

KENTUCKY CAMP CHRONICLE



Newsletter of the Friends of Kentucky Camp

February 1999

MARCH EXTRAVAGANZA!

Come celebrate Arizona Archaeology Month with the *Friends of Kentucky Camp*!

March 6 and 7 is the annual **Arizona Archaeology Expo**, to be held this year at Tubac Presidio State Historic Park, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day. The expo offers educational archaeology programs and many attractions for those interested in archaeology or history. The *Friends of Kentucky Camp* and the Coronado National Forest will be sharing an information table to distribute brochures, information sheets, maps, and *Friends of Kentucky Camp* application forms. Several *Friends* have offered to help staff the table, but plenty more time slots are available. Please call Mary Farrell at 670-4564, or Kathy Makansi at 670-4522 to sign up.

Everyone is invited to our **March 13 Open House**, at Kentucky Camp, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This special monthly workday will also feature:

- ☛ Gold panning demonstrations, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, courtesy Desert Gold Diggers
- ☛ Tours of Boston Gulch hydraulic pits, at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
- ☛ Baked goods & beverage sales
- ☛ Patching galore
- ☛ Adobe brick-making demonstrations
- ☛ Photo displays and brochures
- ☛ Tours of K-Camp, offered by "Mr. Kentucky Camp" himself, Arnold Franks.
- ☛ Deluxe lunch burritos for the hard-working volunteers, provided by Mark South and the Nogales Ranger District.

You can get in on the action - More *Friends* are needed to help:

- ☛ Bakers, to contribute to the "adobe brick" (butterscotch brownie) bake sale - call Betty Leavengood for more information or recipes!
- ☛ Shuttle pilots and gate keepers, to give information and direct people to park up at the top of the hill, and to bring persons who can't walk the road down to the site.
- ☛ Mud people, to show visitors how to patch adobe.
- ☛ People to staff the Bake-Sale and Beverage tables.
- ☛ Clean-up and pack-up crews.

Plus myriad other opportunities - call Betty Leavengood (885-3570) for more information about how you can help. Some preparatory chores need to be done the **February 13** workday:

- ☛ help swamp out Forest Service's Cook Trailer, and take inventory of pots, pans, and utensils
- ☛ mount photographs and captions for poster display.



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

WELCOME TO NEW FRIENDS:

Sandy Doumos
Charles & Lynn Flolliott
Steve Harper
Ann Patterson
Tucson Saddle Club

CLIPPINGS by *Lew Orrell*

Approaching Kentucky Camp en route to another exhilarating day patching adobe and scraping woodwork, you've passed a turnoff with signs pointing to "Greaterville." There's no sight of habitation in the distance; no evidence of heavy traffic in that direction. What is this? A trick? Forest Service humor? What's over there? If you asked, the reply was probably, "Nothin," right?

"Nothing?" "Well, almost nothing. Maybe a house or two, but don't go over there. Looky Loos are not welcome. You might be greeted by a shotgun."

Not very hospitable, is it? Not like the old days when everyone from political candidates to Tohono O'odhams found a welcome in the village. Not even like the pre-village days when all manner of folk were traipsing through the Santa Rita Mountains. Some left their mark; most didn't.

One who did was Lieutenant John Bigelow, Junior, 10th U.S. Cavalry. He scouted the Santa Ritas for the Army in the 1870s. It is not noted that he discovered anything there nor in Tucson. However, when the mapmakers needed a name for the summit near Mount Lemon north of the city, "Bigelow" won the coin toss. Probably only fitting what with a father who was Ambassador to France, a brother, Poultney, a popular writer, and a family name that was prominent in copper mining in Michigan and in Globe, Arizona.

Another who left a mark was an old prospector named Adam Smith. He poked and probed throughout the southeast corner of the Territory staking mining claims here and there. In 1874 he was prowling through the gulches around today's Kentucky Camp and discovered what became identified as the Greaterville Placer Deposits. (This date agrees pretty well with the time of Lt. Bigelow's forays in the area but there are no clues as to whether this is more than coincidence).



Now, if I plodded the wilderness for months on end with no one to talk to but my mule and found the means to financial independence, I'd keep pretty mum about the source. Not so with Adam. Word got around quickly and the rush was on. Within a year of Smith's discovery the small, flourishing settlement of Greaterville and the unrecorded Greaterville Mining District were realities. The village grew steadily until in 1878 it boasted a population consisting of 400 "Mexicans" and 76 "Americans."

Because the placers were moderately rich at that time, the average miner took out a reputed \$10 in gold each day. Doesn't seem like much to crow about, does it? Consider that the going wage for a 10-hour day of back-breaking hired labor was \$1.50 and it's easy to understand the steady influx of miners. As McAneny was to learn to his regret

years later, water for sluicing the placer sands was about as scarce as the sleeves in a vest. But for the limited needs of these solitary panners, water brought in on the back of a burro sufficed and they did not begrudge paying 3¢ per gallon.

Of course these first panners were skimming the cream off the top of the bottle (if any of you can remember glass bottles and non-homogenized milk). As the months wore into years the particles of gold became ever smaller, harder to recover, and further below the surface of the gulch. By the very early 1880s there were easier pickings elsewhere (or so it was believed). Most of the miners drifted off and the village "died," so it is said.

Well, not dead "dead" as the 1880 Census showed 120 inhabitants; an 1890 business directory, 150; and the 1900 Census, 164 persons living in 56 houses, less than a third of which were rented! For decades thereafter the size of Greaterville went up and down like a yo-yo before the village faded away in the mists. In the interim, however, there were many colorful activities and inhabitants whose accounts bear reporting.

TRAIL TO BOSTON GULCH

In 1904 the Santa Rita Water and Mining Company was "tearing up the ground with splendid results," as the *Arizona Star* put it, leaving several large hydraulic cuts in Boston Gulch. However, a lot of our visitors never get to see the remains of the "mining" part of the mining company's operation, so Arnold has long advocated constructing a trail to make it easier to visit the hydraulic pits.

Now, Nogales Ranger District is doing some of the environmental analysis necessary before trail construction can begin. Historian Lew Orrell is searching for a historic photograph of a similar operation that we could use on an interpretive sign to help visitors see how the altered landscape relates to the mining operations. If the environmental assessment and planning can be finished by April, we'll do the construction during the PIT project.

WORK UPDATE

Friend Glenn Haslett and PIT caretakers Steve Harper and Mike Kovach have sanded and scraped and re-glued old doors to ready them for installation. Steve also donated materials and constructed entry steps for the Office (Building D), to help protect the fragile thresholds.

Arnold Franks, Jack Glenn, Jack Mutchler, and Mike have been working on windows for Cabin C, to keep rain and wind out and help protect the interior. Arnold's also been working on a transom window and window screen prototype for the Office, Building D.

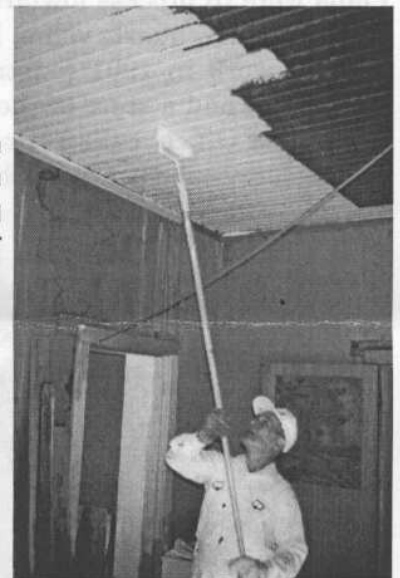


PIT caretakers Bonnie Olin, Mike Quigley, and Mike Kovach have disguised the concrete porch piers of Cabin C with stacked rocks and land-

scape plantings. Miles and Betty Peterson are continuing these and other tasks.

All our PIT caretakers have also been doing adobe patching, studying up on KC history, greeting visitors, and exploring the surrounding countryside. Next on the schedule is veteran Dick Regan from Connecticut, making the second of what we hope becomes his annual PIT Caretaking visit, and Connie and Pete Cathcart of Wyoming, who with Mike Kovach will take us through the end of March. Please stop by and welcome these folks to Kentucky Camp!

Tony Bratosh painting ceiling in the Office (Building D) at November workday.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Finally, an answer to one of our most common visitor questions, that is, "where's the toilet?" Thanks to Coronado National Forest recreation officer Pat Spoerl and the generosity of the Safford Ranger District, a vault toilet will be constructed at Kentucky Camp in the near future! The toilet's not only a prerequisite for the cabin rental idea we've been kicking around, it's also necessary to ensure safety and comfort for our increasing numbers of visitors.



How the Other 90% Lived (cont'd)

by Mary Farrell, Bill Gillespie, & Jim McDonald

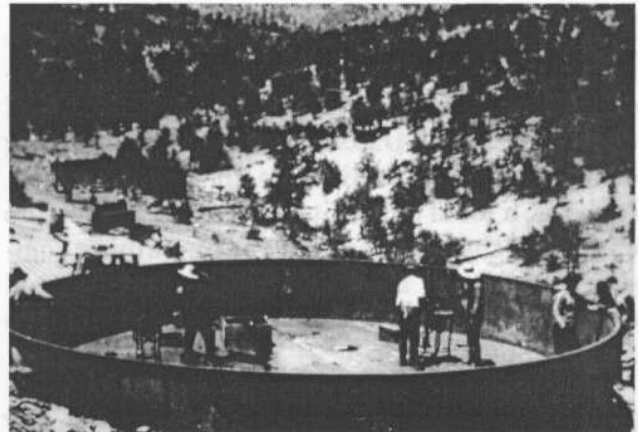
Last issue of the *KC Chronicle* we compared the managers' fine housing at Kentucky Camp with what appears to have been pretty flimsy tent housing in Fish Canyon and Boston Gulch for their employees. Another small Arizona mining company which operated at about the same time exhibits a different pattern. The Exposed Reef Mining Company, incorporated in 1899, was located in the Huachuca Mountains, southwest of the modern town of Sierra Vista.

Plans were to process low-grade ore from widespread shallow quartz veins. More than 100 men were at work in 1901 constructing a large 40-stamp mill and a state-of-the-art cyanide plant. A US Post Office, called Reef, was established even before construction of the mill began.



The stamp mill was completed in 1901 at a reported cost of \$100,000. However, this mill was shut down after a 6-week run, and a new mill begun, closer to ore veins discovered lower on the mountain side. Work on the new mill proceeded sporadically through 1902 but still was not completed by the spring of 1903, when the Exposed Reef Mining Company floundered. Subsequent gold and tungsten companies achieved modest success at the Reef mill, but the optimism of the original Exposed Reef Company was not duplicated.

The Santa Rita Water and Mining Company and the Exposed Reef Mining Company had a lot in



common. Both were looking for gold, and at both sites, the easily obtainable gold had already been mined by individuals or small partnerships. Both companies used sophisticated engineering and technology designed to recover sparser, more difficult to extract minerals. And like so many companies of the time, neither company came close to recouping their investments.

But at the Reef, in contrast to the dispersed and disparate Santa Rita settlements, all houses were constructed of wood, and in the same relatively small area, with dwellings clustered around the company store, office, warehouse, and boarding house. A historical photo overview suggests most of the buildings were board and batten, and a closer photo of what is most likely the manager's house shows a small building no fancier than the workers'.

So what accounts for the difference? Were the Kentucky Camp miners hierarchical elitists while the Reefers were egalitarians? Stay tuned – we'll explore these questions in the next issue.



MORE ABOUT FREE MONEY

by Steve Harper

An amazing amount of restoration and interpretation work has been done at Kentucky Camp with very little hard cash. Credit of course goes to the *Friends of Kentucky Camp*, together with some regular Forest Service crews and annual PIT weeks.

Since Forest Service appropriations have been shrinking, let's consider other sources for the funds needed to continue this good work. First, it is essential that grant requests come from the *Friends*, and not from the Forest Service.

Second, a brief paper, describing Kentucky Camp, who the *Friends* are, and outlining some fundable projects would be helpful. [Editor's note: *this information has been ably compiled by Jack Glenn, in his Partners in Preservation booklet; Steve suggested that if we shorten this to just one or two pages and perhaps add specific donation suggestions, it could be easily reprinted for wide distribution.*]

Third, spread the word! Individuals give 70 to 80% of the money received by non-profits, so don't ignore this source. Many trust funds and foundations must give away certain amounts of money each year, and most of them are totally unknown to the general public.

Fourth, I would urge the members of the *Friends of Kentucky Camp* to find out if their employer and some of the places they do business, especially where they are regular customers, have giving programs. Some employers, like IBM, will match their employees' donations.

Fifth, do research. On the third floor of the main Tucson Library, there is a good section devoted to foundations and grants. In *The Foundation Directory, 1998 Edition*, the Subject Index lists foundations that give in Arizona or regionally or nationally. I think the more local you can get the more likely you will be successful. I noticed several foundations that may be looking for places like Kentucky Camp and organizations like the *Friends*. The Tucson-Pima Public Library system also offers a listing of web sites for

grantseekers and nonprofit organizations: check out <http://www.lib.ci.tucson.az.us/grants>.

Annual reports for these foundations are probably in the library – look them over and note who the Directors are – know any of them? At this point you are looking for introductions and advice on how to proceed with that particular group – “networking” is the 1990s word for it. Eventually you will have to write a funding proposal that will fit their needs to give, as well as our own to receive.

Contact Don Fisher or Betty Leavengood for more information about the information I found, and to get started on your own search. It's great fun, so have a go at it!

ONE GRANT PROCESS...

Arizona State Parks is offering Historic Preservation Heritage Fund grant workshops, designed to provide attendees with a clear understanding of how to complete a grant application. Program requirements and procedures are discussed at each workshop, along with rating criteria and the grant scoring and award process.

Application packets for Historic Preservation Heritage Fund grants are provided at the workshops. Please note that some points may be awarded for workshop attendance. Completed grant applications are due June 1, 1999.

GRANT WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Tucson

March 10, 1999, 1:00 p.m.

Pima County Public Works Center
(Basement, Room C)

201 N. Stone Ave.

Parking available in garage, west of building

Phoenix

March 15, 1999 1:00 p.m.

Encanto Park Clubhouse (1st floor)

2605 N. 15th Ave

Parking available in front lot

Why I Go to Kentucky Camp

by Evalyn Neuhaus

Although I haven't traveled to the ends of the earth yet, I have traveled as far as Australia, seeking adventure. Generally I travel cross-country by motorhome, visiting National Parks and Monuments, historic sites, mountains, lakes, covered bridges, and lighthouses.



After spending several months exploring the hiking trails in the Santa Rita Mountains, an article about Kentucky Camp in the March 1995 issue of *The Arizona Daily Star* caught my attention. It said an old gold mining camp – now a ghost town called Kentucky Camp – sat nestled in Kentucky Gulch in the Santa Rita Mountains.

I had never heard of Kentucky Camp before. Previous mining camps my husband and I explored had only remnants of buildings, but this historic site had complete structures! So one day when my husband and I planned to go hiking in Gardner Canyon, we detoured to find Kentucky Camp instead. I had forgotten the map printed in the newspaper, so it took us several hours to find the camp. Finally we found part of the Arizona Trail, and walked into Kentucky Camp from the southeast entrance.

Just as Betty Leavengood had said in the newspaper article, it was a "Wow!" place. Then an authentic-looking tour guide and historian named Arnold Franks appeared to show us around, giving tidbits of history and lore of the Old West to transport us into another era. I was hooked! When Arnold mentioned the *Friends* helping to restore the buildings, we joined.

I must admit that I have no hidden talents like many members who are expert carpenters,

painters, surveyors, and artists. But I do enjoy chatting with all the members while mudding. I guess all that playing in the mud when I was a kid somehow shaped my mud-working abilities.

The best part about Kentucky Camp is its location – it's practically in my own backyard! And who could want a more magnificent backyard than the surrounding Santa Rita Mountains? Thank you Arnold, for introducing us to this wonderful place.

PASSPORT IN TIME APRIL 19-23

Lots of Friends have already signed on to act as work team leaders or to help with logistics, and generally make sure the PIT volunteers have fun. This year's projects will include mud plastering, site recording at Boston Gulch, and possibly trail construction and woodwork restoration. Please call Mary Farrell at 670-4564 or e-mail her at Farrell_Mary/r3_coronado@fs.fed.us if you'd like to sign up for a day or two, or the whole week.



Jo Haslett and Betty Leavengood patching interior walls of Cabin C.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The next work days are February 13 and March 13, 1999. The March workday is an "Open House" described on page 1. The February 13 workday will also have special events, including:

- ☞ help swamp out Forest Service's Cook Trailer, and take inventory of pots, pans, and utensils
- ☞ mount photographs and captions for poster display
- ☞ sand, paint, and install woodwork
- ☞ clean and paint molding
- ☞ patch and repair adobe walls
- ☞ plus many other important activities

The Annual Passport in Time project is scheduled for April 19-23, 1999. Guest historical architects Martha Robles and Rudolfo de Castillo from Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia will train PIT volunteers and Friends alike in the lost art of fine mud plastering. We'll also indulge in other work activities (woodworking, survey) as personnel and funding permit. Call Mary Farrell at 670-4564 for more information.

The Friends of Kentucky Camp, a chapter of the Coronado National Forest Heritage Society, is a non-profit organization established to help in the preservation and interpretation of Kentucky Camp. Friends sponsor work days, coordinate volunteer activities, and conduct and supervise stabilization and preservation, in cooperation with the Coronado National Forest.

President: Don Fisher (520) 722-9224
 Vice-President: Betty Leavengood (520) 885-3570
 Secretary: Jack Glenn (520) 625-5102
 Treasurer: Arlene Franks (520) 294-9783
 Director at Large: Arnold Franks (520) 294-9783
 Forest Service Liaison: Kathy Makansi (520) 670-4522
 Forest PIT Coordinator: Mary Farrell (520) 670-4564
 Nogales Ranger District Contact: Mark South (520) 670-5496

Visit Kentucky Camp on the internet at <http://www.Azstarnet.com/public/nonprofit/coronado/Intro.htm>.

See past issues of the Kentucky Camp Chronicle (in color!) at <http://www.azstarnet.com/~patish/chrondx.htm>.



Special thanks to the Tucson Saddle Club, which recently donated \$200 to Kentucky Camp!



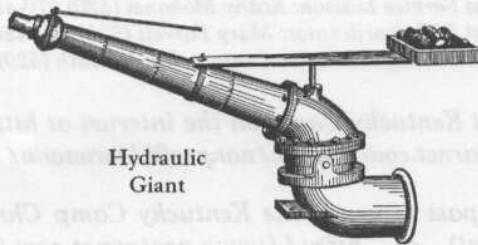
Historic photo courtesy of Linda Peters Roslund.



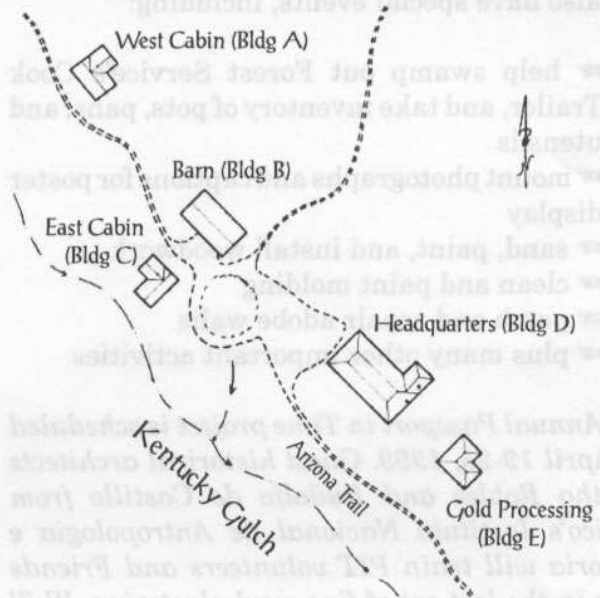
SANTA RITA WATER & MINING COMPANY KENTUCKY CAMP, ARIZONA



Hydraulic
Elevator



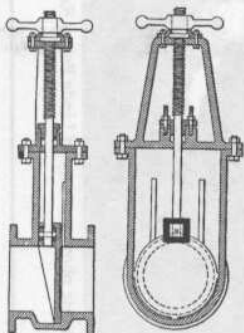
Hydraulic
Giant



Coronado National Forest
Supervisor's Office
300 W. Congress St.
Tucson, Arizona 85701



Pete and Judy Van Cleve
4858 S. Whitewing Rd.
Sierra Vista, Arizona 85635



Water Gate