



# Noticias de Nuestras Raices Mini-Newsletter



## The 26th GSHA Conference in Santa Fe, June 5-7, 2015



### Logistics of the Drury:

When you arrive at the Drury you will hand over your car to the valet after you unload your luggage. You will then enter the Drury through two double doors. The check-in desk is on this 1st floor. You will be directed to your room or the elevator to get to your floor. The ballroom where most events will be held is on 2nd floor. The reception will be held across from the ballroom in the garden. Other events will be held in the Boiler building. This is right across from the double doors from which you entered the Drury. The Meem room is where the vendors are. The Lamy room is upstairs where some presentations will take place.

Dear Members:

The purpose of this newsletter is to bring you up-to-date on the conference and give you some tips on how get the best out of the conference.

First of all, we are now sold out and there is no way we can allow any more registrations to come in. The banquet is filled to capacity with 178 people attending and the reception is also filled to capacity at 166 attendees. Even the day sessions are full. Luckily, the hotel let me increase the original numbers to let everyone who submitted their registrations by the announced deadline to attend. In all the years I've been helping with the conference, this is the biggest response we've ever had. We actually have a waiting list in case of any cancellations. To be placed on this list you may email me at [charlenegsimms@yahoo.com](mailto:charlenegsimms@yahoo.com)

Every year when we start planning the conference, we have three things in mind: affordability for our members; popular location to enable us to take advantage of the historical and cultural amenities; and profitability for GSHA because this is our only fundraiser for the year. We owe Doug Daniels a debt of gratitude for negotiating the \$109 rate at the Drury hotel right off the plaza in Santa Fe. Jeanette Fisher, Doug and I tried several venues and the cost was prohibitive at every turn. Each year the conference takes on a life of its own and gives us unique memories. We the committee, including, Carmen, Frank, Paul, Bob, Doug, Penny, and Donie, have given every detail our best shot and ultimately we just want to come together and see one another again or meet people whose names we see over and over but never get a chance to meet in person. Of course, we want to add to the knowledge of your genealogy and history, but the atmosphere of family is what I look forward to each year.

Please be patient with us when things go awry and please smile when things go right, but most important, breathe, take in all the moments (4320 of them) and enjoy each one.

*Charlene Garcia Simms, Conference Chair*

### **Valet Parking Only:**

The Drury Hotel is valet parking ONLY. Once you unload your luggage, be ready to give your keys to the valet for parking. No exceptions. If you don't want to use the valet parking at the hotel, you will have to park outside the hotel area. The hotel will not be responsible for your car or belongings if you choose not to use this service. The fee is \$7 for day parking and \$14 for overnight. It will be added to your hotel charge. This was made clear since we started advertising the Drury as the conference venue.

## How to get the most out of this conference

- ◆ You will be registering for the conference on second floor right outside the ballroom between 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings. Our registration team are Frank Dominguez, his wife, Anita, and his daughter, Ana. Check in is not until 3 p.m. If you get there earlier, go ahead and see if you can check in early. They will also store your luggage if you can't check in early. We are having the vendors open at 2 p.m. and they will be open until 5 p.m. Take advantage of this time to see what they have to offer. Feel free to walk around the Drury. It has many seating areas which are very charming inside and outside. The pool area on the top floor is beautiful and the view is 380 degrees of all of Santa Fe.
- ◆ When you register you will get a bag of goodies with information about Santa Fe. You will also get a folder with the conference program. You will find the schedule of all events and the bios of the speakers and entertainers and other information. Please look over carefully and decide what you want to attend. You don't have to attend every presentation. Maybe you want to spend more time in the vendor area or you want to set up meetings with others who are doing the same research as you and you don't get to meet with them except through email or phone. There are many group seating areas inside and outside the hotel.
- ◆ We also have many seasoned genealogists. One that comes to mind is Maria Clara Martinez. She will be a vendor but she states that she will have her computer where she has her magnificent database and she is willing to help you or at least consult with you. She'll be selling some of her books and her chokecherry and champe jellies and if we are lucky some biscochitos.
- ◆ We have several DNA experts on hand. Angel Cervantes will be making a presentation on maternal DNA on Sunday. However, on Saturday at 2:30 p.m. in the Lamy room (Boiler building) he will be doing a question and answer session. People will have the opportunity to put a question in writing, fold it, put it in a jar and he will pull out about 8 questions during the hour he has. Maybe your question will be one of the ones picked or the questions that are picked may be questions you have.
- ◆ Miguel Torrez will also be there willing to help anyone who has questions on DNA and the New Mexico Genealogical Society DNA project. Miguel and Henrietta Christmas, president of NMGS, will have a vendor table and together with Miguel will do a presentation on Sunday morning. However, if you have been wanting to write about your maternal ancestors, make sure you attend Deborah Martinez' session instead on researching them and writing their story.
- ◆ The theme this year is about women. As you can see in our speaker and topics, this theme is carried throughout the conference. We will have a Q&A session after each presentation.
- ◆ The vendors are an integral part of this conference. Many of them will have genealogy and history books that many of us need to further our genealogy or learn more history and we all know genealogy and history go hand in hand. I can't see doing genealogy without knowing the history of the area your ancestors came from. We'll have a young Santero this year, Sean Trujillo. Check out his beautiful work. There will be a vendor who is selling the Flip Pal scanner. Check it out. Anna Martinez will be selling craft items, and jewelry. Other vendors will be there to inform us about their organizations.
- ◆ Most important have fun. The reception should be a good place to start. We are in for a treat with Lenin and McCarthy as they take us down memory lane with some Beatles hits and then transition over to their music of our Hispanic culture. We will also have an ice-breaker to get everyone acquainted or reacquainted as we pick about ten unforgettable women and share their stories. They will be judged and the top three will get prizes.
- ◆ Eloisa's catering is going to serve us some tasty food. On Friday we will have hors d'oeuvres as follows: carne asada skewer with chimichurri; chicken al carbon with guacamole; tacos with shrimp salsa; stuffed peppadew peppers with quinoa, chorizo and gruyere cheese; stuffed cremini mushrooms with roasted poblanos, grilled shrimp and manchego cheese. A cash bar will be available and water stations will be in place.
- ◆ We are going to have a wonderful treat for the banquet. Karen Cordova will be reading a poem she wrote about her grandmother. Then La Sociedad Folklorica de Santa Fe will present their fashion show of 100 year old dresses they have preserved. La Sociedad has been around since 1929 and they have preserved the beautiful Hispanic culture of Santa Fe. Beautiful music will accompany the fashion show. Our menu will be from Eloisa's kitchen as follows: Eloisa's House Salad with seasonal spring vegetables, lemon vinaigrette, mild chevre, edible flowers; followed by Eloisa's House red chile enchiladas with beef barbacoa, mushrooms, hominy, roasted chiles, and jack cheese accompanied by Eloisa's *calabacitas*, green rice with toasted *pepitas*, and Eloisa's traditional Pinto Beans. And, if your mouth isn't watering already, this will be followed by *tres leches* cake with strawberries. Coffee, water and tea will be available plus a cash bar.

**Kickstart**—the Kickstart is free popcorn, hors d'oeuvres and drinks all served in the Mezzanine. In the afternoon, popcorn is available for hotel guests. Between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. you can get their hors d'oeuvres and up to three drinks containing alcohol if you choose. This is going to be tricky for us and we ask all who are registered at the hotel to help us keep this manageable. On Friday, the reception starts at 6 p.m. on the other side of the Mezzanine in the outside patio. You have to go through the Mezzanine to get to the reception area. You are not allowed to take any of the Kickstart drinks or food to the reception area. The same applies on Saturday for the Banquet. Although, the banquet starts at 6:30 p.m. There will be a cash bar at the reception as well as hors d'oeuvres. There will be a cash bar in the ballroom the night of the banquet. We will have members of the conference committee there to help guide people to the reception and banquet along with the hotel staff.

# Tours:

Thursday—Leonard Trujillo will be leading a tour of Abiquiu starting at 10:00 a.m. The cost is \$20. I'm not sure if it's too late to join him but you can ask him by emailing him at: [lennytrujillo51@aol.com](mailto:lennytrujillo51@aol.com). As of today (May 29), twenty people had signed up.

Friday—Miguel Torrez and Willie Atencio are heading a tour starting at 10:30 a.m. of the Santa Cruz de la Canada Church. We have about 24 people signed up already. There is no cost for this tour but a donation at the church is appreciated. A book has been published on this church and it won't be ready for the conference but pre-publication order blanks will be available in the Meem room where the vendors will be stationed. Miguel lives in the area so he will not be meeting anyone in Santa Fe. Some people are car pooling. If you are interested in car pooling or going on the tour send an email to: [charlenegsimms@yahoo.com](mailto:charlenegsimms@yahoo.com) There is still room and if you decide to do it at the last minute just go anyway. The church is located at 100 Church St., Santa Cruz, NM Their phone number is (505) 753-3345. The directions can be found at <http://hcccsantacruz.org/13> If you have been to the Santuario and taken the road that is in the middle of Espanola where the Chuck Wagon Restaurant is located, Highway 76 is just around the corner and that is the road you need to take going east and you can look for the address. If all else fails use your GPS or call the church.

Friday—10 a.m. There will be a tour of the Palace of the Governors located on the Plaza, about an 8 minute walk from the Drury. The cost is \$6 and this includes the Museum of Santa Fe just right around the corner. Lunch is on your own but there are so many choices. Donie Nelson will be sending a list of restaurants close to the Drury where you can have lunch

Dress up—We will continue the dress-as-your ancestor activity on Saturday night. Corrine Tafoya is our resident expert on this. Contact her if you need ideas. This is a lot of fun but you can do it or not do it. This year, however, we are giving out 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes.

Raffle—This is one of the most fun events of the conference and a wonderful fund raiser for GSHA. Thank you for your generosity and thanks to the efforts of Kevin Williams we have at least fifteen great genealogy items plus all the wonderful donations from our members.

More Logistics—The business center where you can make copies or use the Internet is on first floor to the left of the check-in counter. There is a well stocked refreshment nook next door to the business center to purchase snacks and beverages. Your rooms have a microwave, refrigerator and coffee maker.

Breakfast—On weekdays breakfast is served from 6:30—9:00 p.m. On weekends, breakfast is served 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Mezzanine which is on second floor. It is a FULL breakfast.

Attend the Annual Meeting in the Lamy Room on second floor of the Boiler building starting at 4:00 p.m. Saturday. This is your organization. Support it. President Bob Craig sends the following message: "Submit in writing any motion that may have a significant impact on the financial or operational structure of GSHA prior to the GSHA Annual Meeting by noon on Saturday June 6. Present all written motions to President Bob Craig or any GSHA board member. Please remember two positions on the 2016 & 2017 board of directors need to be filled: Vice President and Secretary. Think about what you can do for GSHA in 2016.

## Some Housekeeping Information

- ◆ Please silence your cell phones. You know why. Please do not talk while presenters are presenting. If you just have to discuss something, please go to the hallway or one of the many nooks in the hotel, or wait and talk about it over a glass of vino.
- ◆ Please do not take any food or drinks from the Kickstart area to the reception or banquet. Both are served with different caterers and they simply do not allow this.
- ◆ Please be on time to the presentations. It is very distracting if you get there late.
- ◆ If you have any issues that can't be resolved by the hotel please contact one of your conference team members or a GSHA officer.
- ◆ There will be order forms for back issues of Nuestras Raices on the GSHA table. We will have old issues that are just a little bit beat up and you can have them for a small donation.

**MOST IMPORTANT ENJOY THE 4320 MOMENTS WHILE WE ARE TOGETHER!**

We're on the web!

[gsha.net](http://gsha.net)



2015 Officers



Bob Craig, *President*

Gloria Cordova, *Vice-president*

Janice Crane, *Secretary*

David Torres, *Treasurer*

Frank Dominguez, *Member-at-Large Representative*

Paul Gomez, *Southern California Representative and Chapter President*

Mary Ellen Burciago, *Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter Representative*

Donie Nelson, Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor, *Nuestras Raices Journal*

Charlene Garcia Simms, Editor, *Noticias de Nuestras Raices Newsletter*

## Network-Network-Network-Network-Network-Network

The Essay contest on memorable women produced some wonderful essays by people between the ages of 20 and 40. The winners will read their essay on Sunday afternoon. This was part of the Duran Youth Initiative Program, a program to encourage young people to join GSHA.

### **NOTICE**

We are looking for next year's conference committee, chair or co-chairs. There will be a clipboard at the registration table where you can sign up. We guarantee that you will have fun, feel fulfilled, and help in the fund raising efforts of GSHA. We have followed a good model for the last few years that has been successful. However, you might have some new ideas. Step up. This is your organization and it keeps getting better and better.

Gracias! And many thanks to each and everyone who is helping a little, helping a lot, or just giving us smiles and nodding your heads with approval.