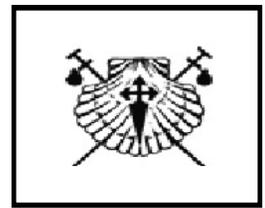




NEW MEXICAN HISPANIC CULTURE PRESERVATION
LEAGUE
LA VERDAD CON ORGULLO
December 2010

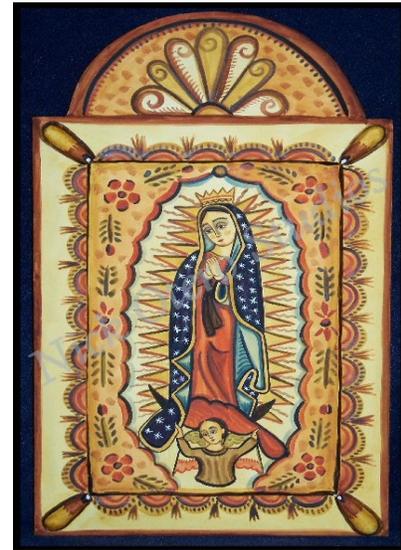


ADVENT, has begun which marks the new Liturgical year, as we Christians wait and prepare for the Mystery of the Incarnation of our Savior. This time also reminds us of the great hope, faith and charity in the hearts and minds, of our Spanish Ancestors, who came here filled with inspiration. Too, this time of Advent is a reminder of how preparation and time contribute positive results, out of our sacrifices, so that the gifts from our Creator are obtained; as seen through what was build in new communities here throughout the new world. What was built sits on the teachings of the Catholic Church, and from blessings of our Father. How our ancestors celebrated over these centuries, is reflected today, in this seasons celebrations. Many describe how “unique” the New Mexican Christmas traditions are celebrated. Can you list the many different activities in your home and community that reflect our Spanish Heritage? How have these traditions defined your Christmas Season, and trace generational celebrations?

LUMINARIAS-The HOLIDAY LIGHTS of Nuevo Mexico. Once paper was introduced here, small bags were used to fill with sand and a candle, than were placed on ground or along rooftops and walkways, lighting the way to Mid-night Mass and as an invitation to the Christ Child to follow the lighted pathway. Before the luminarias, the FARALITOS were used by the Spanish on Christmas Eve, small bonfires of crisscrossed branches which were built in about three

feet high square, which also warmed the path of those walking to Mid-Night Mass Services. Today, on Christmas Eve, especially around Santa Fe’s Cannon Road, one can walk for miles, during “Noche de Paz” smelling the aroma of burning pinon and cedar wood, welcoming the parade of people enjoying the light and warmth from this long standing Faralito tradition introduced by the Spanish Founders and descendents.

Retablo by: NICK OTERO



Our Lady of Guadalupe—Dec. 12

Catholicism for Dummies is a book that address the religion of more than one billion Catholics in the world, and each one has a set of basic beliefs and practices that he or she follows. Catholic teaching began with Jesus Christ 2010 years ago and continues to evolve today. So what is catholic teaching like are given answers in this well organized and written book. It is an excellent refresher for Catholics who want to understand and be reminded of the teachings. Priests, John Trigilio, Jr and Kenneth Brighenti spent collaborative time in organizing this book.

Saints for Dummies is their latest book which once again give valuable information on the Saints of the Catholic Church, in a well organized and easily readable book. These can be ordered on line or most book stores.

Holy SEASONS GREETINGS!
Christmas and New Year 2011 Blessings!

Our ancestors by 1598 brought Christianity to Nuevo España, and celebrated the first Christian Spanish Christmas here. We are thankful for them as disciples and First martyrs for the Catholic Christian Faith, and because of what has gone before we remember to thank our Lord for our ancestors lives and legacy we share from our "ante pasados" Feliz Navidad!



The NMHCPL is continuing to work on projects of fostering our culture and informing potential new members of the NMHCPL's mission. We have been fortunate to welcome four new members, and are thankful for their participation. Please pray for all members who face difficult challenges especially health issues, that so many report pray for all a speedy recovery.

On our project to support the award of the Congressional Gold Medal for our most deserving Bataan Veterans; the packets addressed to each member of the U. S. House of Representatives and the U. S. Senate have been mailed to our National Guard Legislative Representative, Col. Tony Hoffman, in Washington D. C. for hand delivery to each member of Congress. An advanced packet was mailed to Col. Hoffman, so he could see what he was delivering to Congress, with a letter of explanation of our strategy. The current legislation terminates on December 31, 2010. New Legislation has to be introduced in the new Congress which convenes on January 1, 2011. Congressman Heinrich has agreed to introduce it in the House of Representatives. We are working with Senator Bingaman's staff to have the Senator introduce it in the Senate.

Our goal in 2011 is to inform and recruit students and young members to continue the Hispanic legacy that has been the foundation of our great country. Our descendants need to know who they are and the history of their culture! Blessings and Joy to All!

Sincerely, Mel Montañó, President NMHCPL

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Prayer Requests

NMHCPL Members, the Marquez family, J. Padilla, D. Martinez, J. Granado, our youth and military, and all most in need of healing. Blessed Christmas Season! JOIN US in our mission



Do you still have Relatives in Mexico

By: Johnny Peña

Do you still have relatives in Mexico? Born and raised in New Mexico, I had never been exposed to this type of question. In New Mexico, all native Hispanic New Mexicans know that our ancestors came from España, **Nueva España** (present day Mexico) to El Nuevo Mexico as far back as the 1500s. Long before Mexico gained its independence from Spain.

When I first came to Texas, back in 1969, I was amazed that people would ask such a question. Did they not know that when Spaniards first arrived in New Mexico, Texas was only land that belonged to the Spanish Crown? In Texas and most of the U. S. people believe that the battle of The Alamo was when Mexico became a prominent figure in the history of the United States.

There exists, first and foremost, the Spanish Americans, then the Mexican Americans, the Puerto Rican Americans and the Cuban Americans. Our Spanish ancestors in New Mexico were still loyal to the Spanish Crown when Mexico, Nueva España gained its independence from Spain and the Spanish Viceroyalty, in Mexico City, was either dissolved or abolished.

When Mexico gained its independence from Spain, August 24, 1821, the people in El Nuevo Mexico, isolated situation, more than likely didn't go along with overthrowing the Spanish Crown. Although we don't really know how the settlers in New Mexico felt, it's easy to assume that they continued to consider themselves subjects of the Spanish Crown. From the time Mexico gained its independence from Spain to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was a 26 year span. That, I believe, was not sufficient time for the old timers to forget their loyalty to the Spanish Crown and become Mexican loyalists. For that reason most native New Mexican considered themselves Spanish Americans and not Mexican American.

This, in my thinking, is the reason my parents and grandparents use to say hay viene el gringo or el bolillo or el Americano.

Even today, in a few areas, the people still refer to whites as gringos, bolillos or even americanos.

My father and mother, native New Mexicans, who were three generations away from Spanish citizenship, felt they were not of Mexican decent. Although they knew very little about Spain, their families continued to feel their Spanish pride and see themselves as descendants of Spain, not Mexico. And so, among most native Hispanic New Mexicans, the idea that they were Mexican, was never very strong. Genealogical studies have my ancestor, Mariano Jose Sotero born April 1758 in Mexico City, Nueva España, entering El Nuevo Mexico and arriving in Albuquerque during the year 1766, some fifty four years before Mexican independence. Even though Spain has limited communication with New Mexico and my understanding of the situation has improved, I still find it virtually impossible to garner any type of sentiment toward present day Mexico.

Much criticism of native New Mexicans has been doled out by Mexicans and Mexican Americans. Our Spanish Americans logic fails to be understood by outsiders because of a lack of knowledge and understanding, on their part, regarding our unique and proud situation. My grandfather used to tell me "mi hijito, si no sabes de donde vienes como es posible que sepas a donde vas" (mi child, if you don't know where you came from, how can you possibly know where you are going)."

Present day Mexican citizens do not consider us, Spanish & Mexican Americans, part of their citizenry. In 1976 the company I was employed by, transferred me and my family from Lima, Peru to Mexico City. During the one year we spent living in Mexico City, we were not received warmly, instead we were referred to as Pochos, not Americans. A Pocho, as I understand, is a Mexican who went to the United States, he never spoke Spanish very well and now speaks very poor English.

Those Mexicans and Mexican Americans, who feel Spanish Americans are elitists, are very wrong. We are merely a proud people who know where we came from and have very good knowledge as to where we are going.

ROSCO de REYES or Roscón de Reyes

(King's Ring)

Is a ring shaped contains a small baby which

Jesus, thus the the figurine, is crowned or considered receiving a special blessing or activities assigned to the receiver of the figurine. The cake is eaten on January 6, Día de Reyes. In Spain and Mexico, there is a long tradition of the children receiving their presents in Spain, by the "Magos" or the three "Reyes Magos" in Mexico.



(Wikipedia) pastry, and figurine of a represents baby one who gets

Traditionally in Hispanic communities, the children received their presents from the three kings, not Santa Claus. Children would leave their shoes outside, filled with hay or dried grass for the animals that the three wise men ride, along with a note. This is done before they go to bed. In New Orleans, the "King's Cake" traditionally becomes available in bakeries from the Epiphany through Mardi Gras.

NEW MEXICO, FIRST AGAIN The first Hispanic Governor in the United States was elected from New Mexico, in 1919, **Hon. Octaviano A. Larrazolo**, having also served in the U. S. Senate. His contributions to this nation and State are still enjoyed today, due to his dedication to excellence and the public good.. His insights and advocacy for the needs of the people of Nuevo Mexico served us well.

Honorable Susana Martinez has now been elected as the first woman governor of this State and is also the first Hispanic Governor in the Nation. Governor-elect Martinez graduated at the top of her class at Riverside High School in El Paso. Her father was a deputy sheriff in El Paso County, and her husband Chuck Franco served as an undersheriff in Dona Ana County. Receiving her B.A. Degree from UTEP, she went on to receive her law degree from the University of Oklahoma College of Law. Hon. Susana Martinez has served as a District Attorney in Dona Ana County, and ran on the Republican ticket as a pro-life and against selective abortions candidate. There are numerous other issues put in place by Richardson, that she promises to reverse. The work the new governor will be able to do will certainly be scrutinized closely.

Gods Blessing to the new administration!

Por: Donald Chavez y Gilbert

Saludos compañeros! In anticipation of the holiday season I was going through my late mother's old home recipes, when it occurred to me that similarly lots of other people were also maybe looking for Thanksgiving and other traditional home recipes, here's a list as reminders. (Perhaps the NMHCPL website can include actual recipes in the future).

COCINA DE ELENA GILBERT DE CHAVEZ recetas de casa Traditional New Mexican Food

Arroz Con Chile Verde (Green Chile Rice)

Arroz Español (Spanish Rice)

Atole (Blue Corn Gruel)

Batido para Chile Rellenos (Batter for Stuffed Green Chiles)

Biscochitos (Cookies)

Bocaditos De Miel De Abeja (Honey Drops)

Bread corn -Pan De Maiz Con Jalapeño (Jalapeño Cornbread)

Bread - Pan Navajo (Navajo Fry Bread)

Bread Indian -Pan Isleta (Isleta Bread)

Bread Rolls -Molletes (Anise Seed Rolls)

Burritos de Frijol (Pinto-bean-filled Tortillas)

Calabazitas (Squash)

Calabazitas Con Carne (Squash with Meat)

Caldo de Chile Nuevo Mexicano (New Mexico Chile Soup)

Carne Adovada (Marinated Pork)

Caldillo (Northern New Mexico-style Soup)

Caldo de Chile Nuevo Mexicano (New Mexico Chile Soup)

Chilaquiles (Tortilla Casserole)

Chauquehue (Thick Corn Gruel)

Chalupas (Filled Tortilla Boats)

Chicharrones (Cracklings)

Chile Con Carne Para Tamales (Chile-Meat Filling)

Chile Con Carne (Chile with Meat)

Chiles Rellenos (Stuffed Green Chiles)

Chiles Rellenos Norte Nuevo Mexicanos (Northern New Mexico-style Stuffed Green Chiles)

Chimichangas de Pollo (Chicken-filled, Fried Tortillas)

Chipotle Grilled Corn

Chocolate Nuevo Mexicano (New Mexico Chocolate)

Chorizo Empanaditas (Sausage Turnovers)

Costillas Del Sudoeste (Southwest Spareribs)

Enchiladas de Pollo en Cacerola (Chicken Enchilada Casserole)

Enchiladas Verdes de Jocoque (Green Chile, Sour Cream Enchiladas)

Flan De Maiz Mezclado (Blender Corn Custard)

Guacamole (Avocado-chile Dip)

Gazpacho (Vegetable Soup)

Guisado de Chile Verde (Green Chile Stew)

Guisado de Chicos (Dried-corn Stew) , etc.....

DECEMBER Saint/Feast Days

- 3 St Francis Xavier, Albuquerque, and Clayton,
8 Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Lavang, Albuquerque,
Las Vegas, and Tóme
12 Our Lady of Guadalupe, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, and Clovis,
Pena Blanca, Peralta, Pojoaque, Taos, Villanueva
25 CHRISTMAS/ NAVIDAD, Prince of Peace- Albuquerque,
Church of Incarnation, Rio Rancho,

DECEMBER Events

- 11 1598 Zaldivar Massacre at Ácoma
12 Día de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe
16 1693 deVargas enters Santa Fe-Reconquista complete
25 Día de Navidad (Blessed Christmas to All)
26 1846 Battle of Brazitos- U.S./Mexican War
31 New Years Eve

WINTER SPANISH MARKET week end
Santa Fe Convention Center, Dec. 4-5.

Las MANANITAS Mass San Felipe Church
Dec. 11, 6:30AM

YOU ARE INVITED TO Join Us
Hispanic Culture Preservation League,
Wednesday, December 8, 6:30pm
monthly meetings, for info and directions call:
239-4335, Pauline. **JOIN US IN 2010!!**

Socorro, NM. San Miguel Church Parish will begin restoration. The last Mass was held on Nov. 7, 2010 when the front and back alters were removed along with precious items to include the statues. Items were taken to the Parish Hall, where services will be held, until the restoration is completed, hopefully by 2015.

POPE BENEDICT XVI new book: “Light of the World: The Pope, the Church, and the Signs of the Times” (Vatican News) It explains papal decisions and offers unexpected insights, it deflates myths, explains papal decisions, and surprisingly what emerges is a pope who knows what is going on in the world, and is willing to talk about everything, with a clear idea what can contribute to the spiritual and social well being of humanity, this leaving the German pontiff in much clearer focus, explains Father Benedettini vice-director of the Vatican press office.

Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of NM Meets the first Saturday of the Month. The December 4, 2010 meeting is the Annual Member Guest Christmas Party **Pot Luck with a Show & Tell Open House.** (Lourdes Hall on Pius X H.S. Campus) LOCATION: HGRC Office, 4060 St. Joseph Pl. NW Albuquerque, NM 87120:

PEOPLE of GOD Publication, Nov. 2010 Issue www.archdiosf.org. (Archdiocese of Santa Fe. On Oct 20, 2010, St Charles Borromeo School, held a celebration for Red Ribbon Week, campaign against drug use by youth, was observed in a special way, due to efforts made by our NMHCPL President General Melvyn Montañó and school Principal Ms. Deming to have a Black Hawk Helicopter land on the playground for students to observe, passengers included the Archbishop and Superintendent Murphy. There were National Guard, Army and Air Force members to meet and answer questions of the students. The pictures of students, General Montañó, and others showed many happy faces. An excellent contribution to our youth community will be long remembered! Thanks for work Mel!

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with creating the first nativity scene in 1223 (Wikipedia) The scene was a living one, intending thereby to cultivate the worship of Christ. The scenes popularity inspired communities throughout Christendom to stage similar pantomimes and eventually to create elaborate and even more elaborate static exhibitions with wax and ivory figurines garbed in rich fabrics set against intricate landscapes.

Distinctive scenes and traditions have been created around the world and are displayed during the Christmas season. Of course we increasingly continue to witness controversy and vandalism when nativity scenes are displayed in public places.

The Pope has for many years blessed the mangers of children assembled in St. Peter’s Square for a special ceremony

Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo 2011



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 New Mexican Hispanic Culture Preservation League

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Mission Statement :
 The mission of the New Mexican Hispanic Cultural Preservation League it to Preserve the heritage, Spanish language and the history of Hispanic New Mexico, to promote the education and understanding of the contributions of Hispanics to the development of New Mexico and the nation, to protect the history of the New Mexican Hispanic heritage and culture. To achieve this mission, we will seek the TRUTH of our heritage and history, and re-store the TRUTH and PRIDE of our New Mexican Hispanic Culture.

