

Volume 15, Issue 7 July, 2021

## Mask Directive Update - National Park Service

Consistent with CDC recommendations, people who are not fully vaccinated must continue to wear masks indoors and in crowded outdoor spaces. Masks are required for everyone on all forms of public transportation. Additional details are available at <a href="https://www.nps.gov/coronavirus">www.nps.gov/coronavirus</a>. Before visiting, please check the park website to determine its operating status. Please <a href="mailto:recommendations">recreate responsibly</a>.

Also, see press release on page 12. Effective July 1, 2021, the Visitor Museum will be open and normal live events and activities will resume. See page 13 for a list of NPS events for July.

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#### **JUNE 6 WORKDAY**

On June 6 we had an excellent workday with an energetic group of friends from REI. We added 4 terraces/steps near the last left turn as you hike up to the top of Big K using the last of Bruce's old barn timbers. I know of 5 places on the Mountain Trail that have now been improved using these timbers.

The timbers were fabricated by Eric and Bob and hauled to the top by Donald, then put in place by REI and by Bob and Eric and David and Bill and Fred. Mike and friends loaded gravel and dirt from the bottom of the grand staircase at the fire road, and Scott hauled it around to the parking lot for REI to bring down and fill between the old eroded timbers and Bruce's barn timbers making "terraces" rather than steps to encourage hikers to stay on the trail rather than walk through the woods. The barn timbers were anchored with rebar

Continued on Page 2

## **August Newsletter Deadline**

If you wish to have an article published in the August Newsletter, please submit it to Fred Feltmann at <a href="mailto:faf1948@bellsouth.net">faf1948@bellsouth.net</a> no later than July 20th!

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



#### June 6 Work Day Continued from Page 1

driven through the timbers into the trail by Sean, David's big strong son, who, incredibly, drove 9 rebar anchors through the timbers into the rocky trail and never hit a rock. And, of course, Donald built a new section of stack-rail fence.

Thanks to REI, to the crew leaders, and to the trail ambassadors.

**Before** 



After



#### **JUNE 12 WORKDAY**

Mike recruited a group form the Atlanta Outdoors Club for work on the Environmental Trail on June 12. We were joined by Lucas and Nicholas, brothers from Campbell High School, who did the heavy lifting. With Mike and Bill and Fred, the group circled the trail and at the many trail dips, removed duff berms that have built up making puddles on the trail when it rains. Meanwhile, Donald built a new section of stack-rail fence on Big K.

And thanks to the trail ambassadors for your support.

**COMING SOON – Workday JULY 10** 

Bill Gurry

## Cheatham Hill Road Closure - Beginning 6/1/21!

Attention ladies and gentlemen: Please expect major road closures and detours in the area starting 6/1, through 8/2/21. See link and/or picture below for more information.

https://www.cobbcounty.org/transportation/news/summer-heats-three-june-1-road-closures?fbclid=lwAR0jDKANFPGB2mj-dG0F-jDDynxu1FKcEDPAjSl5pqjgFXe7DA2IAGUPI4

## Trail Ambassador Highlights June 2021

The month of June the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club was able to have 2 work days for private groups on 6/6 and 6/12. My thanks to Karen Evanoff , Debbie Dement and Yvonne Robinson for doing registration on 6/6. I had the very easy job of directing volunteers where to park and handing out the parking passes! On 6/12 we were very glad to see Rena Bailey back hard at work along with Debbie and Karen. The three ladies registered the volunteers and then presented a class on doing registration. They covered the forms required and how to stream line the process when we are again able to have large groups (greater than 30). Registration requires a signed volunteer service agreement (yearly), a covid conditions form, and a sign in roster which gathers demographic information. Attending the class were Evelyn Konigsberg, Jim Atkins and Janie Brier.

Janie Brier
Trail Ambassador Director

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

Editor: Fred Feltmann 770-516-9120

E-mail: <u>faf1948@bellsouth.net</u>

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!

## **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 list.

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! \_\_

## **Nominations Are Now Open for Board of Director Positions**

The Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club (KMTC) Board of Directors seeks new directors to the lead the club in accomplishing its important mission.

Training positions are also available for the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club board of directors. Serve a year with a current director then take over that position the next year.

## **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club is to work in partnership with the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, National Park Service to:

- I. Maintain recreational trails that maximize access to the historic and recreational value of the park and are:
  - a. Environmentally friendly
  - b. Sustainable with minimal future upkeep
  - c. Protective of the historic features the park was created to preserve
- II. Educate visitors and neighbors about the trails and the history within the park
- III. Develop a sustainable organization capable of managing the volunteer and development activities of the trail club and the park
- IV. Recruit volunteers to help maintain the trails, to promote trail safety, and to involve visitors in the history at the park
- V. Train members about sustainable trail maintenance, team leadership and educational interaction with visitors
- VI. Work with the local community, businesses, charitable organizations and governments to gain their physical and/or financial assistance in supporting this mission

Contact Jay Haney - 770.313.4864 or <a href="mailto:haney69jb@qmail.com">haney69jb@qmail.com</a> - for more information

**Jay Haney** 770.313.4864

### 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)
WALKER HS

#### FY 2021

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC KMTC CREW LEADERS KSU CROSS COUNTRY TEAM KSU HEALTH CLASS WALTON HIGH SCHOOL

## This Past Month's Volunteers REI (6/6/21)

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB (AOC) (6/12/21)

We had 18 volunteers from REI (10) and the Atlanta Outdoor Club (6) along with 2 others participate in our June Work Days.





## Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

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

Bill Gurry - <a href="mailto:trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>
Janie Brier - <a href="mailto:ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org">ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org</a>



### **Amazon Smile Donations**

The Club received a donation of \$28.35 for the first quarter, 2021. To date (June, 2021), we have received over \$472 from Amazon, through our participation and your purchases through their Smile program. Thanks!

## **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

<u>Date Time Location Even</u>

7/10 8:30 am - noon Burnt Hickory Old KMTC Work Day - Park in the field next to the

Mountain Rd Parking parking lot - temporary parking passes (Pigeon Hill) Lot will be provided.

8/14 8:30 am - noon TBD KMTC Work Day -

All trails are now open. All parking lots, and the Mountain Rd, are now open. Visitor Center is now open, as will be the Museum Theater (July 1, 2021). The Mountain Rd is open to motorized vehicles on weekdays.

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

The Mountain Top Concession Stand is now open on weekends and Holidays through September, from 10 AM till 5 PM.

See Page 13 for list of NPS Staff Events for July!

# Register for Our Work Days!

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

SignUp

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, snacks, 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 next to the Pigeon Hill Parking lot - come through the parking lot to the gate.

Vehicle Entrance Passes will be issued at registration.

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 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.

#### Who? Team "You"

Gosh I wish that I had time to read back through a whole lot of articles and see how many times I've written about teamwork. Fortunately it's a subject that never gets old or should I say can't be emphasized or written about enough. Myself now being a bit on the elder side took notice of some recent occasions where teamwork was mentioned.

This year's Preakness Horse Race winner upon being interviewed, while still on horse back, said that he thanks the groomer and handler for calming the horse, adding

It's more than me who won the race (oh ya, there's also a horse involved). And, then there was Phil Mckelson who won golf's PGA Championship, he immediately thanked all those who helped him achieve winning this prestigious tournament, especially his team of Doctor's. And, one of my favorite recent wins was Helio Castroneves who won this year's Indianapolis 500. If you saw the race and especially the finish he was completely overwhelmed with joy thanking just about every person he ever met, But he mainly thanked his "Old" Team Penske for his previous wins (this was his fourth win) for all of their past efforts and now especially he thanked his new employer Mayer Shank Racing for putting together a team who believed they could win. In fact Helio said, "I just had to drive the car, it was a great team effort."

Now why did I chose these examples; well I did mention my being somewhat of an elder and these three winners were deemed to really not have much of a chance of winning. The Preakness Jockey was on a horse not picked to win and he had upteen years of riding experience; as they say a "Veteran Jockey." The announcers were very quick to point out that Mr. Mickelson was just a few days shy of his 51st birthday (ancient, record setting in the Pro Game of golf ---remember he thanked his Drs). And nobody thought that 46 year old Helio could beat the young challengers (Think Mr. Penske fired him). All these men are winners and they all attribute their success to being on a winning team.

As each of you readers must know that when working with the Trail Club you'll be working as a team. Very rarely will work be performed individually; for safety, working with others gets the job done efficiently; by a team.

It's summer and it's time to think about fall work (and maybe a couple of summer months). Restrictions are being lifted and more volunteers will be coming to help. Which particularly brings up the fact that the volunteers will be put on a team which will be lead by a leader. And now is the



time to step up and be a leader, get involved. If you've been around awhile become an officer, if just a volunteer with experience become a crew leader. Trail ambassadors help out and programs are opening up so step up and head a group. As has been the case many of the leaders are in the age of those three winners who were mentioned. Some in the club are older and thankfully just keep going. In any case all the leaders know that they have the backing of a team especially;y by the Park's staff.

All in all as I recently heard, "The whole show depends on

you instead of a cast of characters." That to me means that it's a team who gets things accomplished but without you it just won't happen.

Thanks,

Doug Tasse



## **Bug Bites**



And what about the infamous chigger, you say? Well, to say it mildly, they're a pain in the you-know-what. So, here's an article on all you need to know about chiggers (including photos) -

#### https://www.prevention.com/health/a32363091/

One more piece of advice - don't sit on logs in the woods when resting during a hike - they and other bugs are waiting there for you!

## REI Work Day - 6/6/21 Photos by Fred Feltmann.



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

## REI Work Day - 6/6/21 Photos by Scott Mackay.









After action photo by Donald Olds - taken on 6/7/21.



Newsletter 10 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org



Newsletter 11 http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org



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

770-427-4686 phone www.nps.gov

#### Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park News Release

For Immediate Release: June 29, 2021

Contact: Marjorie Thomas, marjorie thomas@nps.gov, 770-427-4686

### Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield To Increase Access for its Theater and Public Programs

KENNESAW, GA- Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, in using a phased approach for increased access, will reopen specific operations this week.

Beginning July 1, 2020, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park will reopen access to:

- The park's theater, located inside the Visitor Center.
- Face-to-face outdoor programs.

The health and safety of our visitors, employees, volunteers, and partners continues to be paramount. At Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, our operational approach continues to be centered on examining each facility function and service to ensure those operations comply with current public health guidance and are regularly monitored.

For more information, visit the park website (<u>www.nps.gov/kemo</u>), or call 770-427-4686 x231. Details and updates will also be posted on the park's social media channels.

#### www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at <a href="https://www.nps.gov">www.nps.gov</a>, and on <a href="https://www.nps.gov">Facebook</a>, <a href="https://www.nps.gov">Instagram</a>, <a href="https://www.nps.gov">Twitter</a>, and <a href="https://www.nps.gov">YouTube</a>.

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## Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for

### **July**

All park programming is free and open to the public.

No registration required.

\*All programs are outdoors and weather dependent.

Please bring plenty of water and sturdy shoes for hikes.

#### July 3 @11:00 am 'Pigeon Hill Walk'

In the misty morning hours of June 27th, 1864, three brigades of Union troops fought tooth and nail to clamber up the rocky slopes of Pigeon Hill to try to break the Confederate line. Meet Ranger James at the *Pigeon Hill area parking lot to go over the fighting that took place there during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. The history talk will be done near the field (we will not be going up the hill itself), will be done in the shade and is wheelchair accessible.* 

## July 10 @11:00 am 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. The ranger will discuss how Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park was established through efforts of Union veterans who fought at Cheatham Hill.

Please note this program is NOT at Visitor Center; parking is at Cheatham Hill Drive.

## July 18 @ 11:00 am 'Guided Mountaintop Hike'

Join us for a ranger-led hike to the top of Big Kennesaw Mountain. The hike will focus on 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 two miles, and will be weather dependent.

## July 25 @ 11:00 am 'Memorial Field Walk'

Join us for a short, ranger-led history walk in our Memorial Field in front of the Visitor Center. This program will consist of an in-depth look at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain and the diversionary attack that occurred.

Please prepare accordingly, as this is an outdoor program. Program will be weather dependent.

### July 31 @ 11:00 am 'Freaky Funky Furs: Animals of Kennesaw Mountain'

Come out and enjoy a ranger-led program on different animal species found here at Kennesaw Mountain. The program will utilize pelts from different animals found at our park to help teach visitors more about the diverse habitat here and the animals that call the park 'home!'

\*\*\* For more program details, please contact Visitor Center at 770-427-4686, ext. 0, or visit our website at www.nps.gov/kemo

### **Scout Ranger Program**

This has been a tough year for all of us for many reasons. We have all had to get creative in how we do some of our favorite activities and visit some of our favorite places. This is especially true for some of our National Parks. We would like to highlight Boy Scout and National Park enthusiast, William Kai Curley-Obrero for his dedication in learning about these places during this tough time. In 2020, William Kai completed Junior Ranger programs from all over the country, participated in the NPS Virtual Campouts and the various virtual events throughout the NPS, and a virtual summer camp through Kennesaw Mountain NBP. On top of all of that, William Kai applied his knowledge and hard work to earn his Resource Stewardship Scout Ranger Patch. This award is designed to get scouts involved in their public lands in various ways. This is a wonderful program that helps us to highlight not only our parks and special places, but also our scouts. Congratulations to William Kai for his hard work and creativity in earning his patch.

For more information on the Resource Stewardship Scout Ranger Patch, see below link:

Scout Ranger Program - Youth Programs (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)

Jacob Boling
Park Ranger
Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park



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http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org



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: effective immediately

## Mountain Trailer Store Soon to be in Operation at Top of Kennesaw Mountain

Kennesaw, GA– Beginning May 8 and operating weekends and holidays through the end of September, American's National Parks Store, a partner of the National Park Service, will be selling convenience items at the parking lot at the top of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. America's National Parks Store operates a sales trailer in the spring and summer months to provide items that might be needed or wanted by park visitors. Items for sale will include bottled water, Powerade, snacks (including ice cream), caps, t-shirts, sunscreen, and more. The sales trailer will be in operation on Saturdays, Sundays and major holidays from 10:00a.m.-5:00 p.m. This is the fifth year of the seasonal sales trailer operation at the mountaintop.

America's National Parks Store, a brand of Eastern National, is a not-for-profit cooperating association with Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Eastern National's mission is to promote the public's understanding and support of America's national parks and other public trust partners by providing quality experiences, products, and services. The proceeds from your sale with Eastern National help fund interpretive and educational programs locally at Kennesaw Mountain.

For more information, please visit the park website at <a href="www.nps.gov/kemo">www.nps.gov/kemo</a> or call 770-427-4686.

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#### National Park Service News Release

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Office of Communications

202-208-6843 www.nps.gov



## Find your next adventure with the new National Park Service app

For Immediate Release: April 16, 2021 Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov



The new National Park Service app is available for download in the iOS App Store and Google Play Store. NPS image.

WASHINGTON – Just in time for National Park Week, the new National Park Service (NPS) mobile app (go.nps.gov/app) is now available for visitors to national parks across the country. Created by park rangers with visitors in mind, the NPS App gives the public up-to-date information about all 423 national parks in one easy-to-use app.

Visitors can download the NPS App in the iOS App Store and Google Play Store to plan a trip, find interactive maps, download maps and tours ahead of time and find things to do and places to visit during **National Park Week** and beyond.

"National Park Week is a time for us to celebrate national parks and experience them in new ways," said **Deputy Director Shawn Benge.** "We hope that visitors will recognize this opportunity to use the NPS App to discover their next national park adventure and learn more about these incredibly special places."

During a time when many visitors are choosing to visit parks close to home, users of the App will be able to find a selection of nearby parks to explore. While planning a trip, users can build personalized trips and save and share information about their upcoming adventure with friends or family. The app is available offline, so visitors can download necessary resources ahead of time – especially important for visits to more remote areas.

While on a visit to national parks, the public is reminded to <u>recreate responsibly</u>, follow park safety guidelines and wear masks while inside all federal facilities and outside where physical distancing cannot be maintained.

The NPS App is fully accessible and includes tools for visitors with accessibility needs. While in the park, visitors can access self-guided tours to learn more about the park, create and share a virtual postcard and stay informed of alerts and closures.

With millions of visitors to national parks every year, visitors need a trusted source for park information available on their mobile device in one single app. During this first stage of the app, NPS staff are continuing to add detailed information and resources for users. The NPS App will continue to be a tool for visitors in the years to come as NPS staff develop new features to enhance the experience of visitors to national parks.

#### www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 423 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at <a href="https://www.nps.gov">www.nps.gov</a>, and on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>, and <a href="mailto:YouTube">YouTube</a>.

National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA



#### 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**

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

Communications Director Newsletter Editor

**Amazon Smile** 

**KMTC** Website

Facebook Page

**NPS** Website

Information/Technology Director Trail Ambassador Director

Plants Director **Fundraising Director** 

Records Management\*

#### Name

Donald Olds Vacant\* Robert Brier Tom Okerbera Bill Gurry Rena Bailev Fred Feltmann Fred Feltmann Jerry Givan Janie Brier

Danny Leigh Scott Mackay

Laurie Poppell\*

#### E-MAIL

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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



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

Tourism to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park creates \$141 Million in Economic Benefits

Report shows visitor spending supports 2,160 jobs in local economy

Kennesaw, GA – A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that 2.4 million visitors to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in 2020 spent \$141 million in communities near the park. That spending supported 2,160 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of \$214 million, including labor income.

"We have been safely increasing access to Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, one of the 423 sites in the national park system that support individual and collective physical and mental wellness," said Superintendent Patrick Gamman "We welcome people back to the park and are excited to share the story of this place and the experiences it provides. We also feature the park as a way to introduce our visitors to this part of the country and all that it offers."

Gamman further states, "Park visitors help economic output in local gateway regions. The greatest visitor spending for our area came from the hotel and restaurant industries. National parks, like Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, are a vital part of our nation's economy and help drive a vibrant tourism and outdoor recreation industry, for which we all benefit."

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by economists with the National Park Service and the U.S. Geological Survey. The report shows \$14.5 billion of direct spending by more than 237 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 234,000 jobs nationally; 194,400 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$28.6 billion.

Looking at the economics of visitor spending nationally, the lodging sector had the highest direct effects, with \$5 billion in economic output. The restaurants sector was had the second greatest effects, with \$3 billion in economic output. Visitor spending on lodging supported more than 43,100 jobs and more than 45,900 jobs in restaurants. Visitor spending in the recreation industries supported more than 18,100 jobs and spending in retail supported more than 14,300 jobs.

Report authors also produce an interactive tool that enables users to explore visitor spending, jobs, labor income, value added, and output effects by sector for national, state, and local

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economies. Users can also view year-by-year trend data. The interactive tool and report are available on the NPS Social Science Program page on NPS.gov

To learn more about national parks in Georgia and how the National Park Service works with Georgia communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to <a href="https://www.nps.gov/georgia">www.nps.gov/georgia</a>.

#### 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 <a href="https://www.nps.gov">www.nps.gov</a>, and on <a href="mailto:Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a>, and <a href="mailto:YouTube">YouTube</a>.

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#### KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

