



CULTURA DE LAS MONTAÑAS

<http://eastmountainhistory.org>

# EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter

Second Quarter 2019

## Story of Woman Kidnapped by Apache Chief Nana Topic of June 1 EMHS Free Public Talk

EMHS will host a free public talk at 2 p.m. Saturday, June 1, as Bob Roland of the Cibola County Historical Society presents “The Ballad of Plácida Romero”.

The true story is that Plácida Romero’s husband and his ranching partner were killed by Nana during the Apache’s last raid into New Mexico in the summer of 1881. This occurred at their sheep ranch, approximately 30 miles southeast of Grants. Plácida was taken captive and subsequently taken all the way to an Apache rancheria in Mexico after many battles with pursuing Buffalo Soldiers. After almost two months, Placida escaped and eventually was repatriated with her family in Cubero, N.M.

The talk is scheduled for 2 p.m. in Tijeras. Please note that unlike previous EMHS talks, this will happen on a Saturday and is scheduled at the Senior Center, just west of the historic little church where we normally meet. Because the East Mountain Library will be open, we ask that those attending park their vehicles at the Senior Center and not at the library. The talk is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

Aulton E. “Bob” Roland, the presenter, has spent most of his life in New Mexico after his family arrived in 1949 in Albuquerque. He now lives with his wife, Nelcine, in Grants.

This story from Cibola County was originally published in the *New Mexico Historical Review* in 2011 and a book length version is scheduled for publication in the Spring of 2020.

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## Hardworking EMHS Board Makes History at Conference



From left, board members Rick Holben, Sandra Lee, Joyce Mendel, Bev Neville, Dick Brown and Anabel Sanchez.

*Photo by Denise Tessier*

The following is a thank you to those who participated in the March Historical Society of New Mexico conference in Albuquerque, written by EMHS board secretary **Dick Brown**, who coordinated our efforts at the vending table:

Thank you, one and all, for all your support at the HSNM Conference.

**Kathy (Rich)**, the new banner is beautiful and made

our table stand out in all its splendor. Thanks to **Sandra (Lee)**, **Bev (Neville)**, **Susan (Olsen)**, **Anabel (Sanchez)** and **Joyce (Mendel)** for manning our exhibit table. Our big map board and two vertical panels of our early oral history contributors made for an eye-catching display, highly visible from every point in the exhibit hall. We've got pictures!

Very special congratulations to **Kris Thacher** and **Denise Tessier**, who did a great job telling our story. The audience (stacked by all of us EMHS'ers) was glued to every word and slide. **Rick (Holben)** was there to receive recognition for all his years of work on our projects as Denise described our process. . . . Although our 90-minute show was at the end of Day Two, we had a surge of visitors at our sales table right after. And speaking of sales, we brought in over \$250!

More important than sales, we had tremendous exposure to historians statewide. At least four historical societies (Cibola County, Socorro, Hillsboro and Harding County) want to follow our lead. We met so many interesting folks interested in us. We signed up some very enthusiastic new members. We confirmed that the next HSNM Conference is in Silver City, April 16-18, 2020 and have already expressed our interest in attending as an exhibitor. . . .

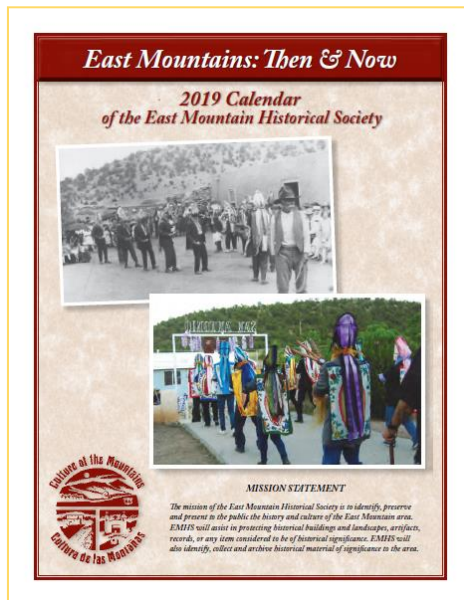
Our team – you – really came together at this conference. . . . Again, thanks for all your help.

## ***EMHS To Host Table at San Antonio Fiesta June 15***

In honor of the **200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Village of San Antonio**, founded in 1819, special touches have been added to this year's San Antonio de Padua Mission Church fiesta, with the East Mountain Historical Society taking part. Most events will be held at the church, located one mile north of Tijeras on NM-14, with others at the main church in Tijeras and at the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Hall on Route 66.

To make this fiesta special, *mayordoma* Roberta Chavez said she invited EMHS and other groups to participate in the Saturday (June 15) events, and a dance will be held at the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Hall Saturday evening from 7 to 11, featuring live music (\$5 a person/\$9 a couple). The Rock Canyon Tap Room next door will be open.

On Saturday, EMHS will have an informational table with our binders of local families' oral



histories and photographs at the San Antonio church. We also will be selling our maps – *Mapping Our Vanishing Past* -- and our 2019 calendar (*see calendar cover at left*), the latter of which pairs two photographs -- *matachines* dancing at the San Antonio fiestas in 1921 and 2017. Calendars will be sold at a special fiesta price.

Roberta said she is making T-shirts that feature a screen shot of San Antonio as it appeared in the classic movie *Grapes of Wrath*, which was filmed in the village when only a dirt road passed through. Other vendors lined up so far will be selling fudge and children's books.

The fiesta will start with vespers (prayers) Friday, June 14 at 7 p.m.; Saturday's events start with mass at 10 a.m.

After mass, the Matachines will dance behind the church to bless the Ojito, or spring, up the hill. From about 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., food will be served at the main Holy Child Church in Tijeras. Food will also be available at the San Antonio Church from vendors, including sale of fiesta burgers.

At 1 p.m. James West and his daughter will perform a native dance for about 15 minutes at the San Antonio church, followed by a musical *entrega* welcoming Roberta into another year of service as *mayordoma*, after which more dancing will commence.

Here is a schedule of the **other Holy Child Parish fiestas** for this year, with vespers at 7 p.m. on Fridays and mass at 10 a.m. on Saturdays. Visitors are welcome.

Chilili – August 2-3

Cañoncito – August 9-10

San Antonito, *Nuestro Señor de Mapimi* Mission Church – September 12-14

Carnué Feast of San Miguel – Sept. 27-28

## ***State and Jewish Historical Societies Partner To Host Free ABQ Mini-Conference June 8***

If you missed the state history conference, you can get a taste of what it's like – for free – when a half-day “mini conference” is held in Albuquerque June 8. Put together by the Historical Society of New Mexico and the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, “**Movers and Shakers in New Mexico History: Colonial Era to Statehood**,” is from 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, June 8 at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque Auditorium, 5220 Wyoming NE. Presenters are members of the two groups. [The sessions are:](#)

**1:15–2:15 p.m. The Role of Women**, moderated by Rick Hendricks, State Records Administrator

*Spanish Colonial Women and the Law: Complaints, Lawsuits and Criminal Behavior in Eighteenth Century New Mexico*, by Linda Tigges, author and historian

*Who Were Our Municipal Housekeepers? Women's Clubs in New Mexico Territory*, by Patricia Farr, retired educator and historian

*Jewish Women in New Mexico History: From Business to Civic Leaders*, by Naomi Sandweiss, executive director of Parents Reaching Out

**2:30–3:30 p.m. Art and Culture**, moderated by Linda Goff, President, N.M. Jewish Historical Society

*Crypto-Jewish Identify through Poetry*, by Isabelle Sandoval, poet and retired educator

*Leekya: Master Carver of Zuni Pueblo*, by Deborah C. Slaney, independent curator and retired History Curator of Albuquerque Museum

*A Brief History of Hispanic Music in New Mexico*, by Rob Martinez, Deputy State Historian

**3:35–4:35 p.m. Business, Entrepreneurship, and Development**, moderated by Tomas Jaehn, Director, Center for Southwest Research, UNM

*Jewish Homes on the Range: The Extensive Involvement of Jews in New Mexico Ranching*, by Noel Pugach, professor emeritus, University of New Mexico

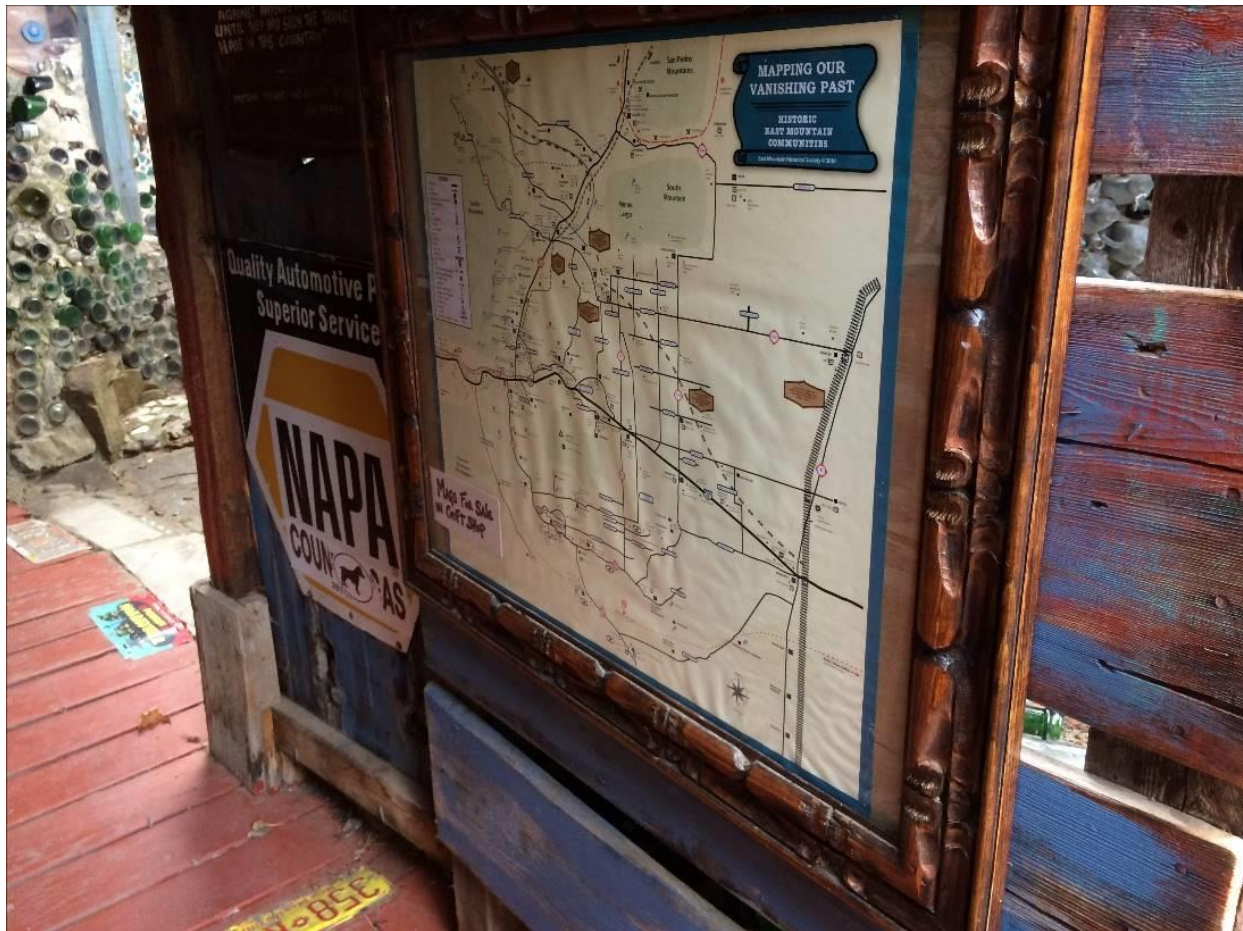
*From Stagecoaches to Railroads: Commerce along the Camino Real in the Mid-Nineteenth Century*, by Robert Tórréz, former New Mexico State Historian and HSNM board member

*A Mid Century Microcosm of Albuquerque's Jewish Community in the Post World War 2 Era*, by Harvey Buchalter, retired teacher and historian

Attendance is free. There are two breaks between sessions.



## *‘Making an Exit’ at Tinkertown!*



*Photo by Denise Tessier*

A framed *Mapping Our Vanishing Past* is the last thing visitors see before exiting through the gift shop at world-famous **Tinkertown**, where they can then buy our map, featuring more than 200 local natural and man-made landmarks that are vanishing or no longer exist.

In addition to Tinkertown (located on the road to Sandia Crest), EMHS' popular map is also available in Cedar Crest at the **Triangle Grocery** and at **Hey Mavis!** and in Tijeras at **Roots Café**. Hey Mavis has the map in poster form as well as the folded version.

Triangle and Hey Mavis also carry our historical photo calendar, *2019 East Mountains: Then and Now*, as do the **Moriarty Historical Museum**; Roots Café and **Brandy's Hair Design** in Tijeras; and **The Independent** newspaper in Edgewood (in the old library building). Calendars and maps also will be available at the EMHS table at the San Antonio fiesta June 15.

The Moriarty museum also carries six-card gift packs of our reproductions of vintage Route 66 postcards, available individually at the Triangle and at **Owl Café** on Eubank in Albuquerque.

## **Land Grant Genízaro Nation Conference Rescheduled**

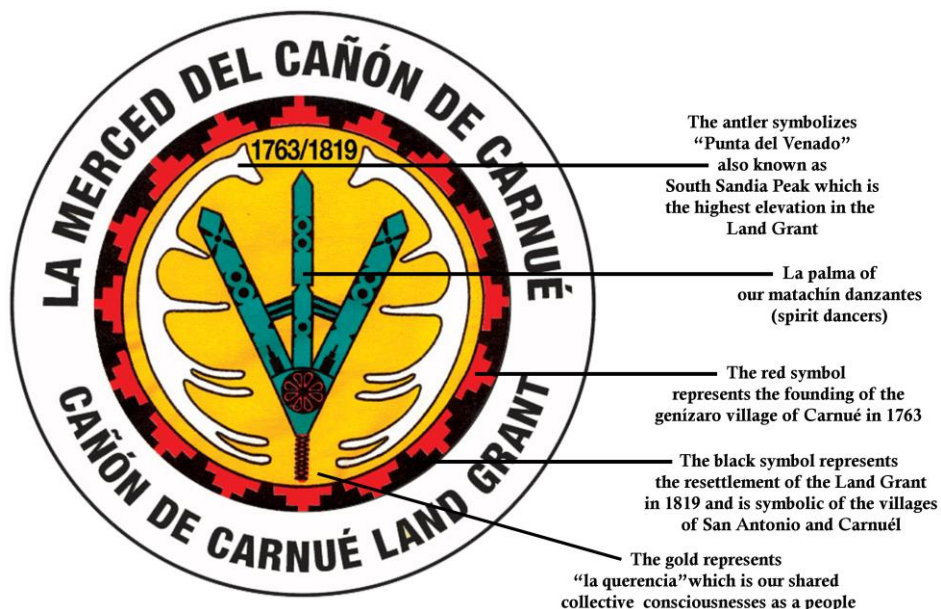
Due to conflicts in May, the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant has moved its "*Nación Genízara: Gathering and Sharing*" Conference to Saturday, Aug. 24.

All day, noted scholars and authors will share knowledge and stories related to *genízaro* culture, history, slavery, early settlements, genealogy, music and art. Among the panelists, organizer Moises Gonzales said, are three who spoke at the May 18 *Genízaro* Identity forum at Gutierrez-Hubbell House: law professor Bill Piatt, "*Genízaro* Identity/Dignity in the Law"; Yavapai/Apache member Maurice Crandall, on indigenous captivity; and Los Alamos National Laboratory research technologist Miguel Torrez, Native American genetic history.

Other participants include, so far, local author Judy Alderete Garcia; Susan M. Gandert, who discovered Indian slavery in her own family; and Dr. Irene Blea, author of Chicano social science textbooks; all from New Mexico, plus Virginia Sanchez, who has written extensively about captives in Southern Colorado and the Utes.

The conference, which also celebrates the land grant's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, starts with a reception at 6 p.m. Aug. 23 at the campground/picnic area south of the land grant hall. A dance will be held Saturday evening. EMHS will be among those hosting a sales booth. Registrants have the option to camp on-site. For registration fees and updates about times and speakers, visit the [Cañón de Carnué Land Grant page](#), or contact Gonzales at coolarrow505@gmail.com.

### **The meaning of the seal**



Courtesy of the Cañón de Carnué Land Grant. Used with permission.

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**Newsletter**  
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The EMHS Newsletter aims to inform members and prospective members of EMHS events and endeavors, including committee work, and to serve as a record of society activities. It is also a forum for stories about the area. Please send your ideas or stories for future newsletters to the Editor, P.O. Box 379, Cedar Crest, NM 87008, or by email:  
[newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org](mailto:newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org)

All stories and photos by **Denise Tessier** unless noted otherwise. Many thanks to **Dick Brown** for proofing.

#### **Mission Statement**

The Mission of the East Mountain Historical Society is to identify, preserve and present to the public the history and culture of the East Mountain area. EMHS will assist in protecting historical and landscapes, artifacts, records, or any item considered to be of historical significance. EMHS will also identify, collect and archive historical material of significance to the area.

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## **News and Notes . . .**

A hearty welcome to our new members: **Cindy Carson** of La Madera; **Tem and Susan Mitchell** of Stanley; **Fred and Bev Friedman** of Santa Fe; and **Enchantment Mosaics** of Sandia Park. Thank you for your interest and support!



The Historical Society of New Mexico and the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society will hold a half-day joint “mini conference” to be held Saturday, June 8, in Albuquerque. It’s free! See story pg. 3.



EMHS Newsletter Editor **Denise Tessier** was honored at the April 27 New Mexico Press Women conference with three awards related to her 2018 newsletters. The Second and First Quarter newsletters took first and second place, respectively, in the category “Newsletter regularly edited by entrant for a non-profit.” She also took third place in “Feature Writing, Magazine or Newsletter,” for her story on the Comanchitos Dance, which ran in the first quarter issue.

Among the judge’s comments on the newsletter: “Thank you for sharing this labor of love” and “It’s easy to see how dedicated you are to this project, and some of the stories appear to have been labor-intensive pieces to produce.”

The first place-winning Second Quarter newsletter will now go on to compete at the national level.



**Judy Alderete Garcia**, who spoke to our group about her Manzano Mountain connections during an EMHS public presentation on April 29 of last year, was honored with the Fabiola Cabeza de Baca Award by the Historical Society of New Mexico during the March state history conference in Albuquerque. The award is given for outstanding publication or exhibit on history of domestic life in New Mexico, and Judy won for her book, *Stories from the Manzano Mountains* (Alderete Garcia Publishing).

## *Mark Your Calendars*

**Through May 31 – *Genízaro Identity and Continuance Exhibit***, Gutierrez-Hubbell House Museum, 6029 Isleta SW, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays until end of May. Donations requested.

**June 1** (Saturday) – **Bob Roland** presents “The Ballad of Plácida Romero,” at 2 p.m., scheduled at the Senior Center just west of the little historic church in Tijeras on Route 66. Please park at the Senior Center – **not** at East Mountain Library. Story page 1.

**June 8** (Saturday) – Historical Society of New Mexico and the Jewish Historical Society team up to present a free mini-conference, “**Movers and Shakers in New Mexico History: Colonial Era to Statehood.**” Details on page 4.

**June 15** (Saturday) –**EMHS** will help the Village of San Antonio celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary by hosting an information and sales table at the San Antonio church fiesta. See story page 3.

**August 24** (Saturday) – Rescheduled from May: “**Nación Genízara: Gathering and Sharing**” **Conference**, with opening reception August 23 (Friday). Cañón de Carnué Land Grant Hall on Route 66 west of Tijeras. Story page 6.