

# *El Cronicón*

Official Quarterly Publication of the  
SANDOVAL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

President: Ken Kloeppe

Editor: Roy C. Skeens

Volume 22, No3

September, 2011

*September Meeting*  
*Sunday, Sept. 11th, 2 pm*

## **ESTHER MAY CORDOVA**

**Will present “the history” of Cuba New Mexico or rather an account of “Antes” in the lives of Spanish speaking people of Cuba - Antes refers to a time before our communities changed, it was a time before significant events changed our lifestyles, traditional customs and values that had been in place formany generations**

*Esther May, a retired teacher has studied Spanish Colonial history extensively in Mexico, New Mexico and Spain.*

**President's Message**

*Hola amigos, Summer has started to wind down and cooler weather will arrive. Our hope is for vibrant fall colors and perfectly beautiful days.*

*Our thoughts can look ahead but I felt it might be appropriate to reflect back on the memory of our Past President Mickey Archibeque.*

*Mickey passed away suddenly on July 27. Mickey served as our longest term president for eight years. He has also been our vice-president for the last five years. He was everybody's friend and confidant. Mickey always had a smile and a handshake for all of our members.*

*Mickey gave unselfishly of his time for countless worthwhile causes. His energy was non-stop for all the events he deemed important.*

*We have lost a great friend. He will be truly missed by this association and many others. His presence here will never be replaced and his memory will be here forever. We want to thank Cindy, his wife, and his family for sharing Mickey with us for so many wonderful years.*

*Muchas gracias, Ken Kloepfel*



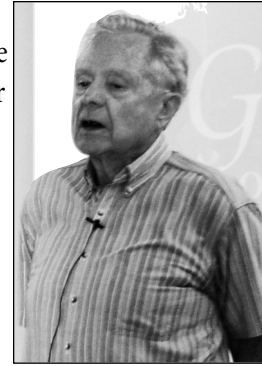
*The Mickey we all knew*

## JUNE MEETING

On Sunday,, **Naturalist and writer Bill Dunmire** in his Power point presentation gave us some interesting insights into the food that we take for granted. For example he told us where familiar plants had their origins – some from the Old World and some from the New.

He outlined the agricultural practices of different cultures – Aztec, Mexican, Puebloan, Indian, N. African, Spanish, Romans, Moors and of course Old World and new.

He touched on how different plants and livestock came to be in our region. We came away with a new appreciation for what we eat. Never again will we look at a carrot and think “oh that’s just a carrot”.



## JULY MEETING

On Sunday we were entertained by the Cedar Creek band to some real foot stomping music - an eclectic mix of traditional , jazz and a bit of blue grass. An ice cream social Followed the music.



*Barb Belknap. Mandolin, Steff Chanut ,Mandolin, George Koinis, Guitar, Laura Robbins, Flute*

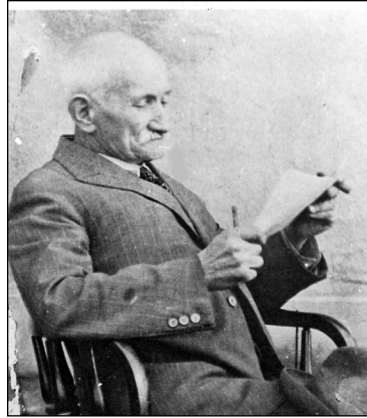
**Part 3 of the history of Bernalillo**  
**BERNALILLO IN THE 19th CENTURY**

*by Martha Liebert*

As the 19th century began, the Bernalillo census showed 64 families in 1-802. Many family names appeared repeatedly such as Pereas, Salazar, Garcia, Chavez, Gutierrez, Sisneros and Archibeque.

The major industries were raising sheep and wine making. Bernalillo was a small agriculturally based community, where households were fairly self sufficient and the barter system prevailed since coinage was not widely available. Most families lived out of their gardens and had a few animals. Sheep was the medium of exchange. It was a very parroqial community inward looking and with little outside contact.. Life was much as it had been 200 years before, very simple and living at a basic level of survival with few luxuries.

All this was about to change and this somnolent valley was soon to be inundated by the last of the great migrations. The Native Americans had come a thousand years before followed by the Europeans from the south in three large expeditions from 1540 to 1695 and now the Americans from the east arrived ,first in a trickle in the 1820's but soon, as the Santa Fe Trail opened, a flood of immigrants who changed the life in the valley forever.. The arrival of the railroad in 1880 increased the flow of newcomers wildly and changed the political face of the area dramatically as well as commercial and industrial facets.



*Nathan Bibb © 1925*

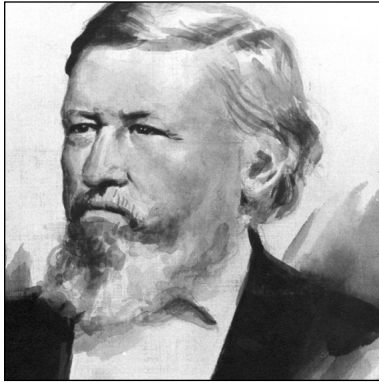
With the railroad came the commercial revolution in the form of mercantiles

and with it the use of coinage. In 1871

Nathan Bibb came from Prussia and opened the Bibb and Co. Mercantile in Bernalillo in 1873. It served as a market for local farmer's produce and provided a mill to grind their wheat and com. He had the postal contract and so handled the mail. He acquired land from the Pereas and expected the town would "boom" when the railroad came through. However, when the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe came to Perea to buy land for a division point shops and roundhouse, he priced it at \$425 per acre for land that was selling for \$2 to 3 dollars an acre. So the Santa Fe went south and located in Albuquerque instead which made it "boom" and Bernalillo remained a small town.

Perea lived in a family compound at the North end of Bernalillo where his home, his father's and a family chapel were located. He was worth \$2 million by the mid 1800's and

was a member of a large influential family of bankers, stockmen and businessmen who sent their sons to St. Louis to Jesuit schools. He had large land holdings and hundreds of thousands of sheep and was known as the "sheep king". He employed hundreds of men as shepherders, shearers, carders, spinners and weavers in all aspects of the wool trade. His operation was so extensive that they sheared his sheep all year around . Perea sent huge caravans of wool wagons to St.Louis and brought back welcome trade goods for the local market.



*Don Leandro Perea*

He wielded great power. The sheep industry was the first and most important in the Rio Abajo. In colonial times flocks were more valuable than land and society was divided into two distinct classes, sheep owners and sheep tenders. As the owner of over 200 thousand head of sheep in the 1860's Don José Leandro Perea used the Partido system. This system meant a specific number of ewes were given to a shepherd in return for agreed amounts of lambs and wool for a period of 3-5 years. The herder had to absorb all losses from weather, Indian raids, wolves and stampedes, putting him in constant debt and virtual slavery to the owner. This system perpetuated the peon class.

The breed of sheep was the Spanish Churro,

a small (55-80 pounds) ,tough animal who could survive the harsh climate and the long trail from Mexico. Their mutton was good but their wool was long and coarse. Churro rams had two to four horns, sometimes more. Sheep were valued at fifty to seventy five cents per head and fleece at three to four cents per pound.

At the time of the civil war the Pereas visited Washington, sized up the situation and determined that the North would prevail due to its' industrial might ,so returning home they enlisted their fellow New Mexicans to come out for the union. So when the Confederates made a dash up the valley, they burned the Perea warehouses in retaliation.

During the reconquest, Governor De Vargas brought four thousand head to distribute to returning colonists, but Indian raids by Apache, Navajo and Comanche tribes kept flocks reduced. In 1795, for example, ten thousand ewes were stolen in the Rio Abajo alone. These raids were an insurmountable problem. Still, by 1846, there were flocks as large as forty thousand head in the Rio Grande Valley. Families in the sheep industry were: Armijos, Baca, Delgado, Jaramillo, Leyba, Luna, Mirabal, Otero, Perea, Pino, Romero, Sandoval, Santistevan, Vigil, Yrissari, Chavez, Gallegos, Martinez and Ortiz among others.

In 1849 the California gold rush opened up the market and in 1857, the largest sheep drive of one hundred thousand head went to California over the Old Spanish Trail.

From the 1790 census it was determined that one third of all heads of households were

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involved in woolen textile production. From this we can assume that there were many other family members involved in working with the wool as well. During the 18th and 19th centuries most clothing was made of wool.

These home industries produced enormous quantities of goods for trade. In 1840, for example, twenty thousand handmade woolen goods and fourteen thousand pounds of wool were shipped to Mexico.

With these huge numbers of sheep, over-grazing became widespread and its' effects are still felt into this century. It was commonly said that the native grass was "belly-high" to a tall horse between Bernalillo and Santa Fe in those days. Today It is nothing but desert from the Rio Puerco to east of the sandias .

In 1814 (some records say 1 824) Sandia Pueblo loaned a tract of land (for 5 years) to 20 Hispanic families who were too poor to buy land so that they might make a living. They built their homes and farmed there. This site was called "Las Cocinitas" This and EI Llanito formed two Bernalillos. EI Llanito was later

called Los Gallegos for the three brothers who settled there. It was later called Chaparral.

Land between the church and the cocinitas was virtually uninhabitable In 1889 because the water table was so high. It was basically a malaria swamp until well into the 1920's when the conservancy ditches were dug, dropping the water levels . The religious center was at the north end of town and the commercial center with the mercantile and bars etc. was at the south end with little in between. There always seemed to be two Bernalillos.

The Cocinitas was settled by the Garcias and the Duran y Chavez families. Many were able to subsist on the land. By 1866 the fertile valley of the Rio Grande had 250 square miles of fruits and vegetables in cultivation.

The wine industry dated from colonial times. In the mission building period of the 1620's the priests introduced mission grape-vine cuttings in the pueblos and spanish settlers planted them on their ranches. Many families made their own wine. Some of the first vineyards in

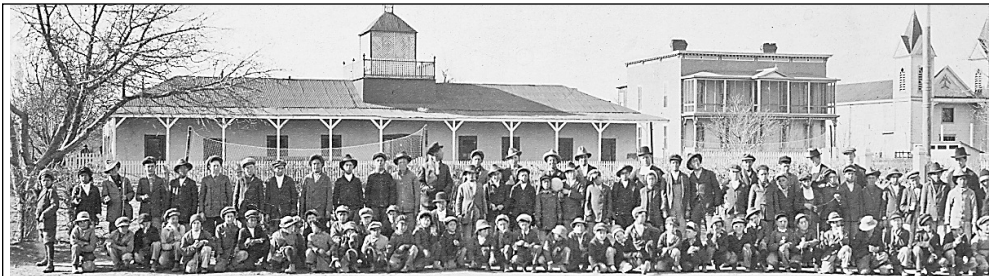
the country were in the Bernalillo area and wine production flourished in the sandy soils of the region. The arid climate was just right with hot days and cold nights which stressed the plants and produced the best wine grapes. In



*Churro sheep Photo courtesy Museum of New Mexico*

1854 W.W. Davis, u.s. Attorney General of Territory of N.M. toured the region and wrote "At Bernalillo we enter the wine growing region of N.M. which extends south to El Paso. Grapes of a superior quality are cultivated. several thousands of gallons of wine are made yearly for home consumption and little gets to market"

In the early 1870's The order of the Christian Brothers came into Bernalillo and planted several thousand grape cuttings in the area of the Catholic church, our Lady of Sorrows. They opened the Lasalle ranch and La France winery . They hired a French wine-maker, Louis Gros Senior as manager of their wine operation. He produced over ten thousand gallons of wine a year for the Christian Brothers. He stayed with them until the 1920's when he left to start his own vineyard and winery. In 1870's Nathan Bibb described his first planting of 400 vines in Bernalillo's



*Christian Brothers Boys School, Bernalillo*

apparently barren looking sandy foothills: "they produced the sweetest early grapes on vines so overloaded that the branches were breaking down . harvest as early as August 10th." In 1882 the Mallett Brothers, Victor and Albert came from Burgundy, France and cultivated large vineyards

east of the church properties continuing for more than seven decades to produce fine fruits of the vine. Gros and Mallett wineries became well known over a large area. In the 1880's wine census, New Mexico was reported as the fifth in the nation in wine production with over three thousand acres in vineyards. In the years that followed however, devastating floods and droughts completely upset the market. The soil became waterlogged and became alkali due to the high water table and lack of drainage. Not until well into the next century did the industry recover.

In 1844 Bernalillo became the seat of government under the Mexican Republic. By 1849 Santa Ana county was created. Things were starting to escalate at a rapid pace now. In 1857 Archbishop Lamy established the Bernalillo parish and called it Nuestra Senora de Dolores. Jose Leandro Perea donated the land for the church. and the complex for a convent for the

Sisters of Loretto who came in 1875 to open a school for girls., which followed the Christian Brothers who

opened St Nicolas school for boys three years before and remained until 1948.

This was the first education available in the area and as such was one of the most important additions to the community of Bernalillo and the surrounding area.

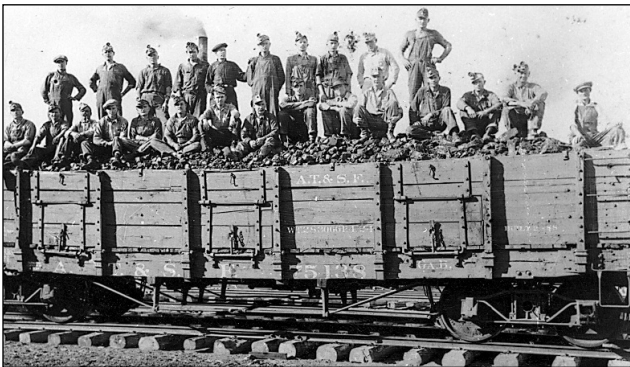
The Americans arrive with General Kearny

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in 1846 and this, plus other fall out from the Santa Fe Trail opening, changed the area forever. With the flood of immigrants came gold seekers and a great mining boom followed. All these were in the neighborhood and affected Bernalillo

In 1881 The Bernalillo News, a local paper, reported a gold strike in the Sandias, so many businesses moved in. Billiard halls and saloons sprang up as did hotels and blacksmiths and banks and mercantiles but the "boom" was short lived and gradually business fell off. From 1900-03 there were only three new businesses: Malletts winery and Silva's saloon and winery. The population was about 750 at the time.



*Coal miners after a days work in the Hagan mines*

The 1890's were a wild time with lots of fly-by-night: operations that came and went quickly. Examples were: a 15 ft vein of lignite coal and copper, gold and silver on the Rio Puerco and the Espirito Santo grant, the old Spanish coal mine which reopened near Las Huertas (Placitas), Giorgio Rinaldi developed a copper mine at La Bajada, a dozen independent mining operations in the Sandias sprang up. Town of

Hagan coal mine operation opened.

Perhaps the largest and most important was the Cochiti Mining District at Bland and Albermarle which returned over One million dollars in gold and silver but cost more than that to get it out. This boom town lasted from 1890 to 1910 and was a sizable community. It was a factor in creating the new County of Sandoval in 1903. which had been Bernalillo County. With the great influx of folks into Albuquerque via the railroad after 1880, the political picture changed drastically and the politicians in control, notably the Sandovals and Pereas, decided to cut off the huge uncontrollable population and leave Albuquerque in Bernalillo Co. while the new Sandoval County was basically rural and familiar.

The gold booms were not new to the Bernalillo area. In 1828 Placer gold was found in the Ortiz mountains and in 1839 there was a gold rush in the San Pedro mountains so Bernalillo boomed at that time also but this was still a very difficult place to live. In 1837 Smallpox and typhoid killed twenty percent of the New Mexico population, a staggering figure, but of course there was no medical help available at that time.

During this century the pueblos were struggling to survive. In 1861 a law was passed requiring them to work on ditches and highways. In 1864 Land patents signed by President Lincoln for Sandia Pueblo and canes were given to the governors as a sign of authority and colonialism as they were wards of the government. In 1834 a law was passed that non indians on indian land was a federal offense.



but by 1876 the supreme court said that this Intercourse Act didn't apply to Pueblos resulting in twelve thousand whites moving on to Indian land. In 1887 The Dawes Act passed which was designed to break up tribal groups. In 1879 Apaches were still on the warpath but the Utes were removed to reservations and the raids were winding down.

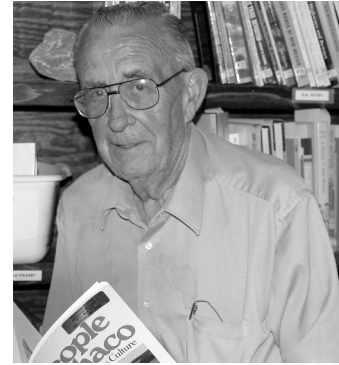
The 19th century was a period of incredible growth and change as the population exploded and mineral wealth was tapped, the nature of the area became altogether different. The coming of the American forces and the Court of Private Land Claims perhaps affected the local people more than any one thing. Speculators of all sorts took advantage of an illiterate population and injustice ran rampant everywhere. We had been used to centuries of raids on our goods and peoples but this was another kind of raid on our very land itself ,more sophisticated and complicated with legal traps from which we had no protection So while some threats and dangers were lessened, others took their place and life was still uneasy by the turn to the 20th century. By 1880 Bernalillo's population was 1200



*Here's looking at you kid*

## We have a new Librarian

We welcome **Nelson Welch** as our new librarian. Nelson has big plans for the library, so be sure to visit the library soon.

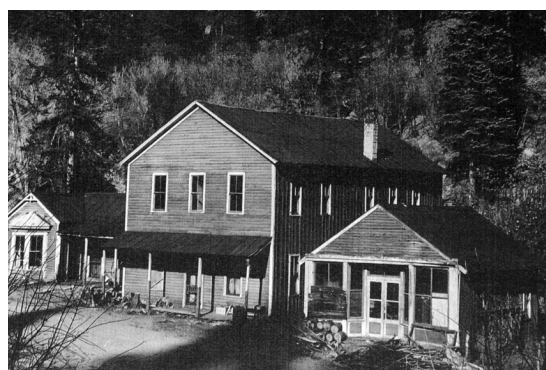


## Bland falls victim to the Las Conchas fire

Unfortunately the ghost town of Bland was recently completely burned by the spread of the Las Conchas fire.

As a society we were privileged to have a field trip in 2004 courtesy of our gracious hostess owner Helen Blount ( Now Deceased).

Bland , located in a rugged narrow canyon in the Jemez mountains west of Santa Fe came into being as a mining camp in 1893 for mining nearby deposits of gold and silver. However, the deposits did not last long . and the mines closed in 1904 and Bland became a ghost town .



*These buildings , flourishing businesses in the 1890's - The doctor's house, Hotel, and Saloon were still standing when the fire destroyed them.*

## The sayings of Thomas Jefferson

- When we get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe .
- The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not.
- It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on would save one-half the wars of the world.
- I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them.
- My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government.
- No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms.
- The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government.
- The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants.
- To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical.
- I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property - until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.  
*John F. Kennedy held a dinner in the white House for a group of the brightest minds in the nation at that time. He made this statement: "This is perhaps the assembly of the most intelligence ever to gather at one time in the White House with the exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."*  
*Thanks to Katherine Pomonis for this*

# MEMBERSHIP

**Now Hear ye !Hear Ye!**

**For all those members who have “ forgotten” to pay their dues for2011.**

**Here’s a special deal. Pay now for 2011 and get 2012 for free.**

**This is a limited time offer so act now !**

Individual..... \$15.00

Family..... \$ 25.00

Individual Life ..... \$150.00

Sponsor.....\$100.00

Please mail to Rusty Van Hart, Membership Chair (293-2073)

Sandoval County Historical Society

P.O.Box 692, Bernalillo, NM 87004

## Upcoming Sunday Programs at 2pm

**OCTOBER, 9th**

*Stanley Hordes will talk about Crypto Jews*

**NOVEMBER , 13th**

*-Don Bullis hosts our annual Author’s Day*

**DECEMBER,11th**

*Member’s Christmas Party*

## SEPTEMBER 24th 1-3pm

### Memoir Writing Workshop

Every family has a story to tell. Capture those memories with this informative workshop.

**Presented by Journalist and Educator Norma Libman**

*Reservations -867-2755 Materials fee \$5.00*

## **Rebel Yells Echo near Glorieta**

by **Sam McIlhaney**

*Union troops assemble and receive orders before marching into the fray in the annual re-creation of the Battle of Glorieta, a pivotal Civil War skirmish in New Mexico.*

They shot at each other for six hours. A mutual truce was finally called so the wounded could be tended and the dead buried. Because the Confederates had no picks and shovels, the Federals loaned them theirs after they had buried their own dead. Thus ended the Battle of Glorieta, which for all practical purposes ended the Civil War in New Mexico.

Stan Hordes, past state historian, recently made the observation, “Lots of people have heard of Gettysburg and Antietam, but how many have heard of Glorieta Pass? We need to make people aware of the significance of the battle and how it concerned all of the Southwest.”

For the past four summers, volunteers have reenacted that battle for their own enjoyment and to make the public aware of the need to preserve what remains of the battlefield.

A lone structure stands aging in the trees and grasses on the shoulder of NM 223 about 20 miles southeast of Santa Fe. Its walls have been freshly stuccoed but one can see that its architecture is ancient.

This building is all that remains of Pigeon’s Ranch, where the battle was fought. It was the

largest inn between Santa Fe and Las Vegas on the famous Santa Fe Trail. Martin Hall, in his Sibley’s New Mexico Campaign, suggests it was named after its Franco-American proprietor, Alexander Valle, “who had a peculiar style of dancing at fandangos.”

The ranch site is at the eastern end of Glorieta Pass in a narrow defile. The original buildings, trail and an arroyo took up most of the floor of the canyon. In back of the main buildings were two corrals next to sheds with stalls for draft animals. A substantial adobe wall ran from the sheds back to a ravine, surrounding a yard where teams were kept and fed.

Dusty freight wagons cut ruts in the soil from Independence, Missouri, to Santa Fe, a distance of about 800 miles. Before reaching Santa Fe, they creaked and groaned by this way station. The isolated spot became the focal point of the battle that destroyed the South’s dreams of making New Mexico and beyond part of the Confederacy.

The newly formed nation that called itself the Confederate States of America was determined to seize the area. At that time, New Mexico included the present-day states of Arizona, New Mexico and part of Nevada. Confederate leaders also had ideas of invading Colorado for its gold and taking at least the southern half of California. Thus, the South would have bullion to back up its currency and purchase war supplies abroad, an area to expand its cotton and slave culture, additional seaports and a railroad route to the Pacific Coast. It also would immediately enjoy more prestige around the world-hinging on one

ambitious effort. That effort began with New Mexico.

An army recruited in Texas was headed by an ex-United States Army major named Henry Sibley. Sibley had just quit his post at Taos and resigned his commission. He offered his services to the Confederate fathers and was promptly commissioned a brigadier general in the Confederate army, with instructions to raise a brigade to drive the Federal forces from New Mexico.

Salado Creek, just northeast of San Antonio, Texas, rang with shouts and commands as recruits were given instructions in the art of war. The new army marched up the Rio Grande Valley equipped with almost every type of small arm in existence and several howitzers.

The ranks suffered heavy losses, particularly from pneumonia and dysentery as well as from battles and skirmishes with Union forces. However, by outright battle and sometimes by going around the enemy, the Texans managed to occupy Santa Fe.

One day, the main body of the Union army, under the command of Col. John Slough, was likewise licking its wounds after converting Pigeon's Ranch into a hospital. Troops rested under the tall trees around the ranch while others visited their comrades in the hospital. The main body of Confederates, commanded by Sibley's subordinate, Col. William Scurry, caught the Union army by surprise. The Battle of Glorieta was on. The date: March 28, 1862-125 years ago.

"It sure beats reading about it in a history book," a participant in last summer's re-cre-

ation of the battle said. Many history -buffs and Civil War enthusiasts agree. Harold Runkle of Iowa, for instance, arrived in New Mexico for some fun and found a chance to help fill the ranks of the Seventh Illinois Cavalry. Steve Langdon made a quick trip by air from California just to take part. He got very little sleep before going onto the battle line.

Bruce Crandall and his wife, Rena, drove from San Antonio, Texas, to help fill the Confederate ranks. Rena was one of several women who contributed to the atmosphere by wearing hoop-skirted dresses and bonnets.

John Roper and his son, Matt, as rebels, both struggled through the battle without their eyeglasses to ensure authenticity.

On hand to give advice were Don Alberts, military historian for Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, and Marc Simmons, well-known Southwestern historian and author. The land involved in the effort totals about 10 acres, split into two sections by NM 223. The ranch harbors an ancient water well, reported to be the oldest in the area. Already, donations have paid for a new coat of stucco for the only building left standing. Preliminary archaeological studies are under way.

The battle of Pigeon's Ranch, as it was called by the Federals, was a relatively small engagement as far as numbers are concerned. The casualties, however, reflect the fierceness with which it was fought. The Texans reported 36 killed and 60 wounded. The Federals claimed that

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they took 25 rebels as prisoners. A Union soldier listed Federals killed at 46, 64 wounded and 21 taken as prisoners. Nearby, Union forces destroyed the Confederate supply train consisting of at least 60 wagons, perhaps as many as 80, complete with mules.

Even though historians agree that the rebs won the battle, they lost the war in New Mexico because they could no longer continue their plans of conquest so far from home without necessary war materiel. The army from Texas hastily withdrew down the Rio Grande Valley with some troops barefoot and terribly sunburned, some eating insects to survive, burying weapons as they went. The two howitzer cannons on display on the Old Town plaza in Albuquerque are among the weapons that were buried and later recovered.

New Mexico remained as it was before the invasion, committed to the Union.

Hours after the mock battle has been fought, after the hundreds of people and automobiles, television crews and soldiers are gone, the mountain valley is silent once more. The wind plays in the tall grass and weeds of the field .. You can combine in your mind what transpired earlier that day with what must have happened on that same field 125 years before: the unexpected blast of the howitzers, the crisp bark of small arms fire, the wisps of white gunpowder smoke and the enthusiastic yells and shouts of the combatants. The only missing element is the one that would be the most starkly realistic and deadly, the screams of hurt and dying men.

The shadow of evening moves across the nar-

row canyon and you wonder about the actual dead of that battle and realize you could be standing on an unmarked grave. A pickup truck passes on the road nearby and reality returns.

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*Sam McIlhaney, a native New Mexican, lives in Rio Rancho and taught Southwest history at Bernalillo High School for many years.*

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***This article first appeared in the June 1987 issue of New Mexico Magazine***

### **Footnote from Sam**

In the story, I mention that I could be standing on some of the unmarked graves of some of the Yank or Rebel soldiers. Less than a month after this story hit the newstand, workers who were working to repair and preserve the old Pigeon Ranch (the site of the big battle) discovered a large unmarked grave with 38 bodies in it. The bodies, just skeletons, still had clothes on.

Each body was wearing a captured u.s. Army belt. How do we know they were captured?

How do we know these must be Rebel SOLDIERS? It is a legend back east and in the southern states that if Johnnie Reb captured a U.S. Army (Federal) supply warehouse, they took everything — because they needed everything — even the belts with U.S. on the buckle. However, the legend says the Confederate Soldiers would wear the buckle — with the U.S. upsidedown — to show protest against the Yankees. Sure enough, that legend was confirmed 1500 miles or more from the big Civil War battles back east. That legend was confirmed way out in New Mexico. Most people have no idea that the Civil War was also fought way out here in New Mexico. All 38 had UPSIDEDOWN belt buckles

## We say goodbye to these friends



### ARCHIBEQUE, MICHAEL "MICKEY" 1933-2011

Resident of Rio Rancho, formerly of Bernalillo and Albuquerque, passed away Wednesday, July 27, 2011 at the age of 78. He was a member of the Catholic Church. He was a husband, father, grandfather, son, brother' and friend. He is survived by his wife Cindy of 53 years; three daughters, Audrey and Glenn Roybal, Laurie and Larry Tiley, Elaine and Leon Martinez; and eight grandchildren, Justin Roybal and AJ Chavez, Ashley Roybal, Lyndsey and Ernie Vallejos, Leslie Tiley, Zachary Wallace, and Matthew Martinez; He is also survived by his brother Kelly and his wife Bella; sister-in-law Viola Archibeque, and two Lhasa Apsos, Peaches and Ginger. Mickey attended St. Nicholas Brothers School and Our Lady of Sorrows High School in Bernalillo and the Universities of Albuquerque and New Mexico and Draughon's College in Albuquerque. Mickey served during the Korean War era as a paratrooper, in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam era, and spent many years in the New Mexico Air National Guard. He retired from the Federal Civil Service on Kirtland Air Force Base. He was a member of the Sandoval County Historical Society, Bureau of Elections, Masonic Lodge and Job's Daughters, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans. Mickey was also a member of the New Mexico Honor Guard and the United States Volunteers. He was a rifleman and participated in countless memorial services for Veterans, to whom he was extremely dedicated. It was his

desire that each of his countless acquaintances celebrate his life and that each one remember the good times and special moments to keep his memory alive. He wants to be remembered in everyone's hearts and prayers as he lived.

*Published in the August 14th ABQ Jnl.*

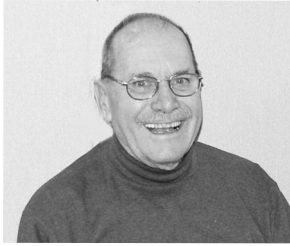
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### LEE, MANLY B. 1930-2011

. Chief Warrant Officer (CW4) Manly B. Lee, USA Ret., 81, passed away Saturday, June 11, 2011. He was born in Luverne, AL to R.A. Lee and Bertha McHenry Lee on May 29, 1930. He joined the US Army at age 17 and proudly served our country for 26 years during which time he earned numerous medals and awards. Manly was preceded in death by his father and mother and by his brothers, Joseph and Jimmy. He is survived by his loving wife of 30 years, Mary; sisters, Edna Ruth Norsworthy, Ora Mae Jordan, and Evalane Nussbaum and husband, Albert; brother, Rayford Lee and wife, Mary Ann; four sons, Mike and wife, Margie, Keith, Dennis and Tom and fiance, Christi; stepchildren, Hipolito Aguilar and wife, Patricia, Bernadette Wilson and husband, Steve, Mary Rose Abousleman and husband, Gary, Cecile Baca and husband, Martin, Patrick Aguilar and Christopher Aguilar and wife, Gretta; four grandchildren; twelve step-grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren, who loved him dearly and whom he considered as his very own

*Published in the June 14, ABQ Jnl*

*His wife mary was a Vice President of the Society and is the sister in law of past president Bill Sapien .*

**We say good bye to a good friend****ROBINSON, DENIS****1924-2011**

Age 87, passed away Monday, June 6, 2011. He was born February 11, 1924 in West Hartlepool, England and has been a resident of Albuquerque for over 30 years. Denis was preceded in death by his wife, Natalie: He is survived by his son, Denis Wilson Robinson and wife Nancy; daughter, Alexandra Kiska and husband Patrick; sister, Joan Williams; grandchildren, Jennifer Robinson Sharman and husband Jack, Andrew Robinson and Wife Margrethe, Robin Kiska and wife Megan; and. Dustin Kiska; great grandchildren Arianwen and Katerina Sharman, Odin Robinson and Axel Kiska. Denis served as a British Officer in the Indian Army where he met Natalie Bushanan who was in the American Red Cross. He was actively involved in the international and local Rotary Clubs, was a master gardener, an active member of Christ the King Anglican Church. As a food technologist he worked for CPC International, Bueno Foods, El Pinto, 5 Sandoval Co. Pueblos, Sandoval Co. Extention, and NM State University. Denis also served as a volunteer in numerous organizations including Presbyterian Hospice, Sandoval Co. Historical Society and NM State Senior Olympics.





**Virginia Ortiz does a great job of maintaining our photo albums. make sure you look them over at the meeting**

**[www.sandovalhistory.org/](http://www.sandovalhistory.org/)**

Check out our **web site** that Ben Blackwell puts together for all current information on the Society: Historical notes, upcoming programs, back issues of El Cronicon, links to other interesting sites and more.

*The Lighter Side**A tip of the editor's hat to our contributors***Italian Tech**

After having dug to a depth of 10 feet last year, British scientists found traces of copper wire dating back 200 years. They came to the conclusion that their ancestors already had a telephone network more than 150 years ago. Not to be outdone by the Brits, in the weeks that followed an American archaeologist dug to a depth of 20 feet. A story was subsequently published in the Daily Journal: "American archaeologists, finding traces of copper wire 250 years old, have concluded that their ancestors already had an advanced high-tech communications network - 50 years earlier than the British." One week later, the La Stampa, an Italian Newspaper in Turin, Italy, reported: "After digging as deep as 30 feet in his backyard, Giuseppe Gioconni, a self-taught archaeologist, reported that he found absolutely nothing. Gioconni has concluded that 250 years ago, Italy had already gone wireless." Makes me truly proud to be Italian.....

**Sayings of the Oracle:**

- Pawn shops are loanly places~
- Hair dye gets to the root of problems.
- The eyes translate body language.
- You have to stay awake to make your dreams come true.
- A meeting is an event at which the minutes are kept and the hours are lost.
- Do today what you may not get done tomorrow ...

**Heard over an aircraft speaker system**

"Good morning ladies and gentlemen. Welcome aboard the first fully automated flight from New York to London. Everything is computer controlled, there is no pilot or flight crew so we have eliminated human error so nothing can go wrong, go wrong, go wrong, go wrong"!!!!

## *The Lighter Side Two*

### *"A TAP ON THE SHOULDER"*

*A true story from the Manchester Evening News :*

*Last Wednesday a passenger in a taxi, fo leaned over to ask the driver a question, and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments, everything was silent in the cab. Then, the shaking driver said, "Are you okay? I'm sorry, but you scared the daylights out of me."*

*The badly shaken passenger apologized to the driver and said,*

*"I didn't realize that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle someone so badly." The driver replied,*

*"No, no, I'm the one who is sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my very first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years."*

Three women went down to Mexico one night to celebrate their college graduation. They got drunk and woke up next morning in jail only to find that they are to be executed, though none of them can remember what they did the night before. The first one, a redhead, is strapped in the electric chair and is asked if she has any last words. She says, "I just graduated from Trinity Bible College and believe in the almighty power of God to intervene on behalf of the innocent." They throw the switch and nothing happens. They all immediately fall to the floor on their knees, beg for forgiveness, and release her.

The second one, a brunette, is strapped in and gives her last words. "I just graduated from the University of Kentucky School of Law and I

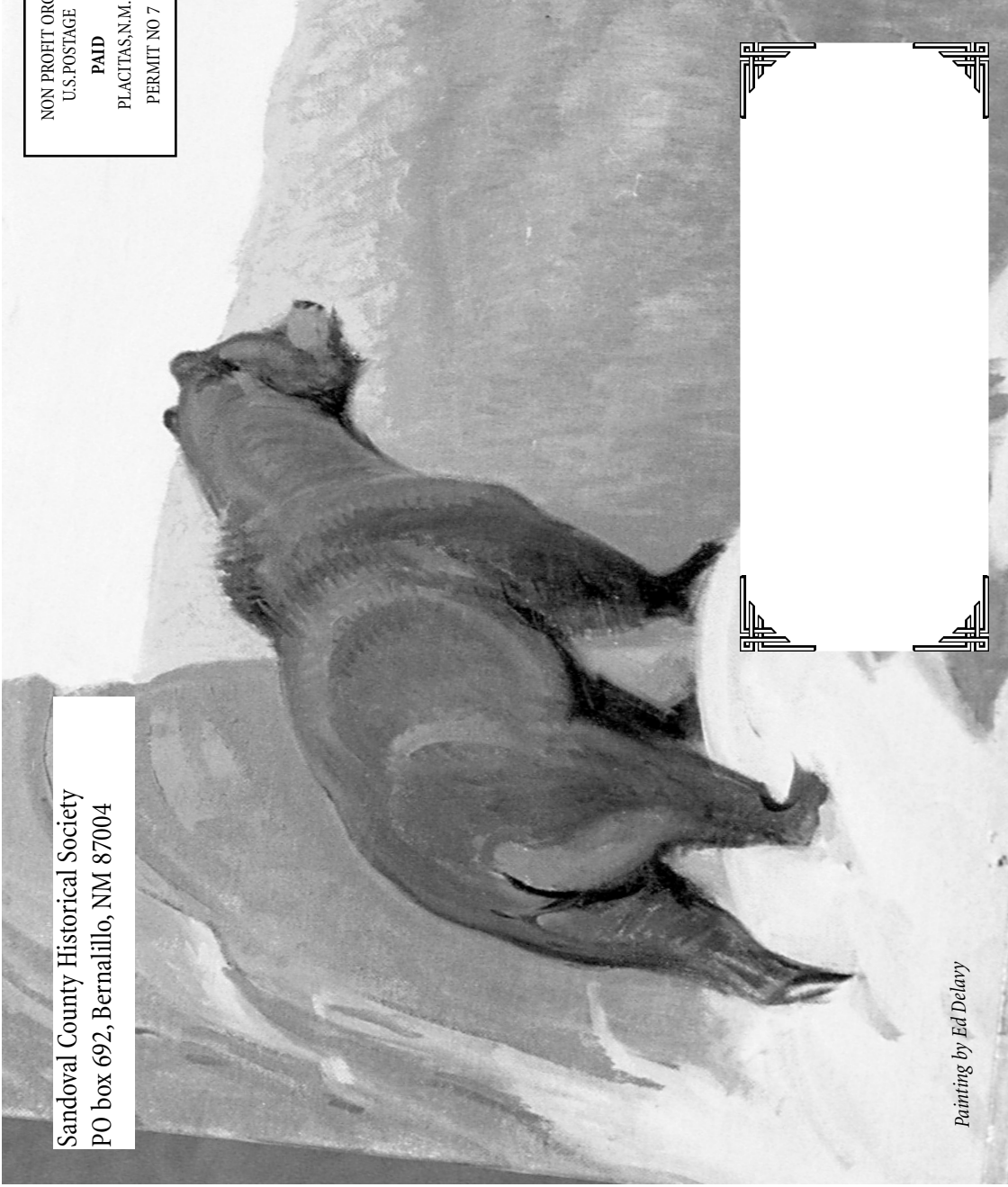
believe in the power of Justice to intervene on behalf of the innocent."

They throw the switch and again nothing happens. Again they all immediately fall to their knees, beg for forgiveness and release her.

The last one, a blonde (you knew it), is strapped in and says, "Well, I'm from the University of Tennessee and just graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and I'll tell ya'll right now, ya'll ain't gonna electrocute nobody if you don't plug that thing in."

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*Painting by Ed Delavy*