



EARTHWORKS



Volume 3, Issue 4

August, 2009

National Trails Day, 2009,

Wrap-up

The Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club and the National Park Service staff send out a Big Thank You to the 120+ volunteers who came to Kennesaw Mountain on June 6th to participate in our special work day as a part of the 2009 National Trails Day event. Volunteers of all ages ranging from 7 to 70 came to the park to pick up litter, dig ditches, smooth trails, and build steps. Most of the work was performed on the main trail from the Visitor's Center up to the parking lot on Big Kennesaw.

The pictures below actually show the exact same section of trail before & after the work day. Before the volunteer effort this trail section was a steep, rocky slope filled with trip hazards. By the time we were done at 12:30 pm the section was a hiker-friendly path with several well-placed rock steps installed. Further down the mountain, a team of several dozen volunteers did a great job digging over 100 yards of drainage ditch to handle the huge volumes of water that pour down the mountain during rainstorms. Keeping water off the hiking trails & controlling erosion are some of

the most critical elements to insure the 20+ miles of trails meandering through this lovely park will remain accessible for years to come.

After all the hard work was over, the volunteers carried their shovels, picks, & rakes down the mountain and enjoyed a lunch of Chick-fil-A sandwiches, Domino's Pizza, chips, cookies, and PLENTY of cold ice tea & lemonade!! KMTC especially wants to thank our corporate sponsors, Chick-Fil-A, Domino's Pizza, Kroger's supermarket, and REI for donating food, drinks, and support for the event.

**** MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR NATIONAL TRAILS DAY 2010 ON SATURDAY, JUNE 5TH ****

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 National Trails Day, 2009, Wrap-up
- 1 Old Highway 41 Bridge Over CSX Railroad To Be Closed Soon - within the next month!
- 2 Trail Club Members Now Chain Saw Certified!
- 3 Calendar of Events
- 3 July Work Day Synopsis
- 4 Trail Master Training Class
- 4 New Volunteer Certificate of Service
- 4 *An Evening in City Park*
- 5 Trail Club Shirts and Merchandise Available
- 5 Contact List - updated 5/29/09
- 5 Reporting Your Hours - An Important Aspect of Volunteering!
- 6 July 11, 2009 Work Day
- 7 National Trails Day - June 7, 2009
- 8 Certificate of Service
- 9 Sponsors/Partners Corner
- 9 September Newsletter Deadline
- 10 Gilpin Collection Article
- 11 Breaking News!!! KMHA Golf Tournament
- 12 KMHA Golf Tournament Sponsorship Options



Before



After

Old Highway 41 Bridge Over CSX Railroad To Be Closed Soon - within the next month!

Drivers and visitors at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, take note. The vehicle bridge on Old Highway 41 over the CSX railroad lines will be closed in the near future for 3 months. ***It is currently open on a temporary basis, until some permit issues are***

Continued on Page 2

Old Highway 41 - Continued from Page 1

resolved.

The Cobb Department of Transportation will be replacing and widening the bridge. The \$1.6 million project is being paid for by the county's Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

The existing bridge is 27 feet wide and has one northbound and one southbound lane for vehicle traffic.

The new concrete bridge will have a total width of 48 feet including two 14-foot travel lanes and 10-foot sidewalks on each side. The new bridge will also have room for pedestrians and other non-motorized users, and will ultimately be part of a new trail in that area.

Dr. Stan Bond, park superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain, said the bridge would be a major safety improvement. Park officials have recognized for years the hazards of pedestrians trying to cross the bridge with no sidewalk and little room for them to walk across.

While the bridge is closed, vehicles heading south on Old Highway 41 will be detoured to Barrett Parkway or Ridenour Road. Northbound traffic will be sent to Stilesboro Road.

Park visitors will still have access to overflow parking areas off Old Highway 41 above and below the bridge.

Dr. Bond encouraged visitors to check out the other sections of the park, including entrances along Whitlock Avenue, Burnt Hickory and Cheatham Hill roads. All locations have parking.

"There are other sections of the park that you can learn and enjoy," Lloyd Morris, Chief Ranger, said.

Dr. Bond said when the portion of Noonday Creek multi-use trail, from the park entrance to Barrett Parkway, is installed later this year, there are also plans to build a 290-space parking lot along Old Highway 41.

The entire Noonday Creek trail, which will run behind Town Center mall and connect the park to Bells Ferry Road, is scheduled to be completed by 2012.

***Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it.
Boldness has genius, power and magic in it.***

~ Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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

Editor: Fred Feltmann
770-516-9120

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

FAX: 770-516-9120 (*Call first, so I can turn it on!*)

Trail Club Members Now Chain Saw Certified!

Congratulations to Victor Williams and Jim Moylan! They have been certified to use chain saws on our work days. This will give us added tools to work on trail issues.

From July 6-10th Victor & Jim joined about 8 members of the National Park Service for 4 full-day sessions of "hands-on" training led by Willie Adams, an expert fire fighter with the US Forest Service. Willie now supports the Fire & Aviation division of the National Park Service. Participants benefited from Willie's in-depth experience as they learned safety & equipment fundamentals and a variety of chain saw techniques for different situations.

This skill was used to perfection this past month when a tree was removed from the middle of the trail about .2 miles below the parking lot atop Kennesaw Mountain.



Jim Moylan practicing his skills at the Chain Saw Certification Class



Victor Williams completes felling of a tree near the top of Kennesaw Mountain - using his newly-approved chain saw skills.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY, AUGUST 8, 2009

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Repairs to an eroded section of the West Trail in the park south of Burnt Hickory Rd.

We'll install several stone steps & correct drainage problems to prevent further erosion.

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2009

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Continue trail maintenance and other projects depending on the number of volunteers available.

ANNUAL BOARD MEETING, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

LOCATION: TBD

TIME: TBD

To be a participant at the Board Meeting and participate in the election of Officers, volunteers *must* participate in at least *two* work days each year. If you would like to participate in this year's board meeting, you have two more chances! (Saturday, August 8 or Saturday, September 12)

2ND SATURDAY WORKDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2009

PARK SERVICE AREA

TIME: 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Continue trail maintenance and other projects depending on the number of volunteers available.

If your local school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a work day in the park as a team building or public service activity, please e-mail us at kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org at least 4 weeks in advance. Activities can be tailored to your group and can range from using picks & shovels to create proper drainage, to trimming back bushes & small trees from the trail, to picking up litter (unfortunately there are still some folks who throw their trash out car windows).

July Work Day Synopsis

On Saturday morning, July 11th, about 70 volunteers took a few hours out of their schedules to help the Trail Club put the finishing touches on several projects along the 1 mile trail leading from the Visitor's Center up to the parking lot on Big Kennesaw. This main trail is one of the most heavily traveled in the park, but with 20 miles of trails to maintain the Trail Club hasn't been able to spend much effort on this section since 2007 -- and the deteriorated trail conditions were proof of that!

In 2009, we've focused 4 of our monthly work days on this section and -- the results are amazing! With just a few hours help each month from scores of volunteers, the trail is a MUCH more hiker-friendly trek to the summit. Whether you came out for 1 work day this year or several days -- your efforts have paid off.

The following improvements have made this 1-mile stretch of trail a more enjoyable hike for visitors:

- 2 rock staircases that were so badly eroded hikers had to walk AROUND them instead of UP them have been repaired & improved;
- a hazardous, washed-out gully with slippery rock surfaces has been restored to a smooth trail section with several new steps;
- a critical drainage ditch along the fire road has been deepened, widened & improved (FYI -- the ditch catches water from a large expanse of the mountain face & prevents hiking trails below the fire road from being washed out);
- broken asphalt creating trip hazards near the upper parking lot has been removed & stone steps installed;
- proper drainage to avoid future erosion has been installed in numerous spots along the entire trail (e.g., rolling grade dips; de-berming trail edges; re-grading trail slopes, etc.)

Next time you're walking to the top of Big Kennesaw you'll be able to enjoy the scenery more because you'll have less worry about the condition of the trail you're walking on. Enjoy the view, enjoy the fresh air, and enjoy the knowledge that you helped Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park be a more hiker-friendly park for everyone.

Trail Master Training Class

(Note: Mike Riter's course is a popular, respected course addressing trail design, construction, maintenance, and crew leader training.)

We have been teaching the Trail Master Training course for over 10 years now at locations around the US. We are finally bringing it home to the National Trails Training Center. This is our new location in Commerce, GA where we have a 50-acre site complete with a 2800 square foot facility. On site we have a variety of trails to show students the differences between properly built trails and improperly built ones. We also have learning opportunities to be applied to all types of use on natural surface including accessible and motorized.

The October Trail Master Training class will be held over 4 days and will include a day each of Trail design, Trail construction, Trail maintenance, and Crew leader training. Each session is a mixture of class room and hands-on outdoor experience designed to give participants a complete understanding of what is involved in design, building and maintaining properly designed and constructed trails suitable for foot traffic, off road cycling, and equestrian use. Since this course is considered a certification, participants will be required to complete written testing throughout the course. Cost for each participant is \$300. We do offer discounts for groups of 5 or more coming from any one agency or organization. Please contact Sandra Fraro at Sandra@traildesign.com or (678) 230-5276 to register or for more info.

We are currently working on the schedule for courses to be held at the NTTC for 2010 and hope to include several Trail Master courses, as well as Mechanized construction courses, and OHV (Off Highway vehicle) design and construction courses. We will also consider requests for specialized training for equipment safety, bridge construction, USFS chain saw safety training, alternative surface material application, etc.

Thanks!

Mike Riter

Mike Riter
President
Trail Design Specialists, LLC
www.traildesign.com
678-410-8021

New Volunteer Certificate of Service

Attached on page 8 is a sample of the certificate of volunteer service that Jim Moylan, Trail Director, recently created for Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club volunteers. Many of the volunteers who attend the Work Days do so in order to earn credit for community service for a class, to meet Boy Scout requirements or other community service obligations. As a part of the registration process, volunteers can indicate that they need a Volunteer Service Certificate and give an e-mail address. Anne Strand, the Membership Director, will then develop a customized certificate in pdf format and e-mail it to the volunteer. The availability of these certificates is an asset to volunteers who need such documentation.

An Evening in City Park

(During a drive past Piedmont Park at Dusk - 8/14/01)

The day's work done,
now a time to enjoy an evening's respite.
Away from city life.
And asphalt and concrete.
And the din of the city.
A time to enjoy the sun,
dipping now amongst the buildings
on the outskirts of the park.
A cool breeze wafting amongst the trees.
Away from the walls of the city.

A runner getting in his miles.
A couple in their golden years,
walking upon the path of life,
holding hands,
enjoying the soft sounds of the park.

Another couple, enjoying each other's presence,
oblivious of the setting sun,
And the knowing looks of the passers-by.
Their eyes saying all.

And yet another couple, child in hand,
just enjoying the moment together!
The child enjoying the sights and sounds
and forming an everlasting memory
of the moment.

City park.
An oasis from the city,
refreshing the soul.
That we might go on for another day.

Trail Club Shirts and Merchandise Available

http://www.cafepress.com/kennesaw_trails

100% Cotton Denim Embroidered Shirt \$35.00



Support your club and Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park by showing the colors. We have a selection of shirts both long-sleeved and short-sleeved available in our online Gear Store. 20% of the purchase price of any of our products goes directly to support the park.

The yellow tee shirt (\$17.99) with the club logo on the back has become the default standard uniform shirt for trail workdays. The bright yellow color stands out in the woods, and the logo is clearly visible when you are bent over swinging a Pulaski or a MacCloud.

We can make bulk orders for 15+ of the yellow shirts and get them for \$10.00 each delivered. If you would like to have one or more shirts at this price, e-mail kmtcpresident@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org with your name, size, and quantity of shirts. We'll place an order when we have 15 or more orders, and you can pay on delivery.

Reporting Your Hours - An Important Aspect of Volunteering!

"TIME = Money for the Park - Each Volunteer is currently worth more than \$17.00/hr."

Yes, we all are guilty - forgetting/neglecting to report our hours for working. How many hours did we REALLY work for the Park last year? Was it 500 hours, 2000, or maybe 5000???? Have you spent time outside of our 2nd Saturday Workdays helping the Park - e.g. spent time picking up trash, fixing drainage, helping with events, or club administration?

If you signed the roster at an event, your time is recorded. Otherwise you need to report it through the form on the website.

Youth Service Project candidates need to report total hours for their project to the Trail Club and to the Park before their project is considered complete.

Help us out this coming year - Please enter your hours on the website - it's currently near the top of the first page - or go directly to <http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/formmail.html>.

Contact List - updated 5/29/09

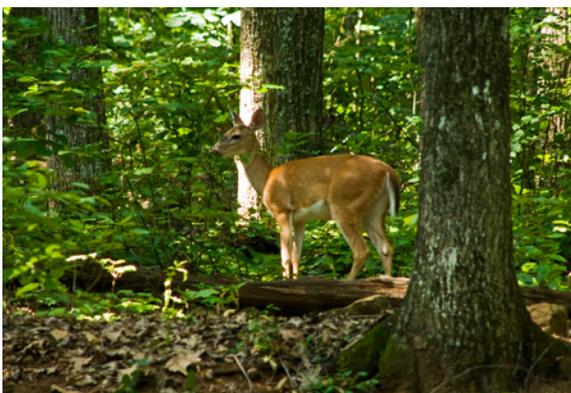
POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL
President	Jerry Givan	kmtcpresident@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Secretary/Historian	Linda Pinch	kmtcsecretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Finance Director	Jay Haney	kmtcfinance@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trails Supervisor	Jim Moylan	kmtctrails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Membership Director	Anne Strand	kmtcmembership@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Outreach Director	Leah Urben	kmtcoutreach@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Youth Service Projects	Ed Holsworth	kmtcyouth@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Communications Director	Fred Feltmann	kmtccomm@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Editor	Fred Feltmann	kmtccomm@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Webmaster	Sue Crane	suecrane@mac.com
Website		http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/

July 11, 2009 Work Day



Scouts from Troops 1134 and 75. They completed their conservation effort to earn the 50-miler patch for their trip to Philmont Scout Reservation in New Mexico.

"Circle of Death" demonstration during the "Tool Talk" at July's Work Day.



National Trails Day - June 7, 2009



Crew Leaders for National Trails Day



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

This certificate is presented to

John Doe

in recognition of your contribution of
5 hours of volunteer work at

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park

Presented by the **Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club**
in conjunction with the **National Park Service**

Jim Moylan

Trail Director

July 11, 2009

Date



Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their

<http://americanhiking.org>



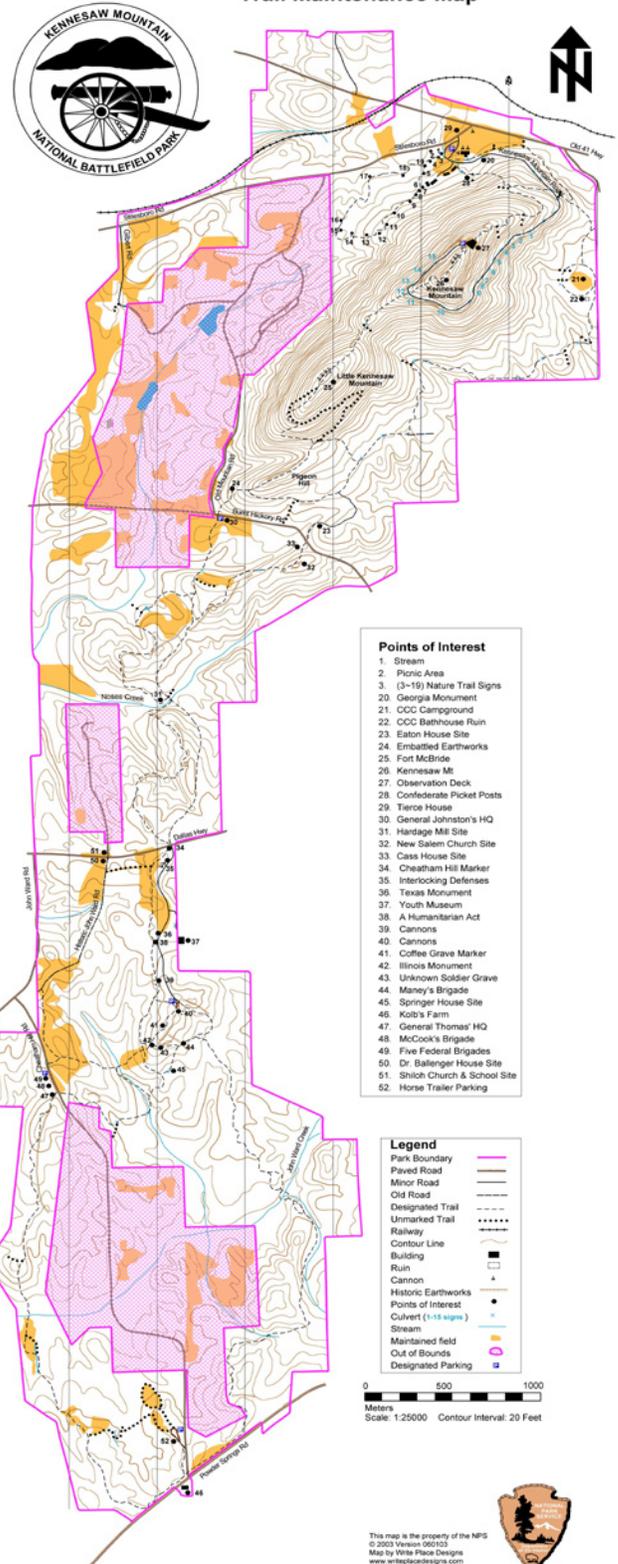
BARRETT PARKWAY AND TOWN CENTER AT COBB

September Newsletter Deadline

If you wish to have an article published in the September Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than August 15th!

KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map



Local in Touch, Global in Reach

HLB Gross Collins, P.C.

SUNDAY,
May 17, 2009

More Opinion

LETTERS ♦ FEEDBACK ♦ COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY

Kennesaw Mountain battle park hoping to obtain collection that's ...

ONE OF A KIND

When Johnny has gone marching home from the wars in our nation's past — and present — he typically has been quick to leave behind most reminders of his time in uniform. Young Levi Gilpin was an exception to that rule, however.

"Many of the soldiers from the Civil War went home and saved their jacket or their hat, but they kept on wearing their socks and shoes and pants and using their toothbrushes till they all wore out," explains Retha Stephens, curator of the museum at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park's visitor center. "They didn't save those kinds of things, but this man did. Everything he wore home, he saved. His clothing, his canteen, his rifle, his wool blanket. Basically, he saved everything that was in his haversack, including a pair of bone dice. He even saved his coffee beans and a plug of tobacco, of all things."

Gilpin's blue tunic still has the hole in the sleeve that was torn by a Confederate bullet that passed through it — and his right arm — during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Now, nearly 150 years later, Gilpin's collection of items is exceptionally unique — and for sale.

So park officials are about to launch an ambitious drive to raise the \$170,000 needed to acquire the 30-item collection and make it the centerpiece of the parks' museum.

"We do not know of any other collection in the country of this size connected to this park that's identified to just one person," Ms. Stephens said. "It's a time capsule that's just incredible."

The Gilpin items at present are owned by a collector in Indiana.

"It belongs here and the seller seems to understand that it belongs here, too. He hasn't given us a deadline, and he says he's

turned down higher offers, but he can't wait forever," she said. "We know that \$170,000 is a lot, especially with the economy the way it is. But this is so important, we can't put it off."



Joe Kirby
COLUMNIST

"It is extremely rare to have all these items together. They weren't destroyed or divvied out through the years. When he went home, he was rather astute. He had a concept of what he'd been involved in, how life-changing it was for him and the country. And so he saved all these things."

Park Superintendent Dr. Stan Bond feels so strongly about acquiring the collection that he has committed \$25,000 out of the park's operating budget to use for the purchase, and will try to get other government funding, too.

"But we need all the money we can get from other sources," Stephens said.

A special fund has been set up at the park, and Ms. Stephens assures that any money donated will be used solely for the acquisition. Moreover, if the items are acquired they will be displayed — not be put in storage. Your tax-deductible donations can be sent to: Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, attention Retha Stephens, 900 Kennesaw Mountain Drive, Kennesaw, GA. 30152.



Levi Gilpin

The collection's present owner is giving the park the right of first refusal for the collection, she added.

"He knows that if and when it comes here, it would be housed in a state-of-the-art museum," she said, adding that National Park Service chief historian emeritus and author Ed Bearss has recently said that Kennesaw has the best museum of any Civil War battlefield park in the country.

Gilpin (1844-1931) was a corporal in the 51st Ohio Infantry Regiment and was a farmboy who had enlisted just after his 17th birthday in 1861.

"He basically had to lie about his age in order to get in," said Ms. Stephens.

The 51st was part of the Union Army of the Cumberland under the command of Gen. George H. Thomas, which in turn was



Special photo
Part of the Levi Gilpin collection.

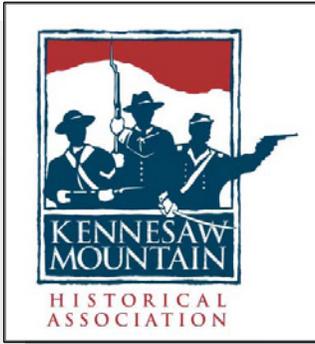
part of Gen. William T. Sherman's Army of the Tennessee. Gilpin and his unit had earlier fought in many of the battles of the Western Theater, including Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge.

In a letter he wrote in

1929 detailing his service (which also is part of the collection), Gilpin describes his arm wound the day after the Battle of Kolb's Farm on Powder Springs Road as "a million-dollar wound" — one that, while painful, took him permanently out of the line of fire and thus saved his life, Stephens said.

"This is just a really incredible, very extensive collection," Ms. Stephens said. "This will add so tremendously to the story we can tell at Kennesaw Mountain, and would be the focal point of the museum. But we need to get moving."

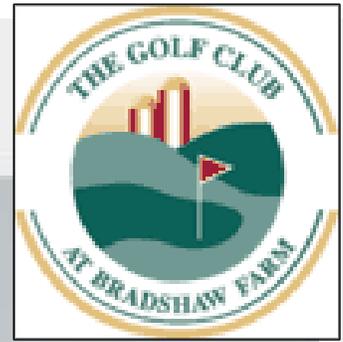
Joe Kirby is Editorial Page editor of the Marietta Daily Journal and author of "The Bell Bomber Plant."



Breaking News!!!

It's not too late to register for the Tournament!!

Registrations are being taken until August 14th!! So call now or e-mail them at info@kmha.org.



1ST ANNUAL KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

We invite you to join us for the first annual Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association golf tournament, Monday, August 17th 2009, at the Golf Club at Bradshaw Farm. Registration will be from 8:00-8:30 a.m., shotgun start 9 a.m. The tournament will be a four-man "Lauderdale" or scramble. The cost of \$90 per golfer, or \$340 for a foursome, includes 18 holes of golf, range balls, and a hamburger/hotdog lunch. Prizes will be awarded to low finishers as well as a long drive and closest to the pin contest. Each golfer will also receive a complimentary bag of gifts, worth over \$100, on the day of the event. There will also be a raffle with many more excellent prizes. All proceeds will go to support the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Register at the park or by email at info@kmha.org.

Payment due at time of registration.

The Kennesaw Mountain Historical Association is a private non-profit organization that works in cooperation with the National Park Service. KMHA assists the Park staff with educational programs, informational services and preservation initiatives at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

For more information please contact us at 770-422-3696 or email us at info@kmha.org

Name: _____

Individual (\$90) Foursome (\$340)

Address: _____

Names of golfers in your foursome or golfers you would like to play with: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

If individual, please give us your handicap so we

E-mail: _____

may place you with similar golfers: _____



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sponsorship Opportunities

Not only will your contribution go to help a good cause, your business' logo or name will be prominently displayed in the following locations:

- ❖ A designated hole sign on the course
- ❖ All Tournament materials
- ❖ KMHA's website and the Kennesaw Mountain Post, our newsletter that is mailed to over 500 KMHA members and handed out to visitors at the battlefield.

\$1000 – Title Sponsorship –

- Name and Logo will be featured on all Tournament signage
- 1 Foursome
- Choice of Exclusive Hole Sponsorship or sponsoring Driving Range, Putting Green, or Drink Cart

\$750

- 1 Foursome
- Choice of Exclusive Hole Sponsorship or sponsoring Driving Range, Putting Green, or Drink Cart

\$550

- 1 Foursome
- Hole Sponsorship

\$300

- Exclusive Hole Sponsorship

\$150

- Hole Sponsorship