

October 9, 2008, Issue #28

Shop Till you Drop: How the Retail Market Helps our Economy

AmericasMart, founded in 1957 by John C. Portman and located in Downtown Atlanta is the largest wholesale marketplace of its kind and one of the biggest income generators for Atlanta! They recently completed a 500,000 square foot expansion and it is now a sprawling 6.7 million square foot, four-building campus.

The next and last “Behind the Scenes” event for the year will be a luncheon held in the brand new building at AmericasMart. It will be a CREW Members Only Event. The Mart is not open to the public. Only retail buyers of gifts, home furnishings and apparel are granted access. However, in this special Behind the Scenes event, CREW members will not only get the opportunity to hear directly from Virginia Gorday, Senior Vice President of Operations at AmericasMart, but they will also

have the opportunity to shop from the wholesale retailers in the Mart!

Retailers attending AmericasMart identify it as the gift/home furnishings/area rug wholesale marketplace most important to the success of their business. AmericasMart also houses extensive collections of apparel product in the men’s, women’s, children’s and special occasion/formal/bridal categories—each on pace to make AmericasMart the next great fashion capital.

Don’t miss this unique opportunity to learn about a well-kept Atlanta secret and get a chance to do some holiday shopping. It will be on Wednesday, November 19th, 2008 from 11:30 a.m. (Registration) to 12:45 p.m. (When the shopping begins). Look out for registration information to come soon!

Did you know?

- The AmericasMart brings an estimated 567,000 people to Atlanta annually, from across the globe, creating hotel occupancy of more than 579,000 room nights, according to data by Georgia State University economics professors David J. Sjoquist and Sally Wallace.
- AmericasMart contributes more than \$476 million to the Atlanta economy, according to the GSU data. It generates more than 5,800 jobs for the local economy and \$167.1 million in total income for Atlanta.
- There are only three other physical assets in Georgia—Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the Port of Savannah and the Georgia World Congress Center—that would match the AmericasMart economic impact.
- The GSU data estimates that AmericasMart increases state government revenue by more than \$18.4 million and local government revenue by more than \$16.7 million.



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2008 CREW Network Convention and Marketplace

Oct 15-18 Houston, TX | www.crewnetwork.org

Monthly Luncheon: 11/6

Joint CREW/CSCMP Luncheon on Industrial Trade & the Savannah Port

Location: Cobb Galleria Centre
11:30 a.m. Registration, 12:00-1:30 p.m. Program
\$45.00 CREW Members, \$65.00 Guests

****CLICK TO REGISTER****

Dress for Success Suit Drive during the 11/6 Luncheon

Please donate your gently worn professional attire 5 years or newer. Pant suits, skirt suits, business slacks, skirts, blouses, and blazers will be accepted. No dresses or coats at this time.

Members Only Event: 11/19

Behind the Scenes: Upscale Shopping Wars!

Location: AmericasMart
11:30-1:00 p.m. Program
\$45.00 CREW Members ONLY

Silent Auction

Donate a luxury retail item (or gift certificate to a spa or upscale restaurant or luxury retailer) for a silent auction at the December CREW Luncheon. All proceeds will be donated to CREW Foundation. Please contact Karrie Westphal at execdirector@crewatlanta.org or Monetha Cobb at monethac@theshoppingcentergroup.com for more information on the items requested.

Membership Survey = \$\$\$

You should have received an email survey from our Executive Director by now. Have you completed yours yet? Please submit the survey electronically before Oct 20th. Five \$100 AMEX gift cards will be raffled at the November 6th Luncheon to survey participants. ****CLICK FOR SURVEY****