

SANTA FE TRAIL ASSOCIATION

# Bent's Fort Chapter Santa Fe Trail Association December 2013 Newsletter



## Membership News from Kathy Wootten

**DON'T FORGET These Future Events**

- **December 6:** Bent's Old Fort Christmas Celebration
- **January 2014:** BFC 2014 Annual Meeting, Time and Place TBA
- **September 2014:** Santa Fe Trail Center Rendezvous, Larned, Kansas
- **September 2015:** Fur Trade Symposium Bent's Old Fort
- **September 2015:** SFTA Symposium, Santa Fe, NM

### Inside this issue...

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- SFTA Symposium
- Bent's New Fort Site Dedication
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- Galvanized Yankees
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- Parting Words
- Membership Renewal Forms

I will start this report with the numbers just because they are so impressive. Our total number of memberships is **166** as of November 20, 2013. We gained 32 new members and lost only 14 members from last year. And remember...the majority of memberships are for a family of at least two people.



**THANKS TO ALL** who have done what it takes to attract new people to our group—be it manning booths at area functions, inviting friends to come with you to a meeting or tour, getting great publicity out to our local outlets, or just talking about the experiences we have and the things we learn.



I am sure that we will continue our progress as the new year approaches



and you begin to send your renewal membership dues in. There will be no changes in dues fees or in the process for mailing in your payments. Please note the membership form on the last page of this newsletter.

A request—please make this the year that you join the national Santa Fe Trail Association or make sure that you renew your membership in SFTA. Support from all members who care about maintaining our Santa Fe Trail is needed. The form for sending your dues to SFTA is included in this newsletter.

We look forward to getting acquainted with you new members as we look forward to 2014.

**Thanks to all of you...Kathy Wootten,**



## BFC Members Attend Santa Fe Trail Symposium, Ulysses, Kansas

On September 26-28, 2013 one hundred fifty members and friends of the Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) met in Ulysses for the biennial Symposium, organized by the Wagon Bed Springs Chapter of the Association. This was also the first Symposium presided over by our own LaDonna Hutton who recently took over as President of the SFTA.



After the opening night's dinner, the attendees drove to the site of the Wagon Bed Spring near the Cimarron River. Here sitting outside with just one low light and the stars overhead we listened to Les Vilda relate his personal adventures as he traveled the Santa



Fe Trail in the 1980's explaining what skills were needed by those who traveled the trail in the 1800's. Afternoon tours over the next two

days took us to the area between the Arkansas and the Cimarron Rivers known as the Jornada. We journeyed back over time as we tried to visualize what it must have been like to traverse sixty miles or more area between the rivers without water along with the potential need to hunt for food. Traveling in our buses at sixty plus miles an



hour past fields with water from irrigation wells, it made Les' talk come alive as we thought of what skills it must have taken to safely make the journey

across the then waterless plains. Our stops included looking for wagon ruts as well as climbing to the top of Indian Mound, a well-known marker along the Trail west of Lakin near the Arkansas River. At the Lower Crossing of the Cimarron River we learned that today no water has been seen in the River in that area since 1999.



We also can't forget our stop at the Haskell County Museum where we were treated to lunch that ended with a wonderful cobbler topped with delicious home-made ice cream. We also had the opportunity to view the Museum's collection of artifacts. Looking at the Conestoga wagon in the museum made one realize just how small they really were. It served as a reminder of the many skills needed to traverse the Trail from wagon master, cook, hunter, carpenter, veterinarian, scout, and more.

We learned more about the obstacles the travelers faced through Dr. Clint Chambers talk on the medicine of the era and the outbreaks of cholera and smallpox. The life of a trader came alive as we learned about William Wolkskill who traveled with William Becknell in 1822 from his great granddaughter Conchita Marusich. Other talks included learning about military escorts in the early years of the trail, the Mormon Battalion, and the guns of the era.

After dinner on Saturday evening the SFTA presented several awards in recognition of their work for the Association. One award went to Roger Slusher for his accomplishments which was accepted by his widow, Sandy Slusher.

Many thanks go out to the Wagon Bed Springs Chapter, and especially their President Jeff Trotman, for their many hours of work to present the Symposium. It was well-organized, the food great, the talks informative, and the weather perfect. It was truly a weekend of laughing, listening, looking, and learning.

*(Thanks to Dottie Russell for submitting this article. Photos courtesy of Dottie, Pat Palmer, and LaDonna Hutton.)*

## Bent's New Fort Site Dedication



On October 19, 2013, BFC members were part of a history-marking event....the reopening of the site of Bent's New Fort in eastern Colorado near present day Lamar.

William Bent had abandoned his best known trading post, *Bent's Old Fort*, in 1849. His brothers Charles and George had died as had his wife Owl Woman. The US Army occupied the post and a cholera epidemic had killed half of the Cheyenne Nation, his wife's tribe which included many of Mr. Bent's relatives through marriage.

Moving east to the region known as Big Timbers offered Bent a fresh start in his business. Timber, forage, and water were readily available, buffalo were still in the area, and there were Indians nearby eager to resume their trade with Mr. Bent. The site was also well know to Bent as he had built corrals and cabins in the area back in the 1840's.

By 1853, builders had constructed a new fort using native rock this time instead of the adobe used in Bent's Old Fort. Walls rose 16 feet high and



rooms for storage and commerce surrounded a central courtyard. The buffalo hide trade flourished with thousands of hides processed each year. The post also served as a major trading site for travelers along the Santa Fe Trail offering respite, supplies, and en-

tertainment for weary travelers.

By 1859, Bent once again found the army at his doorstep after gold had been discovered in Colorado. Tens of thousands of prospectors were streaming into the territory, many along the Santa Fe Trail. Fears of Indian attacks brought the army to the Arkansas River Valley to Bent's New Fort. Mr. Bent tried to negotiate a lease with the government but the army viewed him as a squatter and refused to pay rent. Once again, Bent abandoned a profitable trading post and moved, this time back west about 20 miles where he resumed some trade and also took up ranching. At the time of his death in 1869, he was still seeking compensation from the government for the loss of his trading posts.

In 1905 the site of Bent's New Fort was purchased by John Squire Semmens, an immigrant from England who had moved to Colorado with his family and was looking for a site to raise bees and sell honey. The site became a family legacy and in modern times Semmens' great grandsons, Brad Semmens and Gary McCall, began the process of protecting and restoring the area by purchasing surrounding land to preserve the site as an archaeological preserve.

Today, thanks to the generosity of the Semmens and McCall families and the hard work of the National Park Service and the Santa Fe Trail Association, visitors are once again able to walk the same ground that William Bent trod.



Above photo is of Brad Semmens and Keith Doctorman, the great, great, great grandson of William Bent. (Photos courtesy of Dottie Russell. Information in article from Nation Park Service website.)

## BFC Taos Overnight Tour Draws Over 50 Members

Fifty-one members of the Bent's Fort Chapter enjoyed a fantastic weekend in Taos, NM. The members enjoyed great lodging at the historic and beautiful Sagebrush Inn. Friday evening found members enjoying a delicious meal prepared by the expert chefs at the Sagebrush Inn followed by a brief orientation meeting where members received a packet of information on all weekend activities.

After a delicious breakfast at the Sagebrush, members made their way to the Kit Carson Home and Museum. As we entered the museum, it was fun for all of us to see an informative video starring our very own John Carson, Great Grandson of Kit Carson.

As we left the Kit Carson Museum, most of us walked to the Governor Bent House and Museum. As Governor Charles Bent had been killed in the doorway of this home, our visit there was a little subdued. There is still a hole in the wall of the parlor room where members of his household escaped.



hold escaped.

From there the group made their way to The Gorge Restaurant where we were treated to a delicious meal and provided special seating for all of us. Following the meal, Pat Palmer and Ron Dulle presented LaDonna Hutton with a beautiful Dulle Photo for her efforts in planning the trip. Ron Dulle also presented Pat Palmer with a photo for recognition of his Bent's Fort Chapter Member of the Year.

With full stomachs we made our way to the Millicent Rogers Museum where we had a very informative docent-accompanied tour. We were all very impressed with this fabulous collection of Native American artifacts, pottery, jewelry, art and more.

The final museum of the day was a visit to the La Hacienda de Los Martinez. By 1827 this hacienda had become an important commercial and political hub for the Taos Valley. We learned that most of the commercial trade at the Hacienda was transported on the Santa Fe Trail.

After a full day of museums, we were all ready to relax a bit and enjoyed some libations and snacks in the Pat Palmer Hospitality Suite. And, after a full meal at Orlando's, we were ready to just put our feet up, start a fire in the fireplaces in our rooms and just visit.

Sunday morning found us again eating that "famous" breakfast at the Sagebrush Inn. As there were very few "other" guests at the hotel, the Bent's Fort Chapter enjoyed

having the full dining rooms to themselves for reminiscing of Saturday's activities.

The final trek of the weekend was a beautiful drive to the Rio Grande Gorge.

Many of us walked out to the middle of the bridge to gaze at the deep gorge and the mountain sheep in the



bottom of the gorge. A comment heard among the group was, "If you are not a member of the Bent's Fort Chapter you should be. It seems the Bent's Fort Chapter members

really like each other which is evidenced in the wonderful camaraderie experienced."

Plans and arrangements for this wonderful trek were handled by Kitty Overmyer, Bonnie Ratliff, and LaDonna Hutton.



*(Much thanks to LaDonna Hutton for submitting this article. Photos courtesy of Ms. Hutton, Dorothy Russell, and Pat Palmer.)*



## The Invisible, the Forgotten: The Men of the US Volunteer Infantry Regiments

When Cathy Loomis of Denver attended the dedication of new panels and the re-opening of the site of Bent's New Fort on September 19th, the day had a special significance to her.



She noted, *"I was thrilled to attend this dedication, and to walk the grounds--at least part of them--that my Great Great Grandfather, Aaron Dillon Robbs walked in 1866. He was a member of the US 5th Vol Infantry who came here from Camp Wardwell/Ft. Morgan, in the early spring of 1866. He was mustered out in Nov of 1866 at Ft. Leavenworth.*

*The US Volunteer Infantry men were all former POW's [Confederate States of America] who joined the units to get out of prison camps. They were promised they could come west, and not go back east to fight against the CSA. None of them were originally given guns. They escorted wagon trains on foot--they were not trusted with horses either. Most of them were like my grandpa--from hideously poor roots, uneducated, untrained in any skill and illiterate. But they stuck out their positions until mustered out.*

*The 5th--Grandpa's unit--was the last to muster out. They were the 'grunts' of the Army. They were at the tail end of the supply chain, got the poorest equipment and uniforms yet they stuck out the period they promised to serve. They are the forgotten."*

When we read Ms. Loomis' story, we wanted to know more and she consented to write the article that follows. Thanks, Cathy, for giving us a personal perspective to events that happened long ago but are not forgotten.

**"Galvanized Yankees"** --that's what they were called. When metal is galvanized, the outside or visible part is changed, but not the interior. That is how the 6,000 men of the US Volunteer Infantry were regarded.

These units were the brainchild of General Dodge and President Lincoln. Both the Union and Confederate armies were mostly volunteers, although by 1864 drafts were being instituted. Many of the Union soldiers were coming to their limits of volunteer service by the summer and early fall of 1864

In Minnesota, settlers were being threatened by Indian uprisings. These uprisings were spreading throughout

the west. Dodge began looking for soldiers to send to the Minnesota and the general western frontier. He noticed thousands of Confederate POW's in camps at Point Lookout, Maryland; Chase, Ohio; Morton, Indiana; and the Illinois camps of Rock Island, Alton, and Camp Douglas. The Union had to feed and house all these prisoners. A number of camps had come under fire for the near starvation and ill housing and treatment of prisoners.

The idea was, in fact, quite genius: take POW's, send them out to fight Indians. The Union would still have to feed and house (sort of) these men. Many were bound to never come back alive. They were expendable. Who really cared if they never came back? For each one that died, it was one less mouth to feed. And the Union would get some positive work product out of these men.

And so the US Volunteer Infantry regiments, six in all, were recruited out of the camps. Most were half starved mostly illiterate and most of all, young men. Signing up ensured they would not be sent back home to fight against the CSA, and also ensured release from the camps where treatment and conditions were horrendous.

Most of these men had nothing to return home to, and being young men, I suppose it fired their imaginations to be able to travel to the west and see the world. The first regiment left for Minnesota in September of 1864, and then continued on west.



University of Illinois Library

Some units guarded the railroad survey crews, repaired telegraph wires, looked for white captives of the Indian raids. Some units went into Utah and even Montana. But the primary duty was escorting wagon trains headed west on the major trails, including the Overland and Santa Fe Trails. Their purpose was to create  
(Continued on page 6)

## The Invisible, the Forgotten: The Men of the US Volunteer Infantry Regiments...continued

the

bulk in the ranks as Indians rarely attacked large groups. They were not at first given guns or horses, so these men walked the trails—after all these were infantry troops. This would change with time, but duty was never easy.

They helped as they could—dragging wagons up hills, digging graves for those who didn't make it, repairing equipment—the dirty, 'grunt' jobs. One division was assigned to police the Denver area, but most were assigned to lonely outpost duty interspersed with walking the trails. They lived in tents in winter storms, contracted malaria from mosquitoes in the summer.

According to Dee Brown, author of *'The Galvanized Yankees'*, their desertion numbers were lower or equal to most regularly enlisted Union soldiers. They signed up and saw through their enlistments. The 5<sup>th</sup> US Volunteer Infantry, Company H, was the last to be mustered out in November of 1866. That included my great great grandfather. His final assignment post was Ft. Lyon, Colorado. Company H was divided on many occasions, and scattered to the winds. It bears the distinction of being the only company to actually follow the trail all the way into New Mexico.

After all this harrowing duty, my great great grandfather applied for a war pension in 1896. At first, he was granted \$6.00 per month. At that time, it must have seemed like a true bonus. But soon, the pension was retracted. It seems he was an 'insurrectionist'. Although he had never claimed to be anything but a POW from the south who later served in the US Volunteer Infantry, there was a

slight suggestion that he had applied dishonestly.

He fought for the rest of his life—until 1913—to have his paltry pension reinstated. In 1906 specific legislation made the US Volunteer Infantry soldiers eligible for pension, but it had to be based on military disability. Grandpa had an upper respiratory condition, common to soldiers who spent a lot of time around smoky fires, as well as arthritis from the effects of exposure in the year and a half that he served. He was always denied.

These men were socially shunned because they were traitors. No one likes a traitor, even if they come over to your particular side. They were never forgiven for being in the Confederate service. The south would never claim them again, of course. And the Union would sweep their accomplishments and tales of their work and heroism under the rug. Many of these men settled in the west after being mustered out of the service. Some changed their names to hide their previous association with the insurrectionists in the War of the Rebellion.

The fact remains that if your family settled along the Santa Fe 1864-1866, you probably owe these men a debt of gratitude. Without them, settlement of the west would have taken a much longer period of time.



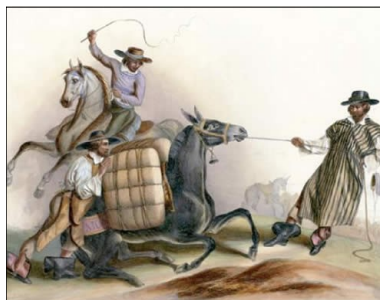
### *SFTA 2014 Rendezvous Is Only 258 Days Away*

.The Santa Fe Trail Association, the Santa Fe Trail Center, and the Fort Larned National Historic Site have chosen the theme for *Rendezvous 2014: "Hispanics and the Santa Fe Trail"*

The event will be held in Larned, Kansas, September 18-20, 2014.

The opening event will feature Dr. Leo Oliva discussing the expedition

of Lt. Facundo Melgares and his Spanish troops who travelled from New Mexico to the great plains just prior to Zebulon Pike's expedition across the plains to



Rocky Mountains. The Wet/Dry Route Chapter of the SFTA is preparing a monument to be installed at the spot where the Melgares expedition camped just south of Larned.

Other topics will include early Hispanic traders on the Trail, the effects of American traders on New Mexico, Hispanic troops and military escorts on the Trail, and the murder of Antonio Jose Chavez,

a Hispanic trader who was murdered by Texan ruffians, a murder that had political ramifications in both Washington DC and Mexico City

## The Civil War in the Arkansas Valley, Colorado Territory. PART XII - Bent's New Fort – Ft. Lyon Timeline – July – Sept., 1864



*(Jeff Campbell is a historian who has researched the Civil War and Military Forts and Posts in our area. He has written 11 previous articles on these subjects and continues the articles here.)*

*[For sources contact me. There's too many for inclusion here. Most*

*information comes from official records of the Civil War [OR], U. S. Army records, National Archives [NARA], Dept. of the Interior and BIA, as well as contemporary newspapers. I'll be glad to share citations if you're interested. Email any requests [kiowalone@yahoo.com](mailto:kiowalone@yahoo.com). Military abbreviations: MG=Major General, BG=Brigadier General, COL=Colonel, LTC=Lieutenant Colonel, MAJ=Major, CPT=Captain, 1LT=1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, 2LT=2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, SGT=Sergeant, Pvt.=Private, C.O.=Commanding Officer.]*

July 4, Mon.: Chivington and CPT J. C. Anderson back at Denver.

July 5: Arkansas R. had been bank full for weeks. A ferry boat put in service, vic. of fort.

"Proposals for Wood. QM Office, Ft. Lyon, C. T. - for furnishing the QM's Department with ONE THOUSAND CORDS of WOOD, To be delivered at this Post. Followed by Proposals for 2M pounds of shelled corn in sacks and 2,000 tons [4M #] of well cured hay to be stacked in ricks of 200 tons [400K#] each. Delivered to Ft. Lyon.

July 10: 2LT Horace W. Baldwin, 1<sup>st</sup> Indep. Arty., Colo. Vols. stationed at Ft. Lyon to train Co. G, 1<sup>st</sup> Reg. in use of 2, 12# mountain howitzers.

July 15, Friday: COL Chivington at Ft. Lyon

July 18, Mon.: MAJ Wynkoop, MAJ Anthony, CPT Samuel Marshal Robbins [Chief of Cavalry, no relation to any fort commander], Surgeon [MAJ] J. F. Hamilton and Co.s B, D, E, G & K present at Ft. Lyon.

July 23, Sat.: MG Sam. Curtis, at Ft. Riley, issues order to create Dist. of the Upper Arkansas. July 25: Dist. of the Upper Arkansas official. MG James G. Blunt to command. Ft. Lyon transferred out of Chivington's district to Blunt.

July 26, Tues.: Chivington arrives Ft. Lyon from Ft. Larned. Leaves next day.

July 30, Sat.: MG Curtis at Ft. Larned, no longer going to Denver. At Ft. Lyon, MAJ Scott Anthony 1<sup>st</sup> Cav. of Colo. ordered to proceed to Ft. Larned, and await orders.

Aug. 2, Tues.: BG Blunt assumes command of Dist. of the Upper Arkansas.

Aug. 7, Sun.: "Affair at Fort Lyon, Colorado." Kiowas attack a wagon train w/in 10 mi. W of fort. Satanta & 3 Kiowas visit Bent's Ranch at mouth of Purgatoire R. Ruhl [Rule?] Ranch Siege.

Aug. 8, Mon.: Plum Creek, Nebraska Incident, 6 captives taken, 9 men killed. Little Blue / Liberty Farm Raid, Neb., 7 captives taken, 2 men killed. Captives taken: Mrs. Lucinda Eubanks, 24, Laura Roper, 17, & 5 children.

August 11, Thurs.: Gov. Evans issues Proclamation: "... authorize all citizens of Colorado, ... as they may organize [as militia], to go in pursuit of all hostile Indians on the Plains, ... also, to kill and destroy as enemies of the country, wherever they may be found, all such hostile Indians."

Evans receives order from War Dept. Provost Marshal Gen., authorising 100-day's regiment of United States Volunteers. [= 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg. Cav., Colo. Vols.]

MAJ Jacob Downing

Skirmish near Sand Creek, or SGT Kenyon horse incident.

Aug. 14: Snyder, Bennett, Dyer reported killed about 8 mi. E of Camp Fillmore, Colo. Terr. Mrs. Dyer & Mrs. Snyder taken captives. Dyer later shows up in Denver. Unk. status of Mrs. Dyer. Mrs. Snyder committed suicide.

Aug. 16: Point of Rocks Agency & Autobee Ranch on Huerfano raided by Arapahoes

Aug. 17: Weds: Point of Rocks Agency abandoned by the employees

Aug. 21, Sunday: Crawford & Hancock killed 18 mi. W of Ft. Lyon en route to testify at in case of government contractor named Haynes.

Aug. 28: CPT Reuben Hill, 1<sup>st</sup> Reg. Inf., NM Vols. ordered to Ft. Lyon for 60-day tour.

Aug. 29: George Bent & Ed. Guerrier write letters for Cheyennes "Black Kettle and other chieftains" carried by One-Eye (Lone Bear) & Eagle Head (Min-im-ic) to Agent Colley & MAJ Wynkoop at Ft. Lyon. Co.s D, K & G, 1<sup>st</sup> Colo. Cav. stationed there.

Sept. 3: 1LT Hawkins & soldiers from Co. A, 1<sup>st</sup> Reg. on way to muster out encounter Lone Bear, his wife and Min-im-mic (Eagle Head) somewhere east of John Prower's Ranch at Caddo Agency and bring them to Ft. Lyon with Black Kettle letters.

Sept. 4, Sun.: Lone Bear, his wife & Eagle Head bring Aug. 29 letter in to Ft. Lyon

## The Civil War in the Arkansas Valley, Colorado Territory, PART XII Bent's New Fort – Ft. Lyon Timeline – July – Sept., 1864, continued

Sept. 5, Mon.: MAJ Wynkoop, C. O. Ft. Lyon organizes expedition of about 125 men from fort to go with Lone Bear & Eagle Head to Smoky Hill camps.

Sept. 10, Sat.: 5<sup>th</sup> day out Wynkoop's expedition encounters hundreds of warriors in vicinity of the Smoky Hill camps.

Sept. 12: 7<sup>th</sup> day from Ft. Lyon, Chief Left Hand brings Laura Roper to Wynkoop.

Sept. 13, Tues.: 8<sup>th</sup> day out Wynkoop's expedition; Black Kettle brings in 3 children.

Sept. 17, Sat.: 12<sup>th</sup> day Wynkoop's expedition, returns to Ft. Lyon

Sept. 18, Sun.: Wynkoop reports to Dist. of the Upper

Arkansas HQs, from Ft. Lyon, advising of expedition and plans to take chiefs to Denver.

Sept. 20, Tues.: Wynkoop, & escort left Ft. Lyon for Denver with Indian Delegation.

Sept. 23, Fri.: COL John M. Chivington's enlistment expires.

Sept. 25, Sun.: Fight on Walnut Creek, KS. Blunt & Anthony fight Cheyennes.

Sept. 26, Mon: Wynkoop at Denver, with repatriated hostages before delegation.

Sept. 28, Weds.: Camp Weld Meeting or Council w/ Cheyennes & Arapahoes

### Happy Trails To You Until We Meet Again

Dear Bent's Fort Chapter Family and Friends,

Many of you know that I have moved to Wisconsin and you're probably asking the same question one of my friends did when he heard the news, "What the Sam Hell made you do such a stupid thing like that?" In a nutshell, we moved to be closer to family, to return to my wife's roots, and just to experience some place new before we ride off into the sunset.

We now live in Hartland, WI, a town of about 9,000 people in Waukesha County, which is between Milwaukee and Madison. There are 71 lakes in our county, most within a 5-10 minute drive from our house. We're only about two hours from Chicago, 35 minutes from Milwaukee, and about 45 minutes from Madison. We even have new trails to explore. The Ice

Age National Scenic Trail runs about 2 blocks from our house and the Glacier-Drumlin Trail is only 10 minutes south.

We're learning all sorts of new things such as kettles, moraines, and drumlins; that words like *about* are pronounced "a-boot"; that Friday night fish fries are mandatory events; that the opening day of deer season is practically a state holiday; and, that proper dress for church or any social event is either a sport coat and tie or a Green Bay Packers jersey.

This issue of your newsletter is my last one as editor. Someone new will take over the reins in 2014 and give it a new, fresher, better look. In parting, I'd like to offer a few comments and observations about our Bent's Fort Chapter.

First, consider our membership: 166 members so far in 2013! That number is astonishing! The average chapter probably

has under 50 members and several are struggling just to survive. Why does our chapter thrive?

First, because of you, the members. This year about 90% of you renewed your membership. That figure is remarkable as we live in a time when it's hard to get anyone to join anything. Your faithful support gives us a synergy and energy to preserve, protect, and promote the Santa Fe Trail.

Second, our chapter's leaders who show us that history can be fun and entertaining as well as informative. President Pat Palmer has a gift for finding the right balance between business and pleasure and for making us feel good about being a part of this chapter.

Then there're the tours and presentations. They're first rate, well planned, well researched, and well paced. They don't just happen. Your tour leaders prepare the materials, drive the routes, and work with the speakers. You never waste your time at a BFC event.

We also keep good records. Our treasurer, secretary, membership chairman, and publications person make sure we have your address and your email so that we can keep you informed about upcoming events. Our goal is to be sure that no one is forgotten in our chapter.

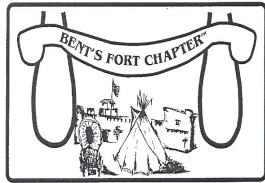
Last, we're a friendly bunch. I know because when I attended my first meeting in January almost 7 years ago you made me feel welcome. Pat Palmer, Shirley Pampus, LaDonna Hutton, Kitty Overmyer, and others recognized that I was a guest and took time to say hello, told me about the chapter, introduced me, gave me a name tag, and encouraged me to return. And, I did, month after month, even though my round trip was at least 200 miles and sometimes ran 300-400 miles. It would have been so easy to ignore me or any new person but you didn't. That's why now, 7 years later, I consider you not just friends but practically family.

So, keep those smiles on, enjoy Pat's jokes, thank your tour leaders, and mail in your 2014 BFC & SFTA membership renewals. *The best is yet to be!*

On Lake Superior Near Apostle Islands National Lakeshore







SANTA FE TRAIL  
ASSOCIATION

## BENT'S FORT CHAPTER 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Name	
Mailing address	
Email	Home Phone
Work Phone	Cell Phone
Membership Type (s) You Are Purchasing:    ___ BFC Individual \$15.00    ___ BFC Family \$15.00 (Check All That Apply)                            ___ Lifetime \$500.00                    ___ Business/Organization \$20.00	
Membership Type:    ___ New Membership    ___ Renewal	
<b>Make Checks Payable to Bent's Fort Chapter. Mail This Sheet and Check (s) to:          EMERY MURRAY / 231 VIGIL AVE / LAS ANIMAS, CO 81054          (719) 456-2050 / murbelo_38@yahoo.com</b>	



## Santa Fe Trail Association 2014 Membership Application



The Santa Fe Trail Association (SFTA) is composed of people from all across the nation who share a common interest in discovering, exploring, and celebrating this fascinating part of southwestern history. The association works in close partnership with the National Park Service and local, state, and federal agencies to help preserve and protect the trail. When you join, you get...

- The opportunity to increase your knowledge of the trail by attending national symposiums and other events that offer tours and lectures by experts.
- The opportunity to network with other people from across the country who share your passion for the trail
- A subscription to *Wagon Tracks* which is the SFTA's quarterly journal of news, scholarly articles, book reviews, and other valuable news and the weekly email newsletter.
- And, the opportunity to support a nationally-recognized association that is working hard to preserve this fascinating part of our American history.

**JOIN NOW!**

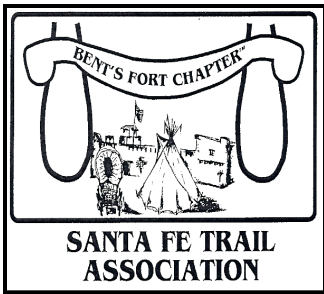
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:    \_\_\_ Youth (18 & Younger) \$15.00    \_\_\_ Individual \$25.00    \_\_\_ Family \$30.00

Make Checks Payable to Santa Fe Trail Association and Mail Checks and this Form to:  
 Ruth Olson-Peters, Treasurer / Santa Fe Trail Center / RR3 / Larned, Kansas 67550



30511 Road 19  
Lamar, CO 81052