



Noticias DE NUESTRAS RAICES

CELEBRATING OUR 30TH ANNIVERSARY



Summer 2019 • Volume 31, Number 1

Message from Charlene Garcia, President

As GSHA's 13th President, I am looking forward to celebrating with you thirty years of providing education and networking opportunities to Hispanic researchers. Our key signature event is the GSHA Annual Conference to be held August 16-18 in Pueblo, Colorado. (See full details in this newsletter).

Bravo to your board of directors for the time they give to GSHA: VP Frank Dominguez; Secretary Jeanette Martinez; Treasurer Ronald Maestas; Member-at-Large Representative Arturo Cuellar; and Chapter Representatives: Jessica Tidball, FACC; Patsy Vasquez, GSHA-SC; and John B. Martinez; GSHA-Utah. We are also indebted to Past President and former Treasurer Bob Craig, who serves as our Parliamentarian, a non-voting position. It also means that Bob is available to advise our Treasurer.

Your board and Chapters have been busy during the last few months. Among our accomplishments:

The Utah Chapter is now a full-fledged chapter. Jeanette Martinez and I visited with the Utah Chapter members in March during the RootsTech conference in Salt Lake City. We met new primos and primas, and enjoyed the hospitality of Maria Garcia. See our webpage at gshaa.org to see some pictures of the group. Margie Delgado, Utah Chapter president recently gave me a copy of their Utah Chapter business card. It looks very impressive. Congratulations are in order for our newest chapter.

Member-at-Large Representative, Arturo Cuellar, is recruiting new members and we now have a relationship with Sociedad Genealógica y de Historia Familiar de México and Sociedad Genealógica de IberoAmérica.

Facebook pages have been very busy, not only for GSHA, but FACC and GSHA-SC. The announcements of presentations and activities are so many, you have to log in to see what everyone is doing. We are learning from each other—a cross-pollination of ideas!

In April, I emailed all our members a guide to the contents of our journal, *Nuestras Raíces*, from 1989 to 2018. It was compiled by FACC

Continued on page 7.

TABLE OF CONTENTS



Conference Description.....	2
Conference Schedule.....	3
Conference Housekeeping Information.....	4
Introducing the 2019 GSHA Board of Directors.....	5
GSHA 2nd Quarter Operating Report.....	7
GSHA Board in Action	
Summary of GSHA 21 Jan. 2019 Board Meeting	8
Summary of GSHA 8 Apr. 2019 Board Meeting.....	9
Summary of GSHA 10 Jun. 2019 Board Meeting.....	10
Your Vote Counts!.....	10
A Discovered Source: Huerfano County Pioneer Ditch Ledger...	11
Annual Meeting Notice.....	11
GSHA Privacy Policy.....	12
GSHA 2019 Board Directors.....	12

Need a Hotel Room for the GSHA conference?

Just a friendly reminder that the discounted rate of \$119 + tax per room at the host hotel, the Courtyard by Marriott Pueblo Downtown, will end **July 25**. Reserve your room at (719) 542-3200 now so you won't miss out!

Celebrating 30 Years of Seeking Our Roots

2019 GSHA Conference and
Business Meeting



Where else can you hear Estevan Rael-Galvez, who was New Mexico's State Historian from 2001 thru 2009, and the State Historian and Deputy State Historian Robert D. Martínez. Estevan and archivist, Shane Flores will be teaching us how to do real archiving as part of the Manitos Community Memory Project. To learn more, go to their website just by typing in "Manitos Community Project." On Friday evening, the president's reception will be held at the historic El Pueblo Trading Post. Visit their website to see what you can anticipate as you see and feel history come alive. Estevan Rael-Galvez will give his keynote presentation about self-identity at a time when Hispanics are identified by so many names and our DNA is showing many segments in our pie chart.

On Saturday morning, our own FACC member and DNA guru, Tom J. Martinez will teach us how to find our DNA cousins. Greg Liverman will be answering the question: We've done our DNA testing and matches, now what?

If you want a little bit of history, we will have another track about a murder on the Santa Fe Trail by a descendent of Don Antonio Chavez. His intention is to motivate you to tell your own family stories. Our guest speaker, Rob Martinez, who comes from a family of musicians will be presenting the story of the history of New Mexico music in a historical context.

Saturday afternoon will take us beyond New Mexico. Arturo Cuellar who works at the LDS library in Salt Lake City, will teach us how to research in Mexico before 1850. Following Arturo will be, Virginia Sanchez, who has been

studying the controversial escapades of murders committed by the Espinosa brothers in the 1860s in the San Luis Valley, Colorado. Was this a case of "yellow journalism," "fake news," or is there an alternative explanation about what really happened.

Please plan on attending the annual business meeting on Saturday. The future of GSHA is in the hands of our members. Our banquet will once again have the "dress as your ancestor," contest which is always fun and enlightening. This year we have a guest presenter, Itsa Shash, (Eagle Bear) from the Warm Springs Apache Nation, who will be doing some amazing storytelling. You can't miss this part of the conference!

On Sunday we will wrap up our conference with none other than Angel Cervantes, founder of the New Mexico DNA Project, who will be telling the story of, "The Spanish Conquest of the New World." Angel will then bring us back full circle on what's going on with the New Mexico DNA project. Many of you may remember meeting Angel back in 2008, today, he is barely turning forty.

Our annual genealogical conference will close with a serious discussion about the future of GSHA. The overburdened national and chapter leaders of GSHA support the viability of GSHA, but without the support of the rank & file members, we may need to dissolve. GSHA is desperate for volunteers and solutions to a financial shortfall. ¡Sí se puede! [Yes, we can!]

If you have any questions, send an email to charlenegarcia161@gmail.com.





The following is our tentative schedule for the conference:

Thursday, August 15, 2019

For early birds and all interested members:

At 6 p.m., the Rawlings Library will host Marcus Flores, Senior Archivist, New Mexico State Records Center and Archives. He will give us an overview of the archives. The NM State Records Center and Archives protects and facilitates access to public records that are held in trust for the people of New Mexico. Refreshments will be served.

To get the 2019 GSHA Conference Registration Form, go to gshaa.org, CLICK ON "Conference," go to bottom of the page for the link.

Our host hotel is the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel, 110 W. City Center Dr., about five minutes from the Rawlings Library, the GSHA conference site and El Pueblo History Museum. The conference rate is \$119 plus tax. Call (719) 542-3200 and make sure you tell them you are with the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America to get the discounted rate. The deadline to get this rate is July 25!

Friday August 16

Registration and workshops will take place at the Rawlings Library at 100 E. Abriendo Ave.

10:30 a.m. – Carmen Arteaga, FACC president, will show and discuss personal primary documents used in the award-winning Chicano Movement exhibit at Pueblo Community College (PCC). She will also explain how her videos from 1971 were converted from 8 millimeter to digital. She will highlight individuals she knows were involved and their personal contributions to the Pueblo Chicano Movement in the 1970s. She will be available for questions on any part of exhibit. Tour will last for approximately 1 hour.

Those going on the tour should meet at Rawlings

Library, 100 East Abriendo in the parking lot off Bates Lane at 10:30 a.m. and Carmen will lead a caravan to PCC or maybe just carpool.

1 p.m. – Registration will open and many vendors will be set up. The library, which has a complete New Mexico genealogy collection, will be open all day starting at 9 a.m. at the Rawlings Library and this includes the computer room. A beginning genealogy class will be taught in the computer room on 3rd floor.

2:30 – 4:30 p.m. Manitos Community Memory Project Workshop - Estevan Rael-Galvez will lead this workshop which is about documenting object stories and mapping migrations. More details will be forthcoming but this is a valuable workshop about the importance of archiving your memories and your artifacts.

5:30 p.m. The President's Reception begins at El Pueblo History Museum, 301 N. Union Ave., about five minutes away from the library. Food, drink and entertainment will be abundant. The award-winning Borderlands of Southern Colorado exhibit will be open for attendees as well as the 1800s adobe placita. Check www.historycolorado.org/exhibit/borderlands to read about the Borderlands exhibit. The bookstore and gift shop will also be open. Many other surprises in store.

7:15 p.m. Welcome and opening of the 2019 GSHA conference. Guest introductions and our keynote address by Dr. Estevan Rael y Galvez, entitled "Self-Identification, It's complicated."

Saturday, August 17

All activities will be at the Rawlings Library

7 a.m. Registration opens

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. – DNA session with Tom J. Martinez, "Todos Somos Primos, How to Find Your DNA Cousins."

Continued on page 4.

2019 Conference Schedule *continued*

8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Introductions of GSHA board and chapter boards and honored guests.

9:15– 10:15 a.m. Guest Speaker: Robert D. Martinez, New Mexico State Historian

10:15 – 10: 45 a.m. – Vendor and networking time

Two Tracks:

10:45 – 11:45 a.m. – Presentation by Tony Juarez. Tony's program will focus on the murder of Don Antonio Jose Chavez on the Santa Fe Trail in 1843, an international incident. The murder of Don Antonio is a very personal and emotional subject for him. Tony is a namesake of his 4th-great grandfather, Don Antonio, and first learned of the murder through family oral history. The goal of his presentation is to motivate the audience to tell their own family stories.

10:45 a.m.- 12 noon - Greg Liverman, "We've done or DNA testing and matches, now what?"

12 Noon – 1:15 p.m. – **Lunch on your own**

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. To be announced

2:15 - 2:45 p.m. Vendor and networking time.

2:45 - 3:45 p.m. – Virginia Sanchez. Stories abound about the escapades of murders committed by the Espinosa brothers and their nephew (Felipe Nerio, Jose Vivian and Jose Vicente), but they all tell the same version. Virginia Sanchez introduces new documents and discusses events happening in Conejos during the Colorado Territorial Period to provide an alternative explanation of what happened and why. This presentation has been long awaited and you will understand why.

4 – 5 p.m. – GSHA Annual Meeting – This is a very important meeting for members to attend because the future of GSHA will be discussed.

6:30 p.m. – Banquet starts at the Ryals Room at the Rawlings Library, many hand-created decorations and the annual "Dress As Your Ancestor Contest." Our guest storyteller will be Native American, Tomas Shash (Warm Springs Apache Nation). More information will be forthcoming.

Sunday, August 18, 2019

Open at 8:30 and give attendees time to do some last-minute shopping and more networking

9 – 10:30 a.m. – Angel Cervantes – "The Spanish Conquest of the New World." Angel will explore the conquest of the New World 500 years ago. How did a peninsula country in Western Europe conquer two continents in the Western Hemisphere? What were the ramifications of Spanish conquest in the later Spanish settlement of New Mexico?

10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Last minute shopping and networking.

11 a.m. – 12 noon – Angel Cervantes will bring us up-to-date on the New Mexico DNA Project website of which many of us are members.

12:15 – 12:45 p.m. – What is the future of GSHA – We need your thoughts and your ideas.

12:45 – 1 p.m. – Announcement of 50/50 ticket raffle and all other raffle prizes. The conference will close.

1 – 5 p.m. the library is open until 5 p.m. for those who want to gather for networking, research or use the computers. Angel Cervantes will be available for discussion.



Conference Housekeeping Information

- Please silence your cell phones.
- Please be on time to the presentations.
- Bathrooms are located on each floor behind the stairs.
- If you need special parking, use the parking lot on the west end of the library. There is ample parking at the Bates Lane parking lot.
- Back issues of the *Nuestras Raices Journal* are on sale at the GSHA table. Some old issues that are a little bit beat up, and are offered for a small donation.

Introducing the 2019 GSHA Board of Directors

GSHA faces many challenges at this time: including an aging membership, recruitment of volunteers at the national and chapter levels, recruitment of younger members (focusing on active 50 and 60 year olds, as well as the rare 40, 30 or 20 year olds, who share our passion), and the integration of the new technologies into our established activities, including the recruitment and/or training of volunteers in these technologies. Our core members and core volunteers are aging. And since we no longer have a “senior” category in our membership, we do not know how many of our members are actually over 62. Charlene’s goal is to educate and mobilize the GSHA board, chapters and membership to understand these challenges and collectively develop solutions. You can contact her directly with your ideas and/or questions at: gsha.president1@gmail.com



Charlene Garcia Simms comes to the presidency of GSHA with a resume that includes thirty years of volunteerism with GSHA. Her skills are varied, which is reflected in her volunteer choices: leader (charter member of GSHA since 1989, serving as VP/Membership Chair in 1998, 1999 & 2018, FACC Rep. 2001, 2002 & 2003), founder and president of GSHA’s first branch/chapter. GSHA-FACC-Pueblo), a communicator (editor for 20 years of our primary communication tool: *Noticias de Nuestras Raíces*), organizer/manager (chair or co-chair since 1998 of seven of our successful annual genealogical conferences, chair and/or member of numerous committees) and administrator (Rules Committee). Professionally Charlene is Genealogy and Special Collections Librarian for the Pueblo City-County Library District. She has an MBA from Colorado State University’s Hasan School of Business and a second Master’s Degree in Library Science from the University of Arizona. She is one of the most prolific contributors to *Nuestras Raíces*. Recently

Charlene’s chapter “Trends in Genealogy” was published in: *Genealogy and the Librarian, Perspectives on Research, Instruction, Outreach and Management* edited by Carol Smallwood and Vera Gubnitskaia and published by McFarland and Company, Inc., 2018.

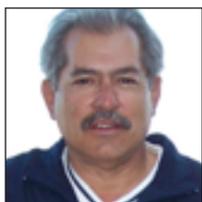


Frank Dominguez is currently GSHA VP/Membership Chair, whose term expires at the end of December. He assumed the role of acting Vice President in 2015 and was appointed VP/Membership Chair in 2016. In mid-2018 he became GSHA President due to the resignation of Paul Gomez. During his years as a GSHA board member Frank has focused on streamlining the Society’s membership records and providing accurate contact information for the editors of GSHA’s publications, *Noticias de Nuestras Raíces* and *Nuestras Raíces*, and other projects that require printed or email to members. Frank is a charter member of GSHA and originally joined the board in 2014 when he was appointed GSHA’s Member-at-Large representative. Frank has written ten books, most of them dealing with 18th century census records from la Provincia de Nueva Vizcaya and 30 articles, many of which have been published in *Nuestras Raíces*. He is currently the membership chair for the Colorado Society of Hispanic Genealogy (CSHG).



Jeanette Martinez, (formerly known as Jeanette Fisher), currently serves as GSHA Secretary and chairs the Rules Committee. Jeanette planned and produced five GSHA conferences: Albuquerque in 2006 & 2012, Las Vegas, NM, in 2011, Denver in 2014 and Pueblo in 2018, highlighting her leadership, creative and organizational skills. Joining GSHA-SC in 1996, Jeanette has also served on the staff of *Nuestras Raíces*, and was GSHA Parliamentarian in 2012 in addition to serving as VP Sales, Secretary and Chapter Representative for the Southern California Chapter. Professionally, Jeanette worked as an administrative secretary transcribing medical records,

and as a freelance court reporter, in addition to a variety of temporary jobs around the country in her 17 years as a full-time RVer. Jeanette's term as Secretary ends this December and after devoting countless hours to the success of GSHA she is looking forward to seeing other members serve while she directs her focus back to further research on her Martinez family line.



GSHA lifetime member **Ronald W. Maestas** is serving his first two-year term as GSHA's Treasurer. His goal is to assure the financial viability of GSHA by involving the Financial Committee in all matters regarding the finances, requesting their input, concerns and recommendations. Ronald has worked on a special project for *Nuestras Raíces* and has contributed several articles to that publication, as well as to *La Herencia* and the *Colorado Hispanic Genealogist*. Professionally, Ronald is a former Dean and Professor at New Mexico Highlands University, who earned an Ed.D. degree from Arizona State University. His bachelor's and master's degree in business were earned at Adams State College, and has completed post-doctoral work at the University of Minnesota and Indiana University in Management Information Systems. He is the co-author of six textbooks on Microsoft Windows to include 3.0, 3.1, Windows 95, Windows 98, 2000, Microsoft Office 95 and Office 98.



Arturo Cuellar is serving his second year as Member at Large on the national board, representing members who do not belong to a chapter as well as libraries and other institutions that are GSHA members. His goal is to increase membership, promote online resources, and genealogical training. Cuellar's background is as a genealogical researcher and lecturer, with 30+ years of research experience. He is currently employed by the LDS Salt Lake City Family History Library

as a Latin America Research Specialist. He is an Accredited Genealogist specializing in Mexico and has a bachelor's degree in International Relations and a Master's degree in Latin America Studies. Presently, he is working towards a bachelor's degree in Family History, and a second AG specializing in South America. Cuellar has researched in more than twenty Latin America and Spain archives and record repositories. He joined GSHA-FACC in 2015 and in 2018 became President of GSHA-Utah before his appointment to the voting position as Member at Large on the national board. When the qualifications for the latter position were clarified in the bylaws in 2018, Cuellar resigned from GSHA-Utah and is now a member at large.



John B. Martinez serves on the 2019 as the Utah Chapter Representative. He has a unique history with GSHA: In 1995 he joined GSHA-SC while living in Sacramento, California, then in 2007 when his cousin Cathy Archuleta became GSHA's eighth president, he joined GSHA-FACC Pueblo. As a resident of Layton, Utah, it later made sense to join the GSHA-Utah Chapter. John is committed to the success of GSHA-Utah, which means increasing membership, developing and mentoring volunteers, and ultimately hosting a future GSHA Genealogical Conference in Salt Lake City. John has a degree in Political Science/ International Relations, with a minor in History from the University of Utah. He was employed in the marketing dept. of IBM. John is justifiably proud of his son John Hyrum Martinez who was the Archivist for the State of New Mexico and was in charge of the New Mexico Archives, and now works for the National Archives in Washington, DC.

[Information on the FACC & GSHA-SC Chapter Representatives were not received prior to our print deadline and will be published at a later date]

Message from President

Continued from page 1.

members John Valdez and Carolyn Cordova. This guide can help you find articles that might be of value in our research. If you did not get a copy, email me at charlenegarcia161@gmail.com

The Rules Committee, chaired by Jeanette Martinez has sent a vote to our membership on proposed amendments to our bylaws. The 2018 amendment process went very smoothly and we expect a similar result this year. Remember, your vote is your voice.

In July 2019 a complete set of *Nuestras Raíces* (1989 thru 2018) was donated to the U.S. Library of Congress. This was initiated by *Nuestras Raíces* Editor Donie Nelson, and was researched by journal staff member Hector Islas. Abel Santistevan and Bob Craig handled this valuable shipment. This means that anyone using the Library of Congress will have access to our journals.

While all this sounds wonderful, we are still at a standstill with getting members to volunteer as officers or to chair the committees of both the national GSHA or its Chapters. These positions and committee are what keep our Society functioning. You will be hearing from your chapter presidents and representatives embark on recruitment efforts. If you get the call, please say, "Yes." I know you are there just waiting to be asked, and I remain confident that many of you will come forward so we don't have to consider the worst of scenarios which is dissolution. There have been very long, serious discussions at the GSHA board meetings.

Please attend the annual board meeting at the conference scheduled for 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 17. If you are not able to attend, go to our webpage at gshaa.org and at the bottom of the page are two email addresses for the president and secretary, send us your thoughts. More important tell us how you can help. Again, you will be hearing from your president, chapter representative. or member-at-Large representative to discuss what you can do to keep GSHA going for at least another decade.

Charlene Garcia Simms, GSHA President, 2019

GSHA 2nd Quarter Operating Report

April 1 - June 30, 2019

Revenue	
Membership	\$ 705.55
Journal orders	\$ 177.94
Member donation	\$ 10.00
Total Revenue	\$893.49
Other Income and Expense	
Journal Editor	\$375.00
Journal Printing	\$846.36
Journal mailing	\$180.23
Journal remail	\$71.23
Storage	\$135.00
Insurance	\$233.10
40% return to Chapters	\$175.00
Office Supplies ⁽¹⁾	\$23.66
GSHA-Utah 2018 Conference profit-sharing	\$500.00
	\$2,539.58
(1) Manila envelopes	
Net Income	-\$1,646.09
Balances as of 6/30/2019	
Operating checking account	\$ 1,724.13
Conference checking account	\$ 4,607.13
Savings account	\$ 9,705.53
Total cash balances	\$16,036.79



Editorial Staff

*Co-Editors: Donie Nelson and Cathy Romero
Production and layout: Cathy Romero
Contributors: Jeanette Martinez and Charlene Garcia*



GSHA Board in Action

Summary of GSHA 21 Jan. 2019 Board Meeting
Contact the Secretary for copies of actual minutes.

Presiding Officer: President Charlene Garcia Simms (votes only to break a tie)

Voting Board Members: VP/Membership Chair Frank Dominguez, Secretary Jeanette Martinez, Treasurer Ronald Maestas, Member at Large Rep Arturo Cuellar (joined at 5:35 p.m.), Acting FACC Rep Mary Ellen Burciago, GSHA-SC Rep. Patsy Vasquez (joined at 6:17pm), GSHA-Utah Acting Rep Margie Victoria Delgado.

Non-Voting/Guests: Gloria Gonzalez-Cook, GSHA-Utah; Donie Nelson, *Nuestras Raíces* Editor, Parliamentarian Bob Craig

Appointments:
Frank Dominguez appointed VP/Membership Chair for 2019

Arturo Cuellar appointed 2019 Member at Large (MAL) Representative

Bob Craig appointed GSHA Parliamentarian, non-voting/unpaid position

Action:

- Effective 19 January 2019 all libraries or other institutions that have membership in GSHA will no longer be members of individual chapters, but will be categorized as "members at large" under the supervision of the MAL Representative
- GSHA member Virginia Sanchez to be presented with a 2019 Honorary GSHA Membership (amended motion).
- Minutes of 18 October 2018 amended as follows: GSHA-Utah to receive \$500 instead of \$50.

Reports

Membership (Dominguez): Because all membership categories were abolished in 2016 by bylaw amendment, "household" can only officially track membership. This means that the actual number of GSHA members cannot be accurately calculated since the only number tracked by the VP is the "member household" that joins.

Treasurer (Maestas): 2018 Year End Report accepted. Maestas and Craig will review the 2019 Operating Budget.

MAL (Cuellar): Goal to increase numbers from 21 to 30. Cuellar is currently enrolled as a member at large and is no longer a member of GSHA-Utah, in compliance of 2018 bylaw amendment.

Chapters: GSHA-Utah and FACC reports accepted, no report from GSHA-SC.

Website/Social Media (Simms): The new gshaa website is still a work in progress.

Duran & GSHA Youth Initiative (Simms): report submitted.

Nominations Committee (Nelson): Report accepted.

Marketing & Publicity (Nelson): Leonard Trujillo, President of GSHA-SC has agreed to be the GSHA social media director, publicizing the Society's activities on Facebook and other venues. Volunteer needed to manage Society's mailing lists on Mail Chimp.

Nuestras Raices (Nelson): GSHA-Utah still has missing member addresses; Cuellar to obtain missing information. Winter 2018 journal page count increased from 40 to 48 to accommodate the amount of material available to publish. Finance Committee to report on the impact on 2019 budget.

Noticias de Nuestras Raices (Nelson): Until a new editor can be appointed, Donie Nelson has agreed to manage the Society's newsletter. Bylaws do not allow the Society President to be editor of either the journal or newsletter (separation of powers).

Finance Committee (Maestas): No meetings in 2018; a new committee to be appointed; Patsy to recruit an auditor for the Society's records, which have not been audited for years.

Rules Committee (Martinez): February 1 is deadline to submit proposed bylaw changes.

Old Business

PDF Committee: Established to advise the board on the feasibility of publishing *Nuestras Raíces* journal in a PDF format and delivered to members electronically, instead of printed and mailed by USPS. Committee comprised of Frank Dominguez, Ronald Maestas, and Cathy Romero, with Donie Nelson as Chair. A report is due within one month.

New Business

2019 Conference: No volunteers to chair or co-chair the conference, though volunteers for lesser positions have come forward. Discussion about potential sites and paying someone to chair the event.

Dues Distribution: In 2012 the GSHA Board voted to change the distribution of funds collected as dues as follows: 60% to GSHA national and 40% retained by Chapter. From 1989 thru 2011, dues funds were distributed with 80% to GSHA and 20% to the Chapters, collected from members are divided. The Society's current financial situation requires more income to offset increased expense. One of the areas to consider is revising the dues distribution by reducing the Chapter's share. One recommendation is a 70/30 split, with the Chapters receiving 30% of the dues. Matter referred to Finance Committee. 

Summary of GSHA 8 Apr. 2019 Board Meeting

Contact the Secretary for copies of actual minutes.

Presiding Officer: President Charlene Garcia Simms (votes only to break a tie)

Voting Board Members: VP/Membership Chair Frank Dominguez, Secretary Jeanette Martinez, Treasurer Ronald Maestas, FACC Rep Jessica Tidball, GSHA-SC Rep. Patsy Vasquez, GSHA-Utah Rep John P. Martinez

Absent: Member at Large Rep Arturo Cuellar

Non-Voting/Guests: Parliamentarian Bob Craig, Donie Nelson, *Nuestras Raíces* Editor & Managing Editor Noticias de *Nuestras Raíces* (joined at 5:13pm), Cathy Romero (joined at 7:05 pm)

Action:

- Motion to change the format of *Nuestras Raíces* from hard printed copy to PDF, and made available to members requesting this format, but without the cover.
- 2019 contract with the editor of *Nuestras Raíces* approved.
- All members to receive the *Nuestras Raíces* contents guide created by John Valdez and Carolyn Cordova.
- Table the proposal to categorize all libraries and other institutions as Members at Large, instead of members of a Chapter. (Supersedes motion passed at 21 Jan. 2019 board meeting.)
- GSHA Board will act as the Planning Committee for the 2019 GSHA Genealogical Conference.

Reports

Membership (Dominguez): As of April 7, there are 136 member/households. Some chapter reports have not been received. GSHA's Master Membership List compiled by the VP has been moved from an Excel document that he managed into a Google Doc format. This format bypasses the VP, allowing each chapter membership chair to update the Master List personally. Dominguez states this was done so that any mistakes in the List are the responsibility of the chapters not him. However, it also means that the document is available to all the chapter membership chairs, which was not the case when Dominguez compiled and updated the list from Excel files sent to him. GSHA-SC objects to this new method because they have a long-standing "privacy commitment" to their members and do not believe the information on their members should be available to the other chapters. The President will be meeting with those involved in an attempt to resolve the impasse.

Treasurer (Maestas): Craig will respond in writing about the increase in Pueblo sales tax on the journal sales from \$50 to \$100.

MAL (Cuellar): Ten new members. Cuellar will be speaking & recruiting members at the 14th binational genealogy conference in Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico. Chapters: no report from GSHA-SC

FACC: 2019 officers installed; programs include a two-session presentation on DNA, genealogy software programs, report on Roots Tech Conference.

GSHA-Utah: 2019 officers elected, 22 paid members, reviewing Chapter's website, Chapter hosted GSHA officers who attended Roots Tech Conference 2019.

Website/Social Media (Simms): no report

Duran & GSHA Youth Initiative (Simms): no report

Nominations Committee: Frank Dominguez and Jeanette Martinez will co-chair, three more volunteers to be recruited from the chapters. The election will be held no later than the last day in November.

Rules Committee (Jeanette Martinez): No new proposed amendments to bylaws received; she is reviewing the previously submitted 15 proposed bylaws for inclusion in online voting by membership in late June or early July.

Marketing & Publicity (Nelson): no report

***Nuestras Raíces* (Nelson):** The scans of the back issues of *Nuestras Raíces* by former GSHA-Utah board member Evan Christensen were received and archived. Although some issues contain fixable errors (upside down pages) and are not of the best visual quality, we are grateful to Evan for providing them at no charge. A complete set of *Nuestras Raíces* is being sent to the Library of Congress for their Hispanic Reading Room collection. *Nuestras Raíces* staff member Hector Islas researched this donation. This contribution will not only reduce the amount of back issues we have in storage, but provide us with visibility on the national level. The special military booklet approved by the board in 2016 has been cancelled because the editor lacked the time to develop and produce this extra "issue" and still meet print commitments for the quarterly issues of the journal. Instead, many of the articles scheduled for the booklet were published in the "special military issue" of fall 2018. If we have enough articles, the fall 2019 issue will also be dedicated to the military.

Noticias de Nuestras Raíces (Nelson): Donie has recruited Cathy Romero, Art Director for *Nuestras Raíces*, to produce the first issue of the newsletter for 2019, and will coordinate with the President, who is the former editor.

Finance Committee (Maestas): Topics on their agenda include, audit of Society's financial records, costs

Continued on page 10.

Summary of GSHA 8 Apr. 2019 Board Meeting

Continued from page 9.

of the 48-page journal, amending the 60/40 dues split, and the addition of a PDF version of *Nuestras Raíces*. President requested a list of committee members by June 10 since the committee did not meet in 2018. Current members include: Maestas as chairman, Craig Vasquez, Kevin Williams (GSHA-SC), and one more is needed.

PDF Committee (Nelson): After some confusion by Nelson, who did not recall agreeing to be the chair of this committee at the January meeting and never received minutes of the meeting, a discussion ensued about the pros and cons of converting *Nuestras Raíces* from a printed/mailed publication to a PDF format that is sent to members electronically.

2019 Annual Genealogical Conference (Simms)

Location to be Pueblo, Colorado (same as 2018) because it promises higher profit and lower expense than other venues, plus it is easier to manage since location is home to the majority of the Planning Committee and the FACC volunteers. Discussion about expanding topics beyond Colorado/New Mexico. 

GSHA Board in Action (Continued)

Summary of GSHA 10 Jun. 2019 Board Meeting

Contact the Secretary for copies of actual minutes.

Presiding Officer: President Charlene Garcia Simms (votes only to break a tie)

Voting Board Members: VP/Membership Chair Frank Dominguez, Secretary Jeanette Martinez, Treasurer Ronald Maestas, FACC Rep Jessica Tidball (joined at 7:12pm), GSHA-Utah Rep John P. Martinez, Member at Large Rep Arturo Cuellar (joined at 7:13pm)

Absent: GSHA-SC Rep. Patsy Vasquez

Non-Voting/Guests: Parliamentarian Bob Craig, GSHA-Utah President Margie Victoria Delgado, GSHA-Utah Secretary Gloria Gonzalez-Cook, GSHA-MAL Roccie Hill, Acting Editor/*Noticias de Nuestras Raíces* Cathy Romero

Action:

- Motion to approve payment of \$200 to Simply Voting, who manage the Society's on-line voting service. Reports

Your Vote Counts!

Coming Soon! Electronic Voting for Proposed GSHA Bylaws Changes

- Watch your email in July for a notice from Simply Voting that voting is open.
- Check the GSHA website at www.gshaa.org for more details.
 - Update your email address with your membership chairperson if you've changed it recently.
 - Do your part to keep GSHA strong by voting!
 - Voting gives you a voice in the decisions that affect you.

Contact Jeanette Martinez if you have questions at 520-490-9449.

President: No solution yet to the membership privacy issue. The GSHA Rules Committee created a privacy policy that is posted to the GSHA website. The proposal to transfer all institutional members to the category of "Members at Large" is included in the proposed bylaws for vote by members in July.

Membership (Dominguez): As of June 10, there are 329 member/households, 50 less than 2018.

Secretary (Martinez): report accepted

Treasurer (Maestas): Report covers 4/1 thru 5/31/2018: revenue is \$1,301.96 and expenses total \$2,566.88. This is a deficit of \$1,264.92.

MAL & Chapter Reports: accepted as submitted.

Website/Social Media (Simms): no report

Duran & GSHA Youth Initiative (Simms): no report

Rules Committee (Jeanette Martinez): Working with Simply Voting to upload the proposed bylaws and list of eligible members to vote.

Marketing & Publicity (Nelson): no report

Nuestras Raíces (Nelson/Romero): Summer journal in pre-production, using 2019 conference theme of

Continued on page 11.

A Discovered Source: Huerfano County Pioneer Ditch Ledger

By *Kenneth Gardner, GSHA-FACC*

I hope the 2019 GSHA Genealogical Conference attendees can benefit from this discovery. A copy of the ledger for the Pioneer Ditch Company in Huerfano County is currently available at the Rawlings Library in Pueblo, Colorado. An index is scheduled to be serialized in future issues of *Nuestras Raíces*.

My dear cousin, Elva Wolin, told me of a family item she had been recently given by an older family member. She explained it was a ledger for the Pioneer Ditch Company that was originally owned by her gr-gr-grandfather Pedro Pantleon Gonzales. I anxiously asked if I could see it. To my amazement, the ledger was in rather good shape for being so old. The Pioneer Ditch was established in 1889 and the ledger consisted of the bylaws for the ditch's water rights and notes from the yearly meetings that were held by the board members, dating from 1889 to 19???. Inside the ledger were many familiar names, including my family members. Some of the information included in the ledger consists of the work to be

done on the ditch, who was hired to complete the work, the hours they worked and the price they paid to get the work done. Board members are listed and when new members were elected that was also documented. Water was the lifeblood of these pioneering families and this ledger is a factual account of how water was regulated both in a monetary way and in a physical way. I immediately made copies of the ledger for two reasons, first to preserve the ledger from future handling and second to make the information available to those interested in learning about water rights. 

GSHA Annual Business Meeting 4 p.m. Sat., Aug. 17, InfoZone

Once a year we get to meet together to take care of GSHA business and discuss the future of GSHA. Our annual meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 17, in the InfoZone theater. We hope to have record attendance this year. We want to hear your thoughts. You might have some new ideas. Step up!

This is your organization and it can keep getting better and better but not without your help.

Summary of GSHA 10 Jun. 2019 Board Meeting *Continued from page 10.*

Celebrating 30 Years of Seeking Our Roots. Joining the staff, as copy editors are FACC members: Marietta Vigil Gonzales and Tom J. Martinez. GSHA-SC member Gregory PISAÑO will be a staff writer. The 2019 fall issue will focus on a military theme.

Noticias de *Nuestras Raíces* (Nelson/Romero): First issue to be distributed before June 30. Romero is giving the publication a "minor facelift" and creating a new masthead. Plans for the content of Noticias were outlined in the written report.

Finance Committee (Maestas): No meeting yet.

PDF Committee (Nelson): no report. Chapter Reps tasked with surveying their members regarding a preference for PDF or print version of *Nuestras Raíces* journal. Results due: July 10.

Nominations Committee (Dominguez, Jeanette Martinez): the committee now includes: FACC-Joe Martinez, Utah-John Martinez, SC-Lenny Trujillo,

and MAL-Roccie Hill. Positions to be filled include: VP/Membership Chair and Secretary to serve two-year terms beginning January 1, 2010.

2019 Annual Genealogical Conference (Simms): Cathy Romero has designed a logo and flyer.

Unfinished Business: No compromise reached with the national and SC regarding using Google Docs for membership updates. [See minutes for complete discussion.]

New Business:

Dissolution: The GSHA Executive Committee (President, VP, Secretary & Treasurer) met on June 2 to discuss the dissolution of the Society dues to the lack of volunteers, lack of support from the Chapters, and financial problems. Those who do volunteer are reluctant to take on leadership positions, including becoming a committee head. Frequently there is no or slow response to emails or even phone calls. Feedback was mixed. Chapter Presidents will be invited to attend the July 10 board meeting. [See 6/10/2018 minutes for full discussion.] 



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GSHA Privacy Policy

The Rules Committee has developed a privacy policy for GSHA. Privacy and security on the Internet is concerns all of us. As a non-profit corporation, GSHA believes in providing security for the contact information of our members.

If you have any questions concerning your Chapter's policies regarding your contact information, communicate with your chapter president. Please review GSHA's policy on our website at gsha.org under Membership.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about GSHA national policy, you can email us at gsha.president1@gmail.com or gshasecretary@gmail.com.



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