

Dear Fort Stanton Kids,

March 8, 2010

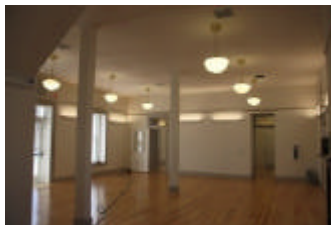
After Fort Stanton Live last August, I planned to relay news of the event to everyone right away. But alas, as more information about Fort Stanton kept pouring in, I also became more involved in my own life with the upshot that I failed to send anything until now. I'm taking advantage of this rainy weather and dull days to get some information out to all of you.

One of the best things that has happened is that Danna, with some help from her daughter, has created a website just for the Ft. Stanton Kids! Go online and look up: www.fortstantonkids.org. I hope everyone will try to have a look and sign in. It is a great way to keep up with happenings at Fort Stanton that affect our group. You can also follow the restoration of the old fort and can find out about our plans for the next Fort Stanton Live. That will be here before you know it--first weekend in August again!

It is really exciting to report that the renovation of the old Administration Building has been completed. Currently, the members of Fort Stanton Inc. are moving all the contents of the small museum as well as many items in storage into this beautifully renovated building. They expect to have the new Museum up and running by April 1. So those of you who live locally can get over there and see the results of this long and slow process. You can see what a wonderful place it is now and you'll enjoy viewing new/old things there. Renovations are also proceeding on Bldg. 13. The website has photos and information about these changes.



Administration Building 2009



Administration Bldg Interior 2010



Administration Bldg Exterior 2010

Since there was a huge amount of work in the moving process, the Fort Stanton Museum, which will be moving into the Administration Building in April, is offering copies of Children of Fort Stanton and Fort Stanton Marine Hospital to the Fort Stanton Kids at a special price of \$15 each including shipping and handling through April 3, 2010. The usual price is \$25 plus S&H. The Museum also accepts orders for "Fort Stanton: History of a New Mexico Post" , a beautiful 11-minute CD created by Joseph and Carolyn Arcure, for \$15 including S&H.

Send your order to: Fort Stanton Inc., P.O. Box 587, Alto, NM 88312

Last year's Fort Stanton Live actually started on Thursday, August 6, for some of us. A small number of the "Kids" were taken into the Fort Stanton Cave by some of the current Cavers. This came about after Tom Gould found his "lost" color slides taken in 1955 when he and some friends spent three days in the cave. After showing these slides to the latter-day explorers, Tom was invited to go back into the cave with them. John Corcoran, Steve and Kathy Peerman, Tom Gould and son Lucho, Pat Gould Fletcher, and I (Claire) went in about 10 in the morning. Pat and I only went for the first hour and returned, but the others were in about 6 hours. Tom Gould is now the oldest person to see the section known as Snowy River, the beautiful, rare, and extensive deposit of calcite that resembles snow. The connection with the Cavers has allowed Tom to relay to them his belief that there was a cave entrance on the Mesa near the airport. Now, studies by the Cavers appear to show that a cave is/was there, although some of it may have been covered during construction of the airport. More studies will determine the importance of this finding and its relevance to the Fort Stanton Cave.



On Friday evening, prior to Fort Stanton Live there was a "formal" walk around the Parade in a torch-light procession. These arrangements were made by Mike Bilbo, the resident representative of the BLM. Tickets were sold in advance for this event, and the outcome was so successful that it was sold out by that Friday morning. The next day was Fort Stanton Live! Our group was located in front of the Commanding Officer's home, which made it especially enjoyable for Jack Kunkel. But Bob Tappan, who had planned to come, had

had some health issues and couldn't get back to visit his old home. A large number of the returning Kids did arrive, however, often with spouses, nephews and nieces, children etc.



Those attending were Margaret Howard Searle, Eva Howard McCollum and Eva's daughter Kathie Richardson; Ray and Mary Ella Cooper; Alma and Ron Chambers; Dick and Donna Cox and Sally Cloud Fluhart; Alfred and Dorothy Sanchez; Helen Salsberry Hurtado and niece Lydia Amaral; Jim Templeton and son; John Kusianovich, Danna Kusianovich Henderson, and daughter Lisa Ray; Charley Armer, Jimmie and Dorothy Thompson (Cecil's widow), and Lynda Ness Gulley; Tom (Skipper) Gould, son Lucho, cousin Bill Vechione, and sister Pat Gould Fletcher; Diane Shaw Riska; Melinda and Ray Baker; Lorene and John Pitts; Rita Romero Wirta; John (Jack) Kunkel; Emmett, Eddy, and Fay Womack; Godfrey Chavez, Ida Minter Hale. The following Kids cancelled at the very last minute due to health issues: Betty Byers Allen; Charles Byers; Mary Hale Pittman; David and Mary Fish Manies, and Robert Tappan, who pointed out that our booth was right in front of the very house he lived in from 1926-29. Others who have been very supportive of our efforts over time, came by and visited. Many either had relatives who lived at Fort Stanton as did Ruth Craig McAdoo (granddaughter of Susan Berry, daughter of Jean Berry) and son Mark Spurlock and family; or they worked there as adults, such as Lucio and Mary Zamora, Bea and Ed Payton, and Dorothy Thompson.

Jim McBride was very busy, as three times he guided groups of people across the Bonito to the old German Camp. In between times, he was signing the Children of Fort Stanton, 2nd edition, which was published in the Spring of 2009. The Templeton and Salsberry families are included in this new edition, and the photographs throughout have been improved. Lynda Sanchez was also signing her newly published book. She and photographer David Tremblay produced a beautiful and colorful book on Fort Stanton entitled Fort Stanton, An Illustrated History: Legacy of Honor, Tradition of Healing. It covers the history of the fort from pre-historic times through the Military, Public Health, and State of New Mexico period. It is unique in its coverage of the German Internment Camp and also the Fort Stanton Cave. The Museum at Fort Stanton sells these books or they can be ordered from the authors. Jim's website is: www.jamesjmcbride.com and Lynda Sanchez can be contacted at 575-653-4821.

The Kids really had a very BIG DAY! Fort Stanton Live was over for us about 5 pm, but Mike Bilbo had other ideas for fun. He had organized a big dance for the evening using old-time music and dances. Those who hadn't learned such old fashioned dances as reels and folk dances were taught how to do them. Since it was light until fairly late, the dancing went on for some time in the evening. Most of the Fort Stanton Kids didn't attend the dancing, as our plans included dinner together in Ruidoso at the Cattle Baron. Nearly thirty people attended the dinner, although most (as in Claire) were dead tired by then. Attendees could order whatever they wanted from the menu and pay their own way. Since no one looks like they did years ago, everyone introduced themselves, and the whole evening came off really well. We moved around among tables and talked to former friends and neighbors, with no worries about the time. We were in a semi-private room, so we could visit quietly and hear what was being said fairly well.

Overall, we were very pleased to have opportunity for another Kid's Reunion at Fort Stanton, and we thank all the Fort Stanton Inc. volunteers for making it possible. We particularly appreciate Bev Carpenter who kept us abreast of the Fort Stanton news all year. Nick Skogland and Sam Townley, from the state, have been helpful each and every year and are always there to make everything work just right. Monument Director, Deann Kessler, put a big effort into Fort Stanton's role in the Old Lincoln Days. Finally, the very creative Mike Bilbo thought up fun and memorable entertainment that made the 2009 Fort Stanton Live a huge success.

Keep in touch if you can, and we hope you'll join us for the 2010 Fort Stanton Live! Please let us know if you remember anything about your life at Fort Stanton that might be of historical interest. Also, remember we are interested in any of your photographs that were taken at Fort Stanton. We can scan them and include them in the Fort Stanton Kids' collection. Bring them when you come or mail them to one of us.

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Danna Kusianovich Henderson: dannahenderson@compuserve.com or 410-819-8708 7436 Kevin Ave, Easton MD 21601

Lydia Amaral, daughter of Louise Salsberry Sanchez and niece of Dick Salsberry, sent this Obituary:

Entered into rest Thursday, October 8, 2009 peacefully at home surrounded by his devoted family after a courageous battle with cancer. He was a native of Fort Stanton, New Mexico born Tuesday, December 17, 1940 and a resident of the Sacramento area for the past 60 years, living in Roseville for the past 24 years. Beloved husband of Joyce (Mitzi). Devoted father of Deborah, Jeannette, Annette, Monica and step children Karen and John. Also survived by nine grandchildren and sisters Helen and Aneda along with many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by both parents Augustine Sr. and Agapita Salsberry, a brother Augustine Jr. and sisters Emma and Louise. Dick graduated from San Juan High School in 1959 and was employed with the Railroad for over 30 years. The family invites you to a viewing at 5:00pm with a Rosary at 6:00pm on Wednesday, October 14, 2009 and a Mass of Christian Burial 10:00am on Thursday, October 15, 2009, both will be held at Holy Family Church, 7817 Old Auburn Road, Citrus Heights, CA. A burial will follow at Calvary Catholic Cemetery. Dick will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

SALSBERRY, William I "Dick"

