

GEORGIA'S CLASSIC SOUTH

Monthly Report- December 2008
Jeannie Buttrum, Classic South Tourism Rep
706.210.2025 or jbuttrum@georgia.org

Tourism Product Development Grants – Deadline to submit applications is December 30th. Go to www.MarketGeorgia.org for criteria and application forms.

Motorcoach Leads – the Georgia Visitor Center's (VIC's) have partnered with the Group Tour Sales department to capture tour operator leads via the coaches that stop at the VIC's. The leads will be sent monthly to the regional reps who will forward to interested tourism partners. The first group of leads was sent out earlier this month. Please contact me if you did not receive these leads and would like to and I will add you to my email list.

Georgia Tourism Publications – Calendar of Events, Kids Guide and the African-American Heritage Guide – Data has been pulled from www.exploreGeorgia.org for the '09 Calendar of Events. Advertising opportunities are still available for the 2009 Kids Guide and the African-American Heritage Guide. Contact Jill Teter for details at j_teter@bellsouth.net.

GA Made GA Grown Products Web Registry - The new web registry is now available for the Creative Economies businesses to register for free. The site is www.gamadegagrown.org Registrations are open and we encourage you to register so that you will be included when the site goes public in January. Information about the Creative Economies initiative can be found at www.georgia.org/foundation. Site sponsorships are still available as well.

Save the Date for the 2009 Techno Tourism Conference - April 20 - 21, 2009 at the Classic Center in Athens. The conference will focus on social networking tools, campaigns and demonstrations showcasing applications on a PC. More information will be coming soon.

Flavors of Georgia Food Product Contest 2009 - It's time for entries for the Flavor of Georgia Food Product Contest 2009! Please see the following link for online registration and a download for the brochure and paper entry form. In a survey of last year's finalists, over 80% indicated that their business contacts increased as a result of the contest brought to you by the Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development and our partners, the Governor's Agricultural Advisory Commission, Georgia Agribusiness Council, Georgia Rural Development Council, and UGA's Department of Food Science & Technology. Flavor of Georgia link is www.areg.caes.uga.edu

Key Ingredients Exhibit- The Georgia Humanities Council is pleased to host the Smithsonian exhibition *Key Ingredients: America by Food*. This exhibit is part of Museum on Main Street a collaboration between the Smithsonian Institution and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. *Key Ingredients* tours twelve locations in Georgia from June 28, 2008 to February 10, 2010, treating visitors to a mouthwatering exploration of the connections between Americans and

the foods they produce, prepare, preserve, and present at their tables. **The McDuffie Museum in Thomson will host the exhibit from January 10- February 22, 2009.**

Georgia's Creative Economies Initiative: Please go to www.gamadegagrown.org today and register your business into the database for FREE! The site will go "live" to the public in January so please make sure to register as soon as possible. Gilda Watters from the Georgia Department of Economic Development will be the guest speaker at the Classic South Travel Association meeting on January 20, 2009 at 10:00am the McDuffie Museum in Thomson. Gilda will be talking about the Creative Economies Initiative so please mark your calendars and plan to attend!

BRAG 2009 ROUTE ANNOUNCED:

Mark the dates, **June 6 - 13, 2009**, to attend the 30th Annual Bicycle Ride Across Georgia. Listed below are the dates and overnight locations for BRAG 2009. For those cyclists who prefer to motel, the list is now posted at www.brag.org. To be a part of this 30th Annual Ride, register now and save on the registration fee. [Click here](#) to download an Early Bird registration form and mail it in with your check, or register through Active.com. The Early Bird registration form is not valid after December 31, 2008

Saturday June 6 th	Hiawassee	Towns County High School
Sunday June 7 th	Dahlonega	Lumpkin County Middle School
Monday June 8th	Mt. Airy	Habersham Central High School
Tuesday June 9th	Athens	Clarke Middle School
Wednesday June 10th	Athens	Clarke Middle School
Thursday June 11	Elberton	Elbert County Comp. High School
Friday June 12th	Washington	Washington-Wilkes Comp.High School
Saturday June 13th	Lincolnton	Elijah Clark State Park

Mark Your Calendars!

December 30, 2008	Deadline for Tourism Product Development Grant
Jan 10-Feb 22	Key Ingredients Exhibit- McDuffie Museum- Thomson
Jan 20, 2009	Classic South Travel Association Meeting- Thomson 10:00am
Jan 27, 2009	Tourism Day at the Capital, Atlanta
Mar 1-2, 2009	Winter Chautauqua, Dalton
Mar 15-22, 2009	Ag Week at the GA VIC's
Mar 27, 2009	GOMM Day, Columbus VIC, 706-649-7455, rhughes@georgia.org
Apr 20-21, 2009	Techno Tourism Conference, Athens