

# GEORGIA

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# BATTLEFIELDS

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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)

## Park Day is 9 April

American Battlefield Trust (ABT) sponsors an annual Park Day, during which volunteers can help with maintenance of historic sites. This year's event will be held on 9 April.

Historic site support groups or managers can register their site to participate on ABT's web site <https://www.battlefields.org/events/park-day>, or you can contact ABT's Connor Townsend at [ctownsend@battlefields.org](mailto:ctownsend@battlefields.org) or 410 610 9226. Registration for volunteers is done through the site managers (below), but check the ABT web page for any additional sites.

Prater's Mill, NE of Dalton, 9 a.m.: Melanie Chapman [business@pratersmill.org](mailto:business@pratersmill.org) 706 694 6455

Dunagan Cemetery, W of Dalton, 8 a.m.: Steve Hall [tunnelhill@windstream.net](mailto:tunnelhill@windstream.net) 706 673 7987

Resaca Confederate Cemetery 9 a.m.: [johnbiddy@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnbiddy@bellsouth.net) 706 581 5366

Shoupade Park, Smyrna, 10 a.m.: Roberta Cook [riverlineGA@gmail.com](mailto:riverlineGA@gmail.com)

Kettle Creek, W of Augusta, 10 a.m.: Walker Chewning [wjc1@aol.com](mailto:wjc1@aol.com) 678 409 4644

Fort McAllister, Richmond Hill, 9 a.m.: [Autumn.Pinault@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Autumn.Pinault@dnr.ga.gov) 912 727 2339

## Battle of Utoy Creek tour 23 April

Atlanta Civil War Round Table is sponsoring a Battle of Utoy Creek tour on 23 April. Tour will be led by Lieutenant Colonel USAR (ret.) Perry Bennett, who lives in the area and will be familiar to many GBA members from the Utoy Creek tours he has led for us and for his efforts to repair historical markers and emplace new ones. Register for the tour at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CADAB22A31-tour7>

## Old Clinton War Days return 30 April and 1 May

The Old Clinton Historic District will again host reenactments of the July 1864 Battle of Sunshine Church and the November 1864 Battle of Griswoldville. On both Saturday and Sunday, gates open at 9 a.m. and reenactments begin at 2:05 p.m. Saturday's activities conclude with a memorial service at the Methodist Church Cemetery. Before the reenactments, tour the historic buildings, including the McCarthy-Pope House, the oldest house in town, which will have displays relating to the Griswold Pistol Factory and other relics. Food, including items using Civil War recipes, will be available; and crafts of the era will be demonstrated. Proceeds (\$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 6-18, and free for ages 5 and under) are used to help preserve the historic district. Old Clinton is 12 miles northeast of Macon, just a block northwest of US 129. For more information and directions see <http://www.oldclinton.org/war-days-3/>.

## River Line Historic Area will seek new executive director

After more than 20 years leading preservation efforts at the River Line, including founding the [River Line Historic Area, Inc.](http://www.riverlinehistoricarea.com) (RLHA), Roberta Cook will be retiring later this year as executive director of the organization. Roberta asked that GBA publicize the search for a new executive director, which we are glad to do in appreciation of Roberta's unstinting preservation efforts but sad to do because we're losing her dedication, knowledge, and experience.

The Executive Director is a volunteer position, so it requires a passion for the work since there's no salary. The ideal leader will also have knowledge of the Atlanta Campaign and the Chattahoochee River. As Roberta (shown at right) indicates, RLHA's initiatives and activities are tailored to those willing to lead the organization, so the Executive Director, in conjunction with the Board of Directors, has an opportunity to determine new directions and methods for preserving the history of the area.

If you're interested in the position, respond to [riverlinega@gmail.com](mailto:riverlinega@gmail.com).



## Disney grave repaired

The [December 2019 Georgia Battlefields newsletter](#) reported vandalism to the George Disney grave, high on Rocky Face Ridge northwest of Dalton. On 26 February, the anniversary of George Disney's 1864 death, and after two years of waiting for a new head stone and for COVID restrictions to loosen, a group of volunteers including members of the local SCV camp and Dalton Boy Scout Troup 2 made the long hike up the ridge to place the new stone and make it less vulnerable to further damage. Boy Scout participation was particularly appropriate since a Boy Scout troop had placed the original headstone in 1912 after finding a deteriorated wooden marker at the site. After placing the new stone, the volunteers sang "America the Beautiful" and played "Hail, Columbia," the same two songs that were sung at the first service 110 years ago.



Left to right: Disney grave in 2003; in 2018 with additional rocks; and with broken headstone in late 2019.



Left to right: Replacing and rearranging rocks for a more level surface; preparing concrete mix on rearranged rocks. In the photo at right, Bob Jenkins, who provided the recent photos, is in blue on left, placing a rock.



Left to right: Spreading concrete mix; placing new headstone; and the newly refurbished grave.

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