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News from Georgia Tourism:

- **The Georgia Kids Guides and Calendar of Events are available for distribution.** Please contact me or Keri at the Georgia Visitor Center in Augusta if you would like to have a supply. jbuttrum@georgia.org or kogletree@georgia.org
- **The exciting new "80 Days of Georgia Giveaway" contest is now online.** Go to exploregeorgia.org to see all the details. A special THANK YOU to the partners who provided prizes for this promotion. We have already received a lot of coverage on TV, radio, print and online outlets. It is also getting picked up by random blogs and coupon sites. We have 4,000 new facebook/twitter fans and are increasing that number daily.
- **The 2011 Travel Media Marketplace was a huge success.** Blue Ridge and Ellijay did an outstanding job as the host cities. Twenty eight travel writers attended the event. A special thank you to the cities of Washington and Greensboro for an outstanding post fam tour! Notes/leads from the marketplace will be available soon. Thanks to Rebecca Rogers and Katrina Hollmann for representing the Travel Association at the marketplace.
- The dates for the **2011 GOMM Days at the Georgia Visitor Centers** are:
 - May 27 – Lavonia Lavonia@georgia.org- 706-356-4019
 - May 27 – Tallapoosa Tallapoosa@georgia.org - 770-574-2621
 - June 10 – Columbus Columbus@georgia.org- 706-649-7455
 - June 17 – West Point westpoint@georgia.org- 706-645-3353
 - June 24 – Ringgold ringgold@georgia.org- 706-937-4211
 - July 15 – Augusta augusta@georgia.org- 706-737-1446
- **The Tourism Product Development Resource Team's schedule is listed below-** for return visits as well as future sites:
 - May '11- Return- Rex Village and Clayton Cty.-Reports done-waiting on date from locals.
 - June 2nd- Return to Hinesville Liberty County; report in progress
 - Summer 2011, Team visits Hawkinsville, Pulaski County...date not set;
 - Early fall 2011, Team visits Banks County...date not set;
 - Late fall November, Team visits Effingham County...date not set;
 - Winter 2012 (February), Team visits Carroll County...date not set;
 - Spring 2012 (April), Team visits Haralson County...date not set;
 - Summer 2012 tentative Catoosa County
- **ExploreGeorgia updates:** Please remember to add New Hotels, New Attractions and Special Offers to the website as well as all your 2012 special events. A logo or photo must be included with all listings. The more information you provide in your listing, the more likely you will be featured in one of our many newsletters.

- **Ga. Tourism Industry Calendar** – For a listing of tourism industry events visit www.georgia.org/GeorgiaIndustries/Tourism/Pages/IndustryCalendar.aspx
- **Helping Agribusinesses Tap into the Procurement Pipeline - Resources for Farmers, Agribusinesses, Agritourism and Green Businesses** – This workshop will deliver proven, replicable tips, techniques and strategies for small business owners, farmers, agribusinesses, agritourism, and green businesses looking to build or expand their sales. For more information, or to register, visit www.georgiamicrobiz.com or contact Julia Menefield at 706 208-1213, or jmenefield@eadcinc.com
- **Still Not Camera Ready?** Learn how to become Camera Ready at: <http://www.georgia.org/GeorgiaIndustries/Entertainment/FilmTV/cameraready/Pages/default.aspx>
- **"Beyond the Grave" Cemeteries Conference - June 22-24, 2011** - "Beyond the Grave: Cultural & Ethnical Burial Customs" is a two-and-a-half-day, statewide event co-sponsored by The Georgia Municipal Cemetery Association, The Georgia Historic Preservation Division and The Georgia Dept. of Economic Development. It will take place at the Savannah Civic Center June 22-24, and will feature interesting presentations from more than 20 archaeological, cultural, historical, and religious experts, as well as informative tours of three significant local cemeteries. For a conference schedule and more information, please contact the Georgia Municipal Cemetery Association at (912) 651-6843 or GAcemetery@earthlink.net, or visit www.GMCAweb.org
- **2012 Places in Peril – call for Nominations – Deadline June 27, 2011** – If you know of a special irreplaceable historic building or site that is highly threatened by demolition, neglect, inappropriate development or other threats, this is your opportunity to help save it! The Georgia Trust's Places in Peril program seeks to identify and preserve historic sites threatened by demolition, neglect, lack of maintenance, inappropriate development or other threats. They're also interested in sites that represent significant preservation issues and trends in the state that need attention. Examples could include a building type that's particularly endangered or a potential heritage tourism district. Nominations forms available at www.georgiatruster.org or contact Jordan Poole at 404-885-7818 or jpoole@georgiatruster.org

Regional News

The Classic South Travel Association's new regional brochure will be available by the end of May. Please contact me if you need a supply of the new regional brochures.

A special THANK YOU to Rebecca Rogers and Katrina Hollmann for representing the Classic South at the 2011 Travel Media Marketplace event held in Ellijay and Blue Ridge.

Welcome Daniel Shea, new Park Manager at Mistletoe State Park in Appling.

Welcome to Grand Oaks Restaurant in Greensboro- located in a beautifully restored historic home in downtown Greensboro.

Best wishes to Lee Nelson and Anne Jenkins of Union Point who will be moving to Delaware later this month. We will truly miss both of them but wish them well. Remember to Keep Georgia On Your Mind!

A new B&B is opening in Crawford in June. The Chicken Coup is a 2 bedroom B&B located in Crawford (Oglethorpe County) details coming soon.

Welcome Ashton Randall to the Augusta CVB. Ashton will be responsible for the social media marketing for the Augusta CVB.

Mark Your Calendars:

- May 27, 2011:** GA On My Mind Day, Tallapoosa VIC
- Jun 24, 2011:** GA On My Mind Day, Ringgold VIC
- July 8, 2011:** STS Top 20 Events deadline for events in January, February and March 2012
- July 26, 2011:** Classic South Travel Association Meeting- Augusta Location TBD.
- September 12-14, 2011:** Governor's Conference on Tourism- Macon
- October 7, 2011:** STS Top 20 Events deadline for events in April, May and June 2012