

President's Report, Annual meeting and Conference, GSHA

In April I mailed all our members a guide to the contents of our journal, *Nuestras Raices*, from 1989 to 2018. It was completed by FACC members John Valdez and Carolyn Cordova. This guide can help you find articles that might be of value in your research. As of May, We were a little behind schedule with the journal and newsletter but both first issues for this year are now published and more current issues will be forthcoming, thanks to Donie Nelson and Cathy Romero. All board member reports for the annual meeting being held in Pueblo August 17 will be uploaded on our website at gshaa.org, so, even those who don't attend the meeting will be able to read them. These reports include the president's report, vice-president's report, secretary and treasurer, along with our chapter representative reports and our member-at-large report. In addition, the rules committee, conference committee and journal and newsletter committee reports will also be on our website.

Our conference as you can see is a success with so many wonderful speakers and topics. Where else are you going to be able to hear a past New Mexico Historian, Estevan Rael-Galvez, and the present New Mexico Historian, Rob Martinez, in one weekend, plus all the other talented speakers?

By April, when no chapter or individuals had come forward to volunteer to chair the 2019 conference, Bob Craig and I decided to chair it with the GSHA board being the committee. It seemed like such a shame not to celebrate GSHA's 30th anniversary. So, here we are celebrating 30 years of success as you can read about in the conference program. I take great pride in being a GSHA members for 30 years.

What I want to address is something we addressed at last year's annual meeting, and that is the lack of leaders coming forward to serve on the national board or on several committees that are crucial to the operation of GSHA. The situation has gotten so dire that we have had two emergency meetings to try to find solutions. Many people have responded to this issue by offering either criticism or suggestions, but only two people have come forward to volunteer for the national organization. We have 337 households and almost 450 members (when you count spouses). Every one of you has a talent and we are asking you to share that with us.

In your packets you will find a list of where GSHA needs help. We are hoping that by the end of the conference, we will have many of these forms turned in and filled out with many members offering to volunteer in one area or another. If this does not happen, dissolution of GSHA is a strong possibility. Please be assured that the chapters are safe, they are not in danger of dissolving and no one wants GSHA to dissolve. Having said all this, it is up to all members and chapters to bring forth ideas, and solutions, and people who SIGN UP to help. The future of GSHA is in your hands. This will be a primary topic of discussion at the annual meeting. Please join us at 4:00 p.m. in the InfoZone of the Rawlings library where we can all voice our concerns and hopefully come up with solutions. The GOOD NEWS is that the conference is going to be very exciting. Please enjoy.

Charlene Garcia Simms, GSHA President 2019