
Kentucky Camp Chronicle



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

June 2007

PIT-Like Event Tackles Tough Projects

By Mark Doumas

Once again, our spring work week (April 30- May 4) was a huge success. We had a great team of 12 folks that tackled some of the site's toughest projects.



PIT 2007 Crew - back row Martha Jo Billy, John Weiss, Pete Van Cleve, Pat Spoerl, Martin Terán, Isaac Romero, Mark Doumas. Front row Nancy Hough, Drum Haverstock, Doug Maus, Chris Schragger, Kathy Makansi

We made some great progress in those five short days. Here's a run-down of what was accomplished:

New caretaker's trailer - We now have a new caretaker's trailer! This project went like clockwork: on Sunday, the old trailer had most of the utilities disconnected and contents emptied. On Monday, we towed out the old trailer and towed the new trailer into place. By Tuesday we had

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PAGE

PIT-like Event Tackles Tough Projects	1
Meet the Kentucky Camp Caretakers!	2
Views of Kentucky Camp from Jordan	3
Election Ballot	7
Membership Renewal ← IMPORTANT!	7

most of the utilities re-connected and contents moved-in. By Thursday, the new trailer had all utilities connected and debugged, the awning and deck had been re-attached.... even a new concrete pad for the propane tanks was poured. On Friday, our new caretaker, Frank Brown moved in to the trailer for the month of May. Frank had spent the past two months caretaking at the Brown Canyon site in his tent.... he seemed especially thankful for the new accommodations! I believe that every PITLE member helped on this project at one point or other but special thanks go to Doug Maus. His leadership and expertise in trailers made this project go especially well.



Old trailer being hauled away.

Continued on page 4

Meet the Kentucky Camp Caretakers!

By Kathy Makansi and Chris Schragger

In the last year we have enjoyed a diverse group of caretakers at Kentucky Camp. Starting in August Tom Chabot and Pat Young were once again spending their summer month at Kentucky Camp. Tom and Pat have stayed several summers in a row, escaping the Tucson heat and enjoy it immensely each time. Susan Deeley and her three children from Bethlehem, PA arrived in September. Susan home-schools her kids and they spent a lot of time learning the history of southern Arizona. (When they weren't spending time in the Emergency Room... kids got sick on a couple of occasions.) The Deeley's stayed until the end of September and were replaced by Earl and Mary Ellen Edwards from Corapolis, PA. Earl was extremely handy when it came to maintenance repairs on the trailer. The Edwards also assisted us with the annual meeting and left on November 1. Paul and Carol Batty from Ypsilanti, MI were caretakers several years ago and were thrilled to return.

We had a sudden cancellation for December, but Stephen Waylett came to our rescue. We were lucky he was on our list of former PIT project participants and responded immediately to our emergency outreach for a caretaker. In January, Joanne and Gary Goodrich made their annual winter pilgrimage to Kentucky Camp. The Goodrich's are from South Dakota and enjoy Kentucky Camp's milder climate. In February, Joan McCarthy visited Kentucky Camp from San Jose, CA. She can now add the title of wrangler to her resume. Joan was instrumental in the reunion of a mama cow with her calf. George and Jane Collier arrived in March. This visit was Collier's second and they were extremely helpful during the Old Pueblo 50 mile run. Bill Carpenter and Sylvia Barnard arrived in April for their second visit. Bill and Sylvia are building their own house in Montana and used some of those skills around Kentucky Camp during their stay. Before they left they committed to return next spring.

May Caretaker, Frank Brown, very kindly delayed his arrival by a week, so we could bring in a new caretaker's trailer during the PIT week. This month,

Tom Chabot and Pat Young will be spending the month of June at Kentucky Camp. The Caretaker's trailer is currently available from July 1 – July 23 and the months of August and September. If anyone is interested or knows someone who might be interested in spending time as site caretaker, please contact Kathy Makansi at (520) 760-2502

Reminder:

October 13th is our next special event. This is the new date for the Kentucky Camp open house. If you are interested in helping on planning for this event, please contact Mark Doumas at (520) 299-4281 or doumas@mindspring.com

Views of Kentucky Camp from Jordan

By Mary Farrell

The protection and preservation of cultural and natural resources can be a tricky business. It's hard enough at Kentucky Camp, which benefits from the work and skills of volunteers, the gratitude of the visiting public, the generosity of donors, and the support of the Forest Service. What would we do if we had to face economic and social pressures for development and modernization? What if the livelihood of many families depended on the development? On the flip side, what would we do if the O'odham and Apaches who used to inhabit the land were still making their living there in traditional ways that argued against development?

Challenges such as these are the daily bread of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, or RSCN. In Jordan, nomadic Bedouin traditions coexist with modern lifestyles, and traditional tents stand beside the ancient ruins of past civilizations. Two representatives from the RSCN visited Kentucky Camp in February 2007. Arizona's desert scenery and earthen architecture made the visitors feel at home, but their reason for visiting Kentucky Camp was more official than aesthetic. The RSCN was intrigued by the way that Kentucky Camp has integrated modern use (for example, the fact that the "Rooms with a View" program helps to fund maintenance at the site, and that indigenous people such as the Ak Chin Indian Community have used the camp as a base for traditional crafts).

In Jordan, the RSCN works to conserve the biodiversity of Jordan by integrating conservation programs with cultural programs. Here is one of several examples described on their web site, www.rscn.org:

Along the western edge of the Dana nature reserve is a remote and beautiful area called Feynan, which is home to many special plants and animals. It is also home to many Bedouin families who depend on grazing goats inside the

reserve. These families have suffered greatly in recent years from droughts and loss of subsidies for goat feed and they are among the poorest people in Jordan. Not only this, but the sheer number of goats they have causing serious damage to the nature reserve.

The Feynan goat leather project is an innovative attempt to improve the living standards of the local people whilst protecting the wildlife of this world-class nature reserve. Instead of fighting the goats, the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature tried to solve the problem by investing in them. It experimented with ways to make each goat worth more money, so that Bedouin herders can get the same (or more) income from fewer animals and thereby reduce the grazing pressure in the reserve. Making attractive crafts from the goat leather was one of the ideas used to raise the value of the goats thus reducing the impact of their destructive grazing habits.

The goat leather project started in Feynan in 1999 using simple equipment inside a Bedouin tent through curing, tanning and framing goat leather into beautiful nature boxes. In the same year, fundraising efforts enabled an old, one-room school to be converted into a leather-processing workshop and a professional leather worker to be employed to train local women.

It's a long way from Jordan to Arizona, and a long way from Bedouin goat-herding to the lifestyles of the members of the Friends of Kentucky Camp or the Ak-Chin basket weavers. However, public lands in the United States face similar pressures between economic developments versus preservation, as evidenced in the current debate over the mining proposed for the Santa Rita Mountains north of Kentucky Camp. Even as Jordan's RSCN came to Kentucky Camp for ideas, we might want to look to Jordan for inspiration about integrating conservation and sustainable economic benefits.

Continued from page 1



Moving the new trailer into position

HQ tool room clean-out - Throughout the week, we managed to completely empty the Headquarters building tool room. (aka original kitchen) We then moved only those items we have a use for back into the tool room. We have lots more space and I think things will be easier to find. On Friday, Bill Hargis from Brown Canyon Ranch came by and picked through our "excess" pile.... he took a number of duplicate tools and buckets of hardware that will be useful for efforts at BCR. We are planning to haul what's left of the "excess" pile to the swap meet in Tucson where we hope to do some fundraising. A number of folks assisted on this project but special thanks to Pete Van cleve... he painstakingly whittled-down all those bins of screws, nails, hardware and duplicate tools into a much more manageable tool room.

Headquarters doors - John Weiss and Drum Haverstock installed internal doors on the Headquarters building all week. I counted eight new doors as I was packing-up on the final day of the PITLE. These were very professionally installed: the old hinge and latch holes in the existing door frames were first sealed and sanded. The new doors are very solid and fit the door frame like a Swiss watch. There is certainly more to do here: install remaining doors, paint, and install door knobs and stops..... But John and Drum put a huge dent in this project.



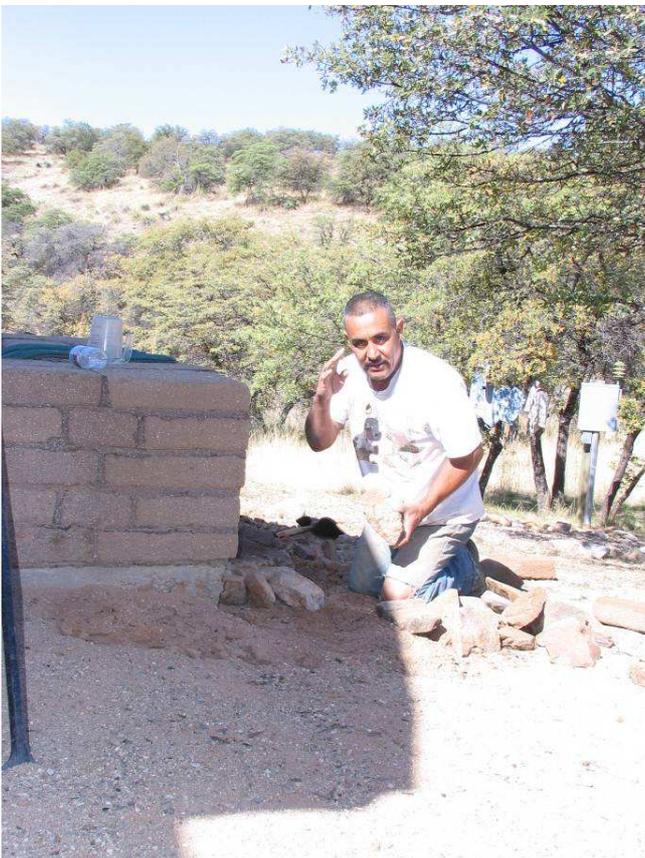
John Weiss and Drum Haverstock install one of many Headquarters Building doors

Slide Scanning - Throughout the week, Nancy Hough, Pat Spoerl and Martha Jo Billy used our computer set-up to scan and label Forest Service slides from the 1980-1990's into digital form. With these slides now in digital form, they will be much easier to search and distribute. This project turned out to be loads of fun because we were constantly seeing how far we've come since the site was first acquired by the Forest in 1989. My rough estimate is that we scanned and labeled about 800 slides! That's probably half of the total number of slides.... so maybe we'll set up the computers at the next PITLE and do the remaining slides.



Nancy Hough, Martha Jo Billy and Pat Spoerl scanning slides

FKC Office - We now have an office to store all the FKC records and fund-raising items. This is the room next to the new kitchenette in the headquarters building. This was very much a team effort: Martin and Isaac applied the fine mud plaster to the walls. I cleaned old paint off the floor. Pete Van Cleve painted the base boards and trim. Martha Jo Billy refinished the wooden desk formerly in the Gold room. (It looks VERY nice) John Weiss and Drum Haverstock installed a door complete with deadbolt for security.



Isaac Romero builds a rip-rap walkway at Stetson Cabin.

We are appreciative of Kathy Makansi and Chris Schragger's support during the week. Their frequent trips to the site to provide guidance, help with key decisions and haul-off the trash were a huge help!

As always, I appreciated the time to work with all the PITLE team... and to kick-back during the evenings and reconnect with what everyone is doing in their "everyday" lives. I'm already looking forward to next year's PITLE!

Kentucky Camp was recently featured in the Arizona Daily Star. (A Tucson daily newspaper) The article by Doug Kreutz describes all the cabins in the Forest Service's "Rooms with a View" program. Our Forest Service liaison, Kathy Makansi, was interviewed for the full page article. The article is in the ¡Vamos! section of the Sunday, June 3rd 2007 issue.

More Photos From the April/May "PIT-Like Event"



Martha Jo refinishes the desk



Old trailer (left) meets new trailer (right) at the top of hill



Pete cleans out the tool room



Moving the caretaker trailer awning

IMPORTANT!

Please detach (or copy) this page and return to the Friends of Kentucky Camp Secretary by June 22, 2007:

Pat Spoerl
12250 N. Copper Spring Trail
Oro Valley, AZ 85755

Friends of Kentucky Camp Mail-in Ballot

Our current Secretary and Treasurer were appointed mid-term (Fall 2006) by the board. We now need to officially elect them for a full two year term. The board recommends a "For" vote for Pat and Nancy. (They have been doing a great job!) For your vote to count, you must be a Friends of Kentucky Camp member.... See below.

Secretary	Pat Spoerl	For _____	Against _____
Treasurer	Nancy Hough	For _____	Against _____

Membership Renewal

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 single largest 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: all dues are tax deductible.

To see if your membership is current, look at the mailing label on the other side of this page. If it says "Renew in June of 07" (or '06 or '05) 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.) If your renewal year is in error, contact Pat Spoerl at 520 297-7347 or patsprl@aol.com.

Renew Membership:

Enclosed is a check for \$ ____ made payable to Friends of Kentucky Camp for membership until 6/2007.

Please circle:

Student (\$5)	Individual (\$10)	Family (\$15)	Contributing (\$25)
Supporting (\$50)	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: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Friends of Kentucky Camp

12250 N. Copper Spring Trail
Oro Valley, AZ 85755

Web Site:

<http://www.aztecfreenet.org/fkcamp/>

Discussion Group:

FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Newsletter Submissions:

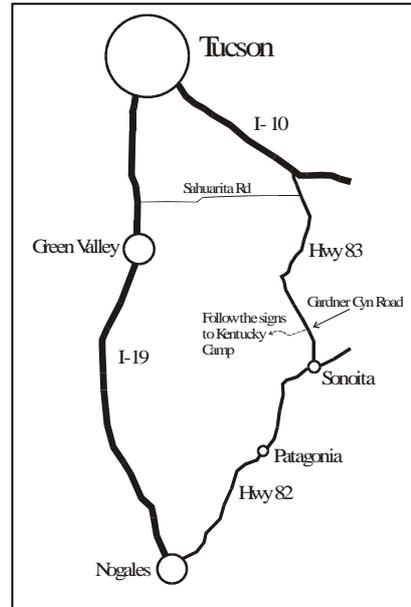
doumas@mindspring.com

Board of Directors:

Mark Doumas	President	520 299-4281
John Weiss	Vice President	520 323-0358
Pat Spoerl	Secretary	520 297-7347
Nancy Hough	Treasurer	520 578-9053
Pete Van Cleve	At-large	520 378-1956

Forest Service Liaison:

Kathy Makansi 520 760-2502



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: all dues are tax deductible.

Friends of Kentucky Camp
12250 N. Copper Spring Trail
Oro Valley, AZ 85755