My Thanks to Marcie Palmer, The DACHS Board and to Our Membership for Two Most Successful Years and Welcome to 2014 and All That is to Come

From: Susan Krueger, President Elect

In December of 2011, as George Hackler was completing his term as president, he asked the Membership for volunteers to fill the Presidency and Vice Presidency. Marcie Palmer stood up and, with only a moment’s hesitation, offered to serve as the Society’s President. In turn, she recruited Susan Krueger to serve as the Vice President and off we went holding onto our hats for two years of excitement as promised by Marcie when she took office in January of 2012. Throughout the two years, each of the board members and committee chairs introduced themselves to you via the Newsletter. Then last month, Marcie gave us a summary of her accomplishments with the Society. They are outstanding and she is amazing and I thank her personally and on behalf of the DACHS. I also thank those of you who have attended our programs and I look forward to seeing you again throughout 2014 and beyond.

AWARDS LUNCHEON
Saturday, January 25, 2014, Noon, at The Double Eagle on the Mesilla Plaza

From: Susan Krueger, President Elect

When the officers are installed at the Awards Luncheon, we will see a new face on the Board, that of Dr. Jon Hunner who will serve as Vice President. As you may know, Dr. Hunner is working, in collaboration with NMSU students and Mesilla Park residents, to secure a historic district nomination for Mesilla Park on both the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties and the National Register of Historic Places. This project will be the theme of the Luncheon and he and the project participants will share with us what has been finished and what is left to be accomplished. Along with honoring Mesilla Park historic properties as Worthy of Preservation, the Society will give the Old Timers award to both the Fabian Garcia Science Center and the Frank O’Brien Papen Community Center, once the Mesilla Park Elementary School.

I invite you to join us at the Awards Luncheon for a taste of history in the making.

If you have not yet registered for the Luncheon, please do so now. The registration form follows on page 2.

Some of the accommodations at the Double Eagle
You are invited to the Doña Ana County Historical Society’s Annual Awards Luncheon

January 25th, 2014, Double Eagle Restaurant on the Mesilla Plaza; 12:00 noon

Seating for the Annual Awards Luncheon will begin at noon with the buffet lunch to be served at 12:30 p.m. The Buffet includes Fresh Garden Salad with Assorted Dressings, Cherry Tomato Mozzarella Vinaigrette Salad, Carrot Raisin Salad, Medley of Fresh Vegetables, Oven Roasted Potatoes, Sliced Roast Beef, Green Chile Cheese Enchiladas, Hot Bakery Rolls and Butter, Assorted Desserts, Ice Tea and Coffee. The cost is $25.00 (includes Tax and Gratuity) per person payable in advance or at the door. For your convenience, this reservation form is included, and you may email your reservation directly to Xandy Church at xbchurch@comcast.net Or, if you prefer, you may print it, fill it in, and snail mail it to Xandy Church, c/o DACHS, P.O. Box 16045, Las Cruces, NM 88004-6045.

Following lunch, Dr. Jon Hunner and his Mesilla Park neighbors will present their historic district project.

If you have any questions, please call Xandy at 575-526-9774.

RESERVATION FORM due by Saturday, January 18, 2014

Name _____________________________ Name _____________________________
Name _____________________________ Name _____________________________
Name _____________________________ Name _____________________________

If you have others who would like to attend, this is for their reservations. We need names for name tags at the door. Thanks

Name _____________________________ Name _____________________________
Name _____________________________ Name _____________________________

Address: _______________________ City _____________ State ____ Zip __________
Phone: __________________________
$25.00 per person TOTAL enclosed $__________ Will pay at the door □

If you haven’t already renewed your membership for 2014, Please renew your Membership Today. See form on page 3.
SUGGESTED PROGRAMS FOR 2014

By: Susan Krueger, President Elect

When Jon Hunner, Mary Kay Shannon, and I met in mid-December, we talked about the benefits to the Society of collaborating with other history and historic preservation groups in the area, such as Human Systems Research, the Ft. Seldon preservationists, and Mesilla Valley Preservation Inc. and inviting them to bring the DACHS up to date on their successes and challenges and to tell us if and how we could help. We also mentioned having Richard Sims, Director of the State Monuments Division of the NM Department of Cultural Affairs, as a speaker and of exploring new light brought to local mysteries such as the Fountain murders and the recently uncovered tintype photograph of Dan Dedrick and another person, possibly Billy the Kid.

So to begin the New Year’s programs, our February 20, 2014, speakers will be Karl Laumbach, Associate Director at Human Systems Research, and Toni Laumbach, Associate Director at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum, a husband and wife team presenting on the Cañada Alamosa excavation project which is currently on exhibit at the Farm and Ranch Museum under the title “The Cañada Alamosa: 4000 Years of Agricultural History.” Cañada Alamosa is an isolated river canyon with pit-house and pueblo ruins, Apache camps, and 19th and 20th century homesteads of Hispanic and Anglo settlers. The sites span a time period from about A.D. 600 to A.D. 1400 and are located on private land in south central NM, in Socorro and Sierra Counties, near the Town of Monticello. The excavation project began in 1999 under the leadership of Karl Laumbach, project archaeologist.

Mark the date and details will follow in the February Newsletter.

Mary Kay, who is to me an entire library of New Mexico History and beyond, has agreed to serve as the Chair of the Awards Committee. If you have program ideas or award suggestions, please let her know.
A Doña Ana County farmer tilling a field in preparation for planting a crop, circa 1936. Photo credit: Library of Congress.

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