



GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE PARKS & HISTORIC SITES

ROADS LESS TRAVELED

*News From the Georgia State Parks and
Historic Sites Interpretive and Resource
Management Units*

Volume: 1

Issue: 1

Summer 2015

*Top of the falls at Amicalola Falls State Park
Summer 2015*

Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites

Summer 2015

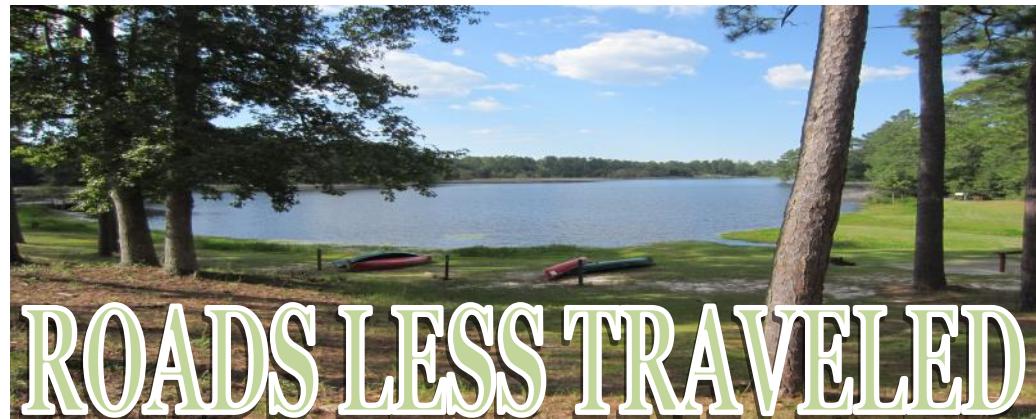
Volume 1, Issue 1

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Welcome to the Interpretive and Natural Resource Units' New e-Newsletter

Hello All,

We would like to welcome everyone to the inaugural issue of ***Roads Less Traveled: The Interpretive and Resource Management Units' e-Newsletter.***

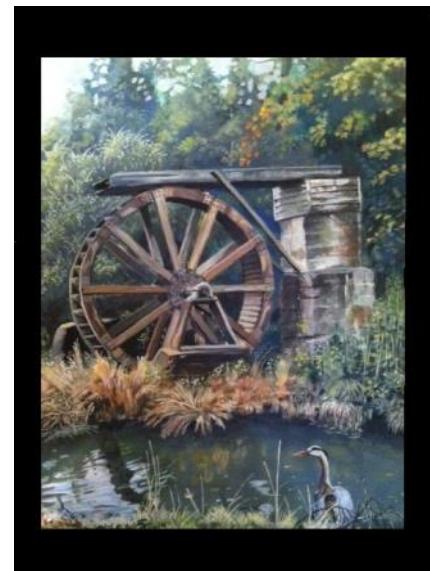
Each quarterly issue will include an update from the Interpretive Unit and Resource Management Unit as well as a couple of short articles highlighting what you all are doing in the field. In addition we hope to throw in some tidbits of park related cultural and natural history and inspirational thoughts along the way.

Our goal is a short , quick read which all can enjoy in a minute or two and share around your offices. As we are limited on space we are asking that any submissions that you send in be less than 150 words and photos be quality images that will look good in a digital format.

Once you have had a chance to read an issue or two please provide us with feedback so we can improve future editions.

Thanks and enjoy the read!

Judd Smith, Interpretive Specialist



**The Water Wheel at the Creek
at Hard Labor Golf Course,
2014**

Acrylic Painting by Phil Delestrez, Resource Manager at Hard Labor Creek State Park, Rutledge, Georgia.

Phil is an accomplished artist and a talented interpreter. He is a division expert in his knowledge of birds and butterflies and has led many training classes on the subject. His artistic work can also be seen at the Panola Mountain State Park Visitor Center.

POINT OF INTEREST

*Georgia State
Parks and Historic
Sites will be cele-
brating its 85th
anniversary in
2016. In 1931 Indian
Springs and
Vogel were creat-
ed as "Forest
Parks" and the rest
is history!*

*As you are plan-
ning your inter-
pretive programs
for 2016 you may
want to add a
mention of this im-
portant milestone
for our division.*

AmeriCorps Is Coming to a Park near You!



Did You Know?

Since AmeriCorps was founded in 1994, more than 900,000 AmeriCorps members have contributed more than 1.2 billion hours in service across America.

You can read more at:

www.nationalservice.gov

This issue's Natural Resource and Interpretive update is to announce the AmeriCorps grant that was awarded to Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites in 2015.

Beginning in August, Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites is proud to be the host for fifteen members serving in the AmeriCorps program. These dedicated individuals will serve at many different parks and historic sites and will be enhancing our statewide efforts in the areas of programming and resource management.

A team of five AmeriCorps members will serve in natural resource management with nine different types of services and approximately one hundred specific projects at thirty two state parks and historic sites. They will be responsible for conducting trail maintenance, invasive species removal, trail blazing and inspection, marking and establishing park boundaries, restoring grasslands and river cane, creating Monarch butterfly habitats, helping to re-establish American Chestnut tree populations, protecting threatened Hemlock trees, and conducting Gopher Tortoise surveys.

Another team of ten will operate on twenty state parks and historic sites. AmeriCorps members will significantly impact the amount of interpretative and recreational programs that are offered at the selected parks and sites. AmeriCorps members will be charged with creating and offering approximately 2,650 new programs and special events over the next twelve months. Their efforts are expected to increase visitation by approximately 44,000 over last year.

The AmeriCorps service members will receive a month of intensive training in the skills they will need for their roles as either resource managers or programmers and will be arriving on their assigned parks/sites in early September. These service members will be valuable additions to our State Parks and Historic sites team. When you see them on your parks please make them feel welcome! Many other state park systems have had tremendous success with the AmeriCorps program and we are planning to grow the AmeriCorps program, so if your park or site is not one of the many chosen for this year's cycle, you can plan on seeing the AmeriCorps service members on your park or site in the future!



Best Wishes for this important new program from your Interpretive and Natural Resource Units.

Georgia State Parks and Historic Sites

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A Great Time, Every Time.

Timber rattlesnake on the trail at Fort Mountain State Park,
Summer 2014.

Mission

To protect our state's natural beauty and historic integrity while providing opportunities for public enjoyment and education.

Vision

Using our system's diversity and a commitment to excellence as our strengths, we will be a national model for quality service, resource protection, outdoor recreational opportunities, ecosystems management and interpretation of our heritage. We will provide an excellent work environment for our employees through effective leadership, proper training, challenging opportunities and a guarantee of fair treatment.



PARTING THOUGHTS AND TAKEAWAYS: Freeman Tilden's Six Principles of Interpretation

POINT OF INTEREST

Freeman Tilden developed his Six Principles of Interpretation while working for the National Park Service. His book Interpreting our Heritage is considered a pioneer work in the study of Interpretation.

Learn more at :

http://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/online_books/sontag/tilden.htm

1. Any Interpretation that does not somehow relate what is being displayed or described to the something within the personality or experience of the visitor will be sterile.
2. Information, as such, is not interpretation. Interpretation is revelation based upon information. But they are entirely different things. However, all interpretation includes information.
3. Interpretation is an art, which combines many arts, whether the materials presented are scientific, historical, or architectural. Any art is in some degree teachable.
4. The chief aim of interpretation is not information but provocation.
5. Interpretation should aim to present a whole rather than a part and must address itself to the whole man rather than any phase.
6. Interpretation addressed to children (say, up to the age of twelve) should not be a dilution of the presentations to adults but should follow a fundamentally different approach. To be at its best will require a separate program.



FREEMAN TILDEN

1883-1930