



NEWSLETTER

December 2014

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Susan Krueger

At the general membership meeting held last month on November 20, the members present elected the following board members: Jim Eckles, Secretary; Rebecca Slaughter, Treasurer; Mary Kay Shannon, Historian; and Buddy Ritter, Doyle Piland, Bob Gamboa and Garland Courts, Board Members At-Large. You will have the opportunity to meet them on Saturday, January 31, 2015 at noon, at the Annual Membership Meeting and Awards Luncheon, at the Double Eagle Restaurant when they will be officially installed. Then, during the spring months, you will learn more about them through the Newsletters.

In the November newsletter, I mentioned that part of the Annual Awards Luncheon program would feature a local historical preservation accomplishment. I was referring specifically to the recently released book *The Heart of Las Cruces: History of St. Genevieve's Church* written by six authors who will be the guests of the Society at the Awards Luncheon: Olivia Lerma McDonald, Dawn Santiago, Celeste Conrad, Rev. Ricardo Bauza, Rev. Christopher Williams and Rosemary Leyva, who is the head of St. Genevieve's Historical Society. The book tells the history of the old and new St. Genevieve's churches and of the Holy Cross School. If you would like a head start on this accomplishment, the book is available for \$10 through the St. Genevieve's Historical Society or through Amazon.com. If you can't locate a copy right away, go on line and search "St Genevieve's Church Las Cruces NM." The piece on "St. Genevieve's History - Pictures" begins with a painting done from memory by Albert J. Fountain Sr. of the first church built in 1859, and located on Main St. across from the Rio Grande Theater. It ends with pictures of the church and the wrought iron gate at the entrance to the rectory taken before its demo-

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DONA ANA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CALENDAR: DECEMBER 2014 to MARCH 2015

December 2014: to avoid any conflict with the holidays, there is no Membership Meeting at Good Samaritan in December

January 31, 2015: this month, the Membership Meeting is joined with the Annual Awards Luncheon, which will be held at noon on Saturday, January 31, 2015, at the Double Eagle Restaurant on the Mesilla Plaza. The registration form for this event appears in this Newsletter. The cost for the luncheon is \$25 per person. Please fill out and return your registration now while you are thinking about it.

February 19, 2015: DACHS is back on its regular schedule of Membership Meetings in the Good Samaritan Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month and our speaker will be Alex Mares, currently a Park Ranger at Leasburg Dam State Park.

March 19, 2015: our regular membership meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Good Samaritan Auditorium with Nathan Stone, Manager at Fort Selden, speaking on the Management Plan for Fort Selden Historic Site. ■

Alex Mares' Presentation

Alex Mares will be the presenter for the DACHS's February 20, 2015 meeting at Good Samaritan. He will be sharing with us Native American, traditional winter stories, stories that often have an embedded meaning and are only told in winter. If you would like an introduction to the traditional winter story, Leasburg Dam State Park is having a winter solstice event on Saturday, December 13, 2014, from noon to 9:00 p.m. which will include the telling of winter coyote stories. The Leasburg Dam State Park web site has more information about the event; once there, just click on the Events Calendar. ■

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lition in 1966. Since 1969, the church has been at its current site at 100 S. Espina St. Another on-line piece of interest is an article that appeared in the *Las Cruces Sun News* about St. Genevieve's 150 year Anniversary Celebration that describes the range of the original church's artifacts that are still a part of the church today.

The six authors of *The Heart of Las Cruces: History of St. Genevieve's Church* will join Bob Gamboa as recipients of the Heritage Award. This award is given to people who have contributed to the historical or cultural heritage of Dona Ana County and who are not professional or avocational historians. Bob is the type of historian who both identifies particular tasks for historians to take on and tells us why the tasks are worthy and then joins with fellow historians and acts on the tasks. I think most recently of his and Cal Traylor's accomplishment of obtaining the Women Improvement Association (WIA) Hearse and bringing it back to Las Cruces. Cal Traylor purchased the hearse, which is the hearse that carried Pat Garret to his final resting place, and donated it to the Dona Ana County Sheriff's Museum. Bob Gamboa helped with this task and documented the entire process in a collection of sixty-six historically important photographs.

Finally, thanks from the Society to Nathan Brown, the Digital Projects Librarian at NMSU. Nathan presented our November program, documenting for his audience the history of the tradition and then the often tense controversy that surrounded the two names of the NMSU Yearbook. The Yearbook began in 1907 as the "The Swastika," a name selected through a student contest that held on until the early 1980's when it was renamed "The Phoenix," quite a history about a name and what it meant to different people at different times. ■



Member Input Request
by Jim Eckles

I think it would be nice if the Society provided a handy-dandy beginners reading list for the history of Doña Ana County and southern New Mexico. I intend to post it on our website so that folks looking for good information about our area can easily find it. If you would like to contribute titles you think would be appropriate, email your suggestions to me, Jim Eckles, at 19dachs63@gmail.com.

As the new webmaster I am also looking for other material to post on our website. Recently I put up a little piece about our logo and how it came to be. You can see the old one and the new one side by side. If you have suggestions, email me or give me a call at 575-521-8771. ■

Buffet Luncheon Menu

- Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings
- Tomato, Cucumber, Onion Vinaigrette Salad
- Cherry Tomato Mozzarella Salad
- Medley of Fresh Vegetables
- Green Chile Cheese Enchiladas
- Beef Burgundy over Noodles
- Freshly Baked Dinner Rolls and Butter
- Assorted Desserts
- Ice Tea and Coffee

-----Print, cut along dotted line, fill and mail with registration-----

If you have friends or family members who would also like to attend the banquet, please use the form below for their reservations. We need their names to make name tags to be picked up at the door. Thanks

RESERVATION FORM for additional guests due by Saturday, January 24, 2015.

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

NAME _____

\$25.00 per person TOTAL enclosed

Will pay at the door



You are invited to the Doña Ana County Historical Society's Annual Awards Luncheon

January 31st, 2015, Double Eagle Restaurant on the Mesilla Plaza; 12:00 noon

Seating for the Annual Awards Luncheon will begin at noon with the buffet lunch to be served at 12:30 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person payable in advance or at the door. For your convenience, this reservation form is included, and you may email your reservation directly to Susan Krueger at skrueger575@msn.com Or, if you prefer, you may print it, fill it in, and snail mail it to Susan Krueger, c/o DACHS, P.O. Box 16045, Las Cruces, NM 88004.

Following lunch, there will be the awards program and the installation of new Board members.

If you have any questions, please call Susan at 525-0654.

RESERVATION FORM due by Saturday, January 24, 2015

Name _____ Name _____

Name _____ Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

\$25.00 per person TOTAL enclosed

Will pay at the door

If you haven't already renewed your membership for 2015, Please renew your Membership Today. See form below.

-----Cut along dotted line-----

Doña Ana County Historical Society, P. O. Box 16045, Las Cruces, NM 88004-6045

DACHS Membership Form

Please renew/enroll my/our membership in 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 the President, Susan Krueger, at 575 525-0654.

Annual Membership/Sponsorship Rates

Individual \$20 Family \$25 Student \$8 Contributor \$40 Benefactor \$150 Life \$300 Southern New Mexico Historical Review Sponsorship \$50

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

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____ Newsletter via E-mail Yes No

How would you like to receive your copy of the Southern New Mexico Historical Review (SNMHR)? Printed Version Society Website Version PDF on CD Version



Nathan Brown, the Digital Projects Librarian at NMSU, after his interesting and informative talk covering the history of the “Swastika” name for the New Mexico State University year book. It was somewhat belatedly changed to the “Phoenix” before they stopped publishing the yearbook altogether.

Thanks to our 2014 Corporate Sponsors

We encourage our Members to patronize their businesses

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On The Mesilla Plaza
C. W. “Buddy” Ritter, Owner**

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William Jacobs, President & CEO**

**Doña Ana County Historical Society
gratefully acknowledges the accounting assistance
of Beasley, Mitchell & Co.
for tax preparation.**

www.donaanacountyhistsoc.org

2014 Board Members
President: Susan Krueger
Past President: Marcie Palmer
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Historian: Rebecca Slaughter
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