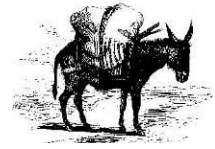
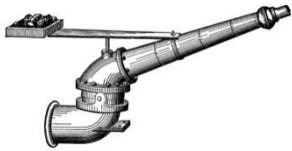


KENTUCKY CAMP

CHRONICLE



Newsletter on the gold mining and ranching heritage of Kentucky Camp, AZ

April 2017

Headquarters Porch Reroofing

By Mark Dumas. Photos courtesy of John Weiss.

On recent visits to Kentucky Camp you may have noticed that the roof of the Headquarters Porch was letting in sunlight and rain through some wide cracks! Alas, the past 16 years of southern Arizona weather have taken its toll on the wooden shingles. Originally installed when the modern porch was installed in 2001, the shingles have served their purpose well but were in dire need of replacement.



The Headquarters porch after removal of 16 year-old wooden shingles.

Fortunately, we had relatively new shingles left-over from the reroofing work completed in 2010 as a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. In that project, all shingles at the site were replaced with the exception of the Headquarters porch. (The porch shingles were still in fair shape at that time.)

So, on November 7-10 of last year, we conducted a work week at Kentucky Camp to replace the shingles on the porch of the Headquarters

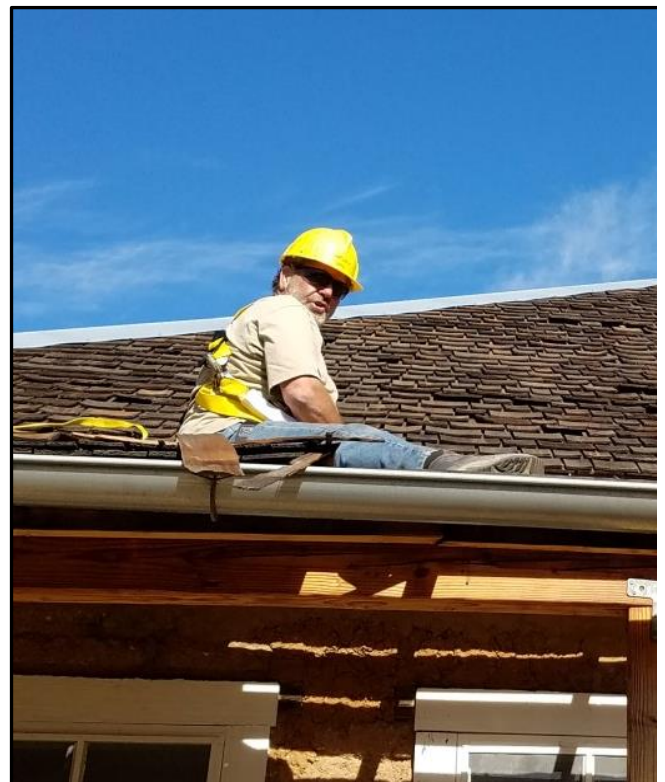
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building with the "leftover" shingles from the 2010 project.

Don Marion and Chris Schragger headed-up the "on roof" crew to remove old shingles and install the new ones. They were joined by caretakers Kat Weisbecker and Sarah Dixon who are also certified to work on rooftops.



Chris Schragger installing new shingles on the Headquarters porch.



Don Marion works on the precarious corner area.... his ever-present utility truck in the background.

On the ground, we had Pete van Cleve, Ron Parrish, John Weiss and Mark Doumas hauling-off old shingles and bringing new bundles of shingles to the roofing crew.



Pete van Cleve tosses away old shingles.



Ron Parrish cleans-up old shingles.

The new roof looks great and we hope it will give us another 16 years of service.

During the work week, we were also able to get a few other projects completed: the rental cabin received some additional mud caulking for rodent-proofing. The historic Iris bed was tended to. And new screen doors were installed at the rental cabin.

Thanks to everyone that contributed to this work week!

Our next volunteer day is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 12 or Saturday May 13. We typically work from 8AM to 1PM with a break for lunch. Contact Mark Doumas at doumas56@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in on-site activities.

Jim Britton Receives Archaeology Award

By Mark Doumas

If you spend even a little time doing preservation work at Kentucky Camp, you have likely met Jim Britton. We know him as the "mud and plaster guy" that helps us keep the unique plaster surfaces at Kentucky Camp in good shape.

It turns out that Jim is well known around the state of Arizona for his expertise in adobe and lime mortar preservation. He is an Arizona Archaeological Society Certified Instructor for Stabilization and Reconstruction. He works and conducts workshops at many historic sites in Arizona.

The Arizona Archaeology Society has recognized Jim Britton as recipient of the 2016 AAS Avocational Archaeologist Award. Congratulations Jim!



Jim Britton prepares mud plaster at the 2008 Kentucky Camp work week.

If you are interested in serving on the Friends of Kentucky Camp board of directors, contact Mark Doumas at 520 990-8152 or doumas56@gmail.com

Our next election cycle is coming up in June. We currently have people lined-up for serving the key director positions but we always have room for folks that want to contribute. Time commitments are generally just a few hours per month.

We are considering another work week at Kentucky Camp late this year. (October or November) The tentative goal of that work week is to re-floor the old kitchen (currently tool room) of the Headquarters Building. Contact Mark Doumas at doumas56@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in this week-long rehab event.

The Sawmill wildfire has been burning north of Kentucky Camp since Sunday, April 23rd. The Kentucky Camp caretaker, Martha Jo Billy was evacuated from the site out of an abundance of caution. As this newsletter "goes to press", the fire has passed within about 1.5 miles of Kentucky Camp but does not appear to be a risk for the site at this time. Up-to-date status and an interactive map can be seen here:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5164/>

Recreation Site Fees

By Mark Doumas

The Coronado National Forest is restructuring its Developed Recreation Program. Developed recreation sites are areas that have amenities such as drinking water systems, fire rings, tables, food storage lockers, grills, benches, garbage bins, restrooms, signs, etc. While Kentucky Camp does have some of these amenities, they are maintained with the efforts and funding of the Friends of Kentucky Camp and the Forest Service Cabin Rental program.

Costs to operate, maintain, and replace developed recreation facilities exceed current and projected revenue. Revenue to manage developed recreation sites includes both federal budget allocations and fees, which represent about 50% of the allocated budget for the developed recreation program.

The Coronado National Forest is looking at a combination of four strategies for restructuring: Elimination developed sites; Transfer management to partners/concessionaires; Increased fees; Increased fee sites.

Of the Coronado's 204 developed recreation sites, 78 are fee sites. An additional 31 developed sites with similar amenities as the 78 fee sites are potential fee program recreation sites. This includes Kentucky Camp.

Between September 2016 and September 2017, the CNF plans to engage partners and members of the public to craft effective strategies to close the gap between the costs and revenues of the current and future developed recreation program.

Based on public comment, the CNF will propose actions to restructure the developed recreation program.

The Friends of Kentucky Camp board does not believe that Kentucky Camp should be considered as eligible for Recreation Site fee assessment because the site does not receive Recreation Site Funding and is supported through the efforts and funding of the Friends of Kentucky Camp and the Cabin Rental Program.

Please visit the Coronado National Forest web site and enter your comments on this proposal at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/coronado/feereview>

From this page, near the bottom, click on "View a Map" Then, on the following page, click on "how to comment".

Ranger District	Possible New Fee Sites
Douglas	Herb Martyr Campground Herb Martyr Trailhead Sycamore Campground
Nogales	Lower Thumb Picnic Area Kentucky Camp Pena Blanca Lake Fishing & Boating Site Upper Thumb Picnic Area Whipple Picnic Area & Nature Trail
Sierra Vista	Brown Canyon Ranch Carr Canyon Picnic Area/Trailhead Parker Canyon Lake Fishing, Boating, and Nature Trail Reef Townsite Mining Interp Trail
Safford	Columbine VC Group Ramada Frye Mesa Fishing Site Noon Creek Picnic Site Riggs Lake Fishing and Boating Site Round the Mnt Horse Camp/Trailhead Shannon Trailhead Soldier Creek Trailhead Stockton Pass Campground Stockton Pass Group Site Treasure Park Campground Twilight Group Site Upper Arcadia Group Campground
Santa Catalina (Tucson)	Alambre OHV Staging Area Bigelow (Butterfly) Trailhead Gordon Hirabayashi Interp Site Molino Basin Trailhead Sunset Trailhead Windy Point Vista

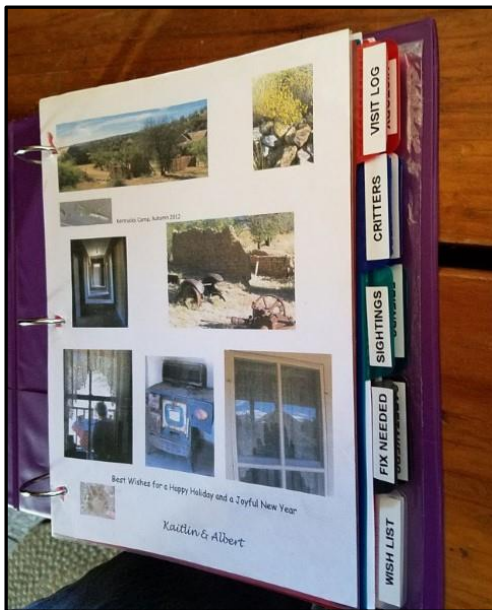
On November 15, 2016, John Weiss and Mark attended a meeting of the Southern Arizona Hiking Club and gave a talk on Kentucky Camp. The hiking club regularly conducts hikes starting at Kentucky Camp and they appreciated learning the history of the site. If you are a member of a group that would like to have a presentation on Kentucky Camp, contact Mark Doumas at: doumas56@gmail.com

Member Donations

Article and Photos by John Weiss

Late last year, two of our members donated a great period floor lamp to the Rental Cabin. They also spiffed up the log books in the cabins for future renters.

Kaitlin and Albert have been staying at Kentucky Camp on a regular basis for many years, and we really appreciate their help in sustaining Kentucky Camp!



News from the Caretaker

By Martha Jo Billy

A Forest Service crew from Montana came by the site on Saturday, April 15th. I gave them a tour of Kentucky Camp. Afterwards, the children of the group staying in Stetson Cabin wanted a "tour" of their fire truck!



A cyclist from Lithuania stayed overnight at Kentucky Camp on April 22nd. He is on his way to Utah on the Arizona Trail and hopes to be there in 11-12 days.



Friends of Kentucky Camp

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Web Site:

<http://www.kentuckycamp.org/>

Discussion Group:

FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Newsletter Submissions:

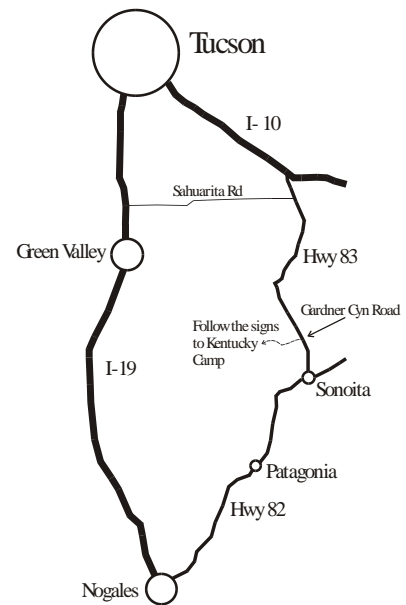
jweiss25@cox.net

Board of Directors:

President	Mark Doumas	520 990-8152
Vice Pres.	Pete Van Cleve	520 378-1955
Secretary	John Weiss	520 323-0358
Treasurer	Nancy Hough	520 578-9053
At-Large	Mary Farrell	520 979-9114

Forest Service Liaison:

Chris Schrager	520 591-8127
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**Memberships:**

Student (\$5) Individual (\$10) Family (\$15)
Contributing (\$25) Supporting (\$50) Lifetime (\$200)

Friends of Kentucky Camp is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization: your membership fee may qualify as a charitable deduction for federal income tax purposes.