

NEWSLETTER

December 2019

Doña Ana County Historical Society

Annual Awards Event Set For January 25 At NM Farm And Ranch Museum, 1 - 3 PM

Please join us on January 25 at the NM Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum for our annual Awards Celebration. Instead of a traditional sit down lunch, this year we celebrate with more of a party atmosphere.

The cost is \$25 per person. We are subsidizing students so they only pay \$15.

The event will begin at 1 p.m. in the Ventanas Room where stations will be setup with a large variety of hors d'oeuvres. From 1 to 2 p.m., you will be able to snack your way from station to station visiting with friends and acquaintances. There will be tables to sit at if you tire of standing. If you get there late, your favorite hors d'oeuvre may be gone.

At 2 p.m. we will introduce the new board of directors. That will be followed by a presentation by Holly Radke, from the Farm and Ranch Museum - *Practicing Preventative Conservation on Historical Artifacts*.

After Holly's talk, we will present our annual recognition awards.

We should finish by 3 p.m. which will give you a chance to enjoy the new exhibits at the museum (like *Ranches To Rockets*) and attend the Antique Treasures Event ongoing nearby on the 25th.

IMPORTANT: *We are not being charged the regular museum admission fee for holding our event there. When you enter the front door, tell museum staff that you are there for the HISTORICAL SOCIETY AWARDS BANQUET. After you get into the lobby head left and then immediately to the right and walk all the way down the very long corridor.*

Use the form on the back page of this newsletter to make your reservation. PLEASE send the form in early so we can provide a firm count to the Museum caterer. The deadline for us to receive your form is Jan. 21.

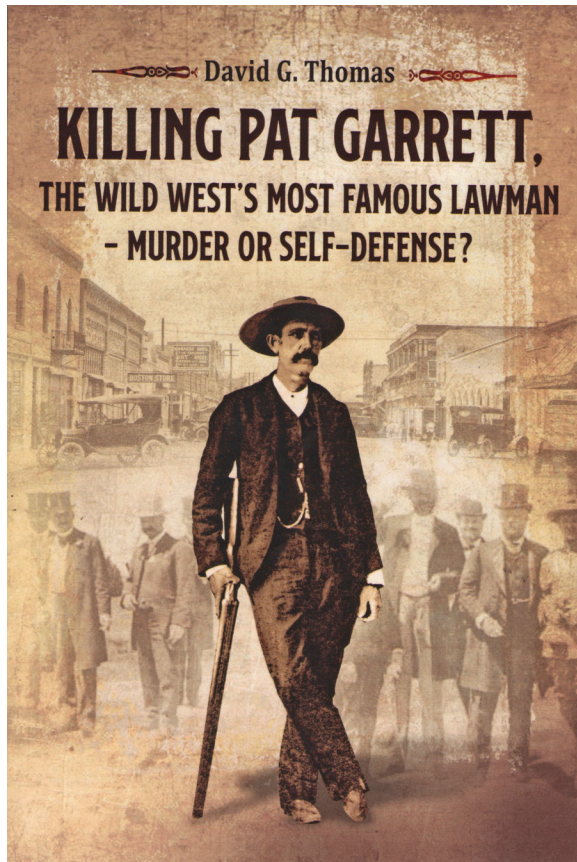
DACHS Reps At Pat Garrett Event Held In Louisiana

Our own DACHS experts on Pat Garrett attended a special dedication outside Homer, LA recently. Bob Gamboa, Sally Kading, David Thomas, Karla Steen and Dan Crow traveled to participate in the ceremony for a new highway sign marking where Pat Garrett's parents lived in Claiborne County. In return for the local hospitality, to include crayfish tacos, the group loaded their guests with photos and information on Pat Garrett here in New Mexico. The group thinks a lasting bond has been created.



L to R: DACHS members Bob Gamboa, Sally Kading, David Thomas, Karla Steen and Dan Crow pose by the newly erected sign marking the plantation near Homer, LA where Pat Garrett grew up. Courtesy photo.

Dave Thomas Has New Book Just In Time For Christmas



Pat Garrett, the Wild West's most famous lawman – the man who killed Billy the Kid – was himself killed on leap day, February 29, 1908, in the Alameda Arroyo just east of Las Cruces. Questions still hang in the air.

Who killed him?

Was it murder?

Was it self-defense?

No biographer of Garrett has really been able to answer these questions. All have expressed opinions. None have presented evidence that would stand up in a court of law. Here, for the first time, drawing on newly discovered information, is the definitive answer to the Wild West's most famous unsolved killing.

Supplementing the text are 102 images, including six of Garrett and his family which have never been published before. It has been 50 years since a new photo of Garrett was published, and no photos of his children have ever been published. These alone, will get the attention of the various Pat Garrett historians found worldwide.

So, who killed Garrett?? And why?? You'll have to get a copy of the book. It is available at Coas Bookstores in Las Cruces, the Mesilla Book Center on the old square and at Amazon. Thomas will be at Coas to sign books on Dec. 21.

New Mexico Historical Society Conference To Be In Silver City

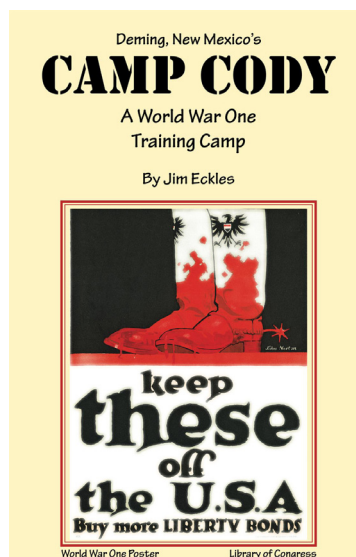
Mark your calendars as the Historical Society of New Mexico's annual history conference will return to our part of the state on April 16-18, 2020. The event will take place at the Grant County Conference Center in Silver City.

The HSNM hasn't started accepting reservations yet - heck, they haven't even published a schedule yet - but it might be worth it to block it off on your calendar now if you want to soak up some New Mexico history.

Eckles To Give Camp Cody Talk At NM Farm & Ranch Museum

Jim Eckles will talk about Deming's World War I training facility, Camp Cody, on Jan. 9 at 7 p.m. for the NM Farm and Ranch Museum's cultural series. Just over a century ago World War One, the war to end all wars, ended with millions killed. As a military power, the United States was woefully unprepared for its role as the steamroller to break the stalemate in the bloody trenches of France.

Immediately after declaring war on Germany, America had to raise and train a multi-million-man army. One



of the nation's 32 training camps was established at Deming, N.M., a town of only 2,500 people at the time. The facility was dubbed Camp Cody and was erected in just a few months to house and train 30,000 men. The men, farmers to factory workers, had to learn a new kind of fighting and mass killing – with machine guns and artillery. Then, a few months after armistice - poof - the camp disappeared.

Why Deming? What was day-to-day life like in the camp? And how did Camp Cody affect Deming?

It Is Time To Renew Your DACHS Membership

If you have not renewed your membership in the Dona Ana County Historical Society for 2020, please consider doing so now. Just fill out the form

below and mail it to our address. You can make your check out to: DACHS. Also note the slight increase in cost.

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 fees 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 Susan Krueger, at 575 525-0654.

Annual Membership/Sponsorship Rates

Individual \$25 Family \$30 Student \$10 Contributor \$40
Benefactor \$150 Life \$300

Southern New Mexico Historical Review Sponsorship + \$50

Is this a change of information? Yes No A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Date _____ Check # _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Phone # _____

You will automatically receive the Monthly Newsletter in your email as a PDF. Would you also like a paper, printed copy mailed later to the above postal address? Yes No

Your membership includes a copy of the annual *Southern New Mexico Historical Review*(SNMHR). Are you willing to download the version on the DACHS website or would you like to receive a printed copy?

Printed copies are usually first available at the annual Awards Luncheon.

**Doña Ana County Historical Society's Annual Awards
 Saturday, January 25, 2020, NM Farm & Ranch Museum
 From 1 to 3 p.m. in the Ventana Room**

- 1 - 2 p.m.** Dine on a large selection of hors d'oeuvres. You can snack your way from one station to the next. Tables and chairs available to sit and eat with friends.
- 2 - 3 p.m.** Installation of 2020 Board of Directors.
 Presentation by Holly Radke on preservation of artifacts that you own.
 Presentation of annual recognition awards.
- 3 p.m. on** Feel free to explore the museum and visit the Antique Treasures Event

If you have questions, please call Susan (575) 525-0654.

RESERVATION FORM DUE BY TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

Name _____

Name _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____

\$25 per person / \$15 per student TOTAL enclosed \$ _____ Will pay at the door

2019 Board of Directors

President: Dennis Daily
 Vice President: Vacant
 Secretary, Newsletter, Review & Website: Jim Eckles
 Treasurer: Dennis Fuller
 Historian: Sally Kading
 Past President: Dr. Susan Krueger
 At-Large Board Members:
 Daniel Aguilera
 Garland Courts
 Luis Rios
 C.W. "Buddy" Ritter
 Leah Tookey
 Sara Wagner
 Leah Tookey, SNMHR Editor
 Luis Rios, Education and Scholarships
 Daniel Aguilera, Farm&Ranch Heritage Museum Liaison
 Santi Martinez, NMSU History student liaison
www.donaanacountyhistoc.org

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