

Volume 15, Issue 4 **April**, 2021

WORKDAY MARCH 13, 2021

By Bill Gurry

On Friday, March 12, 2021, a crew leader workday rebuilt the little trail entrance fences across from Kolb's Farm and staged fence rails for the Saturday workday. Thanks to Cindy, Goeff, Mike, Bill, Eric, Coach Rich, Fred and Andy for the work.

After a long layoff, a small volunteer workday was held on the upper mountain trail on Big K on Saturday, March 13, 2021. The always enthusiastic and hard-working Allatoona High School NJROTC provided the volunteers. We spread out from the fire road all the way to the mountain-top parking lot to build fences in 3 areas to close the pre-1973 trail up the spine of the mountain, to trash several social trails, and to perform some maintenance on old drainage structures on the "grand staircase" and a few more miscellaneous areas. We left some things for a future workday so that we wouldn't all be out of a job. Thanks to Donald, Fred, Coach Rich, Dave Skilling, Geoff, Scott, Bruce, Fred, Cam, Eric, Dave and Sean Cauffiel, Mike, and the TAs for providing the supervision, strong backs, and support.

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Mask Directive - National Park Service

We have now received guidance regarding the Executive Order Mandating the Wearing of Masks.

The mandate is that a mask is to be worn in federal buildings AND on federal lands. That means that while visitors are in the park, they are mandated to wear a mask. However, now there is more specific guidance to what wearing a mask "on federal lands" means.

Per the Department of the Interior and National Park Service, Kennesaw Mountain NBP will implement this executive order by taking the following measures:

- · Masks or facial coverings will be required by visitors, staff, and volunteers while inside any federal buildings. This includes the Visitor Center, museum, and restrooms.
- · While outdoors and on the trails, masks and facial coverings should be worn when proper social distancing cannot be maintained. For example, a mask may not be required for the entire hike on a trail but should be used when passing others on the trail if social distancing cannot occur. Masks should be worn outside in areas where people congregate and social distancing cannot occur (such as trailheads and specific areas of interest, like our cannons).
- In accordance with applicable law, NPS will provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals.

Amanda Corman

Park Ranger/Volunteer Coordinator

May Newsletter Deadline

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

PS Even if you're just a "volunteer," you can also present an article for publication - and you won't be the first!

Trail Ambassador Highlights March 2021

On March 13th we held a Trail Ambassador orientation. It is a pleasure to welcome our newest Trail Ambassador, Brian Benefield. On the same day the club held a private group work day. Many thanks to Karen Petrella, Yvonne Robinson, Thomas Sullivan for help with registration.

Have you wondered what it is the Trail Ambassador Director does? Below is a summary of the duties and responsibilities of the role:

- Takes the lead for Trail Ambassador (TA) recruiting: I bring cards with my contact information to hand out to likely candidates I meet when hiking in the park. Most requests for TA information come from contacts through Ranger Amanda Corman.
- Periodically engage Trail Ambassadors: Encourage participation, discuss individual concerns/ needs, solicit member feedback for training or educational interests
- Maintain current Trail Ambassador Orientation briefing PowerPoint
- Maintain current active Trail Ambassador list. Only the KMTC board of directors and the park staff receive a copy of this list.
- Conduct Orientation program in conjunction with KMNBP volunteer coordinator
- Participate in monthly meetings with NPS Staff i.e. The INTERP meeting. This meeting is suspended until Interpretive programs resume.
- Coordinate Trail Ambassador support for Monthly Trail Work Day, Artillery Demonstrations, Saturday Lecture Series, Infantry Demonstrations, Annual Events (Battle Anniversary Weekend, Junior Ranger Day, Parks Day, Memorial and Labor Day events), Interpretive events directed at school groups (school field trips), Ranger led hikes and other special events
- Act as an ongoing resource for Safety Patrol volunteers as they report trail maintenance and other concerns.
- Attends quarterly board meetings
- · Provides quarterly Trail Ambassador report to the board and yearly report to membership

The list probably sounds like a full-time job. It is not! The role does not require one person to do everything. This is

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

> **Editor:** Fred Feltmann 770-516-9120

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

a great opportunity for several folks to take on parts which appeal to them. The aspect the role which is the hardest for me and at which I often fail miserably is to submit input monthly for the Earth Works!

On October 01, 2021 I plan to step away from the role of Trail Ambassador Director. I've been in this role for 4 years. It is time for a fresh perspective to take the lead. I was extremely lucky to have a well-organized and defined position handed to me. I am grateful for the enthusiastic support of the Trail Ambassadors, the KMTC Board and the park staff with whom we work so closely. If you are interested in being the Trail Ambassador Director please contact me at: Janiebrier@ bellsouth.net.

Janie Brier
Trail Ambassador Director

UPCOMING WORKDAYS

Stand by for the following future workdays: Saturday, April 10, and Saturday, May 8.

> Bill Gurry Trails Director

Amazon Smile Program Update

The Trail Club received \$37.24 from the Amazon Smile Program during the last guarter of 2020. To date the Trail Club has received \$444.47.

Thanks to all of those who have designated the Trail Club for their donation.

Trail Clearing Project

Danny and I worked Sunday, March 7 on the east side of the Kolb Farm loop. A tree that fell during previous storms had been cut away, however, the path was only one person wide. The tree was quite large and required multiple cuts to allow passage. Below are before and after shots.

Eric Sawyer



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 2019 (October 2019- September 2020 and Fiscal 2021 (October 2020- Present):

FY 2020

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
BOY SCOUT TROOP 89
KING'S ACADEMY HS ARMY JROTC
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
POPE HS - NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY
RIVER RIDGE HS
RIVER RIDGE HS ARMY JROTC
TRUST (KSU)

TRUST (KSU)
WALKER HS

FY 2021

KMTC CREW LEADERS
KSU CROSS COUNTRY TEAM
KSU HEALTH CLASS

The following group participated in our March work days: *Allatoona HS NJROTC*

We had 18 Crew Leaders and TAs participate in a Work Day on March 13, 2021, along with 16 participants from Allatoona HS NJROTC.



March Work Day After Action Meeting

A tradition continues! The usual "After Action Meeting" met after the March Work Day at Laredos. The crew leaders discussed the good and bad regarding the March Work Day. (Photo by Donald Olds.)



Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Bill Gurry (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Janie Brier (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

Bill Gurry - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Janie Brier - ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org



Proofreading and/or Perception

This may be a moot point to many of you readers; that is unless you pay attention to TV commercials. There is a cute Toilet Paper commercial which shows a pink or reddish color mom and pop bear looking at a pair of underwear that is on the floor. The couple both exclaim, "I'm not picking it up"- and then a little bear comes out of the "bathroom" and picks up the underwear because "It's all clean." Alright this article is not about picking up underwear or commercials; it's about how things are perceived or noticed.

Last month my article had several "typos" and misspelled words. Sure those things happen and are normally corrected before submission, but still things get by. I have a friend who frequently sends notification emails and he will purposefully misspell or leave out a word just to see if it's noticed. Well, in most cases they're not. In fact there's a term for this phenomenon, "Typoglycemia." Like in texting or chats all kinds of shortcuts are made or words left out and one still gets the message. Even though one may not know that term, it has become common knowledge.

Now for the good part; recently I was waiting in the car while my wife went into the park's Visitor Center to buy some books (which the "store" specializes in). The weather was perfect that afternoon and many visitors passed by headed off on their hike up the mountain. I enjoyed sitting there admiring the grounds and remembering how it used to be (go back and read the old newsletters. And then it happened! A boy was walking along the small rocks bordering the sidewalk and kicked one out onto the middle of the sidewalk. He's young, no big deal, it was just knocked loose; too bad he didn't feel that it was his responsibility to put it back in place; and neither did the adult. "Someone" else can do that; I am happy to say that the grounds are very well maintained. I sat there and watched while probably 63-67 people walked around, over and past that rock, one boy even stepped on it! Did they think a rock should be there or did they just figure someone else would move it, or maybe they didn't notice it (it wasn't that small). Of course I wasn't too happy watching this and I was about to go move it myself, but as I looked away for a moment then the rock had been put back in place. So now the rock is back to the side and I'm sure that everyone had a nice hike.

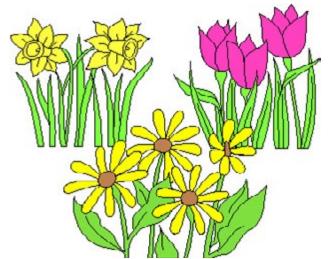
But someone had a better hike, they did something; picked up and moved it or noticed that something was wrong and fixed it. Could be easy to do right away, if not then let someone know. It's so simple to overlook things, especially on the trail. We've all done it, walked over things and later thought maybe should have taken a moment to fix it, move a branch or rock or pick up that bottle; yup you'll get it later. Most likely someone will do it.

Wrapping things up: if we're reading and a word is missed or misspelled, we figure it out and being observant we will quickly move a stick or rock. And if we walk or run on the "horse" trails and see a pile - just go around (It's OK).

Stay safe and enjoy the spring weather! (And if you do happen to see a Pink Bear in the park - please let me know). Thanks.

Doug Tasse





2021/2022 Fund Raising

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 80+ 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 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, along with basic business expenses - e.g. insurance. For these expenses, we rely on your donations.

Each year we kick off a new round of fund raising and this is the 2021/2022 big "ask." We need your help with this, even small donations help. We will conclude this drive at the end of FY 2022 (September, 2022).

As we approach our 19th year in operation, we ask you to please think '20', like \$20.. \$40.. \$60..... \$200... \$2000. 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 https://smile.amazon.com/
 - look for KEMO Trails Corps
- 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.



Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club Calendar Date Time Location Event

All Work Days and events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are cancelled indefinitely at this point. (Small party work days have started back up on a limited basis.)

All trails are now open. All parking lots, and the Mountain Rd., are now open. Visitor Center is now open. Visitors can now drive to the Mountain Top parking lot on week days.

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page - https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP/posts/?ref=page internal

We will send out an email when events warrant a restart of work days and events and when the Visitor Center reopens.

The Mountain Top Concession Stand is now open daily from 10 AM till 5 PM.

See page 12-13 for NPS/KEMO for April activities.

Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at http://

SignUp .com

signup.com/go/VvavYQi. 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:

All planned work days for the upcoming months have been cancelled until further notice.

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity once we resume our work day schedules, 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 as soon as we return to our normal work days.



The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain

The Friends of Kennesasw Mountain's mission is to raise funds to support programs and projects at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Your Membership helps to fund this mission.

Please join us.

Our website is **FriendsOfKMNBP.org.**

Visit to find out more info, to donate, or to sign up for one of our Board positions or to register as a member of the Friends organization.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is to work in partnership with the National Park Service and the local community to raise annual funding for projects and activities in the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Programs supported: Outdoor Education

KEMO Trail Club Living History Trail Ambassadors

Contact List - Updated 10/27/20 Position NAME

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Trails Director
Community Volunteer Director
Communications Director

Newsletter Editor Information/Technology Director Trail Ambassador Director

Plants Director Fundraising Director Records Management Donald Olds

Vacant*

Robert Brier

Tom Okerberg

Bill Gurry

Rena Bailey
Fred Feltmann
Fred Feltmann
Jerry Givan
Janie Brier
Danny Leigh
Scott Mackay

Laurie Poppell

E-MAIL

president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
vp@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
secretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
treasurer@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
fundraising@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
records-management@kmtrailclub.onmicrosoft.com

https://smile.amazon.com/

http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/

htttps://www.nps.gov.KEMO

http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial

http://signup.com/go/VvavYQi

Amazon Smile
KMTC Website
NPS Website
Facebook Page
Volunteer Sign-up website

* updated



Kennesaw: Natural History of a Southern Mountain by Sean P. Graham is the first in-depth ecological treatment of one of the most frequently visited national battlefield parks in the country. Designated as a battlefield in 1917 and as a park in 1935, the 2,965-acre Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park now preserves far more than the military history and fallen soldiers it was originally founded to commemorate.

Located approximately twenty miles northwest of downtown Atlanta, Kennesaw Mountain rises 608 feet above the rolling hills and hardwood forests of the Georgia Piedmont. Kennesaw Mountain's geology and topography create enough of a distinctive ecosystem to make it a haven for flora and fauna alike. As the tallest mountain in the metropolitan Atlanta area, it is also a magnet for human visitors. Featuring eighteen miles of interpretive trails looping around and over the mountain, the park is a popular destination for history buffs, outdoor recreationists, and nature enthusiasts alike.



Written for a diverse range of readers and park visitors, *Kennesaw: Natural History of a Southern Mountain*

provides a comprehensive exploration of the entire park punctuated with humor, colorful anecdotes, and striking photographs of the landscape. Sean P. Graham begins with a brief summary of the park's human history before transitioning to a discussion of the mountain's nature, including its unique geology, vegetation, animals, and plant-animal interactions. Graham also

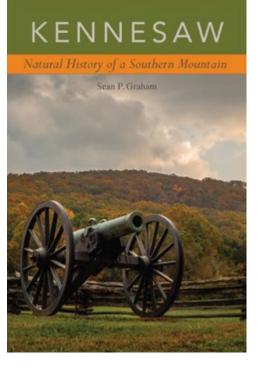
focuses on Kennesaw Mountain's most important ecological and conservation attribute—its status as a globally important bird refuge. An insightful chapter on bird watching and the region's migrating bird populations includes details on migratory patterns, birding hot spots, and the mountain's avian significance. An epilogue revisits the park's Civil War history, describing how Union veterans pushed for establishment of the park as a memorial, inadvertently creating a priceless biological preserve in the process.

Kennesaw addresses the complex interactions and behaviors of numerous species that live in or migrate through the park; yet it is written in a personal, lively, and entertaining style that will appeal to a wide audience. In many cases the book synthesizes information from the scientific literature, making this otherwise arcane material accessible to the general public and underscoring—and hopefully increasing public appreciation for—the extensive biodiversity found in the Southeast.

Sean P. Graham is associate professor of biology and curator of the vertebrate collections at Sul Ross State University. He is author of *American Snakes*.

This book will be available at the KMNBP Visitor Center. It will also be available for a limited time for \$15 (40% off list price) at:

http://uapress.ua.edu/product/Kennesaw,7660.aspx



March 12, 2021 - Staging 3/13/21 Work Day Materials and Mini-Work Party Photos by Fred Feltmann



Newsletter 9 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

3/13/21 Work Day Photos by Fred Feltmann









All In A Day's Work

Trail Maintenance, fence building and trail reclamation.

Thanks Allatoona HS JROTC!





Newsletter 10

Partnerships, Programs, and Progress

Some of you may have been wondering, "How on Earth are our favorite rangers keeping busy when they aren't doing any in-person programming?' I am happy to report that we are definitely not 'resting on our laurels'. While we all miss seeing the lightbulbs of comprehension and excitement go off in real life, we have taken this time to move into the virtual world. In addition to the almost weekly pre-recorded interpretive programs that have been able to provide, we have jumped back into the field trip world.

In a partnership with the National Park Trust, we have developed three virtual field trips based off previous offerings. These field trips operate as live, real time interactions (through Zoom, Google Meets, etc.) with the schools and students. Also, with the help of the National Park Trust, our reach has extended nationally! We have schools booked from Arizona, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. While I miss the real thing (especially seeing some of my favorite Trail Ambassadors/Cat Herders), this has been a great opportunity for us to get into the distance learning game.

In addition to file trips, we are also working with long time park partners Cobb Water and the Cobb County Public Library System to provide seasonal children's activities. For Spring Break, we are partnering with the libraries to present a 'Spring Break Camp-In'. This is a series of virtual children's activities happening on the Cobb County School Systems spring break (April 5-8) and will be shown on the park's Facebook and Youtube. With Cobb Water (the education team component to the Cobb Water Dept.), we are developing some exciting summer activities aimed at middle school aged students.

As we move into our busy season, we will do our best to continue to reach the public and tell the story of America's favorite National Battlefield. We'll see you at the mountain!

Jacob Boling
Park Ranger

3/13/21 - Moving a "big" stick to close a part of an old trail.











Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152

(770) 427-4686 phone www.nps.gov/kemo

Kennesaw Mountain News Release

Release Date: Immediately

Contact: Marjorie Thomas, marjorie_thomas@nps.gov, 770-427-4686 x 231

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Encourages Responsible Recreation

Kennesaw, GA – Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park is looking to catch visitors in the act of "doing good" for the environment. Park rangers are roving the trails looking for those who are practicing good trail etiquette and responsible recreation. These observable behaviors at the park can include picking up trash, respecting wildlife, bagging and binning pet waste, and practicing other Leave No Trace principles. When caught in a positive act for the environment and, specifically, for Kennesaw Mountain, visitors will be recognized with a specially designed button and then highlighted on social media on "Trail Tuesdays". This "responsible recreation" campaign is designed to encourage positive behaviors for the good of other visitors and for the good of the resources. It follows after the park's dog waste campaign which began a couple of months ago in partnership with Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

Patrick Gamman, Superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, states, "At Kennesaw Mountain, there are two real concerns stemming from pets...one is the amount of dog waste bags left on trails and the other is dogs off leash. We want to help educate our visitors on how impactful these negative practices can be and we want to encourage responsible recreation by all park visitors". To assist pet owners, dog waste bags and receptacles have been placed throughout the park to encourage bagging and binning pet waste. Additionally, park staff will be positively recognizing dogs on leash with a voucher for a specially designed BARK Ranger bandanna, to be redeemed in the American's National Parks Store within the Visitor Center.

Help protect the park by practicing responsible recreation. For more information, please call 770.427.4686 or visit the website at www.nps.gov/kemo.

www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 419 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov, and on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive Kennesaw, GA 30152

(770) 427-4686 phone www.nps.gov/kemo

Kennesaw Mountain News Release

Release Date: Immediately

Contacts: Jacob Boling, Jacob boling@nps.gov, 770-427-4686 x 248

Marjorie Thomas, Marjorie thomas@nps.gov, 770-427-4686 x 231

Virtual Spring Break "Camp-In" Co-Hosted by Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park and Cobb Library System

Kennesaw, GA –Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park and the Cobb County Public Library System are proud to present "Spring Break Camp-In 2021". For the Cobb County school system's Spring Break (April 5 – April 8), Kennesaw Mountain NBP and the Cobb County Library System are partnering together to present a series of virtual children's programs. Daily programs, Monday – Thursday of that week, are presented by both park rangers and county librarians. Topics for the "Camp-In" include soldier cooking, s'more making, keeping clean at camp, campfire sing alongs, and more! These programs will be in the form of pre-recorded video presentations, and can be accessed through each agency/organizations's Facebook page, and/or through their Youtube channels. Videos will premiere in these locations on the advertised date. All virtual programs are captioned and included descriptive audio.

For more information and updates, visit our website at www.nps.gov/kemo or visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/KMNBP. Additionally, videos may be accessed through these links:

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park - YouTube

YouTube
Cobb County Public Library - YouTube

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KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK AND COBB COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM PRESENTS:

SPRING BREAK CAMP-IN!

APRIL 5-8,

ALL PROGRAMS ARE VIRTUAL AND CAN BE VIEWED AT FACEBOOK.COM/KMNBP Each program will premier Link: www.facebook.com/KMNBP at Noon for the date listed.

4/5-Soldier Camp/Library Fort Night

Join a park ranger for a look into soldier camp life. Afterwards, a librarian will build a blanket fort with you and read a spooky story.

4/6-Civil War Camp Food/S'more Making

In this program, a ranger will discuss soldiers' camp food, and a librarian will teach you how to make delicious s'mores!

4/7-Keeping Clean/Arts & Crafts

Learn from one of our rangers how the soldiers kept clean in camp, while a librarian helps you build a drum.

4/8-Soldier Camp Games/ Sing - Along

Join one of our rangers in learning about some of the fun and creative games soldiers played at camp, while a librarian will lead in a sing-along.

*all virtual programs will feature captioning and descriptive audio.



Sponsors/Partners CornerMany thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!































KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

