

# EARTHWORKS

Volume 15, Issue 12 December, 2021

### **Crew Leader Training Class**

We will be hosting a Crew Leader Training Class January 8, 2022 for anyone wishing become a Crew Leader for our Work Days. Contact Mike Collet for more information: <a href="mailto:trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>



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### Past Trail Club President Takes Part In Marietta Veterans Day Parade!

Doug Tasse, past Trail Club President, took part in this year's Marietta Veterans Day Parade, 10/11/21. Note his nice ride!

Photo by Bill Gurry, past Trails Director.



### **Happy Holidays!**

The National Park Service and the members of the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club and the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park wish all a Happy and safe Holiday Season and a Happy New Year!



### Automated Fee Machine (AFM)

For those wishing to purchase a Parking Pass without having to go the Visitor Center, an option is available! You can purchase either a day pass or an annual pass may be purchased at the AFM located at the Old Highway 41 Overflow Parking Lot.

### **January Newsletter Deadline**

If you wish to have an article published in the January Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at faf1948@bellsouth.net no later than December 18th!

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

### Workday 11-13-21

We had 10 crew leaders and 3 under instruction for this workday. They were Donald, Curt, Bill, Eric, Dave, Andy, Scott, Fred, Geoff, as well as myself, and our trainees Robert, Vicki, and Todd. We led 43 volunteers to remove berms, address erosion issues, and trash social trails. Our Trail Ambassadors, Rena, Jay, and Karen, were able to show them where to park and process our volunteers quickly so that we could get them out on the trail performing maintenance. Bill and Geoff, along with Todd as their trainee, worked on deberming and erosion issues from the bottom of Pigeon Hill to the switchback. Andy and Eric, along with trainee Robert, worked on closed social trails in the area on top Of Pigeon Hill before, around, and after the new fencing. From there they went to the switchback going up Little Kennesaw closed social trails and worked on the erosion on the switchback. Donald and Dave, along with trainee Vicki, worked on the erosion going up Little Kennesaw just, past the park bench. From there they split into two groups one addressing water flow issues, led by Donald; and the other, led by Eric, closing social trails as they went up the mountain. Scott monitored the parking lot while we were on the mountain, Fred documented the work we did, and I roamed between groups monitoring their adherence to the workplan. Thanks to the assistance of David and Zoe of the Park's Maintenance Department in having the work area cleared and the fencing in place. This allowed us to accomplish everything on the workplan. Our volunteers from Hillgrove High School ROTC department, Wheeler High School, Mount Paran, Kennesaw State University, the Atlanta Outdoor Club, and several individuals contributed greatly to the successful workday.

On Friday Mike and Bill prepared the trail for Saturday.

Our next workday is December 11, 2021.

Thanks to everyone for your help.

#### Mike Collett

**Trails Director** 

Photos on page 7 and on our Facebook page.

### 12/11/21 Work Day.

We will continue working on the trail from the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot to the top of Little Kennesaw Mountain. Parking will again be at the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot. Registration opens at 8 am; temporary parking passes will be provided at the time of registration. See additional information on page 5 - Mark Your Calendars.

"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!

### **Expect delays at Dallas Hwy and** Whitlock Ave

Crews will start clearing work for the Whitlock Avenue trail segment of the Kennesaw Mountain Pedestrian Improvements on Monday, Oct. 25. Significant delays are expected along Dallas Highway/Whitlock Avenue between John Ward Road and Cheatham Hill Drive. Crews will be working in the area from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays, and road capacity will be reduced to one lane.

Traffic delays are expected to be worse in the afternoon in the westbound direction. Alternate routes are recommended.

For more information, contact Cobb DOT at 770-528-1623. Expected completion is July 30, 2023. Click here for more info on the project.

### **Scout Ranger Program Might be the National Park Service's Best-Kept** Secret

The following article featured a photo of Jacob Boling describing a joint Scouting/National Park Service program to help Scouts learn about our National Parks. Be sure to visit this site to learn more about the program!

https://tinyurl.com/yc32bvre



### **Newsletter Sign-up**

Would you like to receive our newsletter? To sign up, click on the following link: <a href="http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n">http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n</a> Complete and submit this form. You'll be added to our subscription

Wish to unsubscribe? Simply follow the instructions at the bottom of the email forwarding the newsletter link, and you'll be permanently removed from our mailing list. To re-subscribe, you will need to use a different email address removal is permanent for the original email address!

### 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 2021

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)
HILLGROVE HS JNROTC
ISMAILI CIVIC
KMTC CREW LEADERS
KSU CROSS COUNTRY TEAM
KSU HEALTH CLASS
REI
WALTON HIGH SCHOOL
WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL



#### FY 2022

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
MARIETTA HS SPORTSMANS CLUB

#### This Past Month's Volunteers

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC)
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY (KSU)
MOUNT PARAN
WHEELER HS, HELPING HANDS

We had 43 volunteers from the above groups, along with several individuals/families participate in this month's work day. Thanks for everyone's help this month! In addition, we had 16 members of the Trail Club supporting this effort (crew leaders, crew leader trainees, Trail Ambassadors and Board members (including one Friends of KMNBP board member)) - thanks as well!

### **Grant Writer Needed**

One of the ways of getting funds for the various activities supported by the Friends/KMTC is to receive grants. To do this, the Friends (and



KMTC) need the expertise of someone who is versed in completing grant applications. If you are interested in this worthwhile endeavor, please contact Scott Mackay -President@TheFriendsOfKMNBP.onmicrosoft.com. In the past the Trail Club has successfully applied for grants of \$10,000 and more. One of these successful efforts provided the funds to build the bridge across John Ward Creek on the Kolb Farm West Trail! Other grants that the Trail Club successfully applied for included the funding of the Ticket-To-Ride program providing transportation, program and materials to introduce grade school children to the park. So this is a very important and worthwhile position on the Friends Board. Our previous grant writer retired after 15 years of successful service to the Trail Club. We look forward to hearing from anyone interested in this volunteer position if you would more details/information about this position.



### Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Mike Collett (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Donald Olds (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

Mike Collett - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Donald Olds (Interim) -

ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

### **Training Positions Available!**

In an effort to improve smoother transitions in leadership, we are adding training slots for the various Directors and President. Initial training slots are for President/Vice President, Trail Ambassador Director and Communications Director. Contact Donald Olds - <a href="mailto:ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a> - for additional information.

### **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 <a href="http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>
- 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

DateTimeLocationEvent12/118:00 am - noonLittle Kennesaw MtnKMTC Work Day

1/8/22 TBD Crew Leader Training Class

All NPS outdoor events at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park are being conducted.

See Page 12 for list of NPS Staff Events for December!

All trails are open. All parking lots. The Mountain Road parking lot is open when the Mountain Road is open.

Visitor Center is now open, however masks are required.

The Visitor Center theater is closed - the movie will not be shown.

The Mountain Rd. is open to motorized vehicles on weekdays (excluding major holidays), however the Park bus is not making trips on the weekend to the Mountain Top until further notice."

The horse trail crossing on John Ward Creek on the Kolb Farm East Trail is closed until further notice because of the treacherous creek crossing there.

Park facilities will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day!

## Register for Our Work Days!

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

SignUp

Com

Formerly VolunteerSpot

signup.com/go/QKAUKsQ. 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:

We are back in the business of trail maintenance! See the sign-up links, above. We are still limiting our numbers, but anyone one is now welcome to sign-up.

The Trail Club will provide supervision and tools. Volunteers should wear work clothes and closed toed shoes. Participants are encouraged to bring their own water, work gloves and masks. The NPS Volunteer Service Agreement and COVID forms are required, signed by a parent or guardian, if the student is under 18 years old. The forms are available on the trail club web site: <a href="http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/volunteer.php">http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/volunteer.php</a>

Parking and registration will be in the field near the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot (at the intersection of Burnt Hickory and Old Mountain Rd. Vehicle Entrance Passes will issued at registration. Registration will open at 8 am. All volunteers are requested to arrive by no later than 8:30 am!

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 <a href="mailto:trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a> 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 281,000 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 provide volunteers and raise funding to support activities such as:

- Visitor & Away Events
- Transportation, Housing, and Feeding of volunteer groups (example: Living History, Student Conservation Association, Invasive Plants Team)
- Museum Upgrades and Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit Additions (& the Wallis House)
- Restrooms, Parking, and Picnic Area Facilities
- Trails, Fire Roads, and Bridges Maintenance
- Educational Day Trips and Vacation Camps
- · Volunteer-In-Park Training Programs

Sign up for the quarterly Friends Newsletter - <a href="http://eepurl.com/hhkPhf">http://eepurl.com/hhkPhf</a>

The ultimate goal is to create endowments for the most significant expense items and move them toward a sustainable and perpetual self-funded status that reduces the need for these items to rely on federal budget support.

E-MAIL

### Contact List - Updated 9/21/21 Position Name

<u>1 OUTTON</u>
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

Vacant\*
Donald Olds
Laurie Poppell\*
Tom Okerberg
Mike Collett\*
Rena Bailey
Fred Feltmann
Fred Feltmann
Jerry Givan
Vacant\*
Danny Leigh
Scott Mackay
Laurie Poppell

president@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
vp@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
secretary@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
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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/
https://www.nps.gov.KEMO
http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial
https://signup.com/go/QKAUKsQ

\* updated

Volunteer Sign-up website

Amazon Smile

**KMTC** Website

Facebook Page

**NPS Website** 



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<a href="http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>

### **Ditch Witch & Gator Training Class**

Photos by Mike Collett

The training class was conducted on 10/23/21 to provide KMTC crew leaders an understanding of the use of the 2 ditch witches owned by the NPS at Kennesaw Mountain and also provided training in the use of the Park-owned gators. Participants were Rich, Dave, Bob, Robert and Mike.











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<a href="http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>

### 11/24/21 - Lincoln Presentation!

Photos by Fred Feltmann



**Lincoln - Thanksgiving Proclamation**Larry Elliot portrayed the 16th President, as he told the story of Lincoln's Thanksgiving proclamation. He made his presentation twice on 11/24/21. The location was the Visitor Center Patio, because of COVID protocols. The first presentation at 10:30 am was a mite cold - in the 40's, but the audience quickly warmed to the portrayal. At the end of the Thanksgiving Proclamation portrayal, Larry provided an encore - a portrayal of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. It was a truly inspiring presentation and the audience was very appreciative of Larry's time he spent with us. There were approximately 80 participants for Larry's 2 presentations today.



### Fred Feltmann









### A Trail Ambassador's Day In The Park

Janie, Kathy and I were joined by two visitors for our 11 am Sunday (11/21/21) Environmental Trail Hike.

The trail was dry and in excellent condition. Staff, volunteers and Scouts are doing a great job keeping the trail well maintained.

We made several stops along the trail:

- Running and leaping deer across the ridge near the trailhead.
- Briefly discussed the history of the Park including historical preservation, recreational opportunities, Civilian Conversation Corps, et cetera.
- Investigated trail signs marking Poison Ivy and Poison Oak.
- Spent a few minutes discussing the original settlers and farming in the area after the War.
- Observed the differences between a new vs. mature forest.
- Overall we enjoyed the beauty of a forest in transition between Fall and Winter.

I am looking forward to assisting with future events.

I hope everyone has a blessed and happy holiday season. Cheers,

### Cam Graham

PS Check herein for the monthly events conducted by the NPS staff (and sometimes supplemented by our very capable Trail Ambassador staff).





### **NPS Staff To The Rescue!**

The newest maintenance guys (David and Zoe) at the Park have solved the nightmare challenge of the old and ruined fences on the higher reaches of the Little Kennesaw trail. The most difficult point on the trail system to access. Long carry-in and out from either direction. A lot of railings, old and new, had to be carried in each direction on this one. Pics are below. The two mile marker is shown.

Thanks!

### Dave Shilling

Crew Leader





### **Another Day In The Life Of A Trail Ambassador - Volunteer Report**

Approximately 60 students and six teacher/chaperones from Belmont Hills Elementary took part in a Park sponsored field trip. Photos below are from the two environmental hiking experiences provided by KMTC volunteers. (Deer sightings, native birds, creek life, origin of the forest, early settlers, et cetera).

Volunteers included Mark Miller, Cameron Sanders, my self, James Atkins and Tom Taylor; NPS/KEMO Ranger Jake Boling participated, as well.

Other field trip experiences included life of a soldier and museum scavenger hunt. The school concluded the visit with a picnic lunch.

### Cam Graham Trail Ambassador





PS - I received a couple of notes from NPS staff and others thanking Cam for his support of the school events and Parksponsored hikes! Thanks for a job well done! Fred

### **NO STUB**

You're walking down the trail and all of a sudden yell out - OOOH!

A fellow hiker asks if you stubbed your toe. This stuff happens - right.

I'm pretty careful walking and I sure don't want to fall down, but sometimes I'm surprised by things.

Mainly if you go to a ticketed event you don't get a ticket stub - I guess that's due to the fact that you don't have a ticket to be torn apart and get the remaining half or stub. This may be a moot point to many readers, but it surprised me. Order tickets online and get a QR code or maybe just have your name added to a list at the venue; I don't know, but I do think that it is a major shift in our culture. The stub is another tangible item that we no longer have to remember an event that was attended.

It seems ridiculous to think about something so simple as a ticket stub. Especially since I'd been to many big name concerts over the years and I guess that I lost all those old ticket stubs - in fact when I talked to a friend about this he said that he'd found an old Beatles ticket stub and sold it for \$180.- hey, I went to that concert ( memory - no stub ).

So the passing of tickets is moving along, just like being asked "Do you want a receipt." It's just a waste of resources.

The good news is that the memories are the best thing. Walk on a trail and bump your foot, you'll remember that. You don't need a ticket punched or torn in half to remember the work at or the experience of Kennesaw Mountain.

Things will get lost over time, pictures may get purged from your device and memories will fade away- so don't worry about the stub and keep enjoying the experience.

Happy Holidays!

### Doug Tasse

This was a reach, Doug, The difference between a "stub" and a "stub." But good segway.

Fred





### **Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for December**

All park programming is free and open to the public. No registration required.

\*All programs are outdoors and weather dependent.

Visitor Center: 900 Kennesaw Mountain Dr., Kennesaw, GA 30152

### December 4 @ 11:00 am - 1 pm: Unknown Soldier Rove

There will be a Ranger roving in the area of the Unknown Soldier's gravesite, near Cheatham Hill (957 Cheatham Hill Dr., Marietta, GA 30064). Come on out, say hello, and have a chat with us about the battle!

### December 5 @ 11:00 am: Life of a Soldier

Ever wondered what it was like to be a soldier during the Civil War? Join a ranger as they detail the role of the common infantry soldier of the Civil War and the Atlanta Campaign. Long days, poor diet, and boredom were just the tip of the iceberg for these men. This program takes place at the Visitor Center

### December 11 @ 2 pm- 3:30 pm: Pigeon Hill Rove

There will be a Ranger roving in the area of Pigeon Hill (the juncture of Old Mountain Rd. and Burnt Hickory Rd.; GPS: 33.963276, -84.594391). Come on out, say hello, and have a chat about the battle!

### December 12 @ 11:00 am: Memorial Field History Walk

This history talk will begin at the Visitor Center. The Ranger will take you to several points that were crucial during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the demonstration made to the north of the Confederate line. You will see rebel earthworks and hear accounts from men that took part in that fateful feint attack.

### December 18 @ 11:00 am: Atlanta Campaign Talk

Join Ranger Amanda as she 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 30-minute ranger-led program will be held on the Visitor Center's front patio.

### December 19 @ 11: 00 am: Christmas in the Civil War

The holidays are usually a time when we join with our loved ones and reflect on the joys of the prior year and look forward to the promise of a new year. Join our park rangers as they discuss how a Civil War soldier would have experienced the holiday in December 1864. This will be held at the Visitor Center

### December 26 @ 11:00 am: Mountaintop Hike

This Ranger- led hike will take you to the top of Big Kennesaw Mountain and explore the history of the lonely peak from its creation to today. It is approx. 2 miles (round- trip) with an elevation gain of around 700 ft over moderate terrain. Please bring water and decent hiking shoes. We will meet at 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. o, or visit our website at <a href="www.nps.gov/kemo">www.nps.gov/kemo</a>

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http://americanhiking.org





















### KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

