



**CORRALES
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

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ANNUAL
REPORT

CorralesHistory.org



THE MISSION OF CHS

Corrales Historical Society is a nonprofit organization that promotes greater appreciation for and better understanding of the history and traditions of the centuries-old community of Corrales, New Mexico, and its residents of yesterday and today.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS & COMMITTEES

Officers

President – Ken Martinez, Psy.D.

Vice President – Rick Thaler

Secretary – Carol Rigmark

Treasurer – Carol Brown

Directors at Large

Director 2022 – Sherry Jones

Director 2022 – Harry Linneman

Standing Committees

Archives – Anne Van Camp

Docents – Alice Glover

Marketing – Nan Kimball

Membership – Marg Elliston

Preservation & Maintenance – Jon Young

Visual Arts – Carol Rigmark

Way and Means – Vacant

Special Committees

Casa San Ysidro Liaison – Denise O'Connor

Corrales Cultural Arts Council Liaison – Jannie Dusseau

Festival of the Nativities – Alice Glover

Plaques – Denise O'Connor

Publicity – Debbie Clemente

Scheduler – Jude Rudder

Speaker Series – Dean Sherer

Website/Social Media – Lisa Sparks



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CHS President Ken Martinez, Psy.D.

This year, **Corrales Historical Society (CHS)** achieved a momentous milestone by celebrating our **50th Anniversary**. CHS was founded in 1973 by a group of caring and far-sighted individuals led by **Dr. Alan Minge** and supported by our own Past President, **Alice Glover**. Other founding group members included **Dulcelina Salce Curtis, Helen Mattison, Lil Kellogg, and Mrs. Van Deren Coke**. Preserving and maintaining **Historic Old San Ysidro Church** was their primary purpose. Fifty years later, we are still fulfilling that mission while also conserving the history, heritage, and culture of the **Village of Corrales** and educating the public about that history.

Congratulations and thank you, mil gracias, to those individuals who served as President over the past 50 years and all of the thousands of members, including board members, docents, committee chairs, and other volunteers who persevered and provided the solid ground we stand on today. We are healthy, strong, and ready for the next chapter.

Our beloved **Old Church** was built in 1868 and has experienced its share of face-lifts over the last 155 years. This year, the exterior was professionally re-mudded for the first time since 2015. Although volunteers did prior replastering, we hope to have the interior professionally replastered/mudded in 2025 when funds are available and the schedule allows. In addition to the interior Old Church replastering, the Annex kitchen and restrooms need refurbishing since the building is 35 years old. We plan to upgrade our restrooms in 2024 and possibly the kitchen. The only way we can finance these major projects is through the public's generous contributions and the rental income from the Old Church. Thank you to everyone for your past and continued dedicated support to keep the Old Church functional and available to the community.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued

Several other projects kept us busy this year. On **Mudding Day** in April, the courtyard wall was re-mudded, and the Annex and chairs were cleaned by community volunteers. The doors to the Old Church and the Annex were stained in September and November.

In December, volunteers painted the Annex office walls and floor. Additionally, we worked with **Groundwork Studio**, a landscape architectural firm, along with **Village administration**, to develop a plan for totally re-landscaping the grounds to improve safety, install environmentally-friendly lighting, and put in more efficient parking. We plan to start this work in 2024.

The **Archives Committee**, under the leadership of **Anne Van Camp**, meets regularly to continue their digitizing of archival photos and other material to facilitate the addition of these valuable resources to the **University of New Mexico Digital Collections** for long-term historical preservation and access.



Exterior replastering of Old Church



A view of the completed replastering



Volunteers on Mudding Day 2023

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued

Additionally, we have begun an exciting new collaboration with **Ideum**, a Corrales-based company that creates interactive experiences through multitouch tables that tell stories about science, art, history, and culture. In 2024 we will have a mobile multitouch table, donated to CHS by Ideum, to engage audiences in learning about our Church and Village history. We are grateful for their partnership. Additionally, **Mary Davis**, Village Historian, continues to write fascinating stories about Corrales buildings and their history through her articles entitled, “**I didn’t know that**” in the *Corrales Comment*.

The docents, led by **Alice Glover**, have returned with a bang. They actively support every CHS activity or event. Their boundless energy and willingness to assist is contagious. They provide guided tours on selected Saturdays and Sundays in addition to providing excellent hospitality at all of our events. We couldn’t succeed without their work.

The **Heart of Corrales Fiesta**, a part of the **Harvest Festival**, was also a huge success, not only with attendance but also financially. The popular **Pie Walk** offered over 170 homemade pies to eager participants as they rocked to music provided by **Carolyn and Dennis O’Mara**. Thanks to **Carol Brown** for her leadership of this popular community event.



Stacy Hasselbacher (Ideum), Kitty Tynan, Mary Davis, Anne Van Camp, and Margarita Garcia Sexson visit Ideum.



Dennis and Carolyn O’Mara dance at the Heart of Corrales Fiesta.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued

Dean Sherer, our Speaker Series chair, brought interesting presenters who spoke about fascinating New Mexican topics. Many presentations were at capacity.

Our **Plaques Committee**, under the leadership of **Denise O'Connor**, continues to research historic Corrales structures.

In partnership with the **Corrales Society of Artists**, the **Fine Arts Show** and the **Winter Craft Show** were successful events and served as valuable CHS fundraisers.

Carol Rigmark did a wonderful job leading these efforts.

In December, we hosted the popular **Festival of the Nativities**. For the first time in ten years, Las Posadas, the re-enactment of Joseph and Mary seeking lodging before Christmas, returned to the Old Church.

The success of these events always depends on the hard work of the **Marketing** and **Publicity** committees under the leadership of **Nan Kimball** and **Debbie Clemente**, respectively, and the beautiful graphics work by **Carolyn O'Mara**. Several articles on our events and history were featured in the *Corrales Comment*, *Corrales MainStreet News*, and the *Albuquerque Journal*. We appreciate the quality products and work of these two committees to inform the community about CHS and our events regularly.

Our membership grew this year thanks to Membership chair **Marg Elliston** and other members who actively recruited throughout the year.

The Old Church has been quite busy this year. Out of the 302 days that the Old Church was open (since we close for six weeks during the hot summer), it was booked for 198 days. Thank you to **Jude Rudder**, our Scheduler for the last two years, for her diligent and caring work.

This year, we also worked on three other projects. The first was the engagement of Corrales' descendant families of the founders of Corrales in CHS and village activities. We co-hosted a Village dance during **¡Viva Corrales!** to promote this effort. Additionally, CHS members and descendant family members engaged in two discussions with the **Village Comprehensive Plan Committee** to share our respective perspectives about the needs of the Village and planning for the next ten years.

Lastly, CHS has taken an active role in contributing to the planning of the proposed Arts, Community, and Education Center, now known as the **Multi-Use Facility**. We presented to the **Village Council** and have representation on the second planning committee.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

continued

We concluded the year with the **Annual Meeting** that celebrated our 50th Anniversary with a party, buffet dinner, and music. We honored our first fifty years and welcomed our second fifty. **Carol Brown** was our **2023 Member of the Year**, an award well deserved. Carol worked tirelessly for the last two years, as Vice President in 2022 and Treasurer in 2023, and will continue as Treasurer in 2024. Congratulations, Carol. Carol led the **Heart of Corrales Fiesta** for the past two years. Under her leadership, the Fiestas have been hugely successful. She also keeps our finances in impeccable order and is an active docent.

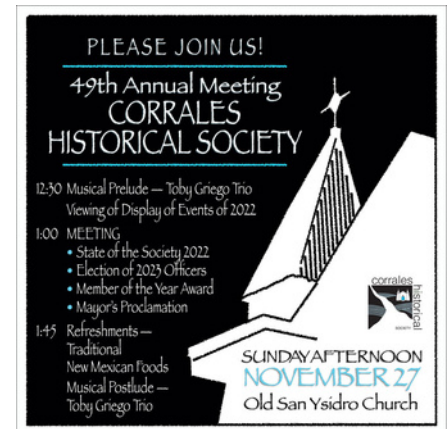
Our **Board of Directors** was very active this year. The **Executive Committee** revised our rental agreements and updated the contracts with our Scheduler, Webmaster, and the Corrales Cultural Arts Council. We also prioritized infrastructure projects for 2024.

Every year there are changes among our Board of Directors. Our Nominations Committee successfully sought new members to take on the roles of those who are leaving the Board. **Carol Rigmank**, our Secretary for six years, left that position but is staying on as chair of the **Visual Arts Council**. We appreciate Carol's dedication and commitment to CHS. **Betsy Kenny** will be assuming the role of Secretary. After two years as Docent Chair and bringing new life into our docent group, **Alice Glover** will be stepping down. This coming year we will have two co-chairs, **Becky Martinez** and **Heidi Jones**, taking on the job. **Jude Rudder**, who has been an exceptional Scheduler of the Old Church, is stepping down, and **Ashley Miller** will be assuming this position. We also appreciate **Jon Young's** work as Preservation and Maintenance (P&M) Chair. **Jeff Jones** will be our new P&M Chair. Thank you all for your commitment and dedication.

I am pleased to share that our finances are in good order. We have maintained a solid financial balance that allowed us to replaster/mud the exterior of the Old Church. In January we requested **Infrastructure Capital Improvement Project** funds (\$160,000) from the State legislature, through the Village, for the interior replastering/mudding of the Old Church. If we are successful, the funds will be available in late 2024. The generosity of the community along with the rental income has allowed us to make infrastructure improvements as well as to plan for future improvements to the Old Church, the Annex, and its grounds. We appreciate and are grateful for everyone's support. As we honor our Golden Anniversary year, we are forever grateful and appreciative for the many dedicated members, volunteers, and their families who founded and kept the Corrales Historical Society a steadfast and respected pillar of the Village of Corrales. Under their collective guidance, CHS members, and the community's labor of love, CHS has grown and thrived as the **"Keeper of the Village History."**

ANNUAL MEETING

by Nan Kimball



We easily came up with a theme for the **2023 Corrales Historical Society Annual Meeting**, held on November 18 at the **Historic Old San Ysidro Church**. We celebrated the 50th anniversary of CHS!

The event was a real party and included gathering good friends, enjoying wonderful music, eating delicious food, and appreciating the folks who built the organization over the last fifty years and kept it strong and thriving.

All CHS members were sent electronic invitations, and an ad placed in the *Corrales Comment* notified the community of the meeting time and place. Printed invitations were mailed or hand-delivered to all past Presidents who could be located, and family members of deceased Presidents were also contacted. In addition, we extended invitations to other CHS board members who contributed over the years to the success of the Historical Society. At 4:00 pm, guests enjoyed a continuous slideshow of photos from the past 50 years and soothing recorded music, both provided by **Dean Sherer**. **Veronica Dutczak** created a beautiful display of artwork of the Old Church, done by CHS Docents and members. These images have been and will be used on notecards and other promotional items by the Marketing committee. **John Perea** served refreshments as guests mingled and visited with friends.

ANNUAL MEETING

continued



John Perea of Perea's Restaurant put together a wonderful buffet dinner for guests.



Ken Martinez presented Carol Brown, Member of the Year.

After guests were seated at beautifully decorated tables, voting to confirm Executive Committee members commenced. Ballots were collected and counted as **President Ken Martinez** began the business meeting, giving a summary of events and activities during the past year and then introducing the past Presidents as they were given 50th Anniversary pins. Departing Board members **Carol Rigmark**, **Jon Young**, and **Alice Glover** were given certificates of appreciation, thanking them for their service.

New Board members were introduced: **Jeff Jones**, **Heidi Jones**, **Becky Martinez**, and **Frank Seidel**. Announcing that the ballots had been counted and the 2024 Executive Committee had been elected unanimously, Ken introduced **Betsy Kenny** as the new Secretary, with **Ken Martinez**, **Rick Thaler**, and **Carol Brown** staying in their current positions. **Carol Brown** was then presented the **Member of the Year** award for her dedication to the Corrales Historical Society as our Treasurer, chair of the Heart of Corrales Fiesta during Harvest Festival, and as an active Docent.

ANNUAL MEETING

continued

The former presidents who attended the meeting and were honored with 50th Anniversary pins included:

Alice Glover (1978, 2009-2011)
Linda Maher Neumann (1979-1980)
Anne Watkins (1982-1983)
Joyce Weitzel (1990)
Jerome Goss (1993, 2002-2004, 2008)
Skip Erickson(1998-2000)
Wayne Maes (2001)
Mary Davis (2005)
Hoyt Hart (2006-2007)
Chris Allen (2012-2013)
Jo Anne Roake (2014-2015)
Susan Cahill (2016-2018)
Nan Kimball (2019-2021)
Ken Martinez (2022-Present)

Unable to attend
Martha Trainer (1988)
Sally Mayeux (1996-1998)
John McCandless (2022)
Past Presidents (Deceased)
Ward Alan Minge (1973-1977, 1986)
Andrew Nagan (1981)
Jo Hinter (1984)
Michael Pijoan (1985)
Evelyn Curtis Losack (1987-1989)
Lyn Hagaman (1992-1993)
Jess Keegan (1994-1995; whose
grandaughters **Leslie Bowman and Drew**
****Bowman** joined us in his honor).**



A wonderful gathering of Past and Present CHS Presidents, L-R: Chris Allen, Jerome Goss, Nan Kimball, JoAnne Roake, Linda Maher Neumann, Skip Erickson, Wayne Maes, Ph.D., Alice Glover, Judy Hart, Hoyt Hart, Anne Watkins, Susan Cahill, Ken Martinez, Psy.D., and Mary Davis.

ANNUAL MEETING

continued

After the business meeting, guests were treated to a buffet dinner of delicious food and drinks provided by **Perea's Restaurant** and two beautifully decorated 50th Anniversary cakes.



Mezcla Latino performed their traditional and contemporary music during the last hour of the meeting. There were twelve tables set up, with seating for six at each table. With many of our past Presidents, CHS members, and their guests, the seats were all filled, with several guests standing at the back of the church. We were happy to have more than 75 guests at the 2023 Annual Meeting.

The 2023 Annual Meeting was planned by a dedicated committee, including **Ken Martinez, Alice Glover, Anne Van Camp, Mary Davis, Dean Sherer, Margarita Garcia Sexson, and Nan Kimball**, with support from **Veronica Dutczak, Becky Martinez, Rick Thaler, and Heidi and Jeff Jones**.



*Top: Guests gather by the sacristy.
 Middle: Mezcla Latino Quartet performs.
 Middle: CHS 50th anniversary cake.
 Bottom: Alice Glover chatted with guests.*

ARCHIVES

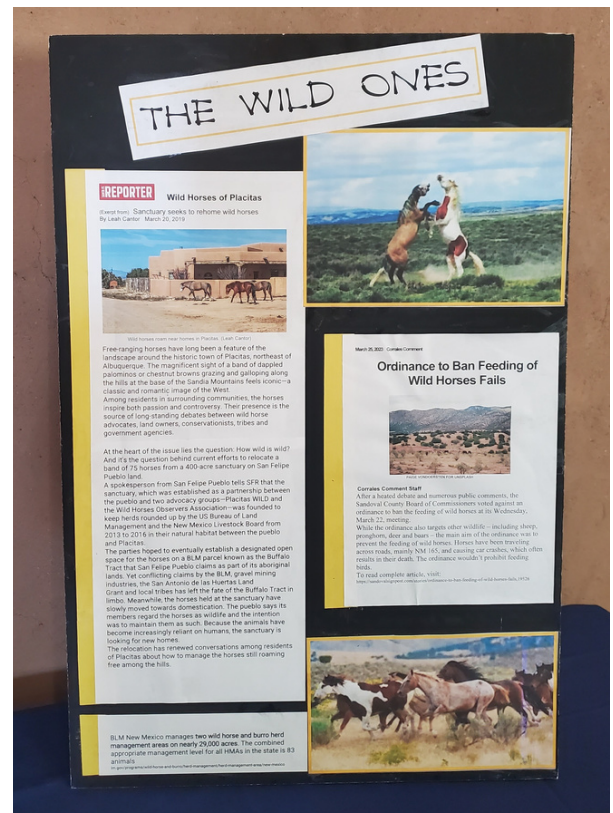
by Anne Van Camp

The purpose of the **Archives Committee** is to help collect, preserve, and make accessible the history and heritage of the Village of Corrales. The committee volunteers organize photos, papers, and oral and videotapes of interviews with notable residents. This year, the committee continued to digitize our photographic treasures and now has made over 1700 images available online through the **University of New Mexico’s Digital Collections** website at **Corrales Historical Society-New Mexico’s Digital Collections (unm.edu)**. Historical photos from the collection were used for displays in the Village Administrative office from May–July and the large exhibition for **Veteran’s Day**.

Each year the Archives Committee plans and coordinates **Heritage Day** festivities held in the **Historic Old San Ysidro Church**. This year, Heritage Day programming became part of the Village-wide **¡Viva Corrales!**, an event sponsored by **MainStreet Corrales**. The theme was **Heritage Day Roundup–The History of Horses in Corrales**. In keeping with this theme, we exhibited display boards on various aspects of historic and contemporary uses of horses in the Village. Local friends of CHS loaned us vintage horse-related pieces of equipment, and historical photographs solicited from the community were on view throughout the day.



Doug Casteel presented at Heritage Day



Display boards depicted the use of horses in the Village on Heritage Day.

ARCHIVES

continued

We had a naming contest for a life-size model horse on loan from the **Horseman's Feed and Supply** store, resulting in his new name of **Gustavo**. The winning contestant was ten-year-old **Antonio Gutierrez**. Two speakers, **Toby Griego and Doug Casteel**, gave lively presentations about growing up in this horse-friendly village. Another highlight of the day was a visit from **Aspen**, the horse that served as the first **Pet Mayor of Corrales**, and her person, **Nancy Freshour**. As part of the planning for this event, the Archives Committee coordinated with the **Corrales Horse and Mule People** (CHAMP) and **Corrales Equestrian Advisory Commission** (CEAC) to develop content and to ensure cross-promotion of our complementary events.

Archives committee members also contribute each year to the **Heart of Corrales Fiesta** activities, and this year, they organized hands-on corn shelling and grinding along with butter churning, always popular with visitors of all ages.

Margarita Garcia Sexson also demonstrated ristra-tying throughout the weekend. Many of the informational display boards from **Heritage Day** were repurposed for this event.

One other major project completed this year was a comprehensive index of the oral interviews that are available in the Archives office. Kudos to **Barbara Williams** for taking that on. In the coming year, the committee will continue to work on digitizing photographs and will aim to make even more historical resources available online.



Mary Davis with Gustavo



Aspen, Pet Mayor of Corrales with owner Nancy Freshour

CASA SAN YSIDRO LIAISON

by Denise O'Connor



Casa San Ysidro photo by Dean Hanson/Albuquerque Journal

Corrales Historical Society's Liaison to Casa San Ysidro, **Denise O'Connor**, communicates and coordinates with our neighbor, the Albuquerque Museum's Minge/Gutiérrez House Site Manager, **Aaron Gardner**, and Tour Coordinator, **Doug Simon**. CHS sends all of our flyers for events and activities to Doug, who then forwards them to Casa's Museum Guides (docents) and staff of the downtown museum.

In 2023, Doug worked with **Holly Saunders**, **Dee Turner** and **Alice Glover** on the docent bus trips: the first to the **Casteñeda Hotel** in Las Vegas, NM, and the second to the **Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument**.

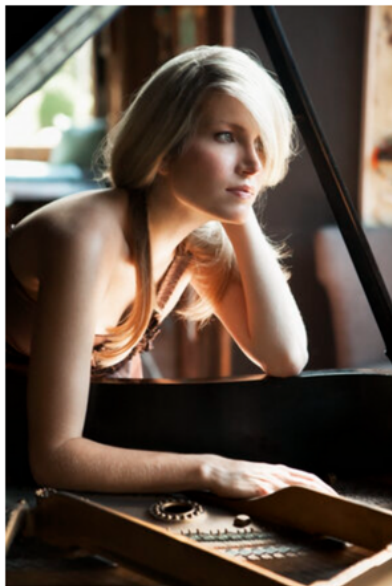
CHS values the close working relationship with Casa San Ysidro staff to further the public's appreciation of these two entities in the **Heart of Corrales**.

CORRALES CULTURAL ARTS COUNCIL LIAISON (MUSIC IN CORRALES)

by Jannie Dusseau

A meeting was held in early February with **Ken Martinez** and **Jude Rudder of CHS**, **Corrales Fire Chief Anthony Martinez** and **Lance Ozier** and **Mike Foris of CCAC** to review capacity, access, and spatial requirements in the Old Church. For the three remaining 2022–2023 concerts (February–April), a capacity of 176 was acceptable to Fire Chief Martinez. Going forward after these concerts, the seating capacity was established as 150 for the nave and transepts of Historic Old San Ysidro Church.

A different chair configuration was established to ensure access around the doors and the fire extinguishers. At each concert subsequent to the February meeting, Music in Corrales assigned door monitors near the main entrance door, transept side door, and sacristy door to help people exit in case of emergency. The annual CHS–CCAC MOU and seating addendum signed by CHS and CCAC on March 28, 2023 incorporated these changes.



Music in Corrales Artists included (top) Rastrelli Cello Quartet, (middle) Nosotros Latin Music, (bottom) Gabriela Martinez.

Joint property inspections prior to and after concerts were added in November.

This change will be reflected in future rental agreements and an updated MOU.

On Mudding/Spring Clean Up Day, **Lance Ozier** and **Mike Foris** organized CCAC materials in the Annex. Four members of the CCAC Board, along with CHS members and other volunteers, worked together to repair and clean the chairs in preparation for upcoming 2023–2024 events.

All CHS events open to the public were announced in the “More than Music at the Old San Ysidro Church” section of **NOTES**, the monthly Music in Corrales newsletter.

As the CHS liaison to the Corrales Cultural Arts Council (Music in Corrales), I worked with CHS–**Jude Rudder** and **Ken Martinez** and CCAC–**Lance Ozier, John Schumann** and **Mike Foris** to ensure that concert scheduling, questions, and changes were communicated between both organizations, dates were accurately posted on the CHS calendar, and scheduling conflicts were resolved.

DOCENTS

by Alice Glover

This year was eventful for **Corrales Historical Society** and the **CHS Docents**. CHS celebrated its **50th Anniversary**, and the Docents celebrated 30 years of service. The Docents play an essential role in supporting and carrying out the educational mission of the society. We do this in many ways, such as providing summer tours of **Historic Old San Ysidro Church** and imparting our knowledge of the history of the **Village of Corrales** and the **Old Church**. Docents are the face of the organization!

Docents meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 AM at the Old Church, except for June, July, and December. Docents never miss a chance to educate visitors about the history of the Old Church. We attend every CHS event to carry out this role.

In May, we invited our past Docent leaders to one of our monthly meetings to celebrate our active involvement in CHS. Past members who attended were **Mary Harrington, Pat Kneen, Hope Grey, and Jan Protz**. One of our founding members, **Martha Trainer**, was unable to attend. During this meeting, we enjoyed hearing about their special accomplishments and ate delicious cake provided by **Jill Russell, Wanda Barrows, and Linda Dillenback**.

In 2023, we had 45 active members, 15 inactive members, and two Docent Emeriti. We welcomed eleven new members: **Veronica Dutczak, Marty Haber, Heidi Jones, Carl Koop, Glenda Moore, Karen Muncy, Pat Obrey, Tammy Olivas, Holly Saunders, Roberta Thompson, and Trish Whitesel**. **Becky Martinez, Cindy Taylor** and **Sylvia Villarreal** joined us in 2022.



Docents enjoyed a warm summer day in the shade at the June Luncheon.



Carl Koop at the New Docent Coffee Meet and Greet.

DOCENTS

continued

2023 DOCENT ACTIVITIES

Old Church Tours

Docents gave free Old Church Tours this year. We listed the dates on the CHS Calendar at **CorralesHistory.org**. We implemented a new online reservation process this year and hope to expand the number of tours in 2024.



CHS Speaker Series

The Docents provided refreshments at monthly Speaker Series programs offered on Sunday afternoons throughout the year.

Clean-up/Mudding Day

In April, Docents provided breakfast and lunch to all volunteers who mudded and helped clean up the Old Church. Docents also cleaned and organized the sacristy and the storage area in the annex attic.



Heritage Day

In May, many of the Docents who are also members of the **Archives Committee** and **Casa San Ysidro** volunteered at this event. They offered Shop in a Basket, which helped raise funds for the maintenance and preservation of Old Church.

Docent Luncheon

In June, the Docents met at their annual luncheon at **Susan Anderson's** home. Thank you for hosting us, Susan!



Top: An Old Church tour given by CHS Docents to Women's Guild, Our Lady of Annunciation Church Middle: Sylvia Villarreal & Alice Glover at Mudding Day. Bottom: Hostess of the June Luncheon, Susan Anderson

DOCENTS

continued

Heart of Corrales Fiesta

In September, the Docents participated in this event by staffing the Children's Table and Fruits of the Harvest Table. We provided green chile stew and drinks to the Hay Wagon drivers and other volunteers, including those working at **Casa San Ysidro**. We volunteered to sell tickets to **Harvest Festival** and sold items at Shop in a Basket.



Fruits of the Harvest Table at Heart of Corrales Fiesta.

Old Church Fine Arts and Winter Craft Shows

In October, the Docents welcomed visitors to the **Fine Arts Show** and, in December, the **Winter Craft Show**. We handed out brochures and assisted the crafters as they set up and broke down their art booths. We offered Shop in a Basket during the craft show.



Docents Carol Brown and Virginia Breeding serve refreshments at the Festival of the Nativities.

Annual Meeting

In November, the Docents assisted in the planning of the Annual Meeting. We offered Shop in a Basket.

Festival of the Nativities

This year, 30 docents helped organize and present this holiday-themed event to the community and public.

Docent Holiday Dinner

Docents celebrated their dedication and hard work at an annual holiday dinner served by **Perea's**. It was a lovely way to end the year with friends!

Congratulations

Docent **Carol Brown** was named **2023 CHS Member of the Year**.

In Memoriam

We will miss **Pat Modica**—a valuable Docent and a long-time Corrales resident.



Docent Carol Brown, 2023 Member of the Year



DOCENTS

continued



2023 OFFICERS

Alice Glover	Chair
Debbie Clemente	Secretary
Denise O'Connor	Corresponding Secretary
Judy Hart	Historian

2023 COMMITTEES & CHAIRS

Pat DeViVi	Membership
Denise O'Connor & Sylvia Villarreal	Member Training
Linda Dillenback	Docents Meeting Hospitality
Marty Haber & Ginger Foote	Speaker Series Hospitality
Becky Martinez & Cindy Taylor	June Luncheon
Deborah Vandavelde	Shop in a Basket Inventory
Melinda Davenport & Carol Brown	Shop in a Basket Schedule
Nan Kimball	Old Church Tours
Carol Brown	Harvest Festival Liaison
Virginia Breeding & Jude Rudder	Kitchen Coordinators
Deborah Vandavelde & Bonnie Gonzales	Heart of Corrales Fiesta Harvest Table
Holly Saunders, Dee Turner, & Tammy Olivas	Bus Trips and Tours
Danielle Allen & Carla Wright	December Holiday Dinner
Carolyn O'Mara & Jannie Dusseau	Pie Walk
Virginia Breeding, Janet Cosgrove, & Jude Rudder	Mudding Day Hospitality

Everything we do could only happen with the support of families and the community.

FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITIES

by Lisa Sparks



The **Festival of the Nativities** continues to be a popular and well-attended event at **Historic Old San Ysidro Church**. This year we had nearly 1,000 visitors walk through the doors to view the 145 nativities displayed around the festively decorated Old Church.

Esteemed Docents chair and founding member of CHS, **Alice Glover** organized and led a team of dedicated volunteers – docents and CHS members who made this year's Nativities event a big success.

While listening to the soothing sounds of holiday music, visitors could take a break from the hustle and bustle of holiday shopping and enjoy the nativity scenes representing many countries, including China, Greece, Russia, Sweden, and Mexico. Other nativities showcased Native American and Hispanic cultures. Each nativity was nestled in beautifully decorated scenes with Christmas decorations and lighting.

Our Gift to the Community
Corrales Historical Society
is pleased to once again present
**A Joyous Holiday Tradition
to Brighten the Season**

Festival of the Nativities

- Come enjoy well over 100 nativity scenes, many shared with you by CHS members, beautifully displayed in the enchanting charm and quiet grace of the beloved historic old adobe church in Corrales.
- Enter to win one of three nativities!
- Take in the light and peace of the season at this splendid event, a gift from CHS.
- Enjoy music and light refreshments.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
**December
16 & 17**
10am to 5pm

www.CorralesHistory.org

HISTORIC OLD SAN YSIDRO CHURCH
966 Old Church Road • Corrales

— FREE —
Donations Welcome

Nativities from Around the World 2023

This year we raffled off three generously donated nativity sets. Visitors purchased raffle tickets for the chance to win one (or all) of the nativities: a Hopi Clay nativity, donated by long-time Docent **Ginger Foote**, brought in \$260, followed by the Mexican Tin at \$167, and the Swedish Wood at \$141, for a total of \$568 in tickets and \$42 in cash non-affle donations.

FESTIVAL OF THE NATIVITIES

continued



*Top: Nativity by Marilyn Ray,
Acoma, New Mexico*

*Middle: Nativities near the sacristy
Bottom: Nativity Kevin Wolf Carver,
Capitan, New Mexico*

Volunteers worked two-hour shifts each day as greeters and to answer visitor questions. They were: **Janet Cosgrove, Susan Cote, Carl Koop, Becky Martinez, Pat Obrey, Jude Rudder, Lisa Sparks, Yoshi Tone, Sylvia Villarreal, Trish and Allan Whitesel, and Carla Wright.**

Others who gave of their time and expertise to help bring this gift to the community were **Virginia Breeding, Carol Brown, Susan Cahill, Debbie Clemente, Janet Cosgrove, Melinda Davenport, Jannie Dusseau, Veronica Dutczak, Theresa Lopez, Nan Kimball, Jane Moorman, Pat Obrey, Denise O'Connor, Carolyn O'Mara, Dean Sherer, Cindy Taylor, and Deborah Vandevelde.**

Shop in a Basket featured packages of ten holiday-themed notecards, ornaments, and other merchandise available for sale at the door. Docents provided delicious cookies and drinks. Cash donations were also received at the refreshments table.

Visitors commented that the event's layout was great, the music was wonderful, the greeters were exceptionally kind, and the experience of viewing the nativities was heartwarming and beautiful.

Big plans are already underway for next year's event with a new leadership team!

HEART OF CORRALES FIESTA

by Carol Brown

Our **Heart of Corrales Fiesta**, held during the annual Village-wide **Harvest Festival** the last weekend in September 2023, was a family event that highlighted Corrales' and New Mexico's heritage and agricultural traditions, with a theme of "**Country Fair & Roundup**." In partnership with **Casa San Ysidro**, we honored our rich culture of musicians and artisans, and our combined events paid homage to the historic heart of Corrales of the 1870s.

Crowds of visitors with families rode tractor-drawn hay wagons to the Old Church Country Fair and were greeted with photo ops from behind farm tractor and farmer couple cut-outs. Children climbed atop a pink tractor to pose for family photos and played Corn Hole and Ring Toss games in the courtyard of Historic Old San Ysidro Church. At our most popular event, droves of people lined up in the courtyard to join the fun of doing the **Pie Walk**. They took home over 180 pies, homemade from orchard fruit, and donated by our generous volunteers. The Pie Walk producers **Carolyn and Dennis O'Mara**, assisted by many Docent Volunteers, kept the lines moving to old-time music!

Inside the Old Church, folks were entertained with musical performances rooted in our Spanish and New Mexican heritage which brought many to their feet to dance in the aisles! The **Eli del Puerto Duo** sang bilingual songs from both Mexico and New Mexico.

The **Grupo Fiesta Trio** emphasized their Mariachi tradition. The **Mezcla Latina Quartet** performed Spanish, Mexican, and New Mexican music; the **Bayou Seco Duo** gave us a history lesson of fiddle and banjo tunes with roots from New Mexico to Louisiana.

Visitors found more to see and do inside the Old Church with activities and displays organized by our **Archives** and **Docent Committees**. Families were fascinated with making butter and shelling and grinding corn the old-fashioned way, using an antique butter churn, corn sheller, and grinder. We drew from our collection of artifacts and brought out our mano and metate so that our visitors could experience the very oldest form of corn grinding. Hosted by **Mary Davis** and **Theresa Lopez** and directed by **Anne Van Camp** and members of our Archives Committee, these hands-on demonstrations were favored by kids of all ages!

Highlighting our agricultural heritage, viewers found a graphic presentation of the **History of Farming in Corrales** which was accompanied by an extensive display of old farm implements and tools. This display of vintage agricultural tools was generously loaned to us by Corraleña **Fawn Dolan** of **Camino Real Antiques & Collectibles** and native Corraleña and Archives Committee member, **Margarita Garcia Sexson** who also demonstrated how traditional red chile ristras are made to the appreciation of many viewers.

HEART OF CORRALES FIESTA

continued

Many admired the rich bounty of **Corrales Farmers** who put their harvest of fruits and vegetables on display with generous participation by the **Corrales Growers Market**. Our **Harvest Table** was coordinated by Docents **Deborah Vandevelde** and **Alice Glover** and Growers Market Manager **Bonnie Gonzales**.

Further highlighting our history of agriculture in Corrales, we included a display of the **History of Horses** in Corrales. This graphic presentation touched on the present-day use of horses in Corrales as well as going back into history to include Native Americans' use of horses and the evolution of wild horses. Viewers found a prominent display of old and vintage tack, saddles, blankets, grooming tools, and other implements used for horse care. The "**Mane Event & Horse Roundup**" display entertained visitors with **Tales and Fun Facts about Horses** and an extensive display of **Breyer Model Horses** inspire young artists at the Kids' Arts and Crafts Table. Here, children expressed their creative talents, encouraged by their artistic parents and our artistic Docents led by **Nan Kimball** and **Marty Haber**. And many visitors didn't exit the Old Church before snapping a selfie with our life-size horse likeness, **Amigo!**

On the patio, a crowd of hay wagon tractor drivers and festival volunteers were happily fed green chile stew generously donated and served by our Docent Volunteers and Kitchen coordinator **Virginia Breeding**. In the Courtyard, the CHS Membership table and the Docents' Shop in a Basket, managed by **Melinda Davenport**, offered information and gift opportunities to visitors who cued up in front of their tables while waiting to reboard the hay wagons.

Other volunteers staffed an Admissions table to assist with hay wagon ticket sales and provide cold water and snacks to our thirsty and hungry Fiesta visitors and Harvest Festival guests.

The Heart of Corrales Fiesta was the work of many hands, and the Docent Volunteers made it run smoothly. My special thanks to **Debbie Clemente** for providing very effective and wide-ranging Fiesta publicity and to **Carolyn O'Mara** for her beautiful artwork highlighting and promoting our events. And to all who helped plan, worked on, and worked at the Fiesta, as well as to our large community of visitors—you made the Fiesta a great success, and, as Coordinator for this year's Fiesta, I extend my heartfelt gratitude. A good time was had by all!



Colorful Fiesta flyer by Marketing



Margarita Garcia Sexson demonstrated ristra making.



Visitors viewed the selection of homemade pies on hand at the Pie Walk

LAS POSADAS

by Ken Martinez



For the first time in 10 years, on December 22 at 7:00 pm, **Historic Old San Ysidro Church** presented **Las Posadas**, a Hispanic tradition that originated in Mexico during the 16th century. Las Posadas, the reenactment of **Mary and Joseph** seeking shelter in Bethlehem, has been performed for over 400 years in Mexico, Central America, and the southwestern part of the United States. The celebration has a long history in New Mexico.

Mary Harrington, a long-time CHS member, introduced Las Posadas to CHS in 1999, and the tradition continued until 2013.



Mary (Ava Belle Cadena) and Joseph (Jace Lopez) with Baby Jesus in the manger.

LAS POSADAS

continued



This year we invited the **Spanish Choir from Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church** in Bernalillo to sing. **Jace Lopez** portrayed Joseph, and **Ava Belle Cadena** portrayed Mary. They were accompanied by two donkeys, **Chandra and Amy**, belonging to **Jamie Felinczak** and arranged by **Anne Van Camp**. The committee consisted of **Alice Glover, Margarita Garcia Sexson, Toby Griego, Ralph Martinez, Theresa Lopez, Veronica Dutzcak, Sylvia Villarreal, Yoshi Tone,** and **Ken Martinez**. Our team made and placed over 200 farolitos in front and side of the Old Church, and **Toby Griego** constructed a five-foot luminaria (bonfire) in the courtyard that burned during the event.

CHS Docents served bizcochitos and drinks. **Dean Sherer** videotaped the event assisted by **Lisa Sparks**, and added a preview video with photos taken by Lisa and **Ken Martinez**.

Overall, it was a heartwarming and memorable event. CHS plans to present it again in 2024!



Top: Joseph and Mary with donkeys Chandra and Amy. Bottom: Knocking on the Old Church doors.



Festive decorations adorned the Old Church Stage



Patrons eagerly anticipated the arrival of Mary and Joseph

MARKETING

by Nan Kimball

The mission of the **Corrales Historical Society Marketing Committee** is to oversee, plan and manage all marketing, advertising, and promotion for the Society and Historic Old San Ysidro Church in order to communicate a consistent, recognizable look and message. We meet regularly with Board members and committee members who are planning events and activities.

CHS Marketing Committee members have diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise. We enjoy working together to promote interest in CHS, advertise upcoming events, design or adapt items to be sold by the Docent's **Shop in a Basket**, create documents for CHS Executive Committee, and communicate with CHS members and others with signs, posters, flyers, and electronic messaging through email, the CHS Website, Facebook, Instagram, and X, formerly known as Twitter.

Members of the 2023 Marketing Committee are **Debbie Clemente, Jannie Dusseau, Veronica Dutczak, Marty Haber, Nan Kimball (chair), Cynthia Kolson, Denise O'Connor, Carolyn O'Mara, Lisa Sparks, and Cindy Taylor.**

Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Corrales Historical Society made 2023 a special year. **Carolyn O'Mara**, with input from Marketing team members, created an adjusted logo encircled by **"Celebrating our 50th Anniversary • 1973-2023"** that was used in correspondence and advertising. The logo inspired a commemorative lapel pin, which **Marty Haber** and **Holly Saunders** oversaw from inception to production. The pins were sold throughout the year, through **Shop in a Basket**, and gifted to the past Presidents at the **CHS Annual Meeting** in November. The rest of the committee helped collect information and checked to verify that all was correct. Carolyn also designed a three-foot-by-nine-foot timeline banner to celebrate the 50th Anniversary. The timeline banner was hung in the Old Church for most of the year.

Due to the ongoing popularity of the Old Church note cards, a call went out to CHS Members and Docents to create new images of the Old Church, which could be used on note cards, flyers, or other promotional materials.

Veronica Dutczak led this Art Project campaign and worked with the seven artists who submitted eleven images.

MARKETING

continued

Four images were chosen for new printed Art Cards, and all of the original artwork was displayed at the **CHS Annual Meeting** in November. The cards have been very popular items, and some have been reprinted for 2024. **Jannie Dusseau** has kept track of sales using a spreadsheet throughout the year, informing us when and how many cards should be printed.

As a partner with **Corrales MainStreet**, CHS had the opportunity to publish articles in the *MainStreet News*. **Debbie Clemente** wrote about the 50th Anniversary, which included several photos and information about becoming a member of CHS. Debbie worked closely with **Angela Gutierrez**, MainStreet Executive Director, and Editor **Wendy Hoffman**, providing photos and historical information about CHS and the **Village of Corrales**.

Speaker Series Chair **Dean Sherer** worked with Marketing to promote this year's eight programs. Using the information Dean provided, flyers and signs were created and distributed both electronically and through print materials. Press releases were sent out, which often led to mentions or stories in local publications.



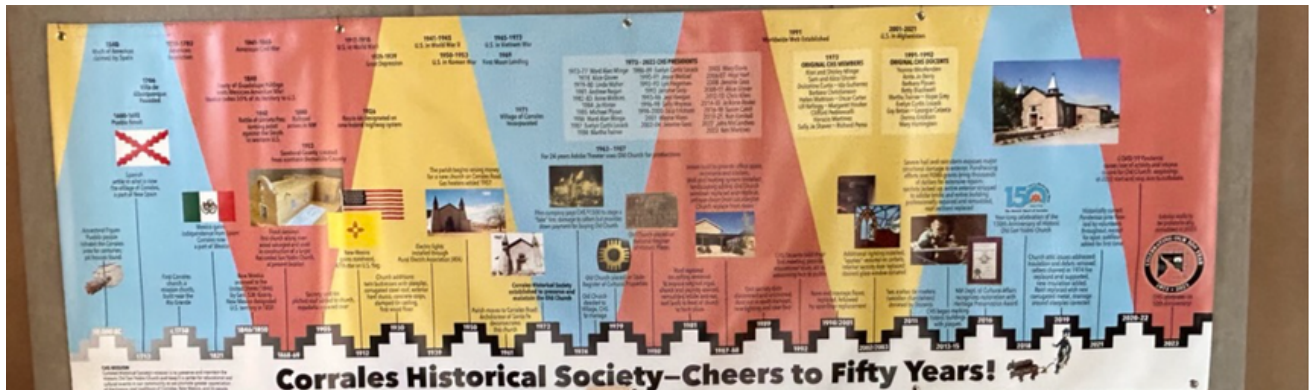
Marketing designed the 50th anniversary logo pin



New notecards offered through Shop in a Basket during events

MARKETING

continued



Carolyn O'Mara designed a timeline banner to be used at many events

Docents Chair **Alice Glover** worked with the Marketing team on several projects, including the **Docent Guide** folder, designing the flyers for Docent bus tours, creating postcards and flyers for the **Festival of the Nativities**, printing raffle tickets, and printing patches for signs and banners. **Cindy Taylor** designed small exhibit labels for the artifacts in the Old Church and posted the labels near each artifact.

The Marketing committee worked with **Marg Elliston**, Chair of the **Membership Committee**, early in 2023, to plan the membership and renewal campaign. Several flyers and letters were created and formatted for distribution, focusing on new members, renewal notices, and lifetime members' donation requests.

The **Plaques Committee**, chaired by **Denise O'Connor**, requested reprints of folders, maps, and inserts for the **Historic Corrales: A Self-Guided Walking Tour of Historic Corrales Landmarks** folder. The map was edited to include two new historic buildings, and a new insert was printed with the new additions, which included “now” photos by **Sandy Corless** and “then” photos from the **Archives Committee**. **Alice Glover** prepared the folders for distribution.

Several articles and photos for “**I Didn't Know That - Corrales Chronicles**” articles by **Mary Davis** and the **Archives Committee** were formatted for publication in the *Corrales Comment*. Archives Committee Chair, **Anne Van Camp** put in a request for **Heritage Day** flyers for print, email, and the website, along with entry forms for the Name the Horse contest during Heritage Day. Flyers also went out asking community members to submit historic photographs and stories of horses in Corrales. **Carol Brown**, Chair of the **Heart of Corrales Fiesta**, met with the Marketing team that produced flyers for the Fiesta, which included graphics for the Country Fair and Horse themes. The flyers were printed for handouts, made into postcards for distribution around Corrales and beyond, and posted electronically on Instagram and X, formerly known as Twitter by **Cynthia Kolson**.

MARKETING

continued

Flyers were also posted electronically on the **CHS Facebook** page and the **CHS website** by **Lisa Sparks**, asking CHS membership to bake pies for the **Pie Walk**. Flyers were printed to invite Corrales growers/farmers to donate samples of their crops to include in a display during the Fiesta. An article about the upcoming Fiesta was submitted to the *Corrales Neighbors* magazine. An article by **Sara Atencio-Gonzales** about the Pie Walk was published in the *Corrales Comment*.

Carol Rigmark, Visual Arts Council Chair worked with the Marketing Committee several times this year, as she prepared for the **Fine Arts Show and Winter Crafts Show**. Early in 2023 an online flyer asking for help with the Art show was produced and sent to CHS membership electronically. Later the **“Call for Artists”** was sent out, and then advertising for the show itself, on the CHS website, *The Paper*, Facebook, **Instagram**, *Corrales Comment*, Unofficial Balloon Fiesta Guide, and 101 Things To Do in ABQ. Invitations were sent electronically for the reception. A program was created and printed for the show.

For the **Winter Craft Show**, Marketing prepared and posted a **“Call for Artists,”** prepared and posted applications for artists, and prepared and printed new signboards, new yard signs, and a new two-by-three-foot banner, along with patches that were used on existing sign boards and banners. A postcard was designed and printed to advertise the show. It was shared on email, social media, **NextDoor.com**, and the CHS website.

Be A Peach!

Start saving your homegrown fruit NOW to make a pie later because...

very fun the Pie Walk is coming back by popular demand! (during Harvest Festival at the Old Church)

Some fruit is ripe now! Time to start freezing and save for our CHS pies the end of September. Remember, these donated **HOMEMADE** pies are created with **FRUITS OF THE HARVEST!** We'd welcome apple, cherry, berry, apricot, peach, plum, pear, pumpkin, rhubarb...? Your creative best! If you can't bake, we'll gratefully take your fruit! Contact us! 505-899-0151 or c.omara@comcast.net

Last year you helped us make over \$1000 for the Old Church and generated oodles of smiles. Let's better that this year!

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU FOR FRUIT FOR A PIE OR TWO? Please, please, please with a cherry on top!

It's a berry good idea.

Your donation of fruit, flour, sugar—or a pie—turns into a donation that helps to preserve Historic Old San Ysidro Church

An invitation

Please Join Us in a Reception to Meet the Artists

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6
From 5:00 to 7:00 in the Evening

Historic Old San Ysidro Church
666 Old Church Road
Corrales, New Mexico

More than 150 pieces of artwork will be on display from over 60 exceptional New Mexico artists.

Enjoy the warmth of the 155-year-old adobe building that exudes its own artistic charm as you browse and visit with the artists.

over 60 artists

CSA

Exceptional Art. Extraordinary Values

MARKETING

continued

Mudding Day flyers for the website, email, and social media, plus an ad in the *Corrales Comment*, were designed and sent at the request of **Preservation & Maintenance** Chair **Jon Young**.

Las Posadas was celebrated at the Old Church for the first time in ten years. The Marketing committee helped with this event by creating and sending email invitations to our membership, creating and printing signs to direct visitors to the event, and creating and printing the eight-page program for the event.

A committee was formed early in the year by President **Ken Martinez** to encourage descendants of the original families who settled in Corrales to join CHS. An invitation was written by Ken, then edited and printed by Marketing for distribution.

New occupancy regulations for the Old Church, capping attendance at 150 people per event, were enacted at the beginning of the year. Marketing was called on to produce signage for inside the church and signs that could be put in front of the doors when an event had reached capacity. This also led to rental agreement documents needing updating. **Carolyn O'Mara** worked with President **Ken Martinez** and the **Executive Committee** on these items.

For the **2023 Annual Meeting**, Marketing sent "save the date" emails electronically to all CHS members. Invitations to all past Presidents were designed, printed, and mailed. Invitations to our membership were sent by email and posted on our website. As required by CHS bylaws, an advertisement was published in the *Corrales Comment* a few weeks before the meeting. Ballots were printed for the election of the Executive committee.

Jude Rudder, Scheduler, asked that four laminated posters with a checklist for cleaning up after CHS events/meetings be printed. **Alice Glover**, Docent chair, asked that 50 sets of sections of the Docent Guide be printed and prepared. Thank you notes were redesigned and printed for **Carol Brown**, Treasurer, to thank contributors for their donations.

During 2023, it was our honor to present CHS to the greater community in a professional and colorful way, to share the beauty of the Old Church and the history of Corrales so all may know what a gem we have here in Corrales.



MEMBERSHIP

by Marg Elliston

Things were popping at **Corrales Historical Society** in 2023! Finally, folks were delighted to share activities at **Historic Old San Ysidro Church**, together and in person! With the revival of the **Docents** program, the excellent **CHS Speaker Series**, **Heritage Day**, **Heart of Corrales Fiesta**, and **art shows**, CHS had a dynamic year. The observance of the Society’s **50th anniversary** generated excitement and recommitment to the **CHS mission**.

All of this activity is reflected in the growth in CHS membership. The year ended with **166 annual members** and **124 lifetime members** for a total of **290 memberships**. We also had **62 new members** join in 2023.

To attract new members, CHS lowered its already reasonable membership fees for Heritage Month in May and 50th Anniversary Month in November. Several folks joined during Holiday events in December. Their memberships were moved into 2024.

Marg Elliston became Membership Chair in 2023, following in the path of past chairs and current mentors **Anne Van Camp** and **Carol Brown** who is the current CHS Treasurer and an important partner in keeping the membership rolls up-to-date. **Jannie Dusseau** added wonderful support and education in database management for our membership rolls.

None of this would be accomplished without the good thinking and talent of the **Marketing and Publicity Committee**. From setting the theme of **“Cheers to 50 Years!”** for 2023 to communicating with membership, they brought professionalism to CHS which enhanced everything we did. The revitalized **Docents Committee**—the “doers” in the society always worked hard at events, which were the greatest source of new members.

Cheers to 50 Years!

Look how far we've come in half a century!

When you join Corrales Historical Society, you can help make the next 50 years even better. CHS is responsible for preserving and maintaining the deconsecrated¹ Historic Old San Ysidro Church, the public face of CHS and a beloved gathering place in Corrales. In addition to keeping this treasured building going strong, CHS helps build community, offering educational, cultural and history programs, and highlighting historic properties throughout our Village. At this proud milestone, here are a few ways you can reap the benefits of membership —




*Historic Old San Ysidro Church was an active mission church. The church was abandoned when the parish grew in population and moved to a new building on Canby Road.



BECOME A MEMBER

Sign up on our website:
www.CorralesHistory.org/membership.html
with PayPal!²

or

Fill out the form below. Make your check out to Corrales Historical Society and mail to:
CHS • P.O. Box 1051 • Corrales NM 87048

Consider inviting younger friends and family to become involved by gifting them with a membership. We need the next generation to keep our Village History alive and well.

How about becoming a \$50 Sponsor for honors of our 50-year celebration!

Membership Categories: (check one)

\$25 Individual \$100 Sustaining

\$35 Family \$300 Patron/Corporate

\$50 Sponsor \$500 Life Membership*

*Life Membership is a one-time payment. All other categories are renewable on 12/31/2024 each year.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PREFERRED PHONE: Home Cell Office

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDITIONAL DONATION \$: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

THIS IS A GIFT MEMBERSHIP FROM _____

FIND YOUR NICHE!
MAKE SOME FRIENDS!
HAVE SOME FUN!

PLAQUES COMMITTEE

by Denise O'Connor

One of the primary objectives of **Corrales Historical Society** is to preserve the history and architectural heritage of the **Village of Corrales** while educating the public about both. With this objective in mind, the **Plaques Committee** was formed in 2012 to recognize buildings in the Village that represent its architectural and historic heritage. Our goal is to identify two buildings a year and mark them with a plaque that summarizes the building's historical and architectural significance.

Committee members in 2023 were **Sandra Corless, Mary Davis, Alice Glover, Betsey Linneman**, and Chair **Denise O'Connor**. Members research the buildings, receive permission from the building's owner to allow the plaque to be installed, and order the plaques. **Sandra Corless** photographs the buildings. In 2023, we added two buildings to the plaque program:

- **The Francisco Gutiérrez House** on Old Church Road was a pre-1850 twenty-five room adobe dwelling that housed generations of the descendants of **Francisco Gutiérrez and Encarnacion Lucero**. By 1927, three of their grandchildren were living in three separate sections of the building. One of the granddaughters, **Bruna Sandoval**, and her daughter, **Sylvia Montañó**, cared for the adjacent Historic Old San Ysidro Church for many years. It is now three distinct homes, with a few of the original remaining rooms blending with old additions and those added by recent owners.
- **The Old Schoolhouse** on Corrales Road is a c.1875 adobe and terrón building that served as the first schoolhouse in Corrales. It was expanded twice before a new county school was built in 1923. The building then served as a small store and as a house for members of the **Perea family**, who purchased it in the 1950s. It is currently under restoration, and its plaque will be installed when the restoration is complete.

The **Historic Corrales: A Self-Guided Walking Tour of Historic Corrales Landmarks** folder now features fourteen buildings, and the Committee is considering more buildings to research.

PUBLICITY

by Debbie Clemente

In 2023 **Corrales Historical Society** celebrated its 50th Anniversary. And what a year it turned out to be! All regular activities and events were in full swing and well attended, including a couple of reinstated events, **CHS Bus Trips**, and **Las Posadas**. Our strong relationship with the press continues to grow and helps us get the word out on all that's going on with CHS.

CHS's milestone **50th Anniversary** was celebrated throughout 2023, culminating with a big party held during the **CHS Annual Meeting at Historic Old San Ysidro Church** on Nov. 18, 2023. In addition to an overview of the 50 years of progress CHS has made, the honoring of past presidents, and two fabulous cakes, an article was featured in *Corrales MainStreet News*, entitled "**Fifty Never Looked, or Felt, So Good!**" Telling the story of the incorporation of CHS and the subsequent achievements of restoring and maintaining the Old Church over the years, this article also spoke to the important role the non-profit plays in educating the community about the history and culture of the region as well as keeping it alive today. A subsequent article entitled, "**Capturing the History of Corrales**," included photos from the **CHS Archives Committee** of old and new Corrales. To honor the anniversary, **CHS Marketing** even created a new logo that was featured in all publicity. In November 2023, **T.S. Last**, a reporter with *Corrales Comment*, asked **Alice Glover** for an interview, as she is one of the original founding members of CHS still active in the organization today. He reported, "*Alice Glover was there at the beginning and had a hand in helping get the Corrales Historical Society started as a non-profit organization in 1974 with a mission to maintain and restore the old church, which was originally built in 1868.*" Alice is a past president of CHS and took the lead in revitalizing the CHS docent group after the pandemic. She was Docent Chair from 2022-2023.

The **Albuquerque Journal** has been a valued and supportive partner of CHS with many articles and interviews promoting our events. The Journal's Sept. 29, 2023 article highlighted all the activities that took place at last year's **Heart of Corrales Fiesta** during **Harvest Festival**. The headline was "**Heart of the Community**," and that's what CHS delivered. Attendance at the Fiesta was huge with much of the success attributed to **Rick Thaler**, CHS VP, and **Carol Brown**, CHS Treasurer. Entertainment included traditional New Mexican, Latin, and folk music. The hugely popular **Pie Walk**, back for its sixth year, was again a true crowd-pleaser that raised record-breaking funds for CHS.

52 CORRALES MAINSTREET NEWS | FEBRUARY 2023

Fifty Never Looked, or Felt, So Good!

CHS celebrates its half-century milestone of preserving Historic Old San Ysidro Church

In 1973, Corrales Historical Society (CHS) was founded to preserve the historic Old San Ysidro Church. The church, built in 1868, was in poor condition and needed restoration. CHS was formed to raise funds and coordinate the work. The church was restored and reopened in 1974. CHS has since worked to maintain and restore the church, and to educate the community about its history. CHS has many members and volunteers who work to keep the church open and active. CHS has many programs and events, including bus trips, las posadas, and harvest festival. CHS has many achievements and accomplishments, and it is proud to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

Membership makes it happen at CHS

Joining the historical society helps promote appreciation of Corrales history, traditions

Individual \$25
Family \$75
Student \$10
Senior \$100
Life Membership \$1000
Life Membership \$1000

For more information, visit www.corraleshistoricalsociety.org

53 CORRALES MAINSTREET NEWS | FEBRUARY 2023

Capturing the history of Corrales

The CHS Archives Committee has been working to capture the history of Corrales. The committee has been collecting and organizing historical documents, photos, and other items. The committee has also been working to create a digital archive of the society's history. The committee has many members and volunteers who work to keep the archive up-to-date and accessible. The committee has many achievements and accomplishments, and it is proud to capture the history of Corrales.

Making its Own History

Corrales Historical Society member Alice Glover was there when the society was formed to buy and restore the historic San Ysidro Church. (T.S. Last/Corrales Comment)

Editor's Note: This is the first in a two-part series on the Corrales Historical Society, which is celebrating 50 years this Saturday at the Old Church.

PUBLICITY
continued

There was a country fair atmosphere as well, with a life-size horse model named “**Amigo**” greeting visitors. Everyone was encouraged to take a selfie with the horse and capture a fun memory. **Corrales Neighbors** also ran an article in their Sept. 2023 issue, highlighting all the Fiesta activities with a photo spread featuring tractors, hay wagon drop-offs, the **Pie Walk**, the **Fruits of the Harvest table**, and more.

On Dec. 15, 2023, the *Albuquerque Journal* ran an article on the **Festival of the Nativities**, headlined “**Blessed Displays.**” It reported that our nativities come from around the world and “reflect the traditions, culture and interpretations and style of the people building the scenes.” **KRQE-TV** responded to our call to local news stations and took footage of the displays inside the Old Church. The reporter interviewed **Alice Glover** and me (**Debbie Clemente**) about the show, its origins, and how nativities are acquired for the show, many of which are on loan from CHS members. The interview made the Saturday evening and Sunday morning news, which helped increase traffic to the show. **Corrales Comment** also ran a story on the Nativities on Dec. 15, highlighting a Native American nativity made of carved wood.

Promotional nativity flyers were distributed far and wide, including local businesses in Corrales, Christmas stores in Old Town and Santa Fe, libraries, galleries in Placitas, and much more. In 2023, the **35th Annual Juried Fine Arts Show** featured 63 of New Mexico’s finest artists and, as always, ran for the duration of Balloon Fiesta in early October. Publicity included Save the Dates information in the Corrales MainStreet Calendar, Call for Artists quarter page ad in the *Corrales Comment*, and a wide-reaching postcard distribution. An advertising bundle was purchased in **The Paper**, including a quarter-page ad in “101 Things to Do,” a quarter-page ad in their “Balloon Fiesta Guide,” and an eight-page Leaderboard Online ad.



KRQE interviewed Debbie Clemente and Alice Glover at the Festival of the Nativities

PUBLICITY

continued

The **35th Annual Juried Winter Craft Show** was widely promoted and included an article published in the Sandoval Signpost on Nov. 17, 2023. The article featured a photo of a work from a returning Southwest folk artist and details of the show. With 40 juried artists and crafters in the show, it's promoted as "a great place to do holiday shopping of the highest caliber."

Bus trips were back on the CHS calendar, with trips to **Hotel Castañeda** in Las Vegas, NM, and **Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument** near Mountainair. These were advertised to CHS Docents, CHS Membership, and folks at **Casa San Ysidro**. Buses were full for both trips.

Las Posadas was once again reenacted at the Old Church after a years-long hiatus. It was advertised to the CHS Membership and the larger Corrales community and enjoyed a good turnout.

All 2023 **Speaker Series** events were advertised with flyers to **CHS Membership** and **Speaker Series** lists. Marketing contacts received a press release for each event and were asked to place the event in their calendars.

The relationship between CHS and **Corrales MainStreet** continues to grow. They are very generous with sharing CHS information on their social media accounts, website, and the new **Corrales Community Guide**. We continue to provide a dedicated CHS quarterly column in the **Corrales Mainstreet News** publication. In 2023, CHS articles included **CHS's 50th Anniversary**, **Las Posada** and **Nativities**, and the professional re-mudding of the entire exterior of the Old Church.

This report is just an overview of our publicity coverage in 2023. All information about events and activities is also distributed to **CHS Membership**, the many people who attend Speaker Series presentations, and local partners in the community.

4 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023 CORRALES MAIN STREET NEWS

Old church, new mud!

Popular historic landmark gets a 'facelift'

By Rex Martinez

Old San Ysidro Church is a treasured historic Corrales landmark that has been the center of Village activities since its construction in 1868. Corrales Historical Society (CHS), founded in 1973, has been responsible for the preservation and maintenance of the Old Church, which at times can be extensive. Between July 28 and August 3, 2023, the Old Church received a much needed "facelift." CHS contracted with award-winning Crocker Ltd., specialists in architectural conservation and preparation, to re-mud the exterior of the Old Church. The only other time the Old Church's exterior was professionally re-mudded was in 2005, also by Crocker Ltd. Prior to that the mudding had always been done by volunteers. (The Annex, adjacent to the Old Church, was professionally re-mudded in 2017 by Richard Martinez.)

Crocker Ltd., a Santa Fe based firm, used similar color material for application of a new finish mud plaster coat, which covered approximately 3770 square feet of wall. Because the mud plaster wears with time and weather, it needs to be reapplied periodically. Major "facelifts" occur on "Mudding Day," a CHS event usually held in late April, when the entire community is invited to re-mud the courtyard wall and sometimes provide minor touch-ups to the Old Church itself. The community event brings residents together to maintain the Church, the Annex building that contains CHS and Village Archives, and the Old Church grounds.

*Next year, dependent on a fund-



Experience the history and traditions of the Old Church at these upcoming fall and winter events.
 Sept. 30-Oct. 1 - Heart of Corrales Fiesta (during Corrales Harvest Festival)
 Oct. 5-5 - CHS 35th Annual Juried Fine Arts Show (during Bullfloss Fiesta)
 Dec. 1-3 - CHS 36th Annual Juried Winter Craft Show
 Dec. 16-17 - CHS Festival of the Nativities



Working on the exterior of the Old Church

...ation and better understanding of the history, heritage, culture, and traditions of Corrales. A look back in time: The Old San Ysidro Church had been decommissioned when its congregation moved to a new building on Corrales Road in the new San Ysidro Church - in the early 1960s. The building was leased and began to deteriorate significantly. A group of local community members, interested in forming a nonprofit organization to preserve the building, contacted its owner - the Archdiocese of Santa Fe - about purchasing the Old Church in the early 1970s.

The Archdiocese agreed that the building and land could be sold to a nonprofit organization. Community members began fundraising (charity sales, dinners, and donations) to purchase the Old Church building and land. This group was the initial membership of Corrales Historical Society, incorporated in 1973. The Village of Corrales, incorporated

and decided to the Village of Corrales a short time later through agreement with the Archdiocese, Village of Corrales, and the newly formed Corrales Historical Society. CHS agreed to manage the Old Church, focusing on maintaining and preserving the Old Church and its premises. The restoration began with two-fold goals: to ensure that the Old Church's historic nature was protected and that the Old Church be a community resource. After restoration, the basic restoration was completed, but as evidenced by the most recent re-mudding, the church's adobe construction requires ongoing maintenance.

The Old Church was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. It is also listed on the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties and was awarded the Heritage Preservation Award by the State of New Mexico. It is located at 966 Old Church Road in Corrales.

For more information on CHS and the Old Church, please explore the CHS website at CorralesHistory.org. And consider becoming a CHS Member. (Just fill out the form on the Membership Page.) It's a great way to become more involved with your community and meet your neighbors.



Old Church after its "facelift."

SCHEDULER

by Jude Rudder



Historic Old San Ysidro Church is a popular venue for concerts, weddings, meetings, and various other events. Its historic nature, cruciform old adobe construction, and setting in the scenic Village of Corrales make it an ideal place for community and private events. As a result, this very popular venue has almost solid booking when it is available to rent.

The **Old Church** was closed for 58 days during 2023 (13 days in January, 5 days in June, 31 days in July, and 7 days in December). We do this because of the inclement weather in the winter and the heat during the summer months. Out of the 302 available days to rent, the Old Church was booked for a total of 198 days. The majority of the bookings were for CHS meetings, art shows, weddings, special CHS events, and concerts. The most popular months were May, September, October, and November. As you can imagine, the biggest challenge in renting the Old Church is not having enough Saturdays.

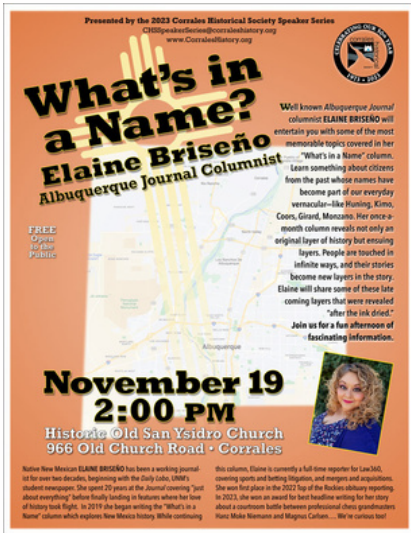


*The Old Church hosted the Sorenson wedding, August 2023.
(Photo courtesy of the Sorenson family)*

The 2024 rental contract was revised to stress the importance of the care and attention our Old Church requires. A total of 76 contracts were signed to rent the Old Church. Fifty-three of the contracts were to rent the Old Church in 2023, and twenty-three contracts have already been written to rent the Old Church for 2024. The coming year looks to be another active one for our beloved Old Church.

SPEAKER SERIES

by Dean Sherer



Speaker Series flyer for
 “What’s in a Name?”
 Elaine Briseño, presenter



Rob Martinez performed *The Enduring Hispanic Music of New Mexico*

SUMMARY

Corrales Historical Society proudly offered the **Speaker Series** as a benefit to our members and the community for the year 2023. Presentations were free and open to the public. Our goal is to fulfill the mission of CHS by providing historical and cultural presentations about New Mexico that engage, educate, and inspire the audience.

The speakers are chosen primarily from the **Historical Society of New Mexico** and **New Mexico Humanities Council Speaker Bureau** lists. The speakers are fully vetted experts in a wide variety of topics. On occasion, we do opt for speakers that are not affiliated with the aforementioned speakers bureaus. In those cases, we carefully evaluate these speakers and select them based on their past experiences and overall qualifications.

Speaker Series events are held monthly on Sunday afternoons at 2:00 pm at the Historic Old San Ysidro Church in Corrales located at 966 Old Church Road, Corrales, New Mexico. Funding for this non-profit program is provided by grants from the **New Mexico Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities**, and generous donations from private citizens. A special thanks to all the CHS volunteers who make this program possible. This includes the **Speaker Series Hospitality Committee, Shop in the Basket, Membership Docents**, and all the other volunteers who help make the Speaker Series successful.



SPEAKER SERIES

continued

2023 SPEAKER SCHEDULE

The 2023 Speakers included the following:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Sponsor
January 15, 2023	Monika Ghattas	"Los Arabes of New Mexico"	CHS
February 19, 2023	Leslie Kim	"The Mexican Period"	CHS
March 19, 2023	Darryl Wellington	"Black Poets of New Mexico"	NMHC ¹
April 16, 2023	Linda Tigges	"New Mexico Presidio Soldiers"	HSNM ²
May 21, 2023	Van Ann Moore	"Doña Tules Barcelo"	NMHC
September 17, 2023	Robert Martinez	"The Enduring Hispanic Music of New Mexico"	HSNM
October 22, 2023	Robert Tórres	"The U.S. Bloodless Occupation of New Mexico"	HSNM
November 19, 2023	Elaine Briseño	"Whats in a Name?"	CHS

¹New Mexico Humanities Council

²Historical Society of New Mexico

A Presentation by the Corrales Historical Society Speaker Series

THE MEXICAN PERIOD
1821-1848

FREE
Open to the Public

February 19
2 p.m.

Historic Old San Ysidro Church
966 Old Church Road • Corrales

LESLIE KIM, formerly the history curator at the Albuquerque Museum and member of the history faculty at Albuquerque Academy, is a former student of New Mexico-Mexico history. With a BA from Colorado College and an MA from the University of Arizona, Leslie's research has included church-state relations in 17th C. New Mexico, the Mexican Revolution and New Mexico's place in the broader context of Latin American history.

www.CorralesHistory.org
CHSSpeakerSeries@CorralesHistory.org

A presentation by Corrales Historical Society Speaker Series, supported by Historical Society of New Mexico

The 1712 Albuquerque-Bernalillo Presidio Soldiers and the Manila Galleons

LINDA TIGGES returns to CHS to discuss and analyze the lives of New Mexican soldiers posted at the presidio in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Since the return of the Spanish to New Mexico in the late 1600s, members of Bernalillo and Albuquerque families were part of the newly established presidio. Learn about the 100-unit, all-equestrian presidio and its connections to silver-rich Mexico City and Zacatecas; Be introduced to some of the soldiers from Nuevo Mexico, using recently translated 1712 purchase accounts from the Santa Fe presidio store as well as military musters and court documents of soldier-related infractions.

April 16, 2023 ~ 2:00 pm
Historic Old San Ysidro Church
966 Old Church Road Corrales NM

Linda Tigges, PhD, is well known for her scholarship and research on the Spanish Colonial period in New Mexico, including 18th Century Spanish Inquisition, Spanish Law in New Mexico, and trade. She had a career in public and private land planning, which included staffing and preparing archival reports for the Santa Fe Historic District and Archaeological Review Committee. Her books are: Spanish Colonial Lives: Documents from the Spanish Colonial Archives of New Mexico, 1705-1774; Spanish Colonial Women and the Law: Complaints, Lawsuits, and the Criminal Behavior: Documents from the Spanish Colonial Archives of New Mexico, 1697-1749; and her latest is New Mexico Merchants, the Manila Galleons and the Atlantic Trade International and Prestige Goods in New Mexico, 1712-1765. Dr. Tigges has lived in Albuquerque since 2008.

FREE
Open to the Public

The Marketing Committee designed eye-catching, colorful flyers for each Speaker Series program.

SPEAKER SERIES

continued

HIGHLIGHTS

NEW SEATING POLICY

This year, the **Speaker Series** adopted policies regulating the number of persons allowed in the **Old Church** for an event. Because of requirements mandated by the **Corrales Fire Department**, seating was limited to 150 persons per event. No crowding or individuals left standing were permitted. To prepare our audiences for this new reality, all publicity materials generated for each speaker encouraged audience members to arrive early, noted that there was no more saving of seats, and stated that the Old Church would close once seating capacity was reached. Generally speaking, all attendees abided by these new policies.

ATTENDANCE

All of the above-listed speakers were well received by those who attended their presentations. On average, 75 people attended each Speaker Series event. Maximum capacity was reached on several occasions, however, including for **Robert Martinez** on September 17, 2023 and for the first event of the year, **Monika Ghattas** on January 15, 2023. A lesson learned from this year's series was always to set out the maximum number of chairs for each event as it is nearly impossible to guess in advance how many people will be attending.

MULTIMEDIA INTRODUCTIONS

This year, for the first time, the introductions to our speakers incorporated multi-media presentations. While waiting for the event to start, early arriving audience members were introduced to the speakers and their topics through short, repeating multi-media clips projected on the back wall of the nave. These clips also confirmed the date, location, and time of the event.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Memorable moments from the 2023 Speaker Series included the large turnout on a bad weather day for **Monika Ghattas'** presentation on "**Los Arabes of New Mexico.**" Undoubtedly, a full write-up in the *Albuquerque Journal* before the event encouraged attendance.

SPEAKER SERIES

continued

Another memorable moment was the conclusion of the presentation by **Darryl Wellington's "Black Poets of New Mexico,"** where the audience was deeply moved by the speaker's reading of his poetry.

Those in attendance for **Robert Martinez's** program "**Alabados, Alabanzas, Inditas, and Corridos: The Enduring Hispanic Music of New Mexico**" were on their feet at the finale of his musical performance, which was nothing less than "epic."

Finally, all were surprised by the appearance of the two grandchildren of **General Stephen Watts Kearny**. The brother and sister spoke about their family and history, adding to **Robert Tórréz's** presentation on the bloodless occupation of New Mexico by American forces in 1847.

SPONSORS

There are three main sponsors of speakers who participate in the Speaker Series: 1. **Corrales Historical Society**, 2. **Humanities Council of New Mexico**, and 3. **Historical Society of New Mexico**. The organization that sponsors a particular speaker is responsible for paying an honorarium to the speaker for that event. **Corrales Historical Society (CHS)** pays each speaker an honorarium of \$175.00 and does not reimburse personal expenses. The **Humanities Council of New Mexico (HCNM)** offers an honorarium of \$250.00 in addition to reimbursing speaker expenses, such as mileage, lodging, and meals.

Historical Society of New Mexico pays each speaker a \$175 honorarium only. The **Humanities Council of New Mexico** imposes stringent post-event reporting requirements for each speaker they sponsor as part of the **Speaker Series**. For example, they require that Audience Evaluation Forms be available for attendees to fill out after the event. These forms are then submitted to HCNM for their review. In addition, we are required to submit a post-performance evaluation, along with copies of all publicity materials generated for the event. Finally, we are obligated to submit an "in-kind" donation form that summarizes the actual costs associated with putting on the event. All of these requirements were met for each speaker that was sponsored by the Humanities Council for the 2023 Speaker Series.

CONCLUSION

The work and mission of the Corrales Historical Society are undoubtedly promoted by the Speaker Series. CHS members and the community at large have enjoyed events that are both educational and entertaining. Since the end of the 2022 Speaker Series, 37 community members have requested that they be put on the notification list for upcoming Speaker Series events. Many expect great things from this series, and we hope to continue that tradition in 2024. For more information on Speaker Series programs go to **CorralesHistory.org**.

TREASURER

by Carol Brown

At the close of 2023, I can report that the financial footing of Corrales Historical Society continues to be strong. The Board established a “Capital Improvements Wish List” in 2022 and completed some items on that list of ten by year’s end. In 2023, we made significant progress, addressing three major projects of the six remaining on the list. The highest priority item was the exterior replastering of the Historic Old San Ysidro Church. Crocker Ltd. completed that project in late July at a cost of just under \$30,000, as itemized in our **Annual Summary of Financial Activity (see page 43)**.

Next on the prioritized list is the complete restoration and replastering of the Old Church interior at an estimated cost of \$160,000.

President **Ken Martinez** made substantial progress on that front by confirming with the **Village of Corrales** that funds for this purpose were included in their 2024 request for **Infrastructure Capital Improvement Project (ICIP)** funds from the state. He also lobbied our **State Senator** and **State Representative** for their support, and we’re awaiting the outcome of that request in the current legislative session. To ensure funding for this important project, Ken and our new **Ways & Means Committee** Chair, **Frank Seidel**, also submitted a grant request to the **State Historic Preservation Division** which has been identified as a potential funding source.



The Old Church doors were stained as part of the exterior replastering project.



The South Transept replastering

TREASURER

continued

Progress was made this year on another important project to upgrade our parking lot and provide appropriate lighting. We have obtained the services of the landscape architectural firm that the Village has under contract, and that work is substantially underway. The firm has presented plans for our review and is now addressing the required revisions. Further projects we hope to address in our budget for 2024 are upgrades to our bathrooms, including changes for ADA compliance, and to our kitchen. Our new Preservation and Maintenance Committee Chair, **Jeff Jones**, and our Vice President, **Rick Thaler**, are considering renovation costs and, with volunteer assistance, expect to include some proposed upgrades in our 2024 budget. The last item on our “Wish List” is an expansion of our current storage area, and we hope to make progress on plans and estimated costs to begin implementing this project later this year or in 2025. The total cost for this project is expected to be substantial, and we will look for potential outside funding sources during the coming year.

On our revenue side, Membership Dues were up by \$2,000, and the **Fine Arts Show** and **Winter Crafts Show** combined revenue gained \$3,000 over last year. Revenue from Old Church Facility Rentals and our Other Programs and Events remained on par with 2022, though the revenue from each was close to double what it was in 2021.

Expenditures last year exceeded revenue by almost \$10,000, a loss attributed to the nearly \$30,000 expense to replaster the Old Church exterior. Expenses for the Fine Arts Show and the Winter Crafts Show were about the same as in 2022, as was our cost of Operations. We made some programmatic changes this year that account for increased expenditure for Other Programs and Events and **Membership** and **Marketing**.

We reinstated the Docent-sponsored **Bus Tours** and enjoyed two successful guided tours to **La Castañeda Hotel** in historic Las Vegas, NM, and **Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument** near Mountainair, NM. At our **Annual Meeting** in November, we celebrated the **50th Anniversary** of the founding of CHS, and we entertained party-style, complete with food and music. After many years, we brought back a beautiful rendering of **Las Posadas** at Christmas, and that event will remain on our schedule for next year.

The financial position of the **Corrales Historical Society** is strong because of the generous support of our entire community: our Board of Directors, our committees, our volunteers, our membership, and the community who attend our programs and events. The continuing commitment of so many to preserve and maintain the **Old Church** and to make it a center for cultural and educational opportunities in Corrales has kept the Corrales Historical Society alive and well for 50 years and will keep it going well into the future!

**TREASURER***continued***ANNUAL SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY-2023****Revenue Received in 2023:**

Donations and Grants	\$4,497
Membership Dues	\$8,151
Fine Arts and Winter Crafts Shows	\$23,643
Other Programs and Events	\$19,910
Old Church Facility Rentals	\$20,215
Bank Savings Account Interest	\$892
Total Revenue	\$77,308

Expenses Paid in 2023:

Old Church Exterior Replaster	\$29,741
Other Old Church Complex	\$10,308
Fine Arts and Winter Crafts Shows	\$16,478
Other Programs and Events	\$18,784
Membership and Marketing	\$4,580
Operations and Administrative	\$7,380
Total Expenses	\$87,271

Excess Revenue or Loss in 2023: (\$9,964)

VISUAL ARTS COUNCIL

by Carol Rigmark

The **Visual Arts Council (VAC)** is responsible for putting on art shows in the Old Church. Typically, there are two annual shows: the **Fine Arts Show** in early October during the nine days of Balloon Fiesta and the **Winter Craft Show** during the first full weekend of December.

Again this year, Corrales Historical Society collaborated with **Corrales Society of Artists** to put on our two shows. **Jenn Noel**, who took on the presidency of CSA in November of 2022, very actively continued the special relationship that began in 2018. Her hard work and collaboration were deeply appreciated. Other CSA artist members helped tremendously. Photographer/painter **Sandra Corless** designed a whole new layout of the panels in the Old Church for the Fine Arts Show and supervised the hanging and display of all the art. She and Jenn were assisted by a very talented and dedicated team who helped with the physical setup and display. Icon painter **Sue Ellen Rael** offered her services in creating all the art tags, name tags, and blue ribbons. For the Winter Craft Show, potter **Tom Boldt** assumed responsibility for the layout of the tent and marking out the spaces.

The **CHS Docents** once again gave hours of their time volunteering for various tasks, from putting out banners and signs throughout Corrales to distributing promotional postcards throughout the greater Albuquerque area to advertising the shows through social media. Other docents took shifts as greeters at both shows and helped with the **Artists' Reception** at the **Fine Arts Show**. So many contributed and made the events go more smoothly. Some, like docent **Carl Koop**, volunteered in several categories! There are several reasons why these shows are important: to introduce visitors and locals to the Old Church and the many fine artists and crafters in New Mexico, to provide these artists with an exceptional venue to show their creations, to provide community service as we highlight the Heart of the Historic District in Corrales, and finally, to raise much-needed funds for the preservation and maintenance of the Old Church.

VISUAL ARTS COUNCIL

continued



FINE ARTS SHOW October 7-15

The **Fine Arts Show** was well attended. We averaged about 150 visitors per day so approximately 1350 came to the **Old Church** over the 9 days. Some came specifically to see the Old Church and discovered the show. Others came for the show but then became interested in the Old Church. This year we tried having a docent present for all the shifts and this was very helpful. Visitors enjoyed talking to them and learning about the building and our community.

The mood was energetic and happy. We had many compliments on the brilliant new layout which exposed much more of the Old Church's beauty. We also had specific compliments about the grouping of the art, the quality of the art as well as the diversity. Some visitors contributed to the donation jar. The artists shared their pleasure in being part of the show in this special venue, and a couple of them joined the Corrales Historical Society, as well.

Sixty-three artists were accepted into this show and exhibited 152 pieces of art. This is a juried show restricted to artists residing in New Mexico. Although many were from Corrales we did have artists from several other towns throughout New Mexico. Nineteen artists sold a total of 35 pieces totaling \$10,319. After all expenses, the show contributed **\$4,340** towards the preservation and maintenance of the Old Church.

As usual, **CHS Marketing** did an outstanding job creating colorful advertising materials and placing ads in *Corrales Comment* and *The Paper*.

Although CHS plans and executes much of the show CSA contributes tremendously by taking control of the setup and takedown of panels, lighting, and hanging of the art. Thanks to **Jenn Noel** and her teams for this help. We invited **Flo Yepa** and her family—**Sun & Fire** from Jemez to sell their delicious food during the opening weekend. Many locals came to eat in the courtyard or order takeout.

VISUAL ARTS COUNCIL

continued



WINTER CRAFT SHOW December 1-3

The **Winter Craft Show** was well attended and largely successful despite some challenging weather. Attendance was down from the previous year on Friday, probably due to the weather. The overall attendance for the three days was estimated at about 1200. We had 37 artists/crafters. Several of them were new, but we also had many returning vendors. Again many were from Corrales, Albuquerque and Rio Rancho, but one came from Santa Fe. Many expressed their happiness to be part of this show and talked of the sense of community they had with the other vendors. Many visitors commented favorably on the quality of the items. Total sales were over \$40,000.

We gave **Shop in a Basket** a table by the front door and docents did brisk business selling notecards depicting the Old Church. **CHS Marketing** created beautiful new signs for the A-frames and new yard signs. Many thanks to them and to all the docents who helped to spread the word and who served as greeters.

Special thanks to **Jill Russell** and **Susan Cahill** for putting up the signs and banners, and for also decorating the Old Church. Heartfelt thanks to the CSA team of **Jenn Noel** and **Tom Boldt** for helping to “manage” the tent and for adding some festive lights and decorations. **Sun & Fire** returned to serve their Jemez foods all three days.

After expenses, this show brought in **\$3,903** towards the preservation and maintenance of the Old Church—and it brought a lot of goodwill to the community and crafters.



Sun & Fire served Jemez foods



Thank you
for a
great year!

2023 Annual Report

Compiled by **Lisa Sparks**
Edited by **Betsy Kenny** and
Ken Martinez

Photos provided by:
Debbie Clemente – Annual Meeting,
Docents, Heart of Corrales Fiesta, &
Heritage Day.
Ken Martinez – Docents, Heritage Day,
Heart of Corrales Fiesta,
Mudding Day, & Replastering of
Old Church.
Carolyn O'Mara – Annual Meeting,
Docents, Heritage Day, & Heart of
Corrales Fiesta.
Lisa Sparks – Festival of the Nativities,
Las Posadas, Fine Arts Show, &
Winter Craft Show.