

# FACC NEWSLETTER

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF HISPANIC AMERICA

SEPT 30, 2023

VOLUME 30 ISSUE 3

## Presentations

Oct - Virginia Sanchez

Topic: Pleas & Petitions

Nov— Joe Ulibarri

Topic: Wills and Gifting

Dec Annual Christmas Party

### FACC Meetings on Zoom

10:00 - FACC General Membership Meeting

11:00-Speaker Intro and Presentation

### In Person

8:30 am - Library/Research  
10 am - General Membership Meeting  
11 am - Speaker Presentation  
Pueblo Heritage Museum  
201 West B St., Pueblo, CO

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### Board of Directors

President-Daniel Romero  
Vice President- Lynda Martin-Serrano

Secretary-Kathy Pacheco  
Treasurer-Bob Craig  
Acting GSHA Representative  
Bob Craig

### Newsletter Editor

Christina Quintana  
chrismq@pacbell.net

### Board of Directors Meetings

Open to the Membership  
First Tuesday of the Month  
5 PM at Pueblo Heritage Museum  
201 West B Street, Pueblo, CO

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



### Presidents Message

September 2023

The 3rd quarter of 2023 was not as busy as the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2023 for the FACC Organization. We had very little activity in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, including new articles for the newsletter, so there was no newsletter published for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. It is critical for the newsletter to have articles to print, so please put your thoughts down on paper regarding your stories and submit them for others to enjoy.

We did not have a guest speaker for July and did networking and research for that meeting. In August, we had our Annual Picnic on August 13, 2023, at City Park and we had about 32 people attend. It was a nice turnout and networking event with other members. We also participated in a Poodles & Coffee event at Mineral Palace Park. We partnered with a local dog group where they brought their pets and FACC set up a table to recruit and we had Donuts, Water and Juice we put out for a donation and while we didn't make a lot of money, we did get to meet new people and visited with the members who did participate in the event. We have 3 events we're participating in in October and we will report out on those events in the December 2023 newsletter.

Our speaker schedule for the remainder of the year is:  
October 2023 – Virginia Sanchez will present her book, Pleas and Petitions.  
November 2023 – (Ret.) Judge Joe Ulibarri – will present on how individuals can do Wills and Gifting to the organization in which they are members as part of their last wishes.  
December 2023- Annual Christmas Party will be held at the Elks Lodge

We continue to have our General Membership meetings in person and via Zoom. We continue to seek volunteers for projects within our organization as well as those who can volunteer at the Pueblo Heritage Museum to help defray some of our costs for the room rental.

We're looking forward to a great remainder of the year and I certainly hope to see, meet and get to know our members on an individual basis.

Sincerely,  
Daniel J. Romero  
President - FACC/GSHA

**Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter**  
**Income Statement**  
**General Fund**  
**08/01/2023 to 08/31/2023**

**Cash Flow In**

Savings interest	\$	0.68
Membership 2023	\$	75.00
Library	\$	38.00
	\$	113.68

**Cash Flow Out**

Service charge (1)	\$	7.00
GSHA National (2)	\$	207.00
	\$	214.00

- (1) Bank  
(2) 60% obligation - membership

**Library Fund**

8/12023	\$	588.00
Library user fees	\$	38.00
Fines	\$	-
Donations	\$	-
Purchases	\$	-
	8/31/2023	\$ 626.00

per February 2012 BOD and Membership vote, Library fund shall begin with a budget of \$500.00, each new calendar year.

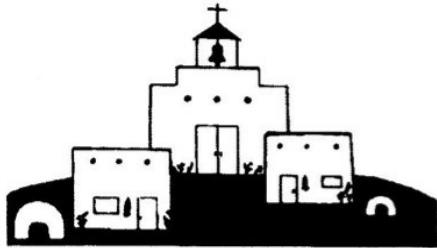
**General fund**

**Bank Balance as of 8/31/2023**

Checking	\$	704.67
Savings	\$	7,313.46
	Total	\$ 8,018.13

**Bob Craig**  
**Treasurer**  
**8/31/2023**

*Frey Angelico Chavez Chapter  
Pueblo, Colorado*



Drawing courtesy of Alfie Salazar

Artwork courtesy of Alfie Salazar

*Nuestro pasado es nuestro futuro*

## FACC Representative to GSHA report, August 2023

### 1. Conference income

- a. Registration \$5490.00\*
- b. 50/50 \$445.00
- c. **Total income: \$5,935.00\***
  - i. 50/50 Raffle winner – Jean Cantu, FACC \$222.50
- d. Expenses
  - i. Speakers: \$1500.00\*
  - ii. Misc. \$500.00\*
  - iii. 50/50 \$222.50

**Total Expenses \$2,222.50\***

- e. **Estimated Profit \$3,712.50\***

### 2. Attendance

- a. In-Person – 40
  - b. Zoom – 38
3. Door prizes 19 items, value \$1500.00
4. Journal discussion, committee formed to publish journal.
5. Call for nominations for the following positions: Vice President and Treasurer
6. Dissolution of GSHA – Conversation on dissolution per GSHA unable to fill positions of VP and Treasurer. Bob Craig, acting as GSHA agent, will call for dissolution of GSHA. This will be done as a resolution to the GSHA Board of Directors, in a special meeting called by the GSHA President.

\*Estimated Income and Expenses, awaiting actuals per Treasurer.

Submitted by Bob Craig, Interim GSHA representative.

## Lifetime Achievement Award

Tom J. Martinez, president of the GSHA, presented Bob Craig, vice president of the GSHA, a plaque from the GSHA Board and the 2023 GSHA Conference Committee. The award reads:

**Lifetime Achievement Award  
Presented to Bob Craig  
By the  
The Genealogical Society of Hispanic America  
In appreciation of your years of hard work and dedication  
On this date August 26, 2023  
During the GSHA Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, UT**

Ever since Bob joined the FACC, he has been Treasurer and President for both FACC and GSHA as well volunteering for many other committees. He is a volunteer that everyone should strive to be.





# Bob's trip to Scotland



Elephant House Coffee Shop  
Home of JK Rowlings writing Harry Potter



Moo Coo-Ginger



Paddington Bear, London Train Station  
(The Underground)



The Highlands



Bob's family tartan colors



Edinburgh street



Portion of Edinburgh castle

# Costilla/Amalia Celebration: Celebrating 175 years

**Reflection #1:** As we traveled through Costilla County, I instantly became aware of the impeccable surrounding beauty and soothing landscape of the area. The 360 degree view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains provided a secure embrace as we traveled through open, serene, and softly undulating terrain. Silvery green sagebrush carpeted the earth except for a few small ranches and a smattering of small abandoned homes. The herd of feral horses that are often seen loping gracefully along the road appeared with several new foals in tow.

August 4th, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> were chosen to celebrate the founding families, including current, extended and relatives of the Amalia and Costilla Communities. The weekend was perfect in every way. Temperatures in the mid to high 80 degrees in the 7,800 feet elevation village was tolerable because the event was held on mountain grassland and mountain terrain as opposed to a convention held on urban concrete asphalt. The Plaza de Arriba Center acted as a natural cooling center for all visitors while housing photo memorabilia of founding families and equipped with an indoor dining spot.

Daniel Romero, F.A.C.C. President, and I arrived at 3:30 p.m. on Friday to set up the F.A.C.C. booth in the back area of the Plaza building along with about 15 other vendors. The front of the Plaza was filled with just as many vendor booths. Dan drove his pickup loaded with a canopy tent, the official F.A.C.C. banner, bags of sand to tether the tent and a representative selection of F.A.C.C. library research books. My SUV held the folding table, fliers highlighting our display at the Heritage Museum and sand bags. Since there was no hotel in Costilla, Dan found a quaint B & B near Questa while Marlin Liles and I traveled back and forth from Ft. Garland. After setting up and having a quick lunch at the Plaza, we set off for our respective weekend homes to rest for the following morning.

Because Highway 522 from the gas station at Costilla to Amalia would be closed at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday to allow for the Family Parade, we decided to arrive at 8 a.m. None too early as parking was already getting crowded.

The Parade was festive, well organized, patriotic and first and foremost, honoring of the founding families of Costilla and Amalia. Calling the viewers to attention with its intense and powerful warning siren was the impressive, shiny Costilla County fire truck. In quick succession were representatives from Sacred Heart and Santo Nino churches, floats representing businesses, the Questa Fiesta Queen, an array of pristinely restored vintage vehicles, and most impressive were the family groups marching behind their Family banners and greeting the hundreds of bystanders along the parade route.

The rest of the day was filled with activities befitting a well-organized festival: music, dancing, food (who could resist the bischochitos), drinks including the tarty delicious jamaica tea, crafts and art pieces offered for sale, raffles, speeches, and recognition awards.

Our own John Valdez, Victoria and Richard Arellano served on the organizing committee and worked tirelessly throughout the festival

The Sangre de Cristo Mountains are the southernmost subrange of the Rocky Mountains. They are located in southern Colorado and northern New Mexico. The mountains run from Poncha Pass in South-Central Colorado, trending southeast and south, ending at Glorieta Pass, southeast of Santa Fe, New Mexico.



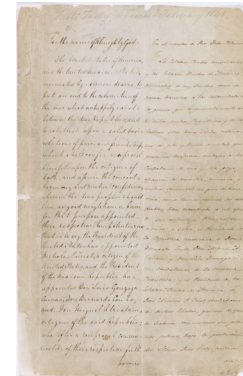


Daniel represented F.A.C.C. with boundless energy as he greeted the many people that stopped by to inquire about our organization. Everyone that stopped by was eager and proud to share their family stories and many were also seeking advice/tips on researching their family trees. The F.A.C.C. banner created by Bill Trujillo looked beautiful and withstood the gusty winds that offered welcome respite from the heat while threatening to lift canopies like whirligigs. Tom Martinez (with input from Claudine Riccillo) created a professional looking flier inviting visitors to experience our recently dedicated display at the Pueblo Heritage Museum. It will be interesting if any of the visitors to our booth will take up our invitation to join our organization either in person or through ZOOM.

One of my personal highlights of the festival was running into childhood friends. Sisters Betty, Nancy, and June came to celebrate in remembrance of their late father Juan Martinez ,who was born in the area. Turns out that John Valdez attended high school with Betty. Betty's parents were padrinos to my brother Richard; and John's parents were padrinos to Betty's younger brother Johnny....just a couple of Degrees of Separation. I know this scenario was repeated many times over throughout the festival.

**Reflection #2:** Knowing that most likely I was related to many of the participants of the Amalia/Costilla Reunion gave me an incredibly strong feeling of homecoming. Countless times during the day I felt I was looking at faces belonging to my aunts, uncles and cousins. Actually, I probably was. The Costilla/Amalia Community Reunion Committee created a safe and loving human landscape that allowed and encouraged every participating individual to commemorate celebrate, and give meaning to FAMILIA. The event also helped create meaning and cohesiveness to individuals, families, and the greater community. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted by: Mary Ellen Burciago, member of F.A.C.C.



The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo officially ended the Mexican–American War (1846–1848). It was signed on 2 February 1848 in the town of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Mexico to cede 55 percent of its territory including the present-day states of California, Nevada, Utah, most of Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona, and a small portion of Wyoming. Mexico also relinquished all claims for Texas and recognized the Rio Grande as the southern boundary of Texas.



Santo Niño Catholic Church, Amalia, New Mexico

## Fun Facts & History of Costilla & Amalia, New Mexico and Garcia & Jaroso, Colorado

The village of Costilla was originally known as San Miguel named for its church. The Territory of Colorado was created in 1861, and when the new territory created its 17 original counties, San Miguel was designated the Costilla County, Colorado Territory county seat. Many county residents complained that San Miguel was too far south for convenience, so the Costilla County seat was moved 17 miles (27 km) north to San Luis in 1863. It wasn't until 1869, that the residents of San Miguel, now renamed Costilla, learned that their village was actually located in the New Mexico Territory.



La Plaza de Arriba in Costilla, New Mexico



Jaroso, Colorado with Ute Mountain on the left.

Jaroso is a name derived from Spanish meaning "willows".



The post office in Amalia

Amalia was formerly known as Pina. A post office was established in 1900, before being renamed Amalia in 1919. Amalia is located near the Colorado border, on New Mexico State Road 196 in Taos County, New Mexico



Jaroso, Costilla County, Colorado

Entering Garcia, Colorado from New Mexico.



Original settled in 1849 as La Plaza de los Manzanares, Garcia rivals San Luis as the oldest continuously occupied settlement in Colorado. A post office called Garcia was established in 1915. The community was named for the local Garcia family.



## August 4-6 Costilla, Amalia, Garcia and Jaroso Reunion.

On August 4-6, 2023, current and previous residents as well as descendants of former residents came together to celebrate the settling of four communities, Costilla and Amalia, New Mexico and the Colorado towns of Garcia (previously named, La Plaza de los Manzanares), and Jaroso. It is believed that these communities were settled after the signing of the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty on February 2, 1848.

George Frederick Ruxton, a British citizen chronicled his travels through Mexico and New Mexico and into the Rockies in the mid 1840's, *Adventures in Mexico and the Rocky Mountains* and *Life in the Far West*. His presence in New Mexico during the Mexican War 1846-1848 is of importance on many fronts because he notes the existence of villages in Taos County.

He rested in Taos for a few days in early January. His goal was to resume his travels northward, to find the beginning of the Arkansas River or as it was then called, "el Rio Nepesta." He began his travels through Taos County three days (January 16, 1847) before the "Taos Uprising." Ruxton set out early hoping to arrive in Arroyo Hondo before nightfall. The next day he left for Rio Colorado, present day Questa. Arriving during nightfall, he was welcomed in the house of "Laforey," (LaForet), a French-Canadian fur trapper. After a couple of days of recovering from frostbite, he set out northward. The following quote from his journal shows that there were no settlements in the Costilla Valley during this time.

"This night we camped on Rib Creek, the Costilla of the New Mexican hunters . . ."

The beloved book by the late Olibama López Tushar, *The People of El Valle*. López Tushar offers this insightful family story. It is found on page 25, *The People of El Valle*.

"The first recorded settlement in the San Luis Valley was that of George Gold (Gould), who brought a colony to Costilla, near the present Colorado-New Mexico line, in 1848. However, he was not permitted to settle because he had not obtained permission from Carlos Beaubien, the land grantee. Gold came from Scotland around 1832. He married María Estefana Montoya and settled in New Mexico. In 1847 he was a member of the Legislative Assembly representing Taos County under the American Military Government. From 1851-1854 he represented Taos County on the council. His son Miguel Gold, who married Quirina Maria Juana Madrid about 1865, later lived in the San Luis area."

These communities lie within the boundaries of The Sangre de Cristo Land Grant. This grant more than 900,000 acres was granted to Stephen Lee and Narcisso Beaubien in 1843 during the Mexican Period. This former grant is located on the northern edge of Taos County and the southern edge of Colorado. When both Lee and Beaubien were killed during the Taos Uprising of 1847, Charles Beaubien, the father of Narcisso, purchased the grant. Soon thereafter, Charles invited people to settle in the Costilla Valley. These families came from various communities such as Arroyo Hondo, Rio Colorado (Questa), Taos and other villages.

This event like the first one, was the brainchild of Pauline Padilla Rivera, previous resident of Costilla and current owner and publisher of La Voz, Colorado's only bilingual newspaper. On her efforts, she invited several individuals with ties to these villages to participate in the planning committee. The celebration themed "Mi Tierra Mi Gente," "My Land My People" was held at "La Plaza de Arriba" in Costilla. Thanks to the Dennis and Mirriam Santistevan for their willingness to host this event at their facility.

On the perimeter of the plaza vendors sold food, books, jewelry, and other goods. In the main building were exhibits showcasing families and individuals with connections to these villages. Other exhibits included memorials of veterans, educators, professionals, and senior citizens. New to this year's celebration was a memorial dedicated to the many postmasters/postmistresses of the Costilla Post Office. It is believed that the first US Post Office in Costilla was established in the 1870's.

The schedule of events was spread throughout three days.

Friday evening events included Pre-registration, Meet and Greet, viewing of exhibits and dining at the Plaza Bar.

Rebecca Vigil, former Secretary of State of New Mexico welcomed everyone to the celebration. while serving as the master of ceremonies. Bishop Ricardo Ramirez provided the blessing for the event. There were many highlights to this year's celebration, the most sought out event was the Parade. Various senior citizens were recognized, most notable was Mr. Valdamar DeHerrera at 103 years old a WW II veteran who survived the Bataan March. In addition, community elders Ruth Vigil, Casilda Lovato and Natividad DeHerrera were recognized. The current Lt. Governor of the great state of New Mexico, Howie Morales recognized the Costilla and Amalia communities marking the 175th anniversary of the Costilla and Amalia Settlement and neighboring communities dating back to 1848.

Attendees looked forward to viewing over 60 family banners recognizing long time surnames. Names included Arellano, Alires, Archuleta, Bernal, Casias, Cordova, Cortez, DeHerrera, Duran, Gallegos, Galvez, Garcia, Jacquez, Lobato, Lucero, Madrid, Maes, Malouff, Manzanares, Marquez, Martinez, Mascarenas, Medina, Meyers, Miera, Montoya, Ortega, Ortiz, Overson, Pacheco, Padilla, Quintana, Rivera, Romero, Roybal, Salazar, Sanchez, Sandoval, Santistevan, Tafoya, Taylor, Trujillo, Valdez, Vallejos and Vigil, just to name a few.

These communities also showcased their clubs, churches, and fire departments in the form of floats. Clean and shiny show cars and trucks of different makes and years were also to be seen.

Throughout the day food vendors were busy tending to hungry and thirsty customers.

A special moment in early afternoon occurred when Howie Morales, Lt. Governor of New Mexico presented a certificate Proclaiming Costilla, Amalia Day to the Master of Ceremonies, Rebecca Vigil. The excited crowd cheered and applauded loudly, this special moment.

Following this ceremony, The Torres Family of Costilla presented a family musical showcasing various cultural and religious traditions. One of which the audience enjoyed was the story of "La Llorona." After her performance, La Llorona took photos with the audience.

The afternoon was filled with music provided by "The Mighty Nice Band" from Denver, CO. The music ranged from Norteñas, Cumbias, Salsas and Oldies.

In the evening, New Mexico's own Roberto Griego and his group, provided a high quality entertainment.

Sunday's events included a bilingual Mass celebrated by Bishop Ricardo Ramirez at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Costilla. The Costilla Parish Council provided breakfast featuring "red and green chile, potatoes, eggs and tortillas."

It was truly a wonderful event where cousins and friends who had not seen each other for years came together to celebrate. It was their land of birth that brought them together. Thus the theme "Mi Tierra, Mi Gente", "My Land, My People" lived once more in their hearts and souls; even if it was for just a weekend. Over two thousand people attended the event where memories were made.

Submitted by John Valdez



La Plaza de Arriba, Costilla, New Mexico



Sacred Heart Church of Costilla



# Costilla-Amalia 175th Anniversary Reunion

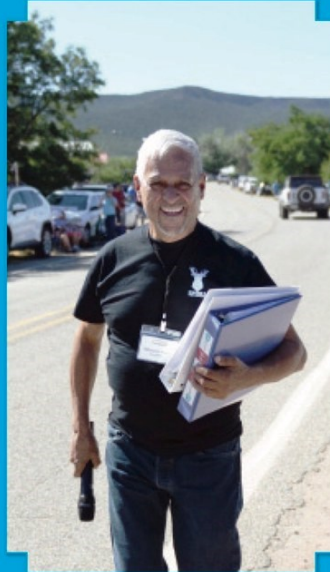


Photo courtesy: Daryl Padilla, Copyright La Voz Colorado 2023

## ***Alfie Casaus Salazar, Our Corn Mother***



Alfie Casaus Salazar passed away on June 27, 2023, at the age of 87. She was born in 1935 in Monte Vista, Colorado to Pat and Lela (Casaus) Salazar. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Alfred, and son Larry. She is survived by her two sons, Phillip and Andrew, seven grandchildren and ten great grandchildren, sisters: Vera, Lillian, Dolores (Lola), Liz, Lorraine, Lucille, and one brother Fred.

Alfie did so much in her life she deserves a biography written about her. She was a school bus driver, seamstress, gardener, dietician, and much more. Alfie and a neighbor founded the *LaSalle Road Ladies Club* in 1964 that was active for over forty years. Along with her husband, they started the annual Halloween Party for family and children in 1984 in Salt Creek, and it ran for over twenty years. Alfie had many honors bestowed upon her, including receiving the Dr. Frist Humanitarian award from Parkview Hospital in 1988, where she wrote and directed a play for children to learn how to eat more nutritious food. Some of the awards she received include being named an outstanding woman of 1995 for Women's History Month. Her most prestigious award was being named a *Corn Mother* in 2019 through the *Journey Through Our Heritage Program* at Metro State University. She was a member of the *Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter* of GSHA for over thirty years serving in many capacities, including Treasurer and newsletter editor, always volunteering. She was a volunteer at the Rawlings Library for over thirty years where she won an "Up With Reading Award." She was a true artist and even towards the end of her life, in 2018, one of her paintings won placement at the Colorado State Fine Arts Contest.

I met Alfie in 1991 when she joined the Pueblo Chapter of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America. It was at the old El Pueblo Museum and I heard her talking. I was sure it was a relative of mine because she was talking in Spanglish (a mixture of English and Spanish). I entered the room she was in and immediately took a liking to her and even before she told me, I knew she was from the San Luis Valley. She immediately became my friend. As we were comparing our genealogies, I found that her husband, Alfred's great-grandfather, Juan Cordova, who migrated from Garcia to Redwing, near Gardner, in the early 1900s, was the brother to my great-great grandfather, Pablo Cordova who stayed in Garcia. This made Alfred and my father third cousins and Alfred, and I third cousins one generation removed. I couldn't believe her husband and I shared the same DNA.

Alfie designed the logo for the Fray Angelico Chavez chapter of GSHA. I went to see her two weeks before she died. I had picked up an FACC brochure at the Heritage Museum. I had it in my hands, among other things, when I arrived at her house. I showed it to her. She was very happy and surprised that it was still being used. She took great pride in this logo. When we held the first annual meeting and conference in Pueblo in 1995, she led a group of people, (Abel and Virginia Santistevan, Lucy Gettler, Nancy Garcia, Bill Trujillo and his sister, Pearl) to build a casita modeled a little from her logo design. It was made of cardboard but felt and looked like adobe. This group of people worked diligently for two months to finish the casita. She wanted to surprise everyone at the conference, and she did, almost 200 people. That was the year we named our chapter the Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter and Fray Angelico gave us permission before he died a few months before the conference. His sister Nora, brother Gene, and good friend Pedro Ribera Ortega presented us with Fray Angelico's hand-written letter giving us permission. We still have this letter in our archives.



In the early 2000s, Deborah Martinez-Martinez, Dr. Bernice Zamora and I formed a poetry group called Las Campaneros. Alfie joined our group along with Deborah's sister-in-law, Lizzie. We met once a month to share our poetry and short stories. Each host always made a delicious meal and Alfie usually made her delicious red chili. Alfie was a wonderful writer and made us laugh with her stories of growing up in Salt Creek. Some of that poetry can be found in the book she published, *Volando como el Viento* (Flying Like the Wind). In 2019 I helped her finish her book on her beloved Salt Creek Neighborhood, *Memories from the Salt Creek Neighborhood, Recuerdos del Barrio Salado*. Inside this book is shown the miniature house she made of 700 hand-made mini adobes that replicated her home growing up in Salt Creek. Unfortunately, COVID hit just as it was published, and we didn't have time to promote it for two years. It is a classic and it is available through Vanishing Horizons.

Alfie was one of the most creative people I've ever known. She initiated the "Dress as your Ancestor Contest," and after about fifteen years she turned it over to Corrine Tafoya. Up until our last in-person conference in 2019, the contest was still in full bloom. She was also part of the Heritage Trunk presentations where a group of women went to different schools and presented to young children the Hispanic heritage of southern Colorado and northern New Mexico. All the ladies would dress in period clothing and every student was engaged.

When I was the Genealogy and Special Collections Librarian at Rawlings Library, Alfie and our dear friend, Virginia Santistevan would show up faithfully, every Wednesday, to help us with different projects. I loved Wednesdays. Many people came to the library because of them. They were friendly to everyone and who can forget Virginia's six second hugs and Alfie's laughter and that big smile. They both gave us endless hours helping us finish projects which never would have gotten done without them. Alfie had the best handwriting, and she was an impeccable genealogist. She didn't depend on ancestry.com or any other electronic sources. She had a paper trail and followed some very old-fashioned rules like using primary sources and documented where she got all her information. Not too many people still do that. But she did finally succumb to DNA testing and because of the results of this test she started researching her Lobato side of the family. I bet that in heaven, she is still trying to fill those empty spaces on that gigantic chart. Alfie was kind and she loved people. Her favorite quote was, "Do unto others, as you would like for them to do unto you."

I still miss Alfie's phone calls. Each time I go to Pueblo, I forget she is gone and almost turn on the exit to Blend, past Salt Creek, Roselawn Cemetery, and then turn on La Salle Road, as I did for many years to find our Alfie, with a big smile, immediately saying, "Are you hungry, I made something to eat." Rest in peace Alfie Casaus Salazar. We will never forget you.



Alfie and Charlene  
2004 Annual Conference in Trinidad

Submitted by Charlene Garcia Simms





Alfie, making a presentation and holding her Outstanding Woman Award, 1995



Alfie and Corrine  
Dress as your ancestor , Circa 2008



Pueblo Chapter officers taking office sworn in by Judge Ulibarri:  
Nancy Garcia, Abel Santistevan, Marty Hill, Marge Martinez, Charlene Garcia Simms, Gloria Gonazles Escorcia, Alfie Salazar, Juanita Ulibarri



Las Casita and some of the builders.

1995 annual conference, Pueblo  
Abel and Virginia Santistevan, Lucy Gettler, Nancy Garcia and Alfie Salazar

## Alfie's Philosophy



While growing up we lived on a farm with my maternal grandparents. There were always a lot of people and laughter as they shared stories while they butchered animals, plastered the house, or did other work together. It was a time when everyone helped each other.

I, myself like to share love, hugs, stories and anything else. I believe that everyone good and bad, has something good to offer.

I was nine when we moved to Salt Creek, a barrio in Pueblo, Colorado. Being the oldest, I helped take care of my eleven siblings. This taught me responsibility, love, and patience.

I quit school in the twelfth grade and eloped. I always wanted to be more than a mother and wife. I wanted to learn to be something more than a homemaker. My husband encouraged me to do and try different things. I earned my GED, joined clubs, and learned crafts and art, but my passion was writing. Years later, I took a class in creative writing and my professor opened the door that I needed to fulfill my passion. Since then. I have written and published two books, several articles and poems galore.

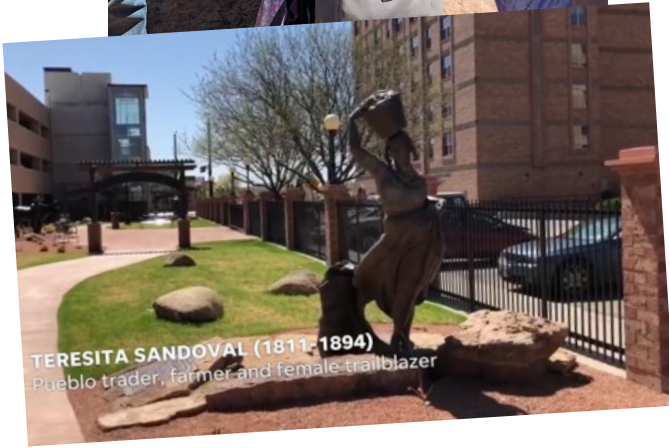
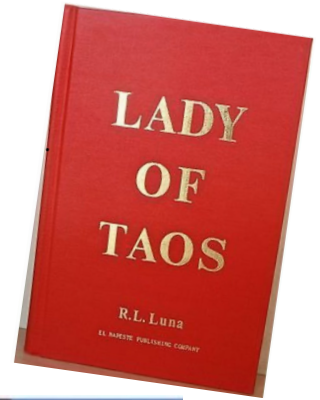
I believe that everyone has the ability to learn if they only take the time to do it, and they should never be discouraged. You will run into people in life who are negative, but you should just rise above the negativity and believe in yourself and never give up. Everyone has something to offer. They have dreams they should follow and should always try to be positive.

Submitted by Charlene GS





Sketch of Teresita Sandoval by Alexander Barclay in 1853



On May 6, 2023, three statues were unveiled at Pueblo's Walk of Legends park, across from El Pueblo Museum. The three statues are of early pioneers who lived in Pueblo, some as early as 1842. The statues are of Charles Autobee, Marcelino Baca, and Teresita Sandoval.

Shown here is Ercilia Luna in front of the Teresita Sandoval statue. Ercilia's ancestor, Benito Sandoval was the commander of El Pueblo Trading Post when it was attacked on Christmas morning in 1854. Benito was killed in this attack. His sister, Teresita, continued living in Pueblo until she died in 1894.

Teresita helped build the trading post in 1842 with her common law husband, Matthew Kinkead. In addition to taking part in the operation of El Pueblo, Teresita and Matthew also raised, traded and sold buffalo. Many stories have been told about Teresita but Deon Duncan, sculptor, states that this sculpture is based on a sketch by Alexander Barclay, a London immigrant who would later become Sandoval's third husband. Barclay's sketch features Sandoval wearing a red skirt and carrying a laundry basket on her head, sporting braids.

In this photo Ercilia is holding the book, *Lady of Taos*, written by her late husband, Ricardo Luna. The book is about events that took place in early Pueblo. It is also about Teresita and her and Benito's descendants. The FACC library has a copy. It is an interesting read, especially for genealogists.

Submitted by Charlene Garcia



Ángel de Cervantes is offering zoom lectures over the coming weeks. If you enjoy learning about history and DNA, and the impact events made on the lives of our ancestors, please join these very informative lectures from the comfort of your own homes.

Here are a few of the topics that will be scheduled in the coming months. For information, please contact Ángel de Cervantes at [angelcervantes@gmail.com](mailto:angelcervantes@gmail.com) for dates and times. It will be well worth your time.

The Aztec Massacre of 1520 through DNA

The Jesuit Order (Inigo de Loyola)

Coronado & Spanish Exploration of the Southwest

The Colony of Nueva Mexico (1598-1848)



The 1680 Massacre of San Lorenzo AKA “The Pueblo Revolt” & the Origins of the Genizaro

The Comanche War of Extermination that destroyed the Apache in the 1700’s

The Cautivo System through DNA & its impact on the New Mexico colony

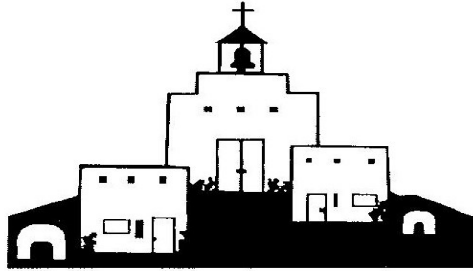
The Villa de Albuquerque (1706-1821)

Spanish Castas, DNA, & Identity

The History of New Mexico Colonial Style vs. Spanish Pueblo Revival Style



Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) haplogroups are the major branches in our common maternal lineage. Your haplogroup traces your branch on the maternal tree of humanity back to our shared ancestor in Africa.



The Pueblo Heritage Museum staff has been busy during this past year streamlining and reorganizing the museum. They are excited about our new display and look forward to visitors seeing the new exhibit.

As you may know, to support the Pueblo Heritage Museum and to have a reduced rate for the meeting room, the museum requires that we provide 7.75 hours of sweat equity per month. Meral Jones, Director is working on new projects and she may need some help. You can also help with changing light bulbs, cleaning, dusting, cleaning glass on displays and other general help with upkeep.

Please call Meral for details about her projects and for scheduling a time to volunteer to meet our 7.75-hour sweat equity responsibility at 719-295-1517.

Thank you for your continued support.

Committee members Tom Martinez ([tomimartinez@gmail.com](mailto:tomimartinez@gmail.com), 816-886-8629), Claudine Riccillo ([criccill@utep.edu](mailto:criccill@utep.edu), 719.676.2650), Mary Ellen Burciago ([mburciago@gmail.com](mailto:mburciago@gmail.com), 719-330-0704), and Connie Romero ([cromero618@aol.com](mailto:cromero618@aol.com), 505.670.8804) will be prepared to hear any input/comments you would like to offer via email or phone calls. We are pleased with the new exhibit which was installed in January 2023.

<p><b>FACC ZOOM PRESENTATIONS</b>  <b>2nd Saturday each month...10 AM</b>          Click on link in your email  <b>FREE for members</b></p>	<p><b>FACC LIBRARY</b>  <b>MAKE APPOINTMENT</b>          CALL  <b>TOM MARTINEZ</b>  <b>816-886-8629</b></p>	<p><b>FACC Website:</b>  <a href="https://facc-genealogy.weebly.com">https://facc-genealogy.weebly.com</a>  <b>FACC Facebook:</b>  <a href="https://facebook.com/groups/faccgsha">https://facebook.com/groups/faccgsha</a>  <b>GSHA website:</b>  <a href="https://gshaa.org">https://gshaa.org</a></p>
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# *In Memoria*

Ricardo Luna	23 January 2023
Sil Arteaga	26 January 2023
Shirley Craig	07 April 2023
Maria Fabiola Orlinda Santisteven Valdez	10 April 2023
Alferia "Alfie" Casaus Salazar	09 June 2023
Bob Aragon	15 July 2023
Vincente "Chente" Martinez	01 August 2023

## *The Fallen Limb*

*A limb has fallen from the family tree.  
I keep hearing a voice that says, "Grieve not for me.  
Remember the best times, the laughter, the song.  
The good life I lived while I was strong.  
Continue my heritage, I'm counting on you.  
Keep smiling and surely the sun will shine through.  
My mind is at ease, my soul is at rest.  
Remembering all, how I truly was blessed.  
Continue traditions, no matter how small.  
Go on with your life, don't worry about falls  
I miss you all dearly, so keep up your chin.  
Until the day comes we're together again.*

## *Author Unknown*





## How to Attend our Zoom Meetings



1. Go to <https://zoom.us>
2. Then download the Zoom app to your device. Here is a link to a video showing you how to download the Zoom app: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsy2Ph6kSf8&feature=emb\\_rel\\_end](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsy2Ph6kSf8&feature=emb_rel_end)
3. Here is a video showing you how to join a meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

You will receive an invitation to our FACC meeting through an email. A few minutes before the meeting, go to the email and click on the link to the meeting and follow the instructions, however, ignore the message that tells you to download the Zoom app if you already have it downloaded. Once you get in you will be placed in a Waiting Room. We will see who is in the Waiting Room and let you in to the meeting.

**IMPORTANT:** We will set up the meeting with your microphone muted, so please do not unmute your microphone. Muting everyone except the administrators and the presenter will keep background talk from ruining the presentation. At the end of the meeting you can use the Chat button to write in any questions you may have for the presenter.

One last thing. Some desktop computers do not have a camera and/or a microphone, which may not allow you to set up the program. Other than that, it's really pretty easy. Let's see if we can have a lot more people join our next Zoom meeting.

### Speakers for last quarter of 2023



Oct—Virginia Sanchez—Pleas and Petitions and new found information

Nov—Joe Ulibarri—Wills and Gifting

Dec—Annual Christmas Party



*Victoria Bela*

*My Maternal Grandmother*

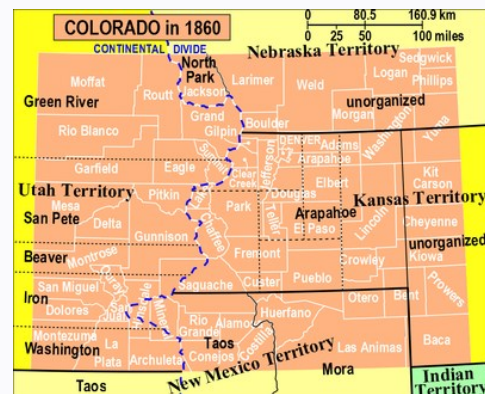
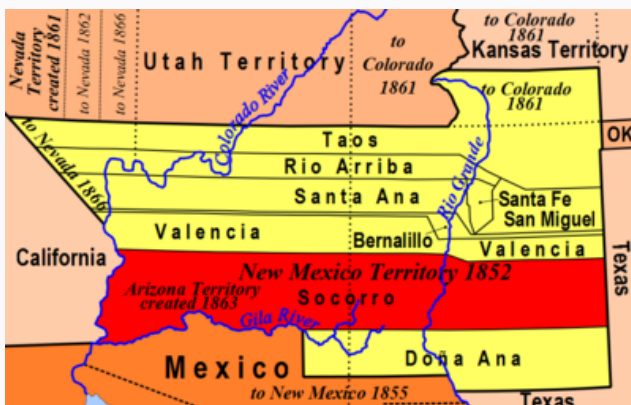
## *From my desk*



We find ourselves in the third quarter of 2023, the autumn of the year. Summer has come and gone, and with it, some of our members have left us throughout the year. And with each passing, memories and stories go with them. Many have left a legacy that will carry on and others have quietly and unnoticed contributed to our lives. It is to the quiet ones who have helped without accolades that we also need to remember. In the building of New Spain there were those that were the straw, the mud, and others the hands that shaped and formed what we now. A culture that is standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before. Those gentle, and maybe not so gentle, gente who gave their heart and souls to the building and shaping of who and what we are today.

We are the DNA of all our ancestors. Within each of us is a legacy of many generations of New Mexico and Colorado settlers. Not all of us descended from the conquistadores, the Don and Donas but from the dreamers and hopefuls who saw in the new world a chance to be an owner of a piece of land to call their own. It was not an easy life in this forsaken land. There were the natives, the first people who saw their way of life changed completely. For the soldiers and conquistadors were conquerors and seekers of gold and riches. Along with the conquering forces came the padres who saw in the native dwellers a flock to be brought into the fold of the holy faith. And as mostly men were the first to come to this land they took as wives, the native women. And now the DNA of New Mexico and Colorado people are a mixture of Old World and New.

As we remember those who came before us, we must be aware of the contributions that everyone made to the fabric woven in making this new world. The hands that forged the iron, the tailor that made the garments, the candlemaker that gave light in the darkness, the furniture maker, the tiller of the soil, the strong women who made a family that continued despite the hardships of the harsh forbidden land. We must also give thanks to the natives, the first people who helped and sheltered the original settlers despite the disruption of their way of life. We are the sum of many strands woven into this, our culture, our heritage, our lives, our santa fe.



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