

# GEORGIA

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# BATTLEFIELDS

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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](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org)

## Dalton historical marker dedicated

Another in the series of historical markers sponsored by the Georgia Historical Society (GHS) and partially funded by Georgia Battlefields Association was dedicated on 14 July in Dalton. This marker relates to Major General Patrick Cleburne's proposal to address the Confederacy's manpower shortage by using slaves as soldiers. In addition to local coverage of the ceremony, an AP account was used by *The Washington Post*, Fox News, MSNBC, and other media outlets across the U.S. See [www.georgiahistory.com/newsrecords/142](http://www.georgiahistory.com/newsrecords/142) for more about the coverage.



Left: The new marker in front of 314 N. Selvidge Street. The house is where Cleburne presented his proposal to senior commanders of the Confederate Army of Tennessee.

Below: Unveiling of the marker. Keynote speaker and former Georgia Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond is immediately to the left of the marker, and GHS President Todd Groce is immediately to the right. Current property owner Kenneth Boring (next to Michael Thurmond) supported installation of the marker.



On 11 July, the American Association for State and Local History announced the GHS "Civil War at 150" historical marker project will receive a 2011 Leadership in History Award of Merit at the association's annual meeting on 16 September in Richmond. GBA has provided substantive input and funds for five of the project markers thus far.

GHS has been notified that state funds may become available for additional markers.

## Civil War Trust announces campaign to save 20,000 acres

On 30 June, the Civil War Trust ([www.civilwar.org](http://www.civilwar.org)) announced "Campaign 150" to mark the Sesquicentennial by acquiring 20,000 more acres of battlefield land over the next five years. Having saved 30,000 acres in 20 states in the past 20 years, the Trust estimates it will need to raise \$40 million from private donations and augment this money with grants from governments and foundations to reach its goal of 50,000 acres total in 2015. Between May 2010 and May 2011, the Trust was able to "leverage" \$22 million from public and private grants and from challenge matches. In Georgia, the Trust and its predecessor organizations have contributed to property acquisitions at Griswoldville and New Hope Church in the late 1990s and at Resaca and Dallas within the past year.

## Member publishes book that includes chapter on GBA

GBA member Marion Blackwell has published a compilation of fiction and non-fiction articles under the title [Blue Locusts](#). Civil War-related non-fiction contents include an article about the Chattahoochee River Line, the 27 May 1864 Battle of Pickett's Mill, the 22 July 1864 Battle of Atlanta, and the March 2010 GBA tour of northwest Georgia. Available in selected bookstores for \$25, the volume is also available directly from the author. Contact Marion at 404 664 2710 or 2904 Yale Court, Vinings GA 30339 or [marionbjr@charter.net](mailto:marionbjr@charter.net).

## 150 years ago this month

August 1: Confederate Brigadier General R. E. Lee arrives in western Virginia to try to reverse the momentum of Federal victories in July. He will fail.

August 2: The U.S. Congress passes the first national income tax—3% on all income over \$800.

August 7: The Federal government orders the construction of 7 Eads ironclad gunboats. *Cairo*, *St Louis* (later renamed *Baron DeKalb*), *Carondelet*, *Cincinnati*, *Mound City*, *Louisville*, and *Pittsburg* will become mainstays of Federal operations on the western rivers.

August 10: Advancing through southwest Missouri on the Wire Road, a Federal force under Nathaniel Lyon attacks the Confederates at Wilson's Creek. After a see-saw battle in terrific heat, Lyon is killed and the Federals retreat. Lyon is hailed in the northern press as a martyr. On August 19, the Confederate congress agrees to an alliance with the state of Missouri, virtually admitting it to the Confederacy, though no secession ordinance is passed.

August 14: U.S. Major General John Fremont declares martial law in St. Louis. On August 30, he issues an emancipation proclamation and an order to confiscate all property from those who take up arms against the United States. Further, he declares martial law throughout Missouri.

August 17: The U.S. War Department creates the Department and Army of the Potomac. On August 20, Major General George McClellan assumes command of the new department.

August 28: A Federal force captures Fort Hatteras, North Carolina, thus closing an important blockade running route.

August 31: The Confederate government announces the promotion to full general of five men: Samuel Cooper (date of rank 16 May 1861), Albert Sidney Johnston (28 May), R.E. Lee (14 June), Joseph E. Johnston (4 July), and P.G.T. Beauregard (21 July).

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