



 Newsletter of the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc. Editor: N. Walker Chewning

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Historian Speaks on Wilkes Revolutionary Battle

The News Reporter , May 22, 2014



Historian Dr Bob Davis and
 GASSAR President Roger Coursey

Dr. Bob Davis, noted historian is presented with the SAR's Silver Good Citizenship award by Roger Coursey, president of the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution at a recent meeting

of the Washington-Wilkes SAR. The award was presented for his research, writings, and interest in the preservation of the Kettle Creek Battlefield. During the meeting, Dr. Davis spoke on the recent discovery of, and archeology at, Carr's Fort where the Patriots and Tories fought three days prior to and a few miles from Kettle Creek, the site where the Patriots won an important battle on February 14, 1779.

Research & History Committee



*Committee Chairman
 Biddy Hammett
 Founder of the Chattahoochee Valley Art Association;
 Artist in Residence Chattahoochee Valley Community College;
 Founder and 1st President , Ocfuskee Historical Society; Author*

KCBA Research and History Committee reports that two very important studies are needed in order to document events that took place at the time of battle, February 14, 1779. KCBA Research and History Committee is made up of : KCBA Research and History Committee: Molly Pitcher (SAR) and Historic Preservation National DAR medals recipient, NSDAR Community Service Award, author of five books, including A Hammett

Inside this issue:	
Historian Speaks	1
Research & History Committee	1 & 2
Corporate Stock Donation	2 & 3
Cherokee Tribes	4 -7
Annual Membership Renewal	8 - 10

Family in Georgia History, former DAR Regent Bidly Hammett, widow of SAR Comrade Paul Lane Hammett, Jr. (Coweta Falls Chapter), Chairman; Dan T. Elliott, archeologist, Pres. Lamar Institute; Attorney Charles Baxley (Southern Campaigns); Military Historian and Chief of Military Studies Office, Ft. Gordon Walter Andrae; a former SAR State Pres., 2x NSSAR Dist. V-Pres. Gen. , organizer of annual Kettle Creek Celebration, NSSAR Minute Man Medal recipient Col. (ret.) Robert "Bob" Galer; former GA Legislator, published historian, former DAR Regent, NSDAR Community Service Award, NSSAR Liberty, Martha Washington, Appreciation medals recipient Hon. Mary Jane Galer; Wilkes Co. Commissioner Hon. Sam Moore; ret. CSU History Dept. Chair, a former president Ga. Ass. of Historians, Past Pres., Coweta Falls Chapter; past V-Pres. W. Region GASSAR; Patriot, and Liberty medals recipient Dr. Hugh I. Rodgers. The committee, activated March 2014, is diligently working toward obtaining resources to document surrounding activities, that took place at Kettle Creek, Feb. 14, 1779.

Dan Elliott's fine archeological report provides locations, where a few artifacts of war were found. Some of the efforts of this committee has been to use modern technology to help historians to better understand this battle. LiDAR mapping of the battlefield, will assist historians in identifying the exact locations where activities took place. Dan Elliott tells the committee that much more important information will be learned with LiDAR. LiDAR imaging is important to Kettle Creek battlefield research and for all of Wilkes County. "LiDAR- Li(ight + (ra)dar is Airborne LiDAR Mapping: LiDAR is a popularly used technology, used to make high resolution maps, with

applications in geomatics, archeology, geography." (Wikipedia) Airborne LiDAR mapping reveals a footprint of whatever lays below the surface of the earth, reflecting archeological elements related to history, battles, former flooding levels, and many other things vital to historic preservation, education, land management, and economic development.

To determine flooding and climatic condition during this period, a Dendrochronology Study is sorely needed. Dendrochronology is the study of how climate change affects tree ring growth. The ring of the trees will be wider during the wet seasons and narrower during the dryer seasons. This type of study could help in determining the weather condition that would have affected the battle. LiDAR can reveal below ground impressions of past activity, i.e., a field hospital; Boyd's burial site; Tory encampment; bunkers; roads; places where beef was cooked over fires; place of skirmishes; domestic housing; farm buildings; fencing, etc. LiDAR and Dendrochronology are important to development of a Living History Park, at Kettle Creek. KCBA Research and History Committee is exploring avenues through which these studies can be accomplished.

Donation of Corporate Stock

On several occasions the KCBA has been asked if the association would be able to accept a donation of corporate stock in place of cash. The accountant for the KCBA looked into this issue and found the following would apply to this type of donation.

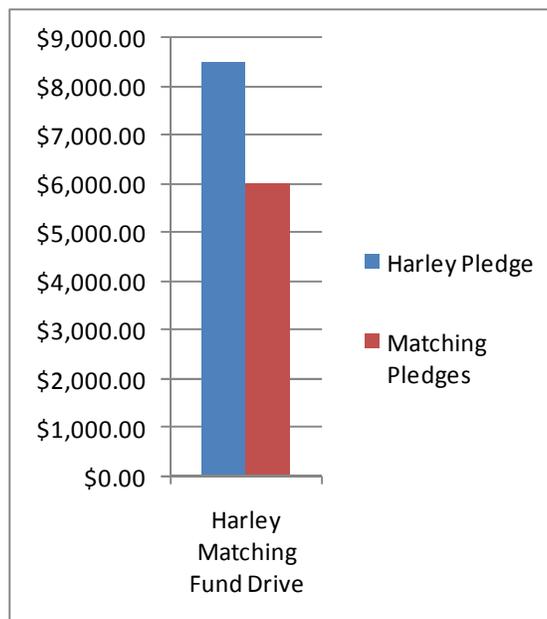
If you own corporate stock that has appreciated in value, selling it might cause you to realize a net capital gain for the year, triggering tax liability. If you do-

nate the stock to a 501(c)(3) instead, you can avoid this tax liability and deduct the value of the stock at the time you donated it. If your stock has depreciated you can sell the stock, incur a capital loss and donate the proceeds to a 501(c)(3). In this way you can deduct the value of your donation and, if you incur a net capital loss for the year, deduct the value of your capital loss.

In order to make this type of donation possible the KCBA has established an account with Wells Fargo for the purpose of handling a corporate stock donation. This type of donation may be beneficial for some donors. If you would like more information on how to process this type of donation you can contact the KCBA President, Walker Chewning or Board Chairman, Joe Harris.

Consider an additional donation to the Dwight Harley Matching Fund

Dwight Harley Matching Fund Drive donation is continuing to receive wide support through donations of many individuals who are helping to preserve the Kettle Creek Battlefield. Each dollar donation is automatically matched and each contribution advances you to a higher level of membership.



The Revolutionary War, Cherokee Defeat, and Additional Land Cessions

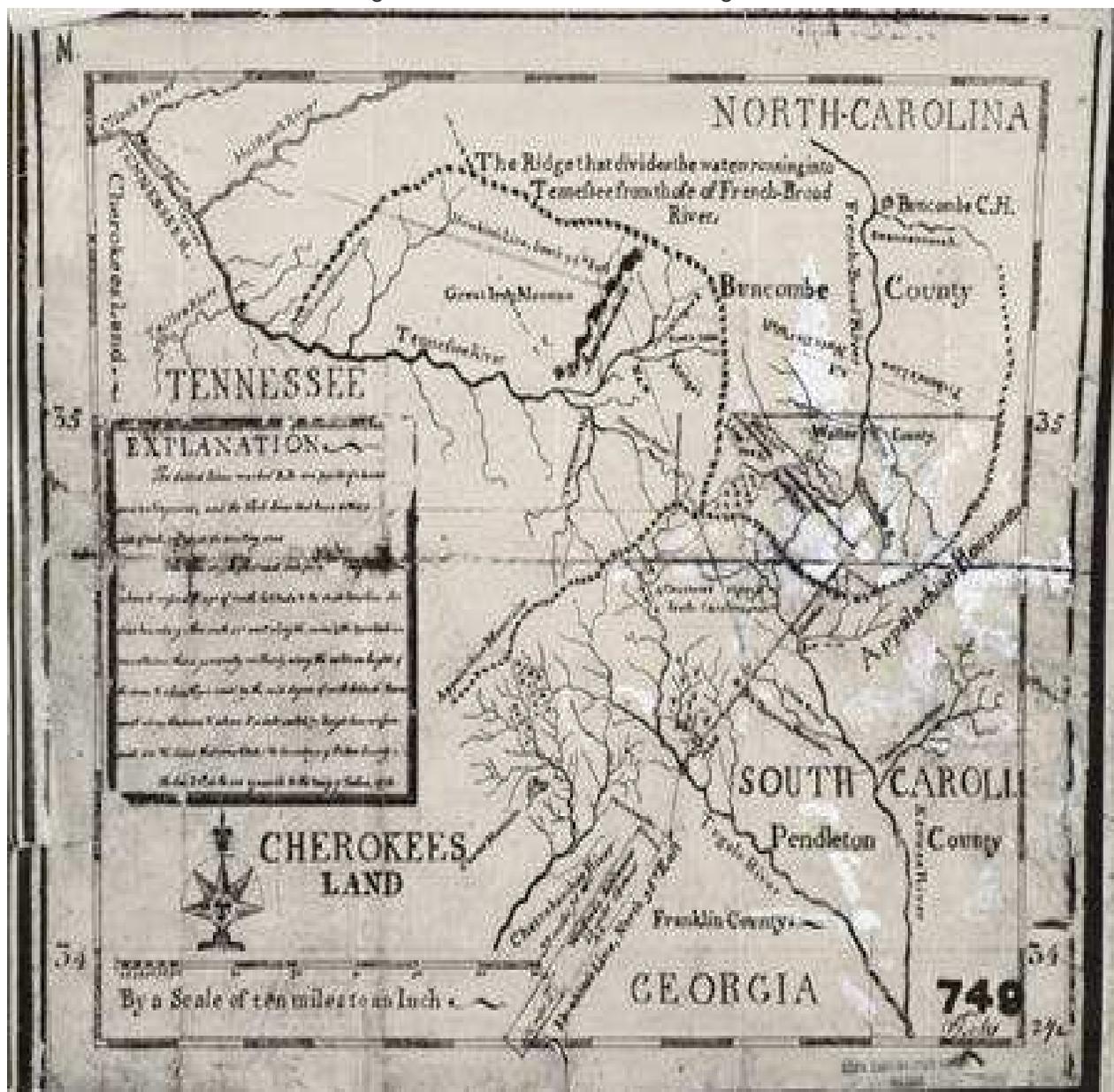
By William L. Anderson and Ruth Y. Wetmore, 2006



*Cherokee
War Scene*

When the Revolutionary War erupted in 1775, John Stuart, British superintendent of the South, planned to use Indian tribes in conjunction with English troops against the colonists. White encroachers at the Tennessee-North Carolina border along the Watauga, Nolichucky, and Holston Rivers, as well as a delegation of Shawnee and other northern Indians urging the Cherokee to fight against the Americans, inspired their decision to aid the British. The Upper Cherokee planned a three-pronged attack on the intruders along the North Carolina and Virginia frontiers. The Cherokee Middle Towns were to attack North Carolina, while the Lower Towns were to attack South Carolina and Georgia. The Lower and Middle settlements met with limited success. In reaction to these attacks, Gen. Charles Lee, commander of the southern Continental forces, urged a joint punitive expedition, known as the Cherokee Campaign of 1776. Under Col. Andrew Williamson, South Carolina troops moved against the Lower Towns and then traveled northwest to join the North Carolina forces under Gen. Griffith Rutherford in devastating the Middle and Valley Towns. Virginia troops under Col. William Christian crushed the Overhill Towns in present-day Tennessee. More than 50 Cherokee towns were destroyed in the summer of 1776, and the survivors were left without food or shelter.

These attacks devastated the Cherokee people, who sued for peace, giving up huge parcels of land in the process. The treaties signed after the Cherokee Campaign of 1776 marked the first forced land cessions by the Cherokee, and for the first time the land ceded was not unsettled hunting grounds but the sites of some of the tribe's oldest towns, in which the Cherokee people had lived for centuries. The Cherokee Campaign of 1776 also caused a schism between the old chiefs and young warriors. Many of the latter withdrew to Tennessee and northern Alabama, where they became known as the Chickamauga Cherokee and continued to fight white Americans until 1794.



Cherokee Land in 1804

While the American Revolution brought independence to white North Carolinians, the region's Indians, including the Cherokee, were a conquered people. Nevertheless, the Cherokee managed to maintain a semblance of political independence and cultural integrity despite military defeat. With the Treaty of Holston (1791), the United States initiated a "civilization" program aimed at assimilating the Cherokee people into the mainstream of American society. To a great extent this meant the adoption of sedentary agriculture. Consequently, with Indians living by means of farming, their huge hunting grounds would no longer be needed and whites could easily acquire more Cherokee land. The Tellico Treaty was signed in 1798 as a result of the movement of settlers into Cherokee territory in western North Carolina, west of the 1791 Holston Treaty line. The Tellico Treaty specified that a line, called the Meigs-Freeman Line, was to be drawn from the "Great Iron" or "Smokey" mountain in a southeasterly direction so as to exclude settlers from Cherokee territory. War Department agent Return Jonathan Meigs supervised the running and Thomas Freeman the surveying of the line from July through October 1802. They were assisted by Cherokee leaders and settlers. The line ran from the peak of Mount Collins (located between Clingman's Dome and Newfound Gap) to a point on the North Carolina-South Carolina border near the southwestern corner of Transylvania County.



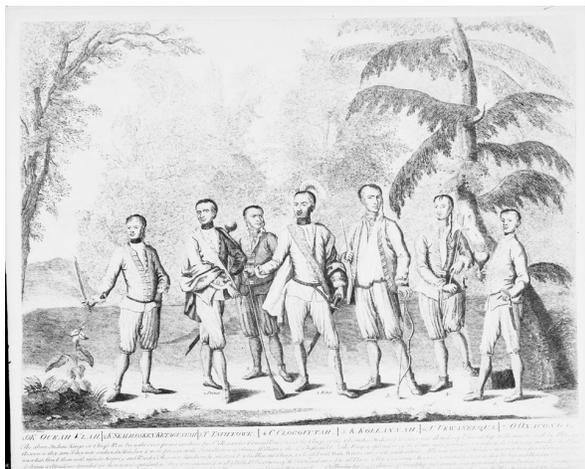
*19th Century Portrait of
Sequoyah,
inventor of the
Cherokee syllabary
This syllabary is still taught today
by the Cherokee Nation*

Within their newly established boundaries, the Cherokee took the lead in adopting Euro-American ways in the early nineteenth century, establishing schools and a bicameral tribal legislature. In the 1820s, the Cherokee Sequoyah invented a syllabary that enabled his people to read and write in their own language, and a bilingual newspaper, the *Cherokee Phoenix*, soon began publication. Cherokee men and women took up farming of cotton, flax, and livestock, and engaged widely in trade with whites. Some Cherokees even built columned plantation houses and bought slaves. Historians have referred to this period of recovery as the

"Cherokee renaissance."

Despite the successes of this period, which saw the Cherokee willingly embrace white culture, seeds were also planted for a new and even greater crisis for the Cherokee people. In an attempt to save land that had been lost after the Creek War of 1813, the Cherokee signed two more treaties in 1817 and 1819. The 1817 treaty was the first Cherokee treaty that included a provision for their removal from North Carolina lands. The treaty proposed exchanging Cherokee lands in the Southeast for territory west of the Mississippi River. The government promised assistance in resettling those Cherokees who chose to remove, and approximately 1,500-2,000 did. The Treaty of 1817 also contained a proposal for an experiment in Cherokee citizenship. Cherokees who wished to remain on ceded land in the East could apply for a 640-acre reserve and legal rights as American citizens.

In 1819 the remaining Cherokees who opposed removal negotiated still another treaty. During the period from 1783 to 1819, the Cherokee people had lost an additional 69 percent of their remaining land. Although the tribe ceded almost 4 million acres by the 1819 treaty, they hoped that this additional cession would end any further removal effort. In fact, the Cherokee National Council agreed that they would not enter into any more negotiations involving the giving up of "even one foot of land." The continuing westward movement of North Carolina settlers usually brought whites into conflict with Indians, however, especially those on whose land gold was discovered in 1828. These whites were reaching into lands that treaties supposedly had guaranteed to the Cherokee. Yet instead of enforcing the treaties, the U.S. government—with President Andrew Jackson leading the way—decided to relocate the Cherokee people. This action resulted in what became known as the "Trail of Tears" and the creation of the Eastern Band of Cherokees.



Lithograph of Cherokee men who visited London with Henry Timberlake—1762

Engraving of seven Cherokee Delegates to London 1730





Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc

P.O. Box 729
Washington, GA 30673

2014-2015

Renewal of Annual Memberships... now due.

Dear KCBA Members,

Thank you to all that have renewed your membership to KCBA. It is not too late to renew. An email was sent to those that had an email and a letter was sent to those that did not have an email to remind everyone about the new April renewal date. If you have not renewed your membership and need a renewal form you can go to our website www.kettlecreekbattlefield.org and click on the membership tab and get one. If you are not sure if you have renewed you can also go to the website and under membership tab by your name is “pd 2015”, you are paid until April 2015. Also, if you renewed from October to December 2013 you are exempt, but all donations are welcomed. Our Life members are not required to renew, but all donations are appreciated and will add to your membership level.

So far we have raised some \$125,000.00 to allow KCBA to purchase a 60 acre tract of land which will allow us to begin working on walking trails, parking lot, signage and other related KCBA expansions. Thanks again for all donations, without you none of this would be possible.

Each year our annual membership renewal date will always be April 1st and continue for the next year. Please check the website for accuracy and make sure your annual membership has been credited. If there is an error, please contact us by email.

It is an honor to serve you and this organization.

Patriotically,

Wendy Johnson

KCBA Membership Chairman, KCBA Board Member

KCBA Membership Renewals Due April 15

As the Association seeks membership renewals, KCBA is pleased with work completed and in progress. As we look ahead, we want your review and your suggestions.

Progress in 2103

Raised \$122,000,

Purchased 60+ core acres north of, and adjacent to, 14 preserved acres

Secured \$85,000 DOT grant for

Hard surfacing War Hill Road,

Improving road access to settlement hill,

Clearing for War Hill walking trail,

Installing foot bridge connecting War Hill and settlement hill,

Parking lot.

Scheduled field trip for Georgia Botanical Society.

Completed Strategic Planning program using the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government faculty.

Established working relationship with tourism and economic development offices for Wilkes County.

Plans for 2014

Confer with Plum Creek Timberlands on cooperative projects of mutual interest.

Seek funding for additional core battlefield land purchases.

Seek funding for conceptual plans for

Explanatory signage,

Restrooms,

Bike trails.

Seek funding for demonstration forest and recreational use.

Seek funding development of lesson plans for K-12 public school use,

Seek National Historic Landmark status.

Membership Renewal Policy was reaffirmed at the March Board meeting as follows:

1. The yearly renewal date is April 15 standardizes the renewal date for all members.
2. The policy provided that all members with membership dates between October 2013 and April 2014, would not have to renew their membership until April 2015. This would allow recently established memberships not be penalized for immediately having to meet the renewal guideline.

The April 15 date was also selected so that members would also be able to consider the KCBA for possible donation when members are preparing their yearly Federal income taxes. These additional donations would benefit from the Dwight Harley Matching Fund Drive.

*The KCBA is a 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Organization.
Your donation is tax deductible.*

The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc
2014 - 2015

April Membership Renewal

Membership Levels

Patriot Membership (April 15 is Annual membership renewal Date)

- Student: \$10.00
- Adult: \$25.00
- Family: \$50.00

Life Membership

- Col. Andrew Pickens Member \$500.00
- Col. John Dooly Member \$1,000.00
- Col. Elijah Clarke Member \$2,500.00
- President George Washington \$5,000.00
- Kettle Creek Battlefield Legacy Member \$25,000.00

Donations can be made separately or along with the membership renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of Payment

Make your check payable to Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc

Mail Payment to :
Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 729
Washington, GA 30673

*The KCBA is a 501(c)(3) Tax Exempt Organization.
Your donation is tax deductible.*

Thank you for your support.