



KCBA THE BATTLEFIELD DISPATCH

P. O. Box 729

Washington, Georgia 30673

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

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<http://www.kettlecreekbattlefield.org>

December 2013

KCBA Achievements in 2013

2013 was a banner year for the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association and its members. After its formation in late 2011, the building blocks of the association were established and the effort began to preserve the Kettle Creek Battlefield.

Much work was accomplished in 2012, with the start of the Battlefield Master Plan by the CSRA Regional Commission. After many public and private meeting with Jason Hardin and his team at the CSRA, the "Kettle Creek Battlefield Park Master Plan" was published in April, 2013. This plan was to be the guide for the preservation and development of the future park.

In 2013 the KCBA started a effort to update the locations of Revolutionary War Soldier gravesites and historical cemeteries in Wilkes County. The search for over 200 historic cemeteries was begun.

A resolution was prepared for presentation to the state lawmakers to recognize the significance of the Battle of Kettle Creek and the importance of the KCBA in developing this site. In February, 2013, House Resolution 379, State of Georgia was presented by representatives McCall, Channell and Fleming. The Resolution was read and approved on February 14, 2013.

Additional signage was installed

along the main highways leading to the Kettle Creek Battlefield in order to improve public awareness of the site and to help in attracting visitors.

The Kettle Creek Battlefield had received the original drawing by Wilbur Kurtz of Col. Boyd facing death on War Hill and had made copies. The original was placed on loan to the Washington Museum for display in the Battle of Kettle Creek Room. The original drawing was presented to the KCBA at a local Rotary luncheon on February 7, 2013.

This year, we have reached out to many local and national officials to help gain support for the effort to create a public park at the Kettle Creek Battlefield. With support of our membership, which now has reached over 300 individuals and organizations, we have gained the support of other individuals such as Gov. Nathan Deal, Senator Johnny Isakson, Rep. Tom McCall, Sen. Bill Jack-

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son, Rep. Mickey Chinell, Commissioner Sam Moore, and the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners.

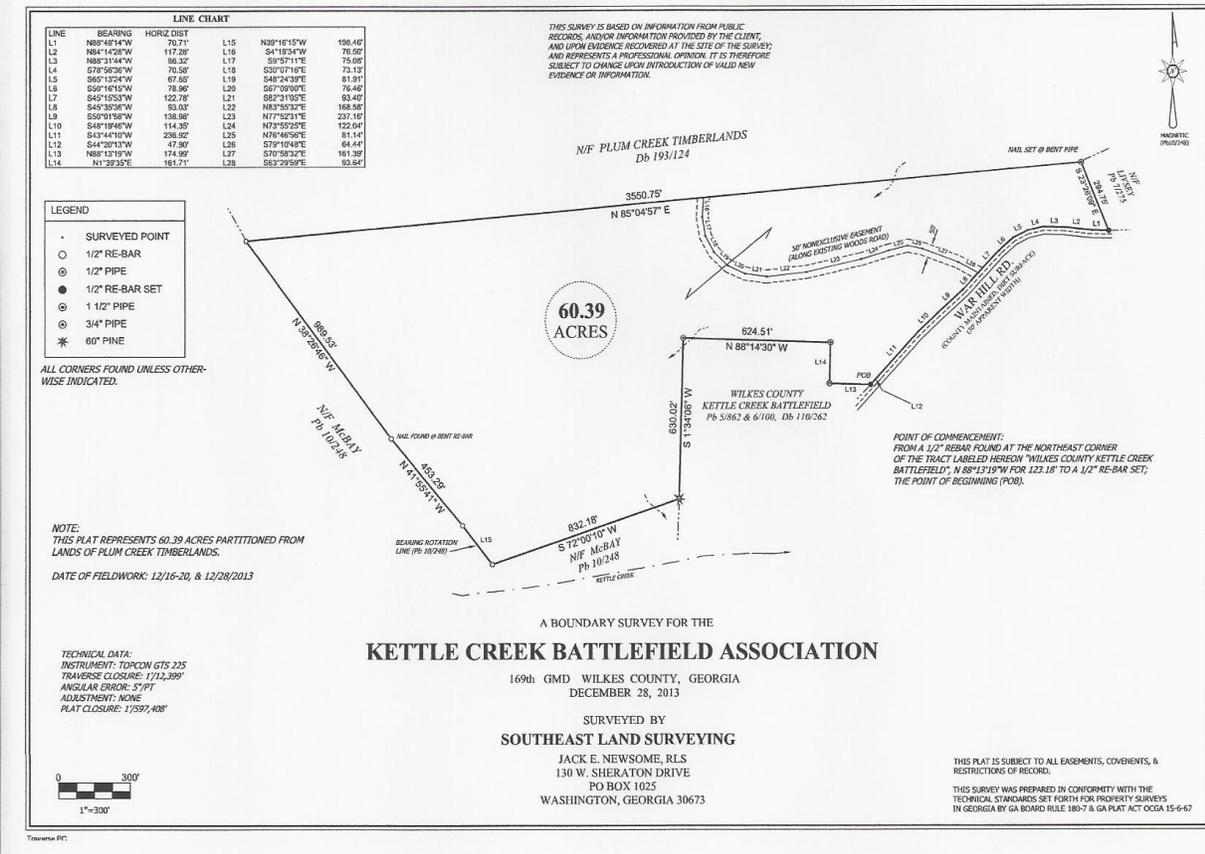
In September, the KCBA held a forum at War Hill to build a consensus for the county for a need to establish a Kettle Creek Battlefield Park. It was attended by over 60 local and state dignitaries who registered their support for the effort.

After initial discussion with the representatives of Plum Creek Timber Company, the KCBA initiated a drive to raise funding to purchase additional acreage to add to the existing 14.5 acre park. An effort was made to reach out to individuals and organizations that would understand the vision that the

KCBA had for developing the Kettle Creek Battlefield Park. With the strong support of many individuals and organizations, the KCBA was able to raise over \$100,000.00 in funds for increasing the size of the park. Thanks to these generous contributions, the KCBA will be conducting a property closing on January 15, 2014, which will formalize the purchase of an additional 60.39 acres for the Kettle Creek Battlefield.

We would like to thank the members of the KCBA board, the KCBA membership, and all who have contributed to the success of this purchase.

60.39 Acre Plat of the Land Purchase Acquisition for the Kettle Creek Battlefield



TAKE NOTICE!

This is to Proclaim to the citizens of Georgia
and to Other Colonies.....



Revolutionary Days
February 7, 8 and 9, 2014
Washington,
Georgia
and the
Kettle Creek
Battlefield

- 9:00 a.m. to 12 Noon Saturday Morning, Feb. 8th
Thirty Historical performers in the Town Square, Mary Willis Library, Robert Toombs House & Washington Historical Museum. Parade will start at 11:30 am behind the Courthouse at Fort Washington Park and end there. A dramatic portrayal of the Battle of Kettle Creek will be presented in Fort Washington Park at 12:00 noon.
- 2:30 p.m. Saturday Afternoon, Feb. 8th
Pageantry at the Kettle Creek Battlefield includes Continental Army, Georgia militia, Fife and Drum music, Musket Volley and Wreath Presentations.



Georgia Society
Sons of the American Revolution
<http://www.georgiasocietysar.org/>

All Activities Are
FREE

For more details call:
Washington-Wilkes
Chamber of Commerce
At (706) 678-5111

See the website for more info;
Kettle Creek Battlefield Association
<http://www.kettlecreekbattlefield.org/>

REVOLUTIONARY DAY

Celebrating 235th Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek

-Friday, February 7th.

- 2:30-4:30 pm- Battlefield Tour. Steve Rauch will be at *War Hill*, to guide and discuss the Battle of Kettle Creek -- tour for visitors who wish a pre-event orientation. Maj. Steven J. Rauch is a U.S.A. Ret.; Command Historian Army Signal Center Fort Gordon and adjunct Professor of Military History Georgia Regents University.
GPS: N33.691 W82.886

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th.

- 8:30 am. In the Mary Willis Library, Steve Rauch will present the American Patriots in the Hornets Nest from Vann's Creek to Augusta.
- 9:30am- 11:30 am: Battlefield Walking Tour - led by Army historian at Kettle Creek Battlefield. Warhill Road:
GPS: N33.691 W82.886

Sunday, FEBRUARY 9th.

- 9:00 am: Colonial Worship Service Phillips Mill Baptist Church 5479 Greensboro Rd, Washington, GA 30673 (706) 678-7825
- 11:00am: Heroes of the Hornet's Nest Ceremony, Elijah Clarke State park, 2959 McCormick highway, Lincolnton; 7 miles northeast of Lincolnton on U. S. Hwy. 378 (tel # 706-359-3458)

- SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

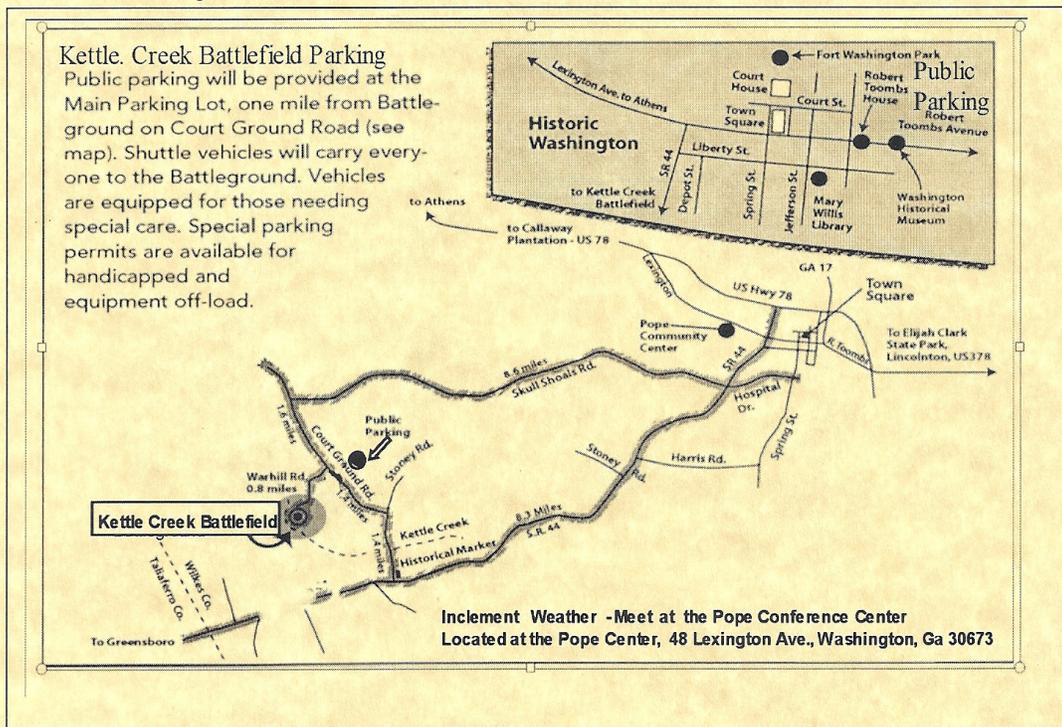
- 9:00am -12:00 noon: "Celebration of History." Thirty Historical Performances in Washington Town Square, Mary Willis Library, Robert Toombs House and Washington Historical Museum.
- 11:30 am Parade: Assemble at back of the Courthouse, march to Town Square, and end at Fort Washington Park.
- 12:00 am Dramatic Portrayal of the Battle of Kettle Creek in Fort Washington Park.

- 10:00am- 5:00pm: Open house and Exhibit Washington, Mary Willis Library, 204 E. Liberty Street, Robert Toombs House Historic Site, 216 E Robert Tombs Avenue Washington Historical Museum, 308 E Rob Toombs Avenue.

2:30pm: Battlefield Memorial Ceremony. Pageantry at Kettle Creek Monument on W Hill, including presentation of wreaths and musket salutes.
GPS: N33.691 W82.886

Sponsors:
Georgia Society SAR, Kettle Creek Battlefield Association; Athens Chapter SAR, Samuel Elbert Chapter SAR, Washington-Wilkes Chapter SAR, Kettle Creek Chapter NSDAR

Wilkes County; City of Washington; Washington-Wilkes Chamber of Commerce; Washington-Wilkes Historical Foundation; Washington Historical Museum and The News-Reporter.



The Kettle Creek Battlefield Association

Invites you to join us and the
Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution
in celebrating the Battle of Kettle Creek
at the annual KCBA banquet to be held on:

Friday, February 7th, 2014

Pope Center
48 Lexington Ave
Washington, GA 30673

Program: Charles B. Baxley
“The Revolution Comes to the Ceded Lands:
Wilkes County and its Birth Under Fire”

Dinner Cost: \$30.00 per individual
Cash Bar & Reception 5:00 P.M.
Dinner at 6:30 P.M.

Please make your checks payable to: KCBA
and mail to:
KCBA
P. O. Box 729
Washington, GA 30673

Please include your email address.
Dinner reservations must be received by January 31, 2014.
(Contact: Walker Chewning 678-409-4644)

NOTE: Those wishing to sit as a group or family
please write a note on your R.S.V.P.
Tables seat 8 persons,
and they will be assigned by Number.

"Revolutionary Days"

Celebrating the 235th Anniversary of
the
Battle of Kettle Creek

Kettle Creek-Battleground
Memorial Ceremony
Saturday, February 8th, 2014
at 2:30pm
Washington, Wilkes County,
Georgia

All Societies and Chapters of the C.A.R., DAR, SAR, other hereditary Societies and patriotic or historical organizations are invited to attend. Descendants and the public are especially welcome.

Submit your request to participate in the Wreath Presentation no later than January 18,2014, to assure listing in the Ceremony Program

Organization:

Name of Presenter:

Office or Title of Presenter:

Will Participate in the Color Guard: YES No

Email Address:

Phone:

Mail to: Ed Rigel, Sr., 1504 Berkeley Court, Gainesville, GA 30501-1260; or

Email: compatriotrigel@charter.net



Revolutionary Days

Heroes of the Hornet's Nest Ceremony

Elijah Clark State Park
Lincolnton, Georgia
Sunday, February 9, 2014

Wreath Registration

Name of Wreath Presenter

Organization

Position

Presenter's Email Address

Send registration form by **February 1, 2014**, to:

Charlie Newcomer

email: canewcomer@att.net

or by regular mail to 1601 Spartan Lane, Athens, Ga 30606-5327

Telephone: 706 543 3977

Kettle Creek Battlefield Association Continues Progress



Langford Holbrook

Progress and planning on four fronts were extensively discussed at a recent meeting of Kettle Creek Battlefield Association (KCBA) officers and others. Langford Holbrook of the UGA Carl Vinson Institute of Government, presided for a strategic planning session held in Washington, Georgia.

Holbrook opened the meeting with a brief report on a dozen telephone interviews with key offices and individuals whose position related to Kettle Creek battle site development. Whereas he found uniform positive support among local individuals, conversations with Athens acquaintances revealed that ignorance of the very significant Revolutionary War battle was not uncommon. Further discussion identified this as a major need for marketing and public relations.

Development funding possibilities was a second major topic for review. Public access and use of the historically important and environmentally rare site were seen as ideal for tourism, economic development and educational interests. Charitable foundations were cited as expecting local and other partnerships, active public programming and hard copy plans for site development. Larry Wilson of Elberton has approached major foundations with a positive response according to use and partnership support.

A fundraising drive, largely through SAR, DAR, CAR and related organizations for purchase of additional acreage for the site has been very good,

yet just a starting point considering the total needed to reach master plan objectives. Additional efforts of the Washington- Wilkes Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, KCBA and very significant support from the Georgia Society, Sons of the America Revolution, additional acreage may be added to the 12 acres purchased in 1900 by the local DAR chapter and a later addition. The efforts of Walker Chewning, KCBA president and Tom Owen, treasurer, facilitated the decision of GASSAR favoring support of the historic battle site. It is estimated that over \$2 million is needed to secure the site for public use.

“Cooperation in efforts toward site development by the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners has been an essential part of funding efforts. Without this local support, foundations hesitate to seriously consider their support”, said Joe Harris, chairman of the KCBA board of directors. “A formal memorandum of understanding would help this,” said David Chesnut, a charter board member.

Holbrook cited the need for work with the Georgia Department of Economic Development as an essential and willing partner. “Local cooperation between tourism and economic development is a key to economic development throughout the state,” he said, citing this as a high priority of the current administration.

“Strengthening KCBA through appeals to additional statewide organizations would be a great asset in support and development,” said Anne Floyd of the CSRA Regional commission.