



# Newsletter

February 2007

**Dona Ana Historical Society**

## PRESIDENT' STUFF

I hope you all got to the Banquet this year.

Those of us that attended were happy with the food and entertainment. Dr. Jon Hunner and Felix Pfaeffle collaborated on a presentation entitled "Las Cruces Architectural Keepsakes" which was especially good, it seems to me. I enjoyed Buddy's talk "The Amador Hotel Foundation" There was much hard work done this year by some talented people. The silent auction was once again a success thanks to all of you that both donated items and those of you that were successful bidders. Bob Pick did a bang-up job as usual. Elsewhere in these page please look up the final auction results. Now, where do we have room to hang one more picture.

Donna Eichstaedt was installed in our Hall of Fame. The Heritage award this year was given to a threesome of well deserving young men: C.W. "Buddy Ritter", George Helfrich and Dr. Chuck Murrell.

The article by Marta Shipman Andrews was well done. Hiram Hadley, it seems, was as challenged as our Las Cruces school board is.

The following is a list of the rest of this years award winners.

The Amador Hotel, The Mesilla Town Hall, Residence at 331 Las Cruces, Jardin de Mesquite,

Alma D' Arte Charter H. S., James L. Smith & Leslie Bergloff, Marta Shipman Andrews, Dr. Jon Hunner.

We do need your help throughout the year, to help us find presenters for our monthly meetings. Forward any suggestions to George Helfrich, our program director this year. Donna, Marcie Palmer, and Susan Krueger also need help with the awards. They, along with Jon Hunner, spend a great deal of time all fall both in the selection process for architectural and people awards.

Lorraine Southward is our publicity person this year. I hope she will forgive me for the following reminder: We will be partnering with CARTA to commemorate the Zebulon Pike Exposition. That presentation will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March at 2:00 PM and will be in lieu of our regular monthly meeting. What's even better yet, it will be held at the Rio Grande theater on the downtown mall. What a venue for a history lesson.- Dr. John Bloom is handling all the arrangements and will act as the moderator.

Speakers will be Leo Oliva and Hal Jackson. You don't want to miss it. As usual it's free and refreshments will be served.

And last but not least this is your organization, so let us know how we can improve things to better serve you. Along with ownership, however comes responsibility, which I think mostly means that we'd like to see more of you at the monthly meetings.

Please find the new Board members listed in the "masthead" on the back page. Welcome to all, Thank you for serving.

*Roger Rothenmaier*

## The 2007 DACHS Banquet

Your newsletter editor ran into all kinds of computer difficulties in trying to bring you these sample photos (taken by Morris and Lorraine Southward.) We would have like to show more images but the computer striked.



New Board Member Leslie Bergloff



Board member Felix Pfaeffle, President Rothenmaier and V.P. George Helfrich



New Dachs member Hanno von Collenberg joins Felix Pfaeffle and Marty Campbell



Our featured speaker Jon Hunner congratulates Donna Eichstaedt



Alma d'Arte members enjoy the presentations



Past President Chuck Murrell starts activities

Financial Report for 2006  
Total Income \$ 16,278.66  
SNMHR & Other Sales \$ 1,222.50  
LC Book Sales \$ 6,908.25  
DVD Sales \$1,960.00  
07 Corp. Sponsors \$ 850.00  
07 Dues \$ 1,105.00  
06 Dues \$3,230.00  
06 Corp. Sponsors \$1,350.00  
Total Assets on 12/31/2006 **\$17,657.64\***  
\*DACHS has pledged \$1,000 to the Amador Museum Foundation  
Other obligations include the costs associated with publishing the SNMHR Vol. XIV and the funding associated with the Annual Banquet and routine operating costs.

**Note:** We apologize for not including the deaths of Society members who passed away in 2006 in Vol. XIV of the SNMHR. It was either too late to meet the printing deadline of the Review or we dropped the ball in reviewing the past year. Not included were Julia Wilke, Carl Hartley and George Herman.

#### **Silent Auction Results**

The total profit from the silent auction was: **\$1322.50**

The largest amount bid was \$215.00 for the Spanish Dancer print. Herb Taylor won that item.

#### **Reminders**

If you have not already renewed your membership, it is time to do so. Your copy of the latest SNMHR, Volume is now available to members who did not receive their copy at our Banquet on January 27. The cost for extra copies is \$ 6.00 to members and \$ 7.00 for non-members.

#### **A Sad Chapter of the Mexican-American War**

On March 17<sup>th</sup> (St. Patrick's Day) at 1:30pm, a movie, entitled "One Man's Hero", will be shown at the Fountain Theater in Mesilla. The film deals with the unhappy tale of some new immigrants to America who turned against their own comrades in arms during the time when the United States expanded

its territory at its southern border.

The US-Mexican War is a pivotal chapter in the history of North America. It is the war that sealed the fates of its two participants. For the United States, the War garnered huge and important terrain, bootstrapping the fledgling democracy onto the world stage. For the emerging nation of Mexico the loss of their northern borderland sent the country into a tailspin that it is still reckoning with today, roughly one hundred and fifty years later.

Dubious about why they were fighting a Catholic country and fed up with mistreatment by their Anglo-Protestant officers, hundreds of Irish, German and other immigrants deserted Taylor's army and joined forces with Mexico.

The history of the *San Patricios* is a woeful tale of angry, bewildered, naive, or calculating young men, from varied backgrounds, who deserted for a myriad of reasons and paid a fearful price.



#### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

##### **Doña Ana County Historical Society:**

Thursday, 7pm February 15<sup>th</sup>, Good Samaritan Auditorium. **Buddy Ritter** will speak on Mesilla and the Territorial Period, 1848–1912.

**Oral History Society;** February 4, 5pm at the Mesilla Valley Inn: **Archie Beckett** speaks on growing up in Las Cruces.

**We Welcome these  
New Members:**

Martha Andrews  
Frances Plec  
Hanno & Judi VonCollenberg  
CeCi & Robert Gross have  
become Life Members

Thanks to Contributing Members:

Wanda Tourney  
Frank & Priscilla Parrish  
Martha Andrews  
Leslie Bergloff  
Elaine Szalay  
Gerald & Jean Thomas  
Morris & Lorraine Southward  
Barbara Stevens  
Richard & Edna Majestic

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**Membership Form** Please renew/enroll  
my/our membership in the Doña Ana  
Historical Society. A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is  
enclosed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fees:**

Individual \$ 15      Student \$ 8      Benefactor \$ 150

Family \$ 20      Contributor \$ 40      Life \$ 300

Memberships are active for the calendar year of  
enrollment. Membership in the Society is deductible  
within legal limits for Federal and State income tax  
purposes. If you are unsure of your status, please call  
Membership Chairman, George Helfrich, at 522-3477.

**Doña Ana County Historical Society**  
**P.O.Box 16045**  
**Las Cruces, NM 88004**  
**[www..zianet.com/dachs](http://www..zianet.com/dachs)**

**2007 Officers:**

President – Roger Rothenmaier

Vice President – George Helfrich

Secretary – Donna Eichstaedt

Treasurer – Xandy Church

Historian – Karen George

Board Members-at-Large -

Marcie Palmer

Felix Pfaeffle

Buddy Ritter

Frank Parrish

Barbara Jean Neal

Leslie Bergloff

Newsletter Editor – Felix Pfaeffle

Public Relations – Mary Lou Pendergrass

Awards Committee: Marcie Palmer

Susan Krueger

Jon Hunner

Audio-Visual – Richard Majestic

Publicity – Lorraine Southward

**We wish to thank**

**our Corporate Sponsors:**

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