

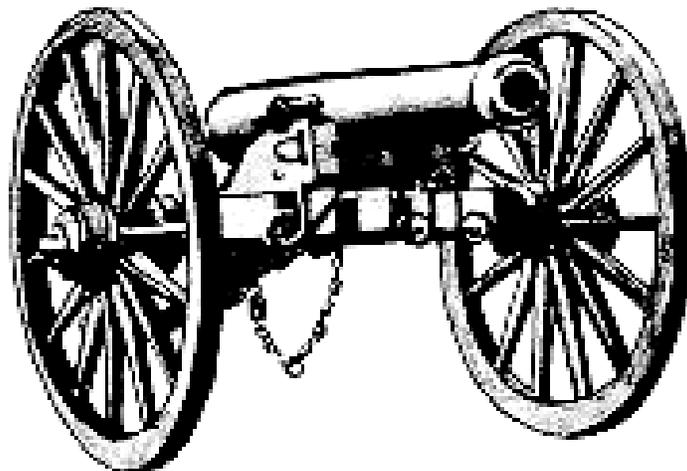


# From “the Crack Post of the Frontier”

## Adjutant’s Report

---

*By Galen Ewing*



Thanks to Joyce Gobl, Reed Hartford, Janette Danley, Pauline Farra, and Suzanne Street for assisting in handing out Visitor Survey Cards. This annual survey provides valuable information to improve visitor services, protect natural and cultural resources, and increase management efficiency at Fort Scott National Historic Site.

Labor Day weekend is fast approaching. This is our opportunity to educate visitors on soldiers and women performing labor at a time before Labor Day was a national holiday. If you are interested in helping out, please give Barry a call at 620-223-0310 or email Barry at [barak\\_geertsen@nps.gov](mailto:barak_geertsen@nps.gov)

Mark your calendar for Friday, September 21 for an Immigration and Naturalization ceremony on the Fort Parade Ground. We expect over 100 new men and women from all over the world to be sworn in as U.S. citizens that day. This momentous event will begin at 10:30 a.m. Please give me call if you are willing to help with this event.

Also, it is time to think about Candlelight Tour 2018! Deadline for returning forms (see below) is October 20 but by all means get them back earlier if you can. Thanks.

## News From the Bear’s Den

---

*By Barak V. Geersen*

Greetings everyone. My tenure as acting chief of interpretation has officially ended. I would like to welcome our new chief, Carl Brenner, to his new position. I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all of our volunteers who have

helped us with events this spring and summer. An example of the value of volunteers came on June 29, when we set up about 7000 flags for Symbols of Sacrifice. Over 30 volunteers, including several youth, helped us that morning and all of the flags were set up in three hours.

We have had several high school students working here this summer. Our Youth Conservation Corps has included Reaghn Dowell, Anthea Montojo, Kaden Primm, and Jessden Kiwan. They have helped us out in numerous ways this summer including doing maintenance projects, assisting with curatorial and resource management tasks, putting together a Family Activity Day, and planning and presenting “green” activities for our Trailblazer workshop. They have definitely put in a lot of work, which we greatly appreciate. I would also like to thank Tiffany Durham, Ryan O’Connell and Sarah Stepanik, who have been leading the YCC program this summer.

We have also had two high school students who have been part of a Youth Engagement Team this summer. Jacey Bowen and Emily Davenport have been working here a couple of days a week since the end of June. They were tasked with devising ways to connect more youth to the stories of Fort Scott. Events they have contributed to include the aforementioned Family Activity Day, an art contest, a scavenger hunt, and a play for the Trailblazer workshop, which is a weeklong program for kids ages 9-12. Paul Goodman, who is in his second season here at Fort Scott, has been leading the Youth Engagement Team. I wish to thank him for his fine work. The Youth Engagement Team is being paid a stipend that is provided by a Fort Scott Community Foundation grant, with supplemental funding from the Friends of Fort Scott National Historic Site. My thanks for both of these organizations for their assistance with this program.

We have two new waysides in place; one on the gardens and the other on the Civil War ambulance. The work on designing these waysides was done largely last summer by Ryan and Paul, both of whom are in their second season as NPS employees at Fort Scott. (Ryan also served a stint as an SCA at Fort Scott in 2013.) I am now recruiting assistance for Labor Day Weekend; we are planning a wide variety of living history activities, music, and free ice cream on Labor Day itself. If you are available and interested in helping that weekend, please let me know. We have also begun planning our candlelight tour for this year. The focus on audience involvement in last year’s tour went over well, so we plan on even more audience involvement in this year’s tour. We invite our volunteers to assist us in planning the tour. If you have ideas of what you would like to see in the tour this year, please let Galen or I know by August 20. Thanks for all you do.

## **Friends of Fort Scott, Inc.**

---

*By Reed Hartford*

The Friends have been active throughout the summer assisting with the Symbols of Sacrifice, sponsoring a Bourbon County Fair booth to remind folks about the activities at the NHS, and working with FORT on a Community foundation Grant which made possible the Youth Engagement interns for the third year.

This spring Landmark Bank donated to the friends a print of a painting entitled “Fort Scott Soldier” depicting a member of the First Kansas Colored Infantry. The print has been matted, framed and given to Fort Scott NHS. It will soon be on display.

We are looking forward to serving homemade ice cream on Labor Day, Monday September 3. We will again assist with the Naturalization Ceremony on September 21, serving lunch to our newest citizens and their families. On November 10, we will host our third annual 1800s Grand Ball. This year the Ball is part of a community wide celebration of Veterans Day.

The Friends seek to support programs and activities of the Fort Scott NHS. If you are not a member please consider joining us in our goal of enhancing the interpretation of Fort Scott history.

## A Belated and Sad Farewell

---

On April 28, 2018, Janette Danley retired after completing 31 years of service with the National Park Service. Janette served all of her career at Fort Scott National Historic Site, beginning in 1987 as a part-time Clerk-Typist. In 1988, she was hired as the Superintendent's Secretary and has been in that position ever since. During her career she worked across division lines: planted prairie grasses, assembled lanterns for the Candlelight Tours, assisted with "Education Days" school programs and the complete inventory of museum objects, stained decks and painted exterior trim and railings, dressed out in living history clothing for special events, and served on the Operation Hurricane Isabel Recovery team. She has been active with the Park's safety and environmental programs and the board of survey. Her knowledge and dedication to her work and her colleagues will be greatly missed! Janette is looking forward to spending more time with family, friends, and her pets.

## Safety Sense

---

*By Galen Ewing*

*With the heat of the Summer upon us, the following tips are good to consider to keep you safe...*

### **Sun Safety**

With one in five Americans developing skin cancer, childhood education about sun safety is a vital step toward reducing risk and improving public health. Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays seriously threatens human health. Besides the immediate effect of sunburn, over time excess UV radiation can cause skin cancer, eye damage, immune system suppression, and premature aging. About 23 percent of lifetime sun exposure occurs before the age of 18. Learning about sun safety and dangers of sunbeds is the key to reducing the risk of future health problems.

### **Water Safety**

According to National Safety Council Injury Facts, 3,858 people died in 2008 due to drowning, including swimming and water transport accidents. More than one in five drowning victims are children 14 years-old and younger, and for every child who dies from drowning, another four receive emergency department care for nonfatal submersion injuries. Most drowning and near-drowning incidents happen when a child falls into a pool or is left alone in the bathtub.

### **Surviving the Hot Weather**

Heat illness includes a range of disorders that result when your body is exposed to more heat than it can handle. Anybody not accustomed to hot weather is at risk of suffering from heatstroke (the most serious and life-threatening heat-related illness) as well as heat exhaustion and heat cramps.

# Candlelight Tour

---

We are recruiting volunteers for the 2018 Candlelight Tour, Dec 7 & 8. If you can help, complete and return this form. In the assignment category, mark your top three choices in order by placing a "1" in the blank next to your first preference, a "2" for your second choice and so on.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I can help Friday, Dec. 7 \_\_\_\_\_

I can help Saturday, Dec. 8 \_\_\_\_\_

I can help both nights \_\_\_\_\_

## Assignments

### Visitor Center:

Greet visitors: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark tickets: \_\_\_\_\_

Timekeeper: \_\_\_\_\_

Desk: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour Leader: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour Follower: \_\_\_\_\_

### Living History Scene Roles:

Civilian speaking role \_\_\_\_\_

Civilian non-speaking \_\_\_\_\_

Military speaking role \_\_\_\_\_

Military non-speaking \_\_\_\_\_

### Grand Hall Reception

Greeter \_\_\_\_\_ Decorator \_\_\_\_\_

Server \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

I will do anything \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer meetings will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 7 at 5:30 p.m. or Saturday, Nov. 10 at 2:00 p.m. Assignments, background material and scripts will be distributed at the meetings. Living history clothing can also be checked out after the meeting.**

Please return the form to P.O. Box 918, Fort Scott, KS 66701, call 620-223-0310, or e-mail us at galen\_ewing@nps.gov by **October 20**.

**PLEASE NOTE ANY SPECIAL NEEDS IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE**

**UNITED STATES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**  
**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**  
**FORT SCOTT NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**  
P.O. BOX 918  
FORT SCOTT, KS 66701-0918

OFFICIAL BUSINESS