

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

June 2010

PAGE

April Work Week

By: Mark Doumas

Our week-long work session at Kentucky Camp was a great success. We tackled several significant projects and even had a surprise ending!

The event got under way on Sunday April 18 with the arrival of myself, Drum Haverstock, John Weiss and Pete van Cleve. Jim and Marie Britton had arrived several days earlier. Steve Waylett, the site caretaker, was also on hand. Kathy Makansi and Chris Schrager also made visits during the week.



John and Drum record the plumbing underneath the bath room floor

One of our top priorities was to replace part of the flooring in the Headquarters Building "bathroom". This room originally had a toilet, lavatory and probably a bath tub. All of these have long since been lost to history but the remaining plumbing and water-damaged floor boards tell the story. About half of the flooring was removed and the underlying pipes were recorded. The floor joists were re-leveled and new flooring installed. John

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This is a really important newsletter: our annual election and membership renewal form is on page 3. Please take a few minutes to fill-out the form and return it.

Weiss pre-stained the now floor boards so that they very closely matched the appearance of the older floor boards. A plexiglass cover was installed over the old toilet floor mount to preserve a view of the original intent of this room. New base boards were installed and painted. This room looks great and is ready to use.



The finished product: the difference between the new and old floor boards is barely

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discernable. Note the Plexiglas cover over the toilet fitting at the left of the photo. Jim Britton led the investigation of the stone footing for the chemical storage shed on the Gold Processing Building. A little bit of background is in order here: Jim wrote an article in the February 2009 newsletter that described how he deduced the location of this shed. Jim got inspired by reading an even earlier February 2008 article by Bill Gillespie on the historic inventory of McAneny's estate which described the contents of a 5' X 8" frame shed adjacent to the Gold Processing building. Jim noticed a 2" X 4" board attached to the side of the Gold Processing Building which suggested this is where a shed's roof may have attached to the main building. Some simple measurements of the alignment of stones on the ground beneath the 2 X 4 pretty much confirmed the location of the storage shed.

At this year's PITLE, the area around the stones was cleared of weeds and recorded. The stones that had rolled down the hill were retrieved and restacked in an approximation of the original foundation.



Jim stands next to the stones that form the storage shed foundation.

Jim and Marie also did extensive work on the interior walls of the Gold Processing Building. Additional lime plaster was applied in the large room while some mud erosion problems in the small room were repaired. I also managed to put together a rough plan for future installation of electric lights and outlets in this building... a precursor for turning this building into our future visitor's center.



Marie, Kathy and Sandy sling mud on the South side of the Gold Processing Building

Our third main project was the reapplication of sacrificial mud on the exterior adobe walls. Several the adobe walls at Kentucky Camp have really begun to show the effects of wind and rain. The sacrificial coat of mud has been eroded away by several inches in many places. We determined that the South and West sides of the Gold Processing Building were the most in need of repair. Chris had previously delivered a truckload of dirt that was excellent for adobe repair: easy to work with and readily sticks to the old adobe. We spent at least a few hours each day buildingup the sacrificial coat on these walls. There is still a bit more that needs to be applied but we made a lot of progress towards protecting these walls.

Back by popular demand was my alter-ego,

"Dutch", to cook some simple meals including a different Dutch oven concoction each night. I think everyone enjoyed the cooking and, as "Dutch" likes to say: "any of my meals that doesn't kill the guests is considered a success!"



Dutch oven in action

Weather during the week was generally very good. Towards the end of the week, the skies clouded up and provided some light showers. Then, on Friday morning, we awoke to a respectable snow flurry that had covered the site in a couple of inches of the white stuff... a beautiful finale for a very fun and productive week!

New Brown Canyon Ranch Web Site By: John Weiss

This past February, the <u>Friends of Brown Canyon</u> <u>Ranch</u> sought information regarding a web presence for the BCR Historic Site.

They desired a website similar to the Kentucky Camp site, so Chris Schrager (Forest Service liaison for the sites) asked us for some help. Both Brown Canyon Ranch and Kentucky Camp are chapters of the Coronado National Forest Heritage Society.

We put together a basic "Home Page" for BCR and provided some instructions on how to create a provider account and establish an Internet Domain for the site.

Darrel Axtell, a BCR board member, was put in charge of deploying the BCR web site. He signed up with Fatcow, the same service provider as Kentucky Camp, and created the Internet domain: browncanyonranch.org.

Darrel is now in the process of constructing the BCR website.

You may visit the BCR website at <u>http://browncanyonranch.org</u>. Again, this site is currently 'under construction', so stop by frequently to check out the progress.

Our next work day at Kentucky Camp is Saturday, July 10th. We'll be doing some light maintenance and planning for the next steps.



Desert Hyacinth



Evening Primrose (and Drum)





Kentucky Camp Chronicle

IMPORTANT!

Please detach (or copy) this page and return to the Friends of Kentucky Camp Secretary by July 31, 2010:

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

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 10" (or '09 or '08) 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 6/2011.

Please circle:

Student (\$5) Supporting (\$50

Individual (\$10) Lifetime (\$200)

Family (\$15) Contributing (\$25)

(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 Mail-in Ballot

Our current Secretary and Treasurer positions are now due for re-election. Pat and Nancy have agreed to serve another two-year term. We now need to officially re-elect them... the board recommends a "For" vote for Pat and Nancy. For your vote to count, you must be a Friends of Kentucky Camp member.... See below. If you are a lifetime member and want to avoid the cost of mailing-in a ballot, simply email patsprl@aol.com with your "For" or "Against" vote.

President	Mark Doumas	For	Against
Vice President	John Weiss	For	Against
Director-at-Large	Pete Van Cleve	For	Against

Friends of Kentucky Camp

12250 N. Copper Spring Trail Oro Valley, AZ 85755

Web Site: http://www.kentuckycamp.org/

Discussion Group:

 $\label{eq:rescale} Friends of Kentucky Camp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com$

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)

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