

El Cronicón

Official Quarterly Publication of the
SANDOVAL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: Ken Kloeppe

Editor: Roy C. Skeens

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March, 2014

MARCH MEETING

Sunday March 9th 2pm

The History of BLAND



Main st, Bland in the 1800's



hotel and caretaker's cottage, in recent times

Student of history Tom(Lucky) Ball has made a life long study of BLAND, the gold mining town of 1891-190, located about 20 miles south of Santa Fe near where the Dixon apple orchards used to be. Unfortunately the whole town was totally destroyed in the Cerro Grande fire of 2012.

Tom will give us some highlights of this interesting historic town.

President's Message

Hola Amigos.

In 2014, I begin my fourth year as the president of SCHS. The previous years have been filled with surprises, joys and also sadness as many of our members have passed.

There has always been one constant in our society. That is, the willingness of good hearted people to volunteer, work hard and contribute to the success of this wonderful historical society.

Every time you enter the Delavy house for a meeting, our staff has put in countless hours preparing for another wonderful presentation. I want to thank all the people I work with for their outstanding effort. I also want to thank all our members who support us financially, emotionally and physically bring snacks for everyone to enjoy after the presentation.

Sandoval county members, at sometime during this years' meetings, please reach out and thank; Martha, Tom, Ernie, Cynthia, Dirk, Roy, Connie, Madelyne, Ricardo, John, Maureen, Ann, Karen, Max, Katherine, Priscilla, Rusty, David, Pat Joy, Francelle, Sam, Virginia, Walt, Mida, Lorena, Rick, Dottie, Caroline, and If I missed someone, I am truly sorry.

If you don't know who these people are, ask Martha, she will know them all!! If you have some spare time and want to share your love with other people here, sign up and volunteer. Giving back is a great way to enjoy life!

Mil Gracias, Ken Kloeppe

Christmas party



Christmas party







Christmas party



A big tip of the editor's hat to Virginia Ortiz for taking these photos.



JANUARY MEETING

Annual Meeting of Sandoval County Historical Society

Current officers were re-elected by unanimous decision, and they have graciously agreed to fill the positions for another year.

Officers introduced themselves and gave a brief rundown of their duties.

Everyone enjoyed the book sale (and another will be held soon) and the refreshments. There were several new people at the meeting, and we hope we have inspired them to join us.

Dirk Van Hart gave a Powerpoint presentation of the archives and how to use them. The Historical society has purchased a new computer. Dirk has digitized the entirety of the photos that the Historical society possesses. He gave a few hints on access of the photos, and would be glad to help anyone who might need it when they find they would like to copy a photo from the archives. There are a few photos that have a copyright on them(and they are marked with a C), so you would have to get permission to copy them.

First, there are icons on the desktop for:

Read Me First introduction and directions

Master Photo index –excel spreadsheet

Master digitized photos more than 3100

Master data sheets more than 1098 files for years 1977-2006

It is highly recommended that you read the Read Me First information, which will help you tremendously.

Each Photo has a unique, 3 part number consisting of : 1) a generic category

2) the year it was catalogued, and 3) the sequential number. For example, the photos of Native Americans have a 001 category, the Fiestas have a 002 category, families have a 010 category, military has a 013 category, and so on.

If you bring a flashdrive, you can copy the photos you might be interested in.

It has been mentioned that we really do need someone to maintain the photo albums of our activities- if you are interested, let someone know and we will put you to work.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

April 13 - NASARIO GARCIA will introduce his new book on Bernalillo history.

May 4- The Archive committee tells the story of the Inquisition in New Mexico.

June 8- Ethic groups in Sandoval County.

**Elected officers - 2014
Committee chairs**

Ken Kloeppel	President	294-2358
Tom Wilson	Vice-President	867-5575
Cynthia Spence	Secretary	867-9115
Ernie Jaskolski	Treasurer	828-2514
Dirk Van Hart.....	Archives	293-2073
Martha Liebert... Telephone committee	Archives	867-2755
Roy Skeens.....	Editor El Cronicón	867-6310
William Last.....	Finance	867-5857
John J. Hunt.....	Public Relations	433-9524
Connie Aguilar.....	Programs	867-5820
Katherine Pomonis.....	Librarian	867-6115
Tom Wilson.....	Grounds	867-5575
Open ...	Photo Albums	
Priscilla Taylor)		
Joy Barclay).....	Refreshments	867-9769
Ben Blackwell.....	Website	897-5090
Max Cde Baca	Building Supervisor	867- 4994
Open	Art Exhibits	
Rusty Van Hart	Membership	293-2073
David C de Baca.....	Geneology	238-3582
Joy Barclaty, Francel Alezander, Patricia Weegar	-Archives	

FOOD

To help along our social hour we ask that our members bring a little something to eat according to surnames as follows:

March - A.B. C.D

April - E.F. G. H

May- I,J,K,L

June-M.N.O.P

Joy Barclay at 867-9769 will help coordinate

FEBRUARY MEETING

Spanish Colonial Dances

On Sunday afternoon we had the rare treat of being entertained by La Sociedad Colonial Española de Santa fe who performed, in costume, dances from the early 19th century New Mexico. The room was cleared with chairs arranged along the outside walls to give the dancers room and soon everyone was clapping to the foot tapping beat of the music.



*A special invitation
from our libraiian-
Katherine Pomonis*



I would like to welcome all Sandoval County Historical Society members to visit our two libraries. The first one is our circulation library to be used only by our members. Books included in this section are about the history of NM and the Southwest, biographies, forts, Spanish Colonial, cookbooks, nature, archaeology, Indians of the Southwest and more. You may check out books for one month and

return them at the next program or return them on Thursday mornings between 9-11:30am.

Please check to see if you have any of the library books still at home so that others may enjoy them also.

Our other library can be used only for research and the books cannot be removed from the building. You are welcome to see what we have any Thursday mornings also.

www.sandovalhistory.org

Check out our **web site** that Ben Blackwell puts together for all current information on the Society:

BOOK REVIEW

 By John J. Hunt

SEEDS OF CHANGE:
Five Hundred Years Since Columbus

Edited by Herman J. Viola & Carolyn Margolis, 1991

Searching through the Society's library, I found this large soft-cover book containing gorgeous photographs and exquisite drawings (especially the maps) published by the Smithsonian Institution Press (printed in the U.S.).

The book includes 20 sections written by a cross section of the leading experts in the fields of anthropology, botany, ethnobotany, as well as cultural geographers, various scientists and researchers, and even George Horse Capture, former curator of the Fort Belknap Tribal Museum, and producer/director of "I'd rather Be Pow-wow-ing."

In spite of its lush layout and insightful prose, the book carries a serious message. In his introduction, Frank Talbot, the director of the National Museum of Natural History, writes, "This is not a story of the discovery of the New World by the Old World. It is a story of the encounter of two branches of humankind that had diverged from each other over tens of thousands of years of cultural development. This saga includes stark tragedy, the decimation of the hardy people of the New World by new diseases and by war and the forcible removal of at least ten million people from their African homes to serve as plantation

slaves in the Americas."

Not a pleasant recap of the effects that the Western invaders had on the indigenous people. But I have always wondered what great riches did these colonizers exchange for their toil and bloodshed? The greatest treasure found in the New World, some believe, was food. Maize, potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, tomatillos, peanuts, chile peppers, maniac, pineapples, avocados, cacao (chocolate), passion fruit, quinoa, cashews, and sunflowers are a few of the products that were solely found in the Americas.

For anyone interested in the story of these products, the book delivers; but it is perhaps the potato that takes center stage. The potato was native to the altiplano of Peru, where it provided the principle food for the Incas and their subjects. Once potatoes reached the shores of Europe, they grew in popularity; at the start they were touted along with tomatoes as a way to increase sexual potency.

But it was the many wars being fought in Europe that led farmers to grow more spuds. Peasants saw how useful it would be to have more potatoes on hand when military requisitioning threatened their grain stocks. Potatoes spread across Germany and Poland in the 18th century, and the Napoleonic Wars brought the tuber to Russia. Potato acreage increased with every subsequent war, including WWII. As William McNeill writes, "That was because, given the soil and climate of northern Europe, no other crop produces as many calories per acre; and when food gets

Continued

short, extra calories become irresistible.” Of course more calories led to population growth. More hands were needed to raise row crops—but they could support more people. It was hand-in-glove. Potatoes led to more calories per acre, which led to a swift rise of German industrialism and the increase of Russia’s population. That’s McNeill’s theory. He summarizes his views when he says “No other single American crop played such a decisive role on the world stage...”

The bounty of the Americas contributed much to the Old World. But what the Europeans brought with them inflicted great harm on the Native People. Alfred Crosby writes that, “wherever the Spaniards...founded permanent settlements...their successes were as much due to their biological allies as to their abilities. The feats of the conquistadores seem to us, four and five centuries later, super-human precisely because they were just that—the triumphs of teams that included more than humans.”

Those “teams” were smallpox, measles, whooping cough, bubonic plague, malaria, yellow fever, diphtheria, amoebic dysentery, and influenza. These were unknown in the New World. “Crowd diseases” did not live in the New World. It is reported that one of Cortés’ men carried smallpox to Mexico with him in 1520—quickly infecting the whole country.

Crosby also postulates that epidemics preceded the conquistadores north of Mexico, but there are no records of this. DeSoto reported that in Georgia he found empty villages with dried out corpses. And we know that the

Indians in New Mexico suffered at various times from these epidemics. Whole populations were nearly wiped out.

Later in the book there is a quote from P.M. Ashburn’s *The Ranks of Death*:

“Smallpox was the captain of the men of death in that war,
typhus fever the first lieutenant, and measles the second lieutenant.

More terrible than the conquistadores on horseback, more deadly than sword and gunpowder, they made the conquest...a walkover as compared with what it would have been without their aid. They were the forerunners of civilization, the companions of Christianity, the friends of the invader.”

Of course the development of these food crops required more hands, and the shameful slave trade is given a full exploration. There is also a critical look at the problems of sustainability that we are facing today.

All in all, *Seeds of Change* is an extremely informative and honest book, and although published twenty-two years ago, its message is modern:

To realize sustainable development, we must redefine and redirect development itself, vigorously emphasize indigenous knowledge and experience, and take effective sociopolitical action on behalf of the environment. Only then will we have planted real seeds for change.

The Mixton War, 1540-1542

By Matthew J. Barbour,

Manager, Jemez Historic Site

The Mixton War was a rebellion by Native American peoples against their Spanish overlords between 1540 and 1542. It took place in the present day Mexican states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Colima, Aguascalientes, and Zacatecas, then known as the Kingdom of New Galicia. It was a brutal war on the fringes of what was then northwest New Spain.

Few New Mexicans have ever heard of the Mixton War. Yet, the figures of the war and the events that occurred leading up to it, during it, and in its immediate aftermath factor very heavily in New Mexico's history.



Mendoza and Mexican allies against the Cascanes in 1541. courtesy of Wikimedia.

New Galicia was conquered by the Conquistador Nuno Beltran de Guzman between about 1529 and 1531. Guzman's conduct during the conquest was legendary. As news of Spanish military prowess was already known to indigenous populations, most submitted rather than resist. They were simply rounded up and escorted away in chains. In many ways, Guzman's conquest was more a slaving expedition than a military undertaking.

Even the Tlaxcalan allies which traveled with Guzman to aid him in his conquest were not spared. As told by Garcia del Pilar, "Then all the Indians we had brought with us were distributed among the Spaniards in lots of four and ten. Each Spaniard shackled his, and the Indians were even

sold among them. . . . Of the one thousand and two hundred Tlaxcalans who went with us, no more than twenty survived and those are in chains. . . ."

Among the conquistadors on this expedition were many of New Mexico's founding families. These included the future father of New Mexico's first governor, Cristobal de Onate. Cristobal Onate was charged, by Guzman in 1531, with founding what would become the capitol of this New Galicia: the city of Guadalajara. Under Oñate, the settlement flourished and quickly became the second largest city in New Spain.

As word spread of Guzman's barbarity, he was removed from power and in his wake a man by the name of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado was given control of New Galicia.

However, Coronado would not stay in his new kingdom for very long. Tasked by Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza to explore the lands to the north, Coronado left for what would become New Mexico in the spring of 1540. He left Cristobal de Oñate behind as Governor with only a token garrison.

Almost immediately, the Caxcanes and Zapatecos, tribes enslaved by Guzman a decade before, began to rebel. Led by the Caxcan leader Francisco Tenamatztle, the rebel army consisted of around 15,000 soldiers. Oñate attempted to pacify the resistance by attacking the Native stronghold of Mixton (located in what would become current day Zacatecas), but his small force was easily

repelled. The Mixton War had begun.

Oñate, for his part, recognized his own precarious position and immediately requested aid. Pedro de Alvarado answered the pleas.

Alvarado had been Cortes's second in command during the conquest of the Aztecs and his own subsequent conquistador efforts in Guatemala and Honduras were notable in their own right. He had actually been readying to embark on the conquest of China when the request from Oñate reached him. He arrived in New Galicia in 1541 with between 400 - 500 Spanish soldiers and an unknown number of Indian allies.

Perhaps overconfident by his own past victories or motivated by the glory afforded him if he put down the rebellion alone, Alvarado refused to wait for others to join him. With his vastly outnumbered force, he followed in Oñate's footsteps and, in June of 1541, laid siege to the stronghold of Mixton. Like Oñate before him, his siege failed and on June 24 he was crushed when a horse fell on him. He subsequently died on July 4.

The failure of the second siege and the death of Alvarado emboldened the Caxcanes and Zapatecos. Tenamatzle went on the offensive and attacked Oñate directly at Guadalajara. Oñate and the remaining Spanish forces repelled the attack. However, when word reached the Viceroy, he was furious. Gathering an army of around 550 Spaniards and as many as 60,000 Indian auxiliaries, Viceroy Antonio de Mendoza left Mexico City to put down the rebellion.

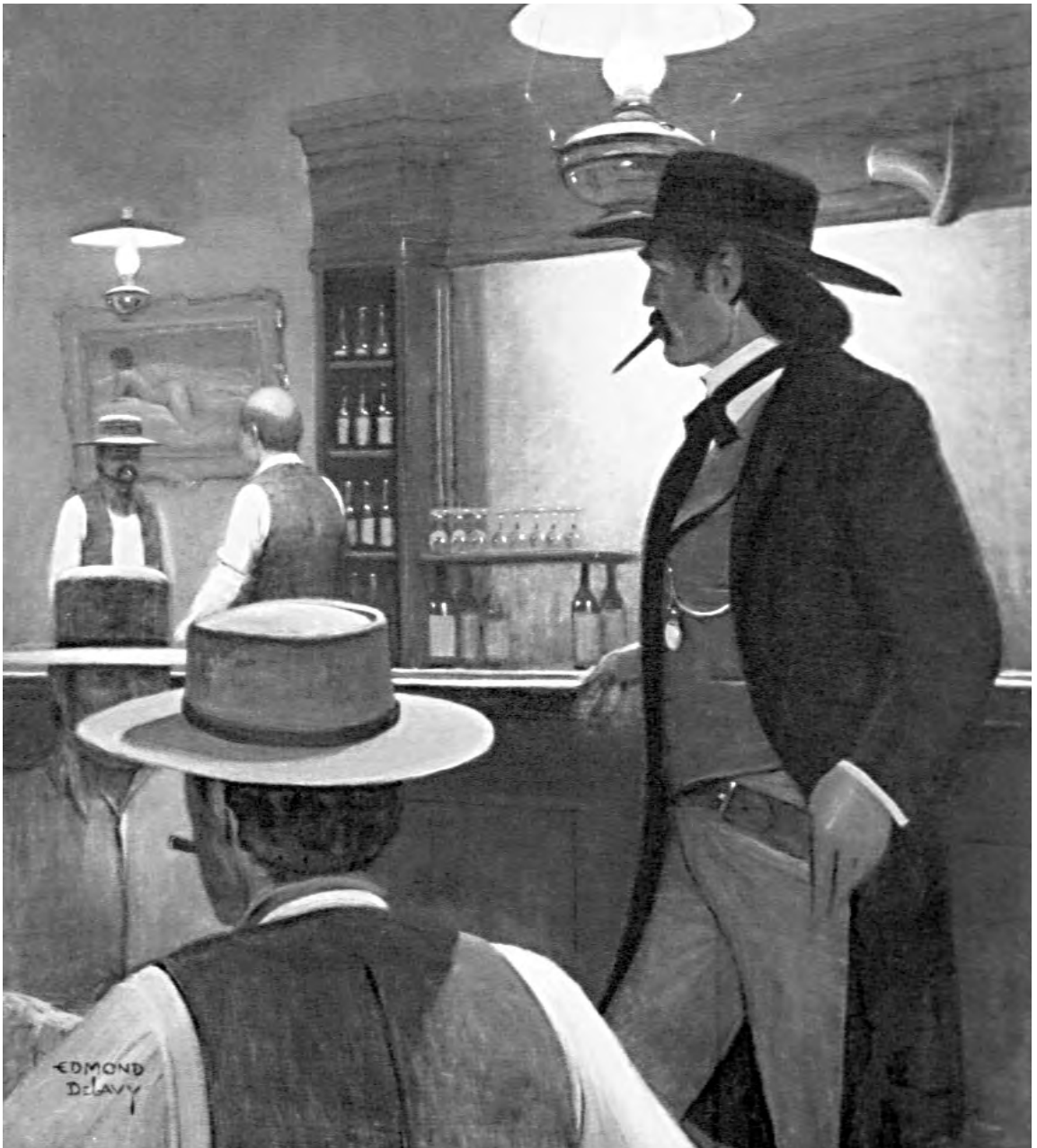
Mendoza was systematic in his conquest. He used his overwhelming numbers to capture stronghold after stronghold, one at a

time. Over the course of the next year, Caxcan and Zapotec settlements were reduced to rubble and the areas along the north of New Galicia were abandoned. Tenamatzle was captured by Mendoza, but later escaped and was not recaptured until 1550. However, by the late spring of 1542, the war was largely over.

That same year, Coronado returned from New Mexico empty handed and to a province that had been largely destroyed. The financial cost of the expedition coupled with the needs of his war torn province bankrupted New Mexico's conquistador. He was called before the Viceroy to answer for his misuse of royal funds and for abuses against the crown's Native American subjects.

By contrast, fate smiled on Cristobal Oñate. In 1546, while exploring the lands decimated by Mendoza's army, Cristobal's cohort discovered a very large vein of silver. This vein would lead to the establishment of the Panuco Mine in present day Zacatecas and propelled Oñate from petty bureaucrat to one of the richest and most powerful men in all of New Spain. Before passing away in 1567, he would serve twice more as Governor of the Kingdom of New Galicia.

When New Mexico was considered for colonization, the Oñate household was really the only family considered for the honor. They had been the tied most closely to the success and defense of New Spain's northern frontier. Arriving at the Pueblo Village of San Juan in 1598 with a collection of Spanish settlers and Caxcan slaves, Juan de Oñate would found the province of New Mexico.



The Gambler - Ed used himself as the model

Remember those road trips with

For those who never saw any of the Burma Shave road signs, here is a quick lesson in our history of the 1930's and 40's. Before there were interstates, when everyone drove the old 2 lane roads, Burma Shave signs would be posted all over the countryside in farmer's fields. They were small red signs with white letters. Five signs about 100 feet apart containing a line of a 4line couplet and the obligatory 5th sign advertising Burma Shave, a popular shaving cream.

**NO MATTER HOW
YOU SLICE IT IT'S STILL
YOUR FACE BE HUMANE
USE BURMA-SHAVE**

**A SHAVE THAT'S REAL NO
CUTS TO HEAL A SOOTHING
VELVET AFTER-FEEL**

**THE MIDNIGHT RIDE OF PAUL
REVERE FOR BEER LED TO A
WARMER HEMISHERE**

**TRAIN APPROACH-
ING WHISTLE
SQUEALING STOP
AVOID THAT RUN-
DOWN FEELING**

**DROVE TOO LONG DRIVER
SNOOZING WHAT HAPPEND
NEXT IS NOT AMUSING**

A tip of the editor's hat to Martha for these

these Burma Shave signs ?

**DOES YOUR HUSBAND MISBEHAVE GRUNT
AND GRUMBLE RANT AND RAVE SHOOT
THE BRUTE SOME /BURMA-SHAVE**

**AROUND THE CURVE
LICKETY SPLIT BEAUTI-
FUL CAR WASN'T IT?**

**HARDLY A DRIVER / IS
NOW ALIVE WHO
PASSED ON HILLS AT 75**

**YOUR SHAVING
BRUSH HAS HAD ITS
DAY / SO WHY NOT
/SHAVE THE MODERN
WAY WITH / BURMA-
SHAVE**

**SHE KISSED THE HAIR-
BRUSH BY MISTAKE SHE
THOUGHT IT WAS HER
HUSBAND JAKE**

**BOTH HANDS ON THE
WHEEL EYES ON THE
ROAD THAT'S THE SKILL-
FUL DRIVER'S CODE**

MEMBERSHIP WARNING

If you are not current you may not receive newsletters. Also make sure we have your mailing address if the post office does not deliver to your street address.

Rusty Van Hart ,Membership
293-2073

The Lighter Side

• With everyone on a cell phone now, everyone is texting. Even seniors are learning to punch buttons and abbreviate their texts.

Here are some classic senior texts:

BFF -best friend fell.

BTW - bring the wheelchair

BYOT - bring your own teeth

FWIW - forgot where I was

GHA - got heartburn again

LMDO - laughing my dentures out

TTYL -talk to you louder t



SENIORS ARE UNDER ATTACK !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Have you noticed that stairs are getting steeper . Groceries are heavier . And, everything is farther away. Yesterday I walked to the corner and I was dumbfounded to discover how long our street had become!

And, you know, people are less considerate now, especially the young ones. They speak in whispers all the time! If you ask them to speak up they just keep repeating themselves, endlessly mouthing the same silent message until they're red in the face! What do they think I am, a lip reader?

I also think they are much younger than I was at the same age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I got to thinking about the poor dear while I was combing my hair this morning, and in doing so, I glanced at my own reflection well, REALLY NOW - even mirrors are not made the way they used to be!

Another thing, everyone drives so fast these days! You're risking life and limb if you happen to pull onto the freeway in front of them. All I can say is, their brakes must wear out awfully fast, the way I see them screech and swerve in my rear view mirror.

Clothing manufacturers are less civilized these days. Why else would they suddenly start labeling a size 32 waisted pant as 40? Do they think no one notices? The people who make bathroom scales are pulling the same prank. Do they think I actually 'believe' the number I see on that dial?

The Lighter Side

A tip of the editor's hat to our contributors

Some gentle thoughts

- a penny saved is a government oversight.
- The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.
- He who hesitates is probably right.
- Did you ever notice when you put the words “the” and I”IRS” together it spells “theirs.”
- Aging: Eventually you reached the point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.
- When you are dissatisfied and would like to back to your youth , think of algebra.

With all the new technology regarding fertility recently, a 65-year-old friend of mine was able to give birth. When she was discharged from the hospital and went home, I went to visit. 'May I see the new baby?' I asked. 'Not yet,' She said 'I'll make coffee and we can visit for a while first.' Thirty minutes had passed, and I asked, 'May I see the new baby now?' 'No, not yet,' She said. After another few minutes had elapsed, I asked again, 'May I see the baby now?' 'No, not yet,' replied my friend. Growing very impatient, I asked, 'Well, when can I see the baby?' 'WHEN HE CRIES!' she told me. 'When he cries?' I demanded. 'Why do I have to wait? When he cries?' 'Because I forgot where I put him OK?

A wife came home late one night and quietly opened the door to the bedroom. From under the blanket she saw four legs instead of two. She reached for a baseball bat and started hitting the blanket as hard as she could. She left the covered bodies groaning and went to the kitchen to get a drink. As she entered the kitchen, she saw her husband reading a magazine. Hi Darling, he said, Your parents have come to visit, so I let them stay in our bedroom, did you say hello?



Sandoval County Historical Society
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*Ed DeLavy's painting of the Timmie Mercantile
, still in business, in Roswell*