

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

GBA 2019 tour will cover Atlanta Campaign's end

Dates: 7-10 March 2019. Ed Bearss is principal guide.

Sites: Cavalry actions at Brown's Mill (Newnan), Lovejoy's Station/Nash Farm, Sunshine Church, and Athens on Friday and Saturday. Decisive battle of Jonesborough (wartime spelling) on Sunday. Lunches and dinners included on Friday and Saturday. More details were in October newsletter. http://www.georgiabattlefields.org/pdf_files/GBAnews1810.pdf

Hotel: Hampton Inn at 7342 Hannover Pkwy N, Stockbridge GA 30281 770 389 0065

GBA rate is \$105 per night, plus all the annoying local taxes that raise the effective rate to \$125. Breakfast is included. You shouldn't need a confirmation number, but if asked, use 54717617.

Cost & Registration: \$430. Register online at www.georgiabattlefields.org/tours.aspx, or mail check payable to Georgia Battlefields Association to PO Box 669953, Marietta GA 30066.

Veterinary Medicine in the Civil War presentation 14 January

On 14 January, Georgia Battlefields Association Vice President and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine Mary-Elizabeth Ellard will present *A Sorrowful War: Veterinary Medicine during the Civil War* at Oak Grove United Methodist Church, 1722 Oak Grove Road, Decatur GA 30033.

Despite the vast numbers and critical role of horses and mules used in 19th century warfare, neither the U.S. nor the Confederate militaries had sufficient knowledge or veterinary personnel to provide for effective care. Dr. Ellard will review the needs of working animals to explain why far more animals died of disease than injury, even compared to human deaths. She will also explain how two veterinarians developed empirical data that contributed to the emergence of modern germ theory and began the work to eradicate many deadly infectious diseases from the United States.

You may have seen many presentations about the Civil War, but you've probably not seen many if any on this topic. Dr. Ellard researched extensively despite the paucity of sources. Since her initial presentation on this topic, she has continuously improved the content and design.

Register for dinner at <http://ogumc.org/events/umm-dinner-mary-elizabeth-ellard>. Cost is \$8. Dinner starts at 6:15, and consists of salad, ham, potatoes, green beans, rolls, beverage, and banana pudding. If skipping dinner and just attending the presentation, arrive at 7 p.m.

Historical markers can spark controversy

An 18 December [Atlanta Journal Constitution article](#) examined the process and sometimes disquieting results when historical markers—including those relating to the Civil War—are developed and installed.

Georgia Battlefields Association has some experience in this area. Since 2004, GBA has designed, financed, and arranged for the installation of nine historical markers. Also, since 2010, GBA has worked with Georgia Historical Society (GHS) to finance and develop ten Civil War-related historical markers. <https://georgiahistory.com/education-outreach/historical-markers/> Some were part of a GHS Sesquicentennial initiative to tell under told stories, such as southern women protesting food shortages and prices, the U.S. Army using African-American soldiers in combat in northwest Georgia, and unionists in north Georgia. GHS Ph.D. historians drafted the content of these markers, and—for the ten that GBA helped finance—we had an opportunity to comment before GHS final approval.

Currently, local governments, such as the City of Atlanta, are proposing to use historical markers to provide context for Confederate monuments, since state law prevents removal of monuments except for specific purposes, such as repair and restoration.

Sometimes, the subject matter and location of a marker are enough to cause controversy, though controversy is not the intent. In other cases, what is written, despite its agreement with verifiable source material, runs counter to deeply held beliefs. We expect controversy over the placement and content of historical markers to be a recurring issue.

Confederate flag returns to Savannah

The 2nd National Confederate flag that flew over the Savannah arsenal when the city was entered by U.S. troops on 21 December 1864 was captured by 1Lt Martin Barringer, 5th Ohio Infantry. His descendants recently donated the flag to the Georgia Historical Society.

<https://www.savannahnow.com/entertainmentlife/20181221/family-donates-civil-war-relic-to-georgia-historical-society>.

Georgia Battlefields Association board of trustees change

After 13 years on the Georgia Battlefields Association board, Cindy Wentworth has resigned as a trustee. Cindy and her husband Jim have been steadfast supporters, and they have always been willing to help with tasks both significant and mundane; but we'll miss Cindy's well-reasoned and compassionate input during our board deliberations. We're glad that she and Jim will remain members and plan to participate in GBA events. We thank Cindy for her long service.



During our 2011 annual tour, Cindy received dessert ordering advice from Ed Bearss (left) and Coach Vince Dooley (right), resulting in a piece of cake (below) that she shared.



Mary-Elizabeth Ellard and Cindy with Mill Creek Gap signage financed in part by Georgia Battlefields Association.



L to R: Joe Trahan, Jim Wentworth, Cindy Wentworth, and Charlie Crawford at an American Battlefield Trust event.

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