

# 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](mailto:info@georgiabattlefields.org)

## GBA members attend Civil War Trust conference

GBA was again represented at Civil War Trust's annual conference, held 7-10 June in Richmond and focusing on the Seven Days Battles. Three of GBA's six trustees and several members attended. Awards presented at the conference are listed at [www.civilwar.org/aboutus/news](http://www.civilwar.org/aboutus/news). In honor of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Association for the Preservation of Civil War sites, a predecessor organization, the Trust showed a video highlighting preservation work and accomplishments. One of the included photos was of the Resaca tour led by GBA in September 2011. Over the last 25 years, the Trust and its predecessors have raised over \$100,000,000 and received over \$100,000,000 in matching funds. Over 32,000 acres of battlefield land have been saved, and materials to help teach about the war have been distributed to teachers nationwide.



Left: Civil War Trust Director of Real Estate Tom Gilmore, GBA trustee Joe Trahan, and GBA president Charlie Crawford discuss Georgia properties still to be saved. Bruce Guthrie photo.

Right: Joe Trahan, Jim Wentworth, GBA vice president Cindy Wentworth, and Charlie Crawford at a 7 June reception. Tom Gilmore photo.

## Annual Battle of Atlanta commemoration

Each year, the BATL organization commemorates the 22 July 1864 Battle of Atlanta. This year's event will include the unveiling of plans to restore the monuments to Federal Major General James McPherson and Confederate Major General W.H.T. Walker, both of whom were killed during the battle. Georgia Battlefields Association contributed funds towards the monument restorations (September 2011 newsletter).

Commemoration activities run from 14 through 22 July, with the big program day being Saturday, 21 July. Events include an evening gala, living history lectures and demonstrations, author presentations, a 5k race, and tours. For a complete schedule, see [www.batlevent.org](http://www.batlevent.org), e-mail [hbryant@mindspring.com](mailto:hbryant@mindspring.com), or call 404 377 6148.

## Brown's Mill Battlefield lecture series

Brown's Mill Battlefield Association [www.friendsofbrownsmillbattlefield.com](http://www.friendsofbrownsmillbattlefield.com) announced Coweta County's 2012 Civil War free lecture series. For more info, call 770 253 8264.

08 July 2 p.m. County Fairgrounds Confederate Industry in Central Georgia

15 July 2 p.m. County Fairgrounds Life in Newnan and Coweta County in 1862

22 July 2 p.m. Historic train depot History of Railroads in Georgia

29 July 3 p.m. County Fairgrounds Using Smart Technology to Enhance Battlefield Touring

The 29 July lecture will be preceded by a barbecue beginning at 1 p.m.

## 150 years ago

During the month, President Lincoln signs three far-reaching pieces of legislation. On 1 July, the Pacific Railroad Act authorizes land grants, bond issues, and route surveys for a railroad from the Missouri River to the Pacific Ocean. Also on 1 July, the Revenue Act of 1862 authorizes a progressive rate income tax to help fund the war. On 2 July, the Morrill Act (resisted before the war by southern states) authorizes and supports the establishment of land grant colleges that specialize in teaching agricultural and mechanical arts.

Among the many land grant colleges are U. of Maine, U. of New Hampshire, U. of Vermont, U. of Rhode Island, Cornell, Rutgers, Penn State, U. of Delaware, U. of Maryland, Ohio State, Michigan State, Purdue, U. of Kentucky, U. of Illinois, U. of Wisconsin, U. of Minnesota, Iowa State, U. of Nebraska, Kansas State, Oregon State, and U. of California. When the act was extended to the south after the war, it funded North Georgia College and Fort Valley State in Georgia, as well as West Virginia U., Virginia Tech, N.C. State, LSU, Clemson, U. of Florida, Florida A&M, Auburn, U. of Tennessee, Mississippi State, U. of Arkansas, and Texas A&M.

On 14 July, Lincoln signs an act establishing pensions for disabled veterans and compensation for the families of those who die on active duty. On 17 July, Lincoln signs the Confiscation Act, which specifies that slaves owned by those supporting rebellion will become free once they enter Federal control. On 22 July, Lincoln reads the first draft of his Emancipation Proclamation to his cabinet. Secretary of State Seward advises holding the document until after a Federal battlefield victory. Lincoln agrees, but he is clearly moving towards making the end of slavery an official objective of the war. He also calls for 300,000 more volunteers to help end the rebellion.

On the Virginia Peninsula, after the final battle of the Seven Days on 1 July at Malvern Hill, the two armies attempt to recuperate from significant losses despite government pressure to act. In his first month in command, Lee has incurred over 20,000 casualties and inflicted almost 16,000.

On 4 July, Confederate General John Morgan begins his first cavalry raid into Kentucky. It will last until 28 July and include a foray across the Ohio River into Indiana. General Forrest conducts his own raid in Tennessee, capturing the Federal garrison at Murfreesboro on 13 July.

On 10 July, Federal General John Pope issues the first of several orders that inflame Southern opposition. He indicates civilians will be held responsible for guerrilla attacks on his support troops and supply lines. In contrast to McClellan, Pope responds to government wishes to protect Washington by interposing his newly assembled Army of Virginia between the Confederates and the capital.

On 21 July, Confederate General Bragg issues the orders to transfer his Army of Mississippi from Tupelo, Mississippi to Chattanooga, from whence he intends to advance across Tennessee into Kentucky. For the rest of the month, this massive movement taxes the Confederate rail structure as the troops proceed via Mobile, Montgomery, and Atlanta, a trip of 776 miles.

On 28 July, governors of the Confederate states west of the Mississippi (Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Missouri) sign a letter to President Davis asking for a competent general, money, and weapons to maximize the contribution that their states might make. On 16 July, Davis had appointed Theophilus Holmes commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department, but no one envisioned Holmes as a dynamic leader that might mobilize the potential of the area.

On 29 July, a ship called *Enrica* leaves Liverpool unarmed. Suspecting its true purpose, U.S. diplomats tried to have British authorities prevent the ship's departure. Subsequently, it takes on armaments and a largely foreign crew and is renamed *CSS Alabama*.

On 11 July, Lincoln selects Henry Halleck as general in chief, a position that had been vacant since Lincoln removed McClellan from the post in March. Halleck assumes the job on 23 July. He proves an able administrator, but perhaps the greatest advantage of his transfer from the west is that Grant now commands the Army of the Tennessee without Halleck's direct supervision.

On 15 July, the Confederate ironclad *CSS Arkansas* attacks part of the Federal fleet near Vicksburg, both inflicting and sustaining damage but surviving to anchor under the protection of the shore batteries. Unable to take the city using only his ships, Federal Commodore Farragut leaves five gunboats to watch the river between Vicksburg and Baton Rouge and returns with the bulk of his squadron to New Orleans.

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