



Classic South Travel Region  
Monthly Report- October 2008  
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The Military Travel and Trade shows are here again and they are March 16-20, 2009, below are the dates and locations for the shows. If you would like to exhibit at one of the shows please email me and I will get you the information.

- Ft. Benning: March 16, 2009
- Ft. Rucker: Alabama March 17, 2009
- Albany MCLB: March 18, 2009
- Robins AFB: March 19, 2009
- Moody AFB: March 20, 2009

The 2008 Agri-Tourism Conference that was scheduled for November 5-6, 2008 has been postponed- rescheduling information will be forthcoming.

Tourism Day at the Capitol is scheduled for Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 2 pm. The theme will be the same as last year---Tourism is Good News. More details to follow but please make plans to attend.

The next round of Tourism Product Development Grants will launch on November 3rd, with the deadline for submittal on December 31st. Grants will be awarded in mid January with a completion date for the project by June 29th 2009. Maximum grant amounts will remain at \$10,000 requiring a dollar for dollar local match.

The Georgia Department of Economic Development's (GDEcD) Visitor Information Centers (VICs) were honored with an international marketing award for their Canadian Visitor Recognition program. The National Council of State Tourism Directors (NCSTD) announced the winners of the 2008 Mercury Awards program on August 26 at the Travel Industry Association's annual Educational Seminar for Tourism Organizations. The Mercury Award honors the best in state tourism office marketing and promotion programs each year.

Retire In Georgia Magazine has just released their 10 Ten Places To Retire In Georgia. The Clarks Hill – Augusta area and Georgia's Lake Country were both named in this distinguished list of "Top Ten Places to Retire"! Congratulations to the Clarks Hill – Augusta area and to Georgia's Lake Country area for receiving this designation.

The dates for the 2009 Winter Chautauqua are March 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. For those of you that do not know, Winter Chautauqua is a great 2 day conference that is hosted annually by the NE. Georgia Mountain and Historic High Country regions. I will be sending more information as it becomes available but I wanted you all to have the dates to mark on your calendars.

The Georgia Travel Guide can now be viewed online...Go to [www.exploregeorgia.org](http://www.exploregeorgia.org) and check it out! This means your advertising can be seen by even more people than before.

The Georgia PeachByte is a monthly e-newsletter that will keep you informed on Georgia Travel Industry News. If you are not currently receiving the PeachByte newsletter you can sign up by sending an email to [peachbyte@georgia.org](mailto:peachbyte@georgia.org)

Please add Stefanie Paupeck to your press release/ media email database. Stefanie sends out press releases to local, regional and national media and would love to have more information to include from the Classic South. Her email address is [spaupeck@georgia.org](mailto:spaupeck@georgia.org)

Register now for Georgia's Eternal Places Historic Cemetery Conference that will be held in Washington, Georgia on November 13-14, 2008. For more information or registration call David Jenkins at 706.678.4654 or email David at [djenkins@washingtonwilkes.org](mailto:djenkins@washingtonwilkes.org)

*Georgia Cities* is a magazine that is distributed to 502 municipal governments monthly- the back page features fairs and festivals all across Georgia. Contact Amy Henderson at [ahenderson@gmanet.com](mailto:ahenderson@gmanet.com) if you would like to add your festival to this list.

Mark your calendars for the special "Holiday Promotions" that are being held at the State Visitor Centers in:

Tallapoosa- November 7, 2008- email [Tallapoosa@georgia.org](mailto:Tallapoosa@georgia.org)

Lavonia- November 21-30, 2008- Contact Pat Pierson [ppierson@georgia.org](mailto:ppierson@georgia.org)

Augusta- December 5, 2008- contact [augusta@georgia.org](mailto:augusta@georgia.org)