



THE BUGLE CALL

Quarterly Newsletter of the Fort Bayard

Historic Preservation Society

April 2025

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we move toward warmer weather, we look forward to welcoming more visitors to Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark. We had a very successful Open House and Flagpole Dedication on April 12th. Effective May 25th we will be extending our weekend hours at the museum to include both Saturday and Sunday, open from 10 am to 2 pm both days. This means that we will need more volunteers to assure we have at least two people present during open hours. If any of you would be interested in serving as museum host/guides, please contact me at historyguy51b@gmail.com or give me a call at 575-388-4862. We will provide information and training for anyone who feels they need it.

With your indulgence, I would also like to express to you how concerned I am about the attacks on our nation's museums and historic organizations.



As part of ongoing efforts to reduce the size of the federal government in the name of "fiscal accountability," important sources of help for small organizations such as ours are being rapidly demolished. The National Endowment for the Humanities, and its state level Humanities Councils have been targeted for elimination. Our organization has benefited greatly from those

agencies through grants. The National History Day contest which offers youngsters the opportunity to better understand history through hands-on experience is one of the casualties. Locally, our public schools have been highly successful in that contest, and we have annually supported students to help them advance to state and national level competitions.

Of equal concern to me is the effort to rewrite history from a particular point of view, and to denigrate the contributions of minority groups and women through removal of information, websites, etc. Remember that destroying and removing online information is book burning in another

cloak. Will the time come when we are going to be asked to remove our Buffalo Soldier statue on our parade ground, because it promotes “DEI”? I recognize that in our country there will be disagreement on how to accomplish our goals of preserving history. I ask all of you to consider the current direction of these efforts, and to consider how best organizations such as ours proceed into an uncertain future. Thank you for all the support you have shown, and continue to show, the FBHPS.

Doug Dinwiddie, President, FBHPS

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Election of six new Board members was held at the March 9th FBHPS membership meeting. All members in attendance and one vote received via email unanimously approved the full slate of six nominees to serve on the Board for a 2-year term (5 existing Board members have one year remaining on their term). The newly elected Board members are:

Doug Dinwiddie
Becky Dinwiddie
LeMar Gearhart

Lorie Hildebrand
Dave Chandler
Ken Schuster

Following the membership meeting, a meeting of the Board of Directors was called for the purpose of electing Officers to serve in the 2025-26 membership year. The current slate of FBHPS Officers were unanimously re-elected. They are:

Doug Dinwiddie, President
Cecilia Bell, Vice President
Becky Dinwiddie, Treasurer

Denise Singleton, Secretary
Dr. John Bell, Village Liaison

FLAGPOLE DEDICATION AND MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE

On April 12th beginning at 5 p.m., the Society hosted an Open House at the Fort Bayard Museum to show off our recently installed electrical lighting!

The event kicked with a gathering at the north end of the Parade Ground to dedicate a recently donated flagpole. The pole was donated by the Bucky O'Neill Camp #175 chapter of the Sons of Spanish-American War Veterans, based in Phoenix. The ceremony was attended by approximately 50 people, including Tanner Guskey, who represented the Sons of Spanish-American War Veterans dressed in a period costume. FBHPS President Doug Dinwiddie was also attired in a uniform from the period.



The pole is mounted in an historic concrete base that was installed around 1900, and was designated at that time to be a monument to the soldiers with ties to Fort Bayard who had served in 1898's Spanish-American War. The base sat empty for many years; however, the metal plaque explaining its purpose recently caught the eye of a visiting member of the Phoenix chapter of the Sons of Spanish-American War Veterans.



The group contacted FBHPS with an offer to donate the flagpole, which we gratefully accepted. We then purchased a replica 45-star American flag of the type in use in 1898, plus a replica regimental flag of the First Volunteer Cavalry. That unit was popularly known as the "Rough Riders," and was led by future President Theodore Roosevelt. Thirty-eight men from Grant County served in the Rough Riders. A solar powered light was installed atop

the pole, allowing us to fly the flags constantly.

Top photo: The new replica flags flying proudly in the breeze—a 45-star US flag (1898) and the Rough Riders regimental flag

Bottom photo: Tanner Guskey of the Sons of Spanish American War Veterans and Doug Dinwiddie at the flagpole dedication

LEARNING ABOUT FORT BAYARD ON THE DISC GOLF COURSE

Local Disc Golf enthusiast Jerry Boswell approached FBHPS more than a year ago with an interesting idea. Jerry suggested that the Fort Bayard disc golf course would benefit from having informational signs about historic



Fort Bayard at each tee box on the “18 hole” course. Several weeks ago, volunteers from our organization teamed up to get that accomplished.

Doug Dinwiddie wrote up the signs and gathered the photos, and Ansel Walters produced the signs in his home workshop. With help from John Baker and LeMar Gearhart, Ansel then did the hard work of installing the signs at every tee box. Now, players on the course can not only have fun but learn about historic Fort Bayard at the same time. Kudos to our disc golf community for their support!



GIVE GRANDLY KICKS OFF SOON!

“Give Grandly” is a once-per-year coordinated event to encourage donations to local nonprofits, such as FBHPS.

This year, the in-person giving event will be held in Gough Park on Saturday, May 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm. Many local nonprofit groups will be at the park to answer questions about their mission.



However, if you can't make it to the park on the 3rd, online donations can be made April 9th - May 17th.

If you choose to donate online, please make sure to specify the charity you wish to contribute to. *And of course, we hope that you will keep FBHPS in mind when you make that giving decision.*

For detailed information, check out the Give Grandly website:

<https://www.givegrandly.org/>

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA AT FORT BAYARD #1 IN NEW MEXICO



Wreaths Across America (WAA) at Fort Bayard National Cemetery has been ranked the #1 sponsorship site in New Mexico for 2024!

Thanks to the local WAA '24 Crew's successful planning and work, and certainly due to outstanding community support as well, 4908 wreaths were

placed on veterans' markers at Fort Bayard. This was the sixth year in a row that each veteran's marker there has been remembered and honored with a wreath over the Christmas holiday season.

Credit: The above photo and text are a portion of "Wreaths Across America at Fort Bayard #1 in NM" as published in www.grantcountybeat.com on April 16, 2025. Reprinted here with permission.

VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

BECKY DINWIDDIE

We are pleased to feature Becky Dinwiddie as our Volunteer of the Quarter in this issue of *The Bugle Call*. Since becoming an active member in 2015,



Becky has served as the organization's Treasurer, a natural fit for her as a retired Certified Public Accountant. However, her role as Treasurer is only the tip of the iceberg of her many contributions to FBHPS. She chairs the Archives and Library Committee, and has taken the lead in cataloguing our collections, which entails keeping a detailed record of our many thousands of artifacts, documents, photographs, and

other papers. She also keeps track of the necessary paperwork regarding gifts and loans, in effect being the museum's volunteer Registrar.

Becky also serves as an assistant tour guide at the museum, and has taken a leading role in developing the new Junior Historian program, which helps our youngest visitors become familiar with the fun side of history and museums. She serves as the lead concessions manager for our long-running Thursday night movies, and keeps an eye on our digital presence, including our organization's email and website.

In general, she is another of our dedicated volunteers, without whom our organization would not be able to function. Thank you, Becky!

MOVIE SERIES TO CONTINUE IN THE FALL

The Spring movie series, "Iconic Films of the 1960s" concluded on April 11th with a showing of *Easy Rider*. After a summer break, our popular movie series will resume in the fall. The movies will continue to be shown on Thursday evenings free of charge, and concessions will be available at a nominal cost.



We are currently seeking suggestions for a theme for the fall series. Please let us know if you have any ideas!

THE FORT BAYARD STORY

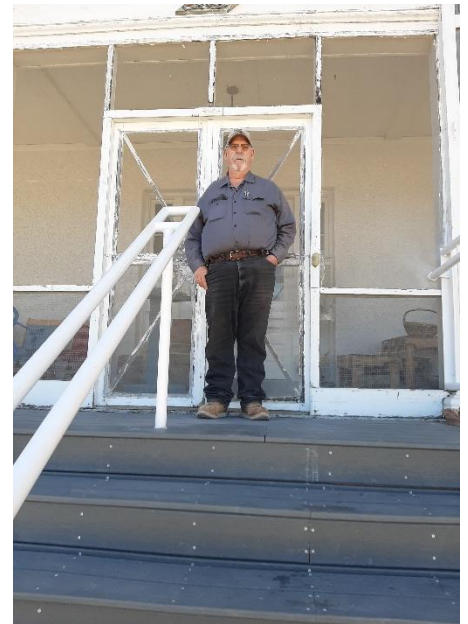
The following interview is the second of a series we will be publishing in future editions of *The Bugle Call*. Dr. John Bell is leading a project to collect oral histories of persons who worked and/or lived at Fort Bayard during the hospital era. (Stories are edited for space and clarity.)

John Kishbaugh Interview
Fort Bayard Resident 1966-1998
(Part One)

As told to Dr. John Bell

I was born in Pennsylvania, the second of four children, in 1958. My father, Joseph Roland Kishbaugh, was a veteran of the Korean War and was discharged from the Army at Fort Bliss, near El Paso, Texas. My father was an X-ray technician. He had a mobile X-ray unit, but had lost a contract on a job. In 1966, he somehow learned of an opening for an X-ray technician at Fort Bayard, NM shortly after it was closed as a veteran's hospital and opened as a state hospital. He ultimately landed the job.

Our home at Fort Bayard was building number 59. This is the building east of the nursing quarters and adjacent to the water towers. This home had been occupied previously by the Becky Smith (Ladner) family. This was during the period when Fort Bayard transitioned from a veteran's hospital to a state hospital. The Smiths occupied the home when it was a veteran's hospital and my family occupied the home when it was a state hospital. This building had four bedrooms and it was a nice home.



Although my father was primarily an X-ray technician, he had other responsibilities at Fort Bayard. He had to cook for the many cookouts held for the hospital patients. Children had the responsibility of transporting the patients to and from the cookouts, usually pushing wheelchairs under the direction of Maude Miles. I am not sure what her official title was.

Some of the doctors I recall who practiced at the hospital during the early state period were Drs. Davis and Harrison. Dr. Davis was a surgeon, and possibly the last physician that performed significant surgery at Fort Bayard on site. At that time, Fort Bayard staff were allowed to grow a garden and keep an animal in the orchard. One day, a few other children and I were playing in front of the Sojourner's Club. (The Sojourner's Club burned down in the 1970s.) Dr. Davis lassoed his calf and took it to the club. Without forewarning the playing children, he shot and killed the calf and then started butchering it. The kids were briefly distracted, but then continued playing as usual.

I remember Dr. Harrison as a kindly man. Dr. Harrison was the brother of the nationally renowned physician who was the author and editor of the *Principles of Internal Medicine*, the leading authoritative textbook on Internal Medicine in this country, still in use today. Dr. Harrison always carried a pack of cigarettes in his shirt pocket. He did not smoke himself, but always offered a guest or acquaintance a cigarette to be sociable.

There were sewer ponds east of Cameron Creek when I was a boy, and I used to go fishing in one of the ponds. I did not know it was a sewer pond and became discouraged when I caught no fish, so I gave it up. Later, Kennecott Copper transported the wastewater from Fort Bayard and the mining district to the mines to reuse the water.

Bats were a problem in the nurses' quarters then, as now. The guano stunk so badly the residents were very anxious for a solution. Previous efforts by Maintenance to remove the bats and their guano had not been particularly successful. Then Maintenance came up with a unique solution to remove the bats. All the boys had BB guns they loved to shoot. The Maintenance Supervisor decided to get the boys to shoot the bats with BBs. The boys were rewarded with extra BBs. Access to the nurses' attic was easy by stairs. The boys simply climbed the stairs and shot the bats with glee. Then Maintenance returned and removed the dead bats along with the guano. This proved to be a very efficient method for bat and guano removal.

Another of my boyhood memories was climbing the water tower. I climbed to the top of the water tower but never into it. The water supply was always from the natural springs in the area. There were never pumps--simple gravity carried the water to the fort. In later years, the water was treated with chlorine. The amount of chlorine was adjusted according to the Ph of the water as tested in the hospital lab.

In 1971, tragedy struck our family. My father died of colon cancer at age 38. Sergeant Joseph Kishbaugh was buried at the Fort Bayard National Cemetery. My mother was able to get a job first at the fort Post Office and then in the Purchasing department. This enabled her to remain in Fort Bayard housing. My mother married Jesse Allison in 1973. She and my stepdad (currently a resident of the Fort Bayard Hospital) bought property on the Mimbres, and she quit work in 1976.

PART TWO OF THE STORY WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT EDITION OF
THE BUGLE CALL

HISTORIC CHARACTERS OF OLD FORT BAYARD

Walter Loving, 1871-1945

The most accomplished musician to ever call Fort Bayard home was Walter Loving, who arrived as a member of the 24th Infantry Regimental Band in 1893. The fort's bands not only provided music for all occasions on the post, but were also in great demand in surrounding communities, where they provided music and entertainment in concerts, parades, and other civic events.

Walter went on to become famous in music circles, starting with his deployment to the Philippines. In 1901, he was chosen by Governor (later President) William Howard Taft to form a band for the just-established Philippines Constabulary, which was a national police force, under the direct command of the Governor.



Under Loving's leadership, the band became internationally recognized for its excellence and versatility. It was chosen to perform at the St. Louis World's Fair in 1904, where it thrilled audiences with its programs. Among those in attendance was John Philip Sousa, aka "The March King," who was quoted as saying that the Constabulary band was the "best military band I have ever heard." That is high praise indeed from one of the most honored musical composers in history, and longtime leader of the United States Marine Corps band, as well as his own touring band in later years.

In 1909, the Constabulary band was chosen to lead the inaugural parade for President Taft, and indeed was the official band for the inauguration itself. Following his retirement, Loving divided his time between the Philippines and the Bay Area in California. In addition to his



performance and directing skills, he also made his mark as a composer, writing "The Colectevista" march, in honor of Filipino leader Manuel Quezon.

Tragically, Walter Loving and his wife were living in the Philippines when Japan suddenly attacked the islands in conjunction with the Pearl Harbor raid in 1941. Following the conquest of the Philippines by the Japanese in early 1942, the Lovings were among thousands of Americans who became prisoners of the invaders. They were interred with other civilian prisoners in Manila until the arrival of American troops in February 1945. Before they could be liberated, Walter was taken away by Japanese soldiers, and was

never seen again. It is believed that he was among the many internees that were summarily executed by Japanese troops before they could be rescued by the advancing Americans. Walter's wife survived, but never knew her husband's exact fate.

One of our objectives is to keep Walter Loving's memory alive at Fort Bayard National Historic Landmark.

Upper Left Photo: Walter Loving posing in his regimental band uniform at Fort Bayard

Lower Right Photo: Loving seated in front of the Philippine Constabulary Band in 1904

RECENT ACQUISITION

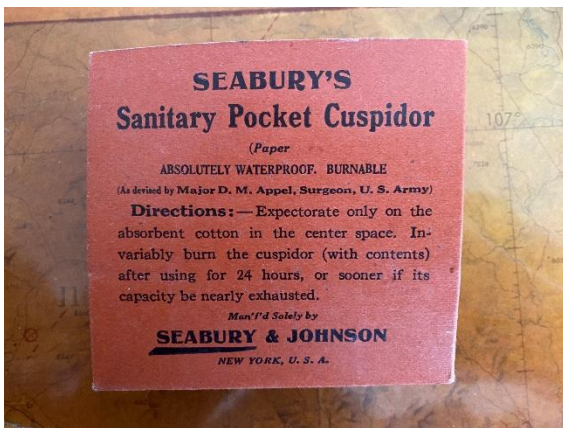
FBHPS member William (Bill) Kupke recently donated a doctor's traveling medical kit to the Society. It belonged to Mr. Kupke's adoptive father, who was a physician in Illinois from the World War I era up until 1962. He also served as a doctor in the US Army Medical Corps in France during and right after World War I. The kit contains various medicines, a blood pressure cuff, bandages, etc., and includes a record book with entries from 1953. Once cataloged, the kit will be displayed as part of the medical exhibits in the Fort Bayard Museum.



ARTIFACT OF THE ISSUE

The Fort Bayard Museum's medical exhibit includes this original disposable "Sanitary Pocket Cuspidor," developed by Dr. Daniel Appel. Dr. Appel served as the first Commanding Doctor at Fort Bayard Army Tuberculosis Hospital from 1899-1902.

Since tuberculosis could be spread through a victim's sputum, it was urgent that it be collected and destroyed through incineration as quickly as



possible. Signs stating "No Spitting" were a common sight on the grounds of the Hospital. This particular example of the cuspidor was purchased on eBay. The photo shows one side of the cuspidor, which opens like a miniature accordion file, and contains cotton to absorb the sputum. It could be disposed of in one of the several incinerators

located on the grounds at Fort Bayard.

MUSEUM SUMMER HOURS TO RESUME IN MAY

With the arrival of warmer weather, we are pleased to announce that the museum will be open on both Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 2 pm, effective Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-25. It is currently open only on Saturday.



New artifacts have been added to our growing collection, so please be sure to stop by our museum any weekend and bring your family, friends, and out-of-town guests. Admission is always free, although donations are gratefully accepted. And remember,

members who present their membership card will receive a 10% discount on all gift shop purchases.

MONTHLY MEETING AND CONTACT INFORMATION

The FBHPS meets the second Wednesday of every month from 10 am-12 pm at the Santa Clara Armory. Please join us! We welcome ideas from all members.

You can also actively engage in our operation by volunteering your time as a tour guide, collections curator, living history performer, building and grounds worker, or records keeper and researcher. Training will be provided as needed.

FBHPS Officers:

Dr. Doug Dinwiddie,
President
Cecilia Bell, Vice President
Becky Dinwiddie, Treasurer

Denise Singleton, Secretary
Dr. John O. Bell, Village of Santa
Clara Liaison

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