The **Forteess**

A Friends of the Fort Publication Vol 2 Sept 2023







Presidents Message

Hello Friends,

We had a good summer this year in spite of the heat. Thanks go out to the DUP ladies for the Pioneer Day display in the visitors' center. Kathryn Park's pioneer dress looked fantastic on our new mannequin. Also this summer, we had another successful Fireworks Booth Fundraiser thanks to all our Friends of the Fort volunteers.

And now it is time for our fall and winter events. We'll be celebrating Public Lands day on September 23rd and the week before that. Then on October 28th, we have Nevadaween - my personal favorite. If you want to volunteer to help with the set-up or tear-down, email us at staff@friendsofthefort.org. I will call you with the details and timing. Also in October, the Blacksmith classes start up again. If you haven't been to the Fort since they moved to the group use area, you should come by and see it. It's a much nicer setup with more room and their own storage.

We will be doing some fundraisers this fall/winter, too such as Panda Express (Oct 20) and wreath sales. These are always popular, so watch for the flyers on our web pages to keep up with these dates.

It's going to be a great season!

Cindy Allison President, Friends of the Fort



Old Fort Happenings

After a long summer it's finally time to welcome fall back to the Las Vegas Valley! It's also time to welcome back our fabulous seasonal, Ray Richardson. Ray will be starting back in early October this year so be sure to stop in to welcome him back. We have completed several park improvement projects over the past few months including volunteer clean up days, improvements in the visitor center and continuation of the memorial brick project. Sherri Cassel, Park Interpreter will be attending the National Association of Interpreters symposium this fall. Part of her future plans at the fort involve developing an interpretive plan for the Fort Grounds and the Historic Adobe building.



Please Welcome Nate Valentine, the

newest addition to the State Parks staff. Nate is a Park Aide and started on September 5th. He is currently a geology major at UNLV. We are glad you are here, Nate!

Board Member Receives Award



Every May the Las Vegas Historic Preservation Committee honors a handful of people for their contributions to Las Vegas history. This year, we are happy to congratulate Lisa Messenger, who is a board member with Friends of the F ort, on receiving an award for the second edition of her book, "Old Ranch", about early Las Vegas Pioneers. Lisa was also very instrumental in assisting us with the Legacy Brick Timeline. Lisa's book is available for purchase

at the Old Fort Gift Shop.

The photo is of Lisa, with her parents at her side. The painting behind them hangs in the entrance of the Las Vegas City Council Chambers and is artwork, painted in 1949, of the Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort building.

Upcoming Events





Saturday, November 4, 2023

Sign up NOW—class size limited!

This hands on class is 4 to 4 1/2 hours on how to use charcoal briattes to cook in a Dutch Oven. Students will be in teams of two and will prepare one dish (either main, side, or dessert). You will learn care of Dutch Ovens, recipes, cooking safety, equipment needs, preparation, receive handouts and have Dutch Oven ex-perts RR Chuckwagon speak on all of the above as you go along. At the end you will ALL share your prepared dishes for a grand meal experience! This class is limited to 14 participants and you MUST sign up in advance. Class time is 9:00-1:30.





This class is only the \$25.00 registration fee. MUST BE CASH and done at the OLVMF.

Register by Oct. 30, 2023





EVAD/

For registration , you must sign up at: The Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort 500 E Washington Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89101

For additional information contact: 702-486-3511

When

Friday, October 20, 2023 Place your online order for

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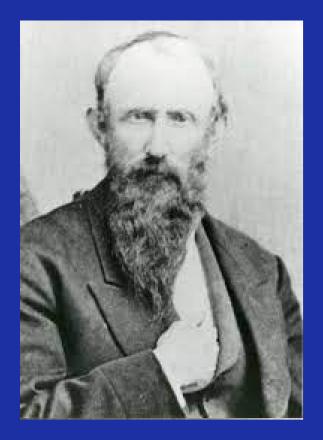
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Historical Review O.D. Gass

Octavius Decatur Gass lived on the land of the Old Fort site from about 1865 to 1881. He operated a way station for passing travelers. Comprising of over 600 acres, he grew and sold vegetables and fruits and offered shelter and water to travelers. He built a blacksmith shop and was the only blacksmith in the Las Vegas valley at the time. A few of his original tools are on display in the Old Fort Visitor Center.

Fagundo, our Blacksmith Instructor, brings that skilled tradition of working with iro, back to the Old Fort with our Blacksmith Classes. The classes will be held from October 2023 to March 2024. We will also have two classes with Special Guest demonstrations: LeRoy "Doc" Daines at the January 27th class and Enzo "Iron" Cinquegrana at the February 24th class. We offer both Beginner and Experienced classes and each class is limited to eight students, so they fill up quickly. Visit our website at www.friendsofthefort.org to view more information and to find the link to Eventbrite to register.



Contact Information



https://parks.nv.gov/parks/old-las-vegas-mormon-fort https://www.facebook.com/OldMormonFort 500 E Washington Ave. Las Vegas, NV 89101 702-486-3511



Friends of the Fort https://www.friendsofthefort.org/ https://www.facebook.com/friendsofthefortlasvegas/ P.O. Box 70895 Las Vegas, NV 89170



Daughters of Utah Pioneers

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