



## August 1, 2005

### Park Service Appoints Superintendent for Kennesaw Mountain



Southeast Regional Director Pat Hooks recently announced that Dan Brown, the Chief of Resource Education and Visitor Services at Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, has been named the superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park in Georgia. Brown has been acting superintendent at Kennesaw Mountain since January, following John Cissell who retired.

In making the announcement, Regional Director Hooks said, "I'm impressed by Dan's organizational skills, his attention to detail, and his ability to develop strong working

relationships with local communities and partner organizations. I feel he will be a true asset to Kennesaw Mountain and to the Southeast Region management team."

Brown is a 24 year veteran of the National Park Service. Prior to his assignment at Jean Lafitte, he served as the chief of interpretation and resource management at Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site in Colorado. Other assignments include chief of interpretation at Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area in Washington and assistant chief of interpretation at Curecanti National Recreation Area in Colorado. Dan has extensive experience in living history and historic weapons firing, has been an interpretive skills team instructor, commissioned law enforcement ranger and emergency medical technician, a background that will serve him well at Kennesaw Mountain.

"Kennesaw Mountain is a wonderful park with tremendous community interest and support. I'm very excited and look forward to working with park staff, partners, local residents and communities to embrace the challenges ahead" said Brown.

### Southeast Regional Law Enforcement Specialist Selected

The Southeast Region is pleased to welcome United States Park Police Captain Jonathan (Jon) S. Pierce as the Regional Law Enforcement Specialist. Jon reported to Atlanta on July 11, 2005.

Jon started his career with the National Park Service as a seasonal ranger in 1979 in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. For the last 18 years he worked in Washington DC. as a United States Park Police Officer. During the course of his career he has served as a Commander, Horse Mounted Unit Commander, Special Weapons and Tactics, Assistant Commander, Planning and Development Unit, Shift Commander, Operations Division, Team Leader, Special Weapons and Tactics, Shift Supervisor, Patrol Branch, Firearms Instructor, Physical Specialty Instructor, Crowd Management Instructor, Tactical Crime Unit Officer, Field Training Instructor, and a Patrol Officer. With this experience, he will be a great asset to the region.

## Blue Ridge Music Interpretive Center Dedication

In one of his last acts as Superintendent, Dan Brown led the celebration of the grand opening of the Blue Ridge Music Interpretive Center.



Virginia Congressman Rick Boucher cut the ribbon opening the Blue Ridge Music Interpretive Center, located on the Blue Ridge Parkway near Galax, Virginia. Speakers at the dedication ceremony included, from left, musician and nationally-known stringed instrument maker Wayne Henderson; Dr. Susan Mills and Mary Guynn, executive director and founding board member, respectively, of the Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway; Superintendent Dan Brown; Congressman Boucher; Galax Mayor C.M. Mitchell; Joe Wilson, chairman, National Council for the Traditional Arts; Pat Hooks, SER Regional Director; and Virginia Delegate Bill Carico. The City of Galax donated more than 1,000-acres of land for the music center, while NCTA will provide programming for the center, including producing the summer concert series in the adjacent outdoor amphitheater.



More than two decades in planning and construction, the facility includes a previously constructed luthier shop (left), where the art of making stringed instruments is demonstrated, and an outdoor stage and amphitheater (not pictured). The new interpretive center makes the BRMC unique in offering both performance and interpretation of regional music.



At the dedication, Janet Bachmann, long-time Ranger on the Blue Ridge Parkway, received a plaque in appreciation of her outstanding service in support of the center and its activities. The ceremony included, from left, SER Regional Director Pat Hooks, Galax Mayor C.M. Mitchell, Superintendent Dan Brown, Ranger Bachmann, Congressman Rick Boucher, and Joe Wilson, chairman, National Council for the Traditional Arts.



Mountain musicians let loose in the premier indoor concert at the new Blue Ridge Music Interpretive Center.

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**Mary A. Bomar**  
**Confirmed as National**  
**Park Service**  
**Northeast Regional**  
**Director**



National Park Service Director Fran Mainella announced the selection of Independence National Historical Park Superintendent Mary A. Bomar as the new director of the NPS 13-state Northeast Region. She succeeds Marie Rust who retired in March after a long and successful NPS career.

“Mary Bomar has shown great leadership and has extraordinary communication and collaboration abilities, both at Independence and at her previous assignments,” said Director Mainella. “She has done a superb job while serving as Acting Northeast Regional Director, and I am confident she will continue that success.”

Since March 3, Bomar has been running the most densely populated and urbanized region in the United States. Headquartered in Philadelphia, the Northeast Region is home to a third of all NPS museum collections, a quarter of all

historic structures, almost half of the country’s National Historic Landmarks and more than half of the National Heritage Areas.

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**And the Oscar**  
**goes to...**



Phil Francis, Acting Superintendent BLRI upon Supt Dan Brown's retirement

Pat Reed, Acting Superintendent CAHA

Alan Marsh, Acting Superintendent HOBE

Bruce Powell, Acting Superintendent MACA

Paul Carsen, Acting Superintendent, COWP/NISI