

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 8-11 March GBA tour with Ed Bearss

Dates: 8-11 March 2018. Some seats are still available on the bus.

Sites: Battles of Atlanta, Ezra Church, Utoy Creek. Visit to Atlanta History Center to see locomotive Texas and Cyclorama being conserved. More details in October 2017 newsletter.

Hotel: Courtyard by Marriott Executive Park, 1236 Executive Park Drive, Atlanta GA 30329. Central reservation number is 800 264 0729. Hotel number is 404 728 0708.

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

Tour starts with a reception for Ed Bearss at the hotel at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, 8 March.

GBA will lead Phoenix Flies downtown Atlanta tour on 3 & 17 March

GBA will lead a free walking tour of Civil War Atlanta at 1 p.m. on 3 and 17 March. A guide to all events is at [www.atlantapreservationcenter.com/2018 Phoenix Flies Program Final](http://www.atlantapreservationcenter.com/2018_Phoenix_Flies_Program_Final).

Register at phoenixfliesreservations@preserveatlanta.com or call 404 688 3353 ext 15.

Kennesaw State 15th annual Civil War Symposium 24 March

For details, see <http://cwc.hss.kennesaw.edu/about/news-events/e-cwc-2018-03-24-161059/>

Civil War Trust Park Day is 7 April

This is an opportunity for volunteers to help maintain Civil War sites throughout the country. To see participating sites, go to www.civilwar.org/parkday or call the Trust at 202 367 1861 x7222.

Chicago Civil War Round Table tour 26-29 April 2018

Chicago CWRT will bring its annual tour to Georgia to explore the opening of the Atlanta Campaign through the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Ed Bearss and Jim Ogden are the guides. Details and registration for the tour are at www.chicagocwrt.org/battletour.html.

GBA acknowledged at 12 February Kettle Creek ceremony

At a 12 February ceremony, Georgia Battlefields Association's contribution towards acquisition of 180 acres at Kettle Creek Revolutionary War battlefield was acknowledged by Civil War Trust and Campaign 1776 president Jim Lighthizer and by Trust board and GBA member Vince Dooley. Also speaking were Kettle Creek Battlefield Association president Walker Chewning and U.S. Representative Jody Hice.

Coverage of the event by the Athens Banner-Herald: www.onlineathens.com/news/20180213/kettle-creek-battlefield-site-park-triples-in-size



GBA members Bill & Mary Porter, Charlie Crawford, Vince Dooley, and Bill Gurry at Kettle Creek ceremony.

GBA retrieves two Georgia Historical makers

The January newsletter covered the story of two historical markers relating to the 17 July 1864 change of command of the Confederate Army of Tennessee. Both markers were being stored by WestRock, the company that now owns the properties where the markers stood before their mounting posts were damaged. WestRock is selling the properties and asked that the markers be retrieved by the Georgia Historical Society (GHS). GHS contacted GBA to ask if we could take custody of the markers until GHS could arrange for their re-installation, and we did.



Recovered Georgia Historical Markers.

GBA helps Atlanta History Center

In the exhibit space that will lead to the Cyclorama, Atlanta History Center (AHC) plans to include contemporary photos of the locations of several 1864 photos and sketches relating to the Atlanta Campaign. An AHC representative asked for GBA's help in finding the exact locations, and we began the process with a trip to Pickett's Mill, New Hope Church, and Dallas. We anticipate more such trips before public access to the Cyclorama begins in November.

Another River Line Shoupade site endangered

Since 2003, the GBA newsletter has run several articles about the River Line, a unique system of fortifications featuring Shoupades, triangular forts designed by Francis Shoup and built by slaves. Shoupade Park, containing remnants of two Shoupades near Oakdale Road, was authorized by the Cobb County Board of Commissioners in 2004 and established two years later.

On 15 February, a GBA representative met with River Line Historic Area's Roberta Cook and Steve Morrison and rezoning application Z-7 developer's attorney and two contractors in hopes of saving the site of another Shoupade directly across Oakdale Road from Shoupade Park. This Shoupade was distinctly identifiable (see photo) until about 30 years ago, when the then property owner bulldozed it because juveniles kept using it as a place to party. We hope the developer will at least leave the elevation on which the Shoupade once sat since the plan calls for the prominence to be graded down to street level. We'll let you know what happens.



Shoupade on west side of Oakdale Road in the mid to late 1980s.
Photo by Greg Biggs

GBA examines property on Kolb Farm battlefield

Federal and Confederate forces constructed fortifications in Cobb County from early June to early July 1864, and GBA has frequently sought to have the remnants on private properties preserved. Recent rezoning application Z-8 relates to property that was part of the Kolb Farm battlefield, so a GBA representative examined the site on 18 February. While the site undoubtedly was occupied by Federal forces during the 22 June fighting and for several days thereafter, the property contains no surface evidence of earthworks, and as is often the sad case, the site has been used as a dumping ground for cans, bottles, auto parts, asphalt, and rotting lumber. Therefore, we advised others not to cite historical reasons for opposing the rezoning.

150 years ago this month

On 2 March, the House voted to impeach President Andrew Johnson, citing eleven articles of high crimes and misdemeanors, and the Senate trial began on 5 March. The trial resulted in votes on only three of the eleven articles, one on 16 May and two on 26 May. The votes on all three were 35-19, one short of the two-thirds required for conviction.

On 30 March in Columbus, five men wearing masks murdered Judge George Ashburn for his support of equal rights. The Army arrested 13 suspects: ten white men and three former slaves. Third District commander Meade removed the mayor and aldermen of Columbus and ordered a military trial in Atlanta. The trial was suspended in July when the Georgia legislature ratified the 14th Amendment, so none of the murderers was convicted. Meade's report to Grant, including his lament of press inaccuracies, is at <https://archive.org/details/majorgeneralmead00unit>.

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