



Athens Now:

Newsletter of the Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau

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January 2016



SAVE THE DATE

Tourism and Hospitality Day at the Capitol
Atlanta, GA
January 25-26

Scenes from RCMA

CVB Director Chuck Jones, Classic Center Executive Director Paul Cramer and Sales Account Executive Marvin Nunnally attended the **Religious Conference Management Association's (RCMA) 2016 Conference** in San Diego, Ca., earlier this month, where they promoted Athens as the destination of choice for regional/national religious gatherings. Athens gained 80 contacts/leads at RCMA, some of whom are pictured below. Follow-up on these leads has already begun.

Hotel GM Meeting
The Classic Center
Firehall Boardroom,
2nd Floor
January 28, 2 PM
RSVP to:
[Venessa Banks](#)



(l to r) Classic Center Director Paul Cramer; Mark Barrow, CEO with United Methodist Renewal Services Fellowship of Goodlettsville, Tn., and CVB Director Chuck Jones.

GACVB Winter Meeting
Columbus, GA
Feb. 28-March 2

Northeast Georgia Mountains Travel Association's Winter Chautauqua
Hiawassee, GA
March 6-7, 2016
[The Ridges Resort and Marina](#)



IN THE NEWS



Lenoir Stallings with Paradise Hospitality of Atlanta, Ga., with The Classic Center's Marvin Nunnally.



(l to r) Chuck Jones, Marvin Nunnally, Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship International's Planning Director Marlinda Henry, and Paul Cramer.

More Sales Updates

- CVB Sales Manager Missy Brandt showcased Athens to the American Society of Virology for its 2018 conference.

"8 Great Small Towns to Visit in 2016"

[Visit South](#)

December 6, 2015

"Athens, GA: Creative Culture"

[Georgia Trend](#)

October 1, 2015

"5 Fabulous Reasons to Visit Athens, GA"

[LLWorldTour](#)

September 23, 2015

"A Road Trip Through Georgia"

www.Examiner.com

September 3, 2015

"America's Best College Football Towns"

[Travel + Leisure](#)

September 3, 2015

"5 Artsy Southern Towns"

[Deep South Magazine](#)

September 2, 2015

"Restaurant Roundup: Athens, Ga."

[PasteMagazine.com](#)

September 1, 2015

"20 College Towns We Love to Visit"

[Fodors.com](#)

August 28, 2015

"The 16 Best Places to Live in America 2015"

[Outside Magazine](#)

August 18, 2015

"My Town: Susan Hable's Athens, Georgia"

[ExploreGeorgia.org](#)

August 18, 2015

"South Georgia's Four 'A' Trail"

[Philadelphia](#)

[Sunday Sun](#)

June 27, 2015

"Atlanta Day Trips: A Guide to Athens"

[Virgin Atlantic](#)

- CVB Director of Sales Rita Lowery and Missy Brandt entertained six clients at the Georgia Economic Outlook Luncheon at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis Hotel in December.

June 15, 2015

"Athens, GA City Guide"

[Design Sponge](#)

June 2, 2015

"Take Five: The Essential Athens, Georgia"

[PasteMagazine.com](#)

April 21, 2015

"The Perfect Food Weekend in Athens, Georgia"

[ExploreGeorgia.org](#)

April 8, 2015

"See the Sophisticated Side of Athens"

[New York Magazine](#)

March 6, 2015



LINKS & RESOURCES

[Partner Extranet](#)

[Athens Events Calendar](#)



WHO'S COMING TO TOWN?

Upcoming M&C calendars are available to local partners via our [Extranet](#)

or from the CVB Sales Team:
[Rita Lowery](#)
[Missy Brandt](#)
[Ben Ray](#)



STATE RESOURCES

State marketing resources & industry stats are available at [www.MarketGeorgia.org](#)

Submit Your Valentine's Promotions & Events

It's time to plan for Valentine's Day in Athens! We need your help in encouraging visitors to make Athens their preferred romantic destination the second weekend in February. We're compiling our local activities and specials for promotion and want to include your business.



Please submit your local Valentine's Day events, specials, and packages through our Extranet at www.VisitAthensGA.com/partners.

Once submitted, events and specials will be considered for coverage in consumer e-blasts, blog posts, and social media.

25th Anniversary of A-CC Unification



On January 14, Paul Cramer, Chuck Jones, Classic Center Asst. Director Philip Verrastro, and Classic Center Authority Board Member Richard Boone were in attendance as Athens celebrated the 25th anniversary of the formation of the unified government of Athens-Clarke County.