

# KENTUCKY CAMP



## CHRONICLE



Newsletter of the Friends of Kentucky Camp

March 2004

### Kentucky Camp Open House Everyone is Invited!

Don't forget the annual Kentucky Camp open house being held in conjunction with the Coronado National Forest. The event takes place at Kentucky Camp on Saturday, March 13, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in conjunction with Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month. The event is free to the public and we are advertising in a number of area newspapers and internet outlets. Plan on attending and bring a friend.

Activities planned for the Open House include demonstrations of gold panning and making adobe bricks; hands-on participation by members and guests is

encouraged! There will also be tours of the site and portions of the historic water system and hydraulic workings. Snacks and drinks will be available to purchase, and the Friends of Kentucky Camp will be selling t-shirts and postcards to raise money for ongoing preservation programs. As of this writing, we are looking for a few volunteers to work the sales booth for an hour each. Contact Mark Doumas at 520 299-4281 or [doumas@mindspring](mailto:doumas@mindspring) if you are interested. Event parking is at the hilltop outside the gated access road to the site. A shuttle will be available for visitors needing assistance.



### Boy Scout Troop 211 Contributes to February Work Day

By Mark Doumas

Approximately 30 scouts from Boy Scout Troop 211 contributed to the February 14, 2004 work day at Kentucky Camp. The troop divided up into several teams and quickly completed several site projects.

Kentucky Camp care taker Clint Wadell supervised one team of boys in rebuilding a section of rock retaining wall that had collapsed near the headquarters building. A second team of boys hauled more boulders from the gulch to complete the wall. A third team

of scouts smashed up some recently made adobe bricks that had been badly weathered. The resulting "adobe dirt" will be reconstituted into new adobe bricks as part of the adobe brick making demonstration at the Kentucky Camp open house next month. Later in the afternoon, Mark Doumas gave the scouts a tour of the Kentucky Camp site.

Troop 211 hails from Tucson. They backpacked from the Gardner Canyon area and set up camp in Kentucky Gulch south of the Kentucky Camp historic site. Scout Master Roger Dahlgran says that community service projects are a key



Clint shows the Boy Scouts how to build an adobe wall

part of the scouting experience. Community service hours are required in order to advance from one scout rank to the next. Roger says that their experience at Kentucky Camp is a good one and they hope to return in the future.



If you know of a Boy Scout or Girl Scout troop that is looking for community service opportunities, please let them know about Kentucky Camp. We always have plenty of work to do!

## New Projects Will Improve Visitors' Experience and Help Preserve Site

By Chris Schragger

***Two infrastructure improvement projects are among several to be undertaken this spring at Kentucky Camp. Some of these will be completed by PIT volunteers during an April Work Week; others will be completed by Forest Service crews or private contractors. Both Forest Service and Friends of Kentucky Camp funding have helped bring these plans to fruition.***

The first undertaking that visitors will see is an improved parking area at the top of the hill. Over the years, the hilltop has been badly eroded, and the roadways and parking areas are no longer distinguishable. In addition, site visitors have begun to park in an area across the site access road. This area is on the edge of a steep slope, which is already showing signs of erosion damage from vehicles parking there. Clearance was obtained in 2002 for a plan to use signs and railroad ties to delineate roadways and parking areas.

The current proposal involves creating railroad-tie curb barriers. One would be built along the western (uphill) edge of the access road to Kentucky Camp, with a return connecting it to another along the eastern edge of the parking area. This barrier would continue beyond a tree, to the enclosure fence at the south end of the parking area. This would address the erosion along the eastern slope of the parking area, and define the access

road. A similar barrier would be created along the western boundary of the parking area, with a return to meet the northwestern corner of the enclosure fence. Signs to direct vehicles would be installed at three locations.

(Speaking of road signs, another directional sign will be placed in Louisiana Gulch, where the roads fork: Forest Road 229 goes northwest to Greaterville and Box Canyon, and FR 163 turns left to Kentucky Camp. We've also requested the Arizona Department of Transportation put up "Kentucky Camp Historic Site" signs on State Route 83, under the "Gardner Canyon Road" turnoff signs.)

A second undertaking originally approved in 2002 calls for the construction of a vault toilet and adjacent water spigot just north of the new sink (outside the kitchen of the Administration building). The toilet will match the one currently below the Rental Cabin, but its location will allow us to construct a wheelchair-accessible path.

Both the toilet and spigot would be located along an existing path that once led to an outhouse about 100' distant. The dates of the outhouse's use were not documented, although we believe it dates from the ranching era, which would be corroborated by the inclusion of plumbing for an inside toilet during the original (1904) construction of the Administration building. The collapsed outhouse structure once lay in the partially filled outhouse pit. After documenting the structural elements, the wood was removed, and auger tests taken from the pit to determine potential health hazards and the presence of artifacts. These tests revealed a top layer of fine, ashy powder containing decomposed wood from the collapsed outhouse lumber. Beneath this the soils become more tan and coarse-grained, to a test depth of approximately 24". No cultural materials were found.

The April PIT volunteers may undertake other projects as well. Several have been proposed, and which are undertaken will be determined by time and interest of PIT participants. Among those under consideration are:

- **Administration Building finish carpentry:** we'd like to get the remaining ceilings, baseboards, and crown moldings installed and painted. The wood is already on site.
- **Administration Building electrification:** Mark Doumas will lead the effort to complete the installation of lights and outlets.
- **Interpretive displays:** Some of our existing interpretive displays are in need of repair or complete rehabilitation; there are also others waiting to be created. In addition, a design for using the Assay Office as an interpretive center should be developed. Forest Archaeologist Mary Farrell and Friends of Kentucky Camp Secretary Sandy Doumas have already begun collecting materials and information,

and would welcome colleagues interested in historical interpretation.

- **Surveys:** As always, intrepid survey king Bill Gillespie will provide off-site undertakings for those so inclined. Two survey goals for this year are the completion of a review of sites in the Upper Davidson Canyon Archaeological District, and the recording of a prehistoric site adjacent to the historic Fish Canyon Rock House, a mile south of Kentucky Camp.

All in all, it looks to be a spring of great progress at the site... look for news of the results in the next issue of the Kentucky Camp Chronicle.

## How Do Caretakers Find Kentucky Camp???

By Gary and Joanne Goodrich

Gary and Joanne Goodrich have been caretakers of Kentucky Camp four times. Joanne found it via Passport In Time, on the internet shortly before she retired from teaching in 2001. Gary had done an early retirement in 1995.

They had booked a Baja bus trip for March so, on the way to California, stopped by Kentucky Camp to find what Joanne had got the couple into THIS TIME. Gary goes along with some of the darnest things she plans - like the year 1997-1998 in Honduras when both taught at a bilingual school. They drove their GMC pickup down and back and that's another story.

The reason KY Camp interested them was their previous employments at the Homestake Gold Mine in Lead and their current address in the Black Hills National Forest of South Dakota. Joanne also is intent on escaping the winter snow as much as possible. Since Gary has a Bobcat and likes to plow, he doesn't want to leave for more than a month at a time.



Joanne and Gary Goodrich

They also had an Army Sergeant daughter and her family at Fort Huachuca and Joanne's 88 year old Mom still lives in California, not far from Joanne and Gary's previous home. They also have friends from South Dakota living in Corona de Tucson.

They looked at the trailer, liked the remoteness of a 5 mile dirt road to get to the camp and both love to visit with people who pass through the Arizona Trail.

The second time they came - December of 2001 - the family was still at Fort Huachuca PLUS their granddaughter was there to deliver her second child while her husband was in Afghanistan. The Goodrich's met their grandson when he was 15 minutes old and babysat his 2 year old sister during the birthing. Later in the week, the granddaughters and great-granddaughter stayed overnight at Kentucky Camp and the 2 year old was introduced to the moon - as only Kentucky Camp can show it.

What's the best thing about caretaking? Meeting people from all over the world, telling the story, sharing knowledge about deep mine gold mining in South Dakota, walking the trails, visiting with "Friends" and Chris, Kathy and Mary, and learning to make adobe bricks.

The not good but not so bad: the balky furnace and the TV (the Goodrich's have watched snowy daytime TV they'd never knew existed before).

Why they'll come back: they've done May, December, February and half of November and half December. There's still 8 months they've not tried.

They enjoy traveling the world (Scandinavia, Greece, Egypt, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, Peru, Canada (Polar Bears at Churchill), Panama, Costa Rica and the list goes on. They have their health and ability and want to experience as much of the world as they can.

They're also volunteering at the Mojave National Preserve and Hawaii Volcano Park in the near future.

They say, "We'll be back!"

## New KFC Web Site

Friends of Kentucky Camp have a new Internet web site! The new location is "[www.aztecfreenet.org/fkcamp](http://www.aztecfreenet.org/fkcamp)". Our new site is hosted by AzTeC Computing. They provide free web site service to Arizona-based non-profit and 501(c)(3) organizations such as Kentucky Camp. **☞ Thanks AzTeC! ☞**

Our new site has been updated with the latest director's contact information. The site also has new pages that provide details of upcoming events and photos of recent Kentucky Camp activities. Past and current newsletters are also available. Links to our cabin rental page on the Forest Service website can also be found there. We plan on keeping this site up-to-date and hope that you'll find it interesting.

Take a few minutes to check-out this new site and save it in your browser's bookmarks. If you think of something to make the site more useful, contact Mark Doumas at [doumas@mindspring.com](mailto:doumas@mindspring.com).

The Friends of Kentucky Camp, a chapter of the Coronado National Forest Heritage Society, is a non-profit organization established to help in the preservation and interpretation of Kentucky Camp. Friends sponsor work days, coordinate volunteer activities, and conduct and supervise stabilization and preservation, in cooperation with the Coronado National Forest.

Student (\$5), individual (\$10), family (\$15), contributing (\$25), supporting (\$50), and lifetime (\$200) memberships are available. Send checks to:

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

**KFC Board Members:**

President: Mark Doumas (520) 299-4281

Vice-President: Nancy Hough

Secretary: Sandy Doumas

Treasurer: Emily Wang

Director at Large: Pete Van Cleve

Forest Service Liason: Chris Schrager (520) 670-4522

Visit Friends of Kentucky Camp on the Internet at <http://www.aztecfreenet.org/fkcamp>

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome. Send submissions to:

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Renew in June of 05

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