What is behind the idea of claiming Spanish ancestry in New Mexico; why is it so popular?  (Review by: S. P. Anaya) If you have not run across the latest August 19-25, 2010 ALIBI Albuquerque’s free newspaper found at markets and café’s across town, than here are a few highlights on the latest Spanish bashing, and once again comments made by the former New Mexico Historian and present Executive-Director of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Estevan Rael-Galvez, on the front page and lead story of the newspaper.

“The MIND Behind the National Hispanic Cultural Center.” An interview by: Joseph A. Baca. The article describes Galvez as raised in Questa/Costilla area, but who pursued academia and is described as lively and cerebral. In one year as Executive Director having propelled the NHCC to the forefront of Hispanic cultural and political affairs. With a Ph.D in cultural anthropology from Univ. of Michigan, where he wrote his dissertation on identity and *Genfzaros (*note misspelling) **(Native Americans enslaved as servants in New Mexico) (**This is his term/definition in his dissertation).

In 2001 Galvez accepted the NM State Historian position, considering he had never formally studied history. He held that position for about a decade, and now would like to see our communities,…”move past the mythologies that shape us, and to illuminate our creative potential.” The question about what is behind this idea of claiming Spanish ancestry in New Mexico; why is it so popular? “Spanish identity, as it is thought about today, was somewhat of a fabrication. Spain may be the least of what has shaped our heritage of converging streams. The people here were deeply caste and irrevocably mixed within a mere two centuries of Spanish occupation, roots drawn from numerous indigenous nations. The effects and legacies are thus as much institutional as they are biological, aesthetic as much as they are ideological.

The most telling aspects of any deep and sustained study of the Nuevo Mexicano Indio-Hispano culture reveals how the long story of the people itself rises from beneath layers of histories formed somewhere in between erasure and memory—histories experienced, imagined and passed down through story; telling identities. The Spanish heritage fantasy is really about denial and not based on history.”

How does Native American culture interplay with the NHCC—or does it? …”It is the storied history that has been quieted over the years by whispers as much as by silence, hushed aside even by those who have inherited the story—if not its geography in their faces and hands, certainly its memory in an aching consciousness. NHCC has taken the lead in exploring the complex meanings of what it means to be “Hispanic” in New Mexico, moving past the mythology into the realm of history and policy. A new paradigm has emerged whereby Indigenous, Mexican, African and Anglo all began to signify. Native American history and experience continues to be core to the mission. ***(Note: Spanish is left out). …”one component of the “art” created traditionally by New Mexican Hispanos was simply utilitarian—including furniture, pottery —and another part spiritual..
Greetings to ALL!

This busy August held various celebrations commemorating Santa Fe's 400th Anniversary. Myself as well as other members of the NMHCPL attended a fund raising Gala for the Cathedral of St Francis of Assisi at the Bishop's Lodge in Santa Fe. The affair was a Black Tie or Period Dress. The NMHCPL was well represented in Period Dress with Patryka Duran y Chaves, Pauline Anaya, John Granado, Orae Dominguez and myself. Several attendees asked about our Dress and who we represented. Some of the interested attendees were from out of State and seemed to take a keen interest in our organization.

With Spanish Heritage month approaching, Ruben Salas has volunteered to make a presentation titled "Spanish Heritage" to any organization during this period. I contacted El Rancho de las Golondrinas to see if they were interested and they said yes, on October 2, at Harvest Festival. I also asked the Ranch if members of NMHCPL could take this opportunity to gather and take a picture with our Banner and officially document the loan of the Banner to El Rancho de las Golondrinas, PLEASE all are invited.

Regarding the New Mexico History Museum, I have spoken with Fran Levine about our meeting with her again to collaborate on displays in the Museum. Fran informed me that there have been displays in the Palace of the Governor's depicting the Spanish influence in New Mexico, but it is the main exhibit that is the issue.

The New Mexico History Museum does not send out advertisements about displays except on their website. I asked that they send me an e-mail anytime there is a new display in the museum. Jose Diaz the curator in charge of the displays took my e-mail address and insured me that he would inform me of future displays. The NMHCPL has shown good faith in working with the New Mexico History Museum on fund raising and other projects and we are making headway in becoming an active participant with them.

Remember that it is time to renew your membership. I would also ask you to bring a potential member to our meetings and receive a free book on our history. There is much to do and learn. Please take an active role in preserving our culture. Our children need to know who they are and only you can tell them! Our institutions continue to fail us in so many ways.

Sincerely, Mel Montaño, President NMHCPL
Having heard Dr. Galvez on several occasions, he consistently chooses to view Spanish Americans as deluded into thinking they are some unadulterated race and then by proving no one is one pure race, concludes, Spanish Americans do not exist and are a myth. Popularists and historic revisionists like Dr. Galvez, reflect the institutions and professors under whom they studied. It is well known that Spanish New Mexican History has been the least to be promoted and studied in mass, and is laced with the Black Legend ideology. Making it easy to promote and insisted upon the notion that all Spanish New Mexicans are *mestizos* (which doesn’t follow the same conclusion to Indians, as *mestizos*.) Standard practice is to continue to deny centuries of documented history on the rich Spanish Cultural Heritage of 230 years. Those thousands who lived in Spanish New Mexico as Spanish citizens, while having to combat discrimination and the “Black Legend” are reasons to identify us as Spanish Americans, not by race! The genealogical records speak for themselves. Orae Dominguez will concur hearing former New Mexico, State Historian Dr. Estevan Rael-Gàlvez state that, “In the early 20th century where this mythology was developed around who New Mexicans were—Spanish heritage fantasy” on KNME Ch5 In Focus Episode #204 – “The Last Conquistador...” Dr. Galvez, truly lives up to his reputation as “The Accidental Historian” one who has never formally studied history, apparently comfortable with his level of knowledge, for it has served him well, in New Mexico. In any other State could someone get by representing the citizens with such a remarkable void? Places to call regarding your concerns about what this interview reveals and who is representing us and our story:

NM Governor’s Office (505) 476-2270  
NM Cultural Affairs Secretary 827-6364  
NHCC Foundation Board 766-9858  
Senator Bingaman  
Senators Udall (505) 346-6791  
Congressman Heinrich (505) 877-4069  
Congressman Teague (505) 865-7802  
Congressman Lujan (505) 984-8950/994-0499  
State Senators and State Representatives (google for more info on emails/phone numbers)

**MAS New Mexican Newspaper:** Deadline is upon us once again. The October Issue for National Hispanic Month, will print New Mexican Genealogical stories on the founding families. **Conchita Lucero** would very much like help in getting our researchers, geneologists and historians to send her an article for any of the following names. Please contact her to “claim” your name. Stories on those family names not yet printed are:

- Carabajal
- Castillo
- Cruz
- Diaz
- Duran
- Gutierrez
- Jimenez
- Lopez
- Lujan
- Medina
- Naranjo
- Nunez
- Onate
- Perez
- Ramirez
- Rodriguez
- Ruiz
- Salaz
- Sanchez
- Vasquez
- Velarde

Because articles are due the last of August, please check with Conchita Lucero 235-0156 to make sure duplicates are not provided.

**Surprised with a Birthday Cake from Mel Montaño at our August 11, 2010 NMHCPL Board Meeting made Treasurer Ricardo Quintana’s Birthday and our meeting special! Have a GREAT year Richard!**

Board Members: Ruben M. Salaz, Mel Montaño, Pablo Ricardo Quintana, Daniel Antonio Herrera and Orae Dominguez. (Photo by S. Pauline Anaya).

**Hispanic Genealogical Research Center of New Mexico (HGRC of NM)** President Ronaldo Miera Monthly meeting on the first Saturday of the month.

**September 4, 10:30 am, Dr. Irene Blea** is the Featured Speaker. Topic: “The Women and Men of Ft. Union”  
**LOCATION:** L.D.S. Building 1100 Montaño NW (Between 4th & Rio Grande Blvd). Lots of parking!

**September 18, 10:30 am:** Speaker Angelo Cervantes  
**Topic:** “The Moors” Location: Main Library basement
MURDERED Trader Commemorated in Kansas.

By: Marc Simmons

In the early Spring of 1843, a well known and popular merchant of New Mexico, Don Antonio José Chávez, was robbed and killed on the Santa Fe Trail in central Kansas. His assailants were 15 border outlaws, who were commissioned by the Republic of Texas to attack Mexican freighters traveling between Independence, Mo., and Santa Fe.

The terrible episode at once threw the American frontier into an uproar, since it threatened to disrupt trade between Missouri and Mexico's province of New Mexico.

Although the Chávez affair was well-publicized at the time, owing to the serious diplomatic and economic repercussions, latter-day historians gave it only passing notice. In fact, when I first looked into the matter 20 years ago, I found that the full story had never been told.

After digging into many scattered sources, I published a small book on the subject, Murder on the Santa Fe Trail, An International Incident (Texas Western Press, 1987). It has long been out of print and unavailable except in libraries.

Recently, however, I received a letter from John Sayler of Lyons, Kan. The Chávez murder site is located about five miles southeast of Lyons, and the town’s museum has an interpretive exhibit dealing with the 163-year-old crime.

Having read my book, Sayler wrote to tell me about a limestone monument installed a few years ago on or near the place where Chávez was brutal slain. He also enclosed a photograph of the monument.

In the book, I had said that soon after Don Antonio’s death, relatives or friends coming from New Mexico had erected a marker in his memory at the approximate site of the tragedy.

This was in the nature of a memorial monument rather than a gravestone, the exact location of the grave being unknown. The white monument was described as a shaft of solid rock, 7 or 8 feet tall and 2 feet wide. Deeply carved upon its faces was the single word Chávez.

Unfortunately, by the end of the 19th century, this commemorative pillar had disappeared, probably carried off by some farmer to use as a fence corner of foundation stone.

Sayler’s letter and photograph dealt with a replacement monument put back on the site in 1998. He seemed to indicate that the brief description of the original pillar appearing in my book had served as a guide for reproducing the new one.

To summarize the history that led to José Antonio’s death: He and two brothers lived on the large Chávez family estate at Los Padillas, in the valley below Albuquerque. A large part of their income came from trade with both Chihuahua and Missouri.

In February 1843, Don Antonio started east to purchase goods for the coming trading season in New Mexico. He had 55 mules and two wagons and took 20 men as servants and stock handlers. Rumors that Texan raiders were preying on Santa Fe Trail traffic he ignored.

On the barren plains of Kansas, a fierce blizzard struck the party. Most of the mules froze to death and 15 men deserted. Chávez abandoned one of his wagons and taking the other with the remaining five servants, he continued on this journey.

Camped on tiny Owl Creek one evening in April, the New Mexicans were suddenly surrounded by outlaws under the leadership of John McDaniel and Joseph Brown.

The intruders seized a large amount of gold coin and bullion carried in the wagon.

There followed a heated argument over the fate of Chávez. Half the band wanted to release him, but McDaniel and Brown insisted he must be killed. Not wanting to be a part of anything like that, the opponents packed up and left, taking their share of the gold.

Afterward, McDaniel and several others marched Don Antonio out of camp and shot him in cold blood.

As yet John McDaniel had no inkling of the tempest his vicious escapade would stir up. In his arrogance, he seemed to believe he could commit any sort of crime with impunity. In later years, Owl Creek lost its original name and became known as Chavez Creek.

However the unfamiliar Spanish name was mangled by local folk and eventually emerged as Jarvis Creek. That’s how it appears on maps today.

Photo courtesy of John Sayler. The stone marker on the Santa Fe Trail in Kansas marks the murder of Don Antonio Chavez in 1843.
Santa Fe 400th Celebrates the 298 Santa Fe Fiesta’s

**September/Septembre 7—12, 2010**

07-Fiestecita Tues., 6:30pm
  Tickets: $10/person  Santa Fe Community Convention Center
08-Mariachi Extravaganza de Santa Fe  Featuring: Mariachi Vargas
  Wed., 7:30pm  The Santa Fe Opera
08-Historical Lecture Wed., 6:30pm  St. Francis Auditorium
09-Mariachi Matinee Thurs., 2:00pm  Lensic Performing Arts Theatre
09-Burning of Zozobra Thurs., 3:00pm-Dusk Fort Marcy Park
10-Pregon de la Fiesta Fri., 6:00am Rosario Chapel
10-Arts and Crafts/Food Booths Fri., 9:00am-6:00pm  Santa Fe Plaza
10-Entertainment on the Plaza Fri., 10:00am-Midnight  Santa Fe Plaza
10-Official Opening of Fiesta Fri., 12:00 Noon  Santa Fe Plaza
10-Entrada de Don Diego De Vargas Fri., 2:00pm  Santa Fe Plaza
11-Desfile de Los Ninos (Pet Parade) Sat., 9:00am  Route Map
11-Entertainment on the Plaza Sat., 10:00am-Midnight  Santa Fe Plaza
11-Gran Baile/ Music by: Cuarenta Y Cinco Sat. 7:30pm  Tickets: $15/person $25/couple  Santa Fe Community Convention Center
12-Solemn Procession Sun., 9:30am Palace of the Governors
12-Pontifical Mass Sun., 10:00am Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi
12-Desfile de la Gente - Historical/Hysterical Parade Sun., 1:00pm
12-Closing Ceremonies Sun., 5:30pm Santa Fe Plaza
12-Mass of Thanksgiving and Candlelight Procession
  (Traditionally to Cross of Martyrs)
  Sun., 7:00pm Cathedral Basilica of Saint Francis of Assisi

**Santa Fe Fiesta Song - Spanish**

*Music by Billy Palau, Spanish Lyrics by Johnny Valdes, Jr.*

Santa Fe, tus fiestas de Septiembre ♫
Se celebran en la capital
Con Zozobra quemando las penas
Ya las fiestas van a comenzar
Tus mujeres llenas de alegria ♫
Pregonando van su nuevo amor
A a luz de grandes luminarias
Van cantando con placer esta canción ♫
Si Señor, como no, vamonos al vacilon
A bailar y gozar de esta linda poblacion ♫

**FABRICS of Our Faith: Sacred Garments of La Conquistadora**

Wardrobe and Jewelry of La Conquistadora will be on display at the Museum of Spanish Colonial Arts in Santa Fe, through December 2010. If you did not seen the display during the Spanish Market, it is well worth a trip to view the beautiful artifacts and holy objects associated with the devotion to Our Beautiful Most Holy Virgin.
Spanish language was not used any time during the evening announcements. When it came to the music at the dance, specific requests had to be made so that the band would play a few pieces from music of our beautiful Hispanic Culture. My impression was that there seemed to be a reluctance to demonstrate much that was Hispanic. Yes it seemed hard to believe, that other than of course the many beautiful pieces of Spanish Retablo and Art works, donated by so many of our Master Spanish Colonial Artists, (as fund raisers for the Church), not much else would people take away from that evenings experience, in terms of acknowledging Spanish contributions to our Culture and Catholic Religion, let alone historical information of significance. But I think in part, this is a reflection of the lack of those who contributed to this effort not knowing much about New Mexican Spanish history, thus easy to dismiss significance or highlight when able.

Events at the New Mexico History Museum Auditorium, 113 Lincoln Ave.
September 8, 2010 Changing Culture, Changing Fiesta
The Santa Fe Fiesta Lecture 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm
Andrew Leo Lovato will deliver the annual Santa Fe Fiesta Lecture, speaking on "The Santa Fe Fiesta: Reflecting the Changing Face of Santa Fe Culture,"
The event is $5 to the general public, free to Palace Guard members. Lovato, an associate professor at SFCC, will draw from his book Santa Fe Hispanic Culture: Preserving Identity in a Tourist Town (UNM Press, www.hsnm.org for details.

**NM Genological Society 50th Anniversary Conference to be held Oct. 15-16 at the Marriott Pyramid Hotel. www.nmgs.org to register

Santa Fe’s 400th Cathedral Bascilica’s Black Tie Ball at Bishop’s Lodge, Aug. 7, 2010. NMHCPL Board and members. (A review by: S. Pauline Anaya)

Orae Dominguez, John Granado, Melvyn Montaño Patryka Duran y Chavez and S. Pauline Anaya

Hundreds of people turned out for the gala, with many in period dress, and others formally dressed with tuxs and gowns. It was a beautiful summer night and the setting was most enjoyable. A few noted that this occasion, was an opportunity missed, to educate on our New Mexican Hispanic Culture. Other than the period dress, there were blank pages on the program, which could have contained some information on the past 400 years of Hispanic contribution, or even Spanish used.
SEPTEMBER -  Saint.Days/ (Parish Feasts)
4/5  Santo Niño  (Tierra Amarilla)
4/5 San Juan Nepomuceno  (El Rito)
4  San Augustine (Isleta Pueblo)
8  Immaculate Conception  (Tomé)
8  Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  (Alameda)
8  St. Mary’s  (Vaughn)
15 Nuestra Senora de Dolores (La Santisima Trinidad)
               Arroyo Seco  &  (Our Lady of Sorrows) Bernalillo,
               La Joya & Las Vegas
29 San Miguel de Vado  (Ribera) & (Socorro)

SEPTEMBER- Events
1  1794 La Villa de San Miguel del Bado founded
3  1779 Don Juan Bautista de Anza defeats Cuerno Verde at Greenhorn, CO.
6  Labor Day (Ask for blessings on our sacred labor)
7-12 Santa Fe Fiesta’s 298 Celebration
8  NMHCPL Board/member meeting 6:30pm
10-26 NM State Fair
10 1693 Velasco/Farfán (de Vargas) Colonists leave Cuidad Mexico
15 National Hispanic Month Begins
16 1826 Mexican Independence—NM under Mexican next 25 years

OCTOBER
3  Rosary Rally   Albuquerque
4  San Francisco Feast (St. Francis Basilica), Santa Fe & Ranchos de Taos

YOU ARE INVITED TO Join Us
Hispanic Culture Preservation League, Wednesday, September 8, 6:30pm
monthly meetings, for info and directions call: 239-4335, Pauline.

National Historic Month in October  and Historian and
Author Ruben M. Salaz has offered to provide a
presentation on “Spanish Heritage” during the month. If
you have a venue and an interested group, please call
Ruben at 839-4849.  Let’s get him book solid!

OCTOBER 2nd at Ranchos de Las Golondrinas at 1:00pm Speaker/author Ruben M. Salaz will hold a
lecture on “SPANISH HERITAGE”.
Mark you calendars to attend lecture.  Also the NMHCPL
Board and members are asked to visit on this day, so a
picture with the Oñate Banner can be taken, this too, will
document the lending by NMHCPL to Las Golondrinas,
as caretakers, the historic banner owned by the NMHCPL
Hope to see you there!

Past Doña Eufemia/ Eva Aschenbrener and Husband with S. Pauline Anaya at Bishop’s Lodge.

A Review of Spain’s Long Shadow
by María de Guzmán
(Reviewed by Pablo Ricardo Quintana)

This book of 323 pages is not an easy read. Señora de Guzmán uses long difficult
professorial vocabulary words which are difficult to follow. Nevertheless it is well worth reading. She
traces the black Legend of the Anglo-American culture through the centuries in its literature from
Melville, Hawthorne and Poe through Gertrude Stein and Hemingway to today. Primarily Spain and the
Spanish have been vilified in order to justify the feelings of the Manifest Destiny of the Americans to
occupy the North American continent all the way to the West Coast. Her conclusions however, are what
make the book interesting. What she implies is that Spain is in the process of conquering America
through sheer numbers, hybridization of the people, and through the promotion of its language, culture,
food and attitude. For example, Spanish remains the Spanish language while American English is already
approximately one quarter Spanish with such words as macho, tortilla or salsa. the here-to-fore
predominant Anglo-American culture is fighting a losing battle to retain its “superiority”, by, for
example, denying the knowledge of the origin of such words as Oregon (Orejon), dollar (taler), cent
centavo) or dude (lo dudo). It continues its retreat and will soon be overwhelmed. Moreover, she states
that chicanos, latinos and Latinas may decry Spain, the Spanish and the conquistador, they recognize the
superiority of spanishness and would not be parted from it. It is a wonderful book and one which is
needed to give us Hispanos a boost
Have you renewed your Membership? Will you consider giving a Student Membership gift?
Dues are $35 (per family): $____
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Make checks payable (NMHCPL) PO Box 7956  (87194)
Attention: Irene Schneider, Membership Chairman
New Mexican Hispanic Culture Preservation League

Name: (please print)_____________________________________________
Address______________________________ Zip__________
Phone: Home: _______________ Work___________ Fax__________
Email ______________________________
I will help on the: Board____ Newsletter____ Website____
Banquet____ Silent auction_____ Lobbying____ Submit articles _________
Other Areas of interest _____________________________________
Place of Employment________________________________________
www.nmcpl.org

Mission Statement:
The mission of the New Mexican Hispanic Cultural Preservation League is 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.