



THE SOUTHERN DRAWL

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AREA III

2006 DECEMBER

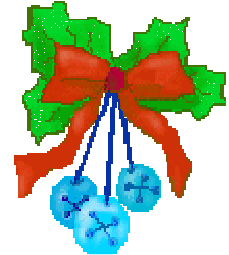
Alabama – Florida – Georgia - South Carolina – Tennessee - Puerto Rico - U S Virgin Islands

CHRISTMAS ISSUE

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MERRY CHRISTMAS

AREA III.....



From your Area III Directors

Enjoy the collection of soothing
 Christmas poems/quotes extracted
 from some famous persons
 throughout this issue.

Good news from heaven the
 angels bring,
 Glad tidings to the earth they sing:
 To us this day a child is given,
 To crown us with the joy of
 heaven.

At Christmas I no more desire a
 rose,
 Than wish a snow in May's new-
 fangled shows;
 But like of each thing that in season
 grows.

William Shakespeare

Love came down at Christmas;
 Love all lovely, love divine;
 Love was born at Christmas,
 Stars and angels gave the sign.

Christina Rossetti

The merry family gatherings –
 The old, the very young;
 The strangely lovely way they
 Harmonize in carols sung.
 For Christmas is tradition time
 Traditions that recall
 The precious memories down the
 years,
 The sameness of them all.

Helen Lowrie Marshall

A Christmas gambol oft could cheer
 The poor man's heart through half
 the year.

Sir Walter Scott

Christmas hath a darkness;
 Brighter than the blazing noon;
 Christmas hath a chillness
 Warmer than the heat of June,
 Christmas hath a beauty
 Lovelier than the world can show:
 For Christmas bringeth Jesus,
 Brought for us so low.

Christina Rossetti

When Christmas bells are swinging above the fields of snow,
 We hear sweet voices ringing from lands of long ago,
 And etched on vacant places
 Are half-forgotten faces
 Of friends we used to cherish,
 And loves we used to know.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox

Side by Side We Stand With Pride

AREA III STATE NEWS/INFORMATION

Alabama

Florida

Georgia

Members of
AEANGGA AND EANGGA held a drawing for a life membership to EANGUS and a life membership to EANGGA on 18 December.

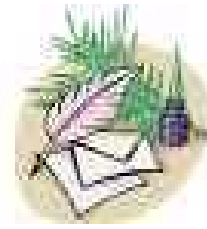
South Carolina

Tennessee

From the Volunteer News—
Editor, Kathy Jackson

Cares/concerns to:

**Bob Murray
Betty Belew
Betsy Redmond
Bill Jones
Sara Hassell
Alice Tubbs
Bob Jackson**



Calvin Coolidge

To the American People: Christmas is not a time or a season but a state of mind. To cherish peace and good will, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas. If we think on these things, there will be born in us a Savior and over us will shine a star sending its gleam of hope to the world.

Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Carol*

But I am sure that I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round... as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent.

G. K. Chesterton

When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs?

Ray Stannard Baker

I sometimes think we expect too much of Christmas Day.

We try to crowd into it the long arrears of kindness and humanity of the whole year. As for me, I like to take my Christmas a little at a time, all through the year. And thus I drift along into the holidays, let them overtake me unexpectedly, waking up some fine morning and suddenly saying to myself: "Why this is Christmas Day

Frank McKibben

This is Christmas: not the tinsel, not the giving and receiving, not even the carols. But the humble heart that receives anew the wondrous gift -- the Christ.

Joan Winmill Brown

Christmas! The very word brings joy to our hearts. No matter how we may dread the rush, the long Christmas lists for gifts and cards to be bought and given, when Christmas Day comes there is still the same warm feeling we had as children, the same warmth that enfolds our hearts and our homes.

MEMBERSHIP

NATIONAL DUES PAYMENT DEADLINE

State Auxiliary
Dues Payments and
Membership Rosters
must be mailed to the
EANGUS Auxiliary
Treasurer and

POSTMARKED

not later than

31 December 2006

(If you need any assistance, let us know).



Larry Wilde, *The Merry Book of Christmas*
Never worry about the size of your Christmas tree. In the eyes of children, they are all 30 feet tall.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Some how, not only for Christmas, But all the long year through, the joy that you give to others, is the joy that comes back to you. And the more you spend in blessing, the poor and lonely and sad, the more of your heart's possessing, returns to you glad.

George F. McDougall

Best of all Christmas means a spirit of love, a time when the love of God and the love of our fellow men should prevail over all hatred and bitterness, a time when our thoughts and deeds and the spirit of our lives manifest the presence of God.

Taylor Caldwell

This is the message of Christmas: We are never alone.

John Greenleaf Whittier

Somehow, not only for Christmas, But all the long year through, the joy that you give to others, is the joy that comes back to you. And the more you spend in blessing, the poor and lonely and sad, the more of your heart's possessing, returns to you glad.

Eric Sevareid

As long as we know in our hearts what Christmas ought to be, Christmas is.

Burton Hillis, *Better Homes and Gardens*

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.

Dale Evans Rogers

Christmas, my child, is love in action. Every time we love, every time we give, it's Christmas.



LEGISLATIVE NEWS, BENEFITS UPDATES AND MORE

109th Congress Recessed

The 2nd session of the 109th Congress is officially on recess and will resume congressional business Jan 4th, 2007. Although some light congressional business continues to be worked and discussed the last session of the 109th Congress has ended. Thank you for your support of our National Guard family initiatives we pursued collectively throughout this past year. We, here in the legislative department at EANGUS, look forward to working together again as we present our 2007 legislative platform in the 1st session of the 110th Congress.

Insurance companies pay refunds to troops

Elaine Wilson, American Forces Press Services –

Life insurance companies are being held accountable for their improper sales practices to military members. Four companies in the past three months have agreed to a multi-state settlement agreement after Texas Department of Insurance investigators uncovered a pattern of deception to young troops.

Under the agreements, the companies will refund more than \$70 million to more than 93,000 consumers, including about 71,000 service members. The first settlement, reached Aug 3, 2006, came after a 20-month investigation by Texas and Georgia, together with the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, into the sales practices of three Waco, Texas-based companies:

American-Amicable Life Insurance Company of Texas

Pioneer American Insurance Company

Pioneer Security Life Insurance Company

State regulators and federal agencies claim the life insurance companies “targeted young recruits and misled them into believing they were buying an investment product.” The service members were actually purchasing an expensive term-life product.

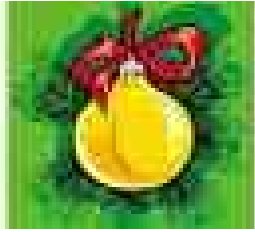
The second settlement, reached Oct. 17, 2006, involves the Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company.

In 2004, investigators learned that several Boston Mutual agents were soliciting and selling life insurance to low-ranking Soldiers in the Foot Hood, Texas, area by misrepresenting the insurance as a savings or investment plan, said Jim Hurley, TDI spokesman.

The company will refund a total of \$427,529.57 to 1,784 military members who bought life insurance policies between Jan. 1, 2002 and April 30, 2005. Consumers who feel they are affected but have not received notification can call the companies’ consumer service center at **(800) 736.7311**.

Montgomery GI Bill Act

In the 110th Congress Representative Vic Snyder (D-AR) is introducing a bill to end the disparity between the active duty and National Guard and Reserve Component benefits. When called to active duty the National Guard and Reserve Components are eligible to receive \$860 a month if they serve a 2- year tour. But they must remain a Reserve Component member to use their benefit. Veterans can earn up to \$1,075 a month after Active Duty and those veterans retain their benefit for a decade after leaving the military.



Peterson, *The Art of Living*

Christmas is not in tinsel and lights and outward show. The secret lies in an inner glow. It's lighting a fire inside the heart. Good will and joy a vital part. Its higher thought and a greater plan. It's glorious dream in the soul of man.

Ruth Carter Stapleton

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.

Hamilton Wright Mabic

Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love.

*Angels have no ID
bracelets on them.
No features glow with
heavenly delight.
Given that their wings are
made of feeling,
Each flying angel's given to
concealing
Love's plumage like a
rainbow in the night.
Shyness cloaks the halos
that surround them.*

Unknown

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AREA III !**