

# HSNM Speakers Bureau

## List of Speakers

### **Phil and Rosanne Archuleta**

Contact: [rosannearch@gmail.com](mailto:rosannearch@gmail.com)  
(505) 992-1310

#### **Presentations:**

- “By the Grace of God—Stories from the American Dream: One Native New Mexican’s Story about Winning and Losing in the World of Business, Politics, Inventions, and Love”
- “The History of New Mexico Based on the Historical, Traveling New Mexico, and Women of History Road Markers”
- “Lessons Learned from ‘Women Marked for History’ Project”
- “300 Years of New Mexico History Based on New Mexico Historical Markers”

#### **About the Presenters:**

**Phil Archuleta** is a native New Mexican born in El Rito in Rio Arriba County. He is the founder of the Ojo Caliente Craftsman, which in the 1970s and 1980s was one of the largest manufacturers in northern New Mexico. Currently, he is the CEO of P & M Signs, Inc., located in Mountainair, with clients including the US Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and the New Mexico Highway Department.

**Roseanne Archuleta** is the Principal of R. M. Roberts and Associates, LLC, a national human resources consulting firm. She holds a BA degree from Pennsylvania State University and an MA from Naropa University.

Phil and Roseanne are co-authors of *Traveling New Mexico* and *Women Marked for History*, both published by Sunstone Press of Santa Fe. In 2019, Phil’s memoir *By the Grace of God—Stories from the American Dream* was published by Gatekeeper Press.

### **Andrés Armijo**

Contact: [andres12armijo@gmail.com](mailto:andres12armijo@gmail.com)  
(505) 450-8762

#### **Presentations:**

- “Genealogical and Archival Research of Ancestry of New Mexico”
- “Genres of Chicano Literature within a Historical Context”
- “Music and Dance in New Mexico”
- “Southwest Hispanic Folklore”
- “The Spanish Language in the Southwest”
- “The Representation of New Mexico Hispanics in Film”

#### **About the Presenter:**

**Andrés Armijo** is the award-winning author of *Becoming a Part of My History: Through Images and Stories of My Ancestors* (2010) and *Por Constancia/So that It May Be Validated: Family History in the Rio Abajo* (2014), the latter winner of the 2015 HSNM Fabiola Cabeza de Baca award. Both volumes were published by Rio Grande Books. His forthcoming volume is about his ancestor Don Manuel de Arteaga, a native of Mexico City, who was *alcalde mayor* (chief magistrate) of Albuquerque during the late Spanish Colonial Period of New Mexico. He is also a contributor to the *New Mexico Genealogist*. He is a graduate of the University of New Mexico, earning a BA in Spanish (with a minor in flamenco dance) and a MA in Spanish, with a concentration in Southwest Hispanic Studies. He has been a Spanish teacher since 1996.

## **Nancy R. Bartlit**

Contact: [nbartlit@aol.com](mailto:nbartlit@aol.com)

(505) 672-9792

### **Presentations:**

- “Life in Los Alamos—the Secret City—during the Manhattan Project”—how the Boys Ranch School on the Pajarito Plateau switched to 7,000 war workers in 28 months
- “The Navajo Marines’ Indispensable Code and Its Use in the Pacific Theater”—Learn the “Code within a Code” and how its uses helped shorten World War II by a year
- “The New Mexico National Guard and the Bataan Death March”
- “Ready, Willing and Able: Women in World War II”
- “The Santa Fe Internment Camp Historic Marker Controversy of 2002”
- “The Second Atomic Bomb: Was Its Use Necessary?”—On August 9, 1945, the United States dropped on Nagasaki, Japan a second atomic bomb, this one a plutonium bomb like the one tested at what is now White Sands Missile Range. Japanese military leaders struggled with their samurai history and the decision to surrender.
- “Silent Voices of World War II”—The intertwined experiences of Bataan Death Marchers, Navajo Code Talkers, Manhattan Project scientists and military personnel, and internees of Japanese descent.

### **About the Presenter:**

**Nancy R. Bartlit** earned her BA in History from Smiths College and her MA in International Communication from the University of New Mexico. She is a past president of the Los Alamos Historical Society and a past chairman of Los Alamos County Council. With University of New Mexico Professor Everett Rogers, Nancy co-authored *Silent Voices of World War II: When Sons of the Land of Enchantment Met Sons of the Land of the Rising Sun* (University of New Mexico Press, 2005), a book which features New Mexico’s contributions to the ending of the Pacific War. The New Mexico Board of Education approved this book to be used by schools.

Nancy taught school in Japan for thirteen years after World War II. She has also visited military museums, monuments, and historic sites on Okinawa, the Philippines, Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima. In addition, she has visited all four internment camp sites for persons of Japanese descent located in New Mexico as well as many WRA camps. She has presented to students, veterans, and senior citizens at classes, churches, libraries, and conferences in the United States, Tokyo, Tinian, and Manzanar Historic Site.

## **Stefanie Beninato**

Contact: [stebeni@swguides.com](mailto:stebeni@swguides.com)

(505) 988-8022

### **Presentations:**

- “A History of Crypto Jews in New Spain and New Mexico”
- “The Indian New Deal in the Southwest”
- “La Cienega as a Microcosm of New Mexico History”
- “Land Grants and Water Rights: Fighting Words in the 21st Century”
- “Leadership in the Pueblo Revolt”
- “A Woman across Worlds: Maria Rosa Vallalpando”

### **About the Presenter:**

*Stefanie Beninato* has lived in New Mexico since 1975. Although she already had a JD from the University of California-Berkeley and an MA in urban history, Stefanie went back to school at the University of New Mexico, where in 1995 she earned a PhD in US West and US Modern History. Dr. Beninato has worked for the state museum systems in a variety of capacities and participated in archaeological digs throughout the Southwest. Besides conducting cultural and educational tours, Dr. Beninato teaches at area schools and engages in a wide range of research. Her dissertation research centered on Apache and Yaqui Indians in the twentieth century, and more recent research projects have included such topics as water rights, county and pueblo rights-of-way, land grants and land ownership, and genealogy.

## **Harvey Buchalter**

Contact: [hcbuchalter@gmail.com](mailto:hcbuchalter@gmail.com)

### **Presentations:**

- “Building Community & Culture: Jews in the 20th Century Albuquerque”
- “How Yiddish Has Shaped Life in America”
- “The Jewish Immigrant Experience in New Mexico”

### **About the Presenter:**

A New York native, *Harvey Buchalter* has resided in New Mexico since 1969, and is a retired high school and college teacher. He is also an active sculptor and designer. In addition, he is a writer on Jews in New Mexico and how their history and culture have made a lasting impact on the state. Harvey is also a certified Yiddish-to-English translator and has translated many memoirs, documents, and even the four-hundred-page autobiography of one of the most gifted sculptors in early twentieth-century Europe. Harvey is an active member and former board member of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, and the recipient of the prestigious Hurst Award from the same organization for his contributions to New Mexico Jewish History.

## **Don Bullis**

Contact: [donbullis@msn.com](mailto:donbullis@msn.com)

(505) 892-9177 or (505) 249-2587

### **Presentations:**

- “Law and Order in Territorial New Mexico (1850-1912)”
- “New Mexico on the Eve of the American Occupation (1821-1846)”
- “New Mexico Outlaw Gangs”
- “New Mexico Peace Officers Killed in the Line of Duty”
- “New Mexico’s Lincoln County War, 1878-1881”
- “New Mexico’s Unsolved Mysteries”
- “Old West Trivia”
- “Outlaws, Crime and Punishment in America’s Old West”
- “Significant Personalities in New Mexico History since 1540”
- “Train Robberies in the Wild West”
- “Western Movies in Fact, Fiction, and Trivia”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Don Bullis**, a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, is the author of 10 books on New Mexico, including the *New Mexico Biographical Dictionary* (2011), the *New Mexico Historical Encyclopedia* (2016), and *A New Mexico Historical Chronology* (2018). He has won more than 20 accolades for his books, including such regional awards as the Literary Award from the New Mexico/Arizona Book Co-op awards, the New Mexico Rounders Award, as well as several national awards including the Eric Hoffer Award and Press Women’s Award for reference books. He is the longtime president of the New Mexico Westerners Association and a member of the Board of Directors of the Historical Society of New Mexico. In 2012 he was named the New Mexico Centennial Author.

### **Jim Eckles**

Contact: [nebraska1950@comcast.net](mailto:nebraska1950@comcast.net)  
(575) 521-8771 or (575) 644-1472 (cell)

### **Presentations:**

- New “A short history of Las Cruces: Volcanoes to Moon Rockets”
- “Camp Cody—Training 30,000 Men at Deming in 1917-18”
- “Pioneering White Sands—the 1950s”
- “Trinity Site at 75 Years—Myths, Misinformation and Things You Probably Don’t Know”
- “Victorio Peak: 100 Tons of Gold or 100 Tall Tales”
- “White Sands Missile Range History—Ranches to Rockets, V-2s to the Space Shuttle and Beyond”
- “White Sands Missile Range History—Wildlife at White Sands: Desert Bighorn Sheep to African Oryx and Wild Horses”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Jim Eckles** has a BA in Psychology and an MA in English Literature. He is retired from the Public Affairs Office at White Sands Missile Range, where he worked for 30 years. When he retired, he was informally called “WSMR’s historian.” He has probably been to Trinity Site, where the first atomic bomb was tested in 1945, more than any other living human being. He saw the *Columbia*

Space Shuttle land in 1982 at Northrup Landing on WSMR, and he has climbed Victorio Peak, where the Doc Noss gold bars treasure is supposed to be hidden. He also learned about goat and cattle ranching from many of the former ranchers who lived in the Tularosa Basin when he escorted their families back to their old homes. Eckles now serves as secretary of the Doña Ana County Historical Society and is on the board of the directors for the White Sands Missile Range Historical Foundation. He is the editor of DACHS newsletter and has been the editor of the Foundation's newsletter for the past 15 years.

## **Dede Feldman**

Contact: [dedefeld@comcast.net](mailto:dedefeld@comcast.net)  
(505) 220-5958

### **Presentations:**

- "Boots, Suits, and Citizens: New Mexico's Unique Legislative Culture"
- "How the New Mexico Legislature Works: Then and Now"
- "Legislative Leaders, Lobbyists, and Special Interests"

### **About the Presenter:**

Dede Feldman has had a varied career as a journalist, high school and university teacher, director of a small public relations firm, and state legislator. She served in the New Mexico State Legislature from 1997-2012 and is the author of *Inside the New Mexico Senate: Boots, Suits, and Citizens* (University of New Mexico Press, 2014). As the chair of several important legislative committees, she championed health care and campaign finance reforms, successfully sponsoring the graduated drivers' license program for teens, a free nurse advice line, a discount drug program for seniors, and many measures to limit campaign contributions and the ability of health insurance companies to raise rates and decrease benefits.

## **Jack R. Fox**

Contact: [jackfxnm@gmail.com](mailto:jackfxnm@gmail.com)  
(505) 771-0743

### **Presentations:**

- "History of the New Mexico National Guard"
- "Rough Riders and New Mexico"

### **About the Presenter:**

**Jack R. Fox** attended high school and junior college at New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell. He graduated from NMSU in 1969 and received a Masters of Education degree from Georgia State University in 1975. He is a graduate of the Army Command and Staff College and the United States Army War College. He served in the US Army and the New Mexico National Guard from 1969 to 1995. In 1999 he became the Commandant of Cadets for New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, and in 2004 he was selected to service as the president of St. John's Military School in Salina, Kansas. He was recalled to active military service in 2007, was assigned as Deputy Adjutant General, and was promoted to Brigadier General. Upon retirement in 2010, he

served as the Director of the NM National Guard Museum and Youth Challenge program. He served as secretary of the NM Veterans Service Department from 2015-2018.

## **Frederick Friedman**

Contact: [nmtransplan@aol.com](mailto:nmtransplan@aol.com)  
(505) 690-2901

### **Presentations:**

- “Native American Steel Gangs”
- “New Mexico Short Line Railroads”
- “State and Territorial Railroad Law”
- “Whatever Happened to Cabooses?”
- “New Mexico’s Historic Railroad Depots, Their Use & Re-use”
- “A Brief History of NM’s Railroads”
- “What’s Going on with Amtrak?”
- ... a specially designed lecture about railroads in your area of the state

### **About the Presenter:**

**Fred Friedman** has a broad background in New Mexico railroading history. He served as head of the state’s Railroad Bureau for many years, investigated railroad accidents throughout the country for law firms, and acted as an expert witness in railroad cases after retirement. He was responsible for dozens of reports and studies associated with railroad freight and passenger service in New Mexico and throughout the United States. Fred has written and lectured about NM railroad history, labor, unions, territorial & state railroad law and key personalities associated with the subject.

## **Jon Ghahate**

Contact: [Badger\\_pro@msn.com](mailto:Badger_pro@msn.com)  
(505) 359-0143

### **Presentations:**

- ABC's of US Southwest Indigenous Civilizations BC [Before Contact: 1492 BCE]
- Beringia, Clovis Man, Folsom Point, White Sands Footprints: Homo Sapiens in New Mexico
- Diversity and Parity of US Southwestern Indigenous Civilizations
- The Transition: Hunter Gathers to Agrarian Civilizations of the US Southwest
- Chaco Culture: “We Are Not Anasazi” —What We Know and What We Don't Know
- US Southwest Indigenous Ancestral Civilizations and STEM Principles
- New Mexico's Indigenous Communities: ‘Why Are Some Pueblos and Some Are Not?’
- Esteban: The First Person to Encroach Pueblo Homelands Was Not a Conquistador

### **About the Presenter:**

**Jon Ghahate** is of the Pueblos of Laguna and Zuni, of the Turkey and Badger Clans. Jon is a speaker on Indigenous civilizations of the Western Hemisphere, Southwestern Indigenous

civilizations, the history of New Mexico's Pueblo cultures, and New Mexico history as it applies to the Indigenous civilizations of New Mexico, as the Cultural Educator at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Jon has given presentations on New Mexico's Pueblo communities, providing a historically accurate narrative of the Indigenous civilizations of the US Southwest, the impact of encroachment and colonization by Eastern Hemisphere entities upon of these civilizations, the acknowledgement of the diverse Indigenous civilizations of the Western Hemisphere that incorporated STEM constructs in establishing and sustaining their civilizations pre-Contact, the continued evolution and resilience of Indigenous peoples, the efforts of Indigenous people taking ownership of a more accurate and science-centered narrative of their history, and topics centered on Cultural Humility and Sensitivity.

As a lecturer, he has presented to organizations such as:  
Albuquerque Public Schools, University of New Mexico  
Crow Canyon Archeological Center, Coronado State Historic Site/Park  
Nature Conservancy of Santa Fe, National Park Service  
Sierra Club, America Farmland Trust  
World Council of Churches, SITE Santa Fe  
US Air Force, Pittsburg National Corporation  
Center for Indigenous Ministries, Smithsonian Associates

## **Loretta Hall**

Contact: [loretta@authorhall.com](mailto:loretta@authorhall.com)  
(505) 239-1539

### **Presentations:**

- "Ballooning to Space"
- "Dr. Randy Lovelace and the Astronauts"
- "Getting Man to the Moon: Behind-the-Scenes Stories"
- "Is Spaceflight Humanly Possible? Historic Answers from Holloman"
- "The History of Space Debris"
- "New Mexico: A Treasure Trove of Space History"
- "New Mexico's Role in Getting Men to the Moon"
- "Rockets over Roswell: Robert Goddard and His Vision of Space Travel"
- "Robert Goddard: NM & the Birth of Liquid-Fuel Rocketry"
- "Women in the History of 'Manned' Spaceflight"
- "Women in Space History: Examples from New Mexico"

### **About the Presenter:**

**Loretta Hall** is a freelance writer who has lived in Albuquerque for more than 40 years. She has won multiple awards for her nonfiction books, magazine articles, and public speaking. In addition, she is active in Southwest Writers, is an officer in the New Mexico Press Women, and is a Certified Space Ambassador for the National Space Society. In 2016 she was named "Communicator of Achievement" by the National Federation of Press Women. She still thinks of Pluto as a planet.

## **Rick Hendricks**

Contact: [rick.hendricks@state.nm.us](mailto:rick.hendricks@state.nm.us)

(505) 476-7955

### **Presentations:**

- “Church and State in Eighteenth-century New Mexico”
- “Cultures in Conflict: Mexican New Mexico v. the United States”
- “Diego de Vargas and the Recolonization of New Mexico”
- “Freemasons v. the Jesuits in Nineteenth-Century New Mexico”
- “Indian Land Tenure in New Mexico”
- “Pueblo Indian Sovereignty”
- “Spanish Colonial Agriculture in New Mexico”
- “The Spanish Flu Pandemic, 1918-1920”
- “The Witches of Abiquiu”

### **About the Presenter:**

*Dr. Rick Hendricks* is the New Mexico State Records Administrator. He also served as the New Mexico State Historian from 2010-2019. He is a past president of the Historical Society of New Mexico and of the Doña Ana County Historical Society. His latest publication is *Pueblo Sovereignty: Indian Land and Water in New Mexico and Texas*, co-authored with Malcolm Ebright (University of Oklahoma Press, 2019).

## **David V. Holtby**

Contact: [dholtby@unm.edu](mailto:dholtby@unm.edu)

(505) 604-4775

### **Presentations:**

- “Swindlers & Con Artists in New Mexico’s Past and Scammers Today”

### **About the Presenter:**

*David V. Holtby* served at the University of New Mexico Press for nearly 30 years as in-house editor, editor-in-chief, and associate director. He earned his undergraduate degree in history from the University of Washington, spent four years as a military intelligence analyst, and completed his doctorate at the University of New Mexico in 1978, where he wrote an award-winning dissertation on the social origins of the Spanish Civil War. Upon retiring in 2006, he resumed his historical research and has published several articles and two award-winning books: *Forty-seventh Star: New Mexico’s Struggle for Statehood* in 2012 and *Lest We Forget: World War I and New Mexico* in 2018 (both University of Oklahoma Press).

## **Chuck Hornung**

Contact: [chuckhornung29@gmail.com](mailto:chuckhornung29@gmail.com)

### **Presentations:**

- “The Forgotten Davy Crockett: Bad Boy of Cimarron, New Mexico Territory”
- “The Fornoff Report: The New Mexico Mounted Police and the Killing of Pat Garrett”

- “Frontier Lawmen: Myth and Legend Meet the Truth”
- “The Four-legged Bootlegger: A Tale of New Mexico State Mounted Police”
- “Gunsmoke at Capitan: A Tale of the New Mexico Territorial Mounted Police”
- “The Legend of the Lone Ranger and Its Effects on the Popular Saga of the Old West”
- “The Mysterious Death of Federal Prohibition Agent Ray Sutton at Raton, New Mexico”
- “The New Mexico Mounted Police Were People Too!”
- “A Romantic Adventure: Mrs. Wyatt (Josie) Earp and the “The Lone Ranger””
- “The Trail of Pea-pods: A Tale of the New Mexico Mounted Police”
- “Wyatt Earp: A New Mexico Lawman?”

#### **About the Presenter:**

**Chuck Hornung** is the recognized authority and chief chronicler of the deeds of the New Mexico Territorial/State Mounted Police (1905-1921), the predecessor of the present-day New Mexico State Police. Hornung had a “grandson-grandfather” relationship with Fred Lambert, the last living member of the Territorial Mounted Police. Chuck has spent over 50 years tracking these territorial/state rangers and owns a massive Mounted Police research, archive, and artifact collection.

He also researches other aspects of New Mexico law enforcement and has written 20 books on the subject and presented 20 papers at the HSNM-sponsored annual New Mexico History Conference. Chuck’s new book *The Frontier World of Henry Lambert* deals with the Colfax County War.

#### **Karl Laumbach**

Contact: [klaumbach@comcast.net](mailto:klaumbach@comcast.net)  
(575) 649-4396

#### **Presentations:**

- “Albert Fountain and the Spiderweb Trail”
- “Apache Land: From Those Who Lived It: The Art and Oral Historical Record of Keith Humphries”
- “Cañada Alamosa and the Apache: A History of the Red Paint People and Hispanic Settlers in Southern New Mexico”
- “Conline’s Skirmish: The Forgotten Prelude to the Battle of Hembrillo, 1880”
- “Francisco M. Bojorquez: The Cowboy Sheriff of Sierra County, New Mexico, 1865-1920”
- “La Cañada Alamosa: A Prehistoric Frontier in West-Central New Mexico”
- “La Cañada Alamosa, Survival and Adaptation: A 4,000 Year Record of Human Interaction with a Dynamic Environment”
- “Laumbach Ancestors on the Santa Fe Trail”
- “Massai: New Mexico’s Apache Kid”
- “Tales of Lost Gold and other Treasures: Where History, Legend, and Archaeology Meet in Southern New Mexico”

#### **About the Presenter:**

**Karl Laumbach**, a native of northeastern New Mexico, has been pursuing the state’s archaeology and history since graduating from New Mexico State University in 1974. As Principal

Investigator and Associate Director for Human Systems Research, Inc., a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of New Mexico's past, Karl has directed hundreds of projects throughout New Mexico. Serving on New Mexico's Cultural Properties Review Committee for six years, his interaction with private landowners has been integral in the preservation of numerous archaeological sites. Interests include New Mexico's land grants, Hispanic/Anglo assimilation, Apache history, and the pueblo archaeology of southern New Mexico. Fascinated with the history of south central and southwestern New Mexico, Karl has been involved in recording sites and collecting history of that area for the last 30 years. A major effort has been the Cañada Alamosa Project, a research program that explores the last 4,000 years of human occupation and environmental change in the Rio Alamosa drainage of Socorro and Sierra Counties.

## **Dianne Layden**

Contact: [dlayden@earthlink.net](mailto:dlayden@earthlink.net)  
(505) 237-8110

### **Presentations:**

- "Ruth Bader Ginsberg at the Santa Fe Opera"
- "History of Rudolfo Anaya: Bless Me, Ultima Landscape Park in Santa Rosa, New Mexico"
- "Hate Crimes in the United States and New Mexico"
- "Juan de Oñate: Commemoration and Controversy"

### **About the Presenter:**

*Dianne Layden* is a writer and semi-retired college professor in Albuquerque. She came to New Mexico in 1969 to complete a doctorate in American Studies at the University of New Mexico. Current research interests focus on New Mexico history and culture. Studies of interest focus on public monuments that celebrate author Rudolfo Anaya and conquistador Onate. She has studied hate crimes since the late 1980s. Her writings have won several awards, including a first-place award in 2018 from the National Federation of Press Women. Other New Mexico subjects of interest include public monuments that celebrate author Rudolfo Anaya and conquistador Don Juan de Oñate, democratic values at Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Canyon, the Holy Inquisition in New Mexico during the colonial era, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg at the Santa Fe Opera. Since 2021, Dr. Layden has portrayed RBG for the New Mexico Humanities Council Chautauqua program and served on the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Advisory and Review Board.

## **Norma Libman**

Contact: [nrmlibman@gmail.com](mailto:nrmlibman@gmail.com)  
(505) 867-9715

### **Presentations:**

- "Diaries of Women Pioneers"
- "From Spain to New Mexico: The Journey to Keep a Secret"

### **About the Presenter:**

**Norma Libman** is a journalist and lecturer with degrees in Education and Literature from Northeastern Illinois University. She has published more than 500 articles in newspapers nationwide and has taught at universities, colleges, and workshops in New Mexico, Illinois, and around the country. Norma lectures extensively on Jewish history and culture. In her research on the Crypto-Jewish story she has interviewed, over a 20-year period, more than 50 individuals and families with hidden Jewish histories. She lectures for OASIS and OSHER, two older adult education programs in Albuquerque.

## **Rob Martínez**

Contact: [rob.martinez@state.nm.us](mailto:rob.martinez@state.nm.us)  
(505) 476-7998

### **Presentations:**

- “Brujería (Witchcraft) in New Mexico History”
- “The Casta System in New Spain and New Mexico”
- “A History of the Inquisition in New Mexico”
- “A Journey Through Hispanic New Mexican Music”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Rob Martínez** is the State Historian of New Mexico. Rob worked as a research assistant for the Vargas Project at University of New Mexico while earning an MA in Latin America History, and also worked as a research historian for the Sephardic Legacy Project of New Mexico. He has conducted extensive genealogical research for New Mexico Hispano families, and presents regularly at history conference, public schools, and other venues.

## **Richard Melzer**

Contact: [rmelzer@unm.edu](mailto:rmelzer@unm.edu)  
(505-864-2557)

### **Presentations:**

- **New** “Capt. Maximilano Luna: New Mexico’s Rough Rider Captain”
- **New** “The Bicycle Craze in NM in the 1890s”
- **New** “Swastikas in New Mexico History & Culture”
- “The Civilian Conservation Corps in New Mexico, 1933-42”
- “Ernie Pyle’s New Mexico, 1933-1945”
- “Famous and Unusual Graves in New Mexico’s History”
- “A History of Outhouses in New Mexico”
- “New Mexico’s Struggle for Statehood Featuring Political Cartoons before 1912 Concerning—New Mexico’s Image”
- “The Problems with Security at Los Alamos during World War II”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Dr. Richard Melzer**, retired Professor of History, University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus, has published and lectured on a wide variety of topics in twentieth century New Mexico history. His most recent books include *Breakdown: How the Secret of the Atomic Bomb Was Stolen during World War II* (Sunstone Press, 2000), *Coming of Age in the Great Depression: The Civilian*

*Conservation Corps Experience in New Mexico, 1933-42* (Yucca Tree Press, 2000), and *Buried Treasures: Famous and Unusual Gravesites in New Mexico History* (Sunstone Press, 2007). He also has published articles in *New Mexico Magazine*, *New Mexico Historical Society*, *Western Historical Quarterly*, *El Palacio*, *Journal of the West*, and *Military History of the Southwest*. He has been University of New Mexico's outstanding "Teacher of the Year" and is a past president of the Historical Society of New Mexico.

## **Liz Mikols**

Contact: [emikols@q.com](mailto:emikols@q.com)

(575) 313-6883

### **Presentations:**

- "Fred Harvey: Purveyor on the Rails"
- "From School Marms to the Moon: Education in Grant County, New Mexico, or Why Billy the Kid Didn't Become an Accountant"
- "The Harvey Girls: The Inside Story"
- "Let Me Entertain You: Three Madams of Silver City—Bessie, Lottie, and Millie"
- "Madam Millie of Silver City, Up Close and Personal"

### **About the Presenter:**

**Liz Mikols** has explored New Mexico history for over 25 years, focusing on territorial and early twentieth century events. With a BA from the University of California, Berkeley, and an MFS from Yale University, she is an award-winning speaker and past president of the Silver City Museum Society board of directors. Liz informs as well as entertains by incorporating historic photos and newspaper quotations in her lively presentations. She can present in either lecture mode or as living history in period costume.

## **Van Ann Moore**

Contact: [vanannsings@msn.com](mailto:vanannsings@msn.com) or through her website at [www.vanann.com](http://www.vanann.com)

(505) 864-2038

### **Presentations:**

**NOTE: THESE ARE ALL PERFORMANCES WITH MUSIC, COSTUMES, AND SPEAKING**

- "Carrie Tingley and Katherine O'Connor: Helped Turn a Main Street Cow Town into a Desert Jewel" (about the Founder of the Carrie Tingley Children's Hospital and the Director of the Albuquerque Little Theater, respectively)
- "Doña Tules Barcelo—Santa Fe's Infamous Gambling Hall Queen (1804-1852)"
- "Susan Shelby Magoffin—The First Lady of the Santa Fe Trail (1827-1855)"
- "Westward Ho! The Lives of the Women Who Headed West" (as seen through their diaries and letter)

### **About the Presenter:**

**Van Ann Moore** has researched the lives of over 20 famous women. To bring the women to life, Van Ann, a singer/actress, has written and directed and performs her own musical theater performances, using drama, comedy, and singing. She has been associated with both the New Mexico Arts Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs and as a scholar and performer with

the New Mexico Humanities Council. She graduated with a BA in Theater and an MA in Music and Theater. She has taught Music and Theater at the University of New Mexico-Valencia for over 10 years. Van Ann has also performed as a concert artist in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, Israel, and throughout the United States.

## **Nick Pappas**

Contact: [nick.pappas1205@gmail.com](mailto:nick.pappas1205@gmail.com), 505-220-7312

### **Presentations:**

- “The Tragic Story of Dawson, New Mexico, and its Twin Mining Disasters”

### **About the Presenter:**

*Nick Pappas* worked for four decades in the newspaper industry, most recently as an editor at the Albuquerque Journal. During his career, he has written news stories, columns and award-winning editorials, as well as freelance magazine articles for national publications. Prior to the Journal, he spent nearly 24 years at The Telegraph of Nashua, New Hampshire, where he served at different times as business editor, city editor, managing editor, editor-in-chief and editorial page editor. He was named an editorial writer of the year by the New England Newspaper and Press Association in 2009 and 2011, and he was recognized by the New Hampshire Press Association with its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2011.

After retiring from the Journal as city editor in 2018, Nick began researching *Crosses of Iron: The Tragic Story of Dawson, New Mexico, and Its Twin Mining Disasters*, which was published by the University of New Mexico Press in 2023. The book was recognized by the Historical Society of New Mexico with its Gaspar Pérez de Villagr  Award for an outstanding publication in New Mexico or Southwest Borderlands history in 2023 and by the Mining History Association in 2025 for “the best book in mining history published during the previous two years.”

## **Roland Penttila**

Contact: [rvpenttila@gmail.com](mailto:rvpenttila@gmail.com)

### **Presentations:**

- “The Downtown Albuquerque Walking Tour: for those who prefer to sit”
- “Albuquerque History Questions & Answers”
- “A Submarine drives down Central Avenue”
- “The Day an Atomic Bomb was dropped on Albuquerque & other military Aviation Accidents”
- “Little Beaver Town”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Roland Penttila** is a retired civil engineer who designed water systems, freeways, bike paths and storm drains over his 30 year career. He moved to Albuquerque in 1998 and has always been interested in the history of the places he has lived. He volunteered to lead the walking tours of downtown Albuquerque along Central in 2014. He has volunteered at the Albuquerque Museum to help scan and organize historical photos using his knowledge of photography.

## **Sherry Robinson**

Contact: [robinson@nmia.com](mailto:robinson@nmia.com)  
(505) 506-8901

### **Presentations:**

- “Apache Women”
- “James S. Calhoun: The First Governor Appointed after New Mexico became a US Territory”
- “Lipan Apaches”
- “Mystery Apaches”

### **About the Presenter:**

**Sherry Robinson** is a longtime New Mexico journalist and author. She began her career in 1975, and has worked for newspapers and television. She has also served as a science writer at the University of New Mexico. In 1980 Sherry was named a “Woman of Achievement” by the New Mexico Press Women, and in 1997 she received a “Woman on the Move” award from the YWCA in Albuquerque. In 2003 she was named an Honorary Commander at Kirtland Air Force Base. In addition, she has won writing awards from 10 communications organizations.

For 20 years, Sherry presented talks on the Chiricahua and Eastern Apaches as a speaker for the New Mexico Humanities Council. Her book publications include *El Malpais, Mt. Taylor, and the Zuni Mountains: A Hiking Guide and History* (University of New Mexico Press, 1994), *Apache Voices: Their Stories of Survival as Told to Eve Ball* (University of New Mexico Press, 2003), and *I Fought a Good Fight: A History of Lipan Apaches* (University of North Texas Press, 2013), which won the Historical Society of New Mexico’s Fray Francisco Atansio Dominguez Award in 2014. She completed a biography of James Silas Calhoun, entitled “James S. Calhoun: New Mexico’s First US Territorial Governor.”

## **Joseph D. Sabatini**

Contact: [jsabatini423@gmail.com](mailto:jsabatini423@gmail.com)  
(505) 850-7455 or (505) 344-9212

### **Presentations:**

- New -- In Search of Stella Dixon: Genealogical Ramblings to fill in the Missing Chapter in the History of the Albuquerque Public Library
- New -- The move to New Main: A Celebration of 50 years of Albuquerque’s Main Library
- “The Albuquerque Indian School: Origins, History, and Communities”

- “Christmas Revels: The 1919 New Mexico Mounted Police Raid on Santo Domingo Pueblo”
- “J. R. Willis: Postcard Artist and Old Town Arts Entrepreneur”
- “The Motel in Albuquerque”
- “North Fourth Street: A Drive Through Time”
- “Olla Bearers and Indian Detours: New Mexico Indians as Tourist Attractions”

**About the Presenter:**

**Joe Sabatini** was born in the Bronx, New York City, but does not admit to it because his family moved to Los Angeles following World War II. He obtained his Master’s degree in Library Science from UCLA in 1965. He came to New Mexico as a VISTA Volunteer working in Sandoval County. Following five years at the University of New Mexico School of Law Library, in 1973 he joined the Albuquerque Public Library as Head of Reference. He spent the rest of career with the library, serving at the Main Library Branch Manager from 1980 to July of 2000, when he became the library manager at Special Collections, the regional history and genealogy branch. Following his retirement in December 2008, he has volunteered in the Archives/Library of the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, and is active in the Near North Valley Neighborhood Association.

**Lucinda Lucero Sachs**

Contact: [lucindalucero@comcast.net](mailto:lucindalucero@comcast.net)  
 (505) 898-7333 or (505) 385-7025

**Presentations:**

- “At First Friends”
- “Carrie Tingley and the Carrie Tingley Hospital”
- “Clyde Tingley, Ex-officio Mayor of Albuquerque”
- “Clyde Tingley’s New Deal for New Mexico”
- “George I. Sanchez and New Mexico Education in the 1920s and 1930s”
- “The Triumvirate: The 1934 Campaign of Clyde Tingley, Dennis Chavez, and John Dempsey”
- Getting Even: The politics of Clyde Tingley and Dennis Chavez

**About the Presenter:**

**Lucinda Lucero Sachs** writes history and fiction, and has published two books: *Clyde Tingley’s New Deal for New Mexico, 1935-1938* (Sunstone Press, 2013) and *Believe in the Wind: A Novel* (Sunstone Press, 2014). Holt, Winston, and Reinhart selected her as a review editor for the young adult histories *The American Nation* and *The American Nation: Civil War to the Present*. A native of Alameda, New Mexico, Lucinda has researched the lives and careers of Clyde Tingley, Carrie Tingley, and Dennis Chávez.

**Naomi Sandweiss**

Contact: [sashisand@aol.com](mailto:sashisand@aol.com)  
 (505) 514-8075

**Presentations:**

- (New) Notable Jews in WWII New Mexico
- Jewish New Mexican involvement in the Military (1848-1948)
- “A Mobster in the Family: Jewish Outlaws, Gangsters & Bandits”
- “Star of David on the Santa Fe Trail: Jewish New Mexico”

**About the Presenter:**

**Naomi Sandweiss**, MA, is a co-President of the NM Jewish Historical Society. She has several publications, including *Gusdorf Family* (Jewish Pioneers of New Mexico series, New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, 2011), and *Jewish Albuquerque*, (Arcadia Publishing, 2011). Naomi is also a contributing writer to *The Jewish Legacy in New Mexico*, *New Mexico Jewish Link*, *Tablet Magazine* and *New Mexico Magazine*. Naomi has presented in person throughout her home state of NM and across the U.S.

**John M. Taylor**

Contact: [jtlymtnest@aol.com](mailto:jtlymtnest@aol.com)  
 (505) 363-6046

**Presentations:**

- “The Battle of Glorieta Pass”
- “The Battle of Valverde”
- “Catholicism in Central New Mexico”
- “The Civil War in New Mexico”
- “The New Mexico Mystery Stone”
- “New Mexico’s Naval Heritage”
- “Railroading in New Mexico and the Restoration of the ATSF 2926”
- “Samuel Watrous”
- “Valencia County History”

**About the Presenter:**

**John M. Taylor** retired from Sandia National Laboratories technical and management staff after a 35-year career in various national security-related endeavors. He has an MS in Nuclear Engineering from Stanford University. He has published numerous books. He is the author of co-author of four books on nineteenth-century New Mexico: *Bloody Valverde: A Civil War Battle on the Rio Grande, February 21, 1862* (University of New Mexico Press, 1999) and *The Battle of Glorieta Pass: A Gettysburg in the West, March 26-28, 1862* with Thomas S. Edrington (University of New Mexico, 2000), *Dejada a Los Niños a Mi: Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Penalta* (Rio Grande Books, 2005), and his most recent book, *Samuel Bowman Watrous: Transitional Frontiersman* (Rio Grande Books, 2019).

He has also authored the Arcadia books *Catholics Along the Rio Grande* (2011; co-authored with Dr. Richard Melzer) and *The Thacher Schools* (2013). Also co-authored with Dr. Melzer, John has written and co-edited five anthologies of stories from the Rio Abajo: *Murder, Mystery and Mayhem in the Rio Abajo* in 2013, *A River Runs Through Us: True Tales of the Rio Abajo* in 2015, *Tragic Trails and Enchanted Journeys: More Tales of Rio Abajo* in 2017, *Mountains, Mesas, and*

*Memories* in 2018 (all published by Rio Grande Books) and *Heroes of the Rio Abajo: A History Book for Young People* in 2019 (published by TechKnowledge Press, and winner of the 2020 HSNM's Pablita Velarde Book Award). All five books were sponsored by the Valencia County Historical Books. Together with Dr. Melzer and B. G. Burr, John has co-authored *Notable and Notorious Neighbors of Valencia County* (TechKnowledge Press, 2018).

John's most recent history research and writings have a more nautical bent on New Mexico's naval heritage. In 2017 he published *USS New Mexico—BB40* (Arcadia), co-authored with Gregg Trapp, Dick Brown, and Richard Melzer, and *New Mexico's Navy* (TechKnowledge), an examination of 95 ships named for the Land of Enchantment. In addition to his abundant number of books, he has published numerous articles in various books and journals on Civil War and Catholic history topics.

## **Linda Tigges**

Contact: [lindatigges@gmail.com](mailto:lindatigges@gmail.com)  
(505) 670-6720

### **Presentations:**

- "Four Eighteenth Century New Mexicans Meet the Spanish Inquisition"
- "New Mexico Merchants: The Manila Galleons and the Atlantic Trade"
- "Spanish Colonial Women: Husbands and Wives and Spanish Law in New Mexico"
- "Why Money Is Better Than Barter: Trade in Early and Mid-Eighteenth Century New Mexico"

### **About the Presenter:**

*Linda Tigges, PhD* was a public and then a private sector planner, with her own small business, having lived in Santa Fe since 1979, and then in Albuquerque since 2008. In Santa Fe, she was staff for the historic districts and the Archaeological Review committee. In Albuquerque, she has published books and made presentations on eighteenth century New Mexico and the participation of New Spain in the Atlantic and Pacific trade. Published materials are those on the Santa Fe presidio, the presidio horse herds, 1880s Santa Fe land development, and the Camino Real. Her books, as editor with J. Richard Salazar as translator, are *Spanish Colonial Lives: Documents from the Spanish Colonial Archives of New Mexico, 1705-1774* (Sunstone Press, 2013) and *Spanish Colonial Women and the Law: Complaints, Lawsuits, and the Criminal Behavior, Documents from the Spanish Colonial Archives of New Mexico, 1697-1749* (Sunstone Press, 2016). Her latest book is *New Mexico Merchants, the Manila Galleons and the Atlantic Trade International and Prestige Goods in New Mexico, 1712-1765* (self-published, 2019).

## **Robert J. Tórrrez**

Contact: [robertjtorrez@gmail.com](mailto:robertjtorrez@gmail.com)  
(505) 836-9699

### **Presentations:**

- “A Constant State of War: Indian Relations in Spanish and Mexican Era New Mexico”
- “The First and Principal Branch of Society: Education in Spanish and Mexican Era New Mexico”
- “Myth of the Hanging Tree: Crime and Punishment during New Mexico’s ‘Wild West’ Period”
- “The Role of Land Grants in New Mexico History”
- “Voices from the Past: Adventures in New Mexico’s Spanish, Mexican and Territorial Archives”
- “What Price a Human? Indian Captivity and Identity in New Mexico Society”
- “The Zorro Syndrome: The Judicial System in Spanish and Mexican Era New Mexico”

**About the Presenter:**

Former president of the Historical Society of New Mexico and former New Mexico State Historian (1987-2000), **Robert J. Tórrrez** received his undergraduate and graduate education at New Mexico Highlands University and the University of New Mexico. He is an award-winning author of *Myth of the Hanging Tree: Stories of Crime and Punishment in Territorial New Mexico* (University of New Mexico, 2018); *Rio Arriba: A New Mexico County*, with Robert Trapp (Rio Grande Books, 2010); *Voices from the Past: The Comanche Raid of 1776 and Other Tales of New Mexico History* (Rio Grande Books, 2017). Robert’s articles on New Mexico history and culture have appeared in more than two dozen anthologies, as well as numerous regional and national publications. He has a monthly column in *Round the Roundhouse*, entitled “Voice from the Past,” that has been published since 1992.

He has a special interest in the judicial systems of New Mexico’s Spanish, Mexican, and Territorial periods; New Mexico’s Spanish and Mexican land grants; Hispano-Indian frontier relations; Indian slavery and peonage; the *genizaros*; and the insurrection against US occupation in 1847.