



EARTHWORKS



Volume 11, Issue 11

November, 2017

New Work Day Times:

Starting this month (November) we will be instituting a new schedule starting and ending times for our monthly work days:

Registration Opens: 8:00 am.

Opening remarks: 8:30 am.

Wrap-up: 12:00 pm.



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President's Corner

October brings cooler days and more activities at the park. The trail work day had 90+ volunteers who got a lot of work done on the Kolb Farm Loop trail. For some of us working as crew leaders we learned that yellow jacket stings still hurt and it's easy to put the track back on a ditch-witch if you have the right tools and know how.

Later weekends included artillery and infantry demonstrations supported by our trail Ambassadors. There's nothing like watching the cannons fire in the cool and clear Fall air.

Our new board members are all getting adjusted to their new roles and the addition of new directors is already making a difference while posturing us for more growth. Next month we hope to be adding some more Trail Ambassadors and Crew Leaders to help us keep up with growth in visitation and volunteering.

As the new president I attended the Fall Friends of National Parks Alliance Conference at Acadia NP in Maine. The alliance is designed to bring together non-profits like ours to discuss trends and best practices. Fort Pulaski and Chickamauga Battlefield were also represented. It was interesting to learn that just like we see at Kennesaw Mountain, we are seeing many of the same trends nationwide:

- Rising visitation exceeding capacity of resources (ex: parking lot overloads, lines at visitor centers)
- Operational costs growing faster than budgets (ex: utilities, fuel, equipment and facility maintenance)
- Ecology changes (ex: stronger storms, trail washouts, trees down)

There was a lot of discussion about what we can do as partners to the Parks that we help. For our part, we hope to raise some local money to support the trail maintenance and interpretive programs. Here is my reminder: our **Think 18** fund raising campaign is still awaiting your contributions. Thank you if you have already contributed this year. We also included a wrap-up of the **Think 15 Campaign** in this month's newsletter.

Scott Mackay
President, KMTC

Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief

An old jump rope rhyme from childhood came to mind when thinking of where all of our volunteers come from: Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief, doctor, lawyer, Indian chief.

Beggar man, thief, and Indian chief may not be represented but I know the others are: Rich man, poor man, doctor and lawyer. We can't attest much to the rich man, poor man but we can look at how we are all dressed. Most of us are in jeans but then, jeans can cover the entire spread. From the 'well-loved' to the well-worn. From the carefully torn to the accidentally torn. The shirts are the same: well-worn to the designer brands. We also have outfits that go from skinny leggings to those custom shirts with KMTC on them.

We have the young to the young at heart. Those elementary school students that are lovingly accompanied by their parents. We have middle school and high school students in search of volunteer hours for classes, clubs, and college applications. We have the kids that drove home for our Work Days from UGA, Georgia Tech and Emory. Now, wait, those college jerseys.....Was that Auburn, LSU and FSU? Were those Clemson Tigers and Florida Gators? We mustn't forget our own KSU Owls!

That brings to mind all of the countries and states represented. We have Florida folks that ran from Irma to do a morning's work at Kennesaw Mountain. We have the Belgian couple that are here every month and the KSU students from Columbia, Taiwan and all 4 corners of the globe.

Military is well represented. We have our retired Air Force to our Navy JROTC. We have the Army men and women and, yes, even the Marines.

We have educators to managers, from dentists to veterinarians. From the recently retired to the more seasoned retirees. Yes, and many are still working in stores, companies, and banks. We have the 'white collar' to the 'blue collar'. We can go on and on.

The combining feature is that none of us is afraid of a little hard work. We all love the out of doors, nature, hiking and camping. We are all here to take care of the trails at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Rena Bailey

Community Volunteer Director

"Earthworks" is published monthly by the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

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Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

Recognizing Trail Ambassadors Help at Club Trail Work Days

This is the right time and the perfect forum to thank in writing those Trail Ambassadors who came to support the October club trail work day. Manning the registration table were Anne and David Strand, Kerri Sustak and Rena Bailey. Fortunately for the club David Strand is a master at utilizing limited space to park cars. I don't know if you have ever driven by the Kolb Farm house. The dedicated parking lot only holds space for a few cars. There were over 100 people at the work day and at least 70 cars. David managed to get them all parked in a manner which was safe and no one was blocked from leaving when they wished.

It is not an easy feat to make sure all the volunteers have the required release forms present and filled out correctly, that they also signed the roster, answer questions coming from multiple directions and keep a smile on your face. In addition there are volunteers who need a certificate verifying participation. The folks at registration do all those tasks. Thank you Anne, Rena and Kerri for being incredibly efficient and keeping a sincere smile on your face.

Amy Campbell and Jack LaHue helped out on the trail. We helped groups cross Powder Springs Road to the horse parking lot where the volunteers picked up their tools/gloves/snacks/water, received the safety briefing and a brief history lesson. Then we helped them cross Cheatham Hill Road and led them to multiple spots flagged for trail work. We stationed ourselves along the route to help supervise the volunteers and watch for hikers, runners and horses. No plan survives first contact with trail day. Did I mention 2 fairly large groups arrived late? At least one trail ambassador had to go back to the registration desk to help with road crossing and to deliver the volunteers to the crew leaders.

As work finishes on one section, groups move further down the trail. It would be fair to say volunteers were strung out over at least half a mile. We stationed people at each end of a long string of workers and advised the hiking/running and riding guests that trail work is in progress. Thankfully, Amy and Jack are naturally cheerful folks. I struggled to keep a smile on my face.

Trail Ambassadors are not expected to do trail work. Our role is to help supervise the volunteers, enforce safety protocols, advise other park visitors of trail work in progress, answer questions and when required, gently remind all visitors of park rules. I understand you might not be able to volunteer 4 hours on a Saturday morning. But if you plan a safety patrol on a second Saturday Club Trail work day, please consider performing your patrol around the trail work area.

Janie Brier

Trail Ambassador Director

A Special Thanks!

Each year we have various groups who come out and help us. Henceforth, we will make every attempt to list your group here for the current/past fiscal year. If you are participating as a group, be sure to let us know when you are registering!

Following is a list, in alphabetical order, of the groups who participated during Fiscal 2016 (October 2015- September 2016) and Fiscal 2017 (October 2016 - Present):

FY 2017

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
ALLATOONA HS BETA CLUB
AUSTIN MIDDLE SCHOOL
BENCHMARK PHYSICAL THERAPY
BETA ALPHA PSI (KSU)
BOY SCOUT TROOP 252
BOY SCOUT TROOP 540 - EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS
BSA TROOP 703 - EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT
CAMPBELL HS BETA CLUB
CUB SCOUT PACK 11
CUB SCOUT PACK 405
CAMPBELL HIGH SCHOOL BETA CLUB
HILLGROVE HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC
HOME DEPOT
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY (SMYRNA)
KEEP COBB BEAUTIFUL
KENNESAW MTN HS NJROTC
KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HS KEY CLUB
KING'S ACADEMY JROTC
KSU
KSU DELTA SIGMA PI
KSU HONORS BETA CLUB
MCEachern HS BETA CLUB
NORTH ATLANTA CHURCH
POPE HS HONOR SOCIETY
RANSTAAD TEMPORARY STAFFING
VENTURE CREW 75
VOLUNTEER KSU
WOODSTOCK HS NJROTC



FY 2018

The following groups participated in our October work days:

KSU BETA ALPHA PSI

KSU PHI SIGMA PI

We had a total of 90 volunteers participate this month.

Cannons In The Park

Photos by Fred Feltmann



Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
November, 2017			
11/11	8:00 am - 12 pm	Picnic area near Visitor Center	Trail Work Day
December, 2017			
12/9	8:00 am - 12 pm	TBD	Trail Work Day
January, 2018			
1/13	8:00 am - 12 pm	TBD	Trail Work Day

The National Park Service staff at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park have additional programs scheduled for the month of November - please pages 12 and 13 herein for details.

Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at [http://](http://signup.com/go/VvavYQj)

signup.com/go/VvavYQj. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Work Day Schedule:

Our trail work days are open to the public on the 2nd Saturday of each month and are a wonderful way to get outside & enjoy nature while helping preserve the national park for future visitors. Registration will open at 8:00 am at the new parking lot, .2 miles north of the Visitor Center on Old 41 and usually are finished by 12:00 p.m. It takes approximately 5 minutes to walk to the picnic area near the Visitor Center - please arrive there by 8:30 am. Activities usually include the use of shovels, rakes, picks, and other tools to fix erosion problems on the 20+ mile trail system. Please do not wear open-toed shoes. Long pants are recommended.

As winter months approach, weather conditions can change quickly. We value our volunteers' health, comfort and safety so to promote safer work conditions, we'll cancel work days if the temperature is below 40 degrees and/or there's a high probability of precipitation. If we must cancel a workday,

we'll post an announcement on the front page of the KMTC website at: www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Trail work can be performed any day of the week.

We work closely with the Park Service and assist the park staff by providing critically needed volunteer effort to install signs, build bridges, and maintain the 20+ miles of trails. Since our beginning in 2002, the Trail Club has donated over 45,000 volunteer hours to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

We hope to see you at a work day soon!

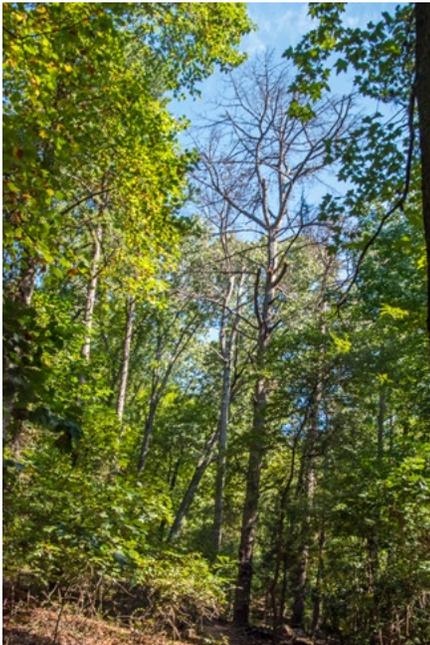
(New) Crew Leader Training Course

We will be conducting Crew leader training on Saturday, November 18th. The class starts promptly at 9 am and goes til 3 pm. This class is for people over 18 years of age, in good physical health, and can commit to support at least 11 of our 14 annual volunteer Saturdays. The class is also open to existing crew leaders who want to reinforce their learning.

The class focuses on the leadership skills and responsibilities for being the person in charge of a work team and leading them to complete trail work in a safe manner with the highest quality while also following the rules of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Graduates of the class will also gain Volunteer-in-park status, become voting members of the trail club, and be eligible for participating in other volunteer activities of their choice on other weekends and weekdays (additional training might be required for some activities).

Do you have the time and motivation to become part of our team? Please e-mail a request attend the 11/18 crew leader class to trailhelpers@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org. Class size is limited, so please send you request soon.



Autumn - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park



Photos by Fred Feltmann



Newsletter 5

<http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>

2018 Fund Raising - Think 18!

Your volunteer hours help greatly for the many projects we do in the park and we greatly appreciate you contributing your “sweat equity” alongside our 40+ staff volunteers who routinely support each event. We are a non-profit all volunteer organization. However, like any business, we do have bills to pay.

Many of our projects are funded by the park or through grants we apply for. These funds are typically targeted for specific projects and do cover the big expenses such as rocks, stone dust, dirt, wood beams, bridges, fences, and such. But, after all the big stuff is paid for, we still have a need to cover our day-to-day operating expenses for things like saw blade sharpening, fuel, tool repairs, equipment maintenance, work gloves, bug spray, drinking water, snacks, and porta-potties. For these expenses, we rely on your donations.

Each year we kick off a new round of fund raising and this is the 2018 big “ask.” We need your help with this, even small donations help.

As we approach our 16th year in operation, we ask you to please think ‘15’, like \$15.. \$30.. \$45..... \$150... \$1500. All donations to the Trail Club support our work at the park, and are tax deductible.

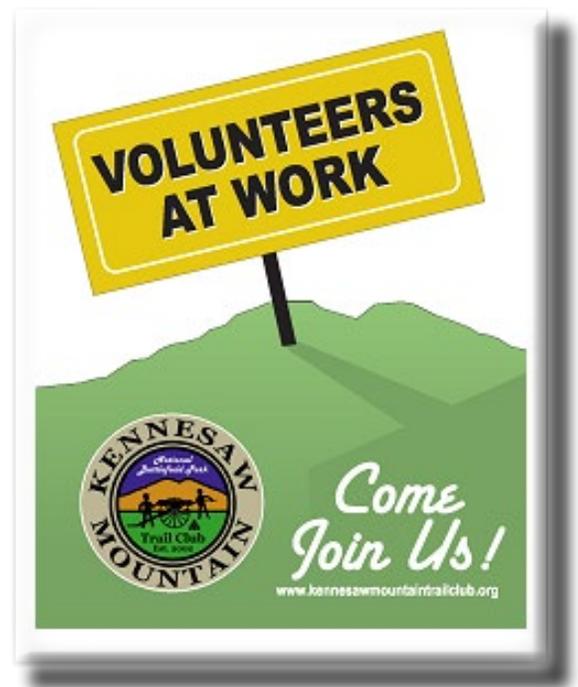
We are a nationally recognized club - having been presented the highest award in the National Park Service in 2014, “The Hartzog Award for Volunteer Group.”. There are several ways to donate:

- Use Guidestar on the bottom of our home page on the Trail Club website <http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>
- Subscribe to Amazon “Smile” where they will donate to us based on your purchases
- Send a tax deductible contribution to:

Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club*
Attn: Tom Okerberg
Whitlock Accounting Services
739 Kennesaw Avenue NW
Marietta, Ga. 30060

ALSO: Please check with employers about matching donations.

* Corporate name is KEMO Trail Corps, Inc., a 501(c)(3) organization.



BEFORE AND AFTER

by Bill Gurry

Photos by Doug, Harry, and Bill



Before: The bamboo field in the Kolb's Farm battlefield just north of Powder Springs Road had grown to several acres in size and maybe 40' tall, destroying everything else in the area. Over time, the Trail Club trimmed the bamboo encroaching on the trail and cut the higher branches that threatened to knock horse riders out of their saddles. Finally, the Bamboo Brothers (aka Boss Doug and the ubiquitous Harry) set out to wage war on this invasive plant and finally eradicated it.

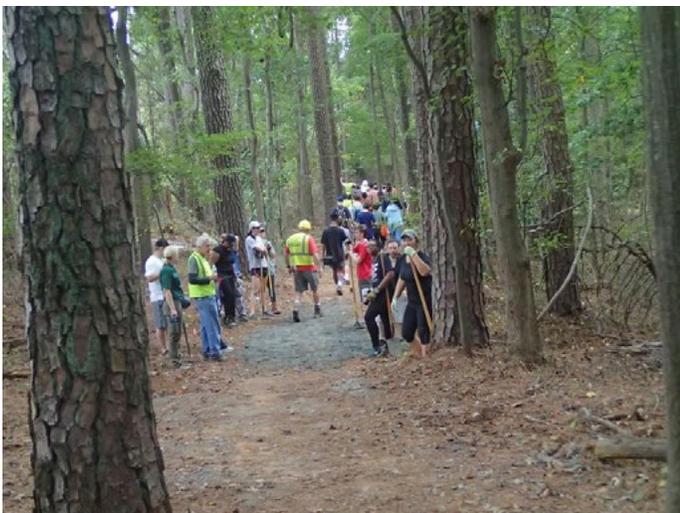
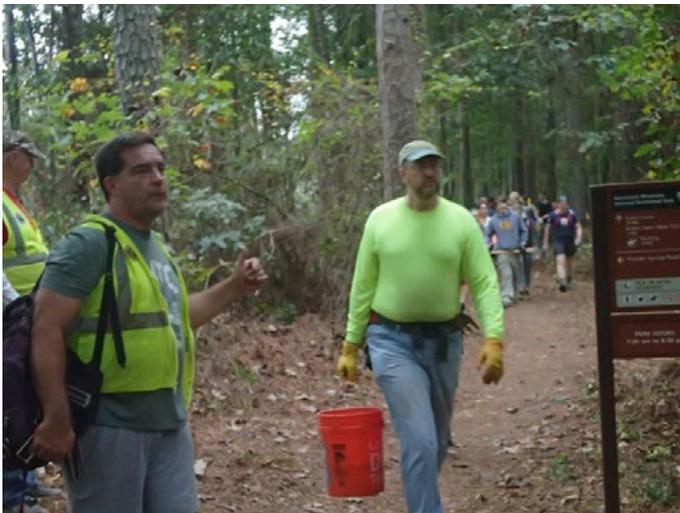


After: Over 14 arduous months, a dozen dumpsters meticulously and forcefully packed with bamboo, and with a little help from their friends, the Bamboo Brothers won a great victory over the bamboo. Anyone who helped knows how difficult this was. Led by Danny and Harry, maintenance has continued over the last 5 years to keep this invasive plant from growing back. If you look on Google Earth you can still see the extent of this field, and you can see the return of natural plant life as you hike or ride by.

October 14, 2017 Work Day

Photos by Scott Mackay.

Photos on page 9 were by Fred Feltmann.



Congratulations on 15 years!

On Saturday, October 28, a 15th Anniversary Party for the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club was held at Dave Poe's BBQ in Marietta. While guests ate plates of BBQ, a magnificent slide show with 15 years of Trail club pictures formed the background. By 7:00 pm, the cake was cut and everyone was enjoying dessert. Donald Olds, current KMTC Vice-President began the program recounting the club's history and achievements.



The first speaker was Fred Feltmann telling the story of the Boy Scout leaders (Fred & Richard Angeli) preparing for a summer backpacking trip in 2002 by hiking on the Little Kennesaw Mountain Trail. Seeing that the trail was in bad shape, they went to the Visitor Center to volunteer to improve it. With the support of park Maintenance Supervisor, Marion Harris, planning for the club began, culminating in the first Trail Work Day in November 2002.

Donald related more of the club's early history. The name KEMO Trail Corps, Inc. was chosen and remains the club's official title, although the name Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club was adopted later. A new trail on Little Kennesaw Mountain was completed by November 2004. The 2006 NPS Challenge Grant for \$30,000.00 was used to build a new bridge over John Ward Creek on the West Kolb Farm Trail, completed in August 2007. Club members worked with park staff to develop a Strategic Trail Plan and the first issue of the club's newsletter, *Earthworks*, was published in 2007. The Garlic Mustard Pull in May 2008 initiated an emphasis on removal of invasive plants from the park.

David Strand commented on the Trail Ambassador program. In 2009, Leah Urben, Outreach Director, involved David & Anne Strand in a meeting with new park Superintendent, Dr. Stanley Bond. Uniforms were selected and a Trail Ambassador Agreement developed; eight (8) Trail Ambassadors were trained in November. In 2011, Larry Shogren began a mounted horse patrol and became the first Master Ranger, with 500 hours in one year. The highlight of the Trail Ambassador program was the 150th battle anniversary in 2014 when 300 volunteers were recruited, trained and supervised. Currently more than 60 Trail Ambassadors conduct trail patrols and support a variety of park programs.

Doug Tasse opened his remarks by strumming on his guitar; he highlighted his many projects as both Trail Director and President. The long and difficult work with Harry Carpenter removing bamboo from the area along Powder Springs Road was described. Examples of Larry Shogren moving materials with his truck, such as beams for building bridges, were noted. Geoff Grosguth and his expertise with rock work was mentioned, with an example from the 24 Gun Trail project. Many other trail work adventures were shared.

Richard Angeli then spoke about the work done by the club in 2008 on a trail section of the Big Kennesaw Mountain Trail. This section of the trail was specifically designed to be more accessible. Although the vision was to extend an accessible trail to the mountaintop, it was never completed. Richard also commented that he and Fred could never have imagined that the group that they began in 2002 could become the great organization that it is today, 15 years later.

Donald then read a letter from current President Scott Mackay who was unable to attend. He stated, "From the dreams of a few, together we have grown a great organization that we hope will outlive us and continue to do good for many years to come... Most ventures fail in their first 5 years, I was here to celebrate the 10th and we are now at the 15th. We have not failed! ...What I do know makes a difference is what each of you put into the trail club. Each one of us is part of the whole. Together we are building the trail club's future, a few steps at a time."

With the fantastic pictures of club activities over the years, historic memories recounted by Donald and other speakers, camaraderie of the members present, it was a memorable evening celebrating a significant achievement.

Anne Strand
Secretary



Think "15" Wrap-up

The Think "15" fundraiser provided a valuable resource for the Trail Club. Following is a summary of program:

THINK 15 Contributions - \$7,687.27

The proceeds were used over the 2 year period for:

AMBASSADORS	Vests, First Aid kits, etc.	857.76
AUDIT	Fees for conducting annual audits (2016 & 2017)	850.00
EAGLE SCOUTS	Funding projects	385.83
FOOD	For Work Days, training classes	841.14
FUEL	For power tools, ditch-witch, etc.	155.82
GIFTS	Flowers for funeral	199.22
INSURANCE	Liability Insurance for Trail Club -required (Annually) (2016 & 2017)	3,942.00
LEGAL	Annual Corporate renewal fee	30.00
MATERIALS	Rock, lumber, etc.	1,284.69
MEETINGS	Supplies	100.00
MEMBERSHIPS	Club Membership - American Hiking Society, Leave-no-Trace	212.50
OFFICE SUPPLIES	Copy fees, business cards, post-it notes	141.77
REPAIRS	For tools, etc.	199.22
SUPPLIES	Bolts, gloves, weed killer	360.31
Port-a-Johns	For various work days	1,340.00
TOOLS	Loppers, stone brush	338.56
WEB PAGE	Fees for maintaining website	421.97

Thanks to all who contributed! We have now begun the "Think 18" campaign. As you can see the funds from the previous campaign were an immense help to support the day-to-day activities of the Club! We need your continued support.

Tom Okerberg, Treasurer

Contact List - Updated 9/23/17

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>E-MAIL</u>
President	Scott Mackay*	president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
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Director (Scouts)		director@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
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Trail Ambassador Director	Janie Brier	ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Plants Director	Danny Leigh	plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Fundraising Director	Peter Stell*	fundraising@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Logistics Director	Paul Eubanks*	logistics@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Website		http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/
Facebook Page		http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial
Volunteer Sign-up website*		http://signup.com/go/VvavYQj

* updated



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Upcoming Interpretive Programs

**All park programming is free and open to the public. No registration required. Programs start at Visitor Center except when noted otherwise.

Everyday @ 1:00 pm

Ranger Led Museum Tour

Join a Kennesaw Mountain Park Ranger for an in-depth exploration of our museum chronicling the events surrounding the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

November

November 4 @ 11:00 – 12:00 am ‘Environmental Trail Hike’

This program will consist of a guided hike 1.3 mile hike along the Environmental Trail. It will focus on the importance of preservation, protection, and history within the National Parks. This is an outdoor activity, so please dress and plan accordingly. The event will also be cancelled due to inclement weather.

November 4 and 26 @ 11:00 am – 3:00 pm ‘Civil War Music Program’

Music during the Civil War served many functions. Not only did it help to organize and rally, but also went a long way to boost morale amongst the soldiers. Come join musician and living historian KD Braunsroth as she demonstrates this using the fife.

November 5 @ 11:00, 12, 2, and 3:00 ‘Artillery Demonstrations’

Artillery (cannon) demonstrations show visitors the steps taken to fire cannons during the American Civil War. Each program lasts approximately 30-40 minutes and includes an explanation of the role of artillery during the Atlanta Campaign and at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain.

This demonstration will be held at Cheatham Hill, near the Illinois Monument.

November 11 @ 11:00 – 12:00 “Kennesaw Mountain’s Illinois Monument: Commemorating the Past, Honoring the Present and Inspiring the Future”

The story of Kennesaw Mountain did not end after the battle in 1864, but was continued by the veterans who fought on the battlefield. Park Ranger Amanda Corman will discuss how Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park was established through efforts of Union veterans who fought at Cheatham Hill.

The program will begin at the Cheatham Hill Drive parking lot.

November 11 @ 8:00 am – 12:00 pm ‘Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Work Day’

Volunteers are needed for each work day to help park staff maintain the 20-plus trails of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Parking and registration is at the overflow parking lot on Old Highway 41. The NPS Volunteer Services Agreement is required. A parent must sign the form if the student is under 18 years old. The form and directions to the registration site are available on the club.

See the website at the bottom of this page for more info regarding upcoming work days.

November 12 @ 11:00 – 11:30 am ‘Life of a Soldier’

Life for the common infantry soldier during the Atlanta Campaign was less than ideal. Come out and enjoy an interactive Ranger presentation that will utilize various reproduced props and personal items to illustrate how soldiers lived and fought on the campaign trail in 1864.

November 18 @ 11:00 – 11:30 am ‘The Importance of NPS Battlefields’

This 30 minute Ranger led program discusses the importance of preserving historic battlefields and the preservation efforts taken by the National Park Service.

November 19 @ 11:00, 12, 2, and 3:00 ‘Infantry Demonstrations’

Come out and enjoy an interactive infantry demonstration at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. This program will consist of a step-by-step description and demonstration of basic infantry tactics and culminate in a musket firing. This program is free to attend and open to the public

November 25 @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm “Guided Mountaintop Hike”

Join us for a ranger hike to the top of Big Kennesaw Mountain. The hike will focus on the local and Civil War history, as well some of the ecology of the area. This is an outdoor program, so please prepare accordingly. Length of the hike will be approximately 2 miles, strenuous, and will be weather dependent.

November 26 @ 11:00 am – 11:30 am “Atlanta Campaign Map Talk”

This 30 minute Ranger led program focuses on the 1864 Atlanta Campaign and how the Union and Confederate forces moved through the north Georgia countryside to the city of Atlanta. This program will also utilize the various interpretive maps and signs of the Visitor Center.

**** Outdoor programs**

(Living History programs and hikes) may be cancelled in the occurrence of inclement weather).

***** For more program details:**

Please contact Visitor Center at 770-427-4686, ext. 0, or visit our website at www.nps.gov/kemo

Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!



<http://americanhiking.org>



December Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the March Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than November 20th!

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map

