

# 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 representative meets with U.S. Senators' staff members

On 28 August, a GBA representative joined representatives from the Trust for Public Land and Trout Unlimited for meetings with staff members from Georgia's U.S. Senators, Saxby Chambliss and Johnny Isakson. The purpose was to argue for allocating more of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to preservation. LWCF is funded primarily from fees for offshore drilling rights, which routinely run into billions of dollars annually, but under the law, only \$900 million per year can go into LWCF. Since LWCF's establishment in 1965, the bulk of each year's money has been diverted from conserving land to general revenue. The LWCF mandate is due to expire in 2015.

During the meetings, we argued for using more of the LWCF for its intended purpose by citing examples of benefits not only to our respective organizations but to the nation. For GBA, the prime example was funding of land acquisition by the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP). In 2012, about \$7.6 million from LWCF was allocated to ABPP.

The staff members appreciated the information provided and recommended that members of our organizations contact the senators during the budget discussions that will occur between the 6 November elections and the 1 January deadline for sequestration (the "fiscal cliff"). In our December newsletter, we'll write about how you can provide your input.

## GBA leads Atlanta Campaign tour for Illinois group

On 7 and 8 September, GBA provided guides for an Atlanta Campaign tour by Peoria (Illinois) Historical Society and Bradley University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The compressed schedule meant bypassing many of the sites that we might normally visit on such a tour, but GBA is glad that our reputation leads other reputable organizations to seek our services. The guide fees went directly to the GBA treasury.

Photo: Charlie Crawford telling the group about the Battle of Kolb's Farm. GBA trustee Mary-Elizabeth Ellard also helped guide the tour. Photo by Sue Manley.



## 2013 annual tour with Ed Bearss will go to Chickamauga

We've already had some inquiries about GBA's annual tour led by Ed Bearss. For 2013, we'll explore the Battle of Chickamauga in depth. We'll also have the services of National Park Service historian Jim Ogden. The November newsletter will have more details.

## River Line Historic Association seeks board members

This newsletter has covered developments relating to the River Line for the past decade. The Confederate defense line for the main Chattahoochee River bridge crossings was constructed in June and early July 1864 and occupied from 5 July until the early morning hours of 10 July. The Federals built corresponding earthworks. The remaining segments of both lines are the objects of preservation by several organizations, but the one most immediately concerned is the River Line Historic Area (RLHA) [www.riverline.org](http://www.riverline.org). RLHA is formalizing its structure and applying for status as a tax-exempt non-profit. Its mission statement: "The River Line Historic Area embraces historic and natural resources near the Chattahoochee River to unite the community as a place of distinction." If you are interested in serving on the RLHA board of directors, please contact Roberta Cook at [riverlinega@gmail.com](mailto:riverlinega@gmail.com) or 404 699 2326.

## **Kennesaw State Civil War Center Fall symposium**

Kennesaw State University Civil War Center's annual symposium on New Interpretations of the Civil War will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, 13 October. The topic is "1862: Following the Path to Freedom." U. of Alabama professor Howard Jones will speak on diplomatic developments during 1862, professor emeritus at the U.S. Naval Academy Craig Symonds will speak on Lincoln's developing policies on emancipation and colonization, and National Museum of Civil War Medicine executive director George Wunderlich will speak on medical practices. Admission and parking are free. More information is at [www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera](http://www.kennesaw.edu/civilwarera) or by calling Center Assistant Director Mike Shaffer at 678 797 2551.

### **150 years ago this month**

Throughout October, President Lincoln is frustrated by the inaction of McClellan and the Army of the Potomac, which remains in the vicinity of Sharpsburg while Lee's recuperating army is unmolested at its camps in the Shenandoah Valley. Lincoln visits McClellan in the first days of the month, and several well known photos are taken at McClellan's HQ. Once back in Washington, Lincoln sends frequent messages urging McClellan to advance, which the army finally does on 26 October, heading generally towards Warrenton, Virginia. In the interim, Jeb Stuart makes another sensational ride around the army of the Potomac 9-12 October, destroying military materiel as far north as Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Confederate forces in northern Mississippi advance in an effort to prevent Grant from sending troops to help Buell resist the invasion of Kentucky by armies under Bragg and Kirby Smith. Confederates under Van Dorn and Price attack the rail center at Corinth on 3 and 4 October, losing heavily in their assaults on Rosecrans' fortified Federals and almost getting part of their withdrawing force cut off on 5 October.

The Confederate advance into Kentucky stalls, but the capture of Frankfort allows inauguration of Confederate governor Richard Hawes on 4 October. Distant artillery fire is heard during the ceremony, indicating the Federals under Buell are advancing from Louisville. An ill-managed advance by both armies results in a battle at Perryville on 8 October. The Confederates score a tactical victory, but Bragg decides to withdraw from the state. The last of the Confederate Army of Tennessee crosses the Cumberland Gap into Tennessee on 24 October. Buell's failure to pursue the unhurried Confederate withdrawal results in his relief from command on 24 October. He is replaced by Rosecrans, who renames his force the Army of the Cumberland.

During the Confederate withdrawal from Kentucky, and similar to Stuart's raid in the east, John Hunt Morgan's Confederate cavalry force captures Lexington on 18 October.

*CSS Alabama* continues to destroy U.S. merchant ships in the eastern Atlantic, even as the Federal blockade increasingly restricts the Confederacy from using its own ports.

Congressional elections are held in some northern states, with the Democrats gaining in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana, while the Republicans strengthen their majority in Iowa. In mid month, the draft begins in Pennsylvania and meets resistance. Lincoln orders political general John McClernand to organize troops in Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa for an expedition against Vicksburg. This portends trouble for the Union command structure in the west, where Grant commands the Federal advance in the Mississippi River Valley.

On 30 October, Major General Ormsby Mitchel, who authorized the Andrews Raid into Georgia earlier in the year and who now commands the U.S. Department of the South, dies of yellow fever in Beaufort, SC. Illness and disease have no respect for rank.

**Georgia Battlefields Association**  
**7 Camden Rd NE**  
**Atlanta GA 30309**

**[www.georgiabattlefields.org](http://www.georgiabattlefields.org)**

**October 2012**

**Address correction requested**  
**Return postage guaranteed**