

SEOPA Set to Explore Wild and Wonderful West Virginia

(Badin, NC) - The Southeastern Outdoor Press Association (SEOPA) will hold its 2019 annual fall conference in beautiful Southern West Virginia. The Resort at Glade Springs just south of Beckley will be headquarters for the meeting, and attendees will experience a wide variety of activities throughout the region.

SEOPA President Bobby Dale said, "The Resort at Glade Springs has everything we could need and more all nestled in the scenic Appalachian Mountains just minutes from the interstate. In addition to enjoying the beauty and convenience of the area, we will be hosted by some of the most hospitable people I've ever met."

Outdoor industry veteran Chris Ellis from Fayetteville, WV, said, "Over my career in the outdoor industry, I have worked with SEOPA members on several occasions. I have attended many annual conferences and was



fortunate enough to serve as a board member but for me, it's the people I've met and friendships made that mean the most to me about the organization."

Ellis owns EllisCom, a public relations and communications firm serving the outdoor industry. Ellis added, "When the news was passed along that the 2019 annual SEOPA conference was being held in my neck-of-the-woods in West Virginia, I was thrilled to say the least. The hills of my home will welcome SEOPA members and the many of them I call friends. What a visit this will be!"

Becky Sullivan, marketing director for Visit Southern WV, and Heather Ouimette, sales manager for The Resort at Glade Springs, presented the winning bid during the April 28 SEOPA mid-year board meeting in Florence, SC, host site of the 2018 conference.

"On behalf of Visit Southern West Virginia and all of our partners, we would like to extend a warm West Virginia welcome to all of the members, spouses and sponsors of the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association. We are honored to have the opportunity to host SEOPA's 2019 annual fall conference and can't wait to showcase the outdoor adventures and activities that make our great state truly wild and wonderful."

Conference attendees will have the opportunity to visit The Summit Bechtel Reserve, the 16,000-acre permanent home of the Boy Scout Jamboree. The Reserve is located northeast of Beckley adjacent to the New River Gorge National River, which is part of the National Park Service. The park encompasses more than 70,000 acres, giving outdoors enthusiasts ample room to roam.

Please visit the sites below for more information or contact SEOPA Executive Director Lisa Snuggs at 704-961-7614 or seopa2020@gmail.com.

[SEOPA](#)

[Visit Southern West Virginia](#)

[The Summit Bechtel Reserve](#)

[New River Gorge National River](#)

[Florence, SC \(2018 conference site\)](#)

[SEOPA Conference Scholarships for Aspiring Young Communicators](#)

