washington, DC might be the home of all three branches of our nation’s government, but don’t let that put you off visiting. The cherry blossoms will be gone by the end of May, but there are few places nicer than Washington in the spring with highs in the 70s and lows in the 50s. With the weather cooperating, you will be well set to take full advantage of a city made for walking, home to some of the finest monuments, museums, galleries, and architecture in the country, many of which are free of charge. Wander the National Mall, from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial, and be spoiled for choice on things to see and do. Avoid the lines at the Capitol Visitors Center by calling your representative or senator ahead of time and getting a private tour of the Capitol or see if they can get you tickets to the White House. Want to avoid your elected representatives at all costs? Then enjoy making your way through the Smithsonian Museums that line the Mall down to the Monuments. Haven’t been to Washington for some time? Enjoy newer museums like the National Museum of the American Indian and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum or a recently renovated one like the National Portrait Gallery (housed in the building where Lincoln held his second inaugural ball) or the American History Museum. Enjoy the memorials, some inspiring, others thought-provoking, and consider one of the many guided tours of them offered, such as Monuments by Moonlight.

After all that walking, take advantage of one of the increasingly large number of fine restaurants around the city, many of them easily accessible by public transportation and located in some of the city’s most charming and vibrant neighborhoods: Eastern Market, Penn Quarter/Gallery Place, and Georgetown. In the evening, take advantage of the nightlife options: The Kennedy Center, Arena Stage, or Warner Theater for music or a show, or get in an early evening visit to the Phillips Collection (open until 8:30 on Thursdays) or the National Portrait Gallery (open until 7:00 every day). This is all just a taste of what Washington has to offer, so come in a spirit of exploration. Stick around for Saturday evening and into Sunday – you’ll find a lot more here than you ever imagined and will end up wishing you could stay even longer (at least until the summer heat hits).