Fort Concho staff and volunteers along with Lions Club members will be out early on April 28th to get a head start on Frontier Day. Last year, we moved the date of Frontier Day from June to April in anticipation of cooler weather only to hit one of the warmest April days ever. This year, we hope to have it a bit cooler as visitors to this morning event enjoy a pancake breakfast prepared by the Lions Club and a host of demonstrations, exhibits and activities offered by the fort.

From one end of Officers’ Row to the other, guests will find activities related to our agricultural and pioneer heritage. At Officers’ Quarters 1, the Master Gardeners and the Native Plant Society teach about medicinal and edible plants and the Tom Green County Historical Commission presents our county history. Information on the beef industry will be available at Officers’ Quarters 2 while Shawn Pascuzzi demonstrates leatherworking. Inside the building,
NEW FORT CONCHO BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2012

The Fort Concho Museum Board enters the new year with a new executive board. Harry Thomas, recently retired from Goodyear in San Angelo, will serve as president. Dana Gray of the Standard-Times will take the post of vice-president. The board treasurer will be Mark Priest of Legends Jewelers, and Denise Bloomquist, a non-profit manager and host of KKSA radio’s “Dialogue” show will serve as board secretary.

New board members for this year include retired Standard-Times publisher Bob Aguilar and local rancher Rob Rainey.

The Fort Concho Board thanks two outgoing members for their service: Carol Harrison completed her two terms including the last two years as president. Steve Tefas also leaves the board after one term. Fort Concho appreciates their time and talent these past years!

The Fort Concho Museum Board is appointed by the San Angelo City Council. The Board meets the third Tuesday of every month at 3:30 pm, usually at Officers’ Quarters 8 at Fort Concho on East Avenue D. Questions about the board and its operations may be submitted to the board liaison, Bob Bluthardt, at Fort Concho or via e-mail, Director@fortconcho.com.
RENT THE FORT!

Well, not the whole place, but you can rent one of several buildings whose capacities range from a few dozen to 600. Fort Concho makes a very unique and historic setting for that wedding, party, gathering, or meeting. We have two officers’ quarters that can hold from 25 to 75, Barracks 6 that seats 100-125; the Quartermaster and Commissary that hold 125-175; and our large Stables Hall that can accommodate up to 600. Our web site at www.fortconcho.com has details, prices, and photos of these interiors. Check our web site’s home page under “About Us” and scroll down to “rentals.” If you would like to reserve a date for one of our buildings, call our administrative office at (325) 657-4444 or e-mail us at admin@fortconcho.com, and we can provide further details and requirements.

NEW FORT CONCHO POST GARDEN

The Kids Eat Free summer program, hosted at a variety of San Angelo locations including Fort Concho, has expanded its outreach to community gardens. One such garden is located in the rear of the fort’s Post Hospital. In the summer of 2011, ten raised garden boxes were designed and planted with the help of three Vista Summer Associates, and a small grant from Share Our Strength. For the spring and summer of 2012, five additional plots will be created. All are adopted by neighborhood families, with many of the children attending the adjacent Fort Concho Elementary School. This successful program boasts several partners, including the Rust Street Ministries, Fort Concho Elementary School, Master Gardeners, the Tom Green County Hunger Initiative, and Fort Concho. Drop by sometime and see their progress. Back in the 1870s, a similar garden was planted by the enlisted men to provide fresh produce for those soldiers ailing in the Hospital.
LIVING HISTORY REPORT

Fort Concho maintains a diverse living history program that reflects the fort’s active years from 1867 to 1889. For 2012 we salute the volunteer coordinators who assist the staff in keeping the programs so highly engaged in Fort Concho and San Angelo activities.

The Fort Concho Infantry announced its officers for the year as Jim Kerbow as First Sergeant, Dave Johnson as Sergeant, and Ray Thiess as Corporal. This program portrays the 16th Regiment of Infantry that was stationed at Fort Concho in the early 1880s. The unit also operates the fort’s artillery piece.

The Fort Concho Cavalry established its officers for 2012 with Gary Carpenter as First Sergeant, Ron Perry as Sergeant, and Lee Ridgeway as Corporal. Portraying the 4th Regiment, this program reflects the cavalry at Fort Concho in the mid 1870s.

The Fort Concho Buffalo Soldiers have Rick Brown serving as First Sergeant for another year. The unit portrays a dismounted squad of the 10th US Cavalry that was stationed at this post in the late 1870s.

Cindy Bishop of the fort staff coordinates the fort’s laundress program. Cory Robinson directs the fort’s vintage baseball and youth military heritage programs.

The fort’s living history program covers dozens of events annually at Fort Concho, in San Angelo, and across the state. To get involved in these programs, please call us at (325) 481-2646.

FORT’S ARTILLERY UNIT TO PARTICIPATE AT GETTYSBURG

July of 2013 will see the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War battle of Gettysburg, one of the largest engagements ever fought on American soil. A major reenactment of the event is scheduled nearby the original field of battle, and Fort Concho plans to attend with its crew and replica artillery piece. While the fort’s volunteers have participated in past Civil War encampments and recreated battles, this upcoming event could be one of the largest ever.

Fundraising to assist with the travel, lodging, and food expenses will be underway later in the year, but a special fund will be set up within the Fort Concho Foundation to cover these costs. A preliminary budget estimates the total trip costs to get six crew members and the gun to Gettysburg and back at $6000. If you would like to help send our crew to a once in a lifetime experience, contact Bob Bluthardt at Fort Concho at 234-0316 or send your donation to the Fort Concho Foundation, 630 South Oakes, San Angelo, Texas 76903, and note on the check the Gettysburg/150th event.
Fort Concho received the Readers Choice Award from *True West Magazine* as the Best Preserved Fort for 2012.

The award is a result of an e-mail poll among the thousands of readers of this magazine, the oldest publication of its kind in the nation. *True West Magazine*, published in Cave Creek, Arizona, has been operating since 1953 and covers a wide range of western topics in tourism, heritage/preservation, museums and historic sites, clothing and accoutrements, and the legends and lore of the people, places, and incidents that make up the American West. The magazine can boast being “oldest continuously published Western publication” reaching 234,000 readers.

Fort Concho considers this a terrific honor, according to site manager Bob Bluthardt. “It reflects the eighty-five years of effort so many have dedicated to this site, a well-preserved fort that serves thousands annually with a very wide range of programs and events.”

For more information about True West, please visit their web site at TrueWestMagazine.Com

(Continued from page 1)
GOODBYE TO FRIENDS

We regret to note the passing of the following individuals

Lyda Williams passed away last July in San Angelo. She served as a Fort Concho staff interpreter from 1976 through 1995, working from Barracks 6 when that facility housed general exhibits and the gift shop. Her West Texas style and story telling always entertained our guests and made them feel welcome. She will be missed.

Ray Olachia of Lake Jackson, Texas, passed away this past summer. A Native American, he traveled across the state to educate thousands about his heritage and the common history of our region. He participated at many Christmas at Old Fort Concho weekends before declining health made travel difficult.

John T. Gordon of Austin, Texas, one of the last horse cavalry veterans of the 1940s, died this past July. Trooper Gordon attended the United States Cavalry Association’s annual meeting in San Angelo and Fort Concho in 2010, enjoying the comraderie of five fellow “troopers” from that era.

We extend our sympathies to the Friends of Fort McKavett State Historic Site upon the death of Col (ret) Richard McTaggart. A native of the region who served with distinction in World War II and for an additional twenty-five years, he helped to establish that support group for our sister fort to the south.

Dr. John Q. Taylor King, Sr. of Austin, Texas, passed away last July. He had been our guest speaker at the 1995 Buffalo Soldier Memorial Ceremony held at Fairmount Cemetery. A retired Major General in the Texas National Guard and past college president, Dr. King was a tireless advocate for the education of young people.

William R. “Bill” Stebbins, Jr. passed away last December at age 84. A veteran of the Korean War, Bill had a forty-year career in transportation and highway engineering. Bill first saw Fort Concho in the early 1950s, and he started volunteering with us in the late 1980s. He donated thousands of hours as a docent and living history re-enactor. Bill also generously gave Fort Concho hundreds of his history books and most of his extensive collection of replica 1800s military clothing and weapons. His mother, Bernice, also volunteered for many years with Fort Concho.

Opal Karr passed away in March of this year. A veteran of the U. S. Marine Corps, Opal was an active volunteer docent at the fort for many years as well as a regular at all fort events and programs.

Evelyn Wallis, a former docent, passed away in January of this year. A native Texan, Evelyn served in the U. S Marine Corps Women’s Reserves in World War II, retiring in San Angelo after living in Brownwood and Alamogordo, New Mexico.
DR. RALPH CHASE

Fort Concho and San Angelo lost a dear friend in the passing on Dr. Ralph Chase on March 16 at the age of 89. A San Angelo native, Ralph served in the Navy in World War II, returned to receive his medical degree, and then spent the rest of his life in his beloved San Angelo. Dr. Chase’s tireless work to improve the medical care of the city’s youngest citizens won him local, state, and national recognition. He was equally dedicated to preserving the city’s heritage, and in the 1960s he spoke eloquently and often to convince his hometown that Fort Concho was worth saving. In 1968, he was the keynote speaker for the fort’s 100th Anniversary Program. He hosted the annual “Educator of the Year” Luncheon held at Fort Concho in the 1990s. Ralph never lost his interest and dedication making San Angelo better and more aware of its origins. He will be truly missed by us all.
Visitors, volunteers and staff braved the cold winter weather to celebrate the holidays and make Christmas at Old Fort Concho 2011 a successful fundraising event for the site.

The fort staff would like to offer our thanks to the many volunteers who dedicated thousands of hours to make Christmas at Old Fort Concho one of the top events of the year for San Angelo.

Thank you to all the volunteers, participants and attendees for all your support!

Make plans to attend this year’s event December 7-8-9!

CAOFC 2011 Volunteer Steering Committee Members

| JoAnna Alexander       | Keith Johnson       |
| Beth Auldridge         | Kathy Keane         |
| Ann Bailey             | Lew King            |
| Bea & Rudy Barron      | Martha King         |
| Linda Binns            | Ann Leavell         |
| Cathy Box              | Claudia Marrs       |
| Betty & Carl Brockmann | Margie Matheny      |
| Mary Cleveland         | Carolyn McMunn      |
| Stacy Combs            | Anita Meza          |
| Teresa Culbertson      | Judy Moore          |
| Banee Daniels          | Kate Nelson         |
| Joyce Downie           | Julie Quam          |
| Brad Downing           | Mary Lou Roberts    |
| Henrye Evans           | Teresa Roberts      |
| Mary Frentz            | Kathy Roland        |
| Dana Gray              | Travis Sampson      |
| Joyce Gray             | Allison Satterfield |
| Angie Gustin           | Mary Smith          |
| Theresa Heineman       | Jack & Karen Smith  |
| Mary Hernandez          | Glynn Strom         |
| Thomas Holliday        | Sandy Whittley      |
| Ouida Jackson          |                     |

Thanks to the following organizations for their help with Christmas at Old Fort Concho

- Girl Scouts of Central Texas
- Ethicon Retirees
- Shannon Auxiliary
- GTE Retirees
- Lions Clubs of San Angelo
- Goodfellow AFB
- Latter Day Saints Student Assn.
- Central Key Club
- Theta Alpha of ESA
- Beta Lambda of ESA
- Grape Creek HS NHS
- Texas Air National Guard
- ASU Cheerleaders
- Beta Sigma Phi
- Tom Green Democratic Club
- TGC Sheriff Dept. Reserves
- Lake View HS Student Council
- Central HS Student Council
- Lake View High School NHS
- Central HS NHS
- Central TexAnns
- Lake View HS Spanish Club
- ASU Circle K
- Avis Lube
- ASU Women's Golf
Our thanks to all the generous sponsors & supporters who made Christmas at Old Fort Concho 2011 possible

1st Community Federal Credit Union
3D’s Plumbing
A-B Distributing Co.
Angelo Glass & Mirror Co.
Arctic Glacier
Armstrong, Backus & Co.
Avis Lube
Bel-Ami Dermatology
Best Buy
Marguerite Bluthardt
Bill Caldwell Electric, Inc.
Mary Chatfield
Alvie Cole Land and Mineral
College Hills Animal Hospital
Concho Valley Electric Coop
Ethicon, Inc.
Evans, Eckert & Peterson, P.C.
First Financial Bank
First State Bank of Paint Rock
First Title Company
Paul & Nancy Fry
Fuentes Café Downtown
Goodfellow AFB
Goodyear Proving Grounds
Halfmann's Cake Cottage, Inc.
Hampton Inn & Suites
HEB
Holiday Inn Express & Suites
Home Depot
IHOP
Inn of the Conchos
Thomas S. Jeter, MD, DDS
Jones, Hay, Marschall, McKinney P.C.
KDCD Lonestar “True Country” 92.9
KGKL
KKCN
KWFR 101.9 The Fire
KIXY 94.7
KMDX 106.1/MDX
KSJT-FM
Kinney, Franke Architects
La Quinta Inn
Lane Weather Mart
Livestock Weekly
Lone Star Beef
Lowe’s Home Improvement
Lowe’s Stores
Mathis Field Cafe
Mayfield Paper Company
Meadows-Fisher & Cleere, Ins.
J. M. McLaughlin
Pinkie’s Liquor Stores
Ramada Limited
Ranch & Rural Living Magazine
Randall Motors Inc.
Robert Massie Funeral Home
R.V.O.S. Farm Mutual Insurance
San Angelo Area Foundation
San Angelo Area-Wide Phone Book
San Angelo Country Club
San Angelo Cultural Affairs Council,
(aided by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, Texas Commission on the Arts, and HEB)
San Angelo Inn & Conference Center
San Angelo Standard Times
Bill Shaw
SKG Engineering
Suddenlink
Sunset Mall
Superior Services
Texas Bank
Texas Sheep & Goat Raisers Assn.
Mark and Bryce Thieman
Trashaway Service, Inc.
TXP, Inc.
Wal-Mart Supercenter - Sherwood Way
Wal-Mart Supercenter - 29th Street
Wells-Fargo Bank
West Central Wireless
Webb, Stokes & Sparks, L.L.P.
Western Towers
Hubert & Sandy Whittley
Anne Williams
FORT CONCHO ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2011

- We served over 50,000 guests from all 50 US states, 300 Texas communities, and 35 foreign countries
- The fort hosted a special training workshop for Victorian Ladies interpretation and a course on 19th century artillery
- The fort’s living history troops participated in special events at Forts Chadbourne, Mason, McKavett, Clark, Croghan, Richardson, Lancaster, Stockton, and Griffin
- Christmas at Old Fort Concho attracted 15,000 guests to enjoy the event, with visitors coming from 90 Texas communities and 20 states
- New programs for 2011 included a Civil War 150th Anniversary Series in conjunction with ASU, a Fort Concho Community Garden and a state archaeology forum
- Fort Concho’s living history troops participated in many local parades, including the Rodeo Parade, Veterans Day, Fourth of July and Juneteenth.
- Our hosting of the Stribling Art Extravaganza in March and the Texas Mesquite Festival in April attracted several thousand visitors from San Angelo and across the state
- Frontier School, the Archaeology Fair, Fun at the Fort, Halloween Tours and other special tours and workshops served thousands of school age children
- The fort hosted three new exhibits for the year, “Linedrives and Lipstick (History of Women in Baseball), “The 1936 Flood, a 75th Anniversary,” and “Needlework from the Fort Concho Collection”
- The fort’s artillery unit saluted touchdowns at ASU football games
- The 1800s baseball team played at the fort and across the state

Your Membership Dollars at Work!
YOU CAN HELP FORT CONCHO MAKE HISTORY AGAIN!

HELP maintain “AMERICA’S BEST PRESERVED FRONTIER FORT!”
ONLY WITH YOUR HELP, CAN WE PROTECT THE FUTURE BY PRESERVING THE PAST.

BE A PART OF …
• Restoration of historic buildings
• Annual special events like Christmas at Old Fort Concho,
  Frontier Day and Speakers Series
• Buffalo Soldier, Cavalry and Infantry Living History Units
• Bringing local, regional and national history to visitors of all ages
• Preserving our own nationally recognized historic site

To help achieve our preservation, restoration, and educational missions, Fort Concho established a membership association to supplement operational funds. Support from our members assists in a variety of activities, such as the production of education programs, new exhibits, and the growth and development of our Collections and Research Library/Archives. Membership funds are vital to the continued successful operation and development of this historic site and museum.

Membership Packages:

**Lieutenant** — $35
- Unlimited free admission for tours for one person all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.

**Captain** — $75
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 10% discount on sales shop purchases.

**Major** — $100
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 10% discount on sales shop purchases.
- 2 Christmas at Old Fort Concho day passes.

**Lt. Colonel** — $150
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 10% discount on sales shop purchases.
- 4 Christmas at Old Fort Concho day passes.

**Colonel** — $250
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 20% discount on sales shop purchases.
- 4 Christmas at Old Fort Concho day passes.

**Brigadier General** — $500
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 20% discount on sales shop purchases.
- A complimentary copy of a history of Fort Concho.
- 4 Christmas at Old Fort Concho day passes.
- A 20% discount on building rentals.
- Recognition in publications.

**Major General** — $1000
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 20% discount on sales shop purchases.
- A complimentary copy of a history of Fort Concho.
- Pen/pencil set made from original Fort Concho wood.
- A 30% discount on building rentals.
- 4 Christmas at Old Fort Concho weekend passes.
- Private tour with the Fort Concho NHL director.
- Recognition in publications.
- Recognition for one year on the Donor Wall.

**Lt. General** — $2500
- Unlimited free admission for tours for you and your family all year.
- The Fort Concho Guidon, our newsletter and invitations to fort events.
- A 20% discount on sales shop purchases.
- 4 Christmas at Old Fort Concho day passes.
- A 20% discount on building rentals.
- Recognition in publications.
- Recognition for one year on the Donor Wall.

I would like to join the Fort Concho Membership Association as a:

- [ ] Lieutenant — $35.00
- [ ] Brigadier General — $500.00
- [ ] Captain — $75.00
- [ ] Major General — $1,000.00
- [ ] Major — $100.00
- [ ] Lieutenant General — $2,500.00
- [ ] Lieutenant Colonel — $150.00
- [ ] General — $5,000.00
- [ ] Colonel — $250.00

Name ____________________________
Address ____________________________
City ____________________________ State/Zip __________
Charge Card Customers (Check One) [ ] Visa [ ] MasterCard Card Number ________
[ ] MasterCard
Email ____________________________
Signature ____________________________
Exp. Date ____________________________

Return to: Fort Concho National Historic Landmark
630 South Oakes, San Angelo, Texas 76903, (325) 481-2646, www.fortconcho.com
The Fort Concho Guidon (ISSN 1071-7110) is a publication of Fort Concho National Historic Landmark. It is intended to highlight the diverse events, activities, and programs at the fort. We have tried to eliminate duplicate labels from the various mailing lists we use. Should you receive more than one copy of the FC Guidon, please pass one along to an interested friend.

**FORT CONCHO 2012 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

<table>
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<th>MONTH</th>
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| MARCH | March 9-11 ~ Victorian Lady Living History Training Program  
March 20 ~ Civil War 150th Anniversary Discussion Series “Civil War - Total War”  
March 23-25 ~ Stribling Art Extravaganza |
| APRIL | April 4, 11, 18, & 25 ~ Fort Concho Speaker Series  
April 20-22 ~ Texas Mesquite Art Festival  
April 28 ~ Frontier Day at Fort Concho |
| MAY | May 5 ~ Military Firefighters Memorial Ceremony  
May 19 ~ Armed Forces Day  
May 28 ~ Memorial Day Exercises |
| JUNE | June 23-24 ~ Radio Club Field Day |
| JULY | July 4 ~ Holiday Artillery Salutes at Fort Concho  
July 28 ~ National Cowboy Day |
| SEPTEMBER | Sept. 5, 12, 19 & 26 ~ Fort Concho Speakers Series  
Sept. 29 ~ National Museum Day |
| OCTOBER | October 13 ~ Concho Valley Archeology Fair  
October TBA ~ Night Tours and Halloween programs at Fort Concho |
| NOVEMBER | November 13 ~ Civil War 150th Anniversary Discussion Series “Equines at War”  
November 22 ~ Thanksgiving Day, fort closed |
| DECEMBER | Fri-Sun, December 7-9 ~ Christmas at Old Fort Concho  
December 25 ~ Christmas Day, fort closed |

Schedule subject to change.