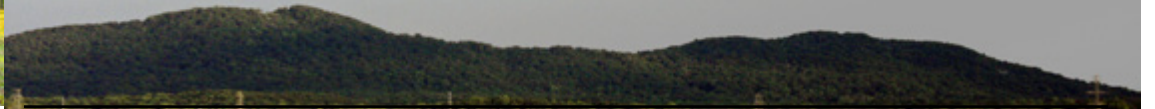




EARTHWORKS



Volume 19, Issue 4

April, 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 *An Evening in City Park*
- 1 May Newsletter Deadline
- 2 Calendar of Events - Friends/KMTC
- 2 Current Status Of Park
- 2 Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook
- 2 List of Abbreviations
- 2 Newsletter Sign-up
- 3 John Ward Creek Crossing Closed to Horseback Riders
- 6 Park Moments

Friends of KMNB

- 7 The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain
- 8 The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Webstore
- 9 Six Ways To Donate
- 9 Friend's Brochure - 2025 Fund Drive
- 10 2025 Pledge Card

KMTC

- 10 Workdays 02-26-25 and 03-08-25
- 11 Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!
- 11 A Special Thanks!
- 11 April 12, 2025 Work Day
- 14 Register for Our Work Days!
- 14 Mark Your Calendars!
- 14 KMTC Contact List - Updated 9/16/24
- 15 3/8/25 Work Day
- 16 Sponsors/Partners Corner



Articles to look for in this month's newsletter:

- *NPS Events for the Month of April- see page [4](#)*
- *Bridge Project Fundraiser pages [10](#)*
- *2025 Fund Drive - pages [9](#) & [10](#)*
- *April 12th Work Day - page [11](#)*

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.

May Newsletter Deadline

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

Calendar of Events - Friends/KMTC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event</u>
April, 2025			
4/12	8 am - Noon	Pigeon Hill Parking Lot	April, 2025 Work Day
May, 2025			
5/10	8 am - Noon	Gilbert Rd. Parking Area	May, 2025 Work Day
June, 2025			
6/14	8 am - Noon	Picnic area adjacent to Visitor Center Parking Lot	National Trails Day/May 2025 Work Day

The Park staff is conducting Virtual Events on their Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/KMNBP>

Current Status Of Park

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

All trails are open, except as noted, below. All parking lots are open. The Mountain Road parking lot is open when the Mountain Road is open.

Visitor Center is now open; masks are *optional*.

The Visitor Center theater is open - the movie is being shown.

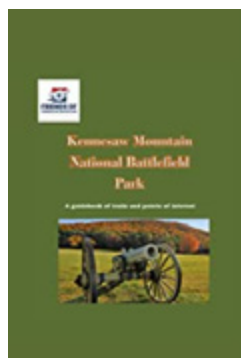
The Mountain Rd. is open to motorized vehicles on weekdays only (excluding major holidays)

The shuttle bus is now transporting visitor to/from the Visitor Center/Kennesaw Mountain Top Parking Lot on weekends.

Trail closures

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.

See pages 4-5 for a listing of NPS-sponsored events for the month of April.



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook

The Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Guidebook sponsored by the Friends of KMNBP is now available on Amazon.

List of Abbreviations

FOKM - Friends of Kennesaw Mountain
KMNBP - Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park
KMTC - Kennesaw Mountain Trail Club
NPS/KEMO - National Park Service/Kennesaw Mountain
VHP - Veterans History Project
VC - Visitor Center

Newsletter Sign-up

Would you like to receive our newsletter? To sign up, click on the following link: <http://eepurl.com/gKjX1n> 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!

"Earthworks" is published monthly jointly by the Friends of KMNPB & the Kennesaw Mountain Trails Club.

Editor: Fred Feltmann
678-315-5888

E-mail: faf1948@bellsouth.net

Additional Volunteers needed! Call today!



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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

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

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, 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

John Ward Creek Crossing Closed to Horseback Riders

Kennesaw, GA – Effective immediately, the John Ward Creek crossing just south of the Illinois Monument is closed to horseback riders until further notice. This closure stems from a safety concern due to hazardous conditions relating to an unstable streambed. The closure affects the creek crossing between Milepost 3.5 and Milepost 4 of the Kolb’s Farm East Trail.

Superintendent Patrick Gamman states, “We are concerned for the safety of all park users. Crossing John Ward Creek at this section of the trail poses a risk that we want to alert our horse community to, as it could potentially cause harm to both horse and rider. We will be working as quickly as possible to mitigate this problem.”

Please contact the park at 770-427-4686 or visit the park’s website at www.nps.gov/kemo for further information.

[The National Park Service](http://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 the [NPS website](http://www.nps.gov), and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nps), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/nps), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/nps), and [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/nps).

July, 2024 Update
Work on the bridge replacement is previously scheduled to begin in August, 2024 has been indefinitely postponed.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

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

Newsletter 3

<http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org>



Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for **April**

**All outdoor programs are weather- dependent.*

**Unless otherwise noted, all programs will be held at the Visitor Center*

Museum Tours every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday @ 2:00 pm!

April 5th, @11 am–New Salem Community Talk

Prior to the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, the area had several small thriving communities. During this presentation, the ranger will discuss the Hardage Family and others who lived in the shadow of the mountain. This program will be held in the field at the foot of Pigeon Hill.

**Parking is at the Burnt Hickory Parking Lot (tour stop 4 on brochure).*

April 6th, @11 am – Life of a Soldier Gear Layout

Life for the infantry soldier (Union or Confederate) was anything but easy. Long marches, bad food, and worse living conditions made it tough going for these young men. Join us as we lay out the gear that made such intense campaigning possible. You will see period-correct uniforms, weaponry and even get up close and personal with artifacts from the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain!

April 7th – April 9th, Spring Break Story Time

Join Cobb County librarians and Kennesaw Mountain Park Rangers for some fun and interactive programs over Spring Break. Activities will focus on local natural, wildlife, and historic resources. Programs will be held at the Visitor Center and will be from 2:00 – 3:00 pm each day.

April 12th, @ 11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm – Artillery Demonstrations

Artillery was a vital component to the operations of both armies during the Atlanta Campaign and played a key role in several engagements during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Our living historians will hold camp and shoot the cannon at the above- listed times.

April 13th, @11 am, 12 pm, 2 pm and 3 pm – Infantry Demonstrations

The Civil War was the first modern war in history, fought using tactics and techniques still relevant to the battlefield today. Come out and experience our living historians as they encamp and offer rifle firing demonstrations at the above- listed times.

April 19th, @11 am – Junior Ranger Day

Being a Jr. Ranger is all about exploring, learning, and protecting your National Parks. What better place to do that than Kennesaw Mountain for our Junior Ranger Day 2025? Activities will be S.T.E.A.M- based and explore the historic and cultural resources of Kennesaw Mountain. Programs will start at the Visitor Center and run from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm.

Continued on Page 4

Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park Interpretive Programs for April Continued from Page 4

April 20th, @ 11 am – Pigeon Hill Hike

On June 27th, 1864, Federal forces advanced against the Confederate trenches north of Burnt Hickory Road. Experience the fight for Kennesaw Mountain as it happened and hear accounts from the soldiers who fought there. There will be some hiking involved up the hill so make sure to have good footwear and plenty of water.

**Parking is at the Burnt Hickory Parking Lot (tour stop 4 on brochure).*

April 26th, @11 am– Cheatham Hill Battlefield Walk

Come on out and enjoy a casual, history-focused walk around one of the most significant sites of the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain. Hear accounts from Union and Confederate survivors, and fully experience the area that would earn the nickname of the “Dead Angle”.

**Parking is at the end of Cheatham Hill Drive (tour stop 5 on brochure).*

April 27th, @11 am– Mountaintop Hike

This ranger-led hike will take you roughly 1 mile up to the peak of Big Kennesaw Mountain. Along the way, you’ll learn about the flora and fauna of the area and the history that shapes us from pre-history, through Civil War and on to today.

Park Moments

Photos by Fred Feltmann - A Decade of Aprils At the Park.





The Friends Of Kennesaw Mountain

The Friends of Kennesaw 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 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

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.

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain Webstore

The Friends of Kennesaw Mountain is excited to announce our new webstore! Our first product is a unisex T-shirt, which is 100% cotton. The design on the back of the shirt shows Kennesaw Mountain and the Visitor Center. It is inspired by the New Deal travel posters from the 1930's. The shirt can be purchased online for \$20 at <https://friendsofkmnbp.org/shop/>. Visit our website! *New items have been added!*

Andrew Bramlett



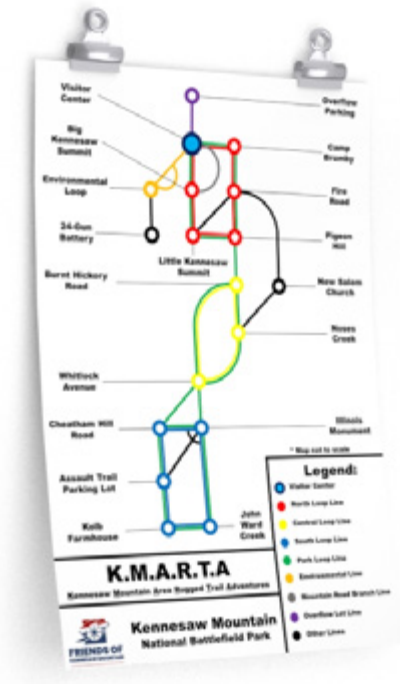
Some of the items for sale.



Front



Back



Friend's Brochure - 2025 Fund Drive



Become a supporting member of the Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park (KMNBP)

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

These include:

Hiking/Equestrian Trail improvements and Maintenance

Museum improvements and expansion

Living History Demonstrations

Additional parking and restrooms

Guest speakers

More

Our long term goal is to establish endowments to provide perpetual sources of funding for the programs that make the park special for all of us and generations to come.



Your annual membership will help us achieve our goals. We are a 501(c)(3) tax deductible organization. 100% of all funds received are put to use for and at the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park.

Annual membership levels:

- Hiker up \$249
- Trail Guide \$250
- Peak Performer \$500
- Superintendent's Circle \$1,000
- Canine Corps \$120
- Park Sustainer \$10/mo+ (\$120 Annually)
- Tribute Salute – Amount given in honor/memory of someone



Six Ways To Donate

You can support the Friends in 6 ways:

1. Directly through our website - <https://friendsofkmbnp.org/giving-membership/donate/>
2. Through PayPal - <https://www.paypal.com/US/fundraiser/charity/3750205>
3. Through Guidestar (Network for Good) - <https://www.nfggive.com/donation/83-4627827>
4. QR Code:



5. DipJar located in the Visitor Center - New!



6. Or, by mailing to:
Friends of KMNBP
905 Kennesaw Mountain Drive
Kennesaw, GA 30152

Thanks for your support!

Please Use the pledge card on the following page when mailing in a donation.

Please check with your company to see if they will match your gift.



2025 Pledge Card

Note: New category - 2025 Bridge Project!!!!

This is a \$60,000 Project - can you pledge \$50, \$100, \$500, or more? If so, please complete the Pledge Card, below, and send it to the address on the card - we've already raised \$5,000!



Friends of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park 2025 Pledge Card

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

- Hiker up \$249
- Trail Guide \$250
- Peak Performer \$500
- Superintendent's Circle \$1,000
- Canine Corps \$120
- Park Sustainer \$10/mo+ (\$120 Annually)
- Tribute Salute – Amount given in honor/memory of someone

Complete and mail to:

Friends of Kennesaw Mountain
 Attn: 2023 Pledge
 905 Kennesaw Mountain Drive
 Kennesaw, GA 30152

<u>Pledge:</u>	<u>Amt</u>
General Fund - Friends	_____
Trail Club -	_____
Living History -	_____
Endowment Fund	_____
Bridge Fund	_____

Check one or designate amount for each.

One Payment _____
 Quarterly Payment _____
 Monthly Payment _____
 Does your company match? Y__ N__
 Invoice me _____
 (Monthly __ Quarterly__)
 Check enclosed _____
 (Payable to "Friends of KMNBP")
 Credit Card Number: _____
 Expiration date _____
 Security Code _____
 I wish to remain anonymous _____



EARTHWORKS



Workdays 02-26-25 and 03-08-25

This report covers the Crew Leader only workday on Wednesday, 2/26 and the Monthly workday on Saturday, 3/8.

On 2/26 We had 3 Crew Leaders; they were Donald, Rich, and me. We added the guard rail to the third bridge on the 24 Gun Trail and fixed the damaged stone steps just before the bridge.



On Friday, March 7, Aron, Tom, and I reviewed the workplan. Ben, Michael, and I took two pallets of fencing to the worksite.

On 3/8 we had 12 crew leaders for the workday. The Crew Leaders were Aaron, Anna, Aron, Donald, Donna, Fred, Geoff, Kirsten, Rich, Robert, Tom, and me. We had 4 Trail Ambassadors, Debbie, Doug, Karen, and Laurie. They did registration and parking. We had 36 volunteers. The volunteers were from KSU Cross Country Team (29), Atlanta

Continued on Page 12

Crew Leader & Trail Ambassador Positions Available!

Contact Mike Collett (regarding Crew Leader positions) or Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner (Trail Ambassador positions) if interested.

A training class for prospective Trail Ambassadors will be announced shortly.

Mike Collett - trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

Kathy Van Valkenburg/Wendy Turner - ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org

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 2024 (October 2023- September 2024 and Fiscal 2025 (October 2024- Present):

FY 2024

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
ETOWAH HIGH SCHOOL EAGLE SERVICE CONNECTION CLUB
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KSU

FY 2025

ALLATOONA HS NJROTC
ALLATOONA HS STUDENTS
ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
HILLGROVE HS NJROTC
KSU CROSS COUNTRY TEAM
TROOP 795 (EAGLE PROJECT)



This Past Month's Volunteers

We had 52 volunteers for the October, 2024 Work Day, (12 Crew Leaders, 4 Trail Ambassadors, and volunteers from the following organizations, along with several individuals:

ATLANTA OUTDOOR CLUB
KSU CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

Thanks!

April 12, 2025 Work Day

The next workday is April 12 from 8:00 to 12:00. We will be performing cyclic maintenance on the New Salem Church Trail from where the New Salem Church Trail meets the Noses Creek Trail to where the New Salem Church Trail was rerouted. We will be parking at the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot. There will also be a presentation by Amanda on the historical significance of this site.

Mike Collett
Trails Director

Workdays 02-26-25 and 03-08-25

Continued from Page 11

Outdoor Club (4, 3 of which Donna, Kirsten, and I are also Crew Leaders), and 2 individuals that signed up on the Friends website and 4 that heard about the workday and showed up.

I welcomed the volunteers and conducted the safety briefing at the Illinois Monument emphasizing the proper way to lift and the importance of wearing gloves due to splinters and rusted nails and screws in the old fencing. Rich cut the blocks for the new fencing. Aaron, Anna, Aron, Donald, Donna, Kirsten, Robert, and Tom split up and worked with the volunteers. Starting at the sign the old fencing was removed and stacked by the trailers while the new fencing was being removed from the trailer and laid in its approximate position. Due to us removing 52 sections of 8' and 10' lengths and replacing them with 43 sections of 10' we laid the fencing out first, then we started using deck screws to attach it to the blocks. As groups progressed outward other groups started adding layers. This progressed very quickly with us having five battery powered screw drivers. As we finished installing the new fence Robert took a group to stack the old fencing on the empty trailers along with the left-over new fencing. I was told by Fred, taking pictures and looking down from the Illinois Monument, that it looked like a smoothly operating machine. As we completed the fencing Anna and Donna took 6 volunteers to debern two spots that had standing water when wet. Donald took another group of eight to add seven new sections on the trail coming from the Illinois Monument to keep visitors from cutting through to the trail below.

Fred took pictures, Geoff watched the parking lot, and I walked the work area ensuring we were following the workplan and working safely.

Before.



During.



After.



Mike Collett
Trails Director



*Volunteers and Crew Leaders - 3/8/25 Work Day
Photo by Fred Feltmann*

Register for Our Work Days!

Be sure to register online for our Work Days at. By registering, we can be better prepared with the amount of tools, bottled water, gloves, etc. on hand.



April 12 Work Day -

Parking and registration is in the Field adjacent to the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot (at the corner of Burnt Hickory and Old Mountain Rd.) - <https://friendsofkmnbp.org/get-involved/volunteer-opportunities/>

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 (**long pants are required**) 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: <http://www.kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/volunteer.php>

For April's work day, parking and registration will be in the in the Field adjacent to the Pigeon Hill Parking Lot (at the corner of Burnt Hickory and Old Mountain Rd.)

If your school, church, business, or community organization would like to schedule a special work day as a team building or public service activity, e-mail us at [trails@](mailto:trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org)

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 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.

Cancellation policy

If rain is forecast for the work day, we will issue a cancellation notice on our website at least 24 hours before hand. In addition, during the winter months, if the temperature is forecast to be below 40 degrees, we will also issue a cancellation at least 24 hours prior to the work day.

KMTC Contact List - Updated 9/16/24

POSITION	NAME	E-MAIL
Trails Director	Mike Collett	trails@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Community Volunteer Director	Vacant*	volunteerdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Newsletter Editor	Fred Feltmann	comdirector@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Information/Technology Director	Jerry Givan	webmaster@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trail Ambassador Co-Director	Kathy Van Valkenburg	ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Trail Ambassador Co-Director	Lauri Poppel*	ambassador@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
Plants Director	Danny Leigh	plants@kennesawmountaintrailclub.org
KMTC Website	http://kennesawmountaintrailclub.org/	
NPS Website	https://www.nps.gov/KEMO	
Facebook Page	http://www.facebook.com/kmtcsocial	

* updated

3/8/25 Work Day

Photos by Fred Feltmann



Sponsors/Partners Corner

Many thanks to our Sponsors and Partners for their support!



<http://americanhiking.org>



KENNESAW MOUNTAIN NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD PARK

Trail Maintenance Map

