



<http://eastmountainhistory.org>

# EAST MOUNTAIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Newsletter

First Quarter 2019

## Come to the State History Conference in ABQ!

*Presentation on Our Awarding-Winning Oral History Project and Popular Map Is on the Agenda March 29; Members Can Attend, Hear our History and Future Plans*



*By Denise Tessier*

If you haven't been to a state history conference yet, make this your year to attend.

For several years now, Janet Saiers, immediate past president of the Historical Society of New Mexico, has encouraged the East Mountain Historical Society to share with other societies the mechanics behind our key projects since 2011, accomplishments that have made other groups sit up and notice.

In response, and because this year's conference is in Albuquerque, Kris Thacher and I submitted a proposal and are approved to be among the session presenters; our 90-minute slot is from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Friday, March 29, entitled "Mapping Our Vanishing Past – How One Small Historical Society's Community Oral History Project Morphed into a 400-Square-Mile Adventure and Enterprise."

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EMHS members may come to that session at no cost. But we encourage you to avail yourself of this conveniently located conference and register for all or part of it (see a breakdown of your options on pg. 3).

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# *Come to the State History Conference*

*Continued from pg. 1*

What will you hear at our conference session?

We'll give you an overview of the history of our organization, the basis for the projects we started in 2011. From there we get into the heart of the session – the oral history project we started in the run-up to the state's 2012 Centennial, during which we got a grant, trained members in interviewing, solicited nominations for names of community members and then recorded the histories of a dozen citizens, whom we later feted with a public slide show, DVD copies of their interviews and Centennial cake in the summer of 2012.

That led to discussions among the interviewers about places the folks in our “Great People, Great Stories” oral history project had mentioned – interest piqued by the fact that many of these places no longer exist. That led to our decision to design, with massive community input, a map of East Mountain places and landmarks that are vanishing or already gone. With a grant from the Historical Society of New Mexico, we made a 6-by-6-foot travel-friendly map of those places (along with two side panels with pictures of all the residents our society has interviewed so far, and with the names of their communities marked on the map with turquoise boxes).

The map – which has been shown at libraries, museums, schools and community centers – sparked so many discussions and so much interest we decided to produce a smaller version people could buy. We covered the back with vintage ads related to East Mountain communities.

And then, the map made us want to know more about those disappearing and vanished places (more than 220 in all). We started research on a map book, which, after two years, has morphed into a substantial enterprise and a whole new chapter in the evolution of our historical society.

How we accomplished all this with an all-volunteer organization and a tiny bank account will form the crux of our talk. Kris and I will lead the session because I served as president the first seven years of these projects and was a committee member on all three; Kris has been on the board almost a decade, served as EMHS vice president when the project began and has served as coordinator of the Oral History Committee, the Map Committee and the Map Book Committee. We also will have input from our chief researcher/photo collector Rick Holben.

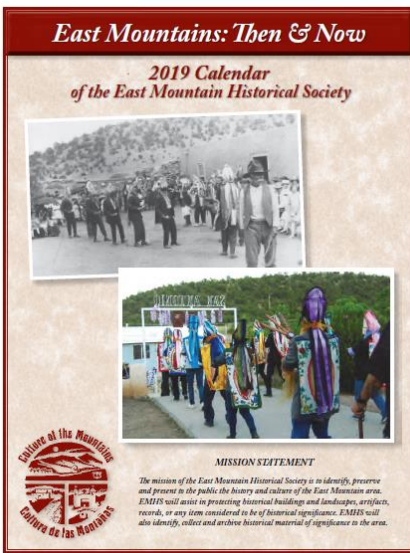
We will answer questions from those who attend. It's a how-to, as well as a how-*not*-to exploration of ways to go about these projects. Importantly, it's also an acknowledgement of how fortunate we have been, throughout our organization's history, to count among our ranks a continuous stream of hard-working and talented writers, photographers, collectors, artists, editors, computer experts and history lovers who came together and created a lasting legacy. At a future conference, we envision selling copies of what may prove to be an encyclopedic-size book presenting the research and photographic treasures we've unearthed along the way. Stay tuned!

## Attending the Conference: Your Options

If you've been to a State History Conference before, you know what a treat it is. Please refer to the Conference Program online at [hsnm.org](http://hsnm.org) for full descriptions of all the informational sessions and Saturday tours. There are more than 60 talks planned over the three days, and multiple sessions are held at the same time, too many to summarize here. Please also refer to the Registration Form at [hsnm.org](http://hsnm.org) for details of all pricing options. You MUST pre-register by March 15 if you want meals. Here are your opportunities this year as an East Mountain Historical Society member.

- *Help us by working the East Mountain Historical Society table:*  
**Any of our members may come in and work the table without registering for any part of the conference.** Conference planners are expecting about 200 people. Before and after sessions, attendees often peruse the history-related merchandise, so we'll need volunteers to work the table all three days. Please contact EMHS Secretary Dick Brown ([secretary@eastmountainhistory.org](mailto:secretary@eastmountainhistory.org)) if you're available to work a shift. This is a good way to get a feel for the conference and meet people, even if you don't plan to register or attend sessions.
- *Registering for conference sessions is cheaper if you are a member of the Historical Society of New Mexico (HSNM).* One of the benefits of EMHS membership is that our members get a \$10 discount on HSNM membership because EMHS is an organizational member of the state group. So, it's \$30 to join HSNM as an individual (instead of \$40) and \$20 if you're over 65 (instead of \$30). The rate for a couple/family is \$40 instead of \$50.
- If you are a member of HSNM, you may attend all sessions over the three days (including coffee breaks, but no meals) for \$95; for non-HSNM members, it's \$120 for three days. (If you want the full package, which includes all sessions and meals, including Thursday reception, Friday lunch and Saturday evening awards banquet, it's \$175; \$200 if you're not a HSNM member.)
- If you'd like to attend only the Friday sessions, no meals, it's \$65, regardless of membership status.
- If you're a member of the East Mountain Historical Society, you may bypass the registration table just to **attend our presentation**, which is from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Friday. In other words, you may attend our presentation for free. We would love to see a good turnout of members.
- **School teachers (K-12) and full-time students (K-12 through college) may attend any and all sessions for free.** This does not include any meals, but teachers and students may sign up at the registration table and move about freely as their attendance is encouraged. ID verification is asked at check-in.

## Calendars, Maps, Merchandise at Special Conference Rates



EMHS will have a sales table throughout the three-day State History Conference at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Lomas and I-25 in Albuquerque, in the Conference Center Lobby. Hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, and 8 to noon Saturday (March 28-30). Even if you don't attend the conference, you may come in, bypass the registration table and buy from EMHS and other vendors at the lobby area.

We will be selling the 2019 *East Mountains: Then and Now* calendars and collectable calendars from past years, as supplies permit. We'll also be selling our maps – *Mapping Our Vanishing Past* – in folded and poster versions, our Route 66 postcard reproductions (in gift packs of six), and cotton, turquoise-colored East Mountain Historical Society T-shirts in a broad variety of sizes.

At the EMHS table, take advantage of these **special conference prices**: 2019 calendar, \$10; past year calendars, \$5; maps, \$5; Rick Holben's *History of Forest Park*, \$10; Chris Wilson's *Reconnaissance Survey of Manzano and Sandia Mountain Villages*, \$5; and T-shirts, \$10 (see photo at right). Postcards are 6 for \$5 and we will have copies of "Great People, Great Stories" (from the oral history project) for \$10.



If you can't make the conference you still can find our calendars and maps at regular prices at the **Moriarty Museum** in Moriarty and at **Triangle Grocery** and **Hey Mavis!**, the latter located on North NM 14 in Cedar Crest. Hey Mavis is the only outlet offering our map in its poster format, and also sells the folded version. 2019 calendars are also available at the offices of **The Independent** newspaper in Edgewood and **Brandy's Hair Design** in Tijeras. Our postcards are available at Triangle and at the **Owl Café** in Albuquerque. All items are available online at regular prices at [eastmountainhistory.org](http://eastmountainhistory.org).

## Carnué Land Grant to Hold Genízaro Nation Conference in May

The Carnué Land Grant, celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is planning a 2019 "Nación Genízara: Gathering and Sharing" Conference in May. Conference topics will range from Culture, History, Genealogy/DNA, Music and Art to Genízara Voices and Healing Identity. The conference will start with an evening reception May 17 at the Carnué Campground, all-day presentations on May 18, and *cultura* and a dance the evening of the 18th. A \$60 registration fee includes Welcome Reception with food and drinks, breakfast and lunch on May 18, and dinner and the *noche de cultura* that evening. Vendor booths will be available. For more information and updates, visit the [Genízaro Identity and Continuance facebook page](#). See related stories on pg. 5 of this newsletter and a history of the Comanchitos Dance, pg. 1 [2018 EMHS Newsletter, Issue 1](#).

## ***East Mountains Featured in First-of-Its-Kind Genízaro Exhibit***

*Photos and text by Susan Olsen, EMHS Board Member*

A wonderful exhibit, “Genízaro Identity and Continuance,” is showing at the Gutierrez Hubbell House through May 2019. It is the first of its kind to explore the identity of Genízaros in New Mexico through ritual performance. You can see the costumes, hear the music and learn from maps, posters and artifacts on display. It also features highlights of the upcoming anthology, *Genízaro Nation*, to be published by co-authors Dr. Moises Gonzales and Dr. Enrique LaMadrid.

Genízaros, or Native American slaves, served as house servants, shepherders and in other capacities in the New Mexico Territory and parts of southern Colorado well into the late 1800s.

The exhibit features Danzante (dance) costumes from Abiquiu, Placitas, Chimayo and several East Mountain villages, including Carnuel, San Antonio, San Lorenzo, San Antonito and Chilili. It is well worth your effort to visit, due to the knowledge of the co-curator and the delightful arrangement of the exhibits in one of the front rooms of the restored Gutierrez-Hubbell home.



Our family’s visit in mid-January was especially meaningful for us -- our two young granddaughters’ grandfather was a Danzante until his death four years ago.

The girls easily recognized the costumes of the Danzantes, as they had attended two of our East Mountain-area fiestas in 2018. And the girls received special treatment from Katherine Cordova (our wonderful guide and board member of the Hubbell House Alliance), who let them beat the drums

*Genízaro Identity* at the Gutierrez-Hubbell House, 6029 Isleta SW, is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays through May. Donations requested.

and allowed them one candy each from the bag in the display. The tradition of tossing candy to the children is well embedded in our granddaughters’ impressions of the fiesta dancing!

## ***Special Events Along the Turquoise Trail***

Thanks to the Turquoise Trail Association for providing this list of upcoming springtime events. For more, check out their website at [turquoisetrail.org](http://turquoisetrail.org).

**Geology Hike, March 10** -- Decode the ancient past through the eyes of a geologist. Local rock hound Scott Renbarger will be your guide. Hike starts promptly at 11 a.m. Meet in the main parking lot of [Cerrillos Hills State Park](#), ½ mile north of Cerrillos village on County Road 59. \$5 exact change cash or check per vehicle or free with a valid New Mexico State Parks pass. (505) 474-0196

**A'birding on a Bronco, March 30** -- Karen Herzenberg will share the life story of Florence Merriam Bailey, a pioneer in bird conservation. A field ornithologist at a time when women wore corsets and floor length skirts, she wrote eight books, including *Birds Through an Opera Glass* (1889) and *Birds of New Mexico* (1928). Free event, donations welcome. Program starts promptly at 2 p.m. Cerrillos Hills State Park Visitor Center.

**Crawdaddy Blues Festival, May 18-19** -- The Mine Shaft Tavern will have fresh crawfish driven up from southeast Texas, cooked up right in front of guests. In addition, shrimp, hamburgers, brisket, gumbo and other foods will be available. There will be a full bar and plenty of shade. Kids under 12 are free; no coolers, outside beverages or food allowed. Cajun food and live music under the Big Tent. Next to the Madrid Old Coal Town Museum. Noon to dusk. [The Mine Shaft Tavern](#) in Madrid. (505) 473-0743

**Art in the Park, May 25** -- Annual event featuring artists along the Turquoise Trail corridor. The range of work includes art cards and books, blown glass, Cerrillos turquoise, jewelry, magnets, metal work, paintings, photography, silk scarves, T-shirts, watercolors and wood art. Enjoy baked goods by the Amigos. Music at Cerrillos Station. Show hours: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Cerrillos Hills State Park Visitor Center.

**Memorial Day Baseball Game, May 27** -- Memorial Day "bragging rights" challenge with the Madrid Miners vs. East Mountain Riff Raff. Game starts at noon. Oscar Huber Memorial Ballpark, north edge of Madrid.

### **Keep Abreast of History-Related Events Every Month**

Visit our web site for [a link](#) to history-related events in the Albuquerque metro area and beyond, updated monthly by member **Janet Saiers**.

Keep abreast of all our activities at [eastmountainhistory.org](http://eastmountainhistory.org).

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## News and Notes . . .

East Mountain Historical Society  
**Newsletter**  
Published Quarterly

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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](mailto:newsletter@eastmountainhistory.org)

All stories and photos by **Denise Tessier** unless noted otherwise. Many thanks to **Dick Brown** 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 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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A hearty welcome to our new members: **Jim Kelley** of Sandia Park and **Rich Besser** of Tijeras. Thanks to all our members who have renewed for 2019!



The East Mountain Historical Society board has voted to join the [Turquoise Trail Association](#) as an associate member. We joined in order to support the group's efforts and to keep abreast of opportunities for our own group.



Members elected these officers to lead EMHS in 2019: President **Beverly Neville**, Vice President **Sandra Lee**, Treasurer **Rick Holben**, and Secretary **Dick Brown**.

Members re-elected to the board of directors **Anabel Sanchez**, **Marie Herrera Dresser**, **Denise Tessier**, **Kathy Rich**, **Kris Thacher**, **Joyce Mendel**, and **Gerry Jones**, and newly elected **Susan Olsen**.

All members are welcome to attend board meetings. (Visit our web site for dates/times). Last year's program director, **Roland Curtis** (who arranged our Ojito Wilderness field trip and the excellent public programs we held last year) has left the board due to personal reasons, so we are looking for someone to help us arrange programming for this year.

We also are seeking members to help us sell maps, calendars, postcards; to help us find a permanent home for our archives and meetings; and to simply act as a sounding board. Financial and legal experience would be welcome.



Reminder: Experienced volunteers and members of the Albuquerque Genealogical Society are available three days a month at the Albuquerque Main Library to help you find your roots. They can also help with internet research. Help days are 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the third Saturday or 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month. The first Tuesday of each month, 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is military research day.

## *Mark Your Calendars*

**March 28-30** (Thursday night through Saturday) – **2019 New Mexico History Conference**, Embassy Suites, Albuquerque. Full conference schedule, fees and information online at [HSNM.org](http://HSNM.org). EMHS presentation is from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Friday, March 29, by **Denise Tessier** and **Kris Thacher**, with input from **Rick Holben** and other members. Members may attend this session and have access to the EMHS sales table, which is open throughout the conference, offering our calendars, maps, postcards, t-shirts and publications.

**Also of interest:**

**Through May** – **Genizaro Identity and Continuance Exhibit, Gutierrez-Hubbell House Museum**, 6029 Isleta SW, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, donations requested.

**May 18** (Saturday) – **"Nación Genízara: Gathering and Sharing" Conference**, with opening reception May 17 (Friday). Carnué Land Grant Hall.