

Winter 2021, Spring 2022 issue, released February

Fort Concho Dispatch

San Angelo, TX, Fort Concho National Historic Landmark

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Fort Concho is open for self guided tours.

Come see us 7 days a week.

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

As of March 10th, 2021 we no longer require masks to enter buildings. Masks are still recommended!



Above: Timothy Phillips on the bugle, Trent Shuey on the drum, and Eric Abercrombie as Officer of the Day during Christmas at Old Fort Concho

Left: Fort Concho’s Flag detail raising the Garrison flag during Christmas at Old Fort Concho.



CHRISTMAS AT OLD FORT CONCHO

December 3, 4, 5, 2021

Fort Concho celebrated forty years of Christmas at Old Fort Concho this past December. It was a much welcomed change, as we did not host the event in 2020. One hundred and thirty living historians participated on the parade field and final numbers show about 13,000 people attended Christmas at Old Fort Concho. We had 740 students attend Students' Day on Friday. This year was a comeback and we were so glad to have everyone return. A special thanks must go to the staff and volunteers who helped make Christmas at Old Fort Concho a success. From the living history folks, thank you Kathleen Almeida for making all of that delicious food!



School Tours are back!

Fort Concho hosted its first school tour of the 2022 and it was a lot of fun. When the pandemic started back in 2020, the education team got together and made a series of 5 short films that help prepare students for their tour. As soon as the students arrived, they knew the basic history of Fort Concho and the Fort Concho Docents were able to dive deeper in our understanding of what it meant to live on the frontier, at Fort Concho, in the nineteenth century.



Cavalry Competition 2022

April 20-24, 2022

The great tradition continues as Fort Concho hosts the United States Cavalry Association Regional Competition. This program is open to the public with no admission charge. The competition includes events in military horsemanship, combat horsemanship as well as jumping, pistol, and saber. The course and regulations will be the same as those in effect for the USCA annual event in Fort Reno, Oklahoma.

If you would like to register, please follow this link: <https://fortconcho.com/events/regional-cavalry-competition/>



San Angelo, Best of the West 2022

The True West Magazine has announced that San Angelo was named the number one true western town of the year. This is actually the fourth year we have been recognized, either as number one or two.

Christmas at Old Fort Concho Photos



Cora Bishoppetty, a local photographer came out to the event to capture photos. These photos include, (left) Chief Broken Eagle talking with the public; (right) Charles Young speaking with the public about Buffalo Soldiers; (below left) Mike Taylor with his mortar, assisted by; (below right) the artillery line firing on Sunday; (bottom right) Co. I 8th TX CAV, Terry's Texas Rangers



Christmas at Old Fort Concho Photos



C.A. Maedgen also took photos at Christmas at Old Fort Concho. These photos include, (top left) Chief Broken Eagle; (top right) Sgt. Conrad talking to Doug Whitaker; (bottom left) Co. H, 7th TX Inf, CSA standing in formation; and (bottom right) Josef Smith walking his horse, Rocky Mountain.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fort Concho's Living History Infantry Training *March 12th and 13th*

Fort Concho's Living History will be hosting a Infantry training. This program is open to anyone 18 years old and older. Below is the schedule. If you are interested in joining us, please email Sarah Ross. We ask that everyone come in living history garb and wear it for the entirety of the event. Sgt. Broene will be leading the Upton's Manual based marching training. Pvt. Thomas will be our bugler. Saturday, March 12

0800-0830 Morning Formation and Colors

0830-0930 Breakfast

0930-1100 School of the Soldier

1100-1200 Lunch

1200-1330 School of the Soldier

1345-1400 Manual of Arms

1415-1500 Flag Detail Training

1515-1600 Skirmisher Training

1600-1650 Skirmish Order Demonstration

1700-1730 Evening Formation and Colors

1730 Dinner

1730- End of Duty Day

2000- Fire Watch Starts

2200- Taps

Sunday, March 13

0745- Reveille, Fire Watch Ends

0800-0830 Morning Formation and Colors

0830-0930 Breakfast

0930-1100 School of the Soldier

1100-1200 Lunch

1200-1330 School of the Soldier

1345-1400 Manual of Arms

1415-1515 Break

1530-1600 Evening Formation and Colors

1600- Camp Tear Down and End of Day

**Scheduled times are subject to shift*



Loyal Train Artillery School of the Piece

March 18, 19, 20, 2022

Loyal Train chapter of USFAA will be putting on a School of the piece March 18, 19 & 20, 2022. If you would like to attend please contact Ray Johnson at 325-642-8853 or email rayb.johnson49@yahoo.com. The cost of Class is \$60.00. You can send payment to Ray Johnson: 7246 Sportsman Dr., Brownwood TX 76801 or pay on registration day the 18th. The training will be hosted and taking place at Fort Concho NHL.

- **Friday, March 18th** is registration from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at living history stables classroom Fort Concho.

- **Saturday 19th** 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM is classroom and safety demonstrations

- **Sunday 20th** 9:00 AM until Noon will be hands on in field.

There will be a meet and greet light supper Friday evening. We will be serving breakfast, lunch and supper. If you need to stay at fort, we will put you up in one of the historic barracks. We will furnish cots. You bring your bed roll. There are showers available to you and you will need to bring your towels. Remember to bring your wool! Wool jackets are required. If you would like to wear a uniform please do so but a uniform is not required. If you do not have a wool jacket, let us know during registration. Loyal Train will be furnishing all guns for the training.

Thank you,

Ray Johnson / Major Loyal Train Chapter, USFAA

Frontier Ladies Symposium

Join us March 11, 12, 13, 2022

Fort Concho NHL 630 S Oakes St, San Angelo, Texas, 76903

Friday, March 11, 2022– Commissary

1:00PM until 5:00PM– Cut our *Travel Duffel bags*

5:30PM Dinner on our own at a place to be determined

7:30PM Movie at OQ1, “Westward the Women”

Saturday, March 12, 2022– Commissary

8:30– Light Continental Breakfast, visiting with friends

9:30– 11:00– Work on Travel Duffel bags with Marna Jean Davis

11:00-11:15-Short Break

11:20-12:00-Cameos with Jere Madison

12-15-1:15-Lunch OQ8

1:30-2:15-Traveling on the Frontier with Emily Hopkins

2:20-3:45-Language of the Handkerchief & Quilt Square with Tereasea Cotter

4:00-5:00 Tea hosted by Donna Wilcox & Stella Gonzales OQ8

6:00-9:00 Work on Projects

Dinner on our own, or we can order pizza and salad

Sunday, March 13, 2022– Commissary

9:00-10:00 Leisurely Breakfast

10:00-3:00 Antique Show & Tell, work on finishing projects, visit and eat lunch at our own pace.

3:00 Short planning meeting, clean up and head for home.

Note: The Victorian Bazaar will also be set up in the Commissary so please bring items you wish to trade or sell.

Bring your sewing supplies, sewing machine, work light and something to take notes as well as any yummy foods or snacks you wish to share.

Frontier Ladies Symposium Registration Form

Join us March 11, 12, 13, 2022

Fort Concho NHL 630 S Oakes St, San Angelo, Texas, 76903

Please Send in this registration form and \$40.00* (or email me at griffinladi@gmail.com to confirm you will bring payment with you) check or money order to:

Sharon Baird c/o Fort Griffin State Historic Site 1701 N US Hwy 283 Albany, TX 76430
My email- griffinladi@gmail.com

Your name: _____

Your email: _____ Phone: _____

Your Street Address: _____

Your Hometown: _____

Your Home Fort: _____

List any food allergies, please: _____

**note payments received later than March 1st will have an additional fee of \$5.00.*

“Gone with the Wind”: Georgia Trip

Written by Sarah Ross

I had the pleasure of traveling out to Georgia over winter break. One of my old roommates is a pilot at an air force base out there and we wanted to explore the state. The flight from San Antonio to Atlanta, Georgia, was not nearly as long as I expected. When I arrived, I had the day to explore Atlanta but I knew exactly where I wanted to go. I headed on across town on their public transport, Marta, straight to Ivan Allen Jr Blvd to see the National Center for Civil and Human Rights. Martin Luther King Jr. lived in Atlanta and this museum had an entire exhibit dedicated to him. The exhibit included his notes for important speeches and letters, including a letter to Booker T. Washington and MLK’s notes for “I Had a Dream.” The entire museum laid out the entire experience of the Civil Rights movement and how it is still ongoing.



The next day we went to the Atlanta Historic Center. If I can convince you to go to one place in Atlanta, let this be it. The entire center shows the history of Atlanta in a well encompassed manner. The place discusses the history of sports, how Atlanta grew, the different groups who have lived in the area, how the AIDS epidemic affected Atlanta, and of course the Civil War. They had the Battle of Atlanta Cyclorama. The recently restored cyclorama was used as a historical tool to show how the South has changed its view over time of the Civil War. During the 1890s, the piece was changed to make it look as the South had won. Later on it was finally restored back mostly to how it used to be. It was in disarray and the City of Atlanta worked with the Atlanta Historic Center to restore it again when it fell into disarray. Now it is a full piece that tells the story of the Battle of Atlanta and how memory of the Civil War has shifted.



After some time exploring Atlanta, we headed to the beautiful, historic city Savannah, Georgia. As soon as we drove in, the town looked like we had stepped back in time. There were elaborate architecture structures and square parks all throughout the town. The Spanish Moss hung from the trees as you walked down the pathways. Each square had a statue with history of Savannah and the greater Georgia. Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia, along with story of Chief Tomochichi, of the Yamacraw tribe was fully explored without entering a museum.



As we explored, we went to Fort McAllister, the Naval earth work that Sherman could not take till he had taken Atlanta. There I met a confederate living historian, Jamie. He had worked for a while as a pilot in the Army and retired. He spent time working at Fort Pulaski where he learned how to fire artillery and how to be a better living historian. He took that experience and brought the fort to life. We went for a walk around the fort and he taught me a lot about Sherman's march to sea and how Ft. McAllister was able to last the majority of the war. Thanks, Jamie!



We also went to the Prohibition Museum, on a ghost/tap house tour of Savannah, Fort Pulaski, a guided tour by bus of Savannah, The Mighty Eighth Museum, the three parts of the Telfair museum, and spent hours reading all of the plaques throughout the town. The dedication to preserving their history, and being honest about even the parts they are not proud of, absolutely made

this trip one for the books. The plantation homes took the time to explain how the interpretations have excluded enslaved persons but they were a part of Savannah's story. Did you know Glory was largely filmed in Savannah? There were no plaques but you could walk the cobblestone path seen in the movie as the 54th Massachusetts march in a parade. Probably the funniest part of the tour, and part of the reason for the title, was when we walked past a magnolia tree. I stared at it for a long while, wondering why the tree looked so familiar. I genuinely spent hours thinking about it. At one the next day some stranger mentioned "Gone with the Wind" and I laughed so hard.



You have probably heard of the "Moonlight and Magnolia" trope and now I understand why the tree is included. I had never seen one in person and there it was. I was surrounded by them.

I could talk for hours about all the history I learned. The advance of military during the Civil War is explored in great detail out there. (For instance: Hotshots cannon balls to burn down wood based ships or how the Civil War ended the idea of fortified mason forts became penetrable with the rifled artillery pieces of the North.) The museums explore the different social movements and how they affected the community. Ultimately

though, one day I hope you can go out and explore history of Savannah and Atlanta as well. We as historians should strive to grow in our knowledge and understanding.

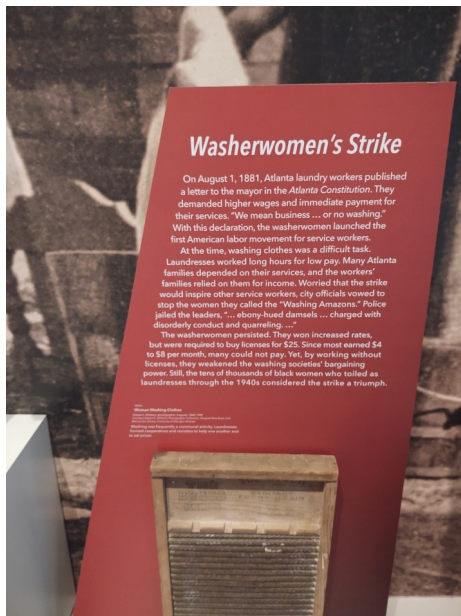


Would you like to be featured in Fort Concho's Dispatch? We are looking for short pieces that discuss unique historical elements on the western frontier. Fort Concho is a western frontier fort. However, the fort's history goes much wider than the military. Civilian life, buffalo hunting, Native American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



Above: Students' Day when living historians Rhett, Ehren, and Luca marched students as is they were soldiers.



Above: Story of the Atlanta Laundress Strike from Atlanta Historic Center in Atlanta, GA.

Upcoming Events at Fort Concho:

FEBRUARY

February 27~ Buffalo Soldier Heritage Day Talk at Fort Concho (2PM to 4PM)

MARCH

March 4-5~ Fort Concho is heading to Fort Clark Days

March 11-13~ Frontier Ladies Symposium

March 12-13~ Fort Concho Living History Infantry Training

March 18-20~ Loyal Train Artillery Class

March 25-27~ Fort Concho is heading to the "Military Muster and Resupply" at Fort Parker

APRIL

April 20-24~ Regional Cavalry Competition

April 22~ Frontier Day

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



-Fort Concho National Historic Landmark



-Fortconcho

This dispatch was created by your local, friendly Corporal, Sarah Ross.

