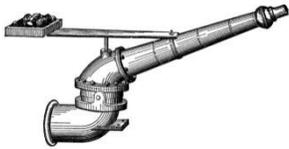


# KENTUCKY CAMP



# CHRONICLE



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

June 2017

## Road Improvement Project

By Chris Schrager

The drive to – and into – Kentucky Camp is much less jarring, thanks to grading and improvements completed earlier this year by the Coronado National Forest Road Crew.

The work began with the grading of Forest Road 163, which brings visitors from the Gardner Canyon Road to the hilltop parking area by the gate. This work is scheduled every one to two years; however, the entry road into the site had gone several years since previous maintenance. The resultant wear on the water-bars – the low, diagonal “humps” that direct water run-off away from the roadbed – had caused severe gulying, both along the road itself and in downslope areas to the side. That erosion was undercutting some of the dry-stacked stone walls, as well as causing ever-deeper channeling across the site.



Horse riders enjoy the new road surfaces through Kentucky Camp.

In order to avoid damage to any subsurface resources, fill was taken from the hilltop parking area, which had already been bladed during construction. After grading the road within the site, the road crew offered to keep their equipment on-site long enough to spread aggregate over the graded roadbed; this would

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### PAGE

Road Improvement Project	1
Cell Phone Service	2
Coronado Outdoors	2
Screen Door Project Wrap-up	3
Site News	3
<b>IMPORTANT</b> → Membership Renewal	4
Board of Directors Vote	4

greatly increase the longevity of improvements.

With the help of funding from the “Rooms with a View” Arizona Cabin Rental program, the material was purchased and delivered to the hilltop, where a combination of heavy equipment was used to place and compact it.



Installing new steps adjacent to the new roadbed on the path to the caretaker trailer.

The result is smoother travel within the site, and better protection for the ground surface and historic resources. As an added bonus, leftover aggregate was used to re-surface and expand the parking area – more space for more visitors!

Thanks to all parties for their support of preservation and visitation at Kentucky Camp.

## Cell Phone Service

By Mark Doumas

Thanks to a generous donation by Carrie Billy and technical skills of Ron Parrish, we now have limited cell phone service at the Kentucky Camp caretaker trailer.

The existing wired phone service is still in place but it has a noisy connection and results in a long distance fee every time it's used. The new cell phone coverage is made possible by a device called a cell phone booster. It amplifies weak cellphone signals to create a small zone of cell phone coverage around the caretaker trailer. The boosted signal provides a fairly reliable connection to the Verizon carrier and allows our caretakers to have some limited internet connectivity during their stay at remote Kentucky Camp.

Thanks again to Carrie Billy and Ron Parrish!



Ron Parrish adjusts the new cell phone booster antenna while Mark Doumas supervises. Photo courtesy of MarthaJo Billy

## Coronado Outdoors

By Mark Doumas

Coronado Outdoors is a new collaboration between Coronado National Forest and Sky Island Alliance to promote volunteerism and stewardship of public lands in Southern Arizona. Their goal is to improve collaboration among all partner organizations working with the Coronado National Forest. There are a surprisingly large number of these partner groups... approximately 20 including Friends of Kentucky Camp.

On May 13, I had the honor of representing Friends of Kentucky Camp at the inaugural Partner Appreciation Day conducted by Coronado Outdoors. It was a huge success thanks to all of the dedicated staff and volunteers who showed up. Forest Supervisor Kerwin Dewberry delivered a keynote address, we had door prizes and goodie bags, and attendees were given certificates of appreciation from the Forest Service.



Mark Doumas accepts Friends of Kentucky Camp appreciation certificate from Kerwin Dewberry.



## Screen Door Wrap-Up

Article and Photo by John Weiss

During the work day in May, the "Replace the Screen Doors" project was completed.

The last door replaced was the Headquarters Building at the east tool room door. The project consisted of replacing all 17 screen doors at the site. Previous new screen doors from the year 2000 were not substantial because the rails and stiles were made of wood that was finger-jointed together. This caused failure or near-failure in most of those doors, due to flexing and simply too much use for these doors.

Coppa Woodworking in Long Beach, California offered a nice line of doors to choose from for the new doors. They are made from solid clear Douglas fir and most closely matched the original doors. Each door received a primer coat and two final latex coats of paint.



This picture shows a new door on the left, before painting. The center door is a year-2000 finger-jointed door.

The door on the right is a special door. It is the only original screen door that was found when the Forest Service acquired Kentucky Camp in 1989. It has been rehabbed and installed in the Gold Processing Building's west door opening.

## Site News

By Chris Schrager

The Passport in Time program has been generally successful in recruiting volunteer hosts on-site but a series of events has left the caretaker trailer unoccupied for a few months this summer. First, our long-time April site host, MarthaJo Billy, was evacuated during the Sawmill Fire and had to leave a week early. (No person or property was harmed by the fire)

Fred Bradshaw, our May caretaker, arrived at Kentucky Camp but his wife had to stay behind in Texas; medical issues necessitated Fred's early return to be with her. Then, we were caught somewhat off guard by the late cancellations of our June and July site host commitments, and had been waiting for August applicants.

As a result, our next confirmed site host will be arriving September 1st and we expect caretaker coverage from that time through the end of the year.

We have re-opened the caretaker position for the summer months on the Passport in Time website, but we encourage Friends of Kentucky Camp to come out and "guest host". Even a night or two (or just a day visit!) is a benefit by having folks on the grounds, checking the bathrooms and rental cabin, etc. If you want to spend evenings in the trailer, please give Kathy (520 400-9274) or Chris (520 591-8127) a call. Thanks for helping protect the wonderful resources at Kentucky Camp!

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Coronado National Forest announced its Record of Decision concerning the proposed Rosemont Mine project which is located approximately five miles north of Kentucky Camp. The ROD approves the Mine Plan of Operations once it's amended with provisions in the ROD.

The ROD is not the final permit needed to move forward with the project. The Army Corps of Engineers must also approve the project. More information is available at:

<http://www.rosemonteis.us/>

**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 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 17" 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 John Weiss at 520 323-0358 or [jweiss25@cox.net](mailto:jweiss25@cox.net).

**TWO Ways to Renew:**

1) Renew online at the Friends of Kentucky Camp website:

<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.

2) Renew using the traditional mail-in form on the next page.

Many thanks to Nancy Hough for her 15 years of service as the Friends of Kentucky Camp Treasurer! We've always appreciated her quick attention to deposits, reimbursements and "all things money" for the Friends. Nancy recently announced her decision to step down from the Treasurer position... and we are delighted to announce that Ron Parrish has agreed pick up this job from Nancy! (See the ballot on the next page for the overall proposed slate of directors.)

Our next volunteer day is planned for Friday, July 14 from 8 AM to 2 PM. We'll be doing some light maintenance tasks that won't require much exposure to the July sun.

If you have not worked on-site in the past, you will need to fill-out a Forest Service volunteer form in advance of the volunteer day. Contact Mark Dumas at [doumas56@gmail.com](mailto:doumas56@gmail.com) if you need a form.

We have an email discussion group for Friends of Kentucky Camp where we discuss current events. To join the discussion group, send an email to:

**[FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.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:

**[FriendsofKentuckyCamp-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:FriendsofKentuckyCamp-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.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!

**IMPORTANT!**

If you prefer to renew your membership using the traditional mail-in form, please detach (or copy) this page and return to the Friends of Kentucky Camp by June 30, 2017:

Friends of Kentucky Camp  
 c/o John Weiss  
 4259 E. Paseo Grande  
 Tucson, AZ 85711

**Membership Renewal**

Enclosed is a check for \$ \_\_\_\_ made payable to Friends of Kentucky Camp for membership through June 2018.

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 Mail-in Ballot**

The board of directors recommends a "for" vote on this slate of directors. The term for all positions is two years. You must be a paid-up Friends of Kentucky Camp member to vote. If you are a lifetime member and want to avoid the cost of mailing-in a ballot, email [jweiss25@cox.net](mailto:jweiss25@cox.net) with your "For" or "Against" vote.

President	Mark Doumas	For _____	Against _____
Secretary	John Weiss	For _____	Against _____
Vice President	Pete Van Cleve	For _____	Against _____
Treasurer	Ron Parrish	For _____	Against _____
Director At-Large	Mary Farrell	For _____	Against _____

**Friends of Kentucky Camp**

4259 E. Paseo Grande  
Tucson, AZ 85711

**Web Site:**

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

**Discussion Group:**

FriendsofKentuckyCamp-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

**Newsletter Submissions:**

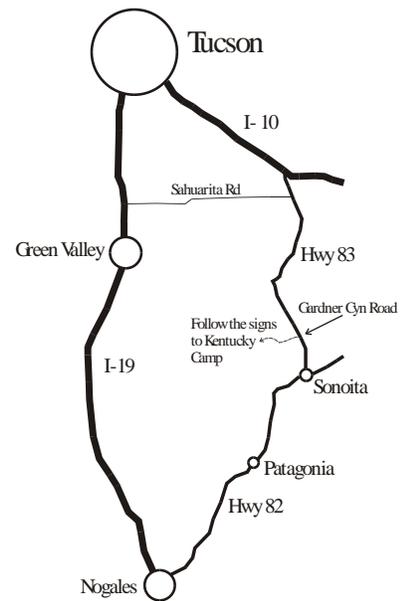
jweiss25@cox.net

**Board of Directors:**

President	Mark Doumas	520 990-8152
Vice Pres.	Pete Van Cleve	520 378-1955
Secretary	John Weiss	520 323-0358
Treasurer	Ron Parrish	520 247-7004
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.