

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

Education and Preservation

If you have children or grandchildren still in elementary, middle, or high school, you're acutely aware that the state of education in the U.S. has shown disturbing trends for decades, with the 1983 report [A Nation At Risk: The Imperative for Educational Reform](#) being a landmark that many of us of a certain age will remember. The situation was made worse by disruptions to K-12 education during the COVID-19 ([SARS-CoV-2](#)) pandemic, and the US education system has been unable to compensate for the damage caused by those disruptions.

Georgia Battlefields Association's newsletters have addressed the education problems periodically, most recently in [July 2023](#), because educating people of all ages is essential to gaining support for preserving historic sites. Consequently, we design and lead tours (see this month's article about our 2024 tour) and give presentations about the Civil War, especially relating to what happened in Georgia.

We regret that we have been singularly unsuccessful in getting the education establishment to allow us into the K-12 classrooms or on field trips, but we continue to press forward with friends and partners like the [Georgia Historical Society](#) (GHS). With more than 20 years of experience in traditional (classroom) and non-traditional (museum/historic sites) education, GHS Education Manager [Amy Snyder](#) is well-placed to assist in strengthening school-based relationships.

The Georgia History Festival is GHS's signature K-12 educational program, reaching hundreds of thousands of students statewide. Beginning with each new school year in September and culminating with the Trustees Gala in April, a variety of public programs, exhibits, events, and educational resources bring history to life for students of all ages. Resources and opportunities for Georgia teachers and students are freely available through the [Georgia History Festival](#) website. A concentration of events occurs each February with the Georgia Day Expo (in 2024, held on 9 February) commemorating the founding of the Georgia Colony in 1733, the Colonial Fare and Muster living history programs at [Wormsloe State Historic Site](#) (10-11 February), and Super Museum Sunday (11 February), which features free public access at over 100 museums and historic sites.

Georgia Battlefields Association is glad to be an affiliate chapter of Georgia Historical Society.

Society for Women and the Civil War conference in Atlanta 26-28 July

The [Society for Women and the Civil War](#) will hold its annual conference in Atlanta in 2024. Kennesaw State University's [Center for the Study of the Civil War Era](#) is a cosponsor partner organization for the conference. Hotel will be the [Courtyard by Marriott Atlanta Kennesaw](#). Georgia Battlefields Association provided input for the planning of events and tours.

The conference agenda will focus on the lives and roles of women during the Atlanta Campaign and will start with presentations on Friday (26 July) afternoon, a buffet dinner that night, and a key-note presentation after dinner. Saturday (27 July) will feature a guided tour of special collections at the [Atlanta History Center](#), a boxed lunch, a tour of Roswell sites associated with the mill workers who were shipped north after U.S. cavalry occupied the town in early July 1864, and a visit to [Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park](#) for a presentation and tour. Saturday's dinner will again be a buffet, followed by a trivia contest. Sunday (28 July) morning will include three presentations, and the conference will close between noon and 1 p.m.

Conference registration will open 1 February. Cost will be just under \$400.

GBA annual tour, 18-21 April 2024: Chattanooga & Ringgold

Focus for the 2024 tour is the October and November 1863 fighting for Chattanooga.

Guide: Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park (CCNMP) historian Jim Ogden.

Price: Unlike our usual two-and-a-half-day tours, this will be a three-and-a-half-day tour: All day Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, plus Sunday morning. The **price of \$580** includes bus transportation, handouts, three lunches and three dinners (Thursday through Saturday). If you can't join us for whole tour, send an e-mail (be sure to include your phone number) to info@georgiabattlefields.org, and we will correspond with you about a reduced price.

Hotel: TownePlace Suites, 6801 Ringgold Rd, East Ridge TN 37412, 423 933 2700. **Note change from phone number provided in previous newsletters.** Hotel is just on the Tennessee side of the boundary with Georgia. Take I-75 exit 1 and go east on Ringgold Road (US 41) a little over a half mile. Hotel is on the north (left) side of the road. Hotel price includes breakfast. GBA rate for a king room is \$115 (\$135 if you include the unavoidable tax) per night. Queen double is \$125 (\$147) per night. To book online, use [this link](#). Note that online booking will be unavailable after 17 March 2024 (one month before the tour begins).

Schedule

Wednesday (17 April): GBA representatives will be in the hotel lobby Wednesday evening to hand out maps and answer questions. Dinner on your own.

Thursday (18 April): The situation in mid-October 1863. Lookout Mountain, Bridgeport, Sequatchie Valley, Walden's Ridge, Brown's Ferry, Wauhatchie. Reception dinner at hotel.

Friday (19 April): Lookout Mountain, Cravens House. Dinner at [Sugar's Ribs](#).

Saturday (20 April): Orchard Knob, Missionary Ridge (several stops). Dinner venue is the Coolidge National [Medal of Honor Heritage Center](#).

Sunday (21 April): Ringgold.

For more details on the significance of the sites, see [October newsletter](#).

Registration: See our web site [tours page](#) and click the link to register. Use PayPal or a credit card to complete registration online, or you can mail a check payable to Georgia Battlefields Association to **PO Box 669953, Marietta GA 30066**.

If you have any trouble registering or paying online, contact us at info@georgiabattlefields.org.

Come join us for a comprehensive tour led by Jim Ogden, an unmatched guide.

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