

KENTUCKY CAMP CHRONICLE



Newsletter of the Friends of Kentucky Camp

June 2000

Milestone Issue!

This milestone issue heralds several significant Friends of Kentucky Camp accomplishments in the last four months. But another major achievement is the new professional production of this newsletter! Friends of Kentucky Camp Secretary Sandy Doumas has offered to format the newsletter for commercial printing for the next couple issues, until a new editor and/or production manager steps forward (hint, hint). Please contact any of the current board members or Forest Service folks if you'd be willing to help with future issues. There are opportunities for writing, layout and design, editing, and production.

Electrical Project for Cabin C Complete

by Mark Doumas

During the past year many of you may have noticed some electrical outlets and lights showing up in and around Cabin C. This is the result of a nine month long project that I would like to tell you about here. Although the goal of this project started off with slightly more modest goals, we now have a light fixture and electrical outlet in each of the three rooms of Cabin C. A porch light makes the front steps a bit more safe to negotiate at night. Plus, there are now motion-activated lights at the latrine and along the path from Cabin C to the latrine.

The primary reason for all this flurry of electrical activity is to help make Cabin C suitable for renting out as our "Room with a View" program. In addition to basic lighting needs, the new system will comfortably support a hot plate, microwave and occasional space heater. Since there are no indoor plumbing facilities in the Cabin, the outdoor lights at the latrine and on the path to the latrine should be a welcome relief for our cabin guests that need to make a midnight "stroll" to use the new "facilities". Although these amenities were not available to the mining community of 1904, they should be a welcome dash of civilization for our cabin guests.

This project got its start almost a year ago. Forest Service funding for the latrine installed as part of PIT 1999 included provisions for lighting. Since electrical power for Kentucky Camp arrives at the site via the power pole behind Building D, we needed to install a long run of underground cable from Building D to the latrine area. This underground cable was laid by the Forest Service with the use of a backhoe in the latter part of April 1999.

Then, from August through February 2000, that cable was hooked up and the wiring inside of cabin C was installed with FKC labor.

The amount of work required to hook-up this main underground cable and install the wiring at Cabin C turned out to be much bigger than originally expected. It was not possible to simply attach the main wiring to the old AC panel behind Building D. We had to install a new AC panel on a post adjacent to the old panel in order to connect in the new cable. On the other end of the main underground cable, we installed another new AC panel on a post about half way between Cabin C and the latrine. This is where the circuit breakers are for the underground circuits to the lights and outlets in Cabin C as well as the circuits to the latrine. Inside Cabin C, metal conduit was installed to each of the electrical outlets and light fixtures.

Construction was done in such a way as to reduce the impact to historical features. All of the added outdoor wiring is underground and out of sight. Where the electrical circuits come up out of the ground and into Cabin C, this conduit was laid along an inside corner next to the back door of the cabin. Later, the sacrificial adobe coat covered the conduit. So there is no wiring visible from the outside of the cabin.

The two new AC panels were located in obscure locations away from the buildings. In the case of Cabin C, we had originally considered mounting the AC panel on the exterior of the cabin as we do today in most modern construction. Its current location about midway

between the cabin and the latrine is partially obscured by a tree.

The wiring inside cabin C is inside metal conduit that runs above the rafters and on the surface of the adobe walls. The amount of wiring conduit was minimized in order to reduce the visual impact. Simple pull string switches for the lights were used in order to eliminate the additional switch box that you are used to having next to the doors. Electrical outlets were installed on a vertical board that runs from the rafters to the mop board. This allowed the outlets to be surface mounted without drilling holes into the adobe. If we ever need to restore the cabin to 100% historical accuracy, the wiring can be removed without leaving a trace.

The result of this project is a safe electrical system for Cabin C and the latrine that should last us for many years to come. We have struck a balance between

"modern improvements" and "historically accurate" as much as possible. Plus, the installation has been made in such a way that no permanent modifications have been made to the historic structures.

A big "Thank You" is in order to the many folks that made this project possible. Mary Farrell, Kathy Makansi, Mark South and the Forest Service in general were instrumental in working through approvals and paying for the materials. Special thanks to Walt Keyes, the Forest Service Engineer, for helping with the initial design and the innumerable "consults" along the way. Also, special thanks to Ron and Joan, the caretakers at Kentucky Camp during this project. They were instrumental in digging some of the trenches and the indoor carpentry. Thanks, finally, to all the FKC members who lent a hand and who picked up some of the incidental expenses.

Kentucky Camp Open House

by Betty Leavengood

"You've really made a lot of progress!" said many returnees to our open house on March 25. First time visitors were surprised to learn that Kentucky Camp was so extensive. We estimate that at least 150 people came to the Open House.

They enjoyed a demonstration of gold panning given in the morning by the Tucson Gold Diggers and in the afternoon by the Gold Prospectors Association of Tucson. Children (and adults) got excited when they saw the flecks of "gold" in the bottom of the pans.

Special guest Kelly Tighe, author of On the Arizona Trail, signed copies of her book. When she wasn't signing she helped with Kentucky Camp T-shirt sales.



Gold panning at the Open House

Although it was great to have our invited guests, the Open House would not have been successful without the help of many Friends of Kentucky Camp. Marie Britton showed the children how to make miniature adobe bricks. Each brick was placed on a paper plate with the child's name on it to dry. The children proudly carried their bricks home.

Arnold Franks, Susan Jones, and Betty Leavengood gave tours of the camp every half hour. Ginny Fisher demonstrated sacrificial mudding. Jim Britton and Clint Waddell showed people the fine art of mud plastering. Bill Gillespie of the Forest Service led a hiking tour to Boston Gulch. Tony and Joan Bratosh, using walkie-talkies, coordinated the shuttle service from the top of the hill down to camp, while Don Fisher drove the van. Ed and Nancy Buell drove down from Phoenix to fill in wherever needed. Ken and Ethel Haber also filled in.

Jo Haslett and Arlene Franks sold homemade adobe brownies, sodas, and raffle tickets. Micki Lee Goodsier was a raffle ticket seller extraordinaire, walking around the camp and asking everyone that came in, "Would you like to buy a raffle ticket?" We made \$183 on raffle ticket sales and \$96 on food and drink sales.

Helpers and attendees were served a great lunch and put \$81 in the donations can to help defray costs. Forest Service folks, Mary Farrell and Kathy Makansi, and Friends Jo Haslett, Doris Pettigrew, and Betty Leavengood prepared shredded beef and chicken

ahead of time for the burritos. Kathy and Doris did much of the work setting up the dinner. Dick Pettigrew helped with moving the cook trailer and cleaning up.

If some helped and we neglected to mention them, chalk it up to a senior moment. You were appreciated!

Second International PIT a Big Success

by Mary Farrell

Twenty-five PIT volunteers from as far away as Connecticut and New York and 18 folks from Mexico joined a dozen Friends of Kentucky Camp and the Forest Service archaeologists in our second international Passport in Time (PIT) project at Kentucky Camp, which concluded April 14. Friends were more crucial than ever this year, planning projects, purchasing materials, supervising work teams, taking care of logistics, and even arranging for evening entertainment.

Probably the most back-breaking but prodigious accomplishment was the completion of Phase I of the headquarters porch reconstruction project; stay tuned for more details in future issues. Amenities and refinements were added to Cabin C for the "Rooms with a View" program, and archaeological crews investigated two historic camps connected with the Santa Rita Water and Mining Company. Our guest experts from the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia helped with both exterior and interior adobe work, and led crews in repairing two large wall cracks, so that now all major structural problems appear to be under control. However, INAH Architect Martha Robles asserts that our own Jim Britton and Clint Waddell are now the pre-eminent mud plasterers of the region.

Martha's students from the Universidad de Sonora helped with every aspect of the project, and took the lion's share of KP duty. Participants were well fed, thanks to Camp Kitchen Queen Irene Bakos and her two assistant chefs in charge of tortillas, Lupe Leon and Chila Gutierrez.



Kentucky Camp PIT 2000 Participants

Sacrificial Mudding

by Betty Leavengood

On Monday of the PIT week, I led the group of sacrificial mudders on Cabin C. In case you don't know, sacrificial mudding is putting on a coat of mud which will be "sacrificed" to the summer rains. We made our adobe mixture out of mud and sand -- three shovels of mud and two of sand. I instructed my fellow mudders to wet a small patch of adobe wall thoroughly and spread on a thin coat of new adobe. This method was slow, but stuck well and rarely cracked. I thought it was the way to mud.

On Tuesday, I once again led the mudding group. Along came Martha Robles, an architect from Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH), who told me I was doing it all wrong. She instructed us to mix just mud to the consistency of a soft ball, then to throw the ball of mud against the wet adobe wall. Then Martha said we should stick small rocks in the adobe. This method saved counting shovels, and throwing was fun and faster. I thought we were now doing the correct method of mudding.

By Wednesday, I had had enough of sacrificial mudding and transferred to the mud plastering project in the headquarters building. However, I couldn't resist checking on the mudders. Another change. Along came Jesus Robels, a mason of the INAH, who told the mudders that we had been doing it all wrong. Jesus said our mixture was correct (all mud) but our method was basically all wet. He said to throw the mud from a trowel against the wall and to insert big rocks!! This method was



Sacrificial Mudding on Cabin C

fast. Jesus was so adamant that he actually removed some of Tuesday's mud!

On Thursday, not being able to ignore the mudding project, I checked in the afternoon to see how things were going. The INAH students and several PIT workers had adopted readily to Jesus' trowel throwing-big rock method and had nearly covered the back wall of Cabin C. After a week of experimental sacrificial mudding, I am now convinced that this last method is more effective. Perhaps the debate on how to mud is over!

PIT Week Includes Fun!

by Betty Leavengood

Passport in Time volunteers don't work all the time. This year's PIT project included three special events.

On Tuesday evening western singer Tom Chambers came over from his home in Sonoita to entertain us with some great old time songs. Besides the traditional songs, such as "Tumbling Tumble Weeds," "Cool Water," and "Ghost Riders in the Sky," Chambers sang one of his own compositions, "Green Sonoita Hills."



Tom Chambers,
singer at PIT

Ken Graun, author of What's Out Tonight? 50 Year Astronomy Field Guide, brought his telescope to Kentucky Camp on Wednesday night. We looked at the moon and stars for an hour and would have looked longer had it not been so cold.

The cold didn't stop our final event, a "Cena" (fiesta). The students from Mexico's Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia decorated the picnic area with brightly colored tissue paper and candle holders with saguaro cutouts. They prepared the best Mexican food with homemade tortillas, carne asada, beans, rice, and cookies for dessert.

Win a Night at Kentucky Camp

The Friends of Kentucky Camp are selling raffle tickets for a night's stay in the newly opened Bed and No Breakfast for the unbelievably low price of ONE ticket for \$3.00, TWO tickets for \$5.00, and FIVE tickets for \$10.00. We're providing transportation from Tucson to Kentucky Camp and back, dinner, and breakfast to the lucky winner. To order your tickets, fill out the form below and send a check made payable to Friends of

Kentucky Camp to Betty Leavengood, 6045 East Edison Street, Tucson, AZ 85712. Your tickets will be sent by return mail. Ticket purchases are tax deductible.

Send in Your Dues

Remember, June is the time of renewal for all long-term members! Don't miss out on the fun, the excitement, the Chronicle, the chance to determine the fate of our organization in your Voting (see below)! See your mailing label to find your renewal year. If it does NOT say "Renew in June of 01" or "Renew in June of NA", renew now! (If your renewal year is in error, contact S. Doumas at (520) 299-4281 or doumas@azstarnet.com.)

Please send me raffle tickets!



Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip _____

Phone: _____

Number of raffle tickets: _____

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ made payable to Friends of Kentucky Camp

Price: One ticket \$3, Two tickets \$5, Five tickets \$10

Mail to: Betty Leavengood, 6045 East Edison Street, Tucson, AZ 85712 (or mail w/membership renewal)

Renew Membership:

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ made payable to Friends of Kentucky Camp for membership until 6/2001. Student (\$5), individual (\$10), family (\$15), contributing (\$25), supporting (\$50), or lifetime (\$200)

(If a mailing label is on the back side of this and your address has not changed, there is no need to fill this part out.)

Name: _____ (if different than winter address):

Address: _____ Summer _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send check and this form to Friends of Kentucky Camp, 716 Calle Rita, Tucson, AZ 85706

Vote: (Individual and student members: 1 vote per office. Other memberships: 2 votes per office.)
(For a "No" vote, leave blank.) Write-in candidates (name of member):

President: Don Fisher YES _____

Vice President: Betty Leavengood YES _____

(Terms of office are two years, provided the office holder agrees to stay. The offices of secretary and treasurer are not up for reelection this year, and Sandy Doumas and Arlene Franks will stay in office.)

VOTE!!

Hurray! We have found most excellent, willing and able candidates for the next Friends of Kentucky Camp board of directors. And you may already know these fine folks: all of our current board members have agreed, with just a little arm-twisting, to stay on in their positions at least another year. Which bodes very well for Kentucky Camp: this past year, with this board's leadership and the participation of many in the general membership, the Friends forged ahead with unprecedented accomplishments: the new well, fund-raising, mud-plastering, cabin rental preparations, the "Bed and no Breakfast" raffle, the electrification project, full support and rescue of the annual Passport in Time project, full adoption of the newsletter layout and production, and now the beginnings of the headquarters building porch reconstruction. It's no wonder that Coronado National Forest Supervisor John McGee nominated the Friends of Kentucky Camp for the National Volunteer Award. Show your support and appreciation for the board candidates' generous donation of time and energy by sending in your ballot with your dues. Please note that write-in candidates are also welcome, if you are interested in helping bring in what promises to be another banner year.

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.

Student (\$5), individual (\$10), family (\$15), contributing (\$25), supporting (\$50), and lifetime (\$200) memberships are available. Send checks to Friends of Kentucky Camp, 716 Calle Rita, Tucson, AZ 85706.

President: Don Fisher (520) 722-9224,
Vice-President: Betty Leavengood (520) 885-3570,
Secretary: Sandy Doumas (520) 299-4281
Treasurer: Arlene Franks (520) 294-9783
Director at Large: Arnold Franks (520) 294-9783
Forest Service Liason: Kathy Makansi (520) 670-4522

Visit Kentucky Camp on the Internet at
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coronado/staffs/natres/kcamp/index.htm>
See past issues of the Kentucky Camp Chronicle at
<http://www.azstarnet.com/~patish/chrondx.htm>

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome; send to Sandy Doumas, 4320 N. La Linda Rama, Tucson, AZ 85718.



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