

Exploring Rantoul – Thursday, October 8, 2015

Join us as we visit some hidden gems close by, less than a half hour away in Rantoul. We will have tours of BRG Sports, Generations of Hope, and Chanute Air Museum. We will carpool, which means we will need drivers.

Cost/person: \$20 for members, \$25 for nonmember guests. Price includes **lunch**, entry fees, and tips. To reserve your spot, complete the form below and mail with payment. To sign up using PayPal, use this link: http://www.theillinoisclub.org/pay_pal/. For PayPal, add \$1 per person.

Deadline: **September 29** is the date I must receive your check or your request for a refund.

Carpooling: ***Please offer to drive.*** Check if you are willing to drive and the number of people you can take on the form below. You can coordinate your own carpool, if you like. If so, include the names of your passengers. Or indicate that you need a ride.

Itinerary

CORRECTION: Meet at 9:15 am at the parking lot between Chase Bank and Taffies Restaurant, just west of N. Mattis Ave. and north of W. Springfield Ave. We will determine or finalize carpools and leave at 9:30 am. If there is interest, we will set up a second departure or return point at the Meijer's in Urbana.

We begin with a tour **at BRG Sports** <https://www.brgsports.com/>, a leading designer, developer and marketer of sports equipment and accessories that enhance athletic performance and protection. With Bell, Riddell, Giro and Blackburn, the company's brand portfolio sets the standard for innovation and excellence in football as well as snow, action and power sports. It is especially known for its sports helmets. On our tour, we will learn about BRG Sports and visit the manufacturing/assembly and global distribution centers in the Rantoul facility, which is one of 32 BRG Sports centers in the US, Canada, Mexico, Europe, and Asia. **Closed-toed shoes are required for this tour.**

Next we will visit **Generations of Hope** <http://www.generationsofhope.org/>, a unique program celebrating 20 years, where families, seniors, and foster children live side by side to form a network of caring intergenerational relationships. A common thread among the seniors, who have come from all over the country, is that they were getting ready for retirement but wanted to remain active and help make a difference. Besides visiting Hope Meadows, we will have a chance to interact with the residents as we eat a lunch they prepare just for us.

Our last stop is the **Chanute Air Museum**, <http://www.aeromuseum.org/>. Take advantage of visiting this museum before it closes at the end of 2015. The museum is dedicated to

collecting, preserving, exhibiting, and interpreting aviation and aerospace artifacts. Special emphasis is directed to the life and accomplishments of Octave Chanute, the former Chanute Air Force Base and its technical training programs, and the history of Illinois aviation.

We will return to the parking lot at approximately 3:30 or 4:00 pm, depending on your time at the museum.

For more information, including questions about accessibility, carpools, or dietary restrictions, contact Sheila Krein at 217-398-8124 or tours@theillinoisclub.org.

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Reservation Name(s) _____

Phone Number(s) – cell preferred: _____

E-mail address(es): _____

Number of member tickets – cost \$20 each: _____

Numbers of guest tickets – cost \$25 each: _____ Total enclosed: _____

Check one: I can drive and take _____ # of passengers. I will need a ride _____

Names of passengers (if you want to organize you own carpool): _____

Preferred departure and return point: Champaign _____ or Urbana _____

Make checks payable to: The Illinois Club

Mail to: Sheila Krein, 803 S. Elm Blvd., Champaign, IL 61820