



THE SOUTHERN DRAWL

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AREA III

2007 JANUARY

Alabama – Florida – Georgia - South Carolina – Tennessee - Puerto Rico - U S Virgin Islands



Area III Events Calendar

2007	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	AUGUST
EANGUS Leadership Workshop	23-25 ANG Readiness Center Gulport, MS					
South Carolina State Conference		23-25 Sheraton Hotel Myrtle Bch, SC				
Tennessee State Conference		23-25 Knoxville, TN				
Alabama State Conference			12-14 Huntsville, AL			
Georgia State Conference			20-22 Holiday Inn Valdosta, GA			
Area III Caucus				04-05 Marriott Panama City Bch, FL		
National Conference Site Visit					19-22 OK City, Oklahoma	
EANGUS/ EANGUS Auxiliary National Conference						12-15 OK City, Oklahoma

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Side by Side We Stand With Pride



Hero Salute

Here's to the Heroes offered by Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks has been extended through 2007 December



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Budweiser is honored to salute the men and women of our armed forces and their families. Throughout 2007, members of the military and as many as three direct dependents may enter any one of Anheuser-Busch's SeaWorld, Busch Gardens or Sesame Place parks with a single-day complimentary admission.

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For your service and sacrifice, we thank you .

Complimentary admission for active duty military representing all five service branches, active members of a reserve or National Guard unit, and/or up to three direct dependants.

Valid for one complimentary single-day admission per person, per year, to one of the following Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks:

- SeaWorld Orlando, San Diego, or San Antonio
- Busch Gardens Tampa Bay or Williamsburg
- Sesame Place
- Water Country USA
- Adventure Island

This offer is valid for one complimentary single-day admission per person, per year beginning 1/1/2007 through 12/31/2007 to one of the following Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks: **SeaWorld Orlando, San Diego, or San Antonio, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay or Williamsburg, Sesame Place, Water Country USA, Adventure Island.**

Operating days and hours vary by park. Please check with the specific park for current operating schedule. **SeaWorld Orlando, Busch Gardens Tampa Bay and SeaWorld San Diego are opened year round.**

Any active duty, activated or drilling reservist, or National Guardsman is entitled to free admission under the Here's to the Heroes program. He or she need only register, either by clicking the web link below and submitting his or her information or in the entrance plaza of participating parks, and show a Department of Defense photo ID. As many as three direct dependents of military personnel also are entitled to free admission. Dependents may take advantage of the offer without their service member, though an adult must accompany minor dependents.

Visit their website at
<http://www.herosalute.com/states/index.html>

If you are unable to print your registration form, you can pick one up at Guest relations at each park and fill it out upon arrival.

(Thanks to Ann Story for sending in the link to this information).

AREA III STATE NEWS/INFORMATION

Alabama

Florida

The 2006 December issue of “*Aux*”...*Identicals* (President **Marie Brabham** editor/publisher) included details for the 2007 Florida State Conference. The issue also included an article on membership and the initiation of a membership drive for 2007. Membership Chair Deana Hewett has membership forms available.

President Brabham further included a recap of the 2006 EANGUS Auxiliary Area III Caucus Fundraising basket/results and a request for donations for the 2007 basket.

Georgia

The 2006 December issue of *The Georgia Town Cryer* featured a cover story recognizing SGM **Jackie McKennie**, GA. Jackie is the highest ranking enlisted female in the Georgia Army Guard. We are proud to say, “she’s our own.”

The issue further included the results of the EANGUS and EANGGA life membership drawing. The drawing was held at FT. Gillem, GA on 18 December with EANGGA President **Joseph “JP” Stevens**, AEANGGA President **Dianne Williams** and AEANGGA Legislative Officer, **Thom McKennie**.

Our member recruiting program is on going.

South Carolina

The Guard Companion reports that they will host their 2007 Auxiliary state conference meeting at the famous Ripley’s Aquarium in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. There will be a special morning tea, the meeting and a tour. (*editor Patti Finley*).

Stella Cameron is our EANGUS Auxiliary POC for the South Carolina Auxiliary.

Tennessee

MEMBERSHIP

With the assistance of EANGUS Auxiliary President, Sheila Bandy and Director Brabham, we now have contact information for the enlisted presidents of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. As EANGUS Auxiliary Membership Chair and POC for New and Re-organizing Auxiliaries, I have sent a letter of request/inquiry to the respective presidents requesting help to get names and contact information of persons we may contact to generate interest to organize an auxiliary in each of these territories and subsequently assist them in becoming chartered to EANGUS Auxiliary.

LEGISLATIVE NEWS, BENEFITS UPDATES AND OTHER INFORMATION

FIRST Woman Speaker of the House

On Thursday, Jan. 4, Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi (D-8th) of California was formally sworn in as the Speaker of the House for the 110th Congress. Not only is this a significant event for the new session of Congress, it also is a historical first for American women. Pelosi was selected by her peers to be the first woman to serve as the Speaker of the House! On Thursday, she sat through the prolonged roll-call surrounded by her six grandchildren, while holding the youngest in her arms. The 110th Congress sets another record with 90 women serving; 74 in the House (3 non-voting) and 16 in the Senate. In Pelosi's acceptance speech she proclaimed, "this is an historic moment for the Congress, and for the women of this country. It is a moment for which we have waited more than 200 years". On Friday morning, Madam Speaker hosted an "open house" in the Cannon House, Caucus Room, on Capitol Hill. She welcomed several hundred invited guests and thanked them for their support and attendance. She also congratulated the freshman class of the 110th Congress (many of whom were on the dais with her) on their victory.

As the 110th Congress begins remember the importance of a Representative's constituency and its voice. Use the Write to Congress tool on the EANGUS OR NGAUS website as issues come up and make sure that your Senators and Congressman or Congresswoman know what you are thinking.

Upcoming CNGR hearing on Empowerment

On Wednesday, January 31, The Commission on the National Guard and Reserves will hear testimony from General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Dr. Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army, and Lt. General H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau. The Commission is making final preparations for its March 1 deadline to submit a report to Congress on legislative proposals to increase the responsibilities of National Guard leadership and to make changes to organization and funding.

Secretary Gates and General Pace on Iraq Policy

Defense Secretary Robert Gates and General Peter Pace testified at the House Armed Services Committee's hearing on the situation in Iraq.

Secretary Gates announced that he is recommending to the President a permanent increase of 92,000 soldiers and Marines over the next five years. The increase includes 65,000 soldiers and 27,000 Marines with an emphasis on increasing combat capability. Gates also discussed policies on managing and deploying members of the Guard and Reserves. Guard units will be recalled on an accelerated basis until the current OEF/OIF conflict has been stabilized. Changes in policy will include mobilization of ground reserve forces on a unit basis rather than an individual basis in an effort to increase unit cohesion.

Members of the Guard and Reserves will also be involuntarily mobilized for a maximum of one year at a time, as opposed to the current practice of sixteen to twenty-four months. These shortened periods of mobilization are to be made possible by significantly reducing post-mobilization training times. Training responsibilities and certifications are to be delegated to Adjutants General and unit commanders.

These new responsibilities make it even more critical that National Guard units be provided- immediately with validated full-time manning, have equipment set, and funding for training.

Secretary Gates and General Pace will be testifying on the same topic to the Senate Armed Services Committee today at 9:30 am.

SUPPORT YOUR AREA III STATE CONFERENCES....

IF YOUR 2007 SCHEDULE

ALLOWS, PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING YOUR AREA III 2007 STATE CONFERENCES. CONTACT THE RESPECTIVE STATE PRESIDENT IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING ANY OR ALL OF THE AREA III STATE CONFERENCES SLATED FOR 2007 FOR FURTHER DETAILS AND OR REGISTRATION FORMS.

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**THANKS FOR YOUR TIME,
AREA III !**

