



Noticias de Nuestras Raíces

Make plans to attend the 2015 GSHA Conference and Annual Meeting at the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe on June 5-7, 2015

Dear Members:

The 2015 GSHA Conference and Annual Meeting will be held in Santa Fe, June 5-7, at the historical Drury Hotel. See page 5 for further details and continue to log into our website [gsha.net] for updates about speakers, activities, field trips and entertainment.

The conference committee is busily planning for vendors, registration and many opportunities for research to further your genealogy quest. We owe Doug Daniels a debt of gratitude for negotiating a rate of \$109 for a beautiful hotel on the plaza in Santa Fe. The base rate is normally \$300. I hope that all attendees to our conferences past and present realize how much time and energy negotiations take to get our members the best deals in lodging, meals, fees and any other costs associate with running a conference. Up to now we have been very lucky to keep these rates affordable.

Our theme this year will focus on our maternal ancestors. Too often, these ladies are not written about and in some cases forgotten. This neglect makes it harder for us to find them. The design of the conference topics will take the route we took last year with presentations covering Spain, Mexico and the Southwest. For the last 25 years we have concentrated on New Mexico and Colorado. We are now ready to go beyond these two states into Texas, Arizona, California, Nevada and south to Mexico.

Our slate of speakers is taking shape and we will release their names, biographies and topics as we complete negotiations. We have selected several new speakers that we haven't heard before while still inviting speakers who come back by popular demand. Please mark you calendars for the first weekend in June to be together with our *primos, compadres, amigos y familia*. I can hardly wait for the *abrazos*. Make those reservations soon as we are limited to 175 attendees and our block of rooms is guaranteed at 65.

Charlene Garcia Simms, Editor



The Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe is

located in the heart of

downtown on Palace Avenue. The site is adjacent to St. Francis Cathedral, built by Archbishop Jean Baptiste Lamy between 1869 and 1886. In the 1910s, a portion of the property was a dormitory for the Sisters of Charity. The primary facade of the Drury is from the 1950s St. Vincent's Hospital, designed by John Gaw Meem.

The hospital remained in the building until 1977. After that, the structure housed numerous important offices of the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs. The site was also used for movie sets, featured in many major productions as well as offices for the New Mexico Film Commission. All of these past entities are integral parts of Santa Fe's rich history, making it an important landmark for the local community.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

December 2014

This is my last President's Report. It's been an honor to be your President for the last four years. As we welcome our new leaders for 2015, I congratulate and support my successor Bob Craig and his board of directors, which includes returning board members VP Gloria Cordova, Secretary Janice Crane, Member-at-Large Frank Dominguez, and GSHA-SC Chapter Representative Paul Gomez. They are joined by newcomers: Treasurer David Lee Torres and FACC Pueblo Chapter Representative Mary Ellen Burciago.

I hope each of you know that at all times I gave my very best to GSHA. It has been a most valuable experience. I am grateful to those of you who have expressed their gratitude to me and the members of the board of directors for the last four years. It's been quite a journey and we worked together through some rough times. At the end, we fulfilled our purpose and reached our objectives.

When GSHA was founded over two-and-a-half decades ago, our purpose and objectives would be to promote Hispanic genealogical and historical research, education, and to expand awareness and knowledge of Hispanic culture, history, and traditions. I believe in our founders' vision and one of my principal priorities has been to assure that these goals guide our decisions. Holding fast to our purpose and objectives allows us to thrive in the future.

Today we have about 460 members in 25 states and the United Kingdom, thanks to the recruitment efforts of our strong chapters and our loyal members. For the first time we are the recipient of a grant (see page 4) designed to target younger researchers. We are continuing to expand the focus of our popular genealogical conference, and our quarterly journal is the recipient of praise from our members and the patrons of the 27 libraries and institutions, who are loyal subscribers. We are refining and expanding our community outreach activities as we establish research groups beyond Southern California, Colorado and New Mexico. At the same time, we are embracing social media and other technological tools to communicate with and educate our members and the public.

Together we are more brilliant than any single one of us. Each of us has expanded our knowledge and research opportunities because of our affiliation with GSHA. As we conduct our research, we develop flourishing friendships and discover new family connections within the organization.

I promise the 2015 Board of Directors my faithful support. They are a talented group of people who have generously volunteered in the past and will continue to do so in their new positions. Their contributions allow all of us to enjoy the many benefits of being a GSHA member.

As we enter a new year let a good conscience be our reward and allow history to be the final judge of our deeds. *Muchas gracias* to every volunteer for their fine service during the past four years. Thank you, too, for the opportunity to serve the members and the goals of GSHA. We need always ask for His blessing and His help, but realize that here on earth God's work must truly be our own.

Doug Daniels

New Board Members

Our new board members have hit the ground running. 2015 & 2016 President Bob Craig's goals for his term of office will be announced in future issues of *Noticias*. David Torres wears two hats: treasurer and webmaster. Mary Ellen Burciago is already working on the GSHA Vanguard Foundation Program. Congratulations and welcome aboard the *GSHA Express*. We are unstoppable.



More History on the Drury Restoring the past

Two buildings in Santa Fe, Marian Hall, completed in 1910, and the old St. Vincent Hospital building, completed in the early 1950s show that old structures can be given new life.

Two blocks from the Santa Fe Plaza and adjacent to the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe is the first new large hotel to open in downtown Santa Fe in 18 years. Also part of the Drury's revival of these five acres of dormant space at the intersection of East Palace Avenue and Paseo de Peralta is the development of beautiful pedestrian walkways and gardens.

Interior Design

Inspired by the Spanish missions of New Mexico, each of the 182 guestrooms in the Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe reflect the authentic Territorial Style, and features spacious, light-filled sitting areas and oversize bathrooms. Many rooms have fireplaces and balconies, and many have jetted tubs.



Steeped in History

The Drury Plaza Hotel in Santa Fe is steeped in history dating back more than 400 years. Before renovation and construction began, an excavation and archeological team explored the site. Many artifacts were recovered, and a Spanish roadbed estimated to date from the 1610s was discovered. One-hundred and eighty-five years later, Archbishop Jean Baptiste Lamy purchased the land. Lamy, a French Roman Catholic clergyman, was responsible for the construction of the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi, commonly known as St. Francis Cathedral, and the Loretto Chapel.

In 1865, Lamy invited the Sisters of Charity, a teaching and healing order from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Santa Fe. The future hotel property was deeded to the Sisters to be used for construction of a series of sanatoria, hospitals, and orphanages, in addition to residences for the Sisters. When the stylish St. Vincent's Sanatorium opened in 1883, it was the tallest building in the city, at 60 feet high with a cupola on top. The various buildings used by the Sisters surrounded an area used by Lamy for his gardens. Unfortunately, it burned to the ground in 1893. Another brick structure, built in 1886, became a home for the aged until 1948, when it was demolished to make way for the new St. Vincent Hospital, designed by renowned architect John Gaw Meem.

"In plan, this building is roughly the shape of a cross, symbolic of the spirit and love and sacrifice of the Divine Master whom the Sisters of Charity serve in devoting their lives to hospital work," wrote Meem. "The building recalls the traditional architecture of our region of which Santa Fe is so proud. The building would harmonize with the territorial style."

The GSHA Vanguard Foundation Program



Dear Members:

At the 2014 Annual Meeting and Genealogical conference, one of the attendees, Tara Sharkey, was impressed with the program and our organization. However, she noticed that there were few “young” attendees. To help remedy this, she presented GSHA with a gift of \$5000 from the Vanguard Foundation to recruit younger members and encourage youth participation in our programs. (See *Noticias de Nuestras Raices*, V. 26, No. 2). Subsequently, a committee was appointed, met and presented a report to the GSHA board on January 25, 2015. These recommendations were approved and are as follows:

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- The committee shall officially be named, “GSHA Vanguard Foundation Program”, and be chaired by Doug Daniels. Other members of the committee are Paul Gomez, Bob Craig, Phil Duran, Charlene Garcia Simms and Frank Dominguez.
- The committee recommends that that up to \$1,500 be set aside for each of the two GSHA chapters. The GSHA Board of Directors will monitor the funds. Each chapter will be required to submit a written proposal to the committee outlining their plan to utilize the money to promote “youth” involvement in the association. The request for proposal (RFP) will include a program narrative, objectives, and a timeline of the projected program and should be submitted by email to the committee chair no later than March 1, 2015. If the RFP meets all requirements, the committee will send a recommendation for approval to the GSHA board. The GSHA Board of Directors will need to approve the proposals prior to the money being awarded to the respective chapter. Round one will be approved no later than March 15, 2015. The first round will be limited to \$1000. Subsequent dates will be determined for round two and the disbursing of the remaining \$500.
- The National organization will keep the remaining \$2,000 to promote “youth” at a national level. It was recommended by the committee and approved by the board that \$1,020 be spent to include a special contest for the 2015 Annual Meeting and Conference in Santa Fe. The contest would be open to residents of Santa Fe and the surrounding areas that are between the ages of 20-40. Contestants are required to submit a contest entry form and a two-page typed paper telling a story about one of their female ancestors in keeping with the theme of our 2015 conference, *Mujeres Memorables del Mundo Hispano* (Memorable Women of the Hispanic World.) The three winners, as determined by this committee, will receive \$200 in cash, a free membership to GSHA for 2016, and a free pass to the 2015 Conference. Papers must be submitted by May 1, 2015 and winners must present their paper at the conference. Papers will be passed on to our *Nuestras Raices* journal Editor for publication consideration.
- The National Newsletter is designated to inform members of the proposals, plans, and final outcome of the donated money, and how it was used to promote “youth” involvement.

Doug Daniels, Chairman, GSHA Vanguard Foundation Program

Note: The chapter representatives will report all this information to their chapter boards to get the Request for Proposal (RFP) going as soon as possible in order to meet the March 1 deadline of submission. The GSHA Board and the committee’s responsibility is to make sure the money will be used for the purpose it was designated.

Report on 2015 Conference Planning Committee



The 2015 GSHA Genealogical Conference Committee met on October 19, November 30 and January 11. The committee is composed of: Charlene Garcia Simms, coordinating chair and program presenters; Doug Daniels, venue and promotions chair; Carmen Arteaga, assistant promotions chair; Penny Garcia, vendor chair; Paul Gomez, SC promotions and volunteer chair; Frank Dominguez, Registration Chair with assistance from Anita Gonzales Dominguez, his wife; Bob Craig, raffle chair; David Torrez website chair; Donie Nelson and Cathy Romero are responsible for the design of the conference artwork and content of the promotional materials, including the printed program.

The committee has made the following decisions:

- The conference will be held in Santa Fe on June 5-7, 2015, at the Drury Plaza Hotel (visit their website). This venue is next to the cathedral on the plaza.
- We negotiated a rate of \$109 per night. There is a \$14.00 per day parking rate that we could not “Negotiate away.” This charge is if you park there overnight. For example if you get there Friday and stay Saturday night, you will only pay \$28.00 for two nights. However, the \$109 rate includes a full breakfast each morning. The rate also includes a snack in the afternoon and free drinks and Hors d’oeuvres in the evening. Thanks to Doug for working really hard on getting this rate. We have guaranteed 65 rooms. The hotel will honor the GSHA registration rate above this number but rooms will be open to the public after our goal is met. If you wait too long to make your reservations, the rooms above 65 may not be available. (Note on parking: If you do not want to pay the \$14.00 a day there is some parking around the hotel and some parking lots that may have a discount on the weekends. You will have to research this and be on your own for any city rules and regulations.)
- The conference theme is *Mujeres Memorables del Mundo Hispano* (Memorable Women of the Hispanic World), and speakers who will speak on this topic are being contacted. We have one speaker confirmed, Dr. Deena J. Gonzalez, author of *Refusing the Favor, The Spanish-Mexican Women of Santa Fe, 1820-1880*. We are honored to have Dr. Gonzales as a speaker at our conference this year. We are negotiating with other national speakers and regional speakers and some of our members who are always invited back by popular demand. As we confirm everyone, we will post more information on the website.
- We are looking for sponsors, so please let us know if you know of potential sponsors such as institutions, businesses, or individuals. Sponsors will get full credit in our program, newsletter and website. Sponsorships enhance all conference activities and may allow us to have a sponsored Sunday luncheon.

Of all the conferences I have been involved with, I have never witnessed so much enthusiasm from our members, and non-members so early on. We already have eleven vendors, thirty-eight rooms reserved and numerous people volunteering to help us in various ways. Therefore, I am asking all of you to register now, promote our conference and challenge ourselves to get at least one non-member registered who may, perhaps become a member. GSHA is soaring. Say it over and over again: We are unstoppable; we are soaring!

CGS & your Conference Team

Pass this information on: To book a reservation at the Drury Plaza Hotel, call 1-800-325-0720 and refer to Group number 2230198. You may also go to www.ddruryhotels.com, then enter the Group number 2230198. The hotel is sold out for Thursday, June 4. If you try to make reservations for that date you may be told that the entire conference is sold out. This is not true. Tell them you want reservations for June 5 and 6 and you are with GSHA.

Have Your Heard? The Search for Miguel Cervantes

The Adventures of the Ingenious Nobleman, Don Quixote of La Mancha written by Miguel de Cervantes changed Spanish Literature and is considered one of the world's greatest literary masterpieces. It is most interesting that last week forensic experts began excavating graves and examining bones in a tiny chapel in Madrid, hoping to solve a century mystery of where Miguel de Cervantes is buried. He died in 1616 and was buried at the Convent of the Barefoot Trinitarians in Madrid's historic *Barrio de las Letras*. However, the exact location of his grave is unknown, as well as his wife's grave, Catalina. A team of 20 archaeologists and anthropologists have started excavations in the chapel's crypt where they found three unidentified graves. They have examined bones extracted from a niche and a grave beneath the whitewashed crypt's old terracotta- tiled floor.

After carefully examining all this evidence and meeting particular characteristics, the next step will be to compare DNA similarities with his sister, a very complex step. His sister, Luisa de Cervantes died in 1623 and is buried in a convent in Alcala de Henares, 19 miles east of Madrid. If this does not prove to be the place Cervantes was buried there are four other possibilities within the convent. In Cervantes' day, graves were not marked with long lasting memorials such as headstones. Stay tuned. It is very interesting that as we are doing our DNA to help us prove our family lines, 500 years after Cervantes' death, experts are also relying on DNA to prove the burial location of one of the best known Spaniards in Spain's History.



Picasso Don Quixote
1955 sketch

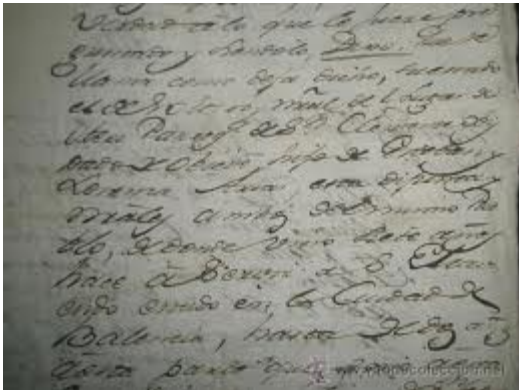
Cervantes' novel tells the story of an elderly man who becomes so enamored by old stories of brave knights that he seeks out his adventures. The title character soon gets lost in his own fantasy world, believing he is one of these knights, and convinces a poor peasant, Sancho Panza, to serve as his squire. In one scene, Don Quixote even fights a windmill, mistaking it for a giant. Quixote regains his senses before the novel ends.

De Cervantes married Catalina de Salazar y Palacios in 1584. The couple remained married until de Cervantes's death. They never had any children, but de Cervantes did have a daughter from a prior relationship, Isabel de Saavedra.



Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Genealogy Cruise

If you have never been to the Alaska Inside Passage, think about joining other genealogists and GSHA members for seven nights aboard Royal Caribbean's luxurious Jewel of the Seas and combine cruising with the experience of a top-notch genealogical conference. You will sail from Seattle, Washington on August 28th and return September 4th. Read details on the FGS website, www.fgs.org. Click on FGS conferences and you will see the cruise listed. If we get a group together we may qualify for a group discount. If you are interested in being part of a GSHA group, email or call Jeanette Fisher at: Jeanette@lifeisgood2.com or 520-490-9449.



Deligencias Index –Take a look at our website, www.gsha.net and click on Links.

Vera Estrada has created a very manageable Index to the *Deligencias Matrimoniales* that Fray Angelico Chavez compiled. Vera deserves great credit and kudos for having completed this project after years of working on it and she is letting GSHA post it on our website. A history of the project and instructions on how to use the Index are linked. The Deligencias themselves have been uploaded by the University of New Mexico and the link is also on our website. Thank you, Vera. Now we can use this Index that will save us a lot of time as we search for our ancestors in the *Deligencias Matrimoniales*. Go to gsha.net, click on links. The following are the instructions:

How to conduct a text search: It is easy to search for the person you are looking for. Using WINDOWS Ctrl+F = This is your Control Find function. Must use both keys at the same time. Using a MAC CMD+F = This is your Control Find function. Must use both keys at the same time. Person or Persons Use Ctrl+F, enter surname only; if you wish to identify all individuals with similar surname. EXAMPLE: Aragón, Baca, Martin, Romero, Vigil, etc. Use Ctrl+F, surname and given name; if you wish to identify specific individuals. The data was enter with the surname first because the author intends to utilize the data for re-search projects other than personal family histories. A Place Use Ctrl+F, enter location: San Felipe, Tome, or Santa Fé etc., and press "Enter" on your Some locations were abbreviated and must be typed as such for example, Albuquerque is Alb. The author recommends users preview the data to become familiar with the format before For additional documentation, the original data compiled by Fray Angelico Chávez can be found UNM NEW MEXICO ROOTS LTD. (q.v.) denotes that this particular name has already been cited elsewhere. For purposes of source documentation, it is recommended to use both citations.



Help us give away the following:

- A free registration to the 2015 GSHA conference
- A free membership to GSHA in 2016
- A monetary award of \$200

Residents of Santa Fe or the surrounding area between the ages of 20-40 can submit a contest entry form and a two-page typed paper telling a story about one of their female ancestors in keeping with the theme of our 2015 conference, *Mujeres Memorables del Mundo Hispano* (Memorable Women of the Hispanic World.) Three winners, as determined by the GSHA Vanguard Foundation Program committee, will receive \$200 in cash, a free membership to GSHA for 2016, and a free pass to the 2015 Genealogical Conference. Papers must be submitted by May 1, 2015 and winners must present their paper at the conference. Papers will be passed on to the editor of *Nuestras Raices* journal for publication consideration.

Contact Doug Daniels [doug2222@earthlink.net] or one of your conference committee members for detailed information. A contest entry form will also be on our website. Thank you.

We're on the web!

gsha.net



2014 Officers



Doug Daniels, *President*

Gloria Cordova, *Vice-president*

Janice Crane, *Secretary*

Phil Duran, *Treasurer*

Frank Dominguez, *Member-at-Large Representative*

Paul Gomez, *Southern California Representative and Chapter President*

Rita Morales, *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*

Pictures on page 1, courtesy of the Special Collections Department of the Pueblo City-County Library District.

Photo 1 was taken during the Depression in the 1930s through efforts of the WPA. Photo 2 was taken during prohibition in an establishment on Main Street, in Pueblo, Colorado.



**Mark your Calendars for June 5-7, 2015 to be in Santa Fe, NM
Reservations: Call 1-800-325-0720, Group Code 2230198**

The 2015 GSHA Conference and Annual Meeting will be held in Santa Fe June 5-7, 2015. We have negotiated some fantastic room rates and our conference fee will remain the same as 2014. Go to our website [GSHA.net] for attendee or vendor registration forms. Make your reservations soon and send in your registration form as we have room and attendee limitations. If you have any questions please email me at charlenegsimms@yahoo.com or call (719) 214-7253. Don't miss this conference. Opportunities abound for research and increasing your knowledge about our history and culture in a beautiful setting. Seen here is the interior of the Drury. More details on page 5 of this newsletter. *cgs*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED