

The Fortress

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 Fort, 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



Friends of the Fort Blacksmithing Classes

Save your place today!
(limited space)

Beginning Classes

- October 3, 2020
- October 24, 2020
- November 14, 2020
- November 21, 2020
- December 12, 2020
- January 16, 2021
- January 30, 2021
- February 6, 2021
- February 27, 2021
- March 20, 2021

Intermediate Classes

- January 23, 2021
- March 27, 2021

THESE ARE INTERMEDIATE BLACKSMITH CLASSES. To register for this class, you must have completed at least one Friends of the Fort Beginning Blacksmith Class..

For more information email:
Tubalcainblacksmith@gmail.com
or call (702)-340-4798

Classes are from
8:30am to 2:30pm
\$95/ per person

To sign up on-line go to : www.FriendsoftheFort.org/blacksmithclasses
Friends of the Fort Las Vegas | www.friendsofthefort.org | (702) 875-2688

Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort 500 East Washington Ave Las Vegas, NV 89101





NEVADAWEEN

CELEBRATING NEVADA DAY AND HALLOWEEN

SATURDAY OCTOBER 28, 2023
FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL NOON

THE OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT STATE HISTORIC PARK
500 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, 89101

ADMISSION IS \$3 PER PERSON, (CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE)

Activities:

- 9 AM - Pumpkin Decorating
- 10 AM - Children's Costume Contest
- 11 AM - The D.U.P. Soup Cook-Off
- 9 AM→Noon - Decorated Adobe Building
- Nevada Birthday Cake
- Children's Games
- Cupcake Walk
- Scavenger Hunt



Children's Costume Contest:
Children ages 12 and under are invited to attend in costume. Judging is held at 10AM. There will be one winner for each of four age groups; 3 and under, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Winners receive a \$25 Target gift card, and everyone receives a treat.

Vote for Your Favorite Soup:
At 11AM, sample soups at the Annual Soup Cook-Off from the Daughters of Utah Pioneers.

For more information, contact The Old Fort Staff:
702-486-3511
oldfort@parks.nv.gov




NEVADAWEEN IS A PRODUCTION OF THE FRIENDS OF THE FORT AND THE DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS IN COOPERATION WITH NEVADA STATE PARKS

OLD LAS VEGAS MORMON FORT STATE HISTORIC PARK

Dutch Oven Cooking CLASS

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 briquettes 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 experts 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



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





A Fundraiser for
Friends of The Fort

PANDA EXPRESS VIRTUAL COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER

Use Fundraiser Code:
915434

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER 20TH**



When
Friday, October 20, 2023
Place your online order for pickup or delivery on this day at any time you want.

Where
Any Panda Express Location
You can pick up or we'll deliver from any location nationwide. www.pandaexpress.com

How
Online Orders Only
Use Fundraiser Code **915434** when you check out online or in the mobile Panda App.

THE FUNDRAISER CODE IS VALID FOR ONLINE ORDERS ONLY AND NOT ACCEPTED IN-STORE AT PANDA EXPRESS

28% of sales will be donated to Friends of The Fort
You must place your order online for pickup or delivery from any U.S. location on Friday, October 20, 2023

We are raising funds to support educational programs and events at The Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort State Historic Park.

Order at www.pandaexpress.com or in the mobile app and use Fundraiser Code **915434**

Valid for online orders only. Panda Restaurant Group reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events if the Panda Restaurant Group Virtual Community Fundraiser Guidelines are not followed. Panda Restaurant Group will donate 28% of all purchases made, pre-tax and before fees, at your local Panda Express when purchased with the designated code at checkout. Purchase(s) of gift cards do not count toward the fundraiser, but purchase made with gift cards will count. No purchase under this fundraiser is tax deductible.

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 iron 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

<https://isdup.org>