KENTUCKY CAMP CHRONICLE

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

February, 2013

PAGE

Hydraulic Monitor Unveiling Event

By Mark Doumas

The weather started off ominously for our hydraulic monitor unveiling event on November 10, 2012. It was chilly and a light mist was falling in the early morning. Fortunately, the skies cleared and visitors showed up in force. (I also attribute the excellent turnout to a very favorable article on the event by Doug Kreutz in the November 7th issue of the Arizona Daily Star.)

The new hydraulic monitor display in front of the Gold Processing Building was a big hit with visitors. It adds a very visual explanation of how pressurized water was used over 100 years ago to blast gold-bearing dirt into sluices.

A lot of effort was contributed in the six months since the monitor was donated in May. Approximately 300 hours of volunteer time was required to put together a conceptual design, obtain approvals and construct the display. Due to the remoteness of Kentucky Camp, many driving miles (approximately 1,800) were also required.

The display is complete with a nice anodized aluminum interpretive plaque. At the November 10 unveiling event, we had a full size mock-up of the plaque on display. The actual plaque arrived later and has since been permanently installed on-site. (See the photo on this page.)

We conducted tours of the site (with special emphasis on the new monitor display) almost continuously for three and a half hours. Afterwards, we led about 15 folks on a hike to Boston Gulch to see where the hydraulic monitor was originally employed in the gold mining operation of the Santa Rita Water and Mining Co.

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A big "thank you" to the Forest Service and the Friends of Kentucky Camp volunteers for conducting this event and increasing public awareness of this unique site. This was a great "capstone" event for this wonderful addition to Kentucky Camp!



Photo courtesy of Mark Doumas

The reconstructed hydraulic monitor (water nozzle) includes this anodized aluminum interpretive plaque.



Photo courtesy of Jim and Marie Britton

Marie Britton admires the hydraulic monitor on display at Kentucky Camp.



Photo courtesy of Jim and Marie Britton

Mark Doumas provides an explanation of how the hydraulic water nozzle was used to mine for gold.



Photo courtesy of John Weiss

Public turn-out for the event was strong through-out the day.

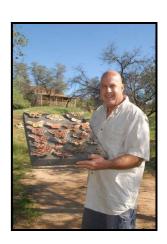


Photo courtesy of Murray Bolesta

Jim Long and Mark Doumas install the interpretive plaque on December 15, 2012.

Giant Silk Moths of Kentucky Camp

In July and August of 2012, I was privileged to be the caretaker at Kentucky Camp. Sure, there were duties to perform, weed whacking, cleaning bathrooms and what not, but what I really enjoyed, was the opportunity to take my passion for insects to a new level. Every free moment of every day and night, I was out looking for the multitude of beautiful and unusual insects that live in and around Kentucky Camp. Of particular interest to me is a family of moths called Saturniidae or Silk Moths. This family contains the moths that are famous for making silk thread. They are large, beautiful and have very interesting life cycles. As adults, they have no mouth parts and die within a few days of emerging from their cocoons. In Arizona, most emerge when the monsoon arrives. Kentucky Camp is located within an area that is internationally famous for its diversity of these moths. Photo credits go to my good friend, professional wildlife photographer, Bill Love. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at Smithk002@gmail.com









Glovers Silk Moth (Hyalophora columbia gloveri)

Glovers Silk Moths are especially large and beautiful. They are found throughout the Rocky Mountains. The northern population range is unknown but perhaps somewhere in Canada's Prairie Provinces. The southern range is somewhere in the Sierra Madre Occidental of Mexico.

Western Polyphemus Moth (Antheraea oculea)

The Western Polyphemus is another very large silk moth with big eye spots on its wings. They are found mainly in the mountains of central and southern Arizona. They are similar to the Polyphemus moth from back east.



Oslar's Eacles Moth (Eacles oslari)

Oslar's Eacles Moths (Eacles oslari) are quite common here, but they are only found in the mountains of Southern Arizona. As you can see in the photos, they can vary quite a bit in coloration.



Mexican Devil Moth (Citheronia splendens sinaloensis)

The Mexican Devil Moth is a beautiful species of Silk Moth. It is a Mexican species whose northern range extends into Arizona. You will not find this moth much further north than a few miles of Kentucky Camp. Their larvae eat wild cotton and manzanita.



Hubbard's Silk Moth (Sphingicampa hubbardi)

Hubbard's Silk Moth is a smaller silk moth from Mexico which enters the United States along the Arizona, New Mexico and Texas border. I have collected one specimen as far north as Sedona, Arizona.



Automeris pamina (Automeris cecrops pamina)

A group of Silk Moths known as the lo Moths includes Automeris cecrops pamina. This moth is only found in the mountains of Mexico, central and southern Arizona and south-west New Mexico. Their larvae eat many species of oak.



Patagonian Io Moth (Automeris patagoniensis)

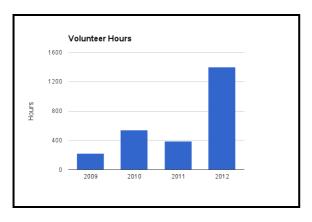
My most exciting Silk Moth find of the year was at Kentucky Camp! This small and extremely rare Io Moth is unheard of outside of Harshaw Creek near Patagonia, AZ. Even there, they are uncommon. During 1999 through 2010, I searched high and low in Harshaw Creek, finding only one specimen that was all beat up and almost unrecognizable. Finally, in 2011, I found about ten males. This year, I collected approximately twenty-five males and females. Three in Kentucky Camp!

2012 Volunteerism at Kentucky Camp

By Mark Doumas

2012 was an exceptional year for volunteerism at Kentucky Camp. 1400 hours of volunteer time was logged during the calendar year. That's equivalent to about 2/3rds of a full time person working 40 hour work weeks for the full year!

Many activities are included in this total. Most of that contribution is due to the highly visible on-site activities such as monthly work days and work weeks. But a significant part of this contribution is "behind the scenes" such as managing the Friends of Kentucky Camp finances, updating membership information and writing newsletter articles.



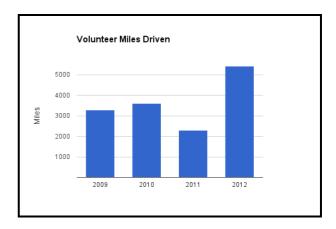
Volunteer hours in 2012 were approximately three times larger than in prior years. Two projects helped make 2012 such an exceptional volunteerism year. The month in which the most hours were logged was April... this was due to the week-long work session in which 11 volunteers contributed about 487 hours to refurbish the rental cabin, apply mud plaster and scan photos.

The second project which required in many volunteer hours was the planning and construction of the historic hydraulic monitor. From the time that the monitor was donated to Kentucky Camp in May through the unveiling event in November, 300 hours were contributed. A bit over half of the volunteer hours for 2012 can be attributed to just these two projects.

One thing not included in these figures is the significant contribution made by onsite caretakers. (The Forest Service manages and tracks this activity

separately.) While the required maintenance duties of the caretaker are generally modest, most caretakers spend much of their time painting, weed-trimming and other "above-the-call-of-duty" activities. When you consider that a caretaker is onsite for most of the months of the year, their combined contribution easily matches the 1400 hour non-caretaker volunteer hours.

Vehicle miles is another area of significant volunteer contribution. Everyone knows how remote Kentucky Camp is! A typical round trip from Tucson is just over 100 miles and some of our volunteers come from even further away.



Despite a significant amount of carpooling, 2012 volunteers contributed about 5,400 miles... about double the contribution of prior years. When you consider the price of gasoline, this is a significant contribution indeed!

It is a fitting coincidence that we achieved this record level of volunteerism in the same year that the Forest Service celebrated the 40th anniversary of the signing of the "Volunteers in the National Forests Act".



Keep up the great work; preserving and interpreting historic sites such as Kentucky Camp are not possible without volunteer help!

Autumn at Kentucky Camp

leaning walls of melting adobe rusted carcass of a once-upon-a-time truck creaking doors open to a shady porch where an autumn-softened sun cannot reach

> young lizards a fat hummingbird chirping sparrows scrub oak leaves

trembling in the vagrant breeze which bends the dried grasses on the sere hillside freckled with

> yellow flowers butterflies a praying mantis

we've met before, almost grown now on the unpatched window screen

limp curtains empty rooms

full of memories, of dreams gone bust ahosts

at the startled edge of vision where a richly deepening sky shifts and settles

the stars and a half-moon

far above the light of our campfire silent flames and crackling wood primal smell of burning wood

> in our hair in our clothes in our souls

peaceful as night-silence, quiet even when a very close coyote howls on the trail below the lion's paw print on the ridge while we watch

connected to, well, to everything: humans being.

-- Albert Vetere Lannon

(Albert stayed in the Rental Cabin at Kentucky Camp last fall and composed this poem during his stay.)

March is Archaeology Month

By Chris Schrager

Kentucky Camp will be one of several historic sites featured as part of the statewide Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month. Our normal volunteer day on March 9th will be highlighted on the State Historical Preservation Office website as an opportunity for the public to see historic preservation and interpretation in action. We will be applying a coat of protective adobe to historic buildings for the purpose of slowing damage due to rain and wind. Visitors will see the recently donated hydraulic monitor (large water nozzle) that was used as part of the Santa Rita Water and Mining Company's gold placer mining operation over 100 years ago. We will also conduct a short hike to adjacent Boston Gulch to show where the hydraulic gold mining operation took place. The event runs from 9:00am and 2:00pm; the hike will depart from Kentucky Camp at 12:30pm.

Several other historic sites are also participating in the statewide Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month.

On <u>Saturday March 2</u>, the Friends of the San Pedro will host "Fairbank Day". Tours of the ghost town and cemetery will be offered throughout the day. A hosted hike from Fairbank to the Spanish Presidio of Terrenate will explore the backcountry in the area. For more information, email <u>fspr@sanpedroriver.org</u> or phone (520) 459-2555.

Two additional events are taking place on <u>Saturday March 9</u>. A docent from the Friends of San Pedro will provide a guided walk through the Murray Springs Clovis Mammoth Kill Site. Contact (520) 459-2555 for more information.

Docents from the Empire Ranch Foundation will give two tours of the historic Empire Ranch Headquarters. For more information, phone (888) 364-2829 or email info@empireranchfoundation.org

Finally, on <u>Saturday March 16</u>, join a docent from the Friends of the San Pedro for a guided walk of the Presidio de Santa Cruz de Terrenate, one of three Spanish colonial presidios located in Arizona. Contact (520) 459-2555 for more information. We are in need of a Secretary for Friends of Kentucky Camp. The Secretary manages our membership list, collects material for newsletters and submits our annual ACC and IRS filings, etc. Experience with Microsoft Word and Excel are needed. Time requirements are typically a few hours per month. Contact Mark Doumas at doumas@mindspring.com if you are interested in supporting Kentucky Camp as Secretary!

Our next volunteer day is Saturday, February 9. We have some light maintenance projects that need to get done. We typically work from 8AM to 1PM with a break for lunch. Contact Mark Doumas at doumas@mindspring.com if you are interested in participating in on-site activities.

Become a Friends of Kentucky Camp Member

Don't miss out on the fun, the excitement, the Chronicle, and the opportunity to participate in Kentucky Camp's future! Renewing your membership is a simple way to support our ongoing rehabilitation efforts at Kentucky Camp and represents our primary source of funding. Student, Individual and Family memberships are very reasonably priced. If you'd like to give at a more substantial level, consider a Supporting or Contributing membership..... Or, even a Lifetime membership! Remember, 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.

To see if your membership is current, look at the mailing label on the front of this newsletter. If it says "Renew in June of 12" (or '11' or '10, etc.) then your membership has expired and it's time to renew. (If your mailing label says "Renew in June of NA", then you are a lifetime member or have received a courtesy copy.)

On-line Membership

In addition to our annual membership newsletter, you can also renew online:

http://www.kentuckycamp.org/

Choose "Support Kentucky Camp". Using the online renewal process, you can also choose to have your newsletter delivered electronically versus hard copy.

We have an email discussion group for Friends of Kentucky Camp where we discuss current events. (such as the new hydraulic monitor donation) To join the discussion group, send an email to:

Friends of Kentucky Camp-subscribe@yahoo groups.com

If you have changed your email address recently and wondered why you no longer receive discussion group email, you need to resend an email to the above address from your new email account. To unsubscribe, send an email from the email account you want to be removed from the discussion group to:

Friends of Kentucky Camp-unsubscribe@yahoo groups.com

You don't need to put anything in the subject line or body of the email. Look for a confirmation email after you send the email.... If you don't see one within a few hours, remember to check your spam folder. Additions to the distribution list are screened for spammers!

Friends of Kentucky Camp

4320 N La Linda Rama Tucson, AZ 85718

Web Site:

http://www.kentuckycamp.org/

Discussion Group:

FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Newsletter Submissions:

doumas@mindspring.com

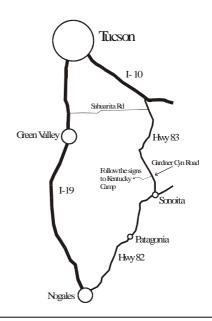
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Memberships:

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

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Friends of Kentucky Camp 4320 N La Linda Rama Tucson, AZ 85718