

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

Georgia Battlefields Association trustees meeting held 8 January

While the Georgia Battlefields Association (GBA) trustees do much of the organization's business via e-mail, our bylaws require at least one annual meeting to which all trustees are invited. We held the 2026 meeting on 8 January via Zoom. The terms for trustees Mary-Elizabeth Ellard, Skip Johnson, and Tim Whalen were expiring in January. All indicated they wished to continue serving, and all were elected to new, three-year terms. GBA officers serve annual terms, and the current officers were all re-elected: President Joe Trahan, Vice President Jim Wentworth, Corporate Secretary Mary-Elizabeth Ellard, and Treasurer Donald Olds.

Despite disbursing a considerable amount of money in 2025 to help American Battlefield Trust (ABT) acquire three Georgia properties, our fund-raising chairman Joe Gaskin's request to our members to help us refill our limber chest has yielded some results. Fund raising is a constant requirement, so please continue to help. We voted to enhance our member payment options by establishing a Zelle account at our bank. See separate article below.

We're always mindful that our primary mission is to preserve battlefields, and the best way to do that is to buy them. While we'd like to have a lot of money readily available for that purpose, a big bank account would also indicate that we have been unsuccessful in finding historic properties and willing sellers. So, please donate steadily, and we promise to spend your donations wisely.

We reviewed planning for our annual tour, to be held this year 9-12 April with the base hotel in Dalton. We have the basic period to be covered, which is the opening of the Atlanta Campaign through the 13-15 May 1864 fighting around Resaca.

We voted on a new logo created by a professional graphic designer working under trustee Skip Johnson's direction. Our old logo, shown below on the left, is what is known in the business as a "wordmark" rather than a logo or trademark, and we were looking for a design that, by its appearance, would reinforce the mission that our name suggests. We had a few options, and the one we selected is shown below on the right.



Old wordmark



New logo

In discussing what President Trahan and President Emeritus Crawford learned at the 4-6 December Fund Raising for Non-profit Preservation Organizations conference (see [January newsletter](#)), the trustees decided to interview people with strategic planning experience and consider hiring one of them. Some trustees had already been involved with strategic planning for other non-profit organizations and will contact potential candidates. We will also continue to consider other fund-raising discussed at the conference.

Trustee Jeff Wright reviewed the status of properties we are hoping to acquire. Most of you are aware that we don't disclose the properties because we don't want to draw developers' attention to them: Developers can always outbid us and ABT.

Georgia History Festival events in February

Georgia Historical Society (GHS) annually recognizes the 12 February 1733 establishment date of the Georgia colony with several events, including Colonial Faire & Muster (7-8 February), Super Museum Sunday (8 February), and Georgia Day Expo (12 February) as part of the Georgia History Festival. This year, GHS is also coordinating the state's participation in the US250 program that celebrates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence that established the United States of America. <https://www.georgiahistory.com/events/>.

Payments to Georgia Battlefields Association (GBA) via Zelle

Access your bank's website or mobile app and set up GBA as a Zelle payment recipient by specifying georgiabattlefieldsassociation (all one word using lowercase letters) as the recipient with a notification e-mail of treasurer@georgiabattlefields.org. Please use the memo line to designate purpose of the payment, such as new membership, renewal, donation, etc.

Dalton Civil War show 7-8 February

The annual Civil War relic and memorabilia show will be 7-8 February at the Dalton Convention Center. For more about the show, see https://mkshows.com/cgi-bin/show_display.asp?65.

GBA will again lead Civil War Atlanta downtown walking tour

As part of Atlanta Preservation Center's Phoenix Flies program, Georgia Battlefields Association will again lead the Civil War Atlanta Downtown walking tour, which we first led in 2007. The dates will be March 7 & 21, both with a start time of 1 p.m. Atlanta Preservation Center (APC) typically opens registration for Phoenix Flies events in mid-February. You can go to the APC web site <https://www.atlantapreservationcenter.com/phoenix-flies> or to www.phoenixflies.org to learn more about past programs until those sites are updated for 2026.

Annual tour will revisit 1864 campaign, 9-12 April 2026

In 2026, GBA will begin another multi-tour examination of what came to be known as the Atlanta Campaign. Our first swing through the campaign ran from 2004 through 2009, and our second swing ran from 2014 through 2019. While we'll certainly revisit some sites, we'll have some newly preserved land to show you and some changes to sites you may have seen before.

Dates: 9-12 April 2026

Meals: Breakfast at hotel, Thursday through Sunday.

Lunch and dinner provided Thursday through Saturday.

Guide: Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park historian [Jim Ogden](#).

Price: \$600 per person for members. \$625 for non-members, but that price includes membership for a year. Register for the tour at [this link](#).

Hotel: Dalton Fairfield Inn, starting at \$129 per night plus tax. Make reservations at [this link](#).

American Battlefield Trust (ABT) Park Day

ABT sponsors an annual Park Day, during which volunteers can help with maintenance of historic sites. Historic site managers can register at <https://www.battlefields.org/parkday>. As shown below, the date of Park Day varies by park. Registration for volunteers is done through the site managers. Continue to watch the ABT web page to see what other sites may be added.

March 14

[Browns Ferry Tavern](#)

Greg Grant 423 762 1804 greg-grant@utc.edu

April 11

[Resaca Confederate Cemetery](#)

John Biddy 706 581 5366 johnbiddy@bellsouth.net

[Kennesaw Mountain NBP](#)

Amanda Corman 770 615 1801 kemo_volunteer@nps.gov

April 18

[Chattanooga National Military Park](#)

Will Wilson 706 966 9241 x 6 will_wilson@nps.gov

April 25

[Shoupade Park](#)

Roberta Cook RiverLineGA@gmail.com

May 2

[Kettle Creek Battlefield](#)

Chuck Garnett 478 214 3715 garnett31016@bellsouth.net

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February 2026