



NEWSLETTER

December 2022

Doña Ana County Historical Society

Mark Your Calendar - DACHS Awards Banquet, Jan. 28

The board of directors has met and voted on which awards will be given at the DACHS annual awards banquet on Jan. 28 at the Double Eagle in Mesilla. Details about the banquet and how to make a reservation will be in the January 2023 Newsletter.

Here are the awards that were approved:

*Noteworthy Renovation (for two locations) 233 S. San Pedro St., built in 1850, and 225 S. San Pedro St. Both renovations by Cliff Schlothauer

*Hall of Fame – Darren Court, White

Sands Missile Range Museum Director.

*Heritage Award - the DACHS committee that rewrote the scholarship/grants requirements - Luis Rios, Jerry Wallace, Jose Aranda and Heather Reed.

*Old Timers Award - Tortugas Mountain

*Pasajero del Camino Real Award - Dan Crow for his album of songs about SW history.

There is still the possibility of a Gemoets Prize being awarded for the best article in the *Southern New Mexico Historical Review* that will be published in January.

The DACHS Board Of Directors Is Approved For 2023

With the board at-large and officer elections held on Nov. 17 at the monthly program, your representatives that will run DACHS in 2023 are set. Beginning on Jan. 28, at the annual banquet, they are as follows:

- President - Dennis Daily
- Vice President - Jerry Wallace
- Treasurer - Garland Courts
- Secretary, etc - Jim Eckles
- Historian - Jose Aranda
- Past President - will be vacant

At-Large Board Members:

- Luis Rios
- Sally Kading
- Heather Reed
- Susan Krueger
- Faith Hutson
- Sim Middleton

The normal DACHS board would be 12 but with Susan wishing to move out as past president to an at-large slot, we have a vacancy and will operate with 11 brave souls.

Last Chance For Trost Bldg.

According to Faith Hutson, the permit to demolish the old Trost-designed Las Cruces Country Club clubhouse is about to be issued. She asks that if you want to see the building preserved and repurposed into something beautiful and useful, you need to write Las Cruces city officials immediately.

The email addresses for Las Cruces officials are contained in an email sent to the membership on Sept. 13. Please use email as postal mail may not get there in time. If you can't find your email from Sept., contact Jim Eckles at nebraska1950@comcast.net and he will resend the list you.

This is the New Mexico National History Day slogan, "FEAR THE CHILE." See page 2 for information about how you can help in 2023



National History Day Is Your Chance To Help Kids

By Heather McClenahan

In one room, a young man of Diné heritage proudly displays an exhibit about the Navajo Code Talkers. Next door, two adorable sixth-grade girls bemoan their family's fate during the Dust Bowl. Farther on, a retired teacher and a museum director flip through a 25-page annotated bibliography about the Robert Goddard's rockets, and three other adults are watching a documentary that includes an oral history interview with a 1960s civil rights marcher from Mississippi.

This is a snapshot of New Mexico National History Day, an academic program for 6th through 12th graders. Students chose a topic based on the annual theme (for 2023, the theme is Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas), conduct secondary and primary source research, and develop projects based on their historical analysis. Those projects can take the form of documentaries, exhibits, papers, performances, or websites. The students then present their projects at a series of contests (school, regional, state, national) where trained adult judges offer compliments and critiques at each level.

That's where you, the members of the Doña Ana Historical Society, come in. After three years of virtual contests, we are excited to have the regional and state contests back in person for 2023. Students and teachers from throughout southern New Mexico will gather Friday, Feb. 24, at the New Mexico Farm

Please Consider Renewing Your Membership In DACHS Now

If you haven't already renewed your DACHS membership for 2023, please consider doing so now. The renewal form that you can mail in with your check is on the next page.. Please mail it to our P.O. Box (its at the top of the form).

However if you want an easier way without the hassle of writing checks, finding a stamp and mailing all of it in, you can go to the DACHS website at: <http://www.donaanacountyhistsoc.org> and pay online with your credit card or PayPal account. It really is simple. Many members did this last year and several have already used it now.

On the DACHS homepage, access the renewal page by clicking on the "Membership" link near

& Ranch Heritage Museum for the regional contest. The top four in each category will go on to the state contest at the University of New Mexico on Saturday, April 15.

Judging is one of the most important aspects of NHD. For the judges, engaging with these young historians and learning from them is fun and exciting. The contests allow the students to share their ideas and their enthusiasm for their topics. You will be amazed at the depth of research and creativity of some of these students. In fact, one of our strongest school programs in New Mexico is in Silver City, which regularly sends a large group of students to the national contest.

We are looking forward to entrants from Las Cruces giving Silver some good competition this year!

Judges do not need to be experts in every history topic. They only need to understand what good history and good research are. With both online and in-person components, New Mexico History Day offers training (along with coffee, pastries, and lunch!), and we try to pair new judges with more seasoned ones.

Registration for judging the Southern Regional Contest will open on Monday, January 2, at this website. <https://nm-snmrc.nhd.org/>. Please contact New Mexico NHD State Coordinator Heather McClenahan at historyday@nmhumanities.org if you have questions, need help with registration, or need more information.

the top of the page or scroll down to "Quick Links" under the calendar and use the "Join Us" link. This will take you to a page where you can chose to download a PDF of the form or go to the box below to select your level of membership and enter your email address.

When you hit "add to cart" you will be taken to a secure PayPal page. Select to pay via PayPal or the option below for "check out" which is what you use to provide your credit card information.

Fill in your billing address and email again as this is how we will know who is paying.

If you have questions, contact Susan at 575-640-4266 or Jim at nebraska1950@comcast.net.



DACHS Membership Form

Please renew OR sign me up for the Doña Ana County Historical Society. Memberships are active for the calendar year of enrollment and fees are deductible within legal limits for Federal and State income tax purposes. If you are unsure of your status or have questions regarding membership, please contact Susan Krueger, at 575 525-0654.

Annual Membership/Sponsorship Rates

Individual \$25 Family \$30 Student \$10 Contributor \$40
Benefactor \$150 Life \$300

Donations

In addition, I would like to make a donation in the amount of \$ _____

Please specify use for your donation _____

Is this a change of information? Yes No A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Date _____ Check # _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone # _____

You will automatically receive the *Monthly Newsletter* in your email as a PDF. Would you also like a paper, printed copy mailed later to the above postal address? Yes No

Your membership includes a copy of the annual *Southern New Mexico Historical Review*(SNMHR). In addition to a printed copy, you can download copies of the whole document or individual articles from the DACHS website.

Review copies are first made available @ the awards banquet. They will also be available at the regular February presentation. We mail to non-locals & non-attendees.

The Back Page -----

Editor's Note: This little article was taken from the DACHS April 2006 Newsletter. Yep, that was 16 years ago. The Amador is coming along but does anyone even notice the old Courthouse when they drive by now?

On March 27, 2006 a special DACHS Board meeting was called at which the future of the old Amador Hotel and the Courthouse was discussed. At that time a bid for the appraised value (\$1,000,000) of the Courthouse had been received by the County but no bids had been received for the Amador.

Consistent with negotiations initiated by Buddy Ritter with the County and the City of Las Cruces, the Board approved submission of a proposal to the County "that ownership of the Amador be transferred from the Dona Ana County to the City of Las Cruces, with the understanding that it will become a History Museum operated by the City". The proposal was submitted on 3/31/06 at the advertised time

in accordance with County Purchasing Department instructions.

On 3/28/06, at a County Commission meeting, acceptance of the bid for the Courthouse occurred. The bidder was Amador Associates LLC and is represented by Mr. Edgar Lopez with Mr. Lundeen as the architect. Amador Associates proposes conversion of the Courthouse into condominium type apartments. Plans call for conversion of the jail addition for the same purpose except that the outside appearance will be made to match that of the original Courthouse. The County has promised to attach covenants to the sale of both buildings requiring that the external appearance of the buildings be maintained. There will be a joint meeting on April 18th between both the City and the County at which time the future of the Amador should be decided. A recommendation from the Dona Ana County Historic Building Advisory Committee was made to the County in favor of the plan.

2022 Board of Directors
President: Dennis Daily
Vice President: Garland Courts
Secretary, Newsletter, Review & Website: Jim Eckles
Treasurer: Dennis Fuller
Historian: Jose Aranda
Past President: Dr. Susan Krueger
At-Large Board Members:
Luis Rios
Sim Middleton
Sally Kading
Jerry Wallace
Heather Reed
C.W. "Buddy" Ritter
Jim Eckman, SNMHR Editor
Luis Rios, Education and Scholarships
Heather Reed, Farm&Ranch Heritage Museum Liaison
Bobby Torres, NMSU History Students Liaison
www.donaanacountyhistoc.org

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