



CULTURA DE LAS MONTAÑAS

<http://eastmountainhistory.org>

EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter

Third and Fourth Quarter 2016

Now Available: Poster and Glove-Box Versions of 'Our Vanishing Past' Map



*Get Personal-Sized Maps,
Postcards, 2017 Calendars
During E. Mountain Celebration
Sept. 25 (and Anytime Online)*

Those who enjoyed the Historical Society's six-by-six-foot display map of vanishing and long-lost East Mountain landmarks now can purchase personal-sized copies of the map.

The East Mountain Historical Society will host a table at the **East Mountain Celebration** – from **noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 25**, at **Los Vecinos Community Center in Tijeras** – and we will be selling the **maps in two formats**.

Not only that, but we will unveil and sell our 2017 "*East Mountains: Then and Now*" **calendar** and our six Route 66 vintage reproduction **postcards**.

The **map**, the result of our two-year project "Mapping Our Vanishing Past", will be available in both **poster size** and in a folded, **convenient-to-carry size** that fits in the glove compartment. The back of the map is also a treat – it features classic advertising from old East Mountain businesses and resorts.

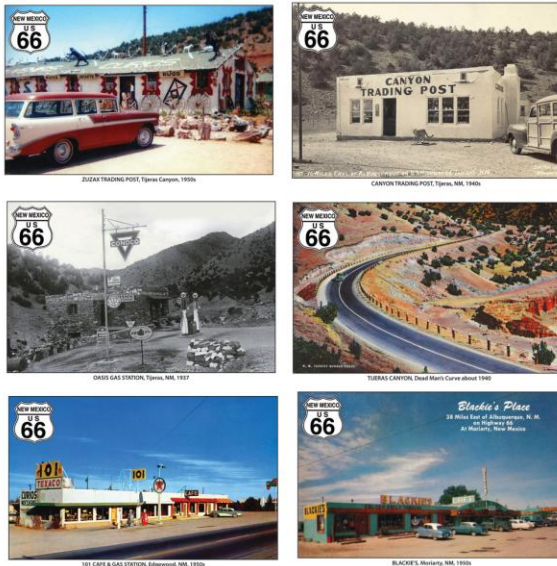
The 2017 East Mountain Historical Society Calendar, "*East Mountains: Then and Now*" – features a new set of 12 historical and current photos, different from our previous four calendars – making it another collector's item for history buffs.

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Maps, Postcards and Calendars continued . . .

We'll also be selling Route 66 **postcards** – which have been selling this summer at Tinkertown, Triangle Grocery, One Stop Office in Tijeras, Moriarty Museum and Edgewood Mail & Copy Business Center. At the celebration, we'll sell them **individually** and in **gift packs of six**.

Postcards are \$1 each or \$5 for the six-pack. Poster maps and folded maps are \$7 each. Calendars are \$12 each. Payment should be in cash or check. All items – calendar, postcards and maps – also may be ordered online at eastmountainhistory.org, at these prices plus shipping.



The display-size hanging calendar features historic photos from the last century, paired with photos depicting these local scenes as they appear now. Each month includes captions about each historic photo. Events significant in East Mountain history, such as post office openings and land grant dates, are noted.

The Route 66-themed postcards feature three scenes from the 1950s – of Blackie's Place in Moriarty, 101 Café and Gas Station in Edgewood and Zuzax Trading Post – plus photos of Oasis Gas Station in Tijeras Canyon (1937), Canyon Trading Post in Tijeras (1940s) and Dead Man's Curve (circa 1940). On the back of each postcard is a thumbnail photo of each site as it appears today.

The map is the result of two years of work by our map committee, headed up by Vice President Kris Thacher. Credit for the postcard project goes to Treasurer Rick Holben, who provided nearly all the cards and to Kathy Rich, our webmaster and graphics whiz, who did production. Other members contributed time by editing and sharing photos for the calendar. Especially fun is seeing a young Sandra Walton Lee (whose parents ran Walton's Store in Tijeras) with her friend Marie "Fritzie" Rea at the Ranger Station in 1945 – and seeing the duo again at the Forest Service office today.

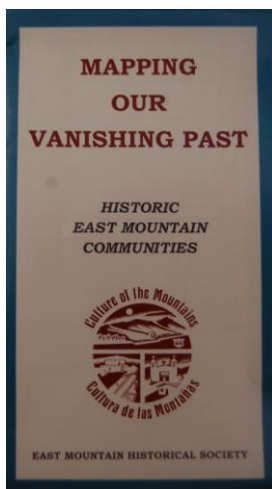
Proceeds from all items help the all-volunteer East Mountain Historical Society carry out our mission of conducting oral histories, preserving historic photos and documents, creating public history displays such as the East Mountain history map, and providing public talks and events.

The cover of the 2017 Calendar of the East Mountain Historical Society. At the top, it says 'East Mountains: Then & Now' and '2017 Calendar of the East Mountain Historical Society'. Below the title are two photographs: a historical black and white photo of a building with a porch and a modern color photo of the same building. At the bottom left is a circular logo with the text 'Culture of the Mountains' and 'Cultura de las Montañas'. To the right of the logo is a 'MISSION STATEMENT' box containing the text: 'The mission of the East Mountain Historical Society is to identify, preserve and present to the public the history and culture of the East Mountain area. EMHS will assist in protecting historical buildings and landscapes, artifacts, records, or any item considered to be of historical significance. EMHS will also identify, collect and archive historical material of significance to the area.'

Letter From the President: A Look Toward 2017

We are having a lot of fun preserving the history of the East Mountains. Really!

It was great having the community involved in identifying places for the map we created during our project,



Mapping our Vanishing Past. So it's truly exciting to have it available in two sizes anyone interested in history can own.

The original map was the result of two years of hard work stemming from our 2012 Centennial oral histories, two projects coordinated by Vice President **Kris Thacher**. (During the oral histories, we kept hearing tales of communities we'd never heard of, no longer on maps – and the map idea was born.)

From our research, we created an original six-by-six-foot portable display map, unveiled in 2015, funded by a \$1,000 grant from Historical Society of New Mexico. But we are pleased to report we printed the new personal-sized maps using our own treasury.

Teamwork by your busy board of directors has gotten us where we are, and much of the credit for our growing treasury goes to **Rick Holben** and **Kathy Rich**, the movers behind four years of “*Then and Now*” calendars. Kathy made all this possible by digitizing our photo archive collection (and putting much of it online). Using that and his own personal photo collection, Rick has been selecting 12 photos for each calendar and taking shots of those spots as they look today. Others contributed editing, proofing

and historic dates for the calendars, with Rick and Kathy providing much of the text. And Kathy has done the calendar printing.

For years we'd talked about mining our photo collection to produce postcards or notecards for fundraising. This year, Rick came up with six postcards to sell, again using our archives and cards from his own collection. Kathy did the graphics and on the back of each card we now sell is a shot Rick took of each landmark as it looks today. Kathy arranged for printing of the postcards – and of our maps.

After printing costs, our treasury has dipped from an all-time high of more than \$4,000 (thanks to the grant, four years of calendar sales, plus our catalog of four booklets).



Our EMHS postcards at Tinkertown.

Our bank account is now just under \$1,000. But we look forward to a potentially steady stream of income from these collectible and educational reflections of East Mountain history, so we hope to purchase recording devices for doing oral histories and other things we need. And we're heading into dues renewal time, so we should be in good financial shape eyeing 2017.

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President's Letter continued. . .

What's next?

Well, doing all this research for the map has led to the compilation of a lot of information about the communities and landmarks found on the map. Rick and Kris especially have accumulated a lot, delving into the world of century-old news clippings, deeds, wills written in Spanish and local genealogy to answer the eternal questions that arise with each new look at a subject. (For an idea of the complexity of history research and its exciting results, read [Kris' and Rick's article in our last newsletter about the Tijeras church](#), page 7.)

Combined with the information we've already accumulated from EMHS oral histories, both recent and from the 1990s, plus other research, the next logical step is to create **a book** about lost and interesting East Mountain towns and landmarks and people of the area. It will be a companion to *Mapping Our Vanishing Past*, the map – and then some.

We on the board of directors are pretty much all involved in the project. In addition to Kris and Rick, **Anabel Sanchez** has been translating wills and old justice of the peace documents that **Sandra Lee** had preserved. Anabel, Sandra, **Marie Herrera Dresser**, **Margaret Garcia** and **Gerry Jones** help us fill in the blanks and connect the dots, as they are longtime East Mountain residents. After writing for decades about the mountains for local publications (and for your EMHS newsletter since the '90s), I, too, have lots of research and information that need a home.

Plus, we've had offers of contributions to our book from members **Dick Brown** (about a balloon flight over the Manzanos) and **Dirk Van Hart** (about CCC camps).



Rick Holben atop a ridge getting a "Now" shot of Cedro for the 2016 calendar. *Photo by Denise Tessier*

What we need now is YOU!

We'd love to see you at our board meetings and could use a hand with a host of things:

- Help at the E. Mtn. Celebration.
- Help running the silent auction at the annual meeting.
- Help getting publicity about EMHS to the local papers.
- Arranging for speakers for our public programs (three a year).
- Help with set-up and clean-up at events. Help providing refreshments.
- Reaching out to businesses to carry our postcards, calendars, etc.
- Writing stories for the newsletter.

And we need a secure home base. We would love the counsel of a member with skills to help us make that happen.

Check our web site for info on ways to contact us and dates for our monthly board meetings. You're invited. So, please, come join us. We're having fun.

Denise Tessier, president

Annual Meeting Nov. 6 to Feature Elections, ‘Quirks of Sandia Mountain Geology’

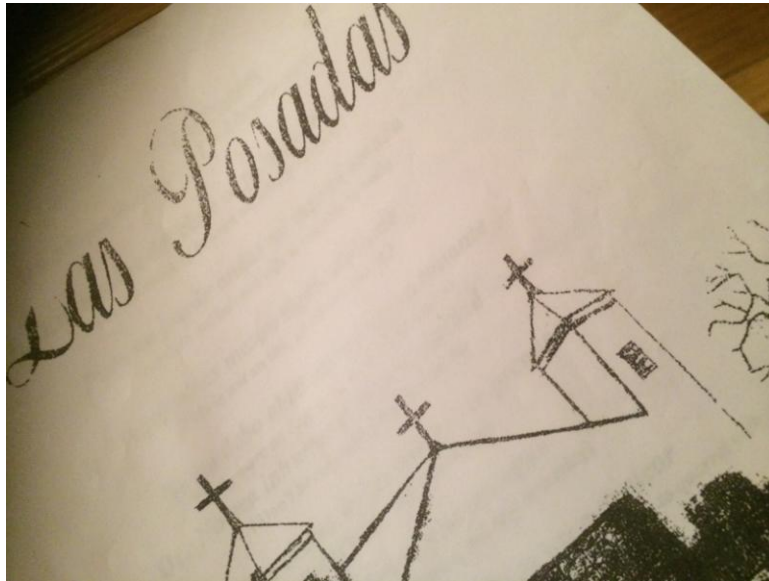
All members, and anyone interested in joining the East Mountain Historical Society, are invited to attend our annual meeting of the general membership, to begin at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 6, at the little historic church in Tijeras (in Luis Garcia Park near the library). After elections and a brief business meeting, member **Dirk Van Hart** will deliver a talk and slide show on “The Geology of Sandia Mountain and Some of Its Quirks,” starting at 2 p.m. Dirk was the presenter at our first public program this past year in January, on the 1930s CCC camps in the Sandias.

Our proposed slate of officers for 2017 is **Denise Tessier** (president, continuing), **Marie Herrera Dresser** (vice president), **Rick Holben** (treasurer, continuing) and **Bev Neville** (secretary, continuing). So far, continuing board members are **Anabel Sanchez, Gerry Jones, Kris Thacher, Sandra Walton Lee, Andre Larroque, Kathy Rich** and **Margaret Garcia**. Nominations will also be taken from the floor and **we would love to have more people on the board, so step up!** (*See the President’s Letter in this issue for tips on what you can do to help.*)

The geology talk is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. We will also hold our annual silent auction of books related to history and/or New Mexico. Please come!

Las Posadas Returns to Tijeras Church Dec. 17

Continuing a tradition we started last year, the East Mountain Historical Society on **Dec. 17** will host one of the nine nights of *Las Posadas*, a 400-year old tradition in the East Mountains.



As we did last year, we will arrive early to celebrate our own members-only potluck at the historic church in Tijeras.

At about 6 p.m. or so, the public is invited to join us as we sing songs in both English and Spanish, led by local singers re-enacting the journey of Mary and Joseph as they searched for accommodations (*posadas*).

Coordinators for the East Mountain Historical Society hosting of the event are **Marie Herrera Dresser, Margaret Garcia** and **Anabel Sanchez**.

News and Notes . . .

A hearty welcome to our newest members, **Mark Reineke** of Sandia Park, **Robert Easterling** of Cedar Crest, **Tina Rizkalla** of Lake Forest, Calif. and **Frank Michel** of Houston, Texas.



Our hearts go out this month to three long-time members who have lost loved ones, two of whom we have lost as well as they were members of EMHS.

Our condolences to board member **Anne Dacey-Lucas** on the loss of her husband, **Raymond Lucas** (shown at right), a great supporter of EMHS who lent us a hand at many of our events and field trips.

We also send our condolences to honorary member **Dorela Perea** on the loss of her husband, **Bobby Perea**, who was a valued honorary member of EMHS for many years and who helped lead some of our public programs.

Condolences also to board member **Margaret Garcia** on the loss of her sister, Cleo Marquez.



The Historical Society of New Mexico will co-host with the Arizona Historical Society the 2017 annual conference, to be held in Flagstaff April 20-23. For more information, visit <http://www.hsnm.org/conference-2/>.

East Mountain Historical Society
Newsletter
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Denise Tessier.....Writer/Editor
newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org

The EMHS Newsletter aims to inform members and prospective members of EMHS events and endeavors, including committee work, and to serve as a record of society activities. It is also a forum for stories about the area. Please send your ideas or stories for future newsletters to the Editor, P.O. Box 379, Cedar Crest, NM 87008, or by email: newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org Deadlines for future issues of the newsletter are Jan. 31, April 30, July 31, Oct. 31. All stories and photos by Denise Tessier unless noted otherwise. Thanks to Kris Thacher for proofing.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the East Mountain Historical Society is to identify, preserve and present to the public the history and culture of the East Mountain area. EMHS will assist in protecting historical buildings and landscapes, artifacts, records, or any item considered to be of historical significance. EMHS will also identify, collect and archive historical material of significance to the area.

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Classic Photo: Can You Identify These Men?

EMHS member **Tina Rizkalla** (of the **Rael** and **Mora** families from San Antonito and Escobosa) sent us a photo of her great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather and five other East Mountain men. Tina, who now lives in California, knows the photo was taken sometime before 1909 because her great-uncle Manuel Mora y Candelaria (top right in photo) died that year. The identity of two of these men is a mystery. Do you know who they are? If you can identify the two listed below as “unknowns”, please send the information to newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org.



Back Row Standing Left to Right are:

Emilio Mora, UNKNOWN, Aurelio Rael of San Antonito (Tina’s great grandfather) and Manuel Mora (Tina’s great-great uncle)

Front Row Sitting Left to Right are:

UNKNOWN, Judge Filomeno Mora (Tina’s great-great grandfather) and Frank Mora



Casa San Ysidro Field Trip

In May, several members of the East Mountain Historical Society headed down to Corrales for a tour of historic Casa San Ysidro, where we were fortunate enough to have author/historian Don Bullis as our tour guide. Of special interest to members were three

buildings that originally stood in the East Mountains, but were moved to Corrales by Casa San Ysidro founder Ward Alan Minge for preservation at the compound.

Above are two log houses (*fuertes*) he bought from Mrs. Engelbrecht (Engelbrecht Road in Cedro is named after this family), who was said to have inherited them from a Mr. Griego in Escobosa. (Photo at right is a closeup of the cook shack that is at right in the above picture.) Minge said Mrs. Engelbrecht sold these buildings after dismantling them, “so we had to puzzle how to rebuild them.” She sold the *fuertes* in the 1960s because she feared “hippies” might burn them. She said the log buildings had been used by families who worked for the Griegos. Minge told this writer he had a crew to help with assembly and they started with the bunkhouse (above at left). “We had to erect and re-erect five times before we got the building stable and right. With this experience, we only had to re-erect the cook shack twice. We were very impressed by the size of the lower logs used in both buildings.”

A picture of the third building, a stone barn from Tajique, ran in [our last newsletter](#).

Text and Photos by Denise Tessier



East Mountain Historical Society MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Membership year is from January 1 through December 31.)

Please use this form and mail it with your dues to the address below.

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

ANNUAL DUES (please check appropriate line):

Student (\$10) _____ Individual (\$15) _____ Family (\$20) _____

Sponsor (\$25) _____ Corporation (\$50) _____

Donation/Amount _____

Does your employer match your charitable donations?

Please remember EMHS in your giving.

Honorary members (residents of the area more than 50 years) do not pay dues.

Dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Make checks payable to:

East Mountain Historical Society, P.O. Box 106, Tijeras, NM 87059

Have you renewed for 2017?

Please join us and support our efforts. You may also join online and pay by credit card/PayPal by visiting our website at eastmountainhistory.org.

Members-Only Page Online

EMHS members have access to our [members-only page](#) online. For the password, contact membership chair Anabel Sanchez at 275-3388.

You're Invited – *Please, Mark Your Calendars**

(*especially if you are not able to receive reminders by email)

Oct. 8 (Saturday) – EMHS President **Denise Tessier** to give free public talk on the history of Carlito Springs, at Carlito Springs Open Space in Tijeras Canyon. Free and open to the public. Check local papers for time.

Nov. 6 (Sunday) – **Annual Meeting, elections**, 1:30, presentation by **Dirk Van Hart**, “Geology of Sandia Mountain and Some of Its Quirks,” 2 p.m., in the historic church. Free and open to the public.

Dec. 17 (Saturday) – **Members-only holiday potluck** at 4 p.m. followed by **community Las Posadas** at 6 p.m. at the historic Tijeras church.

East Mountain Historical Society
P.O. Box 106
Tijeras, NM 87059