

CATRON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MAYJUNE 2015

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**Events Photo Collage
on Page 4!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 31— Stephen Nash

August 8—Jerry/Don Thompson

September 12-Pie Town Pie Festival



September 19-Jimmie McPhaul

HOW TO RENEW, OR JOIN THE CCHS



Send a check or money order to:

CCHS, PO Box 263
Quemado NM 87829

Individual Membership \$20/year

Family Membership \$30/year

CCHS Business Membership \$50/year

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2015 CCHS OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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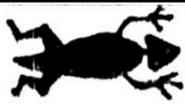
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*Barb Adams, Doris Clymo, Nettie
Carrejo, Bonnie Armstrong,
Wayne Ashby*



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to thank everyone who did a rain dance because it worked. We had over three inches of rain in the last couple of weeks. However, that same rain made our roads a muddy bog, and we stuck our truck on our way to Bob Roland's outing. It is green and the horses are happy. Our dirt tanks are running over and there are pools of water on all the ranch roads. I am not complaining for sure, just thankful.

CALENDARS—Ann Leonard and Wayne Ashby will be meeting with Tim Angelus at the school to finalize the CCHS calendars. These calendars will be available for sale at the Pie Town Pie Festival.

WEBSITE—We need to finalize the website. Karen Christensen has agreed to help us for no fee. Does anyone want to take on this project and meet with Karin?

ACCOUNTING—Helen now does our accounting on the computer and this is working. We will see how that helps with the budget.

MUSEUM—Ken Zimmer, our wonderful and talented volunteer, has not been able to work on the remodeling due to back surgery. Ken has an appointment shortly and maybe he can at least supervise installing new windows. Lisa Blessing and Mary Johnson picked out 40 of the Russell Lee photos to be framed and that list has been forwarded to Dia Art Foundation. Dia Art Foundation through Kathleen Shields has been extremely helpful and accommodating. Jim Bratten has installed a new lock on the front door and has installed a dead bolt between CCHS and the Lightning Field portion of our building.

OUTING MAY 2, 2015—Fuji Mountain! What a historical and interesting outing. Kelly Gatlin met everyone at the Eagle Guest Ranch and gave a talk about Mt. Fuji, the Morleys, and the Clevelands. His handouts added to the presentation. After the presentation we headed to the foot of Mt. Fuji for a leisurely climb to the top. On top was the plaque which had inscribed "Agnes Morley Cleveland 1874-1958 SHE LOVED THIS COUNTRY". The view was breathtaking. All the attendees made it to the top and took photos.

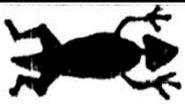
OUTING JUNE 6, 2015—Blum/Fischer Ranch. Usually we have the BBQ chefs Hannigan/Sanford, but they were unable to cook for CCHS. If it had not been for Becky and Jim Bratten, we would have called it off. But, as usual, our friends are always there when you need them, volunteered to cook all the ribs. They and the ribs were wonderful. Thank you to both of them for always being there for us. Our entertainer, Harold Keith, played the guitar and sang cowboy ballads. Since I did not introduce Harold, below is his bio.

OUTING JULY 10, 2015—BOB ROLAND'S RANCH. Since I was not able to attend—stuck in mud—Becky writes: "Thanks to Bob and Nelcine Roland for hosting today's CCHS event. Even though the weather started out rainy, the approximately 30 people who attended enjoyed the presentation by the archaeologists who were excavating Indian ruins. Sack lunches were eaten on the porch of the Rolands' cabin which has quite a history as explained by Bob. We also celebrated Bob's birthday with a cake provided by his wife, Nelcine. The view was spectacular and the day ended sunny. One note though: Sally and Gary got stuck on their road on the way out to 117 so they missed the event. I am sure there were many of you who decided not to even try to get out of your roads."

BIO FOR HAROLD KEITH

I was born on the DE Ranch three miles NE of Alma, NM a long time ago. It was the night that Joe Louis (The Brown Bomber) knocked out Jimmy Braddock and won the world heavy weight title. I started playing the Fiddle at fourteen years of age, had my own little country trio through high school. Played dances in Luna, Reserve, Aragon, Horse Springs, Silver City, Cliff, one at Pie Town, and here at Glenwood. At nineteen, I got married and quit playing, worked road construction, and also hired on with NMSHD engineers for another six years. I quit there to come back home to the ranch to help my aged aunt and uncle. I bought the ranch in 1969. I had also worked for the USFS, beginning in 1962, and also for the Screwworm Eradication Program in 1964 and 1965 when they determined that the 'worm' had been sufficiently eradicated in the southern states, California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas. Then went back to the USFS until 1990. I continued ranching from 1962 until '98 or '99 when my grazing permit was abruptly cancelled. I started trying to go back to my music, but too many post holes, eliminated playing the fiddle, so tried the guitar and I guess it sorta worked. I started to go to these events that

(Continued on page 3)



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 31 Stephen Nash will talk about the Martin Ruins (found in the Reserve area) at noon at the Quemado Senior Center.

August 8 Jerry Thompson (who is also known as Don Thompson). This program will be in conjunction with the QHS reunion. Jerry Thompson is a proud graduate of Pie Town Elementary School and Quemado High School. He received a BA from Western New Mexico University, a MA from the UNM, and a doctorate from Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, all in history. He has authored or edited twenty-four books on the Civil War on the southwestern borderlands. A former president of the Texas State Historical Association, Thompson has received a number of prestigious awards from the NM Historical Society, the Arizona Historical Association, the Texas State Historical Association, and he has twice won the prestigious best non-fiction book award from the Texas Institute of Letters. At the present, Thompson is Regents Professor of History at Texas A&M International University at Laredo where he has taught for the past forty-seven years. His presentation is entitled, "Not Without Honor: The New Mexico Volunteers and Militia in the Civil War." Specifically, Thompson will address the recent discoveries he made at the National Archives and the NM State Archives and Record Center while doing research for his recently published book on Civil War New Mexico from the University of New Mexico Press.

The alumni are planning a dance at our museum Saturday evening from 8-11 PM. Randy Unruh and his band will perform.

September 12 Pie Town Festival. The CCHS will be there with our table

September 19 Speaker Jimmie McPhaul. 3:30 at Pie Town Community Center



(Continued from page 2)



they called Cowboy Poetry & Music Gatherin's and got addicted. I played with some local friends and one night, one asked me to play *Mexican Joe* on his fiddle. They liked it, so rigged up my old fiddle and taken it to our next jam session, (the knots that I'd tied the strings together didn't hold) so I bought some new ones and installed them on my fiddle that I got. This being August of 2010. Fifty-three years (1957- 2010) those fiddles had slept without being bothered. October of 2010, I attended the NMOTFA Contest in T or C, done okay with what I'd played, but the tunes that I'd put on the entry form wouldn't come into my head, so played everything I could think of, trying to remember. It didn't happen, but I had so much fun doing it. That same weekend they booked me to play two dances the next month and what a thrill that was. The next year, I was nominated, and inducted into the NMOTF Hall of Fame. I won first place in my age group that year and also the next two years. I do quite a bit of traveling to events and have a great time doing them. ◆◆◆

BUSINESS SPONSOR: WEBMASTER, KARIN CHRISTENSEN

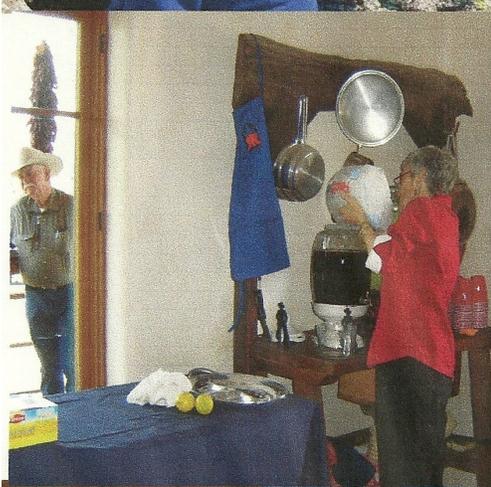
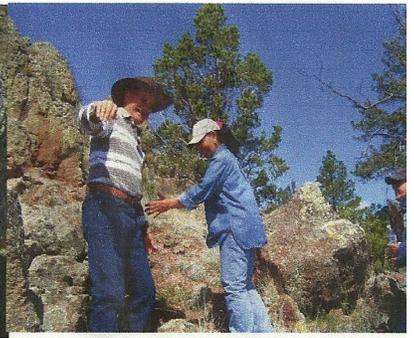
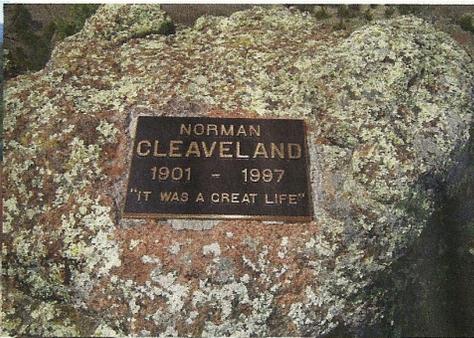
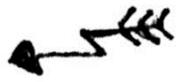
Enjoying the wide open spaces of life in Catron County often represents a challenge those who are interested in local events and news goings-on in the area. Outside of posting signs on random fence posts how can one spread the word of a great estate sale next week, a community parade on the Fourth of July, or an important meeting regarding situations that may impact our tranquil life style? Just when is the annual Pie Town festival or the Catron County Fair?

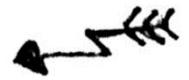
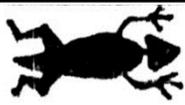
While called datilnewmexico.com, the website fills that need for the entire northern area of Catron County, from Quemado and Pie Town even reaching out to Magdalena. The goal is to keep the site positive with a small-town flavor. Notices of events, local business resources, and classifieds are always free. Residents are welcome to submit photos and articles pertaining to the area. Notices of new businesses and non-profit groups are very welcome. The last two mastheads have been photos submitted by residents. Yours could be featured as the next one. Just send it in.

The site is steadily growing with regular visitors including a surprising number from outside of the area. Folks may be thinking of making a weekend day trip down Highway 60 so may include plans to attend a local event that they read about on the website. The hope is that this exposure will benefit local businesses, craft fairs, rodeos or other fund-raising events. There may be those who may have once lived here and just want to be reminded of days in the quiet countryside. Your articles and photos will contribute to their enjoyment. This is your website, Catron County. Its success depends on your participation. Use it and have fun!

karin@datilnewmexico.com







BOOK REVIEWS

The Lost World of the Old Ones: Discoveries in the Ancient Southwest by David Roberts—
Reviewed by Laura Brush

David Roberts has been seriously entranced by the land and history of the Southwest for decades. He hikes the backcountry looking for signs of the Old Ones—the Anasazi or, as they are often called now, the Ancestral Puebloans, as well as the Fremont to the north, the Mogollon to the south into Mexico, and the Hohokam to the west. As a journalist, he has interviewed the experts in this field of archeology and has perhaps as solid a grasp as any non-professional of the theories of who the Old Ones were, how they lived, and what happened to them. He has focused on Utah, but has explored the rest of the Four Corners states and Mexico in his quest for ruins, artifacts, rock art, and understanding. This book follows his 1996 book, *In Search of the Old Ones*, and updates some of the discoveries and the theories that have been presented in the last twenty years.

For 5,000 years, the Old Ones lived in the Southwest, developing an advanced culture that would be matched in the area only relatively recently—cities with thousands of inhabitants in five-story buildings, trade routes that extended for thousands of miles over wide, straight roads, astronomical observations including the lunar standstill, and more. Then, suddenly, about 1300 AD, all record of the Anasazi disappeared. The others hung on for a while after, but by the time of Coronado's arrival in 1540 there was no living trace of any of the Old Ones. Why and where they went remain unknown, or at least contested. Today's Puebloans, who may be their descendants and who have felt betrayed in the past after answering archeologists' questions, aren't talking. One theory discussed at length involves the Chaco Meridian, and the thought that the center of the culture shifted from Chaco Canyon north to Aztec (both in New Mexico) and then south to Paquime (in Chihuahua)—all three sites located on the 107° 57' west meridian.

The book is well written and certainly well researched. It contains many photographs (both color and black and white), map, bibliography, and index. A worthwhile addition to the Southwest history shelf. ◆◆◆



BIBO CABIN RUINS: A PRELIMINARY SUMMARY 2015

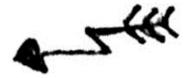
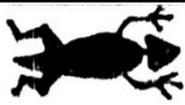
The first formal excavation at the Bibo Cabin Ruins occurred in 1962 and was reported by Bob Forrester in 1963 as part of his agreement with the Kow-ina Cultural Research Foundation. Forrester excavated two rooms in Room Block 3 and areas in the East Midden associated with Room Block 5. Forrester obtained the New Mexico Laboratory of Anthropology Site Numbers 6918 and 6919 for those two excavations. The current excavations began in the summer of 2010 and are ongoing. Testing of rooms, middens and plaza areas to determine age of occupation, ceramics present, architecture and features within rooms have been the objectives.

The complex contains eight room blocks and other features that stretch 200 yards east to west about half way up the southern slope of a small mesa that is part of the larger Cebolleta Mesa region. The flat at the base of the mesa would have provided an excellent area for fields.

A surface collection was performed prior to the beginning of excavation to help determine initial testing. To date three rooms in Roomblock 3, one in Roomblock 4, two in Roomblock 5, and one plus in Roomblock 6 have been excavated. In addition testing has occurred in the East and West Middens, and the plaza area east of Roomblock 5.

The architecture present at Bibo Cabin Ruins, which is consistent with Pueblo construction, consists of outer walls with a single row of various size sandstone blocks, some very large (ca 50" x 30"), and chosen with one or more straight sides. These stones, many irregularly-shaped, were set in mortar, semi-coursed to uncoursed, with thin stones also set in abundant mortar used as chinking. Interior walls usually do not have the very large stones but have smaller uncoursed, unshaped cobble stone with voids filled in the same manner as the outer walls. Adobe and chinking is also used as filler if the large stone is not wide enough to be flush with the wall surface. Some interior walls are covered with an additional veneer of small stones and adobe. Adobe plaster (without the stones and flat interior surface) has also been present on some walls. An in-place wall from room 5.1 added to the standing wall suggests a room height of ca 84" or 7 foot. Later room additions are present but the unit blocks do not appear to have grown

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TREASURER'S REPORT

Previous Balance March 1, 2015 \$11,164.49
 Expenses..... \$2813.99
 (\$2000 Dia building, \$390.19 computer and labor on same, electricity hookup, membership in state historical society, postage and labels, lunch for DIA agent)
 Income.....190.00
 Balance March 31, 2015 \$8540.50
 (Checks still out so actual balance \$8302.04

Previous Balance April 1, 2015 \$8450.50
 Expenses..... \$250.79
 (Web site and cartridges, electricity, electronic aid at Christmas party)
 Income \$1260.
 (\$340 memberships, \$550 silent auction, \$10 DVD, \$20 donation)
 Ending balance: \$9549.71



(Continued from page 5)

significantly, suggesting a relatively short period of occupation. Roof entries are suggested by the absence of wall passages and the presence of hatch covers in 3 of the rooms. One possible side door entry exists in room 6: 1

Of the seven rooms excavated, five had slab-walled hearths one of which was a double hearth (evidence suggests one was an ash dump). Hearth orientations are: two were parallel to the room sidewall, one was angled, and two utilized the sidewall as one side of the hearth. Two, possibly three interior bins, are present. One of these which is clay-lined is beneath a floor with a partial flagstone covering in room 4: 1. Two roof bins, and two roof hearths were identified in the room fill of rooms 5: 1, 5:2, and 3:3. Room 5:2 had burned with four vessels in the roof fall and a dipper and bowl lying on the floor. In a niche in the sidewall adjacent to the bin in room 5:2, a cache of 10 almost identical side-notched arrow points were recovered. Presumably they had been stored in a pouch although careful excavation revealed no remains. One of the most interesting features was located in room 3:5. A mysterious thermal feature of vitrified sandstone was located in a shallow depression on the room floor. Later excavation revealed an accumulation of prepared clay that appeared to be a collapsed green-ware olla in a separate depression. It is possible the thermal feature may have been used as a small drying hearth for the green-ware vessel. CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE...

CATRON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION STATEMENT

The Catron County Historical Society was founded in January of 2008 and is an organization whose mission is to preserve, present, educate, and inform...by increasing the knowledge of Catron County history through outings, programs, oral history interviews, and a compilation of books pertaining to Catron County. We have recently become a non-profit corporation, and are in the process of locating a museum and visitor center, continuing with an oral history library and the book library, and constructing a website.

The future of the CCHS is in the members and volunteers who help to preserve the history of Catron County. } } }