

FORT CONCHO DISPATCH

San Angelo, TX, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark



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Summer 2021 is here!

Fort Concho is open for self-guided tours. Come see us 7 days a week.

Monday through Saturday we are open from 9 AM- 5 PM and 1 PM-5 PM on Sunday.

As of March 10th, we no longer require masks to enter buildings. Masks are still recommended!

In House Living History Training

April 17 through 18th

Fort Concho's Living History unit has exploded in growth these past couple of years. With new recruits, we wanted to be able to cover details in a way you can't within a two-hour program. So for twenty-six hours, we enlisted, drilled, skirmished, drilled even more, cooked over a fire, and posted a guard outside of the barracks. The new recruits were led by Robert Broene who has spent many years working through and practicing Emory Upton's Infantry manual. Upton's words were translated into every action of the recruits. Fort Concho has been invited to help with the three-volley salute for funerals and ceremonies. This training allowed for everyone to practice so the fort can better honor others. The best part of the evening was we spent hours just discussing the different tactics the Army used during the Civil War, the Indian Wars, and even twentieth-century conflicts. The recruits clearly have spent time studying Fort Concho's time period to be better prepared when discussing military history with the public.

Below: Privates Lohse, Jenscke, Banks, Thomas, Johnson, and Rengel practicing the Manual of Arms



Above: Morning coffee break with Sgt Broene and Private Lohse

The goal is to host this program again in the Fall. If you know anyone in the San Angelo area who would like to get involved with Living History, we would be happy to have them join us for training. These troops help to create a community that is safe for those who want to learn but may have never participated in living history before.

Below: Troops learning how to place their rifles as though they were on campaign





2021 Regional Cavalry Competition

Hosted at Fort Concho, TX, April 22-24

The 2021 Regional Cavalry Competition was one to remember. On the first day, we had temperatures that belong in February, but that did not discourage the contestants. Living historians and active-duty soldiers both competed. The five competition areas of Jumping, Pistol, Saber, Military Horsemanship, and Combat Horsemanship. Martina Peters of Sierra Vista, AZ, won the award for the best cumulative score in all five competition areas. John Brownrigg of Henrietta, Texas won the Championship Hesse Cup. We also had the youth division compete. The picture below shows all the award winners at the Awards Banquet.



Frontier Day

Fort Concho, TX, April 24th

Frontier Day is our annual program celebrating local agriculture. From sheep shearing and spinning wool to identifying local plants and their uses, San Angelo residents can ask local experts for advice at a fun and educational program. This year, it went off with a bang (of artillery fire, that is!) The Lions Club provided the annual pancake breakfast. The living history portion of the event was prepared for large crowds that came out. This was our first big program since all that has happened for the past year.

The cavalry competition's final day also took place during and after Frontier Day. The cavalry provided a wonderful display of charges, saber skills, and expertise with the pistol.

The ladies at Officers' Quarters 6 sat on the porch embroidering, tatting, and discussing ladies' fashion in the late nineteenth century. It was a phenomenal weekend and Fort Concho cannot wait to host the program again next April.



Programs coming Up!

Fort Concho National Historic Landmark

CAMPFIRE STORY NIGHT

June 18, July 16, August 13, 7:30 - 8:30 PM
Courtyard (Between Barracks 5/6) Free!
Stories for all ages.
Bring a blanket and/or chair!

Join Fort Concho throughout the summer as living historians tell western frontier stories. (The stories told are welcoming to people of all ages, including children.) The guest will hear about families stationed at Fort Concho and Native American oral histories. The program is about an hour-long (7:30 pm to 8:30 pm) on Fridays June 18, July 16, and August 13. We will be set up in our courtyard (behind Barracks 5 and 6.) It is recommended that you bring a blanket or lawn chair as there is limited seating. We will also have materials to make s'mores!



JUNE 14, 2021, 6PM-8PM

FLAG DAY 2021

PROPERLY DISPOSE WORN OUT FLAGS AT FORT CONCHO

Flag Day celebrates the adoption of the American flag that Americans see flying every day. To help pay respect to the flag and its significance, Fort Concho will be helping in the proper disposal of retired American flags. The process will follow the U.S. Flag Code. "The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning." On June 14th, please bring your retired flags to Barracks 1 or that evening from 6 PM to 8 PM and we will properly dispose of them. If you would like to assist in the proper retiring of your flag, please join us in the evening outside of Barracks 1. (Please note if your flag is made of cotton or polyester. Disposal of flags depends on the materials it is made of.)

**FORT CONCHO
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK**

Summer Embroidery Classes 2021

Classes for both children and adults

CHILDREN'S CLASS JUNE 29TH AND JULY 6TH

8 AM TO 12 PM

ADULT CLASS JUNE 26TH, 9 AM TO 12 PM

Visit Fortconcho.com/education for the registration form and more details

Fort Concho Summer Embroidery Program is designed to teach participants embroidery skills they can use for the rest of their lives. While they embroider, they also get to know the other participants. Fort Concho hopes to teach the participants the basics of embroidery, including threading a needle, how to assemble fabric in a hoop, the running stitch, and the backstitch. If there is additional time, participants will learn more complex stitches. Participants will be allowed to keep their hoop, finished products, and needle upon completing the program.
Adult: June 26th, 2021 (9 AM-12 PM); Children: June 29th or July 6th, 2021 (8 AM-12 PM)

The form is available at
fortconcho.com/education

Would you like to be featured in Fort Concho's Dispatch? We are looking for short pieces that discuss unique historical elements on the western frontier. Fort Concho is a western frontier fort. However, the fort's history goes much wider than the military. Civilian life, buffalo hunting, Native American culture, and much more are elements that will be included in the Dispatch. Legends and their origins are also welcome.

Please email livinghistory@fortconcho.com if you would like to be featured. (Please include sources.)

Upcoming Events for 2021 at Fort Concho:

Campfire Story Night - Second Friday of June, July, and August
from 7:30 to 8:30 at Fort Concho's courtyard

Embroidery classes for beginners: Adults- June 26th, 9 AM-12 PM
Children- June 29th, 8 AM-12 PM

Western Art Show - Opening night June 24th and the show runs till
August 1st. Barracks 6 (Tue-Sat 10 AM to 4PM and
Sun 130PM-430PM)



Christmas at Old Fort Concho is BACK December 3-5th!

Be sure to be on the lookout for more details.



Be sure to follow us on all of our social media!

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This dispatch was created by
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