

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

Last chance to register for 12-15 March tour in Columbus

GBA's annual tour will be 12-15 March 2020 and will be based in Columbus.

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.

Hotel: Hampton Inn at 2870 S. Lumpkin Rd, Columbus, which fronts on Fort Benning Road and is near the entrance to the post. The GBA group rate is \$129, but the ubiquitous taxes push the actual rate to \$155. We've passed the cutoff date (15 February) to get the GBA rate, but the hotel manager has been very accommodating; so call 706 660 5550 and see if you can sweet talk your way into a bargain rate.

During the Thursday evening reception at the hotel, we'll have a raffle to see who fires the big gun during our visit to the National Civil War Naval Museum. We'll also have a book exchange. If you're flying into the Atlanta airport and need a ride, e-mail us. We'll likely be able to help.

Georgia Battlefields Association turns 25

GBA was established in March 1995 as a private, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving Georgia's Civil War sites, most of which are privately owned.

For example, GBA has worked with national, state, county, and city governments and non-governmental preservation organizations to:

- Raise funds for and coordinate the purchase of 18.5 acres of the Griswoldville battlefield. GBA deeded the site to Department of Natural Resources, which established a state park.
- Influence the state government to buy over 500 acres of the Resaca battlefield in 2000.
- Help a Cobb County neighborhood association prevent placement of a convenience store near the Kolb Farm, a unit of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Through both a \$5,000 pledge and a publicity campaign, GBA influenced the Cobb County Commission to purchase 4.2 acres that were then deeded to the National Park Service in 2003.
- Persuade the Cobb County Commission to set aside 4 acres of a proposed 154-unit housing development to protect unique fortifications known as Shoupades. Today, a small park contains the remnants of two of these forts, as well as a supporting artillery site. GBA provided the text and graphics for the four historical markers at the site.
- Place a conservation easement on 473 acres of the Resaca battlefield. Working with American Battlefield Protection Program, American Battlefield Trust, Trust for Public Land, and Gordon County Commission, GBA contributed \$50,000 towards the cost of the easement.
- Purchase 51 acres of the Resaca battlefield. GBA contributed \$75,000, almost half the cost.
- Purchase 7 acres containing Confederate earthworks in Crow Valley, north of Dalton. GBA contributed the entire purchase price of \$25,000.
- Purchase 4 additional acres in Crow Valley for \$15,000.
- Contribute \$20,000 to purchase additional land at Kettle Creek Revolutionary War battlefield.
- Contribute to the cost and texts of ten markers placed by the Georgia Historical Society.
- Contribute \$10,000 towards restoration of the McPherson and Walker monuments in Atlanta.
- Formally comment on proposals to build houses, roads, cell phone towers, and power lines that might affect historic sites.

GBA also owns and maintains 4.7 acres of the New Hope Church battlefield. Overall, GBA has contributed over \$270,000 towards preservation efforts.

To achieve its preservation objectives, GBA must first raise awareness of the existence and status of historic sites in Georgia. To accomplish this objective, GBA has:

- Given over 130 presentations about the history of Civil War sites and their preservation status.
- Conducted over 80 tours of Civil War sites.
- Designed and installed a dozen historical markers.
- Given interviews in support of preservation to local and national media.

GBA does all this without government funding. GBA raises money almost exclusively from membership dues and from conducting tours its members pay to attend. GBA has no paid staff. The GBA trustees are all volunteers, and their only compensation is the satisfaction of working for a worthwhile cause.

GBA will lead Phoenix Flies Civil War Atlanta tour on 7 & 21 March

Georgia Battlefields Association will again lead the Civil War Atlanta downtown walking tour. The full Phoenix Flies program is at http://www.atlantapreservationcenter.com/phoenix_flies. GBA's free tour (event number 43) is at 1 p.m. on 7 and 21 March, but you must register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/the-atlanta-preservation-center-29143179165>.

American Battlefield Trust Park Day is 4 April

American Battlefield Trust's annual park day will be 4 April. This is an opportunity to help maintain national, state, and local historic sites. <https://www.battlefields.org/events/park-day> Note that some sites, such as Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, will hold park day on a different date. KMNBP's park day will be 11 April. If you don't use the internet, volunteer by calling American Battlefield Trust's Connor Townsend at (202) 367-1861 ext 7216.

Kennesaw State University Annual Symposium

Kennesaw State University's Center for the Study of the Civil War Era will host its 17th Annual Symposium on 7 March from 9 a.m. to noon in Room 400 of KSU Center, 3333 Busbee Drive, Kennesaw GA 30144. This year's symposium topic is Waters Ablaze: The Navies in the Civil War. See more at <https://chss.kennesaw.edu/cwc/index.php>.

Cobb County Civil War Round Table honors Roberta Cook

On 6 February, the Cobb County Civil War Round Table honored Roberta Cook for her work preserving Johnston's River Line and the opposing Federal earthworks in south Cobb County. For 20 years, Roberta had been a knowledgeable, impassioned advocate for preserving these earthworks, and she established the River Line Historic Area to formalize preservation efforts that have often been the subject of articles in this newsletter. Roberta is richly deserving of the recognition.



Round Table president Mike Shaffer, Roberta Cook, GBA treasurer Bill Gurry, and GBA trustee Jeff Wright.



Jeff Wright, River Line Historic Area executive director Roberta Cook, Cobb County Civil War Round Table VP Angela Schneider, former Round Table president David Brannan. Roberta holds her certificate recognizing her long advocacy for preserving the remnants of the River Line.

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Address correction requested
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