



Presidential Pathways Regional Tourism Update – October 2008

Regional Happenings

- **Georgia Travel Guide** – Did you know the guide can be viewed online at ExploreGeorgia.org? It's also downloadable. Also, the final proofing of the 2009 travel guide listings is in process.
- **Peach Byte** – Look for a new updated look with the November issue. Receive industry news with Peach Byte, Georgia's e-newsletter for the tourism industry. If you don't currently receive this free monthly news info, sign up by sending an email to peachbyte@georgia.org.
- **Tourism Product Development Grants** – the next round is scheduled to launch about 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.
- **www.ExploreGeorgia.org** – Make sure you are updating your free listing on the State tourism website. If you need assistance with how to register or navigate the partner admin pages, please contact the regional tourism rep.
- **2008 Governor's Conference Update** - All of the presentations that have been shared with us are now listed at <http://www.gacvb.com/2008-governors-tourism-conference.html>. Also, if you follow the next link, <http://web.georgia.org/content/GeorgiaTourism/Georgia%20Tourism%20Co-op%20Research%20Program.pdf> you will find a breakdown of the tourism research co-ops that GDEcD will be offering...these are the ones mentioned at the conference.
- **Public Relations** – Stefanie Paupeck, Communications Specialist, and her intern Mark Avera are sending press releases to local, regional and national media, initially on a weekly basis, then monthly beginning January 09. If you produce an e-newsletter promoting your community, be sure to add Stefanie to your distribution list. Her email is spaueck@georgia.org.
- **Fairs and Festivals Listing in Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) monthly newsletter** - *Georgia Cities* is distributed to Georgia's 502 municipal governments. The back page features Fairs & Festivals all across Georgia. To place a Fairs & Festivals listing, contact Amy Henderson at ahenderson@gmanet.com. www.GMAnet.com
- **Travel Trade Show Co-op Opportunities** – There are several upcoming travel shows with co-op opportunities available with GDEcD (GA Dept of Econ Dev.) The details were emailed. If you didn't receive it, or have any questions, contact Pam Kruseck, Consumer Sales Mgr, at 404.962.4175 or pkruiseck@georgia.org, or Katie Baasen, Sr. Sales Mgr, at 404-962-4080 or kbaasen@georgia.org

Dates to Remember

Visit the Travel Industry Calendar at www.MarketGeorgia.org for more listings!

POST-PONED - 2008 Agritourism Conference – Due to unforeseen budget restrictions affecting many regional partners, it was decided to postpone the upcoming Agritourism Conference scheduled for **November 5 – 6, 2008** in Perry. Local, state and federal partners are facing strict travel restrictions and tight budgets at this time. The budget reductions are also affected registration numbers as well. The theme of the conference is "Regionalism: The Key to Expanding our Agritourism Footprint" and without our regional partners leading sessions, planning programs, sharing regional successes and resources this conference can not take place.

2008 Creative Economies Summit III on the Blairsville campus of North Georgia Tech **Thursday, November 20, 2008**. What's been going on in the Creative Economies movement? How do we keep moving forward? What will work in this area? Who do you need to network with? When should you get started? How do you strive and thrive in these tough

times? If these questions are on your mind, come and join us for a session of sharing, exchanging and networking - It's not who you know, it's who knows you! The cost is \$39, including lunch, so don't wait - register today! Visit www.northgatech.edu, call Sandra at 706/754-7715, or email her at smaughon@northgatech.edu

Holiday Promotional Opportunities at GA VICs (Visitor Information Centers):

Nov 7 – Tallapoosa – I-20 West – holiday promotion; call 770-574-2621 or tallapoosa@georgia.org

Nov 21 – 30 - Lavonia – I-85 East - holiday promotion; contact Pat Pierson at ppierson@georgia.org or 706-356-4019

Register for Georgia's Eternal Places historic cemetery conference Nov 13-14 - Georgia's Eternal Places: The Family Plot will be held in Washington, Georgia. Learn about the best practices of historic cemetery conservation, heritage tourism, cemetery landscapes, success stories and more. The conference is presented and hosted by the City of Washington in partnership with the Historic Preservation Division and the Tourism Division of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, with financial support from a Preserve America grant. For registration information, contact Conference Coordinator David Jenkins at djenkins@washingtonwilkes.org or 706-678-4654.

Tourism Day at the Capitol Tuesday, January 27, 2009 from 8am – 2 pm. The theme will be the same as last year--- Tourism is Good News. More info to come shortly!

2009 Military Travel Show Schedule – Contact the regional tourism rep if you want more info or registration info.

March 16 – Ft. Benning, GA, Columbus, GA

March 17 – Ft. Rucker, AL

March 18 – Marine Corp Logistics Base, Albany, GA

March 19 – Robins AFB, Warner Robbins, GA

March 20 – Moody AFB (near Hahira and Valdosta)

Save the Date - **Winter Chautauqua** dates for 2009 are **March 1st and 2nd**. More details to come!

Feel free to contact me with any questions at any time...

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