

GEORGIA

BATTLEFIELDS

Published by Georgia Battlefields Association, Inc., a non-profit organization dedicated to preservation of Georgia's Civil War history and sites. Contact newsletter editor by e-mail: info@georgiabattlefields.org

Friends of Brown's Mill Battlefield renew efforts

On 20 February, a GBA representative addressed an organizational meeting of the Friends of Brown's Mill Battlefield in Newnan. The purpose of the meeting was to reinvigorate the Friends group. In 2004, GBA successfully nominated Brown's Mill as an "at risk" site for the Civil War Trust's annual most endangered battlefield list (see March 2004 newsletter). At the time, the principal threat was from housing developments. More recently, the threat comes from a Coweta County plan to build a reservoir that will flood significant portions of the battlefield, including the site of Brown's Mill itself. While the permitting process for reservoirs is usually lengthy, the multi-state argument over access to Chattahoochee River basin water might provide impetus for speeding the process. Also, 60 acres of the battlefield were recently offered for sale at \$357,000. This property includes the area where the Confederate cavalry under Colonel Ashby set up a blocking position and started the engagement.

Also addressing the meeting was David Evans, familiar to participants in our 2009 GBA tour with Ed Bearss, author of [Sherman's Horsemen](#), and foremost authority on cavalry operations during the Atlanta Campaign. Evans was elected to a newly reconstituted Friends of Brown's Mill Battlefield board of trustees. Another new board member is Eddie Lanham, who has established the web site www.battleofbrownsmill.org. The web site has maps, a battle summary by David Evans, background info on the units and leaders, and accounts by battle participants.

We'll keep you posted on the Friends group's progress.

Last chance to register for GBA tour led by Ed Bearss

Dates: 10-13 March 2011

Hotel: We'll be based at the Homewood Suites, 1049 Stevens Creek Rd, Augusta GA 30907.

Note: The hotel is sold out. As of this writing, some rooms were available at adjacent hotels: Hilton Garden Inn, 1065 Stevens Creek Rd, 706 739 9990. Courtyard by Marriott, 1045 Stevens Creek Rd, 706 737 3737. Sheraton Augusta, 1069 Stevens Creek Rd, 706 396 1000. You won't get a GBA group rate, but you may find a room.

Tour price: Still \$395 per person, but you must be a GBA member to register. Your reservation is confirmed when your check to GBA arrives at 7 Camden Rd NE, Atlanta GA 30309.

Subject: The end of the Confederacy and the importance of Augusta to the war effort. Stops include Crawfordville, Kettle Creek, Washington, Chennault, and Augusta.

GBA will again lead a tour for Phoenix Flies

Atlanta Preservation Center's annual Phoenix Flies program will again feature a tour of downtown Atlanta Civil War sites led by GBA on 19 March. You can see more information about this and the other tours at www.phoenixflies.org and www.preserveatlanta.com.

The March 2008 GBA walking tour of downtown Atlanta was recorded by Three23 Films, and a 52 minute-long DVD titled "Civil War Atlanta: A walk through history" is available. The intro of the DVD is on the web at www.three23.org/work-at-three23/civil-war-walking-tour/. The DVD is normally available at the museum store of the Atlanta History Center, or you can order a DVD by sending a \$15 check to GBA at 7 Camden Rd NE, Atlanta GA 30309.

Four new Macon markers now part of Trails program

Georgia Civil War Heritage Trails dedicated four more markers on 19 January in Macon. The new markers are at the site of Camp Oglethorpe (7th Street near the railroad yard), Fort Hawkins, Riverside Cemetery, and the Woodruff House. The first Heritage Trail marker in Macon was installed in 2009, and seven more markers are planned for the area.

Georgia Civil War Heritage Trails has also expanded its web site. While www.gcwht.org will still get you to the site, the new address is www.civilwarheritagetrails.org, and it will include Alabama and South Carolina trails as well as Georgia.

Civil War Trust Park Day scheduled for 2 April

The annual Civil War Trust Park Day is scheduled for 2 April. Park Day provides an opportunity for volunteers to help maintain national, state, and local parks. For more info, see the web site www.civilwar.org/parkday, or call Mary Stephens at 301 665 1400.

Contact these Georgia sites (going from Chickamauga to the coast) if you want to help:

Chickamauga National Military Park, Fort Oglethorpe www.nps.gov/chch

Contact Sam Weddle at 706 866 9241 x113 or sam_weddle@nps.gov

Historic Prater's Mill, Varnell www.pratersmill.org

Contact Judy Alderman at 706 694 6455 or judy@pratersmill.org

Cave Spring Cemetery, west of Rome

Contact Jim Dugger at 706 266 9445 or strollinjim@gmail.com

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Marietta www.nps.gov/kemo

Contact Benita Duling at 770 427 4686 or benita_duling@nps.gov

Andersonville National Historic Site www.nps.gov/ande

Contact Eric Leonard 229 924 0343 or eric_leonard@nps.gov

Blue & Gray Museum and Evergreen Cemetery, Fitzgerald www.fitzgeraldga.org

Contact Al Strom at 229 426 5069 or bgmuseum@mchsi.com

Jefferson Davis State Historic Site, Irwinville www.gastateparks.org/info/jeffd

Contact John Hughes at 229 831 2335 or jeffdavis1@windstream.net

Fort Pulaski National Monument, east of Savannah www.nps.gov/fopu

Contact Gloria Lee at 912 786 5787 x209 or fopu_information@nps.gov

Fort McAllister State Historic Park, Richmond Hill www.gastateparks.org/info/ftmcallister

Contact Danny Brown at 912 727 2339 or dannybrown@coastalnow.net

150 years ago this month

4 March: Abraham Lincoln is inaugurated as president of the United States. In Montgomery, Alabama, the Confederate Congress hastened to fly a national flag for the new nation prior to Lincoln's inauguration. The flag will become known as the stars and bars.

7 March: Delegates from Georgia's January secession convention reconvened in Savannah. Over the next 16 days, they will adopt a new state constitution, authorize the governor to take emergency actions to defend the state, and cede some control over military matters to the new Confederate government.

11 March: In Montgomery, the Confederate Congress adopts a constitution drafted largely by Georgians Thomas Cobb and Robert Toombs.

21 March: In Savannah, Confederate Vice President Alexander Stephens, gives a speech in which he asserts that "African slavery as it exists among us" was the immediate cause of secession. A subsequent phrase asserting that racial superiority is the cornerstone of the new government leads to Stephens' address being labeled the "Cornerstone Speech."

Georgia Battlefields Association
7 Camden Rd NE
Atlanta GA 30309

www.georgiabattlefields.org

March 2011

Address correction requested
Return postage guaranteed