FORT INGE DISPATCH

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF FORT INGE
HISTORICAL SITE
UVALDE, TEXAS 78801

FALL 2009

6TH ANNUAL FORT INGE HISTORIC HAUNTED HAYRIDE

The 6th annual Fort Inge Historic Haunted Hayride was a huge success. Over 250 people enjoyed the event, which included the hayride, bobbing for apples, roasting marshmallows, and ghost stories.

We would like to thank those who helped make it a success:

- Sahawe Indian Dancers - swamp monster, hanging tree, Indian on the hill, and general help where needed
- Girl Scout Troop 4042 - bobbing for apples and roasting marshmallows
- James Ham, Wyatt Heard, and Doc Sheedy - hayride bandits
- Patty Ham - mother looking for lost children and Mrs. Sheedy her assistant
- Ramon Castro, Jr. - storytelling
- Barbara Blair - ticket sales
- John Ellisor - ride driver
- Claude Anderson - ride driver
- Board members - Rick Taylor, Priya Ellisor, Gary Hines, Dick Whipple, Don Alejandro, Joe Cardenas, and Bill Dillahunty
- And anyone else we may have inadvertently failed to mention

Plans are already in the works to make next year's hayride even better.

LOG CABIN PROJECT

Plans are to start further work on the donated two-room “dog run” log cabin in November when it is cooler, with the leveling of the first section which is already up and reconstructing the second part. Several people from the community have shown an interest in helping with the project.

When the cabin is up, we can do some figuring on what will be needed to complete the project, our hopes are that we will be well along on the reconstruction by Fort Inge Days in April. If you would like to help, contact us at: 830-278-2016

BRUSH CONTROL PROJECT

We have finally found some help with our control of the young mesquite growth, which has taken over the fort area. With the help of Dr. Lyons at Agri-Life Extension, formerly Texas A & M Extension Center. His recommendation was the same as Wildlife Biologist Rick Taylor's: use "Remedy" on the freshly cut plants. Lyons said that we could apply it at any time during the year, which will allow us to do this as we have time. Plans are to start as soon as possible to get the area ready for Fort Inge Days.

POST RETURNS FROM NATIONAL ARCHIVES

We have received the DVD that we ordered from the National Archives in Washington about the Post Returns (monthly reports): from the first one in March 1849 signed by Capt. Seth Eastman through the last one at its closing in 1869. This will give us some great insights into the day-to-day activities of the fort.

The Uvalde County Historical Commission was generous enough to pay the $125 cost of the reports. A copy of the DVD will also be in the archives at El Progresso Library.

With these reports and the reproduction copies of Capt. W. B. Blair's supply reports for the fort from 1857 and 1858, we also know more about the food and other things that were used at Fort Inge.

7th ANNUAL FORT INGE DAYS

Fort Inge Days will be held on Friday, April 9 and Saturday, April, 10, 2010; with Friday being school day and Saturday being open to the public. There will be some changes this year: the Friday sessions will be longer (1 hour and 15 minutes rather than 45 minutes), so that the kids will have more time to learn about the fort and not be rushed. We are planning to have food and drinks there on Saturday, along with a Trading Post selling reproductions of items from the fort. We also plan to have more musical entertainment. The 1860 Baseball game was a great success last year, and we already have 2 teams ready to play.

It should be an outstanding Fort Inge Days.

FORT INGE STAR-GAZING PARTIES

Thanks to Michael Robinson we have had 4 "Star-Gazing Parties." They have all been well attended, although the skies have not always cooperated. Michael and his group have put together a very informative program, and those attending have seen many planets and stars through as many as four telescopes. These outings have been very helpful for Scouts working on Astrology badges.

There are several 2010 dates in the planning, keep an eye out for them in the Uvalde Leader News calendar section and listen for the dates on KVOU radio.

Check out the web site for the Uvalde Historical Commission and Fort Inge at:
http://uvaldehistory.org/

Won't You Join Us?

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FRIENDS OF FORT INGE

Guarding the History of Fort Inge

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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If you would like further information or have questions, contact us:
830-278-2016
uvaldehistory@gmail.com

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