



PUBLISHED MONTHLY ON THE INTERNET BY THE OLD KIA KIMA PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

## Living the Magic of Old Kia Kima: A Ranger's Reward

Serving as Volunteer Rangers during the past three camping seasons has always been a rewarding experience for those of us who have had the opportunity. While our Rangers have given of their time for the benefit of campers and their adult leaders, every Ranger has likewise benefited from having seen our great facility come to life once again after so many years of neglect. Old Kia Kima is alive and well.

As you all know, we currently have a team working on prospects for securing permanent funding, with the ultimate goal of ensuring the successful operation of our Old Kia Kima in perpetuity.

Mike Moyers and David Fleming are spearheading this great effort and their success will place our Association and the Ranger Search Committee one step closer to the task of selecting a qualified permanent Old Kia Kima Ranger.



Brooks Gooch, Bobby Harriss, Bobby Williams, Buddy Keltner and Ron Tate have probably been present as Volunteer Rangers most of the time throughout the past three years. Maybe that has given us a few more reasons for encouraging the expansion of our Volunteer Ranger base to serve until a permanent Ranger is selected. Truth be known, we have all come to realize that we are greedy to be there on our little spit of land whenever the opportunity arises. Sadly, time and distance too often inhibits the same opportunities for many others. We wish it were not so.

Some of our newest members from KKSr have already jumped on board as interim Rangers. If you haven't had such an opportunity...you really don't know what you're missing. Every camper's voice in the quadrangle is, in a word, something of a phenomenon. Those were our voices many years ago; hearing these echoes of our past is magic!

As for those of you who *are* within reasonably close proximity, the magic of Old Kia Kima beckons. Be there for the benefit of Today's Youth...and for your own.

**Be a Ranger!**

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## Roy & Ray: Critters of Old Kia Kima

Whether our camp is open or closed, it is interesting to note that there are numerous other residents of Old Kia Kima, all of whom have staked a claim on their right to be present...anytime they please and on their own schedule. They are the critters of Old Kia Kima. Some have been identified. Some have been named. All are welcome.

A few weeks ago Brooks Gooch sent an E-mail note and picture, informing me that he had run across Roy, a resident Armadillo. I fired a response back that the picture was in fact not Roy, but rather his twin brother, Ray.



**Roy**



**Ray**

Roy is the smaller of the two...we suppose because he has yet to master the grub-foraging skills of brother Ray.

Attendees at the closing campfire during the 2004 reunion will certainly remember when Ray showed up for an impromptu performance with the Indian dancers. The entire troupe received a well-deserved standing ovation. Well done, KKSr Indians! Well done, Ray! BRAVO! Then Ray waddled off into the brush for a late evening snack.

There are more Critters of Old Kia Kima. But that's later.

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## The Ralph and Martha Jane Young Chapel



During late December you received either an Email or a letter telling you about our next great project at OKK. We are building an OKK Chapel for our youth to celebrate their religious convictions.

This is something we have needed for a long time. Already we've raised over \$4000 of the \$9000 to build the small chapel (seating 30+). We also have the option to build the large chapel (seating 60+ people) if we can raise \$13,400. Which size we can afford depends on us! If you have not had a chance to contribute, send your check to: **OKKPA**

c/o Phil Adams, Treasurer  
515 S. Garfield  
Enid, OK 73703

Our goal is to complete our chapel by the beginning of camping season, Summer 2005. What better way to state your values, than by contributing to the effort.

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### Upcoming Communications from Steve Demster, OKKPA President

Hopefully you're getting your **Smoke Signal** by either Email or U.S. Mail. If you aren't receiving **Smoke Signal**, and you've seen this at a buddy's house, send an email to [neal.talley@oldkiakima.org](mailto:neal.talley@oldkiakima.org) or call Steve Demster at 248-620-8914 and complain like crazy.

Very soon, all OKKPA members will have an OKKPA email address. It will be of the form firstname.lastname@oldkiakima.org. Don't worry, we haven't secretly changed your **real** email address. However, on the Old Kia Kima computer server, anyone sending you an email at firstname.lastname@oldkiakima.org, will be redirected to your real email site. Instantly. Why do we want to do this? Why should YOU want us to do this? There are two very good reasons:

- 1--Your OKK friends (or others) have an email address for you that is very, very easy to remember.
- 2--If you change your email service, all you have to do is notify Neal Talley and he'll change the "pointer". This is extremely handy for you, your OKK brothers and sisters, and anyone you want to give your OKK email address to. Imagine never having to ever tell anyone that you've changed your email address.



## Spring Work Session

Mark April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> on your calendar. We have some great things to do to get ready for Camping Year 2005. As always, we need work crew leaders and work crews. If you're willing to be a volunteer team leader, please email [steve.demster@oldkiakima.org](mailto:steve.demster@oldkiakima.org). We'll have more on the particular projects in a later **Smoke Signal**. Rumor has it that we're going to build David Logan's "Rock Island Camp" Bulletin Board.

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## 2004 Reunion Plants Scouting Seeds

David Fleming

At the 2004 OKK-KKSR annual reunion the families of Hal and Ethel Goolsby and Carl and Peggy Goolsby made it also an occasion for a family reunion. In an exchange of Christmas greetings Hal shared this uplifting story with me.

*"Ethel, my children, three grandsons, and I really had a wonderful time at OKK last September. I want to thank you and the other leaders for a great job."*

*My six-year old grandson, Jacob, is a compulsive collector and saver of all kinds of natural things. As he was passing through security at the Memphis airport on the way home, the alarm went off. With a crowd of people watching, he was led aside and instructed to empty his pockets. Out came rocks, sticks, pretty leaves, a piece of bark, a crow's feather, several coins, and a large rusty nail. The guard let him keep his treasures. That---and being permitted to fire the rifle and shotgun [ed. at Kia Kima Scout Reservation], and seeing the armadillo at the OKK camp---fire were the highlights of the trip for him. Perhaps the seeds of the adventure of Scouting have been planted."*

Hal's story confirms that OKKPA is continuing on its mission to "...provide an environment where elders may pass on knowledge and experience, enriching and shaping the lives of young people today."

We're on the upward trail.

*Smoke Signal 2*

