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mortar can become brittle and crack or, worse, fall out entirely.

The specifications of masonry repointing are an example of the delicate balance of historical accuracy and modern best-practices. Through the state Bureau of Parks and Lands and the historic commission, a sample of mortar in the fort was analyzed last summer, Seymour said.

That analysis resulted in a list of ingredients and percentages that a mason will use to replicate the mortar mix used in the fort's construction. But it's not historical fidelity for its own sake, according to Earl Shettleworth, director of the preservation commission.

Shettleworth said that mortars used today dry faster and to a harder consistency than those used in the mid-19th century. Introducing modern mortar into the fort could cause structural damage, he said.

"That's the real issue here," he said Tuesday. "It's not that we're trying to carefully replicate for the sake of replication, but rather because the material was part of an overall building system or scheme that was correct for the construction of that time."

Contractors could work year-round on masonry at the fort alone, Seymour said. It's the biggest job at the site, and he said "you don't have to look very far" from any point in the fort to find dry, cracked, nonexistent or weed-ridden mortar.

A few years ago, Seymour said, an emergency repair job was called for when bricks were literally falling out of the vaulted ceilings. Most of the brickwork in the fort has been stabilized since then, he said, and now the Friends are focusing on the massive granite blocks that make up the fort's exterior walls.

But weather isn't the only enemy of the fort's construction. Seymour said that of the fort's roughly 85,000 visitors per year, some are seekers of illicit souvenirs.

"People will actually come and pick bricks out of the walls," he said. "It's beyond my comprehension."

Despite the seemingly never-ending mountain of work always awaiting around the next corner, Seymour was upbeat about the Friends' efforts. He noted that restoration and renovation work last year ended with the opening of one of the fort's powder magazines to the public. That site had never been open before, he said.

"We understand how important Fort Knox is to the people of Maine," he said. "There's memories that span generations here. We take the responsibility very seriously."

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FORT KNOX TIMES

fortknox.maineGuide.com

Spring 2013

'It's never going to end': Maintaining historical, structural integrity at Fort Knox

PROSPECT, Maine – Faced with a never-ending workload, it might be easy to be a defeatist.

When you're tasked with maintaining Fort Knox, construction of which began in 1844, the job truly is never done. Leon Seymour - director of Friends of Fort Knox, which operates and manages the National Historic Landmark - said the fort basically began falling apart more than 140 years ago.

"It's never going to end here," he said Tuesday. "The construction stopped in 1869, and once you stop construction, deterioration begins."

But when it comes to maintaining the historic and structural integrity of the fort, Seymour and company are anything but defeatist. This spring, the fort is focusing on replacing windows and rehabilitating some masonry. The window work already has begun, and the masonry work is scheduled to begin this spring, Seymour said. All told, both jobs will cost about \$75,000, he said.

Whenever possible, construction, materials and renovation techniques as similar to those used in the mid-19th century are used, Seymour said. Historical accuracy is a paramount concern at the fort, which is not only a state park, but a National Historical Landmark, the highest federal status for a historic building.

At the fort on Tuesday, Michael El-Hajj, general manager for R.L. White & Son, which is undertaking the window repair, consulted a sketch of period-appropriate details for the wooden parts of the windows. The Maine Historic Preservation Commission researched other period windows in the area to come up with a design.

"A lot of the historic features of a window are the profiles of the muntins and sash," El-Hajj said. Two workers from his company were removing and cataloging each window sash and pane of glass. When possible, the older "bubble glass" in the fort will be retained, El-Hajj said, rather than replaced.

The Friends of Fort Knox took over the day-to-day management of the park last year, but have been involved in maintenance and upkeep since long before that, Seymour said.

"The first project we had was tackling the roof," Seymour said, describing a nearly \$900,000 roof restoration project.

"In the '90s, the roof had been compromised because, in the '60s, the state had put asphalt on the roof and removed the original sod. Because of Maine winter's freeze-thaw cycle, that asphalt was letting a lot of moisture permeate the masonry, so it was actually becoming unstable. So in the late '90s, the asphalt was replaced and sod was put back on the roof."

Seymour said Maine's weather is the primary enemy of the fort. As water seeps into the joints between the bricks and large granite blocks that make up the bulk of the fort's structure, salt and other minerals leach out. The



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FRIENDS COMMISSION NEW BOOK ON HISTORY OF FORT KNOX

(Prospect) The Friends of Fort Knox Board of Directors has approved the commissioning for the writing of a new book on the History, of the 19th Century seacoast fortification. Fort Knox is a National Historic Landmark and State Historic site, located on the banks of the Penobscot River, in Prospect, Maine.

The author selected to pen the new book is Liza Gardner Walsh, who has worked as a children's librarian, a high school English teacher, writing tutor, museum educator and holds an MFA in writing from Vermont College. She has written The Fairy House Handbook, The Fairy Garden Handbook, as well as Haunted Fort: The Spooky Side of Fort Knox. She lives in Camden, Maine with her family.

There had been a previous book written on Fort Knox, Fort Knox Fortress In Maine, by John Cayford (deceased), which was published in 1983, but is now out of print.

Friends of Fort Knox executive director, Leon Seymour, said "The organization is very excited about this project and hopes the creation of this book will serve as an educational resource for generations to come." Seymour indicated the book would touch on a number of topics beyond the story of the Fort, including the story of the Friends of Fort Knox, geologic history of the site and military activity in the region. He added that we also want to reach out to families that would be able to relate generational memories of their experiences at the Fort.

Fort Knox was constructed; because Maine was repeatedly involved in northeast border disputes with British Canada, and the area between Castine and the rich lumber city of Bangor was invaded and occupied by the British during the American Revolution and the War of 1812. Despite the Webster-Ashburton Treaty of 1842, Fort Knox was established in 1844 to protect the Penobscot River valley against a possible future British naval incursion.

The Friends hope that the book will be completed and ready for distribution by the spring of next year. Individuals who are interested in being interviewed by the author to share family memories about the Fort may email FOFK1@aol.com or write to the Friends of Fort Knox, PO Box 456, Bucksport, Maine, 04416.

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Friends of Fort Knox
 America's First Fort Knox
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 Bucksport, ME 04416



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FRIENDS OF FORT KNOX • VISITOR SURVEY & ANNUAL REPORT • 2012

Fort Knox and Observatory Visitor Survey Results - 2012

Listed below are results from a Friends' of Fort Knox visitor survey for 2012. The survey was available to visitors on the counter of the Fort Visitor and Education Center. Visitors have completed the survey voluntarily and were not interviewed.

Where are you from?

Maine – 32 Out of state – 81 Total - 113

Some of the out of state visitors were from: NH, MA, NY, India, France, FL, PA, IN, NJ, CT, MI, WI, TN, GA, SC, UT, CO, United Kingdom, Canada, KY, VA, TX, NV, CA, OH, NV

Reason for visit (respondents could choose multiple answers):

- Sightseeing- 83
- History- 73
- Observatory- 55
- Education- 28
- Walking- 23
- Picnic- 12
- Guided Tour- 10
- Special Event- 8

How did you learn of Fort Knox and/or Observatory (respondents could choose multiple answers)?

- Friend/Relative- 40
- Saw from roadside- 35
- Guidebook- 20
- Brochure- 18
- Internet- 16
- Sign- 12
- Newspaper- 4
- TV/Radio- 4

What did you enjoy most about your visit (similar themed responses were tabulated under one heading):

- Exploring the Fort- 28
- View from Observatory- 26
- Fort tour and Tour Guide- 21
- Everything- 19
- History- 12
- Fort interpretive information- 9
- Fort architecture and engineering- 8
- Helpful/friendly staff- 6
- Haunted/creepy aspects of Fort- 3

Themes that received two responses: New powder magazine display; Well-preserved fort; Well-maintained grounds

Themes that received one response: Picnic area; Pirate Day; Civil War Reenactors; Gift shop; Exercise; Authenticity, Self-guiding tour; Fort renovations; Clean restrooms; Sheer beauty

Suggestions for improvement:

None or N/A- 20

- Thanks to all who keep it up and running- great job- 9
- Better signage- 6
- Been coming 40 years- just keeps getting better- 3
- More History- 3

The following had two responses:

- More tours
- More lights
- Food vendor needed

The following were individual responses:

- Wonderful gift shop employee
- Bake in the bakery and then sell snacks in enlisted men's quarters
- Put more brochures in motels
- Take down that white box hotel, in Bucksport
- New things to see like the new gun powder room
- Loan out flashlights
- Not handicapped friendly
- Benches around Fort perimeter
- Larger gift shop and book on Fort
- Audio headphone or I-phone app- not as much reading for people

FRIENDS OF FORT KNOX ANNUAL REPORT 2012

Overview

The following is an annual report for the Friends of Fort Knox (FFK) reflecting the organization's activities in 2012. This report will highlight the opening of the restored powder magazine, repair of the Visitor Center handicapped parking area, assuming full management responsibilities of the Fort, increased Penobscot Narrows Observatory duties, a small growth in attendance and an uptick in two of four income sectors. The largest income increase was registered in our gate income percentage, due our lease arrangement with the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands, which allowed retaining 85% of Fort admittance revenue. The second sector to see a significant income increase was in special events, which increased 43% over the previous year.

Overall FFK gross revenue was up 9.7% in 2012.

The Friends of Fort Knox Board of Directors and staff continued to work hard to contain expenses, work with community groups, maximize resources, diversify income streams and complete projects at the Fort. The success of the organization would not have been possible without the outstanding efforts of volunteers, community groups and our many seasonal staff.

At the end of 2012, all FFK combined available unrestricted funds were \$173,918; in addition, a total of \$26,482 was restricted for restoration projects.

The FFK partnership with the Bureau of Parks and Lands has evolved to a lease arrangement, which places all day-to-day Fort management responsibilities with the organization. FFK staff, now included operational staff as well as the continuation of personnel who worked the fee collection booth, provided interpretive tours for school children and visitors, did bookkeeping, special event management, marketing, traffic/parking control and staffing the Penobscot Narrows Observatory. The new operations staff was involved with day-to-day maintenance, enforcing park rules, cleaning, landscaping and overseeing contracted services.

The total operational season visitor attendance at Fort Knox and the Penobscot Narrows Observatory was 70,420, during 2012. Attendance totals were down 13% from the previous year. Adding in Friends' sponsored special events such as Fright at the Fort boosted overall attendance to 80,784. Interesting Fort/Observatory attendance statistics for 2012 are bulleted below:

- * Over all Fort operational season exempt use (non paying admission) was up 3%. Exempt use includes Maine senior citizens; children under age 5, school groups, social service programs and season pass holders.
- * Non-resident adult visitors were up 17% for the observatory and non-resident seniors increased 19%.
- * Observatory attendance was down even with 2011.
- * Exempt school student visitation decreased by 10%.
- * Special event visitor attendance increased by 1%.

Information in the report will be contained under general headings listed below.

Restoration/Preservation/Maintenance/improvements

This year's major project involved a significant repair to the handicapped parking area adjacent to the Visitor Center. The problem in the parking area involved a large sinkhole that had been present for many years, which accumulated large amounts of water after each rainstorm, rendering two handicapped parking spaces useless. The parking area was raised and a small swale was installed directing water away from the problem area.

Another repair involved replacing the canvas cover to the replica ambulance on display adjacent to the Visitor Center. Though not linked directly to the History of the Fort, this replica draws much attention and is often featured in visitor photographs.

Lighting was installed on the parade ground of the Fort to illuminate the flag on the main bastion. The illumination allows the flag to fly above the Fort twenty-four hours a day. New flags were purchased for all four flagpoles.

Erosion control measures were initiated on the walkways leading to and

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FRIENDS OF FORT KNOX ANNUAL REPORT (continued)

(continued from page 2)

from the Fort. These control measures proved successful throughout the season.

Equipment acquisitions- The Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands left several items of equipment for Friends use during the first year of the lease, which have since been returned. The Friends' purchased items such as rakes, shovels, litter pickers, air compressor and other assorted tools.

A new golf cart was purchased that has seating for four passengers. The cart was purchased with the intent to provide assistance to individuals with mobility challenges, trying to access the Fort. The cart was used extensively throughout the season and in particular, provided assistance to visitors attending special events.

Maintenance efforts- Operations staff initiated extensive painting and staining efforts throughout the season. Paint/staining efforts targeted picnic tables, chain link barriers, Visitor Center and out buildings. Staff was involved in significant brush removal in the Visitor Center area and roof areas of the Fort.

Contracted services- Lawn care and snow removal services have been contracted out. Operations staff provides supervision for lawn care contractors.

The restored powder magazine was opened to the public this season after work was completed over the winter. The Bureau of Parks and Lands was helpful in providing interpretive plaques for the new display.

Volunteers

Volunteers are a crucial component to Friends of Fort Knox activities. A breakout in the number of volunteer hours for 2012 is listed below:

Estimated Volunteer Hours 2012

- FFK Board and Committees: 512 hours
- FFK Gift Shop Volunteers: 640 hours
- FFK Tour Guide: 350

FFK sponsored special event volunteers includes Park Day, Scottish Tattoo, 20th Maine, SCA, Fright at Fort: 2,900 hours

Total estimated Fort volunteer hours documented by the Friends: 4,404 and 450 volunteers.

Visitor Services

Interpretive Tours- Another bright spot in this year's annual report are the interpretive tours provided by Friends' staff during 2012.

- # of school group tours 23– 818 students
- # of general public tours 340 – 2350 individuals
- # of non school group tours 20 – 715 individuals
- Total # of tours – 383
- Total # of individuals receiving a tour –3883

FFK Staffing Overview

The Friends of Fort Knox maintain one full-time, year-round Executive Director and part-time Asst. Director. During the six-month plus operating season, the numbers of seasonal part-time employees swell to approximately fifteen people. The seasonal operations manager and Asst. Director become exempt full-time employees during the operating season.

Many of the seasonal employees are cross trained in various functions, which may include gate attendant, observatory, operations, gift shop or tour guide duties. The organization is fortunate to have many seasonal employees return each year.

Gate Staffing- Friends of Fort Knox personnel greeted visitors throughout the operating season, providing guidance and collecting admission fees. Gate personnel provided services seven days a week, 8 hours a day for the operating season (9 hours a day July/August).

Observatory Staffing- Beginning May 1, 2012, FFK provided two staff people, seven days a week, at 8.50 hours a day (9.5 hours July/August), to operate the observatory. All FFK staff was trained in CPR, first aid, emergency evacuation procedures and in the use of a defibrillator. Staff performed exceptionally during several emergency evacuations of the observatory due

to elevator malfunctions.

Gift Shop Staffing- The FFK gift shop is staffed daily by volunteers or paid staff. Aside from adding retail revenue for the organization, people staffing the gift shop, are able to answer basic questions concerning the facilities and refer visitors to local services.

Tour Staffing- Tour guides are available daily for the majority of the season for visitors. In addition, tour guides provide meaningful educational tours for students of all ages.

Operational Staffing- These staff provide for overall facility upkeep, safety, security, maintenance, first aid and visitor assistance.

Special Events – Friends sponsored special events continued to please visitors with a variety of entertainment and educational demonstrations throughout the season. Notable special events included a Park Day cleanup, Maine Foster Care Family Day, Paranormal/Psychic Faire, Scottish Tattoo, Pirate Day, Medieval Tournament, 20th Maine Company 'B' Civil War reenactment, cannon firings, Civil War medical demonstration, Shakespeare, Fright at the Fort, Wellness and Holistic Faire and a play by the Belfast Maskers.

The Friends sponsored an appreciation day for the Prospect and Stockton Springs, Fire Departments and ambulance service. The departments and their families were provided free admission to the Fort and observatory. Each department was presented a flag denoting their area of public service.

This year's Fright at the Fort was particularly successful, attracting over 8,000 guests during four-nights of Fright. In addition, the Fort is increasingly becoming a destination for wedding ceremonies and other group functions.

Building on the notoriety that the Fort garnered in the SyFy Channel's Ghost Hunter TV program and with the volunteer help of a local paranormal investigation group, The East Coast Ghost Trackers, ghost tours were offered several times throughout the season. These tours, which were held during early evening hours, provided a special event income boost.

Financial Income

Listed below are the four main income streams for FFK that span the past four years. Significant income growth was seen in the gate contract and special event categories. A significant increase was seen in the FFK gate percentage, due to the lease with Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands (FFK now pays them 15% of gate) and a large jump in special event revenue.

Income	2012	2011	2010	2009
Gift Shop	\$84,639	\$90,723	\$94,799	\$98,007
Special Events	\$93,489	\$65,345	\$58,606	\$48,890
Gate	\$153,070	\$82,493	\$50,000	\$90,124
Contribution	\$16,369	\$16,921	\$48,451	\$20,006
Totals-	\$347,567	\$251,856	\$257,027	\$321,039

Promotion and Public Education

The Friends of Fort Knox distributed over 8,000 newsletters to visitors to Fort Knox. The newsletters contained information on the history of the Fort, Friends' restoration priorities and event schedules. Ongoing radio and television ads encouraging visitors to visit Fort Knox and the observatory aired throughout the season.

The Friends received a large amount of electronic and print media coverage throughout the year. The reopening of the observatory, restoration efforts and special events drove media coverage.

Upcoming Restoration/Preservation/Improvement Projects

The Friends of Fort Knox Board working in partnership with the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands have identified the need to repoint masonry of the granite blocks throughout the Fort. This project differs from our recent repointing efforts that focused on the bricks throughout the Fort and will commence this spring.

FRIENDS OF FORT KNOX 2013 SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULE

May 1st, Fort Knox and Penobscot Narrows Observatory, Prospect, Maine reopens.

The Fort Knox State historic site features one of America's best-preserved examples of seacoast fortifications constructed in the 1800s. The new Penobscot Narrows Observatory, the tallest bridge observatory open to the public in the world, boasts breathtaking views of the Penobscot Bay area. Visitors to the observatory ride an elevator up 420' feet on Maine's fastest elevator for incredible views. Admission to these attractions is only \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.



May 17-19 (Friday P.M.-Sunday A.M.) 20th Maine - School of the Soldier. Training sessions and drills in preparation for their encampment season.

May 18th, Saturday 11-2, Maine Foster Family Day

Saturday, May 18th, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 PM, Ghosts of Fort Knox Guided Tours. Join the East Coast Ghost Trackers on a guided tour of Fort Knox in search of ghosts and paranormal phenomena. There will be hourly tours and limited capacity. Advanced reservations and pre-payment required. Please bring a flashlight to this event. Those interested in going on a ghost tour should contact the Friends of Fort Knox at 469-6553. The cost of the tour is \$15 per person. Note: Tickets are non-refundable.

Other Ghost Tour Dates:

- Saturday, June 15th, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 PM
- Saturday, August 17th, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 PM
- Saturday, September 21st, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 PM
- Saturday, October 5th, 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 PM
- Saturday, October 12th, 6:00, 7:30, 9:00 PM



Saturday-Sunday, May 25th-26th, Cowboy Fast Draw Association - Maine State Championship

Saturday, July 6th, 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM Elton John, Tribute Band, Yellow Brick Road will rock the Fort-, Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and a picnic. Dancing is allowed and encouraged. Costuming optional. Enjoy many of the greatest hits from this phenomenal artist. Makes for a great evening of entertainment for all ages. Tix may be purchased at the Fort Visitor Center gift shop the day of event or in advance (469-6553).



July 13th, Saturday, Scottish Tattoo , 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM - (Rain Date - TBA) This popular annual event is back, featuring traditional Scottish bagpipers, precision marching bands and a patriotic salute to America. Tickets for the event are \$10 per person or \$5 for children 12 and under. Advanced tickets may be purchased at the FFK gift shop or by calling the gift shop at 469-6553. Tickets may also be purchased the evening of the event (at the Fort Knox gift shop).

July 20-21, Paranormal/Psychic Faire, Saturday and Sunday Meet with people who believe in things unusual. This unique event features, psychics, ghost hunters, UFOologists and Ahura Z Diliiza who is a natural telepath, metaphysician and psychic policeman (a natural exorcist), specializing in psychic protection and removal of dangerous entities. He owns and operates Unicorn Cove School of Metaphysics in Westbrook, Maine. Regular Fort admission and a \$2 event donation requested.

July 27-28, Saturday and Sunday, 20th Maine Civil War Encampment and Bucksport Bay Festival Held in conjunction with the Bucksport Chamber of Commerce Bucksport Bay Festival. The Civil War Weekend will include representatives from the 20th Maine. The event will feature skirmishes, cannon firings, living history demos, lectures, and camp life.

August 1,2,3,4 - Thursday-Sunday, Shakespeare Comes to Fort Knox featuring the presentation of TBA, performed by Ten Bucks Theatre Troupe. Ticket Prices- \$10 per individual, per performance. Advanced tickets may be purchased at the Fort Knox gift

shop, or by telephoning 207-469-6553. Tickets may also be purchased the evening of the performance (at the Fort Knox gift shop).

Saturday, August 17, Pirate Festival, 10 AM until 4 PM- Join the professional Pirates of the Dark Rose for a day of swashbuckling sword fights, duels, cannon fire and pirate ship attack. The pirate ship "Must Roos" will let loose cannon fire on the Fort as she sails the waters of the Penobscot River, in search of booty. The festival will feature a treasure hunt, pirate parade (all are encouraged to attend dressed in your best pirate attire), best dressed and most authentic sounding pirate contests. Regular Fort admission and a \$3 per person event donation requested, because pirates love their gold! Those planning to spend the day may want to bring a lunch.



Sail on the Pirate Ship Must Roos with cannons and flintlocks - six passengers max. Cruise times: 9 AM, 10:15 AM, 11:30 AM, 2 PM, 3:15 PM, 4:30 PM, 5:45 PM and 7 PM. The charge for the pirate ship sail is \$20 per person for an hour cruise and cannon firing. The ship leaves from the Bucksport Town dock and tickets may be purchased in advance by calling 469-6553.



August 24-25, Saturday, 10 AM until 4 PM and Sunday, 10 AM until 3 PM - 6th Maine Battery Cannon Firings - a full scale Civil War era Parrot cannon firing demonstration will take place throughout the day. This is the real deal and will provide some explosive excitement for all who visit.



August 24th -Saturday, from 8 PM to 10:00 PM (Last tickets sold at 9:30)- Moon Viewing at the Penobscot Narrows Observatory \$5 per person (all ages) Rain and/or clouds will result in cancellation...call 469-6553 the evening of the event for recorded message if canceled. (No advance ticket sales)

September 7th , Saturday, The 11th Annual Medieval Tournament: Knights will have armored combat, medieval music played, arts and science displays will be on hand and an archery demonstration will take place. Regular Fort admission and a \$5 event donation per vehicle requested.

Saturday-Sunday, September 14-15, 9 am - 4 pm, The Healing Co-Op 2nd Annual Holistic & Wellness Fair. Come learn and experience a holistic approach to wellness. Reiki, Massage Therapy, Chakra Clearing, Guided Meditation, Intuition and Vibrational Healing and more. Guest speakers throughout the day. For more info, call Amy: 478-8725 or email @ thehealingcoop@yahoo.com or visit www.thehealingcoop.com

October 12-13, Saturday, 10 AM until 4 PM and Sunday, 10 AM until 3 PM - 6th Maine Battery Cannon Firings - a full scale Civil War era Parrot cannon firing demonstration will take place throughout the day. This is the real deal and will provide some explosive excitement for all who visit.

October, 18/19 and 25/26, Friday and Saturday, 5:30 to 9 PM, Fright at the Fort 2013: THIS EVENT ENDS AT 9:00 EACH NIGHT, PLEASE ARRIVE NO LATER THAN 8:30 P.M. Visitors are led through the dark passageways of Fort Knox where indescribable things lurk in the shadows, creating screams of fright. Admission is \$10 per person (\$5 for those 12 and under) Additional information on Fright at the Fort 2013, may be found on the fortknex.maine.gov

7 PM until 1 AM , Spend Halloween Night at Fort Knox, with East Coast Ghost Trackers, \$30 per person.



Dear Friends:
I am pleased to write to you, our valuable Friends of Fort Knox members and readers, as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors. This season marks the second year that the organization has assumed all management functions, at the State Historic site, which signed a multi-year lease with the Maine Department of Conservation, in the spring of 2012. Thanks to the wonderful support of our members, many volunteers and community partners, we can report that our first year of Fort management was successful. I would encourage readers to review the compiled results of a visitor survey, which may be found in this newsletter. During the past year, the Friends of Fort Knox experienced the loss of two wonderful Board members; whose contributions were significant to the organization for many years. Last July, Gordon McRae, unexpectedly passed away at his home in Eddington. Gordon, a welder by profession was instrumental in the restoration of the four 24-pund flank howitzer cannons on display at the Fort. A second Board member, Bob Robinson, passed away this past March, at a hospital in, Portland. Bob had conducted numerous blacksmithing demonstrations at the Fort over the past years.

This past season the organization made significant repair to the Visitor Center, handicapped parking area and initiated further erosion control measures to the front of the Fort. Currently, windows in the enlisted men's quarters are being restored and/or replaced by the organization. Finally, the Friends throughout this coming season will undertake masonry repair to granite joints.

Our mission is the continued restoration and improvement of the Fort. We are preserving a piece of history for all to enjoy in the future. Fort Knox is the historical stage for educational tours, special programs, family outings, and increasingly, weddings. We hope that you will continue our efforts to preserve this wonderful Maine historic asset and hope to see you this season.



Carol Weston
FFK Board Chair

I'd like to thank our wonderful staff, members, and volunteers whose dedication to Fort Knox has made it one of the best-preserved seacoast fortifications in the United States.

Truly,
Carol

Fort Knox is owned by the Maine Department of Conservation's Bureau of Parks and Lands and managed by the Friends of Fort Knox

Friends of Fort Knox Mission Statement
The Friends of Fort Knox mission is to preserve Fort Knox and enhance its educational, cultural and economic value for the people of Maine

**FORT KNOX NEEDS FRIENDS
BECOME A FRIEND OF FORT KNOX TODAY!**

The Friends of Fort Knox invite you to become a member of the organization and help us to continue our ongoing mission to preserve and improve this tremendous State historic site. Over the past two decades the Friends have helped replace the collapsing roof, created the Visitor and Education Center, restored the Officer's Quarters, repaired the battery 'A' powder magazine and restored four 24-pound flank howitzer cannons original to the Fort, and now are undertaking extensive masonry repair throughout the fort. These important Fort Knox projects would not have been possible without the financial support of those who care about this tremendous asset of Maine history.

Membership in the Friends of Fort Knox includes: a free admission to the Fort for you and your family, 10% discount in our gift shop, invitation to member's special events and newsletters.

To join the Friends of Fort Knox and help us continue our mission to preserve Fort Knox and enhance its educational, cultural and economic value for the people of Maine, please complete the form below.

Membership Application

- \$10 Junior/Senior Member
- \$20 Individual
- \$35 Family
- \$100 Sustaining
- \$500 Benefactor
- \$1,000 Sponsor

In addition to my membership, please accept my additional contribution for the following purpose:

\$ _____ Preservation \$ _____ Education
\$ _____ Operating \$ _____ Endowment

Count me in! Enclosed please find my check for \$ _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of Payment ___ Check ___ Visa ___ Mastercard

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____

Please deduct \$ _____ per month for a total of \$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Please send to: Friends of Fort Knox, PO Box 456, Bucksport, ME 04416
Phone: 207-469-6553; Fax: 207-469-6909; Email: FOFK1@aol.com
(An IRS 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization)

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