Nuestras Raices JOURNAL

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF HISPANIC AMERICA



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ADVERTISING POLICY

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

GSHA publications are mailed bulk rate. If you move and do not notify your local chapter and GSHA by mail, your replacement issues will be mailed at the highest postal rate. Send change of address to our Pueblo Post Office address or e-mail doniegsha@earthlink.net

NEWSLETTER

GSHA publishes a quarterly newsletter, Noticias de Nuestras Raíces, which provides members with information about their Society and chapters, including a calendar of events. Send all news and calendar events to GSHA Publications, P.O. Box 3040, Pueblo, CO 81005-3040 or via e-mail to: charleneg-simms@yahoo.com

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF HISPANIC AMERICA

Nuestras Raíces

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Message From the Editor

This issue is dedicated to the history of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America. While we would love to print this issue in color, it is much too expensive. To solve this problem, and to promote our own genealogical roots as much as possible, this issue will be available as a downloadable PDF document on the Society's website (http://www.gsha.net/index.html), so that as many of our members and supporters as possible can enjoy the issue in full color. All 2014 members will receive their mailed copy in black and white.

To accomplish our goals for this issue we contacted early members, sought photographs, and set our allergies afire as we surfed through dusty issues of *Nuestras Raices* the journal and *Noticias de Nuestras Raices* the newsletter looking for GSHA's early history--a familiar job to a genealogist! Most of what we found is published in these pages, along with an article about Denver—the site of the first GSHA Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference in 1989. We are grateful to Dr. Eugene L. Torres, Charlene Garcia Simms, Diane Benavides Mason, Patricia Maes Manalo, Betty Duran, Frank Dominguez, Bertha Gallegos, and other early members who answered our call and discovered the photographs and documents, and contributed the history published herein.

The first edition of *Nuestras Raices*, Vol. 1, No. 1, was published in January 1989 and was promoted as the "Inaugural Issue—Collectors Edition". In addition to the variety of articles, it contained the Society's news. In those early days, the editor of the journal and the newsletter was the same person and their policy was to publish GSHA's news and genealogical information in whatever publication was going to the printer next. And, to further complicate matters, both publications had the same name! Ten years later (1999), the decision was made to keep the identities of the Society's publications as separate as possible—even though the members voted to retain the name *Nuestras Raices* as a part of the newsletter's name. And that is why our newsletter is now called *Noticias de Nuestras Raices*. Fortunately, in 1998 the decision was made to have two separate editors, one for the journal and one for the newsletter. It was also agreed that our policy would be that the journal would publish material on history and genealogy, while the newsletter would publish the Society's *NEWS* and anything that is time-sensitive.

Gems from *Nuestras Raices* is a feature introduced in *Nuestras Raices* in the Winter 2000, V. 12, Issue 4. It was designed to introduce to new members and remind veteran members of the articles that have already been published. It also promoted the sale of journal back issues. In this issue the Gems feature focuses on that first issue of *Nuestras Raices* in January 1989. Please join us as we time travel into GSHA's past.

We will continue to publish information on GSHA's history in future issues, so if you have some memories, photographs, or copies of documents on our history, please submit them to us. Remember: If we do not write our own history, who will?

We are pleased to welcome GSHA's early supporter (see page 20), La Voz Bilingual Newspaper as GSHA's exclusive media sponsor in 2014.

Donie A. Nelson Managing Editor & Editor in Chief

Nuestras Raíces does not publish material that has previously been published in Colorado or New Mexico genealogical periodicals, as we do not wish to be redundant or waste natural resources. We welcome comments from our readers, including corrections or additions to articles published. We believe the journal should be open to different points of view to stimulate academic discussion and further research. However, we do not encourage an atmosphere, in which researchers feel challenged or criticized; that stifles discussion and further publication of diverse views.



Firsts

Genealogical Society of Hispanic America

January 1989: **First Issue of Nuestras Raices**January 21 1989: **First Board of Directors**First Order of Business, Installation of Officers:
President: David Salazar

1st Vice President: Dr. Eugene Torres

2nd Vice President: Shirley Clayton

3rd Vice president: Felix Zamora
Recording Secretary: Nemesio Lobato
Corresponding Secretary: Cordelia Martinez

Treasurer: Karen Mitchell
Member at Large: Carmen Teufel

Member at Large: Carmen Teufel Member at Large: Alonzo Martinez

April 1989: First Changes to the Board of Directors: Recording: Secretary Carmen Teufel; Treasurer: Margaret Turner; and Member at Large: Eileen Sandoval

On June 22, 1989 a meeting was held at El Pueblo Museum in Pueblo Colorado, to officially form the First GSHA Branch: Pueblo. David & Mary Salazar and Margaret Turner meet with the Pueblo representatives.

The following is a compilation of GSHA's Founding Members, based on oral history, a complete original membership list has not been located.

Tom Apodaca, Catherine Aragon, Pete Aragon, Martin Aragon, Gloria Torres Armijo, Denise Lobato Baca, Charlotte Bartolo, Juanita Bowen, Charles Lontin Chavez, Dr. Everett Chaves, Shirley Clayton, Frank Dominguez, Benny Garcia, Harriett Gonzales, Marietta Vigil Gonzales, Manuel & Corinne Gutierrez, John Jimenez, Mr. & Mrs. Procopio Jiron, Nemesio Lobato, Olibama Lopez-Tushar, Vicky Loeven, Ned Lovato, Pauline Lovato, Margaret Lucero, Frank & Mary Ann Lujan, Pat Maes Manalo, Joseph Marquez, Harold & Evangeline Marston, Alonzo Martinez, Cordelia Martinez, Evelyn Lara Martinez, Karen Mitchell, Diena Sandoval Mohlman, Gloria Patterson, Toni Peralta, Christine Peyton, Kitty Rael, Rod Rodriguez, Evangeline Saavedra, Cirila St. Vrain, David Salazar, Carol Sandoval, Eileen Sandoval, Esther Schmidt, Al & Catherine Sedillo, Madelyn Sena, Carmen Teufel, Rose Mestas Thompson, Eugene L. Torres, Phil & Orie Trujillo, Margaret Valdez Turner, Michael Turner, Dolores Romero Vasquez, John Vasquez, Dora Vigil, Rosemarie L. Weisse, Hope Gallegos Yost, and Felix Zamora.

If you are a founding member and are not on this list, notify the editor-in-chief.

GSHA: A TIMELINE

Over 25 years ago the first meeting of what would become the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America was held in the U.S. West's office building on California Street in Denver, Colorado on September 14, 1988 by a group of Hispanic researchers who researched at the Denver Public Library. And in 1989, events moved quickly:

- ★September 14, 1988 First meeting of GSHA in conference room No. 1 of U.S. West's office building, 1801 California Street, Denver
- ★January 21, 1989 Installation of GSHA officers at Dayton Library, Regis College with featured speakers: Enid Thompson, Regis College Archivist, and Linda Watson, Colorado State Archives.
- ★January 28, 1989 Viva Colorado on Channel 56, the Denver Public Library cable station, presents its first programming segment on GSHA.
- ★April 13, 1989 Genealogy classes held in the Hispanic Ministry Office at the old St. Patrick's School in North Denver. Instructors are: Shirley Clayton, Joseph Marquez, and David Salazar.
- ★April 15, 1989 Tour of the Denver Art Museum's New World Art, including Pre-Columbian Art Exhibit, Spanish Colonial Art Exhibit, and Santos and the US. Southwest Art Exhibit
- ★April 26, 1989 Research groups launched to provide help and guidance at the Denver Public Library, with focus on the first families of the Trinidad area.
- ★June 22, 1989 First GSHA branch (later chapter) Pueblo, Colorado formed at the El Pueblo Museum in Pueblo, Colorado. Organizing committee composed of Susan Coral, Debra Espinoza, Apolonia Martinez, Debra Martinez, Miguel Martinez, Ben Rodriguez, and Charlene Garcia Simms. Officers of the branch are: President Debra Martinez, VP Ben Rodriguez, Secretary Susan Coral, and Treasurer Charlene Garcia Simms. Representing GSHA were: David and Mary Salazar and Margaret (Valdez) Turner.
- ★August 5, 1989 El Pueblo Mercado at the El Pueblo Museum
- ★September 22, 1989 Open House at the Denver Federal Records Center, National Archives and Records Administration
- ★September 15, 1990 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference at the Denver Public Library
- ★May 18 & 19, 1991 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference at the Hillside Community Center
- ★May 1992 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at Regis University, Denver, Colorado.
- ★August 1992 The Southern California branch organized in Huntington Beach, California becomes part of GSHA. Officers of the branch are: President Art Lopez/Donie Nelson, Vice Presidents: Julie Candelaria, Joanne Sanchez, Pauline Chavez Bent, Elmer Montaño, Antoinette Silva, Sharon Heinz, Secretary Sharon Heinz & Joanne Sanchez, Treasurer Patricia Wilkes. Representing GSHA at the installation were: David and Mary Salazar.
- ★May 29-30, 1993 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Coloradio History Museum, Denver, Colorado.
- ★May 27-29, 1994 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Trinidad, Colorado celebrates Trinidad as the third branch of GSHA. Diane Mason, Trinidad Chapter President presides, representing GSHA is Eugene L. Torres, D.V.M.
- ★1995 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Denver, Colorado
- ★1996 GSHA has over 600 members; GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Pueblo, Colorado; vote passes to revise bylaws and become a national organization with chapters
- ★July 19, 1997 -- GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Long Beach, California; members vote to accept new bylaws
- ★January 1, 1998 GSHA becomes a national organization with over 800 members, and adds two new chapters in Denver: the Denver Founding Chapter and the Olibama Lopez Tushar Chapter
- ★1998 –& celebrates New Mexico's Cuatro Centenario at a joint conference with the Hispanic Genealogical Research Center and the New Mexico Genealogical Society in Glorieta, New Mexico
- ★1999 The two Denver chapters detach from GSHA to form two independent genealogical groups; GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at Adams State College in Colorado's San Luis Valley

- ★2000 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at Colorado State University in Pueblo, Colorado
- ★2001 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the College of Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- ★July 2002 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Pueblo Train Station, Colorado
- ★June 25-27, 2004 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at Trinidad State Jr. College, Colorado
- ★June 24-26, 2005 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Española, New Mexico
- ★June 23-25, 2006 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico; GSHA-Trinidad disbands.
- ★June 22-24, 2007 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Cities of Gold Hotel & Conference Center in Santa Fe, New Mexico
- ★June 27-29, 2008 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center, Taos, New Mexico
- ★June 19-21, 2009 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Sagebrush Inn & Conference Center, Taos, New Mexico
- ★June 27-29, 2010 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Hilton Santa Fe Plaza, Santa Fe, New Mexico
- ★August 5-7, 2011 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held in Las Vegas, New Mexico
- ★June 15-17, 2012 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference celebrates New Mexico's 100 Years of Statehood in Santa Fe
- ★June 14-16, 2013 GSHA's Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference held at the Nativo Lodge, Albuquerque, New Mexico
- ★2014 GSHA with over 550 members celebrates its 25th Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference in a suburb of Denver: Westminster, Colorado

Looking Back ...

"I met David Salazar in September 1989 at the Denver Federal Center Archives. After talking with him I joined the group. After several years I was elected to be a Vice-President, in charge of membership. I really enjoyed this and had a lot of fun working with other members on genealogy. I do know that people would meet at the Denver Public Library to do genealogy; this was before the group was official. It is hard to believe that 25 years have gone by. Thank you to all who founded this group way back in 1989. Look where it is today. I am very proud that I am still a member of GSHA."

Patricia Maes Manolo. GSHA-FACC

"One year after I retired in 1987 I became a member of GSHA. In 1988 a group of genealogists in Denver felt there was a need for a genealogy group that focused on Hispanic genealogy. GSHA was born. The Denver group deserves accolades for instituting an organization that has grown and prospered for twenty-five years. Over the years there have been many dedicated officers and volunteers who deserve credit for their efforts. It has been a privilege to be associated with them. The Pueblo Branch was organized in 1989. In 1995 Fray Angelico Chavez honored the Pueblo Chapter by permitting the use of his name in its title. The GSHA National was organized in 1998. Even though I have never been an officer, I have been involved along with other members in educational programs. The FACC "Colorado's Hispanic Heritage" exhibit at the Southeastern Colorado Heritage Center covers Spanish culture and migration from Spain to Colorado over the past 500 years and a rotating ancestral families exhibit "Nuestras Familias" as well as a section on Native American Indians. Another is the "Spanish History and Culture" trunk sponsored by FACC. This is one of twelve Legacy Trunks available thru the educational outreach program of the Southeastern Colorado Heritage Center. Presentations are offered to students from preschool thru twelfth grade free of charge.

"By being a member I have found my unknown ancestors thru research and made lifetime friendships with other members, as well as finding *comadres* and *compadres* I had never known."

Betty Duran, GSHA-FACC

GSHA's 1990 Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference Denver Public Library

		9
	Nuestras Raices	
	Saturday, 15 September 19	90
9 - 10:45 am	Beginners Workshop	Miller Conference room 3rd floor
9 - 10 am	FAMILY PAPERS: Conservation and Preservation	Western Room 4th floor
11 - 12 noon	Entriega: Marriage Customs in the Hispanic Southwest	Malcom Wyer Auditorium
	with Dr. Irene Blea	
1 - 2 pm	Tour of Western History Department	
2 - 5 pm	Annual Meeting: Genealogical Society of Hispanic America	Malcom Wyer Auditorium
	Sunday, 16 September 199	0
	Sunday, 10 September 133	
1:30 - 3:30 p	om Writing Workshop for Genealogists	Miller Conference Room 3rd floor
	Genealogists	3rd floor Room 313
1 – 5 pm	Genealogists	3rd floor Room 313 3rd floor
1 - 5 pm All room loca	Genealogists Resource Room	Room 313 3rd floor
Free and oper	Resource Room ations are at the Central Denver Public to the public. the Denver Public Library and the Gen	3rd floor Room 313 3rd floor c Library, 1357 Broadway.

The sole speaker listed is Irene Blea, Ph.D., who has not only given presentations at subsequent conferences, but is also a contributor to *Nuestras Raices*.

The Denver Library, where GSHA was conceived, was established in June 1889 in a wing of Denver High School. In 1910, the library acquired a building of its own, called the Central Library, a Greek revival design funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie that was located in Civic Center Park in downtown. Currently the library's Genealogy department includes 60,000 books, 75,000 pieces of microform, and hundreds of magazine and newsletter titles, charts, clippings, atlases and manuscripts. A large Western History collection includes 600,000 photographs, 3,700 manuscript archives, 200,000 cataloged books, pamphlets, atlases, maps, and microfilm titles as well as a collection of Western fine art and prints. This department also holds the Otto Perry collection of railroad photographs, numbering 20,000 negatives from all parts of North America made available for viewing on the Internet.

GSHA: Our Presidents

[Unless otherwise credited, all quotes are courtesy of Forbes.com] "Having a great idea, and assembling a team to bring that concept to life is the first step in creating a successful venture."

David Salazar, GSHA's first President, who served in that capacity from 1988 thru 1992, had that "great idea" and he attracted and assembled a team that guided our Society for almost 10 years. Two branches/chapters joined GSHA during his presidency. Salazar's other strength was his commitment to the publication of research, which is instantly apparent if you peruse early *Nuestras Raices* journals and GSHA's self-published books from the 1990s.

"The key to delegation is identifying the strengths of your team, and capitalizing on them. Find out what each team member enjoys doing most. Chances are if they find that task more enjoyable, they will likely put more thought and effort behind it. This will not only prove to your team that you trust and believe in them, but will also free up your time to focus on the higher level tasks, that should not be delegated."



David Salazar President: 1988-1992



Shirley Clayton President: 1993-1996

After serving five years as a GSHA Vice President, **Shirley Clayton** was elected President and served from 1993 thru mid-year 1996. The GSHA-Trinidad Chapter joined GSHA during her presidency. She had a "hands-on" management style and delegated publications to college students, while focusing on administrative tasks and improving conferences.

I start with the premise that the function of leadership is to produce more leaders, not more followers. —Ralph Nader

Catherine Sedillo assumed the GSHA presidency at mid-year 1996 when Clayton resigned. Sedillo, who had been on the board for three years, presided over the 1996 GSHA Annual Meeting and Genealogical Conference in Pueblo, Colorado where the decision was made to revise GSHA's bylaws and reorganize as a national organization. Although Sedillo's term was the shortest in GSHA history, her willingness to lead at that critical time, was of vital importance to the future of GSHA.

What you do has far greater impact than what you say. —Stephen Covey



Catherine Sedillo President: 1996



Eugene L. Torres President: 1997

Eugene L. Torres, DVM, a founding member of GSHA, served as GSHA's President in 1997, playing a critical role during a year of transition. He was not only well-prepared after eight years as a board member—six of them as a Vice President—but his professorial manner and commitment to both publishing research and establishing new chapters (he was the *padrino* of the Trinidad Chapter), inspired confidence and trust. In 1997 the Society adopted new bylaws, which established GSHA as a national organization with a commitment to founding and supporting more chapters.

"Whatever ethical plane you hold yourself to, when you are responsible for a team of people, it's important to raise the bar even higher. Your leaders are a reflection of yourself, and if you make honest and ethical behavior a key value, your team will follow suit."

Wilfred O. Martinez, PhD, had never held a leadership role in either GSHA or GSHA-FACC when he agreed to serve as GSHA's President in 1998. However, his negotiation skills and administrative experience, honed as an educator and community activist, were indispensable during his three-year term. Although two new chapters were formed in 1998, bringing the total to five chapters, within one year, the two Denver chapters left GSHA and reinvented themselves as two separate genealogical groups, which still thrive. Martinez was an experienced genealogist who subsequently authored a book and numerous articles on his ancestors. As GSHA President, he was a delegator who empowered his board members to focus on the continued upgrading of our genealogical conferences and the production of professional Society publications under two separate editors. Our 2005 Conference honored him.



Wilfred O. Martinez President: 1998-2000

It is better to lead from behind and to put others in front, especially when you celebrate victory when nice things occur. You take the front line when there is danger. Then people will appreciate your leadership. —Nelson Mandela



Nancy Ligon de Ita President: 2001-2003

Nancy Ligon de Ita was a relatively new member of GSHA-SC when her background as a family lawyer and former San Francisco Deputy District Attorney caught the attention of the Society's Nomination Committee. She displayed a "hands-off" management style during her 2-1/2 years as President.

The very essence of leadership is that you have to have a vision. It's got to be a vision you articulate clearly and forcefully on every occasion. You can't blow an uncertain trumpet. —Reverend Theodore Hesburgh

Victoria Arellano served in several GSHA-FACC leadership positions, including chapter representative to the National Board and was GSHA Vice President when de Ita resigned in late 2003 and Arellano assumed the presidency. Arellano was a strong supporter of the Society's conferences and presided over the dissolution of the Trinidad Chapter.

"Before you are a leader, success is all about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others." Jack Welch



Victoria Partida Arellano President: 2003-2006



Cathy Archuleta was a former President of the GSHA-FACC when she was elected President in 2007. Archuleta is a "hands-on" manager and she was involved in every aspect of the Society while President. During her four years as President Archuleta was responsible for shifting the Society's genealogical conferences from Colorado-based sites to New Mexico.

No man will make a great leader who wants to do it all himself, or to get all the credit for doing it.—Andrew Carnegie

Catherine Archuleta President: 2007-2010

Douglas S. Daniels, DDS, held leadership positions in the GSHA-SC since 1997, including four years as Chapter President before his election to the presidency of GSHA in 2011. Daniels quickly established a policy of transparency and full disclosure at the board level, placed focus on the Society's mission statement and adherence to the Society's Bylaws and Policies and Procedures. During his four years as President, the Society's conferences have shown consistent profit, the quality of the publications has improved, and donations have increased, including a recent grant of \$5,000.

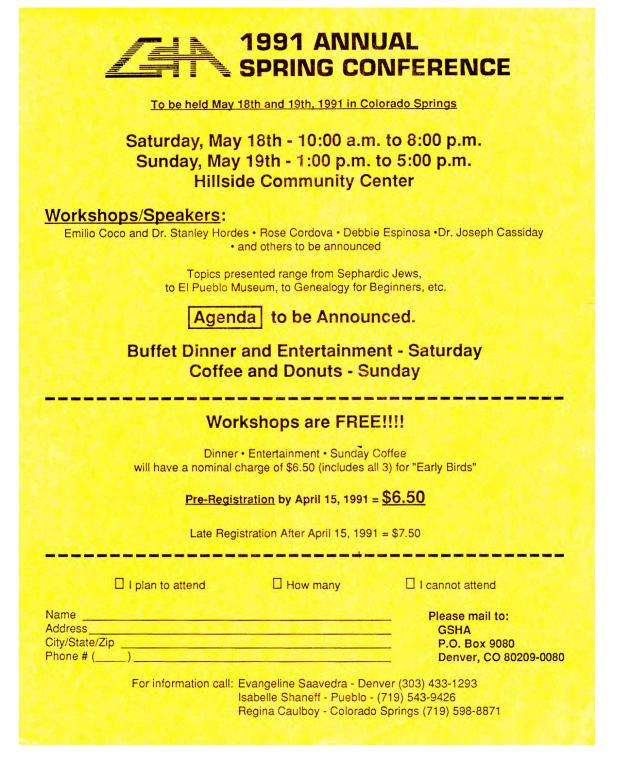


Douglas S. Daniels
President: 2011-2014

My own definition of leadership is this: The capacity and the will to rally men and women to a common purpose and the character, which inspires confidence. — General Montgomery

Generations pass like leaves fall from our family tree. Each season new life blossoms and grows benefiting from the strength and experience of those who went before...Heidi Swapp

GSHA Conference Flyer - 1991



Twenty-three years ago you could attend our Annual Genealogical Conference for \$6.50 including dinner, entertainment and Sunday coffee!

Volume 26 ~ Issue 1 10 Spring 2014

GSHA Our Leaders 1988-2014

We appreciate the investment of time, energy and talent by the former officers of the Society.

Our organization's success is attributable to their volunteer efforts.

1988

President-David H. Salazar
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Shirley Clayton
3rd V.P-Felix Zamora
Recording Secretary-Carmen Teufel
Corresponding SecretaryCordelia Martinez
Treasurer-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Eileen Sandoval
Member at Large-Alonzo Martinez

1989

President-David H. Salazar
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Shirley Clayton
3rd V.P-Felix Zamora
Recording Secretary-Nemesio Lobato/
Carmen Teufel
Corresponding SecretaryCordelia Martinez
Treasurer-Karen Mitchell/Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Carmen Teufel/
Eileen Sandoval
Member at Large-Alonzo Martinez

1990

President-David H. Salazar
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Shirley Clayton
3rd V.P-Felix Zamora
Recording Secretary-Carmen Teufel /
Mary Salazar
Corresponding Secretary-Cordelia Martinez
Treasurer-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Eileen Sandoval
Member at Large-Alonzo Martinez

1991

President-David H. Salazar
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Shirley Clayton
3rd V.P.-Tom Apodaca
Recording Secretary-Esther Schmitz
Corresponding Secretary-Al Sedillo
Treasurer-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Eileen Sandoval
Member at Large-Martin Aragon

1992

President-David H. Salazar
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Shirley Clayton
3rd V.P.-Tom Apodaca
Recording Secretary-Esther Schmitz
Corresponding Secretary-Al Sedillo
Treasurer-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Eileen Sandoval
Member at Large-Martin Aragon

1993

President-Shirley Clayton
1st V.P.-Eugene L. Torres
2nd V.P.-Joseph Marquez
3rd V.P.-Hope Yost
Recording Secretary-Carol Sandoval
Corresponding SecretaryHarriette Gonzalez
Treasurer-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-Catherine Aragon
Member at Large-Catherine Sedillo

1994

President-Shirley Clayton
1st V.P.-Catherine Sedillo
2nd V.P.-Joseph Marquez
3rd V.P-Hope Yost
Recording Secretary-Carol Sandoval
Corresponding SecretaryHarriette Gonzalez
Treasurer-Kitty Rael
Member at Large-Catherine Aragon
Member at Large-Margaret Turner

1995

President-Shirley Clayton
1st V.P.-Catherine Sedillo
2nd V.P.-Pat Manalo
3rd V.P.-John Vasquez
Recording SecretaryEvelyn Lara Martinez
Corresponding SecretaryGloria Garcia Patterson
Treasurer-Kitty Rael
Member at Large-John Jiminez
Member at Large-Eugene L. Torres
Member at LargeRose Mestas Thompson
Member at Large-Margaret Turner

1996

President-Shirley Clayton/
Catherine Sedillo
1st V.P.-Catherine Sedillo
2nd V.P.-Pat Manalo
3rd V.P-John Vasquez
Recording SecretaryEvelyn Lara Martinez
Corresponding SecretaryGloria Garcia Patterson
Treasurer-Marietta Gonzalez
Member at Large-John Jiminez
Member at Large-Eugene L. Torres
Member at LargeRose Mestas Thompson

1997

President- Eugene L. Torres
1st V.P.-Catherine Sedillo
2nd V.P.-Pat Manalo
3rd V.P-Diena Sandoval Mohlman
Recording Secretary-Charlotte Ortiz Bartolo
Corresponding SecretaryJuanita Baca Bowen
Treasurer-Marietta Gonzalez
Member at Large-Margaret Turner
Member at Large-David H. Salazar

1998

President-David H. Salazar/Wilfred Martinez
V.P.-Charlene Garcia Simms
Secretary-Donie Nelson
Treasurer-Heraldo Acosta
GSHA-DFC Chapter Rep.-David Salazar
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Victoria Arellano
GSHA-OLTHLRC Chapter Rep.Margaret Turner
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.Patsy Vasquez Chavez
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.- Evelyn Rios

1999

President-Wilfred Martinez
Vice President--Charlene Garcia Simms
Secretary-Donie Nelson
Treasurer-Heraldo Acosta
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Victoria Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.Patsy Vasquez Chavez
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2000

President-Wilfred Martinez
Vice President--Donie Nelson
Secretary- Celestino Santistevan
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Victoria Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Mona Hernandez
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2001

President-Nancy Ligon de Ita
Vice President-Donie Nelson
Secretary- Celestino Santistevan
Treasurer-Ronald T. Romero
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Charlene Garcia Simms
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Mona Hernandez
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

GSHA Nuestras Raices Journal

2002

President-Nancy Ligon de Ita
Vice President-Donie Nelson
Secretary- Diane Mason
Treasurer-Ronald T. Romero
Member at Large – John & Conchita
Lucero/Albert J. Gallegos
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.-Charlene
Garcia Simms
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Edward Vigil
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2003

President-Nancy Ligon de Ita/
Victoria Arellano
Vice President-Victoria Arellano
Secretary- Diane Mason
Treasurer-Heraldo Acosta/Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Albert J.
Gallegos/Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.-Charlene
Garcia Simms/Cathy Archuleta
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Donie Nelson
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2004

President-Victoria Arellano
Vice President-Ruth Martinez
Secretary- Sharon Hays
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.-Cathy
Archuleta/Richard Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Donie Nelson
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2005

President-Victoria Arellano
Vice President-Rita Morales
Secretary- Sharon Hays
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Richard Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Jeanette Fisher
GSHA-Trinidad Chapter Rep.Vera Santistevan

2006

President-Victoria Arellano
Vice President-Rita Morales
Secretary- Sharon L. Hays
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Richard Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Jeanette Fisher

2007

President-Cathy Archuleta
Vice President-Rita Morales
Secretary- Sharon L. Hays
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
Chapter Rep.- JoAnn Peralta Templeton
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Edward Vigil

2008

President-Cathy Archuleta
Vice President-Rita Morales
Secretary- Catherine Romero
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.JoAnn Peralta Templeton
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Edward Vigil

2009

President-Cathy Archuleta
Vice President-Rita Morales
Secretary- Catherine Romero
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Armando Atencio
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.JoAnn Peralta Templeton
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Edward Vigil

2010

President-Cathy Archuleta
Vice President-Vacant
Secretary- Vacant
Treasurer-Abel Santistevan
Member at Large – Vacant
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.JoAnn Peralta Templeton
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Edward Vigil/
Douglas Daniels

2011

President-Douglas Daniels
Vice President-Gloria Cordova
Secretary- Jeanette Fisher
Treasurer-Phillip Duran
Member at Large – Mark DeSautel
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Heraldo Acosta
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.Rita Vega-Acevedo

2012

President-Douglas Daniels
Vice President-Gloria Cordova
Secretary- Michelle Chavez
Treasurer-Phillip Duran
Member at Large – Mark DeSautel
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Vickie Arellano
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.Rita Vega-Acevedo

2013

President-Douglas Daniels
Vice President-Gloria Cordova
Secretary-Michelle Chavez
Treasurer-Phillip Duran
Member at Large – Mark DeSautel
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Abel Santistevan
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.Rita Vega-Acevedo

2014

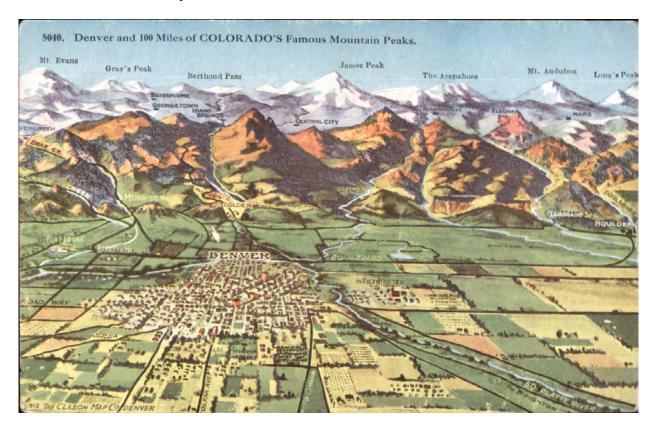
President-Douglas Daniels
Vice President-Gloria Cordova
Secretary- Janice Crane
Treasurer-Phillip Duran
Member at Large – Frank Dominguez
GSHA-FAC Pueblo Chapter Rep.Rita Morales
GSHA-SC Chapter Rep.- Paul Gomez

"I promise that if you will keep your journals and records, they will indeed be a source of great inspiration to your families, to your children, your grandchildren, and others, on through the generations. Each of us is important to those who are near and dear to us and as our posterity reads of our life's experiences, they, too, will come to know and love us. And in that glorious day when our families are together in the eternities, we will already be acquainted." Spencer W. Kimball

Denver: The Mile High City

Copyright 2013 by Patricia Parra Dileski

Before moving to California, where I was born, my parents, Lionel and Manuela Parra, and my two older brothers lived on 12th Street, near Larimer Square, which was named for the city's founder, William Larimer, Jr.



It was a time of great political turmoil and the country was trying to dig itself out of the Great Depression. My mother was working for the Works Projects Administration (WPA) then part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal to put millions of Americans to work. The project ended in 1943. By then, the United States was engaged in World War II and Denver would prove to be an important military hub, providing much-needed jobs.

Denver was born in political turmoil. Colorado was originally part of the Kansas Territory and it was just before the start of the Civil War. Until then, the area just east of the Rocky Mountains was nothing more than wild frontier, home to prospectors, mountain men,

and Native Americans--the Cheyenne and Arapaho. Then, gold was discovered in Englewood, Colorado, and the Pike's Peak Gold Rush was on. It wasn't long before the area was swarming with tens of thousands of prospectors hoping to strike it rich.

One man was looking to strike gold--not in the mines, but in a different commodity--land. On November 22, 1858, William Larimer, Jr., former State Senator for the Kansas Territory and land speculator, marked off some land near the Platte River and Cherry Creek, (now downtown Denver), and staked his claim. This after he reportedly threatened, bribed and conned others who had already claimed the area. Larimer immediately started

selling off parcels, and named the town Denver City after **James W. Denver**, the Kansas Territorial Governor. Larimer, who was hoping to win political support from Governor Denver, was instrumental in the formation of the Colorado Territory in 1861 and in making Denver its capital.

Larimer was favored to be appointed as the Territory's first Governor. However, President Abraham Lincoln, engaged in the American Civil War, appointed William Gilpin, someone he thought would be more politically able to help his cause in the Colorado Territory. Gilpin was removed a year later amid public scandal and was replaced by John Evans. Larimer never did become governor, but he did receive other appointments.

It was around this time (in the late 1860s) that my grandparents' families, the Maldonado and the Martinez clans pulled up stakes in Taos, New Mexico Territory and trekked across the Sangre de Cristo Mountains by covered wagon to Trinidad, Colorado Territory. They were leaving behind the land their ancestors had called home for more than 200 years, a land they had settled as Spanish colonists.

Who knows why my ancestors left the *land of enchantment* for unknown territory? No doubt, though, they were in search of a better life. In 1880 my grandparents, **Blas de Jesus Martinez** and **Desideria Maldonado** married in Holy Trinity Church in Trinidad, Colorado. They had seven children, including my mother, **Manuela Martinez**.

In the meantime, up north, Denver was experiencing major growing pains and trying to break out of its wild frontier image. Fortunately, the area attracted many wealthy visionaries who wanted to transform the town into the world-class city it is today.

These visionaries included colorful characters like **Horace Tabor**, who made his millions in silver, extracted from his famous "Matchless

Mine" of Leadville, Colorado. Tabor and his wife moved to Denver where he developed a business block at 16th and Larimer, and built Denver's opulent Tabor Grand Opera House. Little did he know that his own life would later become the subject of an opera.

Tabor had served as mayor of Leadville, was elected Colorado's Lt. Governor in 1878, and became a U.S. Senator in 1883. But his scandalous divorce from first wife, Augusta Pierce and subsequent marriage to Elizabeth "Baby Doe" McCourt, nearly half his age, ended his political career. He and Baby Doe had two daughters, one of whom they named "Silver Dollar". Sadly, Tabor lost everything during the silver panic of the 1890s and died penniless in 1899. Baby Doe returned to the Matchless Mine and tried unsuccessfully to revive it. In 1935 she was found frozen to death in her cabin. The Tabors are gone, but not forgotten, their lives immortalized in the opera, The Ballad of Baby Doe, and the Hollywood movie, Silver Dollar, named for their daughter.

Another man instrumental in shaping Denver, Henry Cordes Brown never intended to settle in Denver. In 1860 Brown and his wife were on their way out West from Missouri and stopped over in Denver. His wife liked the area so much she reportedly told her husband, he could go on to California but she was staying. Fortunately, for Denver, he stayed too. The Browns homesteaded 160 acres on Grant and Sherman streets, an exclusive area that was soon dotted with brownstone mansions rivaling those of New York City.

Ironically, during a brief recession Brown was forced to sell his mansion to Horace "Silver King" Tabor. Brown, however, recovered his fortune, became a millionaire and built the opulent Brown Palace Hotel in downtown Denver. Legend has it that Brown built the 10-story, brick hotel after being denied service at another hotel, The Windsor, because of his

cowboy attire. The Brown Palace opened in August of 1892 and has remained open ever since. Brown also donated the property that the Colorado State Capitol now sits on.

Another Brown, James Joseph "JJ" Brown (1854-1922), an engineer from Pennsylvania, hit it rich in gold and copper, particularly the "Little Jonny" mine of Leadville, Colorado. In 1894 Brown and his wife, Margaret "Molly" Brown (1867-1932) moved from Leadville to Denver seeking a more social life. They moved into a mansion on Pennsylvania Street, in what is now called Capitol Hill, and though "Molly" was involved in many charitable ventures, she was never accepted by Denver's high society.

Not one to be daunted, Molly Brown became a sophisticated world traveler. On April 14, 1912, she was on her way back home from a European trip aboard the *RMS Titanic*, when the ship hit an iceberg and sank the next day. Survivors hailed Molly's heroic efforts to evacuate the ship. She was nicknamed the "Unsinkable Molly Brown," and received

many honors throughout her lifetime, including the French Legion of Honour. She, too, inspired a film, *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*, an MGM musical in 1964 starring Debbie Reynolds and Harve Presnell.

While Denver was being shaped into a world-class city, one man realized that Denver would be nothing without a railroad. Colorado's second Governor, John Evans along with local businessmen formed The Denver Railway Company to link Denver to the Transcontinental Railway 100 miles away at Cheyenne, Wyoming. Ground was broken on May 18, 1868 and the first train rolled into Denver from Cheyenne two years later.

By 1900 Denver's Union Station had been built, becoming the hub for several railroad companies. Today, Denver's economy is based on its connection to some of the biggest transportation systems in the world, and is home to many large corporations--with a colorful history to boot.

Denver Timeline

November 22, 1858 Denver City founded.
February 1862, The Colorado Territory was created.
Denver City was incorporated.
1867 Denver becomes the Territorial Capital.
Somewhere in between, Denver City simply becomes Denver.
1876 Colorado was admitted to the Union.
August 1, 1876 President Ulysses S. Grant grants statehood to Colorado, the 38th State.



[Patricia Parra Dileski is listed in Who's Who among Hispanic Americans, and has enjoyed an extensive career as a television reporter and anchor. Dileski became the first Latina to anchor a morning newscast in Los Angeles when she helped launch "Today in L.A." at KNBC-TV (also L.A.'s first-ever morning newscast) under the name of Pat DaSilva. Her career in broadcasting was set in motion by appearing in television commercials, hosting public affairs programs, and launching a local Spanish news program. She did this, while holding down full-time jobs, attending college at night, and raising two children. She says the road to success was not always smooth. Jobs for women in broadcast journalism were scarce. Eventually, a local independent station hired her as a reporter trainee and production assistant. There she learned how to create a half-hour newscast, shoot film and operate the studio cameras for the 10 o'clock news. Her lucky break came in 1978 when a Salinas, California, station, KSBW-TV, under pressure from LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) to hire Hispanics, brought her onboard as weekend

anchor/producer. Stints at California stations in Fresno, Sacramento, Los Angeles, as well as Grand Rapids, Michigan, would follow. Dileski eventually returned to California government service and retired from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. This is the first article from Dileski, who is a new member of GSHA.]



Nacímiento y el Progreso de un Sociedad Nacíonal de la Genealógia Española

[Birth and Progress of the National Society of Spanish Genealogy]

Copyright 2014 by Eugene L. Torres, D.V.M.

I remember when a group of Hispanic genealogical researchers came together each month beginning in about 1987 or 1988 to share information and to learn how and where to search their roots. This informal group was led and directed by one of the librarians from the Denver Public Library who donated her time and shared her knowledge of the workings of a non-profit organization. At first we were loosely affiliated with CGS (Colorado Genealogical Society). CGS was more oriented toward researching Anglo families and was not farsighted enough to recognize the contributions that the Hispanic population had added to the history of the Southwest. They accepted us and we did have a few papers published in their journal but it was obvious that we needed more exposure for the growing numbers of our group and the accumulation of vast amounts of history and genealogy. We were collecting many reference books and creating family genealogies focused on the heretofore-unknown history of the people that settled the Southwest. At that time there were no other societies that were Hispanic oriented, except for the NMGS, (New Mexico Genealogical Society), which seemed to be so far away. (NMGS celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2010.)

Since there were Hispanic communities all over the United States, it was decided to call our society GSHA, (Genealogical Society of Hispanic America.) We had an eye toward the future. Next on the agenda was to elect a board of directors. The first president was David Salazar and I was the first Vice-President. Dave Salazar was the perfect person to be the president of a new society. He was the mover and shaker and was the person most responsible for our success. He was the first editor of our journal, *Nuestras Raices* (Our Roots). After hours and days of debate we produced a set of bylaws, which

were later changed in 1997. Of course, the biggest reason for our success has to be given to the members, who willingly volunteered their time and expertise whenever they were called upon. Members stored and carried all of our research material to different locations in preparation for our monthly meetings, along with organizing potlucks and snacks. We always had members who could advise us of our legal and financial responsibilities. Everyone contributed his or her time and energy.

Key to Photographs on Page 16:

1-Charlene Garcia Simms & Olibama Lopez Tushar; 2-Eugene L. Torres & Shirley Clayton; 3-Betty Duran, Wilfred & Marge Martinez; 4-Mike Baca, David Salazar, Lucy Gettler & Charlene Garcia Simms; 5-Abel & Virginia Santistevan; 6-1992 GSHA-SC Founders: Donie Nelson, Marcia Snelling, Joe Sanchez, III, Sharon Heinz, Gloria Trujillo, Pauline Chavez Bent, Mona Hernandez, & Nancy Jones; 7-Margaret & Michael Turner; 8-Charlene Garcia Simms, Nora Chavez, & Lucy Gettler; 9-1994 GSHA Trinidad Conference, all female Presidents: GSHA-Trinidad Diane Benavides Mason, GSHA-SC Donie Nelson, GSHA Shirley Clayton, & GSHA-FACC Pueblo Charlene Garcia Simms; 10- Frank & Shirley Clayton, unknown Spanish soldier, Ben Herrera, Hope Yost, & Lou Maes; 11- Bertha Gallegos, Lou Maes, Gloria Patterson, Hope Yost, & seated Cirilia St. Vrain; 12-1992 Pueblo Fiesta: Lydia Montoya, Charlene Garcia Simms, Debra Martinez-Martinez, Nancy Garcia, Vera Estrada, & Alfie Salazar.

We enjoyed great success for several years. Our membership swelled to more than 800 in 1998, but even before that time the board of directors made decisions to deal with the great numbers of new members who did not live in the Denver area. One suggestion was to have branches. It sounded like a good way to go and it did not look like there would be too many difficulties.

As it turned out it was a very challenging undertaking and this decision eventually disrupted the whole organization. The basic reason for the difficulties, I believe, was that we had large groups of members who joined the branches in Southern Colorado and Southern California, and then pushed for more participation in the management of the society. There were many questions, such as: What would be the relationships of branches to each other and to the parent society?

In 1997 while I served as President, GSHA adopted new bylaws and reorganized as a national organization with the branches becoming chapters. Unfortunately after much discussion and no agreement on anything, the two Denver Chapters that were formed in 1998 (Denver Founding Chapter and the Olibama Lopez Tushar Legacy Research Center Chapter), made the decision to leave GSHA in 1999. This meant that GSHA was the parent society to three branches, instead of five: the GSHA-Fray Angelico Chavezthe GSHA-Southern Pueblo Chapter, California Chapter and the GSHA-Trinidad Chapter in Trinidad, Colorado. The Trinidad Chapter folded in 2006 due to lack of leadership and low membership numbers.

The two remaining chapters (Pueblo and Southern California) now compose a productive society; their quarterly journal is still one of the best in Hispanic genealogy. The Denver Founding Chapter of GSHA, which became the first splinter group and the group that was most like the parent group, became the NSHG, (National Society of

Hispanic Genealogy) in 1999 and was based in Denver, Colorado. Their name was later changed to CHGS (Colorado Hispanic Genealogical Society) and their quarterly journal is among the best of its kind. Dave Salazar would be pleased. The second splinter group was the Olibama Lopez Tushar Legacy Research Center Chapter, also based in Denver, Colorado. In 1999 they dropped the "chapter" from their name and continue to be known as OLTLRC (Olibama Lopez Tushar Legacy Research Center) and their journal *El Farolito* contributes solid research material.

There was another research group in New Mexico in the 1990s that was not affiliated with any society, although many of their members belonged to the NMGS. They were invited to become a satellite to GSHA, but declined and formed HGRC, (Hispanic Genealogy Research Center), which continues to be a growing and productive society based in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The unexpected benefit from the painful splintering of GSHA was the formation of two additional independent Hispanic research societies. This means that there is more information being published and shared. And many researchers belong to all three organizations, plus the HGRC and NMGS.

There have been and still are, many, many capable board members and volunteers who have contributed to the success and growth of Hispanic genealogy, but the member that I have been mostly involved with is: Dave Salazar, the founding President of GSHA who served as President for five years. Perhaps many of today's members do not know that during that time, Dave was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, one of the most deadly cancers. He was given a prognosis of only 2-3 years before the cancer would take his life. Gracias a Dios, after more than 15 years he is still with us. Past President Shirley Clayton (1993-1996) and her husband passed away several years ago, NSHG Past President Ben

Herrera retired from active membership and lives in Denver. But I am still adding to my Family Tree Maker database, although at a slower pace. Just realized I served on the GSHA board in some capacity for almost 20 years. And, I am proud to be a founding member of GSHA, NSHG, CHGS and HGRC.

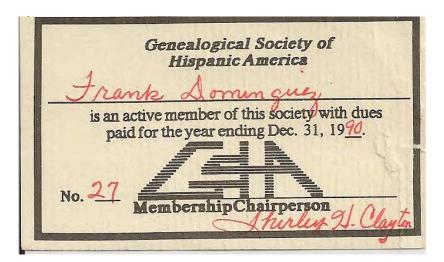
Now in this 21st Millennium with all new leaders it looks as if GSHA and all of the new Hispanic research societies are headed for more upward growth in the Hispanic genealogical community.



"I was born Eugene Luis Torres, Jr. in 1929 in Denver, Colorado. I am the son of José Eugenio Torres of El Valle de Los Rancheros and Addie Rachel Minniss, of Scotch-Irish descent. My childhood years were spent in the suburb of Valverde, on the southwest edge of the border of Denver, a place where every child should have the opportunity to grow up. With my brothers Richard and Dave, there was no end to the adventures we could dream of and do. My mom and dad worked and saved and finally had the money to buy a ranch northeast of Trinidad. With an inheritance of cows from his father, Dad could stock his ranch. My last two years of high school were at Trinidad High School. Next I attended Trinidad State Junior College but dropped out in the second year because of finances. I worked as a roofing helper, and then found employment at the Pueblo Steel Mills. With the Korean War heating up I enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, about the same time as brother Dave enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and brother Dick went to Japan as a missionary in

the Army of the Lord. In the USAF I was crew chief of a T-33 jet plane training fighter pilots in Texas. This was where I met a beautiful multi-talented Mexican lady, Amparo Villarreal Perez. We were married in less than a year. She insisted that I return to college and so I returned to Trinidad State Junior College to study pre-med, which would qualify me to enter veterinary medicine at what is now the College of Agricultural Sciences, Colorado State University at Fort Collins. I received my AA Degree and after my second attempt was accepted into veterinary school. Five years later I was practicing medicine in Chicago, Illinois. I received wonderful experience, but we decided that Chicago was not the place to raise our children so we packed up and moved to Boulder, Colorado. I soon had my own small animal practice in Thornton, Colorado. I had a very good practice, but like most businesses there was a lot of time when there were few clients and I had a lot of time for what became a passion: genealogy. You know the rest of the story, and after meeting so many enthusiastic people in all of the Hispanic societies in U.S. now I know the story will not end." Dr. Torres is a founding member of GSHA, who served as President in 1997, as well as 1st VP 1988 thru 1993; and a Member at Large: 1995 & 1996. He has published numerous books on his ancestors in Las Animas County, Colorado, as well as translating and compiling the records of: *Holy Trinity Church, Trinidad, CO Marriages 1866-1884*, which can be purchased from GSHA-SC.





1993 GSHA Genealogical Conference Publicity



Getting to know their roots

The Genealogical Society of Hispanic America held a reception over Memorial Day Weekend at the Colorado History Museum. The event was coupled with "La Gente Hispanos in Colorado" exhibit. In attendance were: Rosemarie Jacques-Weisse Joseph C'de Baca, Corrine Gallegos-Gutierrez, Hope Gallegos-Yost, Dolores Romero-Vasques, LeRoy D'Molloney and Marie Orie Duran-Trujillo.

La Voz photo by Michael V. Ornelas

Thanks to GSHA board member Frank Dominguez, we have a photo record from 1993 Genealogical the Conference, held at Colorado History Museum in Denver, Colorado. Former GSHA board member Hope Gallegos-Yost interviewed and she vividly remembers this event, stating, "Everyone in this photograph are members of the Gallegos family except for Rosemarie Jacques-Weisse and LeRoy D'Molloney."

[Editor note: GSHA has a lengthy history with La Voz, who are not only sponsors of our 2014 Genealogical Conference and our exclusive media sponsor, but the above photograph was taken by Michael V. Ornelas of La Voz in 1993.]

Key to Photographs on pages 21, 22, and 23

On the next three pages our Art Director Cathy Romero created a visual history featuring many of our members. Sadly, much of our history was either not recorded in a photograph, or the photographs were not sent to us—and some people remain unidentified.

2003: Mona Hernandez, Virginia Sanchez, Alfie Salazar, Nancy Ligon de Ita, Abel Santistevan, Lucy Gettler, Corrine Tafoya; 2. Arthur Lopez & Donie Nelson; 3. 1998 Dedication of 1854 El Pueblo Tragedy Plaque: Charlene Garcia Simms, Ercilia Luna, unidentified child, Heraldo Acosta, & Hank Rael; 4. Patsy Vasquez; 5. 1997 GSHA Long Beach Conference: Eugene L. Torres & Leo Trujillo; 6. 2008 Ramona Museum of California History: Robert Lopez, Al Archuleta, Donie Nelson, & Cathy Romero; 7. 2008 Taos Conference: Marietta Gonzales, Charlene Garcia Simms, Donie Nelson; 8. Dominguez Rancho Adobe: Tony & Barbara Sauceda; 9. 1999 San Luis Valley Conference: Estevan Real-Galvez; 10. Corrine Gutierrez; 11. 2008 Ramona Museum of California History: Rita Vega-Acevedo, Rebecca Madera, & Nora Monroe de la Torre; 12. Marty Hill, Marge Martinez & Nancy Garcia; 13. 2011 GSHA Board of Directors: Phil Duran, Mark DeSautel, Doug Daniels, Jeanette Martinez Fisher, Gloria Cordova, Rita Vega-Acevedo, & Heraldo Acosta; 14. Picnic in Denver: Olibama Lopez Tushar, unidentified, unidentified, Bertha Gallegos, Hope Yost; 15. 2008 Ramona Museum of California History: Patricia Flores Chavez, Carmen Quintana Flores, & Crystal Quintana Garcia; 16. 1997 Long Beach Conference: Charlene Garcia Simms, Donie Nelson, & Pauline Chavez Bent; 17. Catherine Aragon, Mr. & Mrs. Peter Aragon; 18. Orie Trujillo; 19. 2004 Trinidad Conference: Dolores Valdez de Pong, Olibama "Olive" Valdez, Patricia Velasco Wilkes; 20. Gloria Patterson & Manuel Gutierrez; 21. Patsy Vasquez & Mona Hernandez; 22. Irene Robortello & Rita Cardenas; 23. Cathy Romero & Naomi Talamantes; 24. John P. Schmal; 25. Olibama Lopez Tushar; 26. 2013: Kevin Williams; 27. 2011 Las Vegas Conference: Carolyn & Ed Vigil; 28. Marilyn Carpenter, Joseph S. Barnes, David Carpenter; 29. Tom Martinez & Viola Abeyta(?); 30. 2014 Jamboree: Donie Nelson & John P. Schmal; 31. David Salazar; 32. 2014 Jamboree: Mona Hernandez & Mary Garcia Joyce; 33. Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Valdez; 34. Lydia Montoya & Nancy Garcia; 35. José Antonio Esquibel; 36. Leroy Martinez.







WED., FEBRUARY 26, 1992

LOUISVILLE TIMES / LAFAYETTE NEWS

Research on Hispanics adds to southwest history

By CYNTHIA CAMPBELL

The cemetery records show gunshot wounds caused more than a few deaths, and several children died as the result of rattlesnake bites.

The cemetery is located in Trinidad, and those records are only a tiny smattering of information available through the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America, a non-profit organization which is based in Denver.

Frank Dominguez, a Louisville resident who is a member of the organization, said it was started more than 5 years ago through the Denver Public Library and the Colorado Genealogical Society, which nurtured separate research groups for Colorado residents of Russian, French, Afro-American, and Hispanic descent.

Dominguez, an IBM employee, said the Hispanic genealogical organization now has over 300 members from Colorado and a number of other states, including Wisconsin, Texas and California.

Members may attend monthly meetings in Denver to share research and hear information from guest speakers, and the organization also sends out a monthly newsletter and a journal which is published quarterly. Regis College will host the group's annual conference in May.

Providing research assistance to interested families is a major function of the organization, Dominguez said.

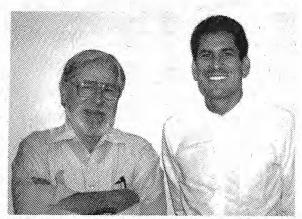
The vast genealogical libraries of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints are a mainstay. The Trinidad cemetery records were available on microfilm in LDS files. The research of the records was completed by Dr. E. L. Torres, a Thornton veterinarian who has been active in the Hispanic genealogical society since its founding. Dr. Torres noted that the greatest number of accidental deaths listed in the Trinidad records occurred in coal mines.

"I came across frequent records that showed the death occurred in the mines, either by cave in, explosions, or accidents," said Dr. Torres. "You can almost see the connection between the mine accidents and the Ludlow uprising."

Origins of New Mexican Families, by Frey Angelico Chavez, is another research mainstay, and the genealogical society also utilizes its own research of records from Catholic churches in the southwest, mainly Colorado and New Mexico. The first United States census in 1860 has provided helpful information, in addition to other census documents from both the U.S. and Mexico. Although many documents in the Southwest were destroyed during war between the United States and Mexico in the 1840s, Dr. Torres said the government and church records that do survive are very detailed.

"The Spanish were very good record keepers," he said. He noted that Spain had a very successful culture compared to much of Europe in the 1500s, when Spanish *conquistadores* invaded Mexico.

Dr. Torres said that as the conquistadores' descendents



Frank Dominguez of Louisville, right, and Dr. E.L. Torres of Thornton volunteer research work to the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America.

settled along the Rio Grande in what is now the southwest United States, the local elected offical would often keep detailed records about local citizens, including information about trials and any travel that took place out of the country.

try.
"In addition, priests were taught to write well, and to keep very good records for their particular church," Dr. Torres said. "Marriage records often list the bride and groom, their ages, their parents' names and grandparents' names, and the godparents, all in one paragraph." Births, legitimate or not, were recorded in church records along with the baby's race.

Both noted that while intermarriage among the *conquistadores*' descendents and Indians was common in Mexico, Spanish settlers in the southwest were frequently the victim of attacks by Ute, Apache and Comanche.

Dr. Torres' research of his own family's history indicates one of his ancestors died in this manner.

"My great-great grandfather lived in San Juan, New Mexico as a young man. His family was attacked by Comanche. Many members were massacred, the women and children were carried off, but he survived it. He moved north to Taos. He was attacked by Comanche again, but this time he was killed," Dr. Torres said.

Families in Louisville and Lafayette who would like more information about the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America are welcome to contact Frank Dominguez. His home telephone number is 666-6835. The organization provides free research assistance, but anyone who wishes to join is welcome. Annual membership dues are \$20 for families, and \$15 for individuals.

"Family faces are like magic mirrors. Looking at people who belong to us, we see the past, present, and future." Gail Lumet Buckley

1988~Letter Requesting Approval of Amendments to GSHA Articles of Incorporation

NOV. 18, 1988 Dear Member of G.S.H.A.. The Genealogical Society Of Hispanic America was incorporated August 9, 1988 in the state of Colorado. Subsequently the Society has applied to the Internal Revenue Service for tax exempt status. The Internal Revenue Service has requested that the Society revise our Articles of Incorporation to ensure that the wording is in compliance with I.R.S. regulations. According to the State of Colorado requirements, to revise the Articles Of Incorporation the Society must have the approval of 2/3 of our membership. Therefore the Society is asking for your response to the following changes: Article One: The name of the Corporation (unchanged) Article Two: The length of our existance (unchanged) Article Three: Puposes of the Corporation (amended to read) The Genealogical Society Of Hispanic America is organized exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Article Four: (unchanged) Article Five: (unchanged) Article Six: (unchanged) Article Seven: (New Article Added) No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to it's members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article Third hereof. No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a comporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. Article Eight: (New Article added) Upon the dissolution of the corporation. assets snall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or small be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes. Please respond immediately as these Articles must be submitted to the State of Colorado, after we obtain their approval, then we will send them to to the Internal Revenue Service. The process of becoming tax exempt will be delayed for as long as it takes the Society to respond to this request. Enclosed is a stamped postcard, please signify your approval by signing the card and returning it promptly. Those of you who have a family membership are entitled to two votes, therefore two signatures are needed on the card. Sincerely Yours. David Salazar, President

GSHA-Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter-Pueblo Celebrates its 25th Anniversary

Copyright 2014 by Charlene Garcia Simms

This year the first branch/chapter of GSHA, Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter-Pueblo, celebrated their 25th anniversary in Pueblo on July 26, 2014. This is such a momentous occasion, especially for me, because I witnessed the birth, growing pains, and accomplishments of the Chapter through the hard work of many, many members who made this celebration possible. Let me take you down memory lane and share what I still remember about the beginning of this fantastic journey.

It was the end of April 1989 when I saw an article in the *Pueblo Chieftain* announcing that members of the Denver-based *Genealogical Society of Hispanic America* were coming to Pueblo to see if there was interest in forming a branch here. In response, a workshop was scheduled for May 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at El Pueblo Museum, located at the old airplane hanger on Prairie Avenue, where a replica of a fort was built of adobe, a perfect setting for promoting Hispanic genealogy. The cost was \$3.00 and lunch was included. The museum could only hold 60 people and it was a full house.

Little did I know that before the end of the day I would meet cousin Joseph Marquez who had already researched much of my Cordoba line and together we would publish a book. When we realized we were related, he showed me a list of my great-grandmother's siblings, and there was his grandmother, Sara great-grandmother, Cordoba. and my Nemecia Cordoba, whom I never knew about because she died at a very young age. I couldn't believe that someone else cared enough about my family to have their existence documented with all their vital statistics. I was touched and inspired.

I also didn't imagine that I would meet such an array of people who would become lifelong friends. I will never forget the first time I saw **Eileen Sanchez Bankson** and her mother **Julia Sanchez**. They were both wearing hats, looking very regal. Their beauty and elegance reminded me of my *tia* **Julia Cordoba**, who died too young, evoking a

memory of her regally walking down the dirt road in Garcia (in the San Luis Valley) wearing a hat, en route to church, picking up all the children along the way like a pied piper so she could teach us catechism and prepare some of us for our first holy communion. This type of memory would be repeated over and over throughout the years just like it has probably happened to many of you.

I always thought the workshop should have been entitled, ¿Te acuerdas cuando? (Do you remember when?) because all over the room people were voicing this as they met others with common threads of culture and traditions. Some who came from the same villages, reminisced about deceased relatives or at least a vecino (neighbor) in the villages where they grew up, and somehow everyone in attendance discovered at least one cousin or someone who knew or lived in the house next to that primo. I felt at home as I spoke to so many people and I vividly remember meeting Manuel Diaz, Mike Baca, Virginia Vigil, Betty Pacheco, Lucy Garcia, Lydia Montoya, Gus Gallego, and so many more.

GSHA President **David Salazar** spoke about our history and culture, and **James Jeffrey** from the Denver Public Library told us of the importance of preserving our history and culture. Joe Marquez threw out Hispanic surnames and explained their meaning and migration pattern. He was barraged with questions of where other names came from true research and not one of those flyers we get in the mail trying to sell us our family

crests. Soon, we would be introduced to the writings and research of Fray Angelico Chavez.

Deborah Espinosa, Director of El Pueblo Museum, and staff member **Margie Montez** prepared a meal of *calabacitas con maiz* and *chile, sopapillas* and *biscochitos*. The meal tasted like it had been prepared by the best of chefs and it reminded all of us of the simple, but hearty and healthy meals that we grew up with, the ingredients having been grown in the *hortaliza* (garden) and prepared over the wood stove. The workshop ended with a commitment to form a GSHA branch in Pueblo. A list was circulated for anyone wanting to be on the organizing committee and a meeting was set for June 22.

June 22, 1989, marked a historic day in the history of GSHA. A meeting of the organizing committee, facilitated by Deborah Espinosa, was held at El Pueblo Museum to form a GSHA Pueblo Branch. Those in attendance were Susan Coral, Apolonia Debra Martinez, Martinez, Michael Martinez, Ben Rodriguez and Charlene Garcia Simms. GSHA Denver attendees were: David Salazar, Mary Salazar, and Margaret Turner. Pro-tem officers became: Deborah Espinosa, President; Ben Rodriguez, Vice-President; Susan Coral, Secretary; and Charlene Garcia Simms, Treasurer. The first membership meeting was set for Saturday July 22, 1989, at 10:00 a.m. at El Pueblo Museum.

There were at least 30 people in attendance. Subsequent meetings were held in August and September. By October 1989 it was time to elect permanent officers.

Those elected as the first set of officers at the October meeting were: Mike Baca, President; Vera Estrada, Vice-President; Lucy Garcia, Secretary and Charlene Garcia Simms, Treasurer. Vera was instrumental in getting us meeting space at Pueblo Community College for the next few months prior to forming a partnership with the Pueblo Library to hold the meetings there.

We were on our way and while I could just conclude with "the rest is history," it's much more. Through the hard work of the presidents, board members, committee members and other volunteers along the way, the Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter has gone from 30 members to 327 at this time. There are numerous accomplishments that have furthered our mission of preserving our Hispanic culture and genealogies. This would not have been possible without our energetic members who have given and given and given of their time, talents, and financial resources. You are the reason we are celebrating 25 years of FACC and you should all take a bow. Good job!

Charlene García Símms Twenty-five year member of FACC/GSHA

[Charlene Garcia Simms—pictured in 1994—is currently editor of GSHA's quarterly newsletter *Noticias de Nuestras Raices*, a responsibility she has excelled at in the past (1996 thru 2003 and 2011 to the present). She is a member of the 2013 & 2014 Rules Committee, and a co-coordinator of the 2014 GSHA Annual Meeting and Genealogical Conference. As a founder and former President of the FACC-Pueblo she has been a leader and active volunteer within the chapter and also on the GSHA national board as Vice President (1998 & 1999) and FACC-Pueblo Representative to the national board (2001 thru 2003). Charlene was also a member of the groundbreaking 1996 Bylaws Committee, which rewrote GSHA's bylaws. Charlene helmed GSHA's profitable genealogical conferences in 1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001, and co-chaired the 2011 Conference. She is the owner of *El Escritorio*, a publishing and research company focusing on the Hispano, Mexican American, Chicano and Native American communities in



Colorado, New Mexico and the Borderlands. She is currently Genealogy and Special Collections Librarian with the Pueblo City-County Library District, is the mother of three children, and grandmother of two.]

GSHA-SC: Twenty-Two Years of History

Copyright 2014 by Donie A. Nelson

It's been 22 years since the founding of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America-Southern California Chapter (GSHA-SC) in the Huntington Beach home of Pauline Chavez Bent. In the summer of 1992 she invited Colorado and New Mexico researchers to network in her home. Although we discovered ancestral links five generations in the past, none of us were "instant primos/primas", but we shared a passion and wanted to be part of a group that would focus on the Spanish Colonists of New Mexico.



Not all of the GSHA-SC founders were present for the photo. Left to right: Donie Nelson, Marsha Snelling, Joe Sanchez, III,
Sharon Heinz, Gloria Trujillo, Pauline Chavez Bent, Mona Hernandez, and Nancy Jones

Genealogical Society of Hispanic America ~ Southern California Chapter 22 August 1992 ~Home of Pauline Chavez Bent, Huntington Beach, California

Pauline contacted GSHA in Denver, hoping it would welcome our affiliation. GSHA said "yes" and GSHA president David Salazar and his wife Mary officiated at a special "installation" ceremony in 1992 held at the El Torito Restaurant in Placentia, which marked GSHA-SC's connection as a branch of

GSHA. We passed the hat to get funds to file California incorporation papers (that's why there are only 16 founders; we were the only ones with checkbooks or cash that day!). Twenty-two years later most of the founders have moved on to other groups, other interests or have passed away. Founders who

are still members include: Mona Hernandez, Donie Nelson, Margaret Roybal, Joe Sanchez III, and Gloria Trujillo. Deceased: Pauline Chavez Bent, Sharon Heinz, Janice Luna, and William & Emma Trujillo.

Pauline was adamant that we had to have an event to attract more members, so Pam Lopez and Julie Candelaria contacted the Santa Fe Springs Library, which not only offered space for our event, but our first real home: a place to meet and store our reference library collection. In May 1993 we held our "big event" and hosted our first booth at the Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGS) Genealogical Jamboree. Julie and Sharon made our first banner and for the first time we sold Chavez' Origins of New Mexico Families. In 1994 we moved our celebration to October to coincide with the annual Hispanic/Latino month events and renamed it the Viva La Familia Fiesta, which continues as an annual event produced at a Southern California historic site.

California incorporation became our next challenge. The State of California rejected our paperwork, because the national GSHA's bylaws had no provision for "branches" or chapters. Finally in 1996 we became incorporated in the State of California. At the same time our branch, in alliance with the Pueblo branch, lobbied for changes to GSHA's bylaws. When GSHA-SC hosted the 1997 GSHA Annual Meeting & Genealogical Conference in Long Beach, California, the revised bylaws were adopted, and GSHA officially became a national organization. The "branches" in Southern California, Pueblo and Trinidad, Colorado were now chapters! This set in motion events in 1998 which resulted in first, the formation of two new chapters in the Denver area and then in 1999 the reorganization of those chapters into two organizations separate from each other and separate from GSHA. Sometimes bigger isn't better. GSHA-SC also experienced a "fallout" from the re-organization. A minority of

our members wanted our Chapter to also separate from GSHA, but the majority prevailed and we are still a chapter of GSHA.

In 2000 we moved our meetings, sales books and reference library to the SCGS family research library in Burbank. Financial security is always a concern and in 1993 the Chapter began selling books at meetings and outreach events. Today we sell 15+ titles that are self-published by the Chapter but are phasing out the revolving titles that we resell from other publishers. In 2007 under the leadership of President Doug Daniels, the board compiled a list of goals and priorities, and published a policies and procedures manual.

Our most successful outreach activities are the monthly research days at three libraries in Los Angeles County and our *Genealogy Garage* workshops held in the History & Genealogy Dept. at the Los Angeles Central Library, in partnership with SCGS. This year we proudly launched a research day in San Diego County.

Our members reflect the multi-cultural mix of Southern California. Although we started out focusing on Colorado and New Mexico research, the majority of members who have joined since 2000 are researching their families in Arizona, California and Texas, plus their 20th C. immigrant ancestors from Mexico. These new members inspire us with their enthusiasm, persistence, and willingness to take on responsibilities within the Chapter. During the last five years more of our leaders have volunteered for national responsibilities as national GSHA board members or on national committees. New volunteers lighten the workload and allow all volunteers to have a life away from GSHA-SC. As my own volunteer duties are lightened, I look back with pride on what we have accomplished, realizing that the Chapter always needs to change to meet new challenges.

Donie Nelson, GSHA-SC Founding Member



[Donie Nelson—pictured in 1994--has been a member of GSHA since 1989 and is a founder and former president of GSHA-SC, she served on the Chapter's board of directors for 17 years, on the national board for 8 years, and has been on the journal staff for 10 years. She has served on numerous chapter and national committees, and currently devotes her "GSHA time" to outreach and publications. She is a former film and television executive employed by the MGM Film Co., Paramount Pictures, and 20th Century Fox, and is currently a career consultant to aspiring film and television writers. She launched a genealogy-based business in 2012 focusing on editing and publishing the family histories of other researchers, as well as conducting primary research. She lives in Culver City, California and has one daughter Molly, who grew up attending GSHA meetings and conferences.]

The Bedrock of GSHA-SC

The 16 founders of GSHA-SC are the following individuals who pooled their resources in 1992 to establish a Southern California branch of GSHA: Pauline Chavez Bent, Virginia Bernal, Estella Castillo, Sharon Heinz, Mona Hernandez, Nancy Jones, Gilbert & Janice Luna, Donie Nelson, Margaret Roybal, Joanne Sanchez, Joe Sanchez, III, Marsha Snelling, William & Emma Trujillo, and Gloria Trujillo.

Charter members (113) joined GSHA-SC between September 1992 and December 1993: Frank & Arcila Aleman, Juaquin Apodaca, Mariella Apodaca, Raymond Apodaca, Clyde Armijo, Jay & Julie Candelaria, L.T. "Roy" Cano, Placido & Beatrice Castillo, Carole Chafin, Charles & Rachel Chapman, Frank & Patricia Chavez, Irene Chavez, Pete Chavez, Terry Chavez, Robert & Lena Clandos, Doug Daniels, Denise Encinias, Paul Escamilla, Virginia Figueroa, Eleanore Estrada Forrest, Barbara Aragon Garcia, Leon Garcia, Lynda Garcia, Milo & Crystal (Quintana) Garcia, Robert M. Garcia, Gladys Gleason, Dolores Goldke, David Gonzalez, William & Elvira Griego, Al & Ruth Hernandez, Louis & Adele Hernandez, Vivian Rojas Heuker, Jaime Izunza Holcombe, Mario Chavez Jacobsen, James Jaramillo, Manuel & Anna Jurado, Alex King, Katherine Martinez Kleine, John Landon y Baca, Hernan & Georgiana Lecea, Art & Pam Lopez, Robert O. Lopez, Joe F. Lucero, Paul Luna, Linda Marquez, Anthony Martinez, John & Gloria Martinez, Joel & Rita McCurdy, Carmen Michel, Diena Sandoval Mohlman, Elmer Montaño, Jeffrey & Maryann (Zabala) Moore, Josephine Zamora Myers, Joseph & Marie Northrop, Carlos Olvera, Ernest Ortiz, Alice Garcia Partida, Robert Quiroz, Richard Ruiz, Consuelo Aguilar Sanchez, Eusebio & Virginia Sanchez, Lydia Santaña, Antoinette Silva, Gloria Snyder, Dorothy Borrego Villalobos, Marcella Weig, and Patricia Wilkes.

GSHA-SC Chapter Presidents

1993: Arthur Lopez and Donie Nelson 1994 & 1995: Donie Nelson 1996: Mary Ann Zabala Moore 1997 & 1998: Pauline Chavez Bent 1999 & 2000: Patsy Vasquez 2001, 2002, & 2003: Donie Nelson 2004, 2005, & 2006: Edward Vigil 2007, 2008, 2009, & 2010: Douglas S. Daniels 2011, 2012, & 2013: Rita Vega-Acevedo 2014: Paul S. Gomez

"In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future" Alex Haley

GSHA-Trinidad: Our Accomplishments

Copyright 2014 by Diane Benavides Mason

The Trinidad Chapter was officially formed in 1994 as a "branch" of GSHA. Dr. Eugene L. Torres was the "heart and soul" of GSHA-Trinidad. At that time he lived in Boulder, Colorado and each month he drove to Trinidad, his car loaded down with dozens and dozens of research books for members to use at the meetings. It was a colossal undertaking. Although he usually got help with the crates at the meeting, he had to load and unload them at his home. I can't really tell you enough good things about Gene's leadership through that time and up to the present time. He was giving and generous then, and still is. His contributions earned him an award from the Trinidad Historical Society.

On the weekend of May 28 & 29, 1994, GSHA held its Annual Meeting and Genealogical Conference in Trinidad, Colorado. Trinidad residents proudly conducted field trips to sites of interest in the area, including the Baca House & Bloom Mansion, Longs Canyon and a morada, and produced a successful conference that featured a reception at the Arthur Roy Museum Mitchell on Main presentations at the Trinidad State Junior College, and a buffet lunch in a downtown garden. However, the highlight was the banquet ceremony held in the Family Hall at the Holy Trinity Church. At this time, Trinidad was officially made a branch of GSHA. The conference was very well received and because of the many local volunteers the conference was a success and the cost minimal.

In the early days of the Chapter, some of the members became interested in recording information about the many hundreds of Hispanos from the Trinidad area who were cutting props for use in the mines and the railroads. This eventually resulted in the publication of the book *Los Properos: A Forgotten People* in June of 1996. This project represented several years of hard work and cooperation between many people. After selling-out several printings, the book is now out of print.

In June of 1996, the Trinidad Historical Society Board of Directors nominated the GSHA-Trinidad book, Los Properos, A Forgotten People, to the Colorado Historical Society (now called History Colorado) for consideration for the 1996 Caroline Bancroft History Award. This award recognizes a history project for that year that makes a contribution to the advancement of Colorado history. An application and essays were submitted, and GSHA-Trinidad won this award, which included a generous monetary prize, in December 1996.

The Colorado Historical Society asked if we would submit all of the photos that were used in the book for inclusion in its archives. At our request, the owners of each photo gave legal permission, the photos were hand delivered to the Colorado Historical Society in Denver, copied, and returned to their owners, and are now available for research at the state level.

Gene Torres has been instrumental in making many research sources available to the public. He can tell you more than I can about this, but (don't know the year, but probably about 1996 or 1997) he was instrumental in having the LDS Library microfilm the Las Animas County death and burial registers and notices dating back to 1874. He donated the copies of the microfilm to GSHA, which in turn, donated them to the two local libraries. At that time, a member of GSHA and a member

of the Trinidad Historical Society joined efforts to verify and compile these records on a database, a massive project that has continued for about fifteen years. Part of this project is now in print and available at the Carnegie Public Library in Trinidad for research.

In 1997, the State of Colorado Parks Division purchased 217 acres of rural land from the Long's Canyon River Ranches Development Company. Under state supervision, this property is now used as a buffer zone between 40-acre residential sites, a "Watchable Wildlife Area", and the 7.5-acre site of the former settlement of *El Rito*. *El Rito* began its existence in the earl 1860s, and is significant for its Hispanic ethnic heritage, its adobe architecture, and its social and

religious history. A penitente brotherhood still has easement rights to this site from the early 1900s. Purchase of this property by the Colorado State Parks Division ensures permanent easement rights to Los Hermanos and provides better protection against the devastating vandalism that twice destroyed the chapel. At that time, members of GSHA-Trinidad worked with the Trinidad Lake State Park director in efforts to keep residential sites from encroaching upon, endangering, this property. Our members enlisted the cooperation of the Trinidad Historical Society, helped create public and governmental awareness of this ethnically rich area, and collected massive data used to nominate El Rito for listing on the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties.



[Diane Benavides Mason—pictured in 1994--continues to record the history of Trinidad and Las Animas County, and has been a member of the Trinidad Historical Society for 18 years. Some of her activities include: Towns of Las Animas County Awards, which selects a small community or plaza in Las Animas County and compiles its history. Several books have been published, one of which won the History Colorado Caroline Bancroft Award. Another history collection project is the Century Families Certificates that recognizes families, why and when they came to the county, and what they did for a living. The family has to have had a blood relative living in the area for at least 100 years to qualify. Families are chosen through an application process. Another project was a series of "documentaries" for which the historical society compiled the material and photos that were offered as free programming for the public, usually during the summer months. The programs were presented at Trinidad State Junior College, which also videotaped and aired them on the television station operated by the college. For example, one program was titled:

The Big Band Era of Trinidad, a time period that produced a surprising number of young boys who were formally trained and eventually became professional band leaders and musicians who performed in Colorado, in Northern New Mexico, and other places. Due to budget cutbacks, these programs have been cancelled. Trinidad resident Diane Mason served as the President of GSHA-Trinidad for several years, served as Editor of Noticias de Nuestras Raices in 1998 & 1999, and GSHA Secretary in 2002 & 2003.]

Looking for Early Records of Southern Colorado?

Henrietta M. Christmas has authored a terrific article in *The Colorado Hispanic Genealogist*, V.9, No. 1 Spring 2012 entitled "Federal and State Census Records Are You Ready for 1940?" This article provides information on where to find Colorado records in the 1850s and 1860s and she gives tips on how to search the 1940 census that was released in 2012. Bravo Henrietta for continuing to provide assistance to fellow researchers!

Tribute: Edward Terrones Simms, A Gentleman and a Scholar 1946-2013

[Information not provided by the family was from The Pueblo Chieftain, 13 September 2013]

Edward Terrones Simms was a member of the GSHA-Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter and served as webmaster for both GSHA and GSHA-FACC. He was born in Frankfurt, Germany in 1946 to Florencio Terrones and Erika Leist; and passed away September 9, 2013. He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather, Paul Simms; sister, Wilhemina and brother, Joseph. His surviving siblings include: Erika Nelms, JoAnn Jimenez, John and Richard Simms, Ted, Charlie, Lawrence, and Frankie Terrones and Virginia Martinez; as well as several nieces and nephews.



Ed was a computer analyst, web designer and mapmaker. He had two master's degrees in regional planning and library science. He and his wife Charlene Garcia Simms owned El Escritorio Publishing for 25 years, publishing hundreds of specialty magazines and books on Southwest history and genealogy. He encouraged and promoted artists by coordinating five events called *Festival de las Artes* at the Arts Center and 14 Hispanic art shows at the State Fair Cultural Heritage Center from 2000-2013. Current affiliations included the Sierra Club. He explored his own genealogy and researched his German family back to the 14th century. He loved to travel and study different languages and cultures. For 31 years Ed was a locomotive engineer for the BN-Santa Fe Railroad. He is survived by his wife, Charlene; children: Lisa, Stephen (Aneda) and Kris (Carla); and two precious grandchildren, Lucas and Jacob.

"I always thought of my husband as a gentleman and a scholar. He was very smart; he always carried a handkerchief and comb, wore a watch and donned a black barista apron whenever he cooked. We met at Adams State College where I was a business major on my way to Wall Street when he literally derailed me. I had no appreciation for my heritage. I wanted to become part of the mainstream track. Ed had not grown up with his Mexican culture because his German mother and Mexican father were divorced when he was very young. He had a hunger for the culture I had grown up with and took for granted. I appreciate him for many reasons but especially for giving me and who I am and where I came from, value and respect.

"We spent a lot of time sharing childhood memories. My favorite was the story of how his Mexican grandfather, Candelario Terrones, taught him how to use a tortilla as an eating utensil scooping up beans and potatoes. Maybe it was the Moorish in him since he tested J2 on his DNA or, perhaps, Jewish. The other memory of Ed's that I

cherish is how his maternal grandmother, Wilhelmine Blomrodt Leist, traveled by herself on the *Italia*, a ship from Hamburg, Deu, Germany to New York and then by train to Pueblo to help his mom, Erika, raise him. Wilhelmine had been a chef in Germany and I could almost taste Ed's descriptions of her potato pancakes and sauerbraten. The desserts, such as *windbeutel* (cream puffs), fresh plum *kuchen*, and apple strudel, still give me cravings.

"Because his Visigoth and Moorish ancestors were in Spain at the same time as mine, we wondered if we had an ancestral connection? As Fray Angelico Chavez used to say: '¿Quien Sabe?' A summary of Ed's genealogy will be published in a future issue of *Nuestras Raices*. His ancestors lived on in him and now he lives on in our children and grandchildren. Such is God's universe."

Charlene Garcia Simms

"So, I heard these stories of my dad being young and fun-loving. He went to Janis Joplin and Jimi Hendrix concerts. He was involved in some of the political protests of the 1960s. My uncles, aunts, and some of his old friends told me stories about a time when my dad was a pool player known as *Fast Eddie*, and about the crazy parties he had at the house on St. Clair. This isn't quite the memory I have of him while I was growing up. My dad was very clean-cut and strict. He always had a handkerchief in his pocket, his clothes pressed and his boots polished. I don't ever remember him even wearing a pair of jeans in the 80s.

"One time, after I returned from getting my haircut--I just got the coolest haircut around at the time: long in back and short in the front--my dad was very upset that I hadn't cut my hair short. In fact, he made me go back and get it clean-cut. And as for an earring, not an option. He told Kris once that if he got an earring, he'd have to wear a dress to school on Monday.

"Luckily, at some point in time--around when grunge music became popular--he started growing his hair long and returned to the guy he really always wanted to be. I'll never forget one night eating dinner at Giadone's with our family and my dad asked me what I thought about Rage Against the Machine. He had just bought their CD and really liked them.

"The last 20 years of my dad's life, he lived on his own terms. I'm glad you all got a chance to meet this guy."

Stephen Simms

"Edward, Ed, Eddie, Fast Eddie, Uncle Ed, Mr. Simms, hermano, bro, Opa, <u>Dad</u>. He has been so much to so many. My dad was a character who loved characters. He embraced interesting people and wanted to know, <u>truly know</u>, their story. He studied other cultures and their languages and he never flinched while enjoying some exotic cuisine. Sometimes he'd be a bit forceful in having us try new things. Trust me, when I was nine at a sushi restaurant and he stuck a piece of octopus in my mouth, I was more than surprised.

"We've described my dad with a lot of words this week: smart, stylish, humble, wise, fun, funny, open-minded, sharp, unique, kind, loving, caring, forgiving (again, trust my siblings and I on how forgiving our dad was). He was also selfless, adventurous, stoic and proud. He was our protector. He had my back. He was a

philosopher, a Cosmic Spiritualist who believed in the soul of the universe. He was the stone I sharpened myself against. Man, it sucks saying, 'He was...' When a new friend would ask, 'What does your dad do?' a grin would grow on my face and I'd say, 'He is... [insert hour-long story].'

"But one word above all others describes my dad's life: <u>Wow!</u> He had a cinematic life. My dad saw so much beauty in the world. That might be because he and my mom saw a whole bunch of it. And they did it together. <u>Inspiring</u>. That's another for the list.

"My dad always took care of me. And in some ways, I've taken care of him. That's what I'm going to miss the most: How we took care of each other.

"My dad was our tribe leader but we are not lost without him. He raised us to be strong, he told us to be strong and because of his love and guidance we are strong. One of my dad's favorite things to do at the house was to watch the sunset. He might not be watching the sunset with us today, but I know that he is a part of it. He is free."

Kristopher Simms

"Dad, I remember how you felt and smelled. When I was little I could crawl up into your arms, there was always a place for me there. I remember pulling off your boots after a long day on the railroad and I remember watching the rain and rainbows from our porch on Smithland Street. I remember your beautiful skin, copper brown and smooth--your hats, your smile, your laugh.

"You showed me the stars from our front porch at night, and told me stories of ancient people and constellations. I remember when you bought us a travel microscope. On our mountain hikes in Beulah, I could stare amazed for hours at the intricate microcosm world of wood, rocks and pieces of cloth.

"I'll never forget our long road trip vacations in our Toyota moon buggy when we drove to San Francisco and up along the Pacific Coast to Victoria, Canada. Do you remember when Kristopher got carsick on the never-ending, twisted Oregon highway? A few years later, we drove to Toronto, and we camped out along the great lakes where I first saw the magic of fireflies. Do you remember when Mom and I were stuck in the tent with a television during a horrific lightening and thunderstorm storm, while you and the boys slept comfortably in the van? Thanks for letting us in when we woke you, drenched and terrified.

"I remember listening to you and mom work together on project after project, bringing visions to fruition one step and one word at a time. It was such a happy time, delivering our magazines on Fiesta Day year after year along the parade route, and sitting on the corner of Van Buren at Auntie's. I used to love to watch you work at your computer, laying out the magazines and books. At all our art shows I was always so proud to be your daughter.

"I'll never forget the hours upon hours of philosophical debates about religion, politics and life that we had in the dining room. You were so worldly; it was not uncommon hearing Arabic music and Japanese language records from your room. You taught me to love Rumi and Neruda. You taught me to be proud of my indigenous heritage, as you surrounded us with love and Nahuatl. You taught me to be proud of my German heritage, and our beautiful Grandmother who raised you on her own and loved you so dearly.

"You taught us to conserve energy, as you followed us around turning off the lights. You taught us to honor and respect nature. I'll always remember how, much to our neighbor's dismay, you always let the weeds grow in the front yard, believing the indigenous plants and flowers were beautiful and had a right to live. The garden we planted for you now is flourishing with life, Dad, and is pesticide free.

"When I think of who I am because of you, I think about my love for sushi, my openness towards people and all beliefs. I think about my love for nature, animals and the arts. I think about being overly cautious about Social Security fraud, and computer viruses, shredding documents, not using pesticides or eating trans fats, and locking my doors at night. I think about my love for adventure and traveling. I have seen Mexico, Canada, Costa Rica, and Europe...and it won't stop there because of the thirst you have given me for adventure. Thank you for this.

"Throughout my life, when I heard the distant sound of trains, I wondered if it was you driving your train at night. Now when I hear a train, I know it's you saying hello; you reminding me to live life to the fullest; and you coming home."

Lisa Simms



Simms Family Jacob Simms (baby), Lisa Simms, Ed Simms, Charlene Simms, Kris Simms, Aneda Simms, Lucas Simms (little guy) and Stephen Simms

Gems from Nuestras Raices:

The following is a description of the articles published in Review listings in this feature to discover articles that will further your knowledge and research. Use the GSHA sales form located on page 38 of this issue to purchase back issues.

V.1, Issue 1

Perspectives on Art

By Joseph Márquez

Review of a San Luis Valley contemporary art exhibit on display in Denver, sponsored by Charles Dirks and Diane Osgood of Southwestern Perspectives.

Huerfano County, Colorado

By Karen Mitchell

Author details her efforts to locate and extract records from this southern county. The initial records include these sources: mining records, Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Community Methodist Church, Huerfano County Oral Interview, La Veta, Colorado Cemetery Records, and the Huerfano County School Records.

Hispanic Genealogy

By Trudy Sauter

Partial bibliography of materials available in the Denver Public Library in the following categories: General, Heraldry, Names, Latin America, Arizona, California, Florida, and Louisiana.

GSHA Research Projects

by David Salazar

Contains samples of original entries and lists of the Society's goals, plus a lengthy list the proposed projects. Review the list to see which were completed (by GSHA or others) and which are still on the "to do" list: New Mexico Census of 1885, AASF Chama, AASF Mission of Santa María de Belen, AASF Nuestras Señora de Belen, AASF Nuestras Señora de Purisima Concepcion Church in Tomé, AASF Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Las Vegas, New Mexico, AASF San Diego de Tesuque, AASF San Geronimo de Taos, AASF San Juan, AASF San Lorenzo de Picuris, AASF San Miguel del Vado, AASF Santa Clara, AASF Santa Cruz de la Cañada, AASF Santo Domingo, AASF Santo Tomas Church of

Abiquiu, AASF Socorro, AASF Tomé, AASF Zia, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Conejos, CO, and Holy Trinity Church, Trinidad, CO.

Pedimento

by David Salazar

Brief description of the *Pedimento* or the first step toward a wedding: asking for the hand of the bride. Includes reproduction of two of these very formal letters, one from 1887 and the other from 1934.

New Mexico Census of 1885, Land Grants Enumerated by County

By David Salazar

Includes a list of the land grants plus maps.

Legacy: Islam in the West - Part 1

By Joseph Márquez

Historical overview of the invaders of Spain beginning in AD 405 with focus on the Moors. Includes genealogical table of the Umayyad caliphs of Cordoba and the Abbadid Dynasty of Seville.

Carnero Creek Cemeterio of La Garita, Colorado

by Dr. Eugene Torres

Brief history and description of this 1858 cemetery, with 4-1/2 pages listing those buried there—row by row.

Tu Nombre by Anonymous

A poem in Spanish.

Queries

Atencio, Baros, Borrego, Chaves, Cordova, Duran, Ebel, Espinosa, Esquibel, Freiberg, Gallegos, Gonzales, Hurtado, Lovato, Lujan, Maes, Maestas, Martinez, Montaño, Montoya, Romero, Salazar, Sanchez, Sandoval, Torres, Trujillo, Vigil

Approximately 34 percent of Denver's population is Hispanic, creating a crossroads of vibrant, energetic culture, entertainment, food, music and numerous festivals, including May's Cinco de Mayo celebration and Dia de los Muertos in late October and early November. Some sites of interest include: Museo de las Americas, which preserves, presents and promotes the art and culture of Latinos; Chicano Humanities and Arts Council (CHAC) is a co-operative art gallery featuring professional Hispanic artists whose specialties include woodcarving, tin work, photography and all mediums of the visual and performance arts; Regis University has an excellent collection of Santos; and the Tesoro Foundation's Annual Spanish Market in late August is a focused art show featuring Colorado and New Mexico Spanish Colonial Artists in conjunction with the 1830s Rendezvous.

GSHA's Publications

GSHA is the publisher of the quarterly newsletter, *Noticias de Nuestras Raices*, and the quarterly journal, *Nuestras Raices*, which is a benefit of membership. In addition, the Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter-GSHA, Pueblo publishes a quarterly newsletter and the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America-Southern California Chapter publishes the newsletter *Huellas del Pasado* (Footsteps to the Past), five issues annually.

GSHA-SC and GSHA have published 18 books of interest to Hispanic researchers. Early GSHA presidents David Salazar, Shirley Clayton, Catherine Sedillo and Eugene L. Torres, and their board members supported the tradition of book publishing. The titles published before 1998 include:

Holy Trinity Church, Marriages 1866-1884, compiled by Eugene L. Torres, D.V.M., proofing and indexing by Frank Dominguez

Our Lady of Guadalupe Baptisms Baptismal Registry, Conejos, CO 1861-1868, by David Salazar

Sangre de Cristo Church Baptisms (1/1882-12/1920) & Marriage (12/1884-11/1932) Registries, San Luis Valley, Colorado, compiled and extracted by Hope Gallegos Yost

GSHA-SC began publishing books in 1994, the titles include:

Bautisimos de New Mexico, Mision de Santa Clara, 1729-1805, by David Gonzales

Census of 1768, Real de Señor San Joseph del Parral, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, by Frank Dominguez

Census of 1777, Jurisdiction of El Parral, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, by Frank Dominguez

Census of 1778, Villa de Santa Barbara, Province of Nueva Vizcaya, by Frank Dominguez

Census of 1779, Valle de San Bartolome, Nueva Vizcaya, by Frank Dominguez

Index to Abiquiu Baptisms, compiled by William Trujillo

Index to Nuestras Raices (Volumes 1-6), compiled by William Trujillo

Index to Taos Baptisms, compiled by William Trujillo

Index to Taos Marriages, compiled by William Trujillo

Marriages of St. Mary's Church of Walsenburg, CO, 7/12/1871-8/31/1899, Photocopy of actual chronological records (in Spanish), includes index compiled by María C. Martinez

New Mexican Generations: Genealogies of the Candido Barela, Vigil & Jaramillo & Related Families, by Charles Chapman

New Mexico Marriages, Pueblo y Mission de San Yldefonso, 1709-1880, extracted & edited by David Gonzales

Remembrance: The Spanish Colonists that Arrived in Santa Fe, 23 June 1694, by José Antonio Esquibel Some Descendants of Juan Pedro Valdez & Lucíana Telles, by María C. Martinez

How will our children know who they are if they do not know where they came from.

Author: unknown

Volume 26 ~ Issue 1 37 Spring 2014

We Are The Chosen

We are the chosen.

In each family there is one who seems called to find the ancestors. To put flesh on their bones and make them live again, to tell the family story and to feel that somehow they know and approve.

Doing genealogy is not a cold gathering of facts but, instead, breathing life into all who have gone before. We are the storytellers of the tribe. All tribes have one. We have been called, as it were, by our genes. Those who have gone before cry out to us, "Tell our story!" So, we do. In finding them, we somehow find ourselves.

How many graves have I stood before now and cried? I have lost count. How many times have I told the ancestors, "You have a wonderful family; you would be proud of us." How many times have I walked up to a grave and felt somehow there was love there for me? I cannot say. It goes beyond just documenting facts. It goes to who I am and why do I do the things I do. It goes to seeing a cemetery about to be lost forever to weeds and indifference and saying, "I can't let this happen." The bones here are bones of my bone and flesh of my flesh. It goes to doing something about it. It goes to pride in what our ancestors were able to accomplish, how they contributed to what we are today. It goes to respecting their hardships and losses, their never giving in or giving up, their resoluteness to go on and build a life for their family. It goes to deep pride that the fathers fought and some died to make and keep us a nation. It goes to a deep and immense understanding that they were doing it for us.

It is of equal pride and love that our mothers struggled to give us birth. Without them we could not exist, and so we love each one, as far back as we can reach. That we might be born who we are. That we might remember them. So we do. With love and caring and scribing each fact of their existence, because we are they and they are the sum of who we are.

So, as a scribe called, I tell the story of my family. It is up to that one called in the next generation to answer the call and take my place in the long line of family storytellers. That is why I do my family genealogy, and that is what calls those young and old to step up and restore the memory or greet those whom we had never known before.

-Author Unknown



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La Voz congratulates the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America on their 25th Anniversary!

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

The Genealogical Society of Hispanic America (GSHA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, federal tax ID 74-2512579, incorporated in the state of Colorado. GSHA's purpose is to promote Hispanic genealogical and historical research and education and to expand awareness and knowledge of Hispanic culture, history, and traditions. GSHA promotes the sharing and dissemination of genealogical research and information, creates mutual support for genealogical research, promotes and maintains communication with the Hispanic community and with other societies and organizations that provide genealogical and historical information. GSHA educates and encourages its members and the public to share information and to create support for genealogical research and appropriate documentation of such research. The Society will encourage and may engage in the publication and/or acquisition of books, films, documents and other materials related to genealogy and history to enhance and benefit the activities of the membership.

MEMBERSHIP

Any individual, family, or organization subscribing to the purpose of the Society shall be eligible for membership. The Society pledges not to discriminate against current or prospective members because of race, color, creed, religion, sex, or national origin.

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CHAPTERS/COMMITTEES

If you plan to attend local chapter meetings, wish to support a chapter through a portion of your dues, and receive chapter newsletters, the Society recommends that you affiliate with one of the chapters listed below by checking off your preference in the chapter affiliation section of the Membership Application. Members who elect not to affiliate with a chapter are categorized as "Members at Large" and receive full benefits of GSHA membership as identified in the application.

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Fray Angelico Chavez Newsletter Carmen Arteaga, Editor carmen.arteaga@hotmail.com

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Huellas Del Pasado newsletter Mona Hernandez, Editor P.O. Box 2472 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-0472 nonie91754@yahoo.com



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