



NEWSLETTER

December 2009

Doña Ana County Historical Society

President's Comments

By: George Helfrich

It is hard to believe that another year has passed in the life of the Society. George Hackler has done an outstanding job arranging the very interesting programs that we have enjoyed including the field trip to Fort Stanton. I can't think of a better person to replace me as president. Marcie Palmer, Donna Eichstaedt, Mary Lou Pendergrass and Susan Kruger have done a superb job of selecting the various awards to be given at the banquet. It has been such a pleasure working with the talented and supportive board members who have done such a fine job of making DACHS such a first class organization. Xandy Church has improved our financial and membership records and has managed our funds and implemented ideas that have resulted in growing our *Mary and J. Paul Taylor Scholarship Endowment* to over \$8,000. Doyle Piland has produced a great newsletter and has contributed ideas and efforts to convert back issues of the review to electronic media. Judy Vaughan has provided accurate, concise and timely minutes as secretary. Jim Eckles maintains publicity efforts with both radio and news announcements. We also continue to have excellent web access through the work of our webmaster, Mary Lou Pendergrass. The SNMHR co-editors, Martha Shipman and Rick Hendricks, are producing a respected review and working with Doyle and Mary Lou to make it available to anyone on the internet. Frankie Miller is working to once again have participation of the Las Cruces schools in the National History Day program. Buddy Ritter and Roger Rothenmaier continue to provide support and advice related to Society direction and programs. We reluctantly accept Karen George's request to be relieved as DACHS Historian. She has done a fine job of maintaining Society records and responding to information requests. Please let these dedicated and hard working volunteers know, as I do, how much you appreciate their efforts on our behalf to realize the goals of our Society. ■

Banquet Program

The program this year will begin with the usual social hour and silent auction followed by dinner. After dinner entertainment will feature La Cella Bella, a group of very talented cello players. A video presentation featuring this year's awards will follow after which the results of the silent auction will be announced.

La Cella Bella is a cello quartet that specializes in arrangements of popular songs. Formed about 4 years ago, the members are: Alison Reynolds, Alicia Dolan, Debbie Eckles, and Tatianna Dickens. Their music is unique and will



La Cella Bella from left to right, Debbie Eckles, Alicia Dolan, Alison Reynolds and Tatianna Dickens

satisfy the tastes of just about anyone. They play the Beatles, Green Day, jazz, show tunes, celtic fiddle tunes and ballads. All four are classically trained, Alison and Alicia play with the Las Cruces Symphony, Debbie (originally a violin player) teaches Suzuki violin and Tatianna is a very busy mother of three young children. ■

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 ⌘ If you haven't already, ⌘
 ⌘ Renew your Membership Today ⌘
 ⌘ Form on Page 3 ⌘
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Calendar

- Saturday, January 30, 2010 Annual DACHS Banquet and Awards Presentation. Hotel Encanto, 5:30pm
- Thursday, February 18, 2010 @ 7:00pm
- Randy Milligan – **Judge Roy Bean**
- All meetings of the Society are normally at 7:00pm on the third Thursday of the months of Feb. - May and Sept - Nov. in the Good Samaritan Auditorium at 3011 Buena Vida Circle.

**Lincoln Exhibit At
Brannigan Cultural Center.**

Celebrating the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, this world-class traveling exhibit was organized by the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. *Self-Made in America* discusses the breadth of Lincoln's life from childhood to his Presidency and assassination. The exhibit will close on Friday, December 18, 2009.

**DOÑA ANA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 43rd ANNUAL BANQUET
JANUARY 30, 2010 * 5:30-9PM
HOTEL ENCANTO DE LAS CRUCES
(formerly the Las Cruces Hilton)**

***WE STILL NEED DONATED ITEMS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION!**

Please call Roger 521-7531, Chuck 521-7833 or George 522-3477 to make arrangements for pick-up or drop-off. The Silent Auction is the Society's major fund raising project to help fund the Banquet and awards program.

BANQUET PROGRAM **AWARDS**

The program this year will begin with the usual social hour and silent auction followed by dinner. After dinner entertainment will feature La Cella Bella. A video presentation featuring this year's awards will follow after which, the results of the silent auction will be announced.

SOCIAL HOUR

Join us from 5:30-6:30pm for the social hour. Enjoy new and old friendships, meet special guests and make a bid on items in the silent auction.

BANQUET MENU

Salmon or Pork Loin
(Vegetable, a rice dish, salad, rolls, dessert, Ice Tea and Coffee).

SILENT AUCTION

During the social hour, bid on silent auction items, such as books (old & new); prints & paintings, antiques, pottery, textiles, glassware & collectables

- Buildings Worthy of Preservation: Dona Ana Community
- Building Adhering to Regional Architecture: Michael & Jan Clute's home
- Building of Noteworthy Renovation: Rachel Steven's home/studio –and- Cliff Schlothauer's home
- An Endangered Building with Noteworthy History: De La O Salon in Dona Ana
- Homes and Buildings of Historical Significance: Property known as the Jacob Chaves Home
- Old Timers Award: The Roadrunner built by Olin Calk – and - Cotton Gins
- Special Mention: the Railroad Depot

People Award Recipients:

- Hall of Fame Award: Marcie Palmer
- Heritage Award: Gerald Schurtz
- The Pasajero del Camino Real Award: Marvin Tessneer

RESERVATION FORM

Please check one entrée per person:

Grilled Salmon _____ Pork Loin _____

(Menu includes: a fresh vegetable, salad, rolls, dessert, Ice Tea & Coffee)

Name _____ Name _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____ State _____ Phone _____

Reservations: **Members \$32.00** How many? _____ **Non-Members \$35.00** How many? _____

Total Enclosed _____

(Mail banquet reservation form & check to Treasurer, Xandy Church % Doña Ana County Historical Society, P.O. Box 16045, Las Cruces, NM 88004 by January 22, 2010. (2010 dues must be current for member prices to apply.) (Make checks payable to DACHS and membership can be included). **Note: Membership form on Page 3.**

Silent Auction Request

One of the Society's significant sources of funds to offset the costs of the annual banquet and awards program is the silent auction. Please take the time to stop and consider what objects you might have and no longer desire to keep that would be appropriate to donate. Items that are still in good condition are needed. They do not necessarily need to have historical significance. For pickup or drop off arrangements please call Roger @ 521-7531, Chuck @ 521-7833, Bob @ 382-8552 or George @ 522-3477 ■

Scholarship Endowment Donors

The Society and the Education Committee wish to thank the following donors to the *Mary and J. Paul Taylor Scholarship Endowment Fund*. This scholarship, for \$1,200, is given annually to a NMSU history student.

Roger & Celine Rothenmaier and (Matching Funds) from Johnson Controls Foundation; J. Paul Taylor; Morris & Lorraine Southward In Memoriam for Meli Duran; Morris & Lorraine Southward In Memoriam for Nancy Pfaeffle; Xandy and Bob Church In Memoriam for Jim Wright; Xandy and Bob Church In Memoriam for Nicole Cagle; Morris & Lorraine Southward In Memoriam for William Schumacher; Chuck and Zita Murrell. ■

Shopping Reminder

Remember that DACHS has the best and only extensive history of Las Cruces and the Mesilla Valley. Consider giving a copy of Gordon Owen's book *Las Cruces, New Mexico 1849-1999: Multicultural Crossroads*. This book was out of print and DACHS arranged a third printing. As a special offer during December 2009 members can obtain copies for \$12.00 each. Call George Helfrich at 522-3477 to make arrangements to pick-up a copy which usually sells for \$15.00. ■

AWARDS

- The Pasajero del Camino Real award:

Architectural Awards:

- Building Adhering to Regional Architecture:
- Building Worthy of Preservation:
- Noteworthy Rehabilitation:
- Old Timers Award:
- Homes and Buildings of Historical Significance:

People Award Recipients:

- Hall of Fame Award:
- Heritage Award:

SNMHR Writing Awards:

- The Gemoets Prize for the Best article in the 2009 SNMHR: ■

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

DACHS Membership Form

Please renew/enroll my/our membership in the Doña Ana County Historical Society. Memberships are active for the calendar year of enrollment and are deductible within legal limits for Federal and State income tax purposes. If you are unsure of your status or have questions regarding membership, please contact the Treasurer, Xandy Church, at 526-9774 (May-Sept. 575-536-9728) or the President, George Helfrich, at 522-3477.

Annual Membership/Sponsorship Rates

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

This is a change of information Yes No A check for \$ _____ is enclosed. Date _____

Check # _____

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

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

How would you like to receive your copy of the *Southern New Mexico Historical Review* (SNMHR)?

Printed Version Society Website Version PDF on CD Version No Preference

At our November meeting, Jim Eckles gave a very interesting and informative talk on Ghost Towns on White Sands Missile Range. Jim's talk started with some general information about the history of the area now covered by White Sands Missile Range, to include some smaller communities/operations such as mining and ranching, but



Jim Eckles chats with audience members and answers questions after his talk on Ghost towns on White Sands Missile Range

were never considered a town. Jim then provided some detailed history and pictures related to two of the Range's ghost towns, Estey City and the Red Canyon Range Camp. He first showed slides of the Estey City as it was during the time it was

operational and then showed slides of what things look like today. Then, Jim talked about Red Canyon Range Camp, a 1950s camp built and used by Fort Bliss as a part of its training and testing process. Again, there were photos of the

**We wish to thank our
Corporate Sponsors**

***Bank of the Rio Grande
Double Eagle Restaurant
Insta-Copy***

**We Welcome These
New Members**

**Winifred Adams
Dick & Marian Anderson
Bill & Patsy King**

camp during its operational period and current photos of how it looks today. We had many interested visitors join our regular members with total attendance above 100.

2009 Board Members
 President: George Helfrich
 Past President: Roger Rothenmaier
 Vice President: George Hackler
 Secretary: Judy Vaughan
 Treasurer: Xandy Church
 Historian: Karen George
 At-Large Board Members:
 Donna Eichstaedt
 Marcie Palmer
 C.W. "Buddy" Ritter
 Martha Shipman Andrews
 Mary Lou Pendergrass
 Jim Eckles
 Publicity: Jim Eckles
 Website: Mary Lou Pendergrass
 Newsletter Editor: Doyle Piland
 SNMHR Co-chair: Rick Hendricks
 SNMHR Co-chair: Martha Shipman
 Andrews
 BCC Liaison: Garland Courts
 Education Chair: Frankie Miller
 www.donaanacountyhistoricalsociety.org

