



Integrity Achievement Responsibility Courage

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April 2008

We Have Our Work Weekend Cut Out for Us

**Hardy Area Ravaged by Weather
Third and Worst "100 Year Flood" in 25 Years**



Old Kia Kima Floating Dock

During the last part of March people all over the United States were hearing about Hardy, Arkansas. Hardy has had seven "100 year floods" in the last 100 years. This most recent one was one of the worst. The pictures included in this article will give you an impression of what OKK looked like after the flood.

These pictures were taken by Johnny Fletcher during a damage assessment visit he made with Mike Kinkade and Bobby Harriss. One thing is for sure, this flood changed the focus of our April work weekend.

The highest the water got up into camp was over the window ledges of the Covered Bridge over Spirit Creek. That is high. There was much debris spread over the flooded area of the camp. The swimming dock was swept

off its moorings, but the safety cable kept it in the neighborhood. It was far up in a tree. At last report Bobby and Johnny were down there with the tractor trying to figure out how to get it down out of the tree.

The foot bridge near the Rat's Nest was also reported lost.

The torrential rain did a lot of damage too. The mulch in the quadrangle was totally washed away and the anti-erosion dams were largely washed away. The road down to the beach behind the bathhouse was heavily damaged and rutted by the excess rain.

The plan of attack for the April meeting is being re-engineered as we speak. We need your help, so please plan to come April 24-27.

To all Old Kia Kima Preservation Association friends & supporters, NEW and “OLD”

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

➤ Come to Old Kia Kima April 24th - 26th and bring a friend! ➤
Attend our Spring Work Weekend & Fellowship Activities ➤ We
suffered another “100 year Flood” in March so come help us

repair the damage and get the camp ready for Camping!

➤ HELP US Continue OUR MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

○ 250 MEMBERS for the 2008/2009 Membership Year!

➤ JOIN OKKPA - Encourage a friend to join



PLEASE LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING

It's easy to do - just print and fill out the form on the next page, enclose your check and mail to the address as indicated.

Please forward this email to a friend!

Something we did last year was to have an “Identify that Photo” Contest. Bring a pix of yourself from “Camp days of old” and see if your friends can identify you. (Steve Demster indicates he would recognize you anywhere. He says you haven't changed a bit - hmmm...)

Our Core Values

INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE

2008 SPRING WORK WEEKEND & FELLOWSHIP

ACTIVITIES AT OLD KIA KIMA

WORK ACTIVITIES TO PREPARE CAMP FOR OPENING BEGIN

9:00 AM Friday, April 25th and Saturday, April 26th

**EARLY ARRIVALS ON THURSDAY, APRIL 24th
INVITED TO DAVID LOGAN'S CATFISH CAFÉ IN THE PAVILLION
6:30 TO 8:30 PM**

We have two times a year where you can meet and enjoy the fellowship of your OKKPA brothers and Miramichee sisters. We've expanded the spring work weekend in April to include some exciting social activities. We hope you'll come to Hardy on Thursday afternoon (4/24) and stay through Sunday (4/27). If you can't make the whole weekend, then come for what you can.

Here's the plan. Thursday night early arrivals (6:30-8:30 PM) will enjoy a catfish dinner. Friday night we'll have a casual buffet with jambalaya, salad and a huge pot of coffee and your choice of dessert. This will be going on throughout Friday evening to accommodate the different arrival schedules of our brothers and sisters. Providing the entertainment will be YOU. Again this year, we're asking all of our musically talented members to bring their guitars, banjos, ukuleles, harmonicas, grand pianos, etc and we'll have a spontaneous 'OKK

Music-Thing/Sing Along'. Bring your best funny tales and let's have a blast together on Friday night. Let's fill those cabins up this weekend.

On Friday and Saturday, we'll have a number of projects aimed at prepping the camp for 2008 and especially getting our newly acquired Old Dining Hall property spiffed up. Projects arranged to accommodate everyone's physical condition. After a great dinner at 6:30 on Saturday night we'll have a full-blown OKK campfire— just like days of old! On Sunday, people will be leaving at all times depending on their schedules. We will have brunch followed by a briefing from your OKKPA Officers on what's new for camping season 2008, what the outcome of the April 24th Board meeting was and a look at the plans (we're open to ideas) for Old Dining Hall property. Then there'll be a photo-thon of OKK and Miramichee history. Several members are already planning to bring their collections of OKK-KKSR photos. We encourage you to bring yours. This will be a lot of fun and an ideal time to chat with new friends and old!

Share this invitation - Invite a friend - Join OKKPA - Get Involved - You'll be glad you did

Please Read, Print & Mail completed Form below, along with your check made for meals and

OKKPA dues made out to OKKPA to:

Frederick Deen, PO Box 20664, Roanoke, VA 24018

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Yes, I will be attending! Count me in and Sign me up as follows:

Please remember to bring your work gloves and any tools that might help us in facility cleanup! (Gas blowers, weed eaters, rakes, chain saws, etc.)

Please help us anticipate your arrival time and your participation in the planned activities.

Check the appropriate boxes below:

I will arrive at Camp on Thursday, April 24th as follows:

- Thursday Catfish Dinner
- Thursday after dinner
- Reserve me a cabin starting Thursday

I will arrive at Camp on Friday, April 25th as follows:

- Friday for buffet 6:00 to 8:30 PM
- Friday after dinner
- Reserve me a cabin starting Friday

Enclosed is my check for the following meals:

- Thursday Dinner \$5.00
- Friday Lunch \$4.00
- Friday Dinner \$5.00
- Saturday Lunch \$4.00
- Saturday Dinner \$5.50

I will arrive at Camp on Saturday, April 26th as follows:

- Saturday before lunch 12:00 Noon
- Saturday before dinner 6:00 PM
- Reserve me a cabin starting Saturday night

My check includes my Jul/2008 dues of

\$25 (young adult) Legacy, \$50 Contributing, \$100 Active, \$200 Heritage, \$300 Sponsor, \$500 Patron

Please print and mail this form & your OKKPA check to:

Frederick Deen, PO Box 20664, Roanoke, VA 24018



**Your Help is Desperately Needed
During the WORK WEEKEND**

**Bring your tools, friends and appetite
and join us.**

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What is GUIDESTAR?

If you've read our Annual Report 'lo these many years', then you've run across the name GuideStar. GuideStar is an organization that supplies information to the general public about charitable organizations such as Old Kia Kima. If you were to go online and punch in www.guidestar.org and search for OKKPA you'd find a lot of information about us including our IRS 990 forms, our mission, etc.

MISSION AND PROGRAMS

Mission

OKKPA, INC. SEEKS TO OFFER THE RESTORED OLD KIA KIMA CAMP FACILITIES TO ESTABLISH LINKS TO EXISTING BOY SCOUT PROGRAMS AND OTHER 501 (C) 3 NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND YOUTH SERVICE PROGRAMS.

Programs

1. CLEANUP OF OLD CAMP SITE AND RESTORATION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS AND RE-CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS AT LOCATION OF OLD CAMP SITE WHICH WAS PURCHASED AND DONATED TO ORGANIZATION. UPON COMPLETION OF RESTORATION THE CAMP SITE FACILITIES ARE BEING OFFERED TO EXISTING BOY SCOUT PROGRAMS AND OTHER 501 (C) 3 NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THEIR LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND YOUTH SERVICE PROGRAMS.

You'd also find that you could donate to OKKPA very easily. Many people don't give 'cause they're not sure how. Just follow the simple 3 step procedures.

As we continue to find new sources of income, we hope you'll try GuideStar.org and use their auto-donation system with us.

Click on this link to obtain IRS Form 990 information about GuideStar.com

The Old Kia Kima Preservation Association, Inc.

enter the following EIN #

710783653

Click Here To Enter

Old Kia Kima Core Values: **INTEGRITY - ACHIEVEMENT - RESPONSIBILITY - COURAGE**

Donating to OKKPA just got easy!

Click on the link below, enter OKKPA in the Search Box, click on the "DONATE NOW" button, and follow the prompts

Thank you for helping to support OKKPA's mission to serve the youth of today!

GuideStar.org

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The February 5th Tornado in Highland/Ash Flat will not soon be forgotten...

Strong winds, damaging hail, uprooted trees, flattened homes and businesses, and fractured lives with homelessness, joblessness, and wandering animals were all part of the aftermath of the Tornado that hit Highland and Ash Flat February 5, 2008.

Our Miramichee Sisters were just coming home from Winter Camp in Vail with Jan Pool Wingo; The Senior Miramichee campers (Class of 1964) were getting ready to go to Hardy soon to plan The Reunion to Beat All Reunions...when the news broke of the tragedy that had befallen our friends and neighbors in the Hardy Area. Pictures started flooding in of the heartbreaking destruction!!!

Everyone was stunned and in shock! Then... chatter on the Miramichee Board began regarding monetary assistance, caring for those who had experienced the tragedy, caring for the displaced animals, and just going up to “do something to help out”. In the end, four Miramichee Campers went to Hardy on Friday and Saturday and did what we could to assuage some of the grief and help clean up some of the mess. While this may seem like just a few of us, rest assured we had the support of all of our sisters back home who were praying for us and supporting us as we did what we could.

Carolyn Wright and her husband Jack (who loves Kia Kima even though he never went to camp there) arrived in Hardy in the wee hours of

morning on Saturday morning, Feb 9th. After sleeping for awhile, they got up and headed to McDonalds for Breakfast then to Conley Ford to “Sign in” and figure out what to do next. After signing in...the word was “just go on out and see who needs help and go for it.” OKAY...

Knowing some of the merchants along the highway, the Wrights sought out Brent Watts, to see if he needed help to clear off debris from what was left of Highland Window and Door. Later they had a friend with dump truck to come in and really move stuff off the pad and out of the way. We stayed for awhile longer to help..then received a call from Lisa Liebenrood ... I was so glad to hear from her.

Lisa had been to the Spring River Chamber of Commerce to see where volunteers were needed and also to the Mission of Hope, on request of several of our Miramichee sisters, to see what help that the Mission needed with a view towards possibly giving them monetary assistance. Neither of those places had much information.

Lisa was then told to go to the former Ford Dealership “Conley Ford” to volunteer. She was handed a broom and joined a group from Arkadelphia cleaning glass from the parking lot. She later received a call from the Spring River Chamber of Commerce asking her to come to their office at 1 pm that afternoon for a Volunteer program. Armed with this

information, she called the Wrights to let them know about this opportunity for service.

Soon after Lisa was off traveling again... this time to a street in Highland to pick up firewood that was being cut as they needed to get the firewood out of the way. When she arrived at this locale, she was immediately told to "Go away". It was the home of a victim of the storm and he would burn the wood for his family.

By this time, it was about 1 PM and Lisa headed to the Chamber of Commerce for "the volunteer program" only to find out that the program was postponed 'til the following day to canvass door to door in Highland... to see what people need help and for what.. Jack and I arrived soon after and were also told about the postponement and then we left and went to the Highland City Hall to see if there was someone else that needed assistance. They referred us back to the Conley Ford Area. We then tried to find the Red Cross Tent.. never did find the thing.. so we returned to Conley Ford Command Center and signed out as there was nothing else to do down there and they did not know where to send us. We checked on our Miramichée cabins especially Cabin 21 that had been a victim of electrical fire ten days before the tornado.

Pam Pigford had classes in Memphis on Saturday morning and was not able to get away as early as she liked which was a perfect opportunity for Louise Bobbitt to come to help as she could not get away til later on Saturday either. Pam had collected monies from her school and purchased food for the displaced cats and dogs. One large car, nearly loaded to the roof with cat and dog food... you can only imagine the pungent aroma.....

Early evening found four tired Miramichée campers and one equally as tired husband at Biggers Bluff Restaurant for a much needed repast. While sharing a meal we also shared the events of the day. Louise observed how strange it was seeing peoples' belongings all blown around a 14 mile stretch. Weirder still was that one house would look perfect and the next one demolished. Following supper, we all went to Lisa's for a bit to get some dog food for a dog that was wandering around Miramichée. AS we had a long trip ahead of them, they bid farewell to our friends that night and left early on Sunday for Birmingham, AL.

Sunday, Pam, Louise and Lisa started off dropping dog and cat food to the vet that was assigned to care for displaced animals. They reported to the command center and were told to go along the highway and begin clearing debris in like piles of wood, shingles, and bricks. They started at the cemetery and after two hours, they felt that they had made at least a small dent. After lunch they volunteered with the Sharp County Emergency Management Team to do door to door canvassing to assess needs for help and assistance. Louise reports that one lady seemed like she was reliving the moment. "I could feel her anxiety". Three tired campers turned in their new information and headed home feeling tired but blest.

The concern and prayers of our Miramichée Sisters sustained us. Lyda Phillips said it best... "the power of our sisterhood..." working together to bring about good. Who would have ever imagined?

Miss Hall, we did you proud!

MORE PICTURES OF FLOOD DAMAGE



Footbridge near the “Rat’s Nest”



Erosion in the Quadrangle



The Water level in Spirit Creek was above the window level in the Covered Bridge



To come to the Work Weekend and help with these Cleanup Projects

Debris Near the Waterfront

