



## Open House at Kentucky Camp

### Friends of Kentucky Camp and Coronado National Forest

October 10, 2009

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Please come for a fun day at **Kentucky Camp**, a restored early 1900s mining and ranching site north of Sonoita. The historic hydraulic gold mining site lies on the eastern slopes of the Santa Rita Mountains along the scenic **Arizona Trail**.

There will be site tours of the buildings and a special walking tour to nearby Boston Gulch where portions of the mining and hydraulic workings are still visible. **Additional activities include gold panning demonstrations and opportunities to make adobe bricks.**

The event is free and open to all. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the beautiful setting. Grills and picnic tables are available on-site.

Kentucky Camp was built in 1904 as the headquarters for the Santa Rita Water and Mining Company. Its investors built an extensive hydraulic system to transport water for processing gold. The gold mining venture was not successful and was quickly abandoned after the mysterious death of the company's chief engineer in 1905. The property became a working cattle ranch for the next 50 years. It was then sold to a mining conglomerate hoping to mine copper in the Santa Rita Mountains, and then was acquired by the Coronado National Forest in 1989. Since then the Forest Service and volunteers have worked together to preserve and restore the adobe buildings and make the site available for public education and enjoyment.

Kentucky Camp is located about 50 miles southeast of Tucson and 10 miles northwest of Sonoita. From Tucson take I-10 East to exit 281 (State Highway 83). Go South 20 miles to a turn-off to the right marked "Gardner Canyon" and "Kentucky Camp" (Forest Road 92). Follow the signs for 5 miles on a well-maintained dirt road to Kentucky Camp. Parking is on the ridge above the historic site. Proceed through the pedestrian gate and follow the road  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to the site. A shuttle will be available for visitors needing assistance. Please call 520-455-9249 (Ky Camp phone) for assistance. For more information, contact Kathy Makansi (520-760-2502) at Coronado National Forest, or Mark Doumas (520-299-4281) of Friends of Kentucky Camp. Additional information available at [www.fs.fed.us/r3/oronado/forest/heritage/kcamp/kcamp.shtml](http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/oronado/forest/heritage/kcamp/kcamp.shtml).