

FORT RENO:

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the Victorian was where researchers said they felt an ominous presence – like a weight pressed against their chests or that they were being watched.

Another structure that has seen a lot of activity is Fort Reno's visitor's center, which is open to the public. Built in 1936 as officers' quarters, a Maj. Konat was said to have committed suicide in the building, "and we don't think he's ever left," volunteers said.

Researchers contend two people have seen the major in the years since the 1998 restoration of the building, and there are frequent occurrences of lights going on and off, knocking and footsteps.

Ghost Tours are held the third Saturday of the month, through the spring and into October –

sometimes, depending on visitor response, tours can be extended into November. Extra tours are held in October to celebrate Halloween. This year's tours are set for June 16, July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15 and Oct. 13 and 27. June through August events begin at 7 p.m.; September's tour starts at 6:30 p.m. and October activities at 6 p.m.

Reservations are required and can be made by calling Historic Fort Reno at 405-262-3987. Tours cost \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors 55 and over and \$5 for children ages 5 to 12 years of age.

U.S. Cavalry Association

U.S. Cavalry Association transferred to Oklahoma from Fort Riley home because the association encountered several issues due to its location on an active military base. For its part, Historic Fort Reno was enthusiastic about the prospect of housing the 1,000-member

association headquarters, as well as its extensive museum and library. HFR and the association worked together to renovate Fort Reno's officer's duplex, located directly behind its visitor's center.

More recently, the association undertook Operation Restoration, raising funds to refurbish a 35-stall horse barn once used by its cavalry predecessors. Like the officer's quarters and other restored buildings across the Fort Reno campus, the barn draws visitors not only from Oklahoma and across the country, but also internationally. Both the museum and barn will be open during the competition, and other groups and individuals will be on hand with their own historical entries, which was recently completed, association President Bill Tempero said.

The association's Fort Reno museum, like the site's visitors

center, is generally open Mondays, Tuesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Officials, however, suggested anyone interested in visiting call 405-262-3987 first.

U.S. Cavalry Association also sponsors an event that brings competitors and spectators from across the country – the Bivouac and National Cavalry Competition. Set this year for Sept. 26-29, the tournament features an array of events, including combat and military horsemanship, mounted pistol, field jumping, saber and mobility tests.

More information about Historic Fort Reno can be found online at <http://www.fortreno.org/>; to learn more about the U.S. Cavalry Association, go to <http://www.uscavalry.org/>. Fort Reno is located at 7107 W. Cheyenne St. in El Reno and can be reached by calling 405-262-3987.

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