



# KCBA THE BATTLEFIELD DISPATCH

P. O. Box 729

Washington, Georgia 30673

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

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## Georgia Society C.A.R. Kicks off KCBA Fund Drive for War Hill with \$6,322.31 Donation

The Georgia Society, Children of the American Revolution, recently kicked off a fund drive for expanding the Kettle Creek Battlefield. Working for more than a year selling pins, caps, and other items, State President Lily Garnett overreached the goal during her administration and simultaneously completed her senior year in high school.

At a local reception held in her honor, Kettle Creek Battlefield Association President Walker Chewning accepted her check for \$6,322.31 and presented her with a framed certificate of appreciation. Chairman of the Board of Directors, Joe Harris, added comments and challenged the Georgia DAR chapters to exceed the historic C.A.R. contribution to the effort.

Though other funds have been pledged, President Chewning cited the



*Board Chairman, Dr. Joseph Harris, 2012-2013 GA Society C.A.R. President Lily Garnett and KCBA President Walker Chewning*

C.A.R. support as the first in-hand response to a fund drive which includes the Georgia Society, Sons of the American Revolution, and KCBA to raise \$200,000 by a November

Inside this issue:	
CAR Donation	1 - 2
Preservation Efforts Larry Wilson	3 - 6
Button Gwinnett Chapter Donation	6
KCBA Kicks Off Expansion Effort	7 - 12
Membership Form	12
Battlefield Tours	13

**KCBA Board Meeting Dates**

July 25, 2013  
 August 22, 2013  
 September 26, 2013

The Board regularly meets at 2:00 PM  
 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month at  
 Mary Willis Library  
 Washington, GA.

deadline. The fund would purchase a historic and archeologically proven parcel critical to preservation of a site projected by the Master Plan as the highest priority. The parcel proposed for purchase is now owned by Plum Creek Timberlands. Fully developed comparable Revolutionary War sites such as Ninety-Six National Historic Site bring more than three million dollars per year in tourism dollars, add fifty jobs to the small town, and contribute over \$150,000 per year in state taxes.

Lily Garnett, accompanied by her parents Amanda and Chuck, her sister Abby and her grandmother Nancy Garnett, described her work for the project as only a high school senior could. She said, "I would first like to say thank you so much for joining me here today to celebrate Kettle Creek and the achievements made during my state presidency that will benefit this important historical landmark.

When I was elected into office in February 2012, I was excited, but I was also scared to death. I had no idea what to decide on for my state project. All I knew was that I wanted to do something with history. History is a topic that I'm very passionate about, and in a state like Georgia, with such a beautiful, rich history, it is definitely an area that needs to be focused on. My friends at school and many of the C.A.R. members ask me why history is such a big deal to me. Well, you see, history is the story of how we got here today. Learning about history is like reading the most epic, and most interesting book, except it's better because it's true, and it directly applies to us. I believe that it is vital that the American people continue making history a priority, so that our story can keep being told. If it isn't, we lose sight of what



we stand for as a nation. Patriotism, valor, honor, integrity, perseverance, freedom, all of which our colonial patriots: men, women, and many young people like myself, fought for at Kettle Creek.

To say that this past year was a stepping stone, I believe, would be quite the understatement. Not only did the Georgia State Society of the Children of the American Revolution raise \$6,322.31, but we also made a huge effort in awareness. We have gotten the name out about the Battle of Kettle Creek, pushing to make sure its story keeps being told.

I commend my state board, the Georgia Society of the C.A.R., DAR and SAR, my friends and the amazing individual donors for making it possible for me to surpass my original goal of \$2,500. I cannot thank each of you enough for your support. I hope that even though now, as my time as State President has come to an end and I have moved up to the National level, we never forget the lessons learned this year and that we remember the importance of why we've spent this past year Finishing the Fight at Kettle Creek."

Lily E. Garnett

Georgia State President 2012-2013

Joining Miss Lily E. Garnett and her family at the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association Reception were: Joseph Harris, N. Walker Chewning, Jo An Chewning, Jane Owen, Thomas Owen, J. David Chesnut, Linda Chesnut, David Jenkins, Lou Ricciuti, Larry Wilson, Darla Wilson, Charles Heard, Betty Slaton, C. Carol Cartledge, George Thurmond, Anne Floyd, David Toburen, Debra Denard, Cathy Armour and James E. Stallings, Sr., President, Georgia State Society President SAR.



# *The Preservation Efforts Toward Saving The Battlefield of Kettle Creek.*

By Larry Wilson, Kettle Creek Battlefield Association.

**This is a chronological listing of the progress by many citizens of Georgia to preserve the Battlefield of Kettle Creek. Thanks to Professor Robert Scott Davis who has published countless articles, books, and periodicals on the events surrounding the Battle of the Kettle Creek and for the preservation efforts documented. Because of low economics related to park development, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Park has never been funded....until now. Come join our cause to preserve the battlefield.**

February 14, 1779, Georgia's most recognized victory during the American Revolution battle took place. Carr's Fort had been under siege by Pickens, Clarke, and Dooly and word was received of 700-800 reinforcement troops for Fort Cornwallis in Augusta approaching and Pickens called off the siege to meet the Loyalist at Kettle Creek. Kettle Creek was one of the most decisive conflicts of the War. British forces, solidly defeated by the Americans, were prevented from moving to Augusta where Loyalist were waiting for reinforcements.

The American Revolution essentially ended at the Battle of Yorktown after frustrated General Cornwallis left the South and went north and was cornered at Yorktown by Gen George Washington, General Rochambeau, and Francois Joseph Paul, comte de Grasse, commanding officer of the French fleet. Cornwallis elected to leave the South after taking serious losses at Guilford Courthouse, major losses at Kings Mountain, Cowpens, and we have to include a moral victory of the Kettle Creek Battle.

In 1816, the battle of Kettle Creek was reported into popular history in Georgia through two volumes of Hugh McCall's *The History of Georgia* in 1816. McCall apparently obtained the information from his father and soldiers who fought in the war as well as through his research. In 1886, Henry T. Slaton, owner of the land around War Hill, wrote, Kettle Creek was "one of the most momentous battles of the Revolutionary War."

1899 NSDAR purchased 12.5 acres of land to preserve the center of the battlefield-"War Hill". June 6, 1930. NSDAR obtained the services of Federal Govt. to install the Obelisk War Memorial and commemorated the battle of Kettle Creek Feb 4, 1779. A large crowd and members of NSDAR were present. Ed Fluker, as a young boy (and a future member of GASSAR) attended with his aunt, a member of the Kettle Creek NSDAR and later recommended KC recognition. Probably since 1930 and at least since 1960, the War Hill Road and the New Salem Church Roads were maintained by the County to access "War Hill".

In 1958, the state of Georgia erected two aluminum markers relating to the battle site and, in 1960, the DAR assigned the ownership of the property to the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners Plantation historic site to educate the public on his county's past and, in 1962, Dr. Bryson formed the Kettle Creek Battlefield Commission to try to establish a "first rate park" at the battlefield. Bryson had the site cleaned up, the road maintained, and picnic tables erected. By 1975, however, the picnic tables had been broken and the historical marker, dedicated by Senator Richard B. Russell, had been shot full of holes and then stolen.

In 1975, through the efforts of Robert Scott Davis and Ken Thomas, both members of GA DNR,

Historic Preservation Division, placed the Kettle Creek Battle on the National Register of Historic Buildings and Sites. Davis recommended a State Park status but economy would not support it.

In 1980, AMAX Timber Company donated 2.0 acres for the parking lot to NSDAR and the Society deeded this over to the County.

Around 1980, a gate was put into position to protect War Hill and mark the NSDAR original site -War Hill donated to the County.

After Ed Fluker, member of the GASSAR, recommended “we do something about the Battle of Kettle Creek” to Rev. Jack Bozeman, president of GASSAR, and along with the services of GASSAR member Col. Robert Galer, in February 1998, the Samuel Elbert Chapter GASSAR and the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution began the annual recognition of the Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek with approximately 400 visitors.

In 2000, the Matthew MacDaniel’s thesis was published on “Georgia’s Forgotten Battlefields” funded by the Georgia’s Department of Natural Resources through the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) and the 1975 Nomination of the National Register of Historic Places was updated.

About 2004, the CAR donated over \$10,000 by purchasing bleachers for the Georgia Revolutionary Days Ceremony to commemorate the anniversary of the battle Feb. 14, 1779.

In 2007, the newly found Washington-Wilkes Chapter (Named after Gen. George Washington in 1780, and British Parliamentarian sympathizer John Wilkes in 1777), and thus began the initiative to preserve permanently the Kettle Creek Battlefield.

In 2008 and completed in 2009, the City of Washington through a “Preserve America” \$42,000 grant, commissioned the Lamar Institute do an archeology study of the kettle creek Battlefield. Artifacts were found on the battlefield and are now stored in the City of Washington’s Museum.

Led by members of the Washington-Wilkes Chapter, in June 2011, a group of professional men with interest to preserve the battlefield met on “War Hill” to discuss the options. Included were members of the W-W Chapter, CSRA, and the GA. DNR’s Historic Preservation Department.

2011, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc. was formed to begin the preservation and protection of the battlefield. Present membership is 283 and counting

In 2011, led by the newly formed Washington-Wilkes Chapter GASSAR applied to the Plum Creek Timber Company for \$2,000 and after being funded, began the upgrade of highway signage to direct visitors to Kettle Creek.

February 14, 2012, U.S. House of Representative Honorable Paul R. Broun read into the Congressional Record (on the Floor of the House) the Congressional Proclamation – the Battle of Kettle Creek #379.

In July 2012, a \$50,000 grant was allocated by the Department of Community Affairs through CSRA to develop a Site Plan thus began the planning for a park to preserve the battlefield land and develop an interpretation of the history of the battle of Kettle creek era including the turbulent times of Wilkes County (1773-1783).

In October 2012, Plum Creek Timber Company awarded a \$5,000 grant to KCBA to produce brochures, advertisement for KCBA and it advertisement of developing the Kettle Creek

Battlefield Park.

November, 2012, a grant was submitted to develop a historic trail around War Hill to interpret the historic battle of Kettle Creek. (Although grant was rejected, the grant will be re-applied for)

In March, 2013, the Trust for Public Land was asked officially to help preserve the battlefield. We were notified it was under consideration.

In March, 2013, a Robert W. Woodruff grant was submitted and word was received back they were considering our 1.8 million dollar request. They advised more financial partners were needed to participate. They never fund a project completely and advised we need partners.

In March, 2013, the County of Wilkes Chairman stated they were considered as partners because they own War Hill and they have been maintaining the property probably since 1930. They have agreed if given property, they will receive the property when purchased. Wilkes County will also (although not official) place the Park on the list of items for the SPLOST to be voted on in 2016. (This has to be approved by the County Government after the present one expires –in 3-4 years). On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the Georgia House of Representatives Tom McCall, (District 33), Mickey Channel (District 120) and Barry Fleming (District 121) passed a Resolution as read on the floor of the House resolution #379.

Black Patriots: Funded by the City of Washington, a memorial for the Black Patriots was placed on the grounds of the City Square in August 2012. (Cost >\$100,000).

November 2012 the brochure grant funded by the Plum Creek Timber Company was approved - \$5,000 for brochure development.

In March 2013, several members of KCBA with State Legislators and TPL representative met with the Georgia's Governor Nathan Deal to request funds to match with Woodruff's positive decision to help fund the purchase of the land based upon our efforts to develop funding partners. Woodruff made it clear Partners were needed to insure their participation and so did TPL.

In May 2013, several members of the KCBA met with the officials of Senator Saxby Chambliss office (Chief of Staff) and lobbied for funding.

On June 2013, KCBA placed the *Book for Sale: "Stirring Up a Hornet's Nest"* by Dan Elliott on the website: Amazon.com. Price listed on their website for \$45.00 each.

In April 2013, Archaeologist Dan Elliott of Lamar Institute discovered Revolutionary War Carr's Fort on Georgia Frontier in Wilkes County, Georgia-only 3-5 miles from Kettle Creek.

June 2013, the Master Plan - \$50,000 developed CSRA, Jason Hardin author. (Download 4<sup>th</sup> version at): <http://kettlecreekbattlefield.org/id22.html>

May 2013, the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association discussed fund raising and decided the SAR and the DAR would take the lead on this. Goal proposed was \$200,000 to purchase historic land to expand the 14.5 acres presently owned by Wilkes County. Land would be placed in Wilkes County name.

In May 2013, an anonymous KCBA member donor proposed donating \$5,000 to be matched.

In July 2013, the Children of the American Revolution presented a check for \$6,300 to be used for the purchase of land for KCBA and the beginning of the Phase I land fund drive to raise \$200,000.

KCBA passed a resolution to set aside \$20,000 for land acquisition from KCBA budget.

**Funding History-Past Funding since 1899  
for  
The Preservation of the Kettle Creek Battlefield**

<i>NSDAR</i>	<i>Land Donated</i>	<i>\$30,000 (Acquired 1899, donated to County in 1960, 1980)</i>
<i>NSDAR</i>	<i>Signage (Historic)</i>	<i>\$4,000 (1960-Installed historic signage)</i>
<i>NSDAR</i>	<i>Cemetery – move RS Markers</i>	<i>\$3,500 (Cemetery at War Hill of RS Soldiers)</i>
<i>NSDAR</i>	<i>Gate and wall installed</i>	<i>\$3,500 (1980-estimated- stone wall and gate at entrance)</i>
<i>NSDAR/Gov</i>	<i>Fed. Obelisk Marker</i>	<i>\$35,000 (Installed in 1930)</i>
<i>Wilkes Co.</i>	<i>Maintenance (estimated)</i>	<i>\$53,000 (since 1960 through 2013)</i>
<i>GADNR</i>	<i>Studies for Nat. Register</i>	<i>\$15,000 (1975-Robert Davis and 2000-MacDaniel study)</i>
<i>GASSAR</i>	<i>Annual budget for Rev. Ds</i>	<i>\$37,500 (since 1998-2013)</i>
<i>KCBA</i>	<i>Memberships</i>	<i>\$10,000 (2011-2012 for operations-accountant, etc)</i>
<i>CAR</i>	<i>Grandstands for War Hill</i>	<i>\$10,000 (2004) (stands used for ceremonies on War Hill)</i>
<i>Archaeology</i>	<i>City of Washington</i>	<i>\$42,000 (Lamar Institute-2008-9)</i>
<i>Plum Creek</i>	<i>Signage-highway</i>	<i>\$2,000 (2010-12 Funded by Plum Creek Foundation)</i>
<i>City of Wash.</i>	<i>Patriot Bust</i>	<i>\$100,000 (Honors Black Patriots who served in the Rev. War</i>
<i>Plum Creek</i>	<i>Brochures/Publicity</i>	<i>\$6,000 (2012-Includes \$1,000 match of KCBA)</i>
<i>CSRA/GA DCA</i>	<i>Site Plan Development</i>	<i>\$50,000 (County of Wilkes-May 2013)</i>
<i>Carr's Fort</i>	<i>Lamar Insti. (Savannah)</i>	<i>\$62,000(Discovered in May, 2013)</i>
<i>CSRA/GA DCA</i>	<i>Site Plan Development</i>	<i>\$50,000 (County of Wilkes-May 2013)</i>
<i>CAR</i>	<i>Donated toward land acq.</i>	<i>\$6,300 (July 2013-Children of the American Revolution)</i>
<i>KCBA</i>	<i>Donated toward land acq.</i>	<i>\$20,000 (Phase I Fund Drive for Land Acquisitions)</i>
<i>Anonymous</i>	<i>Donation toward and acq.</i>	<i>\$5,000 (Phase I Fund Drive for Land Acquisitions)</i>

**Total Funds spent or to be spent for the preservation: \$544,300**

**Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR makes  
\$1,000.00 Donation  
for the Kettle Creek Battlefield**



*Walker Chewning, President of the KCBA receives check from Bruce Maney, President, Button Gwinnett Chapter,*

ville, GA the members discussed the need to help protect the Kettle Creek Battlefield and to make needed improvements to the site. The membership voted to donate \$1,000.00 to the KCBA Land Fund and in so doing to help in purchasing additional acreage which will allow for the needed improvements to the Kettle Creek Battlefield. “The Button Gwinnett Chapter has always been a strong supporter of the Kettle Creek Battlefield and we thank them for their generous donation” said the KCBA President .

At the recent monthly meeting of the Button Gwinnett Chapter in Lawrence-

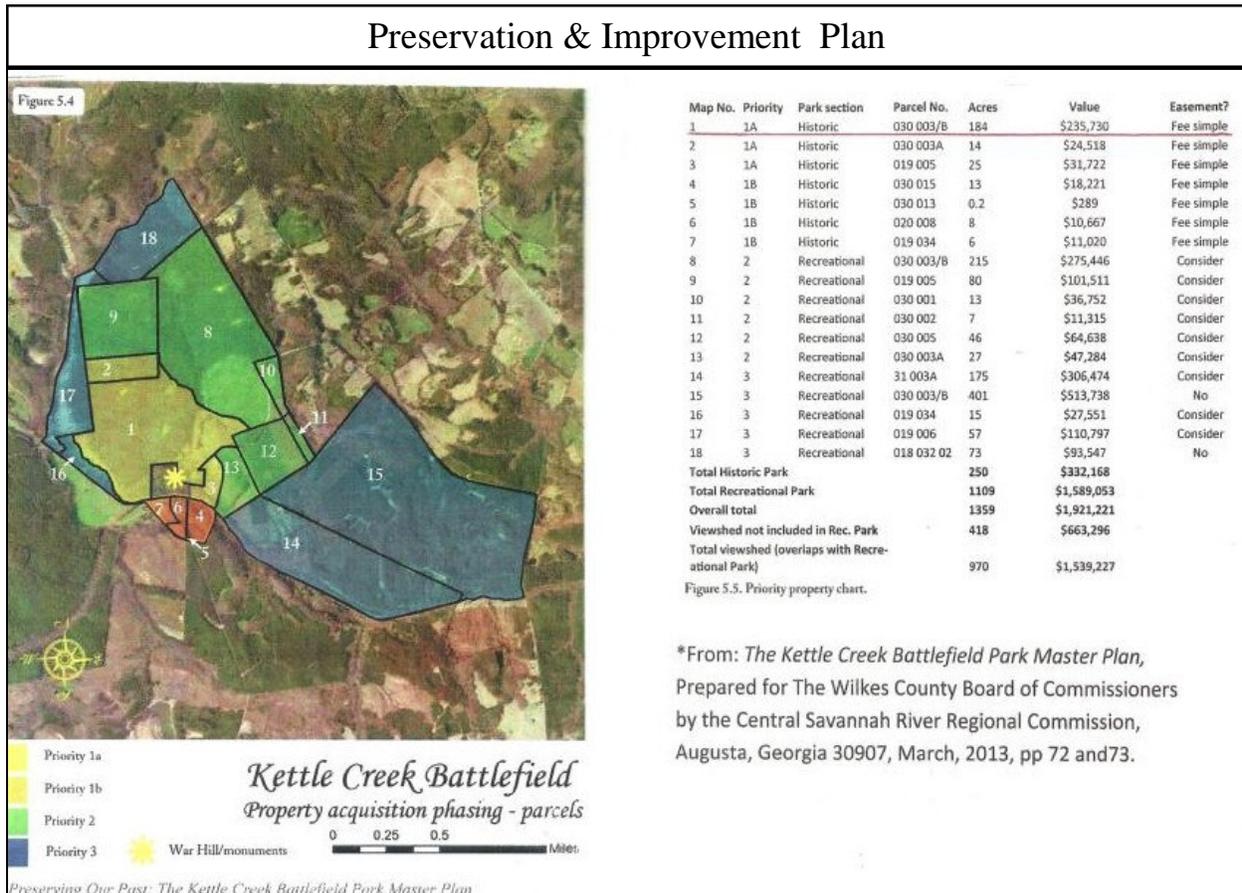
# The KCBA Kicks Off its Battlefield Expansion Effort.

## Purchase of Land

The KCBA has entered into negotiations with the owner of the majority of the battlefield which consists of an 800+ acre tract. The terms of the proposed contract will allow the KCBA to immediately purchase as much acreage as it has cash on hand, while placing a 5 year option to purchase the remaining acres.

This plan will allow the KCBA additional time to raise an estimated total of \$2,500,000.00 which will be needed for the purchase of the entire battlefield acreage. With that goal in mind, we are initiating a fund raising drive between now and October 31, 2013, with the goal of raising \$200,000.00. This amount will allow us to immediately purchase additional acres from the present owner and will be a strong incentive for potential funding agencies to grant monies for the purchase of the remaining acreage.

The initial purchase will be part of section #1, adjacent to the present battlefield, as set forth in the “The Kettle Creek Battlefield Park Master Plan” which was developed in 2013 by the Central Savannah River Regional Commission





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### What We Hope to Accomplish Now

With the funds raised during this initial fund drive, the KCBA intends to purchase acreage adjacent to the existing battlefield. With the purchase of this acreage, the KCBA will be in the position to start the application process for grants that will allow for the construction of a parking lot, restroom facilities, informational kiosk, and trails with historical signage. This will greatly improve the educational aspect of the battlefield.

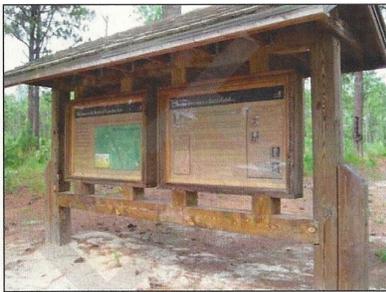


Figure 5.11. Kiosks can assist visitors by providing maps and other information.



Figure 5.12. Wayside signs allow visitors to connect the story to precise locations on the battlefield.



Figure 5.9. Restrooms have frequently been mentioned as a desired amenity.



Figure 1.7 and Figure 1.8. Before-and-after views of possible interpretive trail around War Hill. A paved surface would make the trail accessible to all visitors; wayside signs would provide interpretation.

## **How You Can Help**

The KCBA has established two funds which are available to receive your contributions. Each of the funds is established for the purpose of purchasing land to increase the size of the Kettle Creek Battlefield. The contract for the purchase of the initial acreage and the subsequent option for the remaining acreage is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

You may make a contribution to either or both of the following funds:

### **KCBA Land Fund**

All contributions to this fund will be used to purchase land for the Kettle Creek Battlefield

### **\$5,000.00 Matching Land Fund**

An anonymous donor has pledged \$5,000 in matching funds for the purchase of land for the Kettle Creek Battlefield. For each dollar received from individual donors for this fund, the fund will match the contribution.

“Our Founding Fathers pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to provide us the freedoms that we enjoy today. Is it too much to ask that we honor their memory by preserving for future generations the Kettle Creek Battlefield upon which they fought? Can we not contribute some of our "fortune" to the preservation of this historic site? “

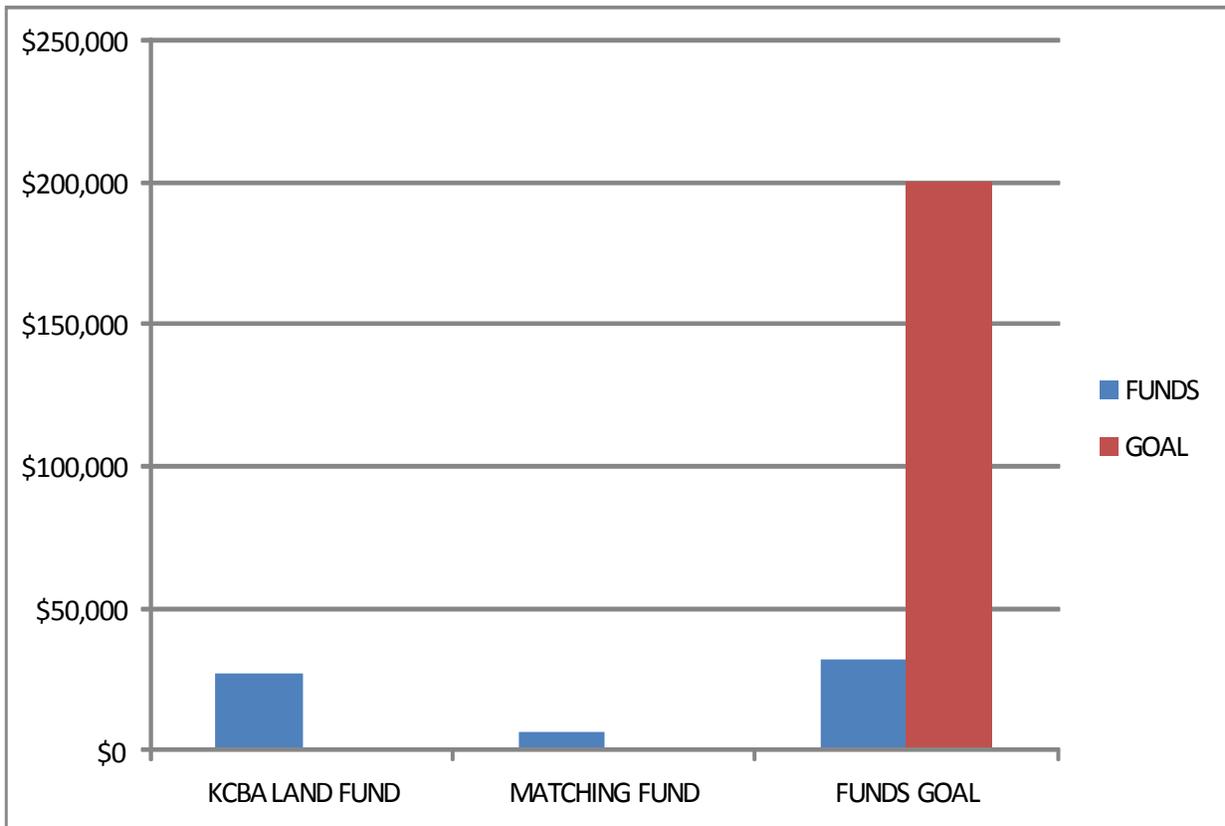
*Lily Garnett, GACAR President, 2012-2013*

You can help to preserve the memory of our brave patriots by contributing to the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association for the purpose of purchasing additional acreage for the establishment of a park on this historic battlefield.

**In the spirit of the 26-year old Col. Andrew Pickens in February of 1779:  
“Let us finish the fight!”**

# Funding Chart

*With your help  
OUR GOAL IS TO REACH \$200,000.00 BY  
OCTOBER 31, 2013*



## Donors List

### KCBA LAND FUND

<i><b>ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS</b></i>	
KCBA	
G.S.C.A.R. President's Project 2012-2013	
Washington Wilkes Chamber of Commerce	
John DeVane Chapter SR	
Hawkinsville Chapter NSDAR	
Button Gwinnett Chapter SAR	
<i>Total Organization Donors</i>	<b>\$27453.87</b>

### \$5,000.00 MATCHING FUNDS

<i>INDIVIDUAL DONOR NAME</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>MATCHING</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>
Jay & Sarah Guest			
Davis J. Chestnut			
Tom & Jane Owen			
William K. Jackson			
E. Lynn Brackey			
<i>TOTAL FROM INDIVIDUALS</i>	<i>3000.00</i>	<i>\$3000.00</i>	<i>\$6000.00</i>

*Help us to continue the fight to preserve the  
Kettle Creek Battlefield*

***Please include the following Contribution Form with your donation.***

## **Battlefield Preservation Contribution Form**

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ is made to the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association for the purpose of purchasing land for the preservation and expansion for the Kettle Creek Battlefield. My pledge is for the following land purchasing account:

**KCBA Land Fund**

**\$5,000.00 Matching Land Fund (Individual Donations Only)**

All checks should be made payable to the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association and mailed to:

**Kettle Creek Battlefield Association  
PO BOX 729  
Washington, GA 30673**

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

For additional information please contact :  
Walker Chewning  
President, Kettle Creek Battlefield Association  
Cell: 678-409-4644 E-Mail: wcjc1@aol.com

# Bringing History Into Life...

## Application For Membership

Yes, I/We would like to join Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc.  
Enroll me/us as a member at the indicated level.

### Levels of Membership

The membership levels below will apply once the Charter membership expires February 2013.  
Patriot Member Annual Dues  (Student) \$10,  (Adult) \$25,  (Family) \$50

Membership level contributions are always welcome.

- Col. Andrew Pickens Member \$500  
 Col. Elph Clark Member \$2500       President George Washington Member \$5000  
 Col. John Dooly Member \$1000       Kettle Creek Battlefield Legacy Member \$25,000

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H)/(C) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

#### Method of Payment

Make your check payable to Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc.

**Mail Membership Application To:**  
Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, Inc.  
PO.Box 729  
Washington, Georgia 30673



# Battlefield Tours

Would you like to learn more about the American Revolution and the defeat of Col. Boyd at the hands of patriot militia leaders Gen. Pickens, Col. Clarke and Col. Dooly? This patriot victory on February 14, 1779, helped the colonies to gain their Independence and it occurred HERE in Wilkes County, Georgia!

*Walk where they fought and learn to appreciate the price of freedom.*

**Would your group like to have a free guided tour of the Kettle Creek Battlefield?**

**We can arrange it!**

For more information contact:

Erin Pollock

Tourism Director

20 West Square

P. O. Box 661

Washington, GA 30673

[tourismdirector@washingtonwilkes.org](mailto:tourismdirector@washingtonwilkes.org)

Office: 706-678-5111 FAX: 706-678-3033



*Have you written an article that may be of interest to our readers?*

Please email your article to  
[wcpatriot@bellsouth.net](mailto:wcpatriot@bellsouth.net)