

History in our own Backyard



Dr. Charles Nicholas Saenz: Implications of 1779 battle between Cuerno Verde and Juan Bautista de Anza

Description: "In 1779, Spanish Governor of New Mexico Juan Bautista de Anza and Comanche leader Cuerno Verde were two of the central participants in a fateful encounter between Spaniards, Comanches, Pueblos, Utes, and Jicarilla Apaches near the site of modern Pueblo. How did they find themselves there and why does their struggle matter for genealogists today? This talk will take a long view towards appreciating the significance of their encounter for what it may yield to genealogists active today."

Bio: "Dr. Charles Nicholas Saenz is Asst. Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor of History at Adams State University in Alamosa, Colorado. He is the co-editor of *The Geology, Ecology, and Human History of the San Luis Valley* (University Press of Colorado, 2020). Dr. Saenz has advised History Colorado on the *Borderlands of Southern Colorado* initiative and contributed to programming for Colorado Public Radio and Rocky Mountain PBS."



ANGEL VIGIL: Descriptions: *Stories from the Homeland, Cuentos de Aztlan.*

Angel Vigil is Retired Chairman of the Fine and Performing Arts Department and Director of Drama at Colorado Academy in Denver. He is an award-winning author, performer, stage director and teacher.

His awards include the Heritage Artist Award and the Master Artist Award from the Colorado Council on the Arts. He has also received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Education and the Mayor's Individual Artist Fellowship Award. He also was awarded the Colorado State Theatre Educator of the Year Award.

Angel is the author of six award-winning books on Hispanic and Western culture and arts. His book, *The Corn Woman, and Other Stories* and *Legends from the Hispanic Southwest* won the prestigious New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age National Award. His book *Una Linda Raza, Cultural and Artistic Traditions of the Hispanic Southwest* won the Border Library Association Southwest Book of the Year Award and the Colorado Book of the Year Special Recognition Award.

Angel is a Colorado Heritage Artist storyteller who has performed throughout the nation at festivals, universities, schools and art centers. He has been featured storyteller at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee, Keepers of the Word festival at Amherst College, the Rocky Mountain Storytelling Festival, the International Reading Association, the National Independent School Library Association, the Four Corners Storytelling Festival, the Mesa Storytelling Festival, and the Nebraska Storytelling Festival. His specialty is the oral traditions of the Hispanic Southwest.

Angel is also a member of the Colorado Endowment for the Humanities Chautauqua program for his historical presentation. Angel has created five historical characters: El Vaquero, America's First Cowboy, El Conquistador, The Explorer of New Worlds, Tezcatlipoca, The Supreme God of the Aztec Emperors, Manuel de Lisa, Northwest Trapper and Explorer and Mariano Medina, Colorado Pioneer.



Greg Liverman: What's New in Genetic Genealogy by Greg Liverman

Audience Level: Some familiarity with DNA testing and analysis of the reports for genealogy is assumed. It is best if you have tested with at least one company.

Prerequisites

It is helpful to have tested with at least one DNA testing company (Ancestry, 23andMe, FamilyTreeDNA or MyHeritage)

Duration

Approx. 1 hours, including Q & A – timing can be adjusted

Presentation Description and Outline

This lecture reviews the latest developments in DNA testing for genealogy from the major testing companies, new tools offered by independent developers, and the latest science on using DNA test results to solve genealogical problems. The latest developments in ancestry (ethnicity) reports are also covered. The exact contents of this lecture change over time as the science, technology and methodologies evolve. The lecture will start with a brief refresher on what we can learn from DNA testing, the types of tests, types of reports and surprises that can happen.

Facility Requirements

- LCD projector or similar device
- Screen or projection surface

Bio

Greg Liverman, Ph.D., began tracing his family history in the 1990's with an old Macintosh computer and a copy of Family Tree Maker. At that time, family and career pursuits did not leave much time for genealogy work. He was finally able to return to charting his family history in 2009. Greg quickly realized that he could bring to bear all the analytical and problem-solving skills he had developed in over forty years of working as a journalist, scientist and business manager.

Greg became adept at using online resources for both domestic and foreign research. He has researched his family history "on the ground" in libraries, cemeteries and records offices in seven states, with more on the list to visit. He has experience in using various techniques, based on the careful application of reason and logic, to successfully break down "brick walls".

Greg and his wife Wendy added genetic genealogy or DNA testing to their brick wall demolition toolkit in 2013 and have immersed themselves in the details of DNA tests and evaluation methods. They have answered several questions about their family history using DNA evidence. Greg launched Pinewood Genealogy to help people with their genealogy research and genetic genealogy analysis.



Phyllis Miranda

"Genealogy Basics in 30 Minutes".

“A quick overview to help attendees get started with their family history research, including how and where to find ancestors using popular genealogy websites, tips on organization, types of genealogical records, and as much as we can fit into 30 minutes!”

Bio

Phyllis Miranda's involvement in genealogy began in 1981, when she was in the USAF, stationed in Okinawa, Japan. A class was offered through the USO and one day, having nothing planned, she attended the class and was instantly hooked. Her father was a great help to her in beginning her genealogy research. He drew up a family tree with all the names and dates he could remember from both his family and her mother's family. With that chart as a jumping off point, she has been able to trace her family back to the 1750's in northern New Mexico and mid-1800's in southeastern Colorado. She is a retired elementary school teacher and librarian. In past years she has served as Secretary, Member-at-Large and President of the Fray Angelico Chavez Chapter of GSHA. She currently teaches Family Tree Maker classes to the FACC members.



Virginia Sanchez:

Virginia Sánchez will present, "Enslavement in Colorado's Southern Counties." She will discuss the 1865 enslavement censuses prepared by Conejos Indian Agent Lafayette Head and her additional research on enslavement. Her chapter, "Survival of Captivity," appears in the book, *Nación Genízara: Ethnogenesis: Place, and Identity in New Mexico* (University of NM Press 2019).

Bio

Virginia Sánchez is a historian and author living in Denver and has deep roots in northern New Mexico. After earning a bachelor's degree, she worked in telecommunications for twenty years. Meanwhile, she earned a master's degree in Technical Communication from the University of Colorado at Denver (1988). Always interested in southwestern U.S. history, she left to conduct historical research and loves what she is doing. The *New Mexico Historical Review* published three of her scholarly articles, two of which were coauthored with University of New Mexico professors, (2018 and 2022). She has written two books: *Pleas and Petitions: Hispano Culture and Legislative Conflict in Territorial Colorado* (University of Colorado Press 2020), and *Forgotten Cuchareños of the Lower Valley* (History Press 2010). Awards she has received include: a Fellowship from the Hulbert Center for Southwest Studies (Colorado College,

2022); the Jane Sánchez Research Grant from the Historical Society of New Mexico (2022); the Gilberto Espinosa Prize for best article published in the *New Mexico Historical Review* (2019); and the Miles History Award from the Colorado Historical Society (2010). She is a member of the Western History Association, Historical Society of New Mexico, and Colorado Historical Society, several county historical societies, and several genealogical societies. She is currently researching the historical acequias and chapels in La Cebolla Valley of Mora County, New Mexico.



Charlene Garcia Simms

Charlene will present, “There are Seven Days a Week and SOMEDAY Isn’t One of Them.” She will talk about how to organize your genealogy “Stuff” today, not someday, so one day your children don’t have to decide what stays and what goes and they don’t have to toss precious “Stuff” out like an old shoe.

Charlene Garcia Simms is a librarian, genealogist and archivist. She is a published author from Garcia, Colorado, a graduate of Adams State University, CSU-Pueblo-Hasaan School of Business and Arizona State University. She owns El Escritorio Publishing and Research. She and her late husband, Ed, coordinated 17 Hispanic art shows at the Colorado State Fair and in 2022 she was the honorary parade marshal for the Colorado State Fair Fiesta Day Parade. She has belonged to GSHA since 1988 and is a founding member of FACC, serving several local and national board positions and was the Nuestras Raices newsletter editor for ten years. She retired as the Special Collections librarian at Pueblo Rawlings Library and is currently the project archivist at CSU-Pueblo. Her greatest pride is her three children, Kris (Carla), Stephen (Aneda), Lisa and her two very interesting grandsons, Jacob and Lucas. On occasion, she subs in the Aurora School District and fears Kindergartners.