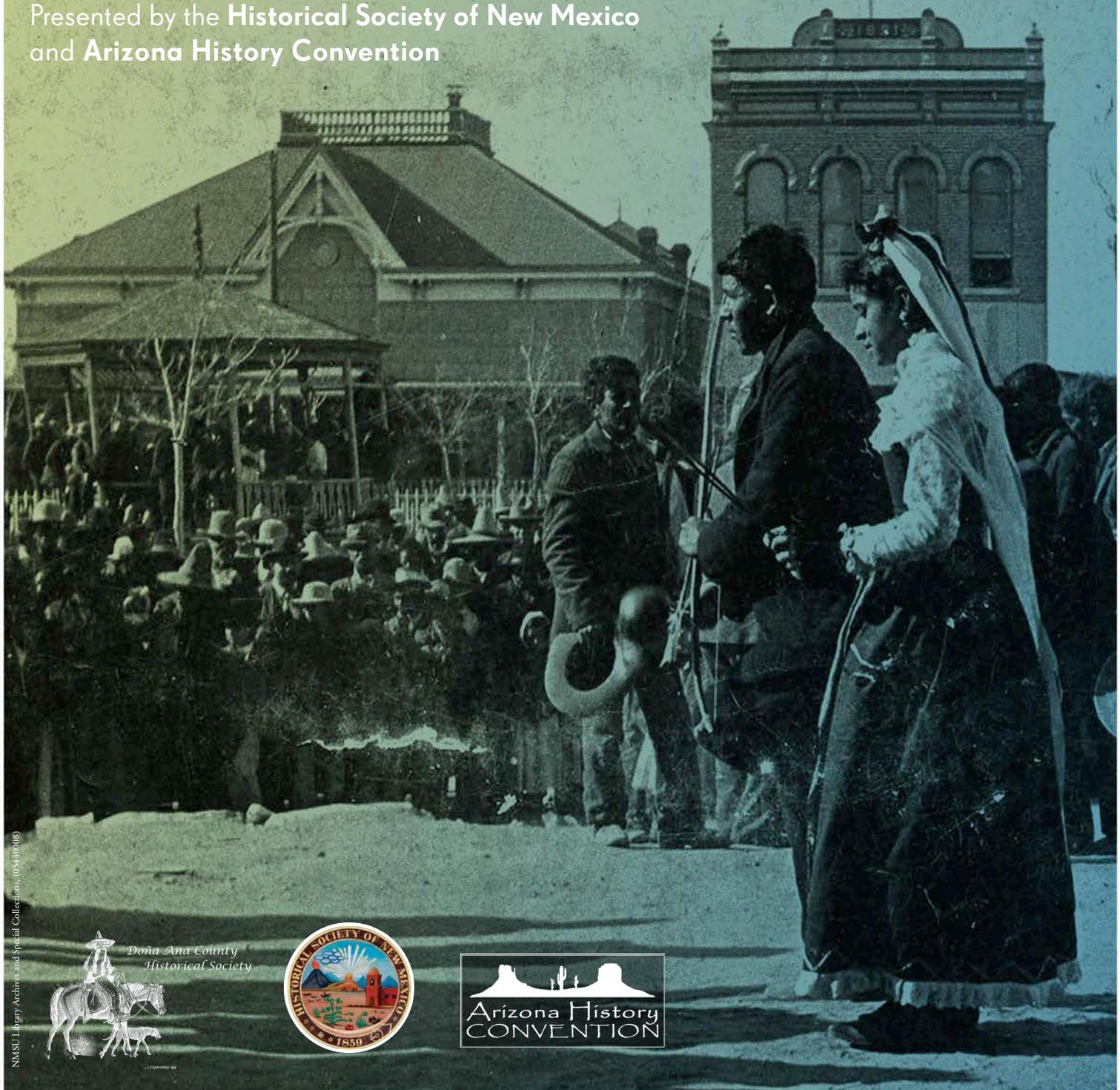


NEW MEXICO~ARIZONA HISTORY CONFERENCE

LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO SEPT. 25-27, 2025

Presented by the **Historical Society of New Mexico**
and **Arizona History Convention**



NMSU Library Archive and Special Collections (05410008)



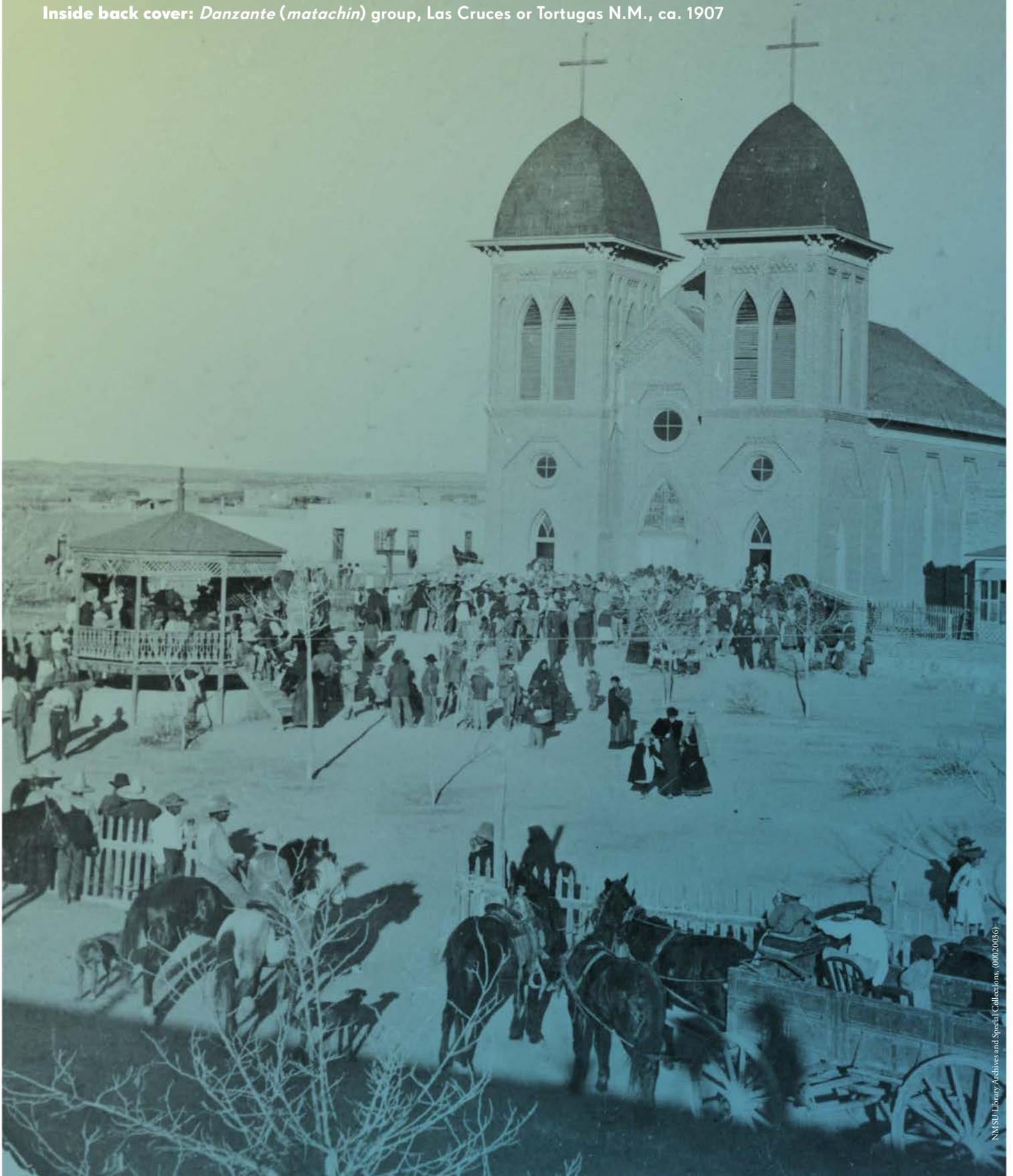
*Doña Ana County
Historical Society*



Front & back covers: Two views from a photograph labeled "Pueblo dancers in plaza in front of La Iglesia Católica, Las Cruces, N.M., Dec. 12, 1899, *Fiesta de la Señora Guadalupe*"

Below: View of St. Genevieve Catholic Church and plaza, Las Cruces, taken on the same occasion or a similar celebration with Pueblo dancers in the 1890s

Inside back cover: *Danzante (matachin)* group, Las Cruces or Tortugas N.M., ca. 1907



SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

2025 NEW MEXICO~ARIZONA HISTORY CONFERENCE

Conference sessions and meals will take place at:

Las Cruces Convention Center
680 East University Avenue

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2025

- 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Conference Registration – East Entrance
- 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Book Vendors & Exhibitors set up – Exhibit Hall 1
- 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm Opening Plenary Session – Exhibit Hall 2
- 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm Opening Reception (cash bar, hors d’oeuvres) – Location TBA

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025

- 7:30 am – 5:00 pm Conference Registration – East Entrance
- 7:30 am – 5:00 pm Book Vendors & Exhibitors and Coffee Breaks – Exhibit Hall 1
- 8:30 am – Noon Conference Sessions (1-2) – Meeting rooms 1-2, 4-5, 7, 8, 9
- 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm **LUNCH*** – Ballroom
- 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm Conference Sessions (3-4) – Meeting rooms 1-2, 4-5, 7, 8, 9

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

- 7:30 am – 10:30 am Conference Registration – East Entrance
- 7:30 am – Noon Book Vendors & Exhibitors and Coffee Break – Exhibit Hall 1
- 8:30 am – Noon Conference Sessions (5-6) - Meeting rooms 1-2, 4-5, 7, 8, 9

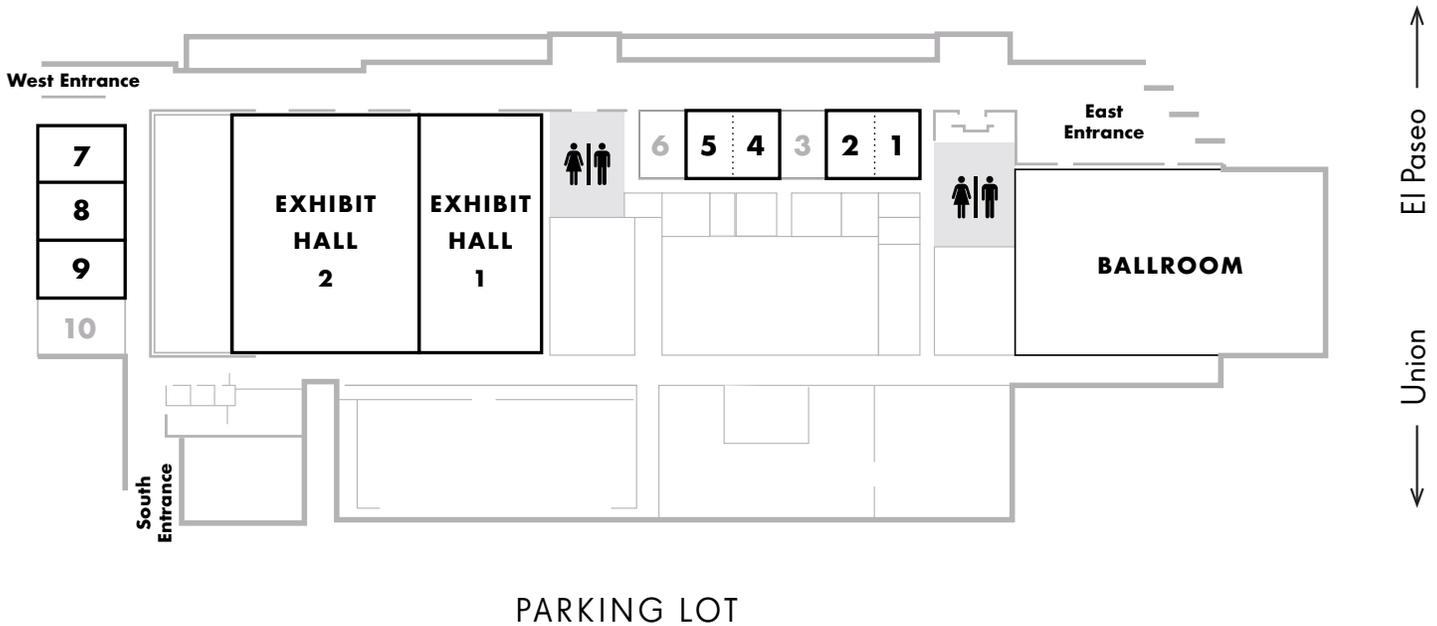
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN

- 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm Tours and local museum visits
- 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm Social time (cash bar) and AWARDS BANQUET* – Ballroom

* Ticketed event, deadline for ticket purchase September 14

LAS CRUCES CONVENTION CENTER

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CONFERENCE SESSIONS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 8:30-10:00 AM

SESSION 1A – ROOMS 1-2 FRIDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

1775: A Revolutionary Year in the Southwest Borderlands

Moderator: Dawn Moore Santiago, former HSNM board member

Presenters: **Rick Collins** and **Mark Santiago**

Session Sponsor: Richard Melzer, in memory of Francisco Sisneros

“250 Years from Here: Food and Material Culture of the Spanish Colonial Frontier” will examine the material culture of the soldiers and their families that populated the Spanish *presidios* in Arizona and the Southwest in the middle of the 18th century. An overview of the food ways, dress, and personal belongings at *presidios* such as Tubac and Tucson along with the items of the Anza expeditions to California will be featured. **Rick Collins** is a retired National Park Ranger with Tumacácori National Historical Park. He serves as vice-president of the Empire Ranch Foundation and is on the board of the Tubac Historical Society.

“1775: A Revolutionary Year in Spanish Arizona and New Mexico” examines the strategic events of the year 1775, culminating in Spanish military expansion into what is now southern Arizona and the largest military campaign in what is now southern New Mexico. Both of these events revolved around the actions of the Commandant Inspector of the Interior Provinces, Col. Hugo O’Conor who personally oversaw what would be, in many ways, a turning point in Spanish operations in the southwestern borderlands. **Mark Santiago** retired from the museum field in Arizona and New Mexico in 2020. His interest is in Spanish colonial military history.

SESSION 1B – ROOMS 4-5 FRIDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

Native Americans/Indigenous Identities

Moderator: Joe Sabatini, Library and Archives volunteer, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Albuquerque

Presenters: **Celinda Reynolds Kaelin**, **Lillian Bowe**, and **Tom Zoellner**

Session Sponsor: Friends of the Los Lunas Public Library & Museum

“White Elk: The Untold Story of Picuris Pueblo’s Warrior Chief, Tupatu” — In the 1600s, New Mexico was home to more than 60,000 Pueblo Indians. In 1680, they finally banded together to form their own version of NATO: a Native American Treaty Organization. Tupatu of Picuris Pueblo is an unsung hero, playing a vital role in both the Revolt and in the next 25 years of New Mexico’s history, changing the course of United States history. **Celinda Reynolds Kaelin** is the author of six books and an adjunct professor at Colorado College.

“Boarding Schools” explores how the US government used schools to control Navajo and Mescalero Apache children. It delves into the methods of cultural genocide during their time at the Bosque Redondo Indian Reservation. Examples of letters and oral histories reveal the role of children in this process, leading to the 1868 Navajo Treaty and the forced attendance at schools like the Carlisle Indian Industrial School. This school serves as a case study for discussing cultural genocide. **Lillian Bowe** is an interpretive ranger at the Fort Sumner Historic Site, Bosque Redondo Memorial.

“Objects of Pity:’ The Akimel O’odham and the National Reclamation Act” describes how the Akimel O’odham, wracked by upstream diversions to the Gila River, were used as tools in a public relations campaign to build support for the National Reclamation Act of 1902, though the legislation ultimately did not benefit them. **Tom Zoellner**, PhD, is a professor of English at Chapman University, an editor-at-large at the *Los Angeles Review of Books*, and a *New York Times* bestseller author of nine nonfiction books and numerous articles.

SESSION 1C – ROOM 7 FRIDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

The US Army in Southwestern New Mexico, 1851-1885

Moderator: Oliver Horn, PhD, Regional Manager, Lincoln and Fort Stanton Historic Sites

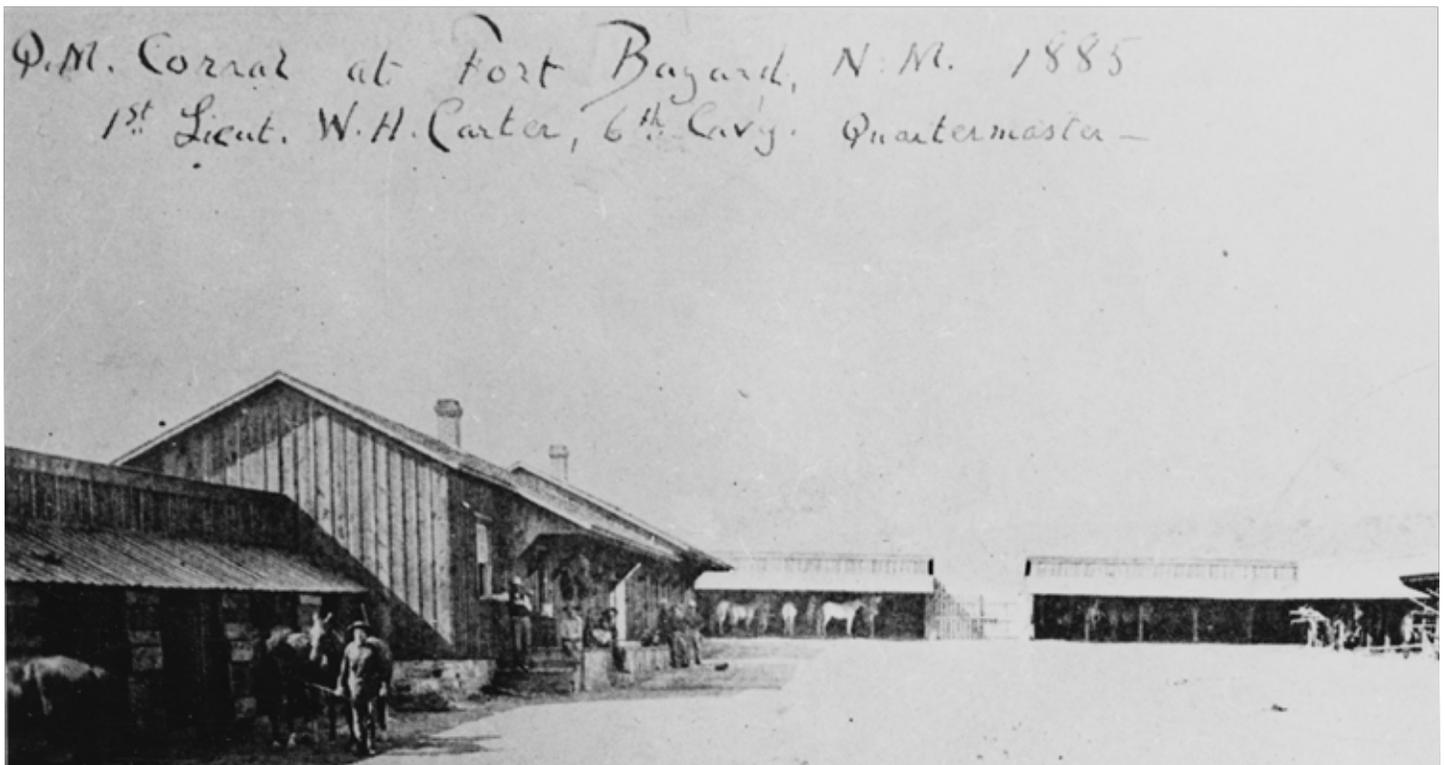
Presenters: **Cecilia Bell**, **Doug Dinwiddie**, and **Ron Henderson**

Session Sponsor: Rebecca Ullrich

“Two Army Wives: Anna Marie Morris and Mary Elizabeth Strickland Forsyth” — This presentation celebrates two women who deserve recognition. Anna Marie, bride of Major Gouverneur Morris, travelled with him to his assignments, which included El Paso and other sites in southwestern New Mexico. Her diary covered 1850 -1853. In 1866, Mary Elizabeth Strickland married Arkansas soldier James Tomphill (Thompson). They resided at Forts Sumner, Bascom, and Leavenworth, then traveled to Fort Rice in the Dakotas. Following her husband’s tragic drowning, she married Thomas Forsyth. His military assignments included Forts Cumming, Davis, and Bayard, where Mary mothered nine children. **Cecilia Bell** is an avid researcher of historic trails of the Southwest, with emphasis on women’s experiences in the frontier.

“A Copper Mine and a Pleasant Valley: The Two Fort Websters, 1851-1853” — In 1851 the US Army established its first permanent presence in southwestern New Mexico with the occupation of the former Mexican *presidio* at the famed Santa Rita Copper Mine. Christened Fort Webster in honor of the then-Secretary of State, it was occupied only until a lack of sufficient good water convinced the Army that a better location must be found. In 1852 the post was relocated to Mimbres Valley, roughly fifteen miles east of the copper mine, giving birth to Fort Webster #2. This presentation will examine the brief history of both forts. **Doug Dinwiddie** is a retired history professor, having taught at Carlsbad branch of NMSU and at Colorado State University. He serves as president of the Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society.

“On Patrol with Lt. Samuel Fountain, 8th Cavalry: 1885” — During November and December of 1885, a patrol under the command of Lt. Samuel Fountain of the 8th US Cavalry pursued renegade Apaches through some of the most rugged terrain in the American Southwest. The patrol ultimately experienced a disastrous ambush near what is today the village of Glenwood, New Mexico. This presentation examines the actions of the patrol as seen through the eyes of its leading officer. **Ron Henderson** is a retired officer from the US Forest Service, where he served as manager of Cultural Resources, Wilderness, Recreation, and Lands.



The Quartermaster’s corral at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, photographed in 1885 by Army musician Christian Barthelmess.

SESSION 1D – ROOM 8 FRIDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

Building Community through Local Publications

Moderator/Presenter: Joseph Britton

Presenters: **Debbie Post**, **Jim Eckles**, and **Joseph Britton**

Session Sponsor: Hillsboro Historical Society

New Mexico and Arizona's history societies produce a wide range of publications, highlighting the stories of the communities they serve. This session will give writers and editors of these publications opportunity to exchange experiences and perspectives on their work, especially as it relates to the relationship-building function of the historical narratives they provide. These stories are an essential part of the "weaving" together of community, and so local journals, books, and newsletters become important tools of social connection. **Debbie Post** is president of the East Mountain Historical Society, "Dedicated to preserving the 'cultura de las montañas.'" EMHS uses its newsletter for community outreach and public relations with local city and county governments, and businesses, as well as informing its members. **Jim Eckles** is the former editor of the Doña Ana County Historical Society publications, including the *Southern New Mexico Historical Review*. Realizing that print newsletters and journals are no longer sufficient, during his tenure Jim led DACHS to begin offering online resources including live presentations on Zoom that are now a library of "video articles" about local history. **Joseph Britton** is editor of *Guajolotes, Zopilotes y Paisanos* ("Turkeys, Vultures and Roadrunners [or Campesinos]"), the journal of the Hillsboro Historical Society. Its articles highlight the storytelling dimension of history, building community awareness around a shared though often unremembered past.

SESSION 1E – ROOM 9 FRIDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

On Writing Southwest History

Moderator: John Taylor, award-winning author of 27 books

Presenters: **Frances Levine**, **Gina Talley**, and **Jules Nyquist**

Session Sponsors: Susan and David Berry

"Crossings: Writing the Santa Fe Trail from Both Sides" — *Crossings* focuses on the stories of several women who crossed the continent between 1760 and the late 1870s. Levine examines how those crossings changed communities and families in New Mexico and Missouri through commercial and intimate relationships. She examines the experiences of women through harrowing episodes of captivity, cross-cultural marriages, and geographic relocation. Her work draws from the diaries, letters, and firsthand accounts of women as they crossed from Missouri to New Mexico, or in some cases from New Mexico to Missouri. **Frances Levine**, author of 2024 Villagra Award-winning *Crossings: Women on the Santa Fe Trail*, has had a distinguished career as a museum executive leader at both ends of the Santa Fe Trail.

"Crafting a Legacy: Mabel Dodge Luhan and the Art of Self-Representation" — Mabel Dodge Luhan, a longtime patron of the arts and Taos, New Mexico resident, in a 1933 unpublished piece wrote: "What a relief, in autobiography, to be oneself!" She reflected on the purpose of her autobiographical writing, arguing that she did not write with "an awareness of an audience, of a public, of criticism, or of praise." Instead, she wrote for her own purposes. To the historian, Mabel left a trove of sources, intended to explain her innermost thoughts and motivations. This presentation will consider Mabel's own writings, as well as those of her primary biographer, the late American Studies scholar Dr. Lois Rudnick. **Dr. Gina Talley** is an assistant teaching professor of history at Villanova University.

"Atomic Paradise: Reading and Reflections on Nuclear History and the Bomb" — Historical narrative poems from Dr. Nyquist's book, *Atomic Paradise*, explore the nuclear history of New Mexico and growing up in the Cold War era. The Manhattan Project, Dr. Oppenheimer, Trinity Site, Japanese internment camps, nuclear waste, nuclear tourism, and the growing worldwide nuclear crisis are all touched on. Throughout are the author's personal observations to make this huge topic of nuclear war and the resulting nuclear industry a bit more human, and very relevant. **Jules Nyquist**, PhD, MFA, is an author of the award-winning *Atomic Paradise* and Founder of Jules' Poetry Playhouse, Placitas, New Mexico.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 10:30-12:00 NOON

SESSION 2A – ROOMS 1-2 FRIDAY 10:30 AM-12:00 NOON

The Border / La Frontera

Moderator: Michael M. Brecia, Curator, Arizona State Museum

Presenters: **Joel Gonzalez Parra**, **Dennis Daily**, and **Michael Hurley**

Session Sponsor: Doña Ana County Historical Society

“New Mexican Repatriation and Border-Making, 1848-1880” — The Treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo marked the end of the Mexican American War in 1848. As part of the negotiations, the treaty established that Mexicans had up to one year to decide whether to stay in the United States or leave for Mexico. Although the majority of New Mexicans stayed in the United States, a few of them decided to move south and engaged in creation of several colonies along the US-Chihuahua border. **Joel Gonzalez Parra** (History, BA) has focused his research on 19th century communities along the US-Chihuahua border.

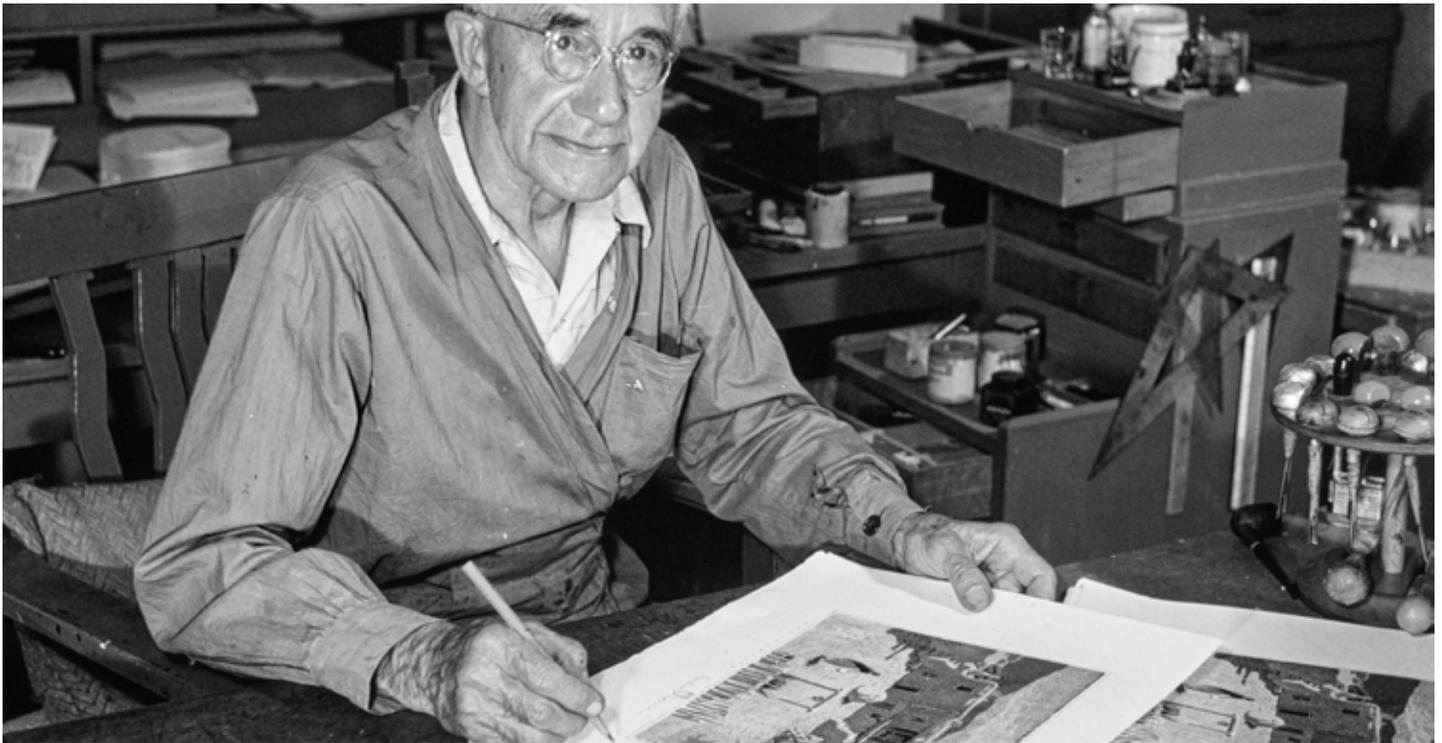
“Daniel R. Payne: Photographing the Changing Landscape of the US-Mexico Boundary” — The joint US-Mexico International Boundary Commission extensively re-surveyed the land boundary between the two countries during the early 1890s. Photographer Daniel R. Payne documented the survey and the installation of new boundary monuments for the United States. This presentation will focus on Payne’s work for the re-survey project and place it in the context of image-making of the changing landscape of the international boundary. **Dennis Daily** is department head of Archives and Special Collections at the New Mexico State University Library in Las Cruces.

“*Bacanora*: A True Cross-Border Cultural Phenomenon of the Southwest” looks at the history of *Mes(z)cal Bacanora* as part of the heritage of the Southwest borderlands, particularly in how it penetrates cultural and government boundaries. *Bacanora* is a unique agave spirit restricted to the Sierras of Sonora that now has its own Designation of Origin. *Bacanora* production peaked in the late 1800s to early 1900s and was prevalent in the bars of Southern Arizona, with distribution from Texas to California and even New York and London. Prohibition started in 1915, lasted 80 years, and was severely enforced, which drove *Bacanora* production underground. It did not re-emerge legally into the USA until 2005. **Mike Hurley** has been in the environmental/policy world for four decades, including culture in transboundary governance.



(Report of the Boundary Commission upon the Survey and Re-marking of the Boundary between the United States and Mexico West of the Rio Grande, 1891-1896. Album)

International boundary monument No. 7, Doña Ana County, New Mexico, following installation by the International Boundary Commission in September 1892. Photograph by Daniel R. Payne, for the US commission during the 1891-1896 survey and re-marking of the boundary.



Palace of the Governors Photo Archives, New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe (PAAC.076.01.1227)

Gustave Baumann signing "Taos Placita" woodcut in his studio in Santa Fe, New Mexico in the 1950s

SESSION 2B – ROOMS 4-5 FRIDAY 10:30 AM-12:00 NOON

Artistic Visions in the Southwest

Moderator: Sylvia Ramos Cruz, poet, writer, community historian, and art aficionada
Presenters: **Kateri Smith**, **Dan Hamed Azizangilan**, and **Alice Wehling**

“The Good, The Bad, The Poorly Drawn: Native American Representation in Historic Media” — In Colonial literature, vivid descriptions of Native peoples permeated the diaries, journals, and writings of explorers and academics alike and shortly thereafter many drew these new people. The lurid descriptions were one part of the equation; on the other were images of Native Americans sometimes used to promote views of uncivilized people, as oddities or exotics. This presentation will go over some of the views and many images in the colonial depiction of Native Peoples in what was the former *Santa Fe de Nuevo México* and *Provincia de las Californias*. These images have been used to justify current stereotypes and have been long-lasting. **Kateri Smith**, MA (Blackfoot/Métis/Anatolian Greek Descent) currently attends the Institute of American Indian Arts in the field of Museum Studies.

“Ira Moskowitz and the Cultural Landscape of New Mexico” examines the artistic legacy of Ira Moskowitz (1912–2001), a Jewish immigrant artist who lived and worked in New Mexico from 1944 to 1949. During this period, Moskowitz was inspired by the New Mexico landscape and its diverse cultures, focusing on Pueblo and Navajo life. His work includes over 100 lithographs and drawings depicting Native American ceremonies, notably featured in John Collier’s *Patterns and Ceremonials of the Indians of the Southwest* (1949). This study explores how Moskowitz’s Eastern European Jewish heritage influenced his documentation of New Mexico’s communities and contributed to the state’s cultural landscape. **Dan Hamed Azizangilan** is a graduate student in Public History at New Mexico State University.

“Gustave Baumann’s Santa Fe” — After his death in 1971, Gustave Baumann, the premier color woodcut artist of the Southwest, left behind a treasure trove of personal papers and photographs that not only reflect his life, family, and artistic legacy, but also provide unique insight into the cultural and social history of Santa Fe and its art scene. The New Mexico History Museum, with the support of the Ann Baumann Trust, has recently processed and digitized Baumann’s papers and photographs. This presentation will explore the many research opportunities now available to historians through these vibrant archival collections. **Alice Wehling** is Assistant Photo Archivist at the New Mexico History Museum; she was previously the project archivist for the Gustave Baumann collections at NMHM.

They Came Here: *Conversos*, Jewish Merchants, Spiritualists

Moderator: Gilbert Storms, PhD, award-winning author

Presenters: **Sean Schifano**, **Linda A. Goff**, and **Christopher Schurtz**

Session Sponsor: New Mexico Jewish Historical Society

“*Converso* Descent: A Global Gaze through New Mexican Eyes” — Among the settlers of New Spain were *judeoconversos*, Iberian Jews who had converted to Catholicism (mainly by force) in the late Middle Ages, and their descendants. Since the 1970s, interest in *converso* ancestry has grown enormously, and descent claimants throughout the world have formed living networks and communities, including in New Mexico and the wider region. This presentation traces the rise of this global phenomenon and its growth in New Mexico, with attention to the state’s role as a key flashpoint of scholarly inquiry and debate regarding the presence of *converso*-descended inhabitants. **Sean Schifano** is an MA candidate in public history at New Mexico State University, focused on Sephardic history and identity.

“Jewish Santa Fe and Northern New Mexico, 1850-1930” will focus not only on the well-known Jewish pioneers of Santa Fe but also on the lesser-known families and individuals who established a strong business, commercial, and civic presence in smaller communities such as Roy, Wagon Mound, Mora, Taos, and Espanola. **Dr. Linda Goff** is co-President of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society. She worked at Georgetown University, Central College, and Longwood University and was also a Fulbright Scholar.

“The Shalam Colony: Utopian Visions on the Rio Grande” — The Shalam Colony was a communalistic settlement founded eight miles north of Las Cruces in 1884 by a New York-based group of spiritualists. The primary goal of the colony was to raise orphaned children within a strict vegetarian lifestyle, with all property held in common. From the time of their arrival, the group garnered attention for their “strange” religion, diet, and loose-fitting white clothing, but also for agricultural innovations they attempted. Although the colony’s backers poured a fortune into making the colony sustainable, bad luck, scandals, and the death of its founder forced Shalam to close in 1901. **Christopher Schurtz** is a New Mexico historian who focuses on the history of Las Cruces and the Mesilla Valley.

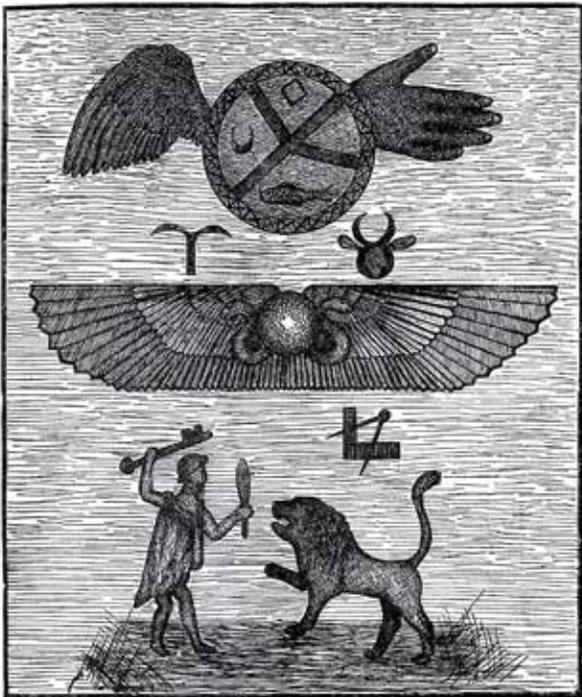


Illustration from *Oahspe: A New Bible*, by John Newbrough (1882), the sacred text of the spiritualist Shalam Colony



Man on burro in front of Temple Montefiore, New Mexico Territory’s first synagogue (constructed 1884) in Las Vegas, 1912

Palace of the Governors Photo Archives, New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe (061233)



Palace of the Governors Photo Archives, New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe 050887

Members of the Ninth US Cavalry Band perform a concert on the Santa Fe Plaza in 1880

SESSION 2D – ROOM 8 FRIDAY 10:30 AM-12:00 NOON

Buffalo Soldiers, the Great War, and Border Troubles

Moderator: Doug Dinwiddie, President, Fort Bayard Historic Preservation Society

Presenters: **Oliver Horn**, **Jim Eckles**, and **Brandon Morgan**

“Exploring the History of Buffalo Soldiers at Fort Stanton” will discuss the notable history of the Buffalo Soldiers of the Ninth Cavalry and their time at Fort Stanton. Deployed to New Mexico from 1875 to 1881, they were tasked with pacifying the southern New Mexico borderland and navigating a unique cultural landscape that was home to Indigenous, Hispanic, and Anglo peoples. Fort Stanton had the largest garrison of Buffalo Soldiers in New Mexico. They were involved in local law enforcement, the Lincoln County War (1878-1881), and saw action during the Victorio Campaign (1879-1881). Soldiers’ wives and children also lived at Fort Stanton. **Oliver Horn**, PhD, is the regional manager of the Lincoln and Fort Stanton Historic Sites.

“Camp Cody: Deming’s World War I Training Camp” — Camp Cody was one of 32 WWI camps the Army used to train men for trench warfare in France beginning in 1917. At the time, Deming’s population was only 2,500 and the camp housed close to 30,000 men. Saturday in town was bustling. The camp was temporary with the men living in tents and enduring sandstorms and primitive sanitation facilities. The 34th Division was formed at Camp Cody but not sent to Europe until the fall of 1918. **Jim Eckles** has written extensively about the history of southern New Mexico and has published *Deming, New Mexico’s Camp Cody: A World War One Training Camp*.

“Raid and Reconciliation: The 1916 Attack on Columbus, New Mexico” introduces Morgan’s 2024 Villagra Award-winning book, examining the story of Pancho Villa’s 1916 raid on Columbus, New Mexico—an event referenced in histories of the border and the Mexican Revolution but not contextualized on its own—and which shows that violence was integral to the modern capitalist development that shaped the border. This presentation provides new insights into the Mexican Revolution and the connections between violence and modernization. **Brandon Morgan**, PhD, is Associate Dean and History instructor at Central New Mexico Community College, where he has taught for fifteen years.

SESSION 2E – ROOM 9 FRIDAY 10:30 AM-12:00 NOON

Historical Society of New Mexico Grants

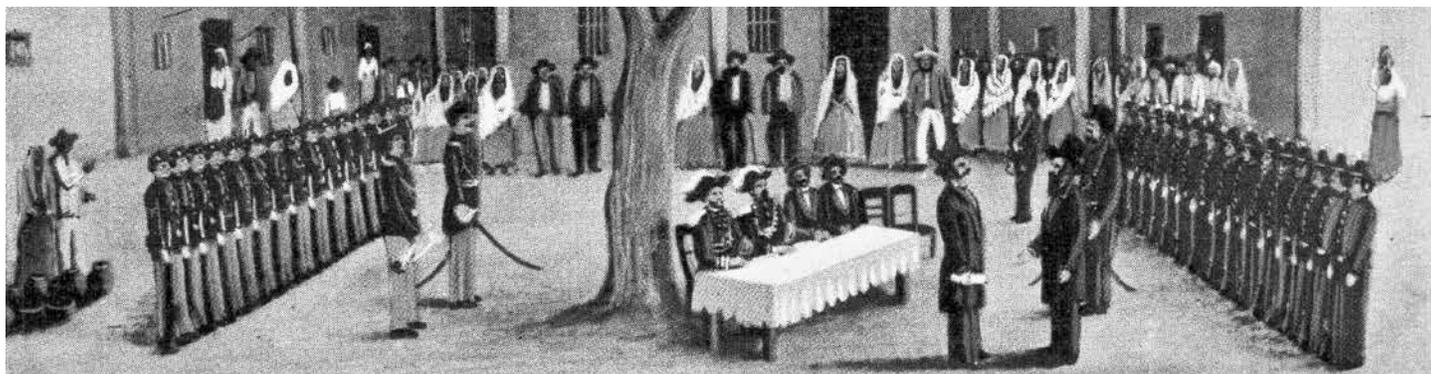
Moderator: Heather McClenahan, HSNM Grants Committee Chair

Presenters: **Chri Snyder**, **Paulette Miller**, **Jameson Lucas**, and **Nikki Nojima Louis**

Each year the HSNM Grants Committee provides a session at the conference which highlights grants from the previous year. This year’s panel features **Chri Snyder**, whose project developed storytelling exhibits of life along New Mexico Route 53; **Paulette Miller**, representing the Wheels Museum in Albuquerque, a recipient of a grant for an exhibit on African American Railroad Workers; **Jameson Lucas** of the Southeastern New Mexico Historical Society, which received a grant to assist with restoration and improvements at the Rocky Arroyo Cemetery; and **Nikki Nojima Louis** of the New Mexico Japanese American Citizens League, which received a grant toward its documentary film, “Confinement in the Land of Enchantment: A Journey of Discovery.”

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 1:30-3:00 PM



Rio Grande Historical Collections, (RGHC) - NMSU Library

“The Gadsden Purchase Celebration Held at Mesilla, New Mexico in 1854” [detail] by A. J. Fountain. Sr.

SESSION 3A – ROOMS 1-2 FRIDAY 1:30-3:00 PM

Trade in the Spanish- and Mexican-era Borderlands

Moderator: Robert J. Tórréz, former New Mexico State Historian

Presenters: **Dawn Moore Santiago** and **Raúl Montano Ayala**

“Geography and Politics in New Mexico and Arizona: Economic Ties, 1750-1870” explores the evolution of the flow of trade in New Mexico and Arizona through the Spanish and early Territorial eras. During the Spanish era, the high mountains in Mexico dictated a north-south trade axis, with the Rio Grande and Santa Cruz valleys as main corridors into New Mexico and Arizona, respectively. Politics after the Mexican War and Gadsden Purchase caused a shift of trade to an east-west axis. Thus, business ties emerged between New Mexico and Arizona, and politics strengthened the bonds of the southern regions as they all saw themselves as “Arizonians.” **Dawn Moore Santiago** focuses on researching the business/economic history of the Southwest. She is an editor and indexer, and former HSNM board member.

“*Nuevo Mexico Independiente: Trade in Mexican-Era New Mexico, 1821-1848*” — This study examines the political and commercial history of New Mexico under Mexican rule between 1821-1848. While brief, it looks at how Mexican national politics influenced matters of commerce and industry in New Mexico and how *Nuevomexicanos* adapted to changing political and economic circumstances under which the nascent Mexican nation consolidated a new commercial economy. **Raúl Montano Ayala** is a Master’s student with Fort Hays State University in Kansas.

SESSION 3B – ROOMS 4-5 FRIDAY 1:30-3:00 PM

Publishing Southwest History

Moderator, Jane Little Botkin, award-winning nonfiction author, Nogal, New Mexico

Presenters: **John LeMay** and **Donna Blake Birchell; Publishers’ representatives (TBA)**

Session Sponsor: Heidi Osselaer

“Crafting New Mexico History Titles” — **John LeMay** and **Donna Blake Birchell** will provide an overview for aspiring authors on how to get their feet in the doors with publishers like Arcadia, the History Press, and university presses. They will explain how such titles are pitched and accepted. They will also detail the pros and cons of self-publishing versus using a traditional publisher. John and Donna are both historians with numerous published history titles to their names.

“Publishers Roundtable” — A panel of **Southwest publishers** will discuss the topics of greatest interest these days and how to go about making submissions.

Architecture and Historic Preservation

Moderator: Susan Berry, Silver City preservationist, historian, and writer

Presenters: **Scott Warren**, **Troy M. Ainsworth** and **Troy C. Ainsworth**, and **Jerry D. Wallace**

Session Sponsor: Rebecca Ullrich

“Histories of Ajo: Building and Preserving the Company Town Landscape” is a discussion of how Ajo’s multicultural history influenced the construction and preservation of the company town landscape. Ajo was built in the 1910s as a company town with three districts separating “American,” “Mexican,” and Native American workers. In the early 2000s the community began a project of restoring this company town landscape. This presentation explores the ongoing challenges of restoration in the context of Ajo’s multicultural history. **Scott Warren**, a geographer who lives in Ajo, Arizona, teaches university courses, writes about local history and geography, and makes maps.

“Architect Henry Trost: Enduring Value of Borderland Works” — Buildings designed by architect Trost throughout arid America remain records of their time and place, and for the many extant buildings of his design, five notable works will be evaluated for their lasting intrinsic, economic, social, and historic value. **Troy M. Ainsworth** and **Troy C. Ainsworth** are father and son. The younger Ainsworth is a Junior at Organ Mountain High School, and the older is a Historian at Fort Bliss.

“Trost & Trost: Preserving the Engelbrechts’ Legacy” — When the Trost & Trost Franciscan Hotel in downtown Albuquerque was demolished in 1972, the event triggered a turning point for Lloyd and June Engelbrecht and historic preservation throughout the Borderlands. At the time of the hotel’s demise, the Engelbrechts were the only known advocates for preserving and protecting Trost & Trost buildings. This presentation will briefly examine the career of Lloyd and June Engelbrecht and their lifelong advocacy for the preservation of the Trost & Trost buildings. Their work was responsible for creating preservation groups in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. **Jerry D. Wallace** is the Director of Public History at NMSU and the Chair of the Las Cruces Historic Preservation Committee.



1913 commencement attendees at Trost-designed Hadley Hall on the New Mexico College of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts (now NMSU) campus, completed in 1908 and demolished in 1958.

SESSION 3D – ROOM 8 FRIDAY 1:30-3:00 PM

Notable Personalities

Moderator: Tom Zoellner, PhD, Chapman University

Presenters: **David Grassé**, **Steve Kobs**, and **Samuel Reitenour**

“‘They Called Her Madam’: The Life and Times of Eva Blanchard” — Annie O’Sullivan Wiley, better known as Eva Blanchard, was a madam in Tucson between the late 1880s and early 1900s. The *Arizona Daily Citizen* called her “the leader of the Tucson half world.” She not only owned the only legal, licensed brothel and The Favorite Saloon in Gay Alley, the red-light district, but she also invested heavily in the local real estate market and was a beloved philanthropist, giving to numerous local charities and Catholic organizations. **David Grassé** holds a BA in History and an MA in Library Sciences and has four published books related to the history of the Southwest.

“Misunderstood Origins: Russell Wade’s ‘Invention’ of the Drive-In” — Professor Russell Wade performed in Phoenix, conducting the Columbia Ladies Military Orchestra, before setting out for Las Cruces to build a new outdoor vaudeville and silent movie theater. Did Wade invent the drive-in movie theater? This program explores the rise and demise of “Airdome” theaters and how they evolved into drive-in theaters. **Steve Kobs** traded his expertise in employment investigations for opportunities to delve into historical research.

“Mayor Sam Pick: ‘Santa Fe’s Super-Salesman’” — As Santa Fe’s mayor from 1976 to 1978 and again from 1986 to 1994, Sam Pick presided over a crucial period of tourism-driven growth in the city. Journalists and scholars have characterized him as the polar opposite of his successor, Debbie Jaramillo, whose progressive vision for Santa Fe included economic diversification. This presentation reexamines Pick’s evolving, contradictory philosophy of municipal development, revealing that he often articulated reservations about the city’s dependence on tourism even as he used the mayoralty as a bully pulpit from which to promote the industry. **Samuel Reitenour** is a PhD student at the University of Texas at El Paso.

SESSION 3E – ROOM 9 FRIDAY 1:30-3:00 PM

Women’s Work

Moderator: Heidi Osselaer, Co-director, Arizona History Convention

Presenters: **Sylvia Ramos Cruz**, **David L. Caffey**, and **Janolyn Lo Vecchio**

Session Sponsor: Cynthia Shetter, in memory of Hazel Potter Johnson

“In Celebration of Historic New Mexico Women” highlights some of the women honored in Historic New Mexico Women markers, which dot many roads across the state. Among them are Ada McPherson Morley, Yetta Kohn and Anita Scott Coleman. Ramos Cruz has written about her road trips to see these markers in a poetic form called Haibun. It has a prose narrative of a journey interspersed with tiny poems (haiku) related to the work. **Sylvia Ramos Cruz** has researched and published widely on New Mexico women’s history. Some of her work is in the *Online Biographical Dictionary of Woman Suffrage in the United States*.

“Intrepid Press Women of Territorial New Mexico” — At least sixteen women served as editor or publisher of a New Mexico newspaper between 1886 and 1912. They reported local news, published ads and legal notices, and addressed issues including the status of women, woman suffrage, and statehood. Among them were wives who temporarily took the place of an absent or deceased spouse, mothers who juggled editorial work with family responsibilities, and lifelong professionals who made names for themselves, earning the admiration of readers and colleagues. **David L. Caffey** is the author of historical works including *Chasing the Santa Fe Ring* (2014), and *When Cimarron Meant Wild* (2023).

“Estelle Bjerg: Arizona’s Crusader for Women’s Rights” — The daughter of an Oklahoma state senator, Estelle Bjerg was exposed to politics during childhood. Her US citizenship was ripped away when she married a Danish citizen in 1920 and was not restored until she became a naturalized citizen in 1926. This injustice transformed her into a passionate advocate for women’s rights. As Arizona Business and Professional Women’s Clubs state president, Bjerg led a lobbying effort to persuade Arizona Senator Henry Ashurst to schedule the Equal Rights Amendment for a Congressional subcommittee hearing. **Janolyn Lo Vecchio**, a University of Arizona retiree, writes about Arizona women’s history.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 3:30-5:00 PM

SESSION 4A – ROOMS 1-2 FRIDAY 3:30-5:00 PM

Atomic Women: Los Alamos Historical Society Archival Stories

Moderator: Heather McClenahan, retired Executive Director, Los Alamos Historical Society

Presenters: **Tina Moore**, **Stephanie Yeamans**, and **Katy Jones-Gulsby**

Session Sponsors: Gerry and Georgia Strickfaden

“Stationed in Shangri-La: WAC Pat Patterson” recounts WAC member Pat Patterson Krikorian’s service at Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project, drawing extensively from the previously unexplored Krikorian Collection at the Los Alamos Historical Society archives. Through analysis of her personal papers, photographs, and oral histories, the presenter will contextualize Patterson’s experience within the unique position of WACs at Los Alamos and their contributions to the project. **Tina Moore** is a cataloger in the LAHS archives and historian on the Manhattan Project National Historical Park team at LANL.

“Jean Parks: Promises of Men and Parties” explores the recruitment and experiences of Jean “Jeannie” Parks in Los Alamos during Project Y. Through the extensive document, photographic, and artifact collections of Jean (Parks) Nereson, the presenter will share the experience of women who were living on “The Hill” during the Manhattan Project but not serving in a military personnel capacity. We will take a glimpse into living and working in the community of Los Alamos during the Project through the eyes of a schoolteacher. **Stephanie Yeamans** is the Collections/Museum specialist at the Los Alamos Historical Society Archives and Collections.

“High and Dry: Ensign Louise Newkirk, the Only WAVE in Los Alamos” introduces Ensign Cordelia Louise Newkirk, the only member of the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) in Los Alamos during the Manhattan Project. Ensign Newkirk assisted US Navy Captain William “Deak” Parsons and worked to support the small Navy contingent in Los Alamos. She worked for Parsons as he planned and executed Project Alberta and the first use of the atomic bomb. LAHS holds her collection of papers and photographs. Rarely named in the histories of the Navy contribution to the Manhattan Project, we hope to begin telling her story. **Katy Jones-Gulsby** is the Archivist for the Los Alamos Historical Society Archives & Collections.



Los Alamos National Laboratory, National Security Research Center (NSRC)

Government security badge photographs of women assigned to the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos



Library of Congress (LC-DIG-fa-8631932)

This 1937 Dorothea Lange photo of the Gird Block in Tombstone, Arizona, shows (L to R) the old *Tombstone Epitaph* building, the former Tombstone Mining Exchange, the Hotel Nobles, the Wells Fargo office, and Schieffelin Hall.

SESSION 4B – ROOMS 4-5 FRIDAY 3:30-5:00 PM

What Made Tombstone ‘The Town Too Tough to Die?’

Moderator: Chuck Hornung, Chairman, Tombstone Territory Rendezvous Board of Governors

Presenters: **Bob Palmquist**, **Gilbert Storms**, and **Nancy Sosa**

Session Sponsor: Tombstone Territory Rendezvous

“Tombstone 1877-1890: Silver, New Wealth, and Violence” — Silver discoveries in 1877-1878 by Ed and Al Schieffelin and Richard Gird and the resumption of silver coinage by the US government sparked the Tombstone silver boom. Between 1879-1890, Tombstone survived two major fires, a spectacular attempt at land fraud, and numerous lawsuits over conflicted mining claims. While the city never lived up to its reputation as a place with “a man for breakfast every morning,” a string of street and saloon shootings gave rise to a place with “a history of silver and murder.” **Bob Palmquist** is an independent historian from Tucson, Arizona, with a special interest in the history of Tombstone.

“Tombstone 1890-1910: Prosperity and Adversity” — The history of Tombstone between 1890 and 1910 was less a decline than a series of economic peaks and valleys determined by changes in the price of silver, the relentless ambitions of wealthy mine owners, and the discovery of rich mineral deposits elsewhere. The town was sustained during its lean years by its status as the Cochise County seat and the beginnings of tourism, inspired by Albert Henry Lewis’s “Wolfville” stories. **Gil Storms** is an independent historian and author whose special interest is in Arizona frontier history and biography.

“Tombstone 1910-1929: From Legends to Legendary Tourism” — With the decades of the silver industry lost in the shadows of the past, Tombstone was left grasping for survival. With the success of various publications about the old mining camp and the opening of the Byways of the Americas, Tombstone found a new niche that would forever write the “Town Too Tough to Die” into the annals of history. Tombstone would rise from the legends of the past and be reborn as a legendary tourist attraction. **Nancy Sosa** is an independent historical researcher who specializes in Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona.



Murales Fronterizos

"El Abuelo," a mural by Vela in the West Picacho area of Las Cruces, New Mexico

SESSION 4C – ROOM 7 FRIDAY 3:30-5:00 PM

Murales Fronterizos

Moderator: Dylan McDonald, Special Collections Librarian, NMSU Library

Presenters: **Jerry Wallace**, **Laura Hooton**, **Barbara Sanchez**,
Norma Hartell, and **Mackenzie Ross**

Session Sponsor: Citizens Bank of Las Cruces

The *Murales Fronterizos* is a community-based research project and digital archive that documents, inventories, and catalogs public art in Las Cruces, New Mexico, El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. This student-led initiative is part of the Public History program at New Mexico State University with community partners at UTEP and EPCC. Recently the project has expanded to include oral histories and biographies of regional muralists, a researchable database, social media engagement (crowd sourcing), and an interactive website to preserve community memory about art and identity. **Dr. Jerry Wallace**, Director of Public History at New Mexico State University, will discuss the scope and content of the project; **Dr. Laura Hooton**, Director of Graduate Studies at NMSU, will discuss the *murales* website and content development; **Dr. Barbara Sanchez**, Assistant Professor of Government at El Paso Community College, will discuss the murals in El Paso and Juarez; **Norma Hartell**, a cultural worker who received an MA in Public History from NMSU, will discuss the murals of Las Cruces; and **Mackenzie Ross**, who received an MA in Public History from NMSU, will discuss social media content and artist collaborations.

SESSION 4D – ROOM 8 FRIDAY 3:30-5:00 PM

Vernon Glover: New Mexico's Premier Railroad Historian

Moderator/Panelist: Fred Friedman, writer and lecturer on New Mexico railroad history

Presenters: **Charlotte Glover**, **Lynn Melton**, and **Fred Friedman**

Session Sponsor: Mike Stevenson

Vernon J. Glover was New Mexico's premier railroad history researcher and writer. This panel, comprised of his daughter and colleagues, outlines the man's accomplishments and reviews the data and sources he uncovered. The location and specifics of Mr. Glover's extensive research on freight, passenger, mining and logging railroads will be discussed by key contemporary historians who knew and worked with him. Longtime HSNM member **Lynn Melton** worked with Vernon in documenting the legacy of the "Cloud Climbing Railroad" of Cloudcroft and Alamogordo and will share several aspects of that experience. Mr. Glover's daughter, **Charlotte Glover**, owns a book shop in Ketchikan, Alaska, and will discuss her experiences in locating, categorizing and discovering numerous historical nuggets found buried in her father's research notes and papers. **Fred Friedman** was a colleague of Vernon Glover and is familiar with Vernon's numerous contributions to New Mexico and Arizona railroad history. He also knew Mr. Glover personally and will share some of their memorable interactions.



Courtesy of the Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA), Negative Number: PAMU.233.2.

Japanese Americans at the Santa Fe Internment Camp, New Mexico, 1944

SESSION 4E – ROOM 9 FRIDAY 3:30-5:00 PM

Perspectives and Reflections on Japanese American Internment in New Mexico

Moderator: Aiko Allen

Presenters: **Nikki Nojima Louis** and **Victor Yamada**

Session Sponsor: Rebecca Ullrich

“Courage and Compassion: Inside and Outside the Barbed Wire” shares stories gleaned from research, interviews, and the oral histories of prisoners, residents, and New Mexican Japanese Americans from 1942 to the present. They contain acts of individual and communal kindness alongside deeds of violence and vigilantism. The cast of characters includes two elderly Lordsburg prisoners fatally shot by a guard, a protective sheriff in Gallup, children of Santa Fe prison guards, and a Mayor who apologized 72 years after the ouster of Japanese American families (17 adults, 18 children) from his town in 1942. **Dr. Nikki Nojima Louis** has brought Living History programs on the Japanese American experience to New Mexico audiences since 2014.

“Confinement in the Land of Enchantment: The CLOE Project” references the more than 6,000 Japanese Americans imprisoned in the WWII DOJ and Army-operated internment camps of Lordsburg, Santa Fe, Fort Stanton, and the 35 men, women, and children from the segregated “Jap Town” of Clovis held in Old Raton Ranch (Baca Camp) sites in the Lincoln National Forest. This presentation includes historical background, legal perspectives, description of sites, life during imprisonment, and the reaction of neighboring communities. **Victor Yamada** directs education and outreach on this project, including a traveling exhibit and statewide community forums, and lectures on the history of WWII Japanese American prison camps of New Mexico.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27 8:30-10:00 AM

SESSION 5A – ROOMS 1-2 SATURDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

When We Were Mexicans

Moderator/Presenter: Robert J. Tórréz

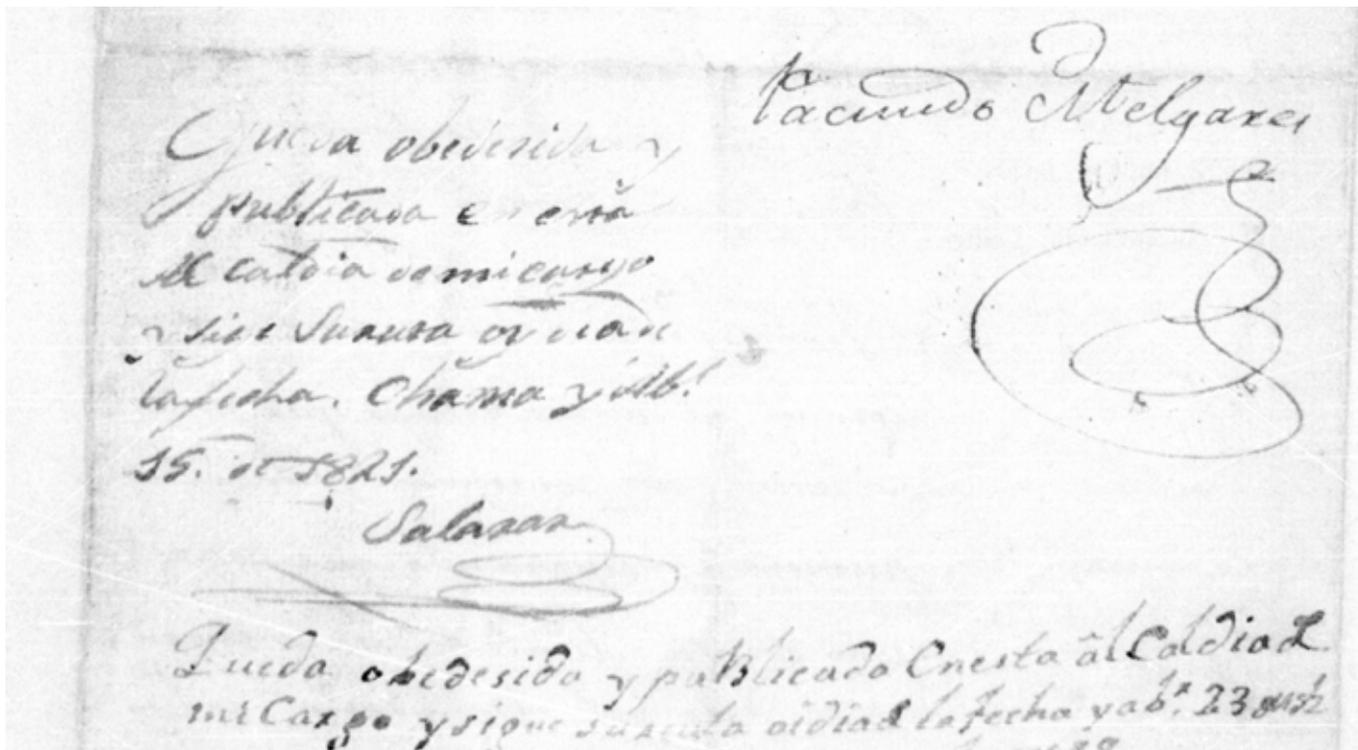
Presenters: **Matt Saionz**, **Rob Martínez**, and **Robert J. Tórréz**

Session Sponsors: Joseph and Karla Britton, in memory of Charles C. Britton

“The Texan Incursions of 1841 and 1843” — In the early 1840s, the Republic of Texas launched incursions into New Mexico in an effort to enforce its claims to lands east of the Rio Grande and wrest New Mexico from Mexico. This presentation will consider in detail the 1841 Texan Santa Fe Expedition, the 1843 raids, and their consequences for the governance of Mexican New Mexico. **Matt Saionz** is a historian with the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division.

“Facundo Melgares: New Mexico from Spain to Mexico” — Facundo Melgares was the last Spanish governor of New Mexico and is representative of the shift away from Spanish rule in New Mexico in 1821 to Mexican rule. A look at the man, his accomplishments, and what it meant for New Mexico at that time will be discussed, and will top off with a glimpse of the celebration that took place in 1822. **Rob Martínez** is the current State Historian of New Mexico and is a statutory member of the Cultural Properties Review Committee.

“The Mexican Archives of New Mexico: An Overview” — This presentation will provide an overview of the Mexican Archives of New Mexico, 1821-1846, which may be considered the “hidden jewel” of New Mexico’s documentary collections. The presenter will showcase a selection of his favorite documents from the collection that will enhance our knowledge and appreciation of this often misunderstood period of our history. **Robert J. Tórréz** is a former State Historian and past president of the Historical Society of New Mexico.



Signature on letter dated April 9, 1821 from Governor Facundo Melgares, Santa Fe, to the three constitutional *alcaldes de la Cordillera del Margen* in the edges of New Mexico, notifying them of the independence of Mexico, New Spain, from Spain. Melgares had been loyal to the Spanish government until ordered to support the Mexican revolution.



Fort Worth Star-Telegram Collection, University of Texas at Arlington Libraries. Identifier: AR406-6-27

Fern Sawyer (center) and her horse Belen with two fellow cutting horse champs at the 1945 Southwestern Exhibition and Fat Stock Show.

SESSION 5B – ROOMS 4-5 SATURDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

Rafting, Riding and Ribbies: The Sporting Spirit

Moderator: Dennis Daily, head, Archives and Special Collections, NMSU Library, Las Cruces

Presenters: **Tom Martin**, **Frank Whitehead**, and **Dewey Johnson**

Session Sponsors: David and Mary Caffey

“Cruise Control: Grand Canyon’s River Permits, 1919-1956” — The Colorado River in Grand Canyon had been traversed by eight river trips by 1919, when Grand Canyon National Park was established. In 1929, two Park employees lost their lives in a river running accident. A Park manager forbade river exploration by Park employees for the next 25 years as river tourism expanded. In 1948 the Park issued its first-ever river permit. In 1950 the Park briefly closed the Colorado River to all river traffic. In 1955 the Park rewrote its permit for river running and enforcement of the new permit system began in earnest. **Tom Martin** is an award-winning author of numerous publications about Colorado River running and boating history.

“Fern Sawyer and Fighting the Gendered Agenda” — Fern Sawyer grew up on a ranch along the Texas-New Mexico border and competed at (and later was intimately involved in) both mainstream and all-girl rodeos from the 1930s to the 1990s. Throughout her life, Fern constantly fought for a space for women in the rodeo arena, yet at the same time she strenuously resisted any association with feminism. This presentation examines the life and rhetoric of Sawyer as a lens through which to analyze the multifaceted ways that rodeo cowgirls of the 20th century simultaneously navigated, embraced, and challenged the gendered arena walls of rodeo. **Frank Whitehead** is an Adjunct Instructor and Graduate Program Coordinator at the University of Arizona.

“Over the Fence: Joe Bauman’s Homerun Summer” — Among the fans gathered during the 1954 season to see if Roswell Rocket Joe Bauman could break the minor league homerun record were a dozen or so boys who would two years later win the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. One of the Rockets was Roswell’s own Tommy Brookshier, who was on his way to fame as a Philadelphia Eagle and pro football broadcaster. Pitching to Big Joe was Albuquerque Duke Pete Domenici, who became New Mexico’s longest serving US Senator. As the last day of the season approached, Big Joe had tied the record of 69. Could he hit 70? **Dewey Johnson** is the author of *One Last Double-Header: Joe Bauman’s Homerun Summer*. He saw Joe Bauman play in 1954.

SESSION 5C – ROOM 7 SATURDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

Museum Stories: Bringing Our Past into the Future

Moderator: Louis Huning, Jr., Director, Los Lunas Museum of Heritage & Arts

Presenters: **Caroline Brooks**, **Jill Hartke**, and **Stuart Rosebrook**

Session Sponsors: Pamela and Doyle Daves

“Roswell Museum Flood Recovery Status and Reflection One Year Post-Disaster” — Due to historic rainfall in October 2024, the Roswell Museum suffered a devastating flood during which flood levels reached over five feet in the building. Subsequently, museum workers undertook a large-scale evacuation of 12,000 items of art, historical artifacts, and archival material. The museum underwent a major facility remediation, which included the museum’s original adobe structure built as a WPA Federal Art Center in 1937. Learn about the recovery efforts, the network of organizations and people involved, and the status of the museum one year after the incident. **Caroline Brooks** has served as director of the Roswell Museum since 2016 and was the assistant director from 2004-2012.

“Picture This: Visual Podcasting from a Photo Archive” — The photo archive of the Albuquerque Museum began a visual podcasting series in 2020 focusing on images in the permanent collection that are unlikely to go on view in the museum’s galleries, but that have interesting stories to tell. Learn how we did it and how you can do the same! **Jill Hartke** is the curator of digital collections at the Albuquerque Museum in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

“Scaling to Success: Managing a Museum in 2025” — In 2025, non-profits across the United States are challenged with demographic changes not seen in a generation. The shifting generational landscape of digital and analog communications has rapidly changed how museums manage membership, attract new visitors, create exhibits, and communicate with their community. Sharlot Hall Museum, a state museum of Arizona, is facing those challenges by scaling to success while attempting to navigate the demographic changes that will alter the museum’s local support, volunteer base and membership for the next decade and beyond. **Stuart Rosebrook, PhD**, is the director of the Sharlot Hall Museum, Prescott, Arizona, and editor of *True West* magazine.



Courtesy of Roswell Museum

The 2024 flood at the Roswell Museum left many objects damaged and the floor covered in thick mud and standing water. The waterline is visible along the wall at right.

SESSION 5D – ROOM 8 SATURDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

The Southwest in the 1930s and 1940s

Moderator: Erik Berg, Co-director, Arizona History Convention

Presenters: **Gus Seligmann** and **Kayla Cunha**

Session Sponsor: Janet Saiers, in honor of Charles (Chuck) Malgodi

“Investigating the 1934 Contested New Mexico Senate Election” — The 1934 Senate election between Bronson Cutting (R-NM) and his challenger Dennis Chavez was hard fought and closely decided. Both sides, probably accurately, charged the other with corruption. Consequently, there was an FBI investigation into the inner processes of elections in New Mexico. This is an account of the presenter’s attempts to access and use archives that are sealed and not subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) statutes. **Gus Seligmann**, PhD, is Immediate Past President of HSNM.

“Role of Creativity and Japanese Identity in Arizona Internment Camps” — After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the US government forcibly relocated over 120,000 American citizens of Japanese descent and resident Japanese to ten imprisonment camps. They had to leave their lives behind, sell their homes, and fit their belongings into two suitcases. This talk highlights their difficult experiences and demonstrates how they coped with imprisonment by relying on various creative outlets and drawing upon their shared culture to maintain their own identities and communities. **Kayla Cunha** graduated with her BA History and BA Philosophy from ASU Barrett Honors College last fall.

SESSION 5E – ROOM 9 SATURDAY 8:30-10:00 AM

Toward a More Perfect Union

Moderator: Joseph Britton, President, Historical Society of New Mexico

Presenters: **Arturo Perez Lopez**, **Joseph Seagrove**, and **Thea De Armond**

Session Sponsor: Rebecca Ullrich

“Reconstituting South Phoenix in the Decades after Civil Rights Victories” — This project uses oral histories to recover and historicize local narratives, empowering the community to reclaim Black spaces in Arizona while challenging the negative portrayals of South Phoenix perpetuated by local news outlets. South Phoenix is one of the most racially diverse communities in the metro area, historically serving as a hub for significant civil rights activism. From the late 1950s to 1965, a triumvirate of civil rights leaders emerged: Eleanor and Lincoln Ragsdale and Dr. George Brooks Sr. Arizona State University PhD candidate **Arturo Perez Lopez**’s research focuses on the civil rights history of the Southwest.

“Western Migration, Jim Crow, and the Land of Enchantment” — Following Reconstruction, thousands of African Americans left the Deep South seeking personal and economic freedom. While most Black Southerners migrated north, a small number chose to journey to the borderland territory of New Mexico. The borderlands offered a respite from racial violence and the opportunity for land ownership and education, yet many Black settlers were subjected to *de facto* segregation measures as Southern Whites also settled in the region. Despite these obstacles, many Black New Mexicans were able to own land, create businesses, and establish places of worship. **Joseph Seagrove** is a PhD candidate at the University of Texas at El Paso.

“A Free Speech Fight in New Mexico: State v. Diamond” — In November 1919, Jack Diamond, a member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), was arrested in New Mexico for distributing IWW paraphernalia to his coworkers. With the support of the IWW and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Diamond appealed his conviction “for inciting revolution against the United States” on free speech grounds, overturning the law under which he had been convicted. This presentation examines Diamond’s case, an early ACLU victory and a significant pro-labor decision in a state that is relatively little known for its labor movements. **Thea De Armond** is an archaeologist and a historian at New Mexico State University.

CONFERENCE SESSIONS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2025 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

SESSION 6A – ROOMS 1-2 SATURDAY 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

In Search of Well-being: Medicine and Health in the Southwest

Moderator: Ruaidhri (Rory) Belfry Crofton, Curator, Villa Philmonté, Cimarron

Presenters: **Johanne Harrigan**, **Naomi Sandweiss Willie**, and **Teri L. Reynoso**

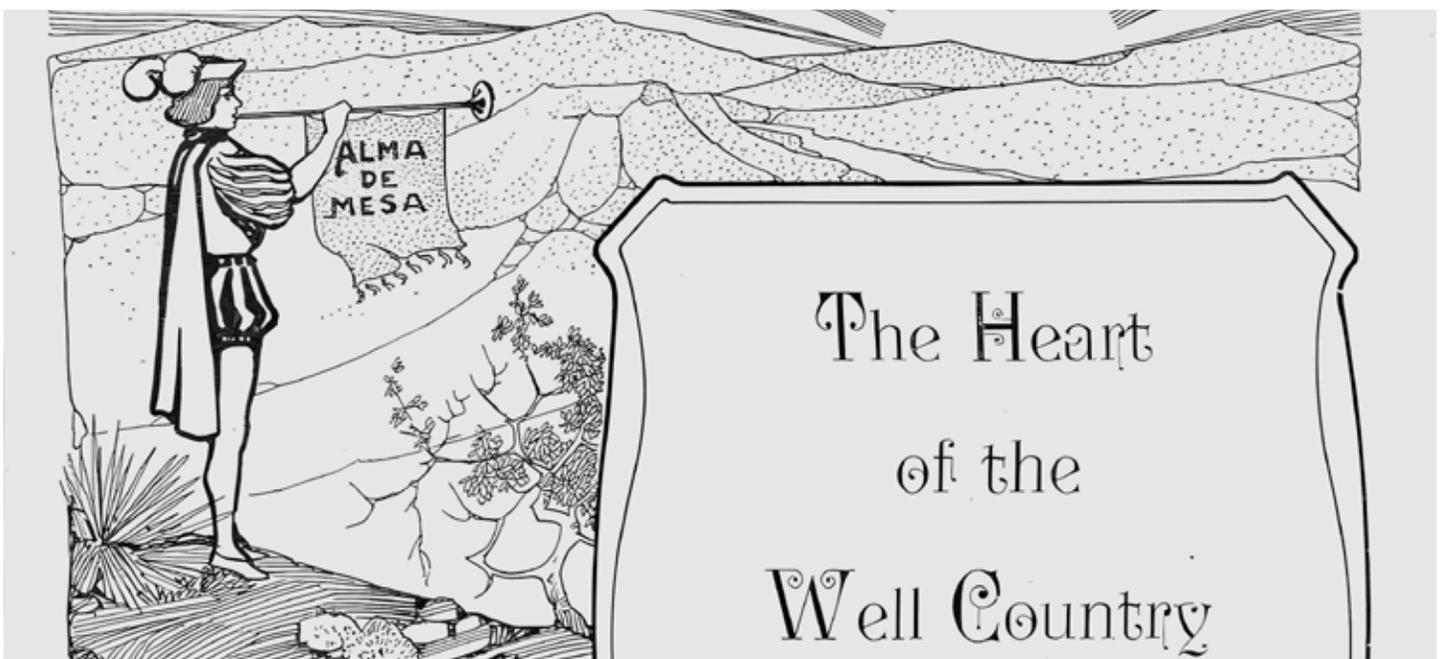
Session Sponsor: John Taylor

“With the Intention to Procure the Miscarriage of any Woman:’ Living Under Arizona Territory’s Anti-Abortion Law, 1864 to 1912” — In June of 2022, in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women’s Health Organization*, the US Supreme Court reversed its position on *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision that granted American women the right to legally obtain abortions. In response to the decision, state legislatures across the nation reverted to their pre-existing abortion laws. Arizona drew upon the Howell Code of 1864, Arizona Territory’s first set of laws, which contained an anti-abortion statute. This presentation will examine court cases which involve men and women who stood accused of providing abortions during the territorial period.

Johanne Harrigan is a history PhD student at the University of Arizona. Her area of concentration is medical history, with a focus on epidemic diseases and women’s reproductive health, particularly as they pertain to Arizona history.

“Military Medicine: Dr. Daniel Appel on the New Mexico Frontier” — Dr. Daniel Appel (1854-1914), a Jewish military doctor trained in Philadelphia, practiced medicine on the New Mexico frontier, among other locations where he was stationed. From Fort Stanton, Appel witnessed and provided medical care during the Lincoln County War and to Mescalero Apache tribal members. Later, in 1899, Appel oversaw Fort Bayard’s TB hospital, the first of its kind for the US military. **Naomi Sandweiss Willie**, MA History, Arizona State University, is the author of *Jewish Albuquerque* (2010) and co-president of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society.

“Larry Glasebrook and his Well Country Camp” — Those familiar with the rise of tuberculosis tourism in New Mexico might recognize the magazine, “The Herald of the Well Country.” Less familiar is Larry Glasebrook, founder of the magazine and eternal optimist whose dream was to operate a co-operative tuberculosis camp in the East Mountains in the 1910s. Follow the story of the founders and editorial staff of the magazine, Larry’s dream unrealized, and the fate of the Well Country Camp. **Teri L. Reynoso** is a Librarian with the Public Library of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County.



Detail, April 1916 cover of “The Herald of the Well Country”

SESSION 6B – ROOMS 4-5 SATURDAY 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

New Chapters in the Lives of Old West Characters

Moderator: Stuart Rosebrook, Director, Sharlot Hall Museum and Editor, *True West Magazine*

Presenters: **Chuck Hornung**, **Heidi J. Osselaer**, and **Susan Berry**

Session Sponsors: Don and Gloria Bullis

“Not Another Tombstone! Josie and Wyatt Earp in the Colfax County War” — New Mexico’s bloody Colfax County War of the 1870s had sparked back to life in the fall of 1884. Sheriff-elect John Hixenbaugh had been badly wounded by the leader of the reactivated Cow-boys and anti-land grant political faction. Backers of the new sheriff now felt he needed a strong assistant as his field agent to uphold the law and keep the peace. Former Tombstone friends, now financially involved in northern New Mexico, wanted Wyatt Earp for the job. **Chuck Hornung** was a founding board member and vice-president of the worldwide Wild West History Association and served as president of the Western Outlaw-Lawman History Association.

“The Secret Life of Wayne Brazel” — Using newly discovered archival sources and family stories made public for the first time, this presentation will reveal what really happened to Pat Garrett’s confessed killer, Wayne Brazel, after he vanished in 1914. Brazel’s relatives claimed they didn’t know where he was, and a private investigator hired by his son in the 1930s concluded Brazel had died in a shootout with the Butch Cassidy gang in Bolivia, but the truth of Brazel’s disappearance is far more intriguing. **Heidi Osselaer**, PhD, is the co-director of the Arizona History Convention and taught history at ASU for 25 years.

“One Thing Leads to Another” — Sometimes a simple search for information turns up answers to questions we never knew to ask but surely would have wanted to. Follow the trail of one recent research “binge” that uncovered previously unsuspected connections between notorious characters and their sensational (sometimes deadly) adventures in the variety theaters, saloons, gambling halls, and brothels of Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Tombstone, Silver City, White Oaks, Socorro, and beyond. Silver City historian and preservationist **Susan Berry** is especially interested in colorful personalities of New Mexico’s past.

SESSION 6C – ROOM 7 SATURDAY 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

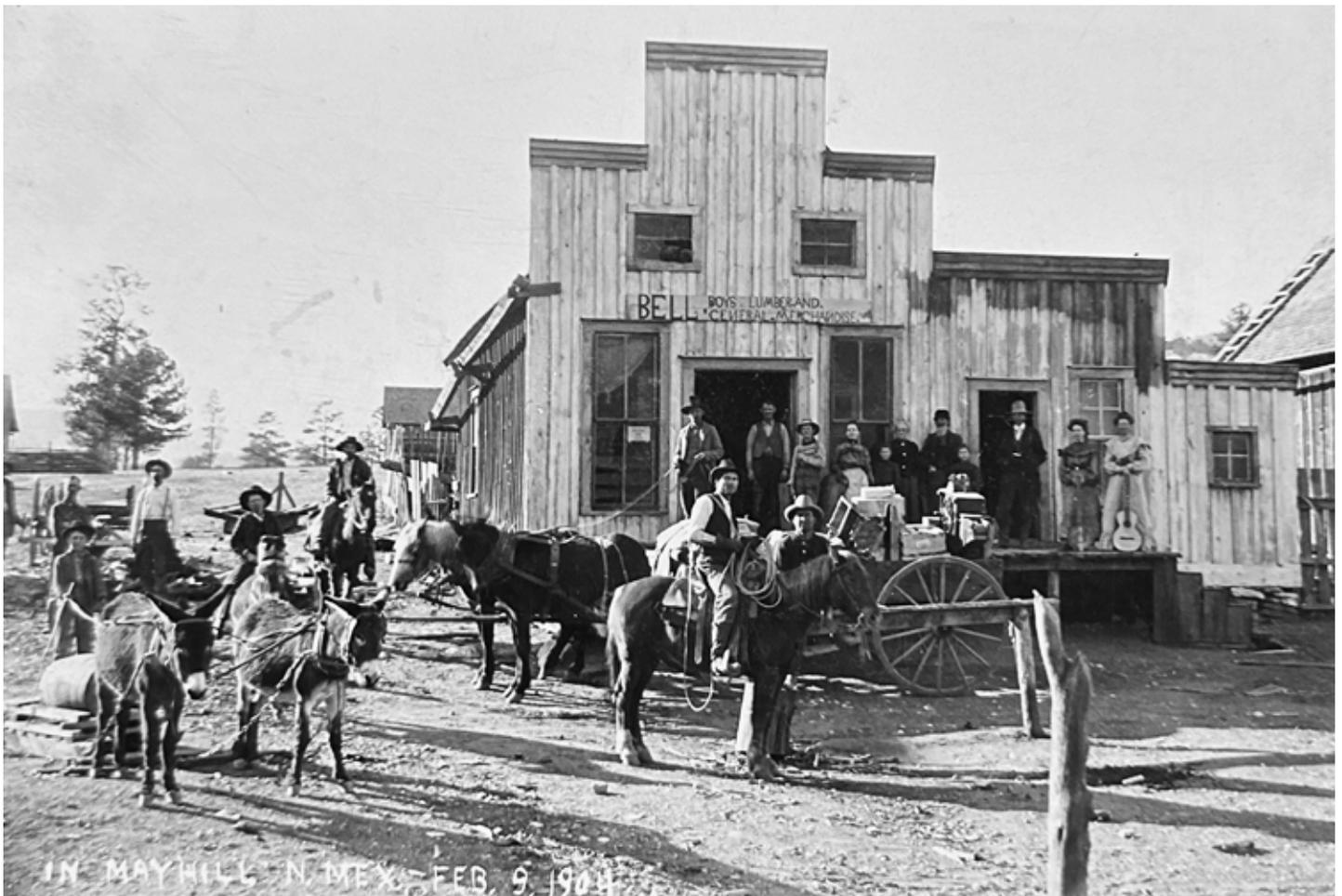
Revising New Mexico History Textbooks

Moderator/Panelist: Sonia Dickey

Panelists: **Sandra K. Mathews**, **Bruce Gjeltema**, and **Sonia Dickey**

Session Sponsor: Gus Seligmann

The process of updating the New Mexico history textbooks for the fourth, seventh, and ninth grades began last fall, and initial drafts will be completed by December 2025. Panelists will discuss revisions to the fourth, seventh, and ninth grade New Mexico history textbooks, presenting major shifts in organization, historical representation, and tone as they map these books to updated state standards. They will then open the roundtable for discussion with teachers who would like to engage with the authors and publisher. **Sandra K. Mathews** received her PhD in US West/Latin American history from UNM and has taught for over 30 years at the university level. Former HSNM board member **Bruce Gjeltema** teaches New Mexico and American history and politics at UNM-Gallup. He has had the pleasure of working with predominantly *Dine* (Navajo) and *Ashiwi* (Zuni) and other New Mexican students for many years. **Sonia Dickey** is UNM Press Acquisitions Editor in Landscape Studies, Environmental History, and Modern Archaeology; *Querencias* Series; New Century Gardens and Landscapes of the American Southwest series; and Indigenous Archaeological Methods and Practices series.



Residents of Mayhill, New Mexico, gathered around the Bell Boys lumber and general merchandise store for this photograph by Green E. Miller in 1904.

SESSION 6D – ROOM 8 SATURDAY 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON **(Re)presenting the Communities of Otero County**

Moderator/Presenter: Rick L. Miller

Presenters: **Rick L. Miller** and **Jeaneen S. Miller Canfield**

Session Sponsor: Historical Society of Southeast New Mexico/Roswell Strong, celebrating Roswell Resilience

“A Historiography of La Luz Pottery” — Drawing from his personal research and collection interest, Dr. Rick Miller will present background information about La Luz pottery. From its beginning, La Luz pottery has been widely known for its unique style and functionality. The presentation includes pieces from Miller’s personal collection, images of additional pieces, and research-based stories about La Luz pottery’s impact in and beyond Otero County. **Rick Miller**, a great-grandson of Green E. Miller, is an avid collector and historian.

“(Re)Imaging Otero County” — Green E. Miller’s photography captured moments of lived experiences that, without the “magic” of the camera, would be forever lost. This presentation explores and interrogates the photographic memories as they visually represent frozen moments in times past. The presentation of G. E. Miller’s photos is enhanced with excerpts from Miller’s journal, offering nuanced understandings of Otero County’s past. **Jeaneen Miller Canfield**, a great-granddaughter of Green E. Miller and an avid researcher, is an English Professor in Oklahoma.



Highsmith, Carol M.(LOC) LC-DIG-highsm-04059

Route 66 Mural, Tucumcari, New Mexico

SESSION 6E – ROOM 9 SATURDAY 10:30 AM – 12:00 NOON

Crossroads in the Desert: Of Rails and Routes

Moderator: Troy M. Ainsworth, Historian, Fort Bliss Military Reservation, El Paso, Texas

Presenters: **Gary Herron**, **Tim Hagaman**, and **Roger M. Zimmerman**

Session Sponsor: Joe Sabatini

“Albuquerque’s Historic Railyard” — After the ATSF Railroad entered Albuquerque in 1880, it became a division point, and the acquisition of a 27-acre parcel adjacent to the tracks ultimately led to 25 buildings housing workshops for the myriad activities needed to keep the steam locomotives running. Hundreds of workers were needed, with special skill sets for these myriad activities, fueling the growth of Duke City. Though the railyard has long been closed, it exists today due to the efforts and passion of Leba Freed. **Gary Herron** recently retired from a 45-year career in the media in the Albuquerque metro area.

“1915 Ozark Trail Saint Louis to Las Vegas: 2026 Route 66 Centennial” — The 1915 Ozark Trail, predecessor to Route 66, will be celebrating its Centennial in 2026. The western migration workforce impacting tourism/economic development traveled in automobiles on Southwest cattle trails through Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and ending in Los Angeles, California. Original maps, ephemera, and photographs, as well as examples of transportation, entrepreneurs, and preservation projects will be provided in a powerpoint presentation and exhibit to kick off the Centennial of Route 66. **Tim Hagaman** is a Southwest Americana antiquarian bookseller, actor and writer specializing in exploration, lawmen, outlaws, rangers, range and cattle industry.

“Rerouting Route 66 Through New Mexico” — The initial 1926 alignment of Route 66 was from east to west, from Tucumcari to Santa Rosa, then north to Romeroville, which was near Las Vegas, then to Santa Fe, then south to Bernalillo, Albuquerque, Los Lunas, then west towards Laguna. This presentation provides background information regarding the formation and implementation of the Santa Rosa-Laguna Shortcut and explains the actions taken by the State of New Mexico to make this significant shortening of Route 66 a reality by 1937. The Laguna Cut-off went from Albuquerque to a place east of Laguna, saving 17 miles. **Roger Zimmerman** taught civil engineering at CU and NMSU and worked at Sandia National Labs.

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