

# FACC Newsletter

Genealogical Society of Hispanic America

June 30, 2021

Volume 28 Issue 2

July 10—George Autobee  
Autobee Dig  
Aug 28—Justice Martin  
Gonzalez, Maestas School  
Discrimination Case and History  
Sept 11—Manuel Romero, Mi  
America

### FACC Meetings Zoom

11:00—Speaker Intro and  
Presentation  
11:45—Q & A  
12:00—FACC General Member-  
ship Meeting

### In Person

8:30 am—Library/Research  
10 am—General Membership  
Meeting  
11 am—Speaker Presentation  
Pueblo Heritage Museum  
201 West B St., Pueblo, CO

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### Board of Directors

President—Phyllis Miranda Vice  
President—Joe Martinez  
Secretary—Kathy Pacheco  
Treasurer—Bob Craig

### GSHA Representative

Jessica Tidball

### Newsletter Editor

Christina Quintana

### Board of Directors Meetings

Open to the Membership  
First Tuesday of the Month  
5 PM at Pueblo Heritage Museum  
201 West B Street, Pueblo, CO

## President's Message



Greetings!

I am honored to be stepping in as President of FACC and I look forward to serving both the leadership team and our membership. I would like to dedicate this newsletter to those we have lost in this challenging past year since the last time we were able to meet in person.

As a new president I have relied heavily on the members of the Board of Directors to help me navigate the processes and duties of the office. I would like to thank each of them for their invaluable assistance as we work to keep our Society going throughout the challenges created by the pandemic. With the help of the Board, we have been able to continue providing excellent programs via Zoom to our membership. We have also been able to keep our membership notified of events, news and more by using social media, our website, email and phone calls.

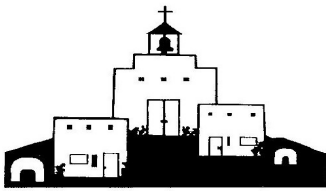
We are looking at when we might think about meeting in person again. Hopefully, as more people are vaccinated, and the government continues to lift restrictions we can look forward to an in-person meeting by Fall. In the meantime, GSHA will be holding a conference for our membership via Zoom. Please check our Facebook page and website for information about registration and the slate of speakers.

If you have a story or article that you would like to share with the group, send it to Christina Quintana, our newsletter editor, so she can include it in a future newsletter. Also, if you have any ideas on speakers and/or topics for presentations, let me or any one of the other FACC board members know.

Finally, remember that this society is run by volunteers and our volunteers come from our membership. Please consider reaching out to me or another board member when we call for volunteers for committees. Our volunteers keep our society going and ensure that we meet our mission to promote Hispanic genealogical and historical research. We can't do it without you!

Happy Family Tree Climbing!

Phyllis Miranda, FACC President



**Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter  
Genealogical Society of Hispanic America  
Cash Flow Statement  
General Fund  
06/01/2021 to 06/30/2021**

**Cash Flow In**

<b>Membership 2021</b>	<b>\$ 77.53</b>
<b>Beard fundraiser</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>
<b>Savings interest</b>	<b>\$ 0.22</b>
	<b>\$ 107.75</b>
	<b>\$ 107.75</b>

**Cash Flow Out**

<b>Rent(1)</b>	<b>\$ 188.00</b>
<b>Printing(2)</b>	<b>\$ 137.01</b>
	<b>\$ 325.01</b>
	<b>\$ 325.01</b>

- (1) PO Box rent 1 year  
(2) My Friend the Printer - Note cards

**Library Fund**

<b>Beginning balance 06/01/2021</b>	<b>\$ 550.00</b>
<b>Library user fees</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Fines</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Purchases</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Ending balance 06/30/2021</b>	<b>\$ 550.00</b>
	<b>\$ 550.00</b>

**per February 2012 BOD and Membership vote, Library fund shall begin with a budget of \$500.00, for new calendar year.**

<b>Bank Balance as of 06/31/2021</b>	
<b>General fund</b>	<b>\$ 2,644.52</b>
<b>Raffle</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Savings</b>	<b>\$ 9,063.10</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,707.62</b>
	<b>\$ 11,707.62</b>

**Bob Craig  
Treasurer  
6/30/2021**

<p><b>FACC ZOOM PRESENTATIONS</b> 2nd Saturday each month...11 am Click on link in your email <b>FREE for members</b></p>	<p><b>FACC LIBRARY</b> <b>MAKE APPOINTMENT</b> <b>CALL</b> <b>TOM MARTINEZ</b> <b>816-886-8629</b></p>	<p>FACC Website: <a href="https://facc-genealogy.weebly.com">https://facc-genealogy.weebly.com</a> FACC Facebook: <a href="https://facebook.com/groups/faccgsha">https://facebook.com/groups/faccgsha</a> GSHA website: <a href="https://gshaa.org">https://gshaa.org</a></p>
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1. Go to <https://zoom.us>
2. Then download the Zoom app to your device. Here is a link to a video showing you how to download the Zoom app: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsy2Ph6kSf8&feature=emb\\_rel\\_end](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsy2Ph6kSf8&feature=emb_rel_end)
3. Here is a video showing you how to join a meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

You will receive an invitation to our FACC meeting through an email. A few minutes before the meeting, go to the email and click on the link to the meeting and follow the instructions, however, ignore the message that tells you to download the Zoom app if you already have it downloaded. Once you get in you will be placed in a Waiting Room. We will see who is in the Waiting Room and let you in to the meeting.

**IMPORTANT:** We will set up the meeting with your microphone muted, so please do not unmute your microphone. Muting everyone except the administrators and the presenter will keep background talk from ruining the presentation. At the end of the meeting you can use the Chat button to write in any questions you may have for the presenter.

One last thing. Some desktop computers do not have a camera and/or a microphone, which may not allow you to set up the program. Other than that, it's really pretty easy. Let's see if we can have a lot more than 29 people join our next Zoom meeting.

Ángel de Cervantes is offering zoom lectures over the coming weeks. If you enjoy learning about history and DNA, and the impact events made on the lives of our ancestors, please join these very informative lectures from the comfort of your own homes.

Here are a few of the topics that will be scheduled in the coming months. For information, please contact Ángel de Cervantes at [angelrcervantes@gmail.com](mailto:angelrcervantes@gmail.com) for dates and times. It will be well worth your time.

Hernán Cortés: Conqueror of México

The Aztec Massacre of 1520 Through DNA

Ignatius of Loyola (Soldier, Sinner, Saint)

Coronado and Spanish Exploration of the Southwest

The Spanish Founding of Florida & the Spanish Jesuit Massacre of Ajacán (Modern day Virginia)

Roanoke: The Lost Colony through DNA

The Colony of La Nueva México (1598-1848)

# *In Memoria*

Elizabeth “Betty” M. Duran	May 02, 2020
Corrine Stella Vigil Tafoya	May 22, 2020
Thomas Cummins	September 25, 2020
Stella “Lucy” Gettler	October 27, 2020
Michale Bickford, son of Victoria Arellano	December 30, 2020
Edna Caroline Vargas	February 26, 2021
Dr. Ralph P. Salaz	March 06, 2021
Mary Guadalupe “Penny” Garcia	May 26, 2021
Kristy “Kris” Lee Jeter	May 28, 2021
Antoinette Giovanetti	June 11, 2021

Do not stand *at* my grave and weep,  
I am not there, I do not sleep.  
I am *a* thousand winds that blow;  
I am the diamond glints *on the* snow.  
I am the sunlight on ripened grain;  
I am the gentle *autumn's* rain.  
*When you awaken in the morning's* hush,  
I am the swift *uplifting* rush  
Of quiet birds in *circled* flight.  
I am the *soft star that shines at* night.  
Do not stand *at* my grave and cry.  
I am not there; I did not die.

*Many of you know and are very familiar with the work of Angel Cervantes, the New Mexico DNA Project Coordinator. We are sad to report that his mother, Priscilla M. Armijo, passed away in September. Angel wanted to share her obituary with our members.*



Priscilla M. Armijo, 76, a resident of Las Vegas, NM passed away on September 8, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents, Vicente and Amalia Armijo and two sisters, Isabel and Carolina Armijo. She is survived by her son Angelo Cervantes and his wife Anna of Albuquerque, NM; two sisters: Antonia Armijo Gonzales and husband Humberto of Rio Rancho, NM and Rosie Armijo of Las Vegas, NM; and by two grandchildren, Alexander and Nadezhda de Cervantes both of Albuquerque.

She was born in Montezuma, NM on May 12, 1944 and received her elementary education in Montezuma during the San Miguel County School System. She attended Immaculate Conception School until the closure of Catholic schools and graduated from Robertson High School. She obtained a Bachelor degree in Spanish and Elementary Education and a Masters Degree in Education from New Mexico Highlands University. For many years Priscilla worked as an educator in San Miguel County, New Mexico. She loved music, played several instruments, but her favorite was the piano. Because of the Catholic Mexican Seminary in Montezuma, she became well versed in the culture, which influenced her to becoming a professional Mariachi singer. She performed with the Mariachi Tenampa and other Mariachi groups at the Las Vegas Fiestas, the Santa Fe Fiestas and other events in Santa Fe, Albuquerque and Colorado. In the 1970's she also recorded a record.

A highlight of her life was when she was asked to perform with the late singer/composer Jose Alfredo Jimenez at Tingley Coliseum in Albuquerque and later in Guadalajara, Mexico. Priscilla deeply loved her family, her community and valued her friendships whom she saw as family. She was reciprocated with unbelievable acts of love and she referred to them as "Angel Friends."

A visitation will be held on Thursday, September 17, 2020 in St. Francis Chapel at Gonzales Funerals & Cremations, 2315 Hot Springs Blvd. from 1:00 PM until 4:00 pm. Covid restrictions will apply.

A rosary followed by the Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, September 18, 2020 beginning at 9:00 a.m. from Our Lady of Sorrows Church The interment will follow in the Capilla de San Jose Cemetery in Montezuma with the following serving as casket bearers: Richard Vicente Maestas, Angelo R. Cervantes, Humberto Gonzalez, Michael A. Newton, Henry Armijo, and Benny Romero.

# Origins

## OUR VIGIL CHARLEMAGNE ANCESTOR

By George A Sanchez

I recently submitted an article to the New Mexico Genealogical Society (NMGS) about my Vigil ancestry on my mother Ramoncita Gurule side when I saw e mails sent by NMGS that someone had proven that the Vigils could be traced to Charlemagne! Here is my Vigil ancestry from my Gurule Maternal genealogical line to Capitan Francisco Montes Vigil I and his wife Juana Maria Jimenez de Anciso who arrived in what is now New Mexico with the second group of De Vargas colonists in 1695, that I had in my genealogy at that time:

*George a Sanchez, son of  
Ramoncita Gurule and Abran Sanchez, daughter of  
Juan Gurule and Luisa Aragon, son of  
Juan Pablo Gurule and Maria Paula Trujillo, daughter of  
Jose Martin Trujillo and Juana Polita Medina, daughter of  
Jose Manuel Medina and Maria Viviana Vigil, daughter of  
Francisco Vigil and Gertrudis Abeyta, son of  
Juan Angel Montes Vigil and Valentina Martin Valerio, son of  
Francisco Montes Vigil II and Antonia Ribera Jiron del Castillo, son of  
Francisco Montes Vigil I and Maria Juana Jimenez de Anciso.*

Last year in an article in the Hispanic Genealogical Research Center (HGRC) Herencia Journal I came across this information about the wife of my ancestor Francisco Montes Vigil II and I wrote it in a letter to the editor:

*In an article Mexico City Roots: Jiron de Tejada, Leyva y Mendoza, and Afan de Rivera, written by Jose Antonio Esquibel and Robert Martinez I found some remarkably interesting information on one of my Vigil ancestors. Francisco Afan de Rivera, a wealthy colonist in early Nuevo Mexico, fathered five children with a Maria de Leyva y Mendoza which are listed in Francisco's Will. They had one son named Francisco Xavier, and four daughters Josepha, Maria Jiron, Antonia Rivera Jiron, and Nicolasa, all using the name del Castillo. The article stated that "Lady" Maria de Leyva, their mother, was married to someone else during the time that she and Francisco were living together and had these children while her husband was away!*

*Now for my most interesting discovery. The daughter, Antonia Rivera Jiron del Castillo is my sixth great-grandmother. She was married to my sixth great-grandfather Francisco Montes Vigil II, the son of Francisco Montes Vigil I.*

After I read about there being proof that the Vigil line went back to Charlemagne I bought two books written on the Vigils. The first is "**Ancestors and Descendants of Francisco Montes Vigil (1666-1731) and Juana Maria de Anciso y Jimenez (1666-1745)**" written, and available for sale, by **Marietta Vigil Gonzales**.

The second book I bought is "**Early Roads to the Sangre de Cristo Mountains**", written by **Philip Arnold Vigil**. Both books give the ancestry of the Vigils to about the twelfth and eleventh century AD. The Philip Arnold Vigil book gives the information that my ancestor **Francisco Montes Vigil II** was first married to **Antonia Giron del Castillo** with whom he had 12 children. After she died, he married **Lorenza Molina Quintana** with whom he had another 12 children! All are named in the article and anybody with Vigil ancestors can probably trace their ancestry to one of these Vigils.

The third book I bought "**Una Familia Mas Noble y Antigua: A Preliminary Study of the Asturian Ancestry of Capitan Francisco Montes Vigil of New Mexico**" was written by **Brent Alexander Cruz, Ph.D.** It is the most important book of the three because the genealogical information in it was used to prove that the Vigils go all the way back to **CHARLEMAGNE, THE HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR IN 747 AD** and beyond to **GUNDHAR in 385 AD!**

Cruz has a very complicated system for listing the names of the ancestors starting with Francisco Montes Vigil I. **Charlemagne is listed under Roman numeral XXXIII-A and since XXXIII = 33, Charlemagne is in the 33 generation of the Vigil family starting with Francisco Montes Vigil I.** I also tried to explain the system in the article I wrote for The Genealogist, the NMGS Journal, which I hope they will publish.

**On page 54 under column IV=4 is a Juan Montes Vigil I, born 1570, (1) married to Maria de Vigil, born 1575, (2). Juan Montes Vigil is a Great-Grandfather of Francisco Montes Vigil I.** Notice if we subtract 3 from the IV=4 at the top of the column that gives us the number of the **Greats** in front of Grandfather.

**Look on page 115, under Roman numeral XXXIII-A=33 is CHARLEMAGNE, HOLY ROMAN EMPEROR 747 AD, married Hildegarde of Swabia 758 AD.** To find what Great-Grandfather he is to Francisco Montes Vigil I, we subtract  $33-3=30$ , so Charlemagne is his 30th Great-Grandfather. **My (George A. Sanchez) 7th Great-Grandfather is Francisco Montes Vigil I so adding  $7 + 30= 37$ , Charlemagne is my 37th Great-Grandfather!**

## Did you know?

In 1903 the AT&SF Railroad began laying track on the Belen Cutoff from Belen, New Mexico to Amarillo, Texas. The railroad company encouraged settlement of New Mexico's eastern plains by sponsoring emigrant trains, a quicker method of transport for settlers moving their belongings and livestock across the country.

Towns were founded along the route with the arrival of the railroad. Billy the Kid was shot and killed by Pat Garrett in Fort Sumner. Taiban's Pink Pony Saloon & Dancehall publicized cock fighting and had a live snake den in the basement. Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart stopped at Portair Field in Clovis while flying across the country in the 1920s.

Did you know Mountainair was the Pinto Bean Capital of the World, Negra has one of the last vintage gas stations in the state, Butch Cassidy and his gang trailed cattle to the railhead in Magdalena and Montague Stevens was one of the last hunters to stalk grizzly bears.

All the answers to these questions can be found in A History of Highway 60 and the Railroad Towns on the Belen, New Mexico Cutoff by Dixie Boyle.

## The Redwing Cemetery

**Restoration Project** has restored my great great grandaunt's headstone to its rightful place. \*\*\*\*It is now back onto its pedestal.\*\*\*\*

The center picture taken in the year 2000 shows the headstone sitting on the ground next to its pedestal. When I first discovered the headstone my husband and I tried to lift the headstone onto its pedestal, but we were unable to even budge the heavy stone.

I don't know how the headstone got taken off its pedestal, but I do know that the headstone would sit on the ground for another nineteen years until Ron Sandoval and his group of volunteers would lift the headstone back onto its pedestal.

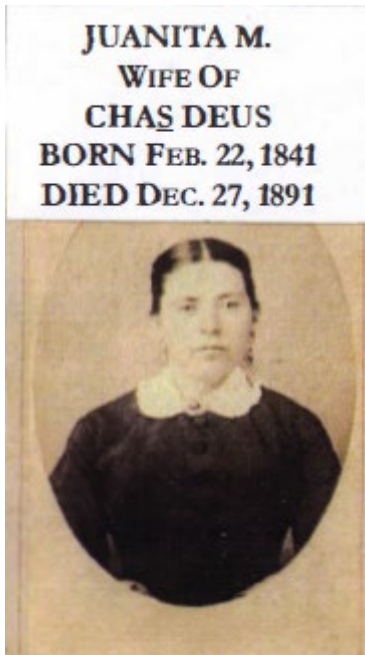
The picture at far right taken July 2019 shows the headstone now standing proudly on its pedestal. You can also see where the headstone stands in the cemetery among the other headstones.

In the 2019 picture you can compare the condition of the cemetery. In the background you can see some of the cemetery that has already been cleared revealing several headstones. In the foreground you can see the thick overgrowth of sage brush in the cemetery. How many more headstones lie beneath the dense sage brush yet to be revealed?

Submitted by Kathy Pacheco



2000



Special thanks to  
Ron Sandoval  
And his hardworking  
group of volunteers.  
*You're Super!*



If you have an item of interest you would like to see published in our newsletter, send your submissions to Christina Quintana either by email: [chrismq@pacbell.net](mailto:chrismq@pacbell.net) or by regular mail: P.O. Box 927069, San Diego, CA 92192-7096. Items of interest would be family pedigree charts, family history stories, articles about your research and any other items related to Hispanic genealogy.



## What's in a Name Rodriquez or Rodriguez

by Christina Rodriguez Quintana and Miguel Rodriguez

The search for your ancestors can be daunting. Example being an uncle who chose to spell his last name differently by one letter which can make all the difference. As our second great grandfather spelled it with a **G**. Why did Uncle choose to spell his last name with a **Q**?

This makes you wonder? What was he hiding? Who was he hiding from? His headstone, military discharge papers are spelled with a G, the original spelling.

His immediate family, our first cousins, spell their last name with a Q.

Several years ago, we were looking for burial details on our maternal grandmother who had passed in 1964. We had the details of her life, marriage, children and great grandchildren. We knew the passing date, but could not find her headstone. We knew the cemetery location, which added to the frustration.

With an ancestry search, it is always easiest to speak with the elders, parents, grandparents, relatives and friends of the family to make the connections. Unfortunately, we don't always have the luxury of doing this as we get older and hopefully wiser, we find that family and friends drift apart and elders pass.

Family can be touchy about life events, past history or rumors in the family because of shame or embarrassment. Having family or friends in the area would help, jump in the vehicle and make a local visit.

Speaking with another Uncle, we found out that the late Uncle who had made the funeral arrangements and procured the Headstone, had changed the spelling of his mothers last name to use the Q instead of a G. Now we have the key.

From there, we were able to use Find-A-Grave using the Q spelling and we found the headstone. Today, several years later, we found that the correct spelling of the last name, with the G, leads us to the headstone; Headstone still has the Q spelling. We were able to find out who had made the change in the Find-A-Grave website, but not what sources were used to make the update.

Resources:

Find a Grave : <https://www.findagrave.com/>

Ancestry : <https://www.ancestry.com/>

Newspapers : <https://www.newspapers.com/>

Origins of New Mexico Families

A genealogy of the Spanish Colonial Period - Fray Angelico Chaves Revised Edition

Fold 3 for military records <http://www.fold3.com>



### **Project Background:**

The New Mexico DNA Project will cover the colonial expeditions of New Mexico by the Spanish in 1598 and 1693, by the Mexicans in 1821, and by the Americans in 1848. The New Mexico DNA Project will encompass not only Hispanics, but also Anglo-Americans who have come to New Mexico.

In the years just after the Conquest of the New World, the Native-American population was decimated by disease and war, leaving a relatively small gene pool of Native-American, Spanish, French, and English ancestors.

DNA studies on Hispanics show a higher European admixture. \*Anthropologist Andrew Merriwether and colleagues conducted a study on Hispanics living in Colorado. Using classic genetic markers they estimated an admixture of 67% European and 33% Native-American.

He further tested their mitochondrial DNA (mtdna) which is a test to find the origins of your great, great...grandmother, going back 10's of thousands of years. This one ancestor which is your families "Eve" so to speak, showed up as Native-American 85% of the time and European in origin 15% of the time. Thus showing that the majority of unions in this admixture were of European males and Native-American females.

### **Project Goals:**

To find our ancient origins, whatever they may be. To discover previously unknown living relatives. To determine migration patterns of different families. To see if similar sounding surnames are related. To discover how closely related all of us really are. To share this information with others so that we can learn more about where we came from.

How to join this DNA project: Family Tree DNA offers a discount on their 12 marker test (\$59 +P/H, the price of several genealogy books) and their 37 marker test (\$119 +P/H) or the 111 marker test (\$249 +P/H) to those participating in a DNA Project. Since women do not have Y-chromosome DNA they would need the assistance of a brother, Uncle or other male relative with the family surname.

In order to join the "New Mexico DNA Project" and get this discount just go to this link:

[https://www.familytreedna.com/surname\\_join.aspx?code=B54098&special=True&projecttype=DG](https://www.familytreedna.com/surname_join.aspx?code=B54098&special=True&projecttype=DG) or contact Angel R. Cervantes at [angelrcervantes@gmail.com](mailto:angelrcervantes@gmail.com)

Just decide on the 12 marker test or the 37, 67, or 111 Y-dna marker test. The 37 or 111 marker tests are more economical in the long run. All tests show the group discount of \$59 for the 12 marker test, \$119 for the 37 marker test, \$199 for the 67 marker test, and \$249 for the 111 marker test. The test results take about 4 to 6 weeks from the time FamilyTreeDNA gets your sample.

**To see project results go to this website:**

<https://www.familytreedna.com/public/NewMexicoDNA>

**Disclaimer: Only Family Tree DNA benefits monetarily from those who sign up to the New Mexico DNA Project**



Genealogical Society of Hispanic America

## Keeping Our Family History Alive Through People, Places, Stories & DNA

GSHA Virtual Conference & Annual Meeting • August 13 - 14, 2021

Pueblo, CO (Wednesday, June 16, 2021)...The Genealogical Society of Hispanic America will host its Virtual Conference & Annual Meeting on August 13 – 14, 2021, and all are invited to attend ([Register here](#)) this exciting double-day event, “**Keeping Our Family History Alive Through People, Places, Stories, & DNA.**”

Offering a packed concurrent set of sessions, the schedule is filled with the finest speakers from the Hispanic genealogical world. The conference runs from 9.30 am each morning through the late afternoons and includes music by **Shayne Sotelo & the Mariachi Alegre Group**, and session topics such as **Big Y DNA, Casta/Caste and Racial Mixing and Identity in Colonial New Mexico, Abraham Lincoln in Mexico, and Indigenous Nueva Galicia: The Native Peoples of Jalisco and Zacatecas**. In all, over 15 presenters, representing the most respected of Hispanic genealogists and historians, are slated. These include Ed Munoz, Cindy Medina, John Schmal, Angel Cervantes, and Henrietta Martinez Christmas.

All presentations will be recorded and available to registrants. Following each session stay tuned for a 15-minute Q&A session.

National GSHA President, Bob Craig, said today, “Welcome to the First Virtual Conference for the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America. We believe we have an exciting and informative agenda of speakers for your enjoyment. Visit [gshaa.org](https://www.gshaa.org) to register for the conference on August 13th and 14th 2021.”

Registrations can be made online, and the **early registration fee** is \$45 for Members, while \$55 is the charge for non-members.

[Register here \(https://www.gshaa.org/conference\)](https://www.gshaa.org/conference)

About GSHA: The Purpose of the Genealogical Society of Hispanic America (GSHA) is to promote Hispanic genealogical and historical research and education, and to expand awareness and knowledge of Hispanic culture, history, and traditions. With over 330 members in California, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico, and other states, the GSHA has developed over the past 32 years into a nationally-recognized resource for people seeking information on the genealogy and historical context of their ancestors