

# AYER Y HOY en TAOS

Yesterday and Today in Taos County and Northern New Mexico

Summer 2023

Issue #54

## San Geronimo Fiestas "A Harvest Celebration"



by Rick Romancito

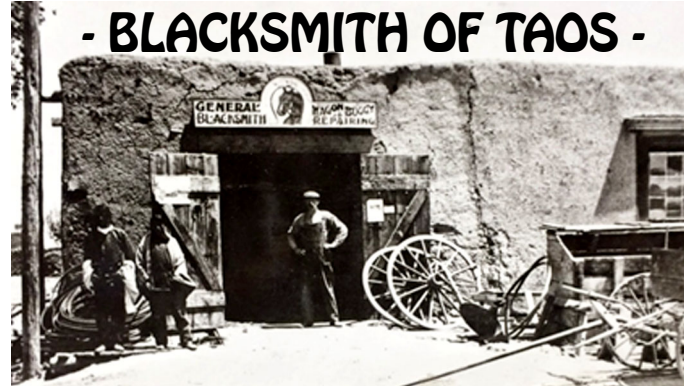
## SANTA ANNA "MODEL OF VIRTUE"



## SANTIAGO "FISHERMAN TO WARRIOR"

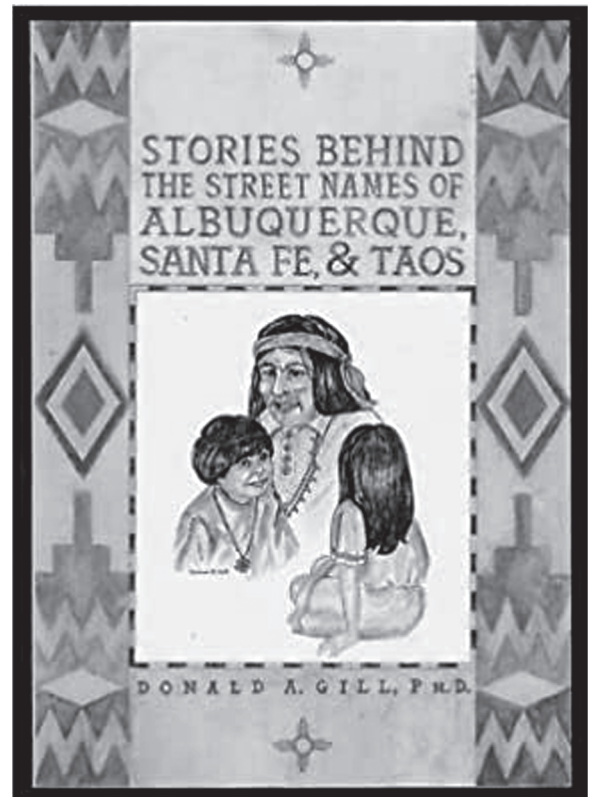
by Dr. Larry Torres  
(Courtesy of The Taos News)

## WILLIAM THOMAS "BILL" HINDE - BLACKSMITH OF TAOS -



by Gene Cook Hall

## The Street Names of Taos



by Dave Cordova

A publication of the Taos County Historical Society

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and Northern New Mexico

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Issue No. 54

ISSN 1088-5285

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Taos County Historical Society's publication, Ayer y Hoy en Taos - Taos County and Northern New Mexico, is published semi-annually by the Historical Society.

We invite articles of a scholarly nature, as well as book reviews of recent publications pertinent to the Taos and northern New Mexico area. We are open to publishing occasional reminiscences, folklore, oral history and poetry that are of historical interest.

The Taos County Historical Society endeavors to maintain high standards of quality in AYER Y HOY, and we seek to make improvements as we go along. Readers' comments and suggestions are welcome.

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AYER Y HOY is distributed to all members of the Taos County Historical Society as a benefit of membership.

### Editor

Dave Cordova

The Taos County Historical Society is a New Mexico non-profit organization dedicated to the study and preservation of the historical resources of Taos County and Northern New Mexico. Membership is open to any interested person, regardless of residence.

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P.O. Box 2447 • Taos, New Mexico 87571

## A Message from the TCHS President Ernestina Cordova

Greetings TCHS Members,

The Taos County Historical Society (TCHS) started the new year on a positive note with the annual meeting in February featuring Mrs. Carmen Lieurance with her presentation on growing up in Taos. The March presentation featured "Harwood Museum of Art Centennial" presented by Juniper Leherissey; and the April meeting featured a presentation from Rick Hendrix, Historic Society of New Mexico (HSNM), on the Witches of Abiquiu. So, far these presentations have been incredibly successful with the attendance and it is rewarding to how much interest there is in learning about the history of Taos. The goal for the TCHS is to open the opportunity for people who didn't know how much our organization is involved in preserving the past events that have been forgotten. Historic preservation is an important way for us to transmit our understanding of the past to future generations.

The renovation of the Old Court House is currently in process and an elevator will be installed on the West Alley. The THCS received a grant to archive the Corina Santistevan files and the Library and Archival committee is working on this project.

The next series of lectures are scheduled and on May 7, 2023, an Honoree Luncheon is schedule at the Sagebrush the Lecture will feature Larry Torres with a Presentation on "Santiago and Santa Ann: Two Obscure Saints in Catholic Tradition." The Fiesta de Taos Council will be honored at the luncheon. Tickets are currently available for purchase. On June 3, 2023 the presentation will be on the "Victorio Peak: 100 Tons of Gold or 100 Tall Tales" - Jim Eckles, Historic Society of New Mexico.

So far, 2023 has had successful lectures with record attendance at the gatherings. This has been encouraging for TCHS to see the interest of preserving history and the support for the future of our organization. I wish to thank all our committees and our board members for their work and dedication in supporting the TCHS mission of preserving history of Taos County.

*Enjoy your summer!*

Sincerely,

Ernestina Cordova, President  
Taos County Historical Society





# SAN GERONIMO FIESTAS

## “A Harvest Celebration”

by Rick Romancito

**Note:** While Native religion at Taos to this day is considered a private and restricted set of beliefs, this article will only refer to it within the context of its role in the interactions with the colonial people and their descendants in the larger Taos Valley communities.

### San Geronimo Feast Day

Other than the interruption of the COVID-19 pandemic, which began in 2020, the annual San Geronimo Feast Day at Taos Pueblo has attracted visitors from Native tribes throughout the region, along with non-Natives, to the September 30 event in the village plaza. The day usually begins with footraces conducted by young men of the village, after which spectators participate in a traditional “throw” in which candy, foods and gifts are showered upon the racers.

Afterward, arts and crafts vendors and concessions open their tables for visitors to peruse. Many of the participating artists are award-winning creatives who sell high quality jewelry, pottery, paintings, drums, shawls, and other Native accoutrements. Food vendors sell breakfast burritos, hamburgers, “Navajo tacos,” snow cones and other carnival-type fare.

Shortly after mid-day, the sacred clowns make their appearance by shouting from atop Hlauuma (North House). Afterward, they come down and playfully harass visitors and tribal members. Those who they see as being disrespectful may even be chased down and thrown into the Rio Pueblo, a small river that bisects the village.

Eventually, they begin to gather around a tall pole erected in the village plaza. Long ropes are attached to the top of the pole where various food gifts have been placed. One-by-one, each of the clowns makes an attempt to climb to the top of the pole using the ropes. To the crowd gathered below, this is highly suspenseful. When one eventually is successful, he lowers down each of the gifts. Then, the day is concluded.

### Origins

The first Catholic Franciscan priest, Fray Francisco de Zamora, was assigned to Taos Pueblo in 1598, shortly after the conquistador Juan de Oñate established the initial Spanish colony north of where the city of Española is located today, according to nps.gov. “In 1627, Fray Benavides reported that the church was under construction, but with difficulty due to the non-cooperation of the Taos Indians,” the park service states. “In 1647, the tribe sent the Inquisition in Mexico an official complaint of the immorality of the priest assigned to pueblo. In 1640, Fray Miranda and several other Spaniards were killed by the Indians at Taos, the church was destroyed, and the people left the pueblo. They returned under the persuasion of Governor Lopez de Mendizabal around 1660 and reluctantly accepted another priest.”

After that, the church was eventually rebuilt, but its progress was slowed somewhat because the Taos Pueblo people — whose Native religion remained strong — developed a growing discontentment. This divide was made worse as tribute



continued to be collected and traditional religious practices were suppressed.

Still, as has been done throughout New Mexico, a patron saint was assigned to the Catholic mission churches. At Taos Pueblo, this was St. Jerome, or San Geronimo in Spanish, whose feast day coincided with two important events at the Pueblo. The first was the annual agricultural harvest, the second had to do with specific events related to the tribe’s Native religion. Over time, it also occurred during a self-styled rendezvous that happened here in which frontiersmen, mountain men, traders and even slavers would trade goods in the village.

### Fiesta was once shared in town

People today only know of San Geronimo as happening on September 30, but in 1950 community members in the town of Taos decided to bring it to the town plaza as well.

A Thursday September 28, 1950 front page story in *El Crepusculo*, precursor to the Taos News, touted the event. “Thousands of county people, Indians from the Rio Grande pueblos and from as far as the Navaho (sp) country, and hundreds of out of state visitors, began arriving in Taos early this morning to witness one of the most colorful harvest festivals in the United States.”

The article described the schedule of activities as featuring parades, dances, entertainment, a fair and music all day long and into the night.

Jack Denver, “president of the fiesta corporation,” said scores of Indians from Taos Pueblo “will participate in the big parade” and will be seen doing the “eagle, hoop, shield and horse-tail dances as they move through the streets.”

“The climax of the Fiesta will be Saturday when the Indians entertain at their great pueblo with foot races in the morning and with the pole climbing in the afternoon,” the article states.

This event in town was, however, short-lived. It eventually reverted back to the Pueblo. One elder we spoke to said it was just as well. “It was kind of a tourist thing for the people in town anyway,” he said.

# WILLIAM THOMAS “BILL” HINDE - BLACKSMITH OF TAOS

## by Gene Cook Hall

Mary Margaret (Hinde) Hall, Editor • Sara Louise (Brink) Glaser, Proofreader

*“Dad was a bobby in London and he met a guy named Manby in a pub. Manby said that Taos was the next big place where everybody would be going and there was going to be lots of opportunity.”*

Thomas George Hinde, 1987

That is the beginning of the family story about how William Thomas and Mary Elizabeth [Steer] Hinde decided to bring their family to Taos, a completely foreign culture from the villages of England where they were born.

### Early Life

William Thomas Hinde was born June 17, 1873, in Kempston, Bedfordshire, England, the first child of Thomas Woodhams Hinde and Mary Doughty. He was christened at the Sharnbrook Church in Bedfordshire on 27 Jul 1873. As a young boy, his family moved to nearby Turvey. He attended school in Turvey and completed the 8th grade.

### Introduction To Blacksmithing

William’s introduction to blacksmithing must have come early as his father was a blacksmith. Being the oldest child in the family, William likely began his apprenticeship earlier than other apprentices under the formal guild system. It was a busy life attending to his chores in the shop and going to school. William’s early tasks would have been menial and almost nothing to do with blacksmithing such as sweeping the shop, cleaning, putting tools away and fetching fuel for the forge. As early as 1891 William was listed in the census as a blacksmith.

### Marriage

On April 3, 1899, William married Mary Elizabeth Steer at the church in Riseley, Bedfordshire, England. Mary Elizabeth was born December 10, 1872, in Riseley, the sixth child of John Frederick Steer and Elizabeth Tabron. William’s occupation was listed on the marriage certificate as “Engineer.”



William and Mary Elizabeth moved to Pimlico, England (now part of London) sometime after the 1901 census and the birth of their first child, Doris Mary Elizabeth on October 5th, 1904. William was listed as a “Farrier” on Doris’ birth record.

### Decision to Move to Taos - Meeting Manby

William met a man named Arthur Rochford Manby in England. According to the family story told by Thomas George Hinde in a 1987 interview, “He [Manby] wrote to dad. Dad was a blacksmith in, uh, close to London. He wrote to dad and told him there was a great opportunity here, for him to come and be a blacksmith.” Another version comes from Doris Mary Elizabeth Hinde Brink who was interviewed by Frank Waters in 1967. Doris’ told Waters that her father was a “policeman in a town near London” and that he met Arthur Rochford Manby’s brother Eardley. Perhaps both are true versions of the same story.

According to the family story, Manby was excited about Taos and its potential, “Everybody is going to be moving there.”

William Hinde was impressed. According to the family story, “Mom and dad made the somewhat shocking decision to move from London directly to Taos.”

Regardless of the exact circumstances, their apartment in Pimlico, London was listed for rent just after Christmas in 1906. “Unfurnished, 2 parlours and ante room, to quiet, respectable people; occupier’s house. —16 Aylesford at 86w”

### The Trip to Taos

After a traditional Good Friday breakfast of hot cross buns for luck, William’s parents took them across the newly opened Vauxhall Bridge to the Vauxhall Station just across the Thames from their vacated apartment. It must have been an emotional moment for William’s parents as they said goodbye to their eldest son, his wife and their only grandchild and sent them into a long and potentially dangerous journey to Taos.

On Saturday, March 30, 1907, William, Mary, and two-and-a-half-year-old Doris Hinde boarded the S. S. New York in Southampton bound for New York.

The trip to Taos took about two weeks and about 5,600 miles including...

- 5 miles by wagon from Fulham to the Vauxhall Station
- 70 miles by train from Vauxhall to Southampton
- 3,081 miles by ship from Southampton to Ellis Island, NY
- 2,410 miles by train from New York to Servilleta, NM
- 33 miles by stagecoach from Servilleta to Taos

Bill and Mary arrived in Taos on John Dunn’s stage about noon on April 13th, 1907. When they got to Taos Plaza, “there was almost nothing there, just the pueblo and a few people in town.”

### Life in Taos

Ten days after arriving in Taos, on April 23, “George A Vandever and his wife Gracie Vandever” deeded a house and land to William Hinde for a consideration of \$100. The property was 23 feet from East to West and 39 1/2 feet north to south with a three-room house bounded on the east by Avelina Trujillo, on the west by the Society of the Guadalupanos, on the north by the heirs of Juan Duran, and on the south by a public street. The exact location



is not known at this time. This property was sold September 7, 1908, to Ernest Holdoway. William and Mary's second child, a son named William Frederick, was born on May 20th just five weeks after they arrived in Taos. He must have been born in the small house — not very much time to establish a household and get ready for a new baby.

About six months after arriving in Taos, on October 8, 1907, William bought the property at 125 Paseo del Pueblo Norte from Edith Stanley Manby, wife of Arthur Rochford Manby. A. R. Manby witnessed the signature. "Well, the house I was born in was a one-story building, adobe, flat roof naturally. And we had a dining room, two bedrooms — five rooms total. Of course the bathroom out back. We had a wood stove. The washing machine was a hand-operated deal. Other than that, we didn't have any appliances." The Hinde family lived in this property next to Doc Martin until about 1925. The Taos Society of Artists was organized next door at Doc Martin's house in 1915.

William was an unusual character in Taos and drew attention pretty quickly. In 1908 he was photographed in front of the local newspaper, *La Revista*, in a car. Hinde is the driver in this picture and the passenger is Ansel Hart, a chauffeur from Santa Fe. Nothing else has been found to connect Hart to the



Hinde family other than this picture published in "Taos" by Lyn Bleiler.

### 1910 Mary Returns to England

Mary Hinde's mother died in March of 1910 and her father a few months later. These deaths may have prompted Mary to return later in 1910 to take care of family business.

### Growing Family

The Hinde family was growing in Taos. Their youngest child, Thomas George was born in 1912. This photo shows the entire family about 1915 in Taos.



Back L to R: William Thomas Hinde, Thomas George Hinde, Mary Elizabeth Hinde; Front L to R: William Frederick Hinde, Doris Mary Elizabeth Hinde.

By 1923 the house at 125 Paseo del Pueblo Norte was beginning to feel too small. Doris was 19 years old and young Bill and Tom, ages 16 and 11 respectively, were typical little brothers. Hinde had saved enough money to begin the process of building a new, larger home for his family. On April 2, 1923, Colonial Bond and Security Company deeded the property now known as 146 Paseo del Pueblo Norte to Mary Hinde. Signing for Colonial was A. R. Manby, President and W. T. Hinde, Secretary.

The entire Hinde family in front of the new house at 146 Paseo del Pueblo Norte about 1925.

### Association with Arthur Rochford Manby In Taos

According to Thomas George Hinde in 1987, "There was this ole boy named Manby. He lived about a block from us [in Taos]. He came from England and he had grandiose ideas, developing the land and becoming a land baron."



William Thomas, William Frederick Thomas George, Mary Elizabeth, Doris Mary Elizabeth

William reportedly met Manby in London and continued a friendly relationship in Taos. He served as an officer and director of Colonial Bond and Security Company which was led by Manby. There are also real estate transactions between Hinde and Manby.

William was interviewed about Manby by a reporter from the *Kansas City Star* a few months after Manby's murder, "whatever 'e did or was, 'e was kind to me. I feel I owe 'im a debt of loyalty."

### Association with Local Artists

The Hinde family knew these artists and their house was filled with small touches from their friends and neighbors such as paintings, rugs, and furniture. The house looked like a museum when I took our children to meet "Aunt Doris" in 1983, a very livable, relaxed museum.

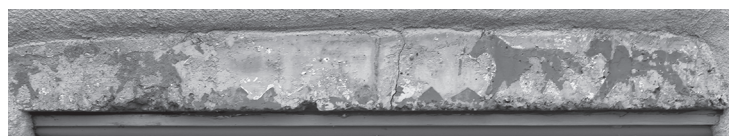
Bert Phillips lived just across Martyrs Lane from the Hinde house and Ila McAfee lived two doors down. William and Mary's granddaughter, Eleanor Brink, took painting lessons from Bert Phillips.

Nicolai Fechin partnered with Hinde for the iron work in the Fechin House.

Bill Hinde's iron hinges, latches and door pulls on a piece of furniture carved by Fechin. In June 1928, Elmer Turner and his wife Ila McAfee purchased a lot in Hinde's Addition, just two doors down from Bill and Mary's home, and built a house there. McAfee was well known for her paintings of horses and native Americans.



In 2018, Ila's love of horses could still be seen around the windows and doors of the house located at 112 Civic Plaza Road



Bill and Mary's son, Tom, asked Ila to autograph his copy of her 1948 book, "Indians, Horses, Hills, Et Cetera" and she signed, "For Tom and Mary Evelyn — longtime friends. Love and all good wishes always — Ila McAfee."

William served on the Executive Committee of the Taos Game and Fish Protective Association with Buck Dunton, noted cowboy artist and founding member of the Taos Society of Artists.

### Keepsakes

Besides some of the iron work that survives in Taos, Bill Hinde left other keepsakes behind. George Thomas remembered, "Somebody owed dad money for blacksmith work and offered to pay with some cedar logs that he had. So dad told me, 'Go out to so-in-so's house and pick up the logs and bring them back to the shop.' So I did. It was summer about 1928 or so. I unloaded them out back by the shop. Then dad told me to take the saw and start ripping them longways into boards. It was a hand saw and a lot of work, but I finally finished. He made two cedar chests."



Hinde must have learned from Fechin when they worked together between 1928 and 1933. Hinde crafted this sideboard in about 1932. "This was in the dining room in front of the bay window," recalled

Mary Margaret Hinde in 2022. Sara Glaser owns this piece, "My understanding is that Fechin taught him to do the wood carving, but the iron hinges and handles were, of course, my great grandpa's specialty."

This metal weathervane was made by William Thomas Hinde. Note the human leg and foot, a reminder of his sharp English wit. Marshall William Brink, its current owner said of his grandfather, "He was strong and kind and soft-spoken."



### Social Events

The Hinde family managed to keep busy in small-town Taos.

Mary attended a party on in September 1920 at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Souther.

William and Mary camped in the mountains near Taos in early July 1932 with friends Dr. and Mrs. Howe of Las Vegas, NM, "A bear which it is now believed can uncork a bottle of conversation-water without a corkscrew, has been discovered in the mountains near here. [The bear] took a pot of stew off the fire, set it to one side, ate up the mulligan and went off. Later he returned and ate everything he could find in camp, incidentally opening a can of beans without the aid of a can-opener and devouring the contents." In August 1933, Mary Elizabeth attended a bridge party at Mrs. Roy Cook's house in Taos where she "received low scores" and Mrs. Jennie Liebert received high scores.

### Community Service

William Hinde became a member of the Executive Committee of the Taos Game and Fish Protective Association in December 1916 for service in 1917.

On March 10, 1934, William participated in a large local political event in Taos where, "A crowd filled the armory to name a ticket known as the Citizens' Ticket." The slate was selected to appear on the April 3rd ballot.

William participated in another political event in October 1934. The local Republican convention which was scheduled for the county headquarters was moved to the armory in order to accommodate a large turnout of 800 people. Hinde was nominated and ran a successful campaign to be elected to the board of County Commissioners on November 6, 1934 and was re-elected in 1936. He was also elected director of the Taos Chamber of Commerce in October.

Six months before Pearl harbor, in July 1941, William was appointed to the Selective Service Board.

William was Past Master of Bent Lodge No. 42 - Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons for the years, 1919 and 1922.

### Holidays

The Hinde children enjoyed American style holidays with some English traditions thrown into the mix. Tom Hinde recalled growing up in Taos and the holidays there...

On Thanksgiving, "We had several friends come in. Mom would cook the turkey and all. Everybody would eat. Us kids, we'd probably slip off and go hiking or something like that while the rest of them sat around and snored."

On Christmas, the kids' stockings were filled with, "popcorn balls, nuts, candy. That's about it." The tree was decorated, "We didn't have lights, at first there, well we never did have electricity that I can remember then. So we had candles and we decorated with popcorn, icicles, all that stuff. After we opened our presents and everything, we'd probably go ice skating."

"At Christmas, there was a plum pudding and in the plum pudding there were different things put in there like rings and things all around the cake. And then when the cake was cut, if you got one of these deals, then this meant something."

On the fourth of July in Taos, "No, we didn't have very many firecrackers or sparklers, but usually we'd celebrate the fourth. We'd go up someplace, go fishin', have picnics. The kids would fish and the old folks would sit around the fire there and cook hotdogs and whatever. Then we'd bring the fish in [to cook]."

The kids played games with friends in Taos, "Oh we played a lot of games; cars, hide and seek, duck on rock. Oh, I don't know...all those types of games."

### Citizenship

On May 4, 1908, William Hinde filed his declaration of Intention to become a citizen of the United States through the District Court of the First District for Taos County. At the court session on February 27, 1913, Judge Thomas D. Leib, filed an order admitting Hinde to be a citizen of the United States.





## Real Estate

William and Mary were active in the Taos real estate market from their arrival in April 1907 and for the rest of their lives. They were involved in these properties at various times...

- 1907 First home located East of Society of the Guadalupanos purchased from George Vandever
- 1907 Second home located at 125 Paseo del Pueblo Norte purchased from Edith Stanley Manby
- 1908 Llano del Rio Chiquito purchased from the heirs of Vidul grunele
- 1911 Cañon Road farmland purchased from A. Manby
- 1917 Half interest in Taos Valley Flour Mills from Alex Anderson
- 1923 146 Paseo del Pueblo Norte from Colonial Bond and Security Company, A. R. Manby, President and W. T. Hinde, Secretary
- 1927 Hinde Addition to Taos obtained through a quiet title suit settled in Taos County District Court case

## Return Visit to Turvey

In 1929, William and Mary returned to England to visit William's aging father. It had been 22 years since they said their tearful goodbyes at the Vauxhall station in London.

## Death in Taos

On March 22, 1948, William Thomas Hinde, Blacksmith of Taos, died.

By any measure, William and Mary lived full lives punctuated by a few key accomplishments...

Traveled 5,600 miles to establish a family in Taos, raised and educated three children who led productive lives, organized and developed 42 lots in Hinde Addition to Taos, assisted Nicolai Fechin in establishing a truly artistic home that continues to amaze and inspire

William was a two-time Past Master Bent Lodge 42 AF & AM, William had been described in various ways...

"Colorful, Recognized craftsman in wrought iron, the most likable man in Taos, a gentleman, First Blacksmith in Taos (even though he wasn't first), strong, soft-spoken, kind, disarming frankness."

Mary lived as a widow for another eight years in Taos, except for the time she lived with her daughter Doris in Trona, California. Both William and Mary are buried at Sierra Vista Cemetery in Taos.



Mary Elizabeth in about 1950 at 146 Paseo del Pueblo Norte

Note Bill's iron work behind her.



# FREEMASONRY IN TAOS

by Dave Cordova

When I first entered Bent Lodge in Taos, I was instantly awed by photos of Past Masters, a who's-who of civic and business leaders who, as members of the oldest Fraternity, very well represented Freemasonry.

The history of Bent Lodge, named for New Mexico's first territorial governor, begins over 160 years ago, when Masons in Taos petitioned the Grand Lodge of Missouri for a Charter to establish a Masonic Lodge, and named it after Governor Charles Bent, a Taos merchant and common-law husband of Ignacia Jaramillo.

Several Freemasons, then living in Taos, sought to establish a Masonic Lodge. Those included Ceran St. Vrain, Ferdinand Maxwell, Peter Joseph, A.J. Ferris and, of course, Christopher "Kit" Carson. Bent Lodge #204 was active for about three years, going dark in 1863 due to the Civil War.

Bent Lodge remained dark until 1909 when Bent Lodge was re-constituted under the jurisdiction of New Mexico. In September of 1909, the Grand Lodge of New Mexico granted the Charter, and Bent Lodge 42 was established with Isaac Wesley Dwire, its first Master, Thomas "Doc" Martin, its first Senior Warden and Gerson Gusdorf, its first Junior Warden.

Along with the petition in 1909, was proposal of the Taos Masons to purchase an option on Brother Kit Carson house for the Grand Lodge of New Mexico, as the Taos Mason had yet to establish an organization. The purchase was made from Mr. & Mrs. Dolan, owners of the property. The Taos Masons toiled, raised monies and turned the abandoned house into a respectable place. When the Taos Masons went to the Grand Lodge for money to make the property usable, asking for a mere \$600 to patch and paint the walls to make it ready for occupancy, Grand Lodge denied the Taos Masons the money, and thus transferred the deed over to Bent Lodge and arranged for a \$600 loan, secured by a lien on the property in 1916. The Taos Masons made good on the loan and completed the payment in 1923.

Most of the historic names of Past Masters are immediately recognizable. Business men, Dwire, Gusdorf, Randall, Brooks, Oakley, Albright, Burch, Valentine, Berrenberg, Howell, Hughes, Smedly and Himes. Doctors Martin, Muller, Oskins, Benson and Wagner. Teachers Lyckman, Hyde and Thayer. Building trade professionals Randall, Hinde, Lund, Bond, Smith, Burling, Lucko, Noble and McIntosh. Pharmacists Mickleson and Jagers. Photographers Sackett and Cordova. Attorneys Cheetham and Martinez and others whose professions have been lost to time. There were many other Masons, who did not pursue offices in the Lodge, but never the less were very active and contributed greatly to Masonry in Taos. Recent members include a policeman, a judge, an engineer and a realtor.

Taos Masons have done much to aid in the well-being and stability of their community, providing a much needed fund raising vehicle for organizations such as Taos Feeds Taos, Boys and Girls Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Catholic Daughters, School groups, and a healthy scholarship program for Taos County graduates.

# SAINT ANNE - "SANTA ANNA MODEL OF VIRTUE"

by Dr. Larry Torres (Courtesy of The Taos News)

Once again this month, as since time immemorial, the good people of Taos will be celebrating the Feast of St. Anne and St. James. The annual event, popularly referred to as "The Taos Fiestas," invites the local population to put aside their labor for two days and bask in the leisure of the holy days.

St. Anne, who was chosen from the beginning of time to be the mother of The Virgin Mary and therefore the grandmother of the Messiah, was born to wealthy parents. This is known to us through the writings left behind by mystics such as Venerable Catherine Emmerich, St. Bridget of Sweden, Venerable Maria de Agreda of Spain and St. Elizabeth of Schoenau. According to St. Bridget, who was in constant spiritual communication with The Virgin Mary, she was told: "It is a truth that I was conceived without Original Sin and not in sin. A golden hour was my conception. My Son joined my father (Joachim) and my mother (Anne) in a marriage of such chastity that a purer union has never been seen. Sensuality was extinguished in them. Thus my flesh was formed through divined charity."

St. Bridget has revealed that among the Hebrew nation chosen by God to keep his law there were some who fastidiously observed greater order. Anne's family would give a third of their yearly income to the temple, a third to charity and live off the last third. Even then, their flocks and holdings continued to multiply at their beautiful country estate in Sephoris, near Nazareth.

Just before Anne's mother died, she told her of a revelation which said that Anne was a special vessel and that she should pray for a worthy husband. At the same time, there lived in another part of Nazareth a pious middle-aged bachelor who was seeking divine help in choosing a wife. The Angel Gabriel, who alone of all the angels knew her destiny, appeared to Anne and said: "The Lord give thee His blessing, servant of God! Continue to pray for the coming of the Redeemer and rejoice in the Lord. It is His will that thou accept Joachim as thy husband."

Gabriel then went to Joachim and said, "Blessed be thou by the Lord, Joachim! Persevere in the practice of justice and perfection. The Lord wants thee to take Anne as thy wife. Take care of her and esteem her, for she is dear to Him, and give thanks to God." The next day Joachim went to Anne's father to ask permission to marry her. Anne was 24 at the time and Joachim was 42.

Twenty years went by and although they were a venerable couple, they remained childless. In those days to be without child was thought to be a curse since the couple was not contributing toward the birth of the promised Messiah. When Joachim went to offer sacrifice at the temple, he was rebuked by the high priest who said: "Why do you come here, Joachim? Your offerings are not acceptable to the Lord!" Face burning in shame, Joachim withdrew to the slopes of Mount Hermon where the family flocks were kept.

Back at home Anne wept in double misery; not only was she still childless at the age of 44, but also the gossip around town was that her husband

had abandoned her. She lay prostrate in her room praying and weeping when Gabriel once again came to her at God's bidding.

He declared: "Anne, servant of God. The Lord has heard thy petitions. If

He delays their fulfillment, it is in order to prepare thee and to give thee much more than thou askest. The Most High has resolved to give thee and Joachim holy and wonderful fruit, for those who pray to Him in humble confidence are most agreeable to Him. Now He sends me to give thee joyful news: He chooses thee to be the mother of her who is to give birth to the Redeemer of mankind! Thou shalt bring forth a daughter and she shall be called Mary. She shall be blessed among women and filled with the Holy Ghost. I have announced to Joachim that he shall have a holy daughter, but he does not know that she is to be the Mother of

the Messiah. Therefore guard this secret. And now go to the temple to give thanks to the Lord, and thou shalt meet Joachim at the Golden Gate [of Jerusalem]."

That night Anne dreamed that an angel had written the name "Mary" in golden letters upon her bedroom wall. She pondered the mystery until the coming of dawn had erased the letters. The Angel Gabriel was busy that night visiting Joachim also. He revealed to him only that he was to have a daughter and that she would be consecrated to the service of the temple. He bid Joachim to go meet Anne at the Golden Gate.

Anne arose early the next morning and walked radiantly to the temple. She offered a solemn sacrifice of thanks. She then walked to the Golden Gate accompanied by some pious women, among whom was Anna the Prophetess. Anna was destined to instruct Mary at the temple until she came of age.

In another part of the temple Joachim was also preparing to offer sacrifice. By the grace of God his gift was accepted by the temple priests who were moved to do so by an angel. The priests then led Joachim to The Holy Place, where he fell on the floor in ecstasy. When he recovered, he led the way to the Golden Gate where Anne was waiting for him. They embraced in tender emotion and revealed to each other the message of the angel. Suddenly the heavens opened and The Most Holy Trinity looked down upon them with love and joy.

Later, Joachim and Anne left Jerusalem and returned to Nazareth, where they gave a big feast for the poor and distributed alms abundantly. Anne sat quietly at home and waited for the day when she would give birth to the girl who would be known as The Immaculate Conception.

The second day of The Taos Fiestas is always dedicated to St. Anne. On this day women were wont to ride in horse-drawn carriages. Mothers and older sisters hold tightly to the hands of the children and everybody marvels at the mystery of St. Anne, who is the perfect example of motherhood.





# SAINT JAMES - “SANTIAGO - FROM FISHERMAN TO WARRIOR”

by Dr. Larry Torres (Courtesy of The Taos News)

Santiago de Compostela is a name that falls rather anachronistically on the modern ear. Santiago is, after all, merely a contraction of Saint Yago, the Spanish words for St. James. And as to the word Compostela itself, many linguists have tried to equate it with Campus Estellae, or “Field of Stars,” from the splendor that shone up from the grave of St. James when it was discovered. It is more likely that the word Compostela came from the Latin word *compostum* meaning cemetery and, oddly enough, forerunner of the modern English word “compost” for decaying matter. Spanish people in Northern New Mexico call their own cemeteries *camposantos* — holy fields. Whatever the mystery in the name Santiago de Compostela, it is still a term that means much to the people of Taos at this time of year.

The original Spanish colonists established their first church of San Jerónimo at Taos Pueblo. Padre Martínez then changed the seat of ecclesiastical power to Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe in Taos proper. But the festival that honors Santiago and Santa Anna seems to transcend both of these historical facts. The Taos Fiestas honor the two saints annually. The first day is dedicated to Santiago, who is the patron saint of Spain. On that day, men used to ride on horseback through the plaza in their finest livery, “encatrinados” as they were called in their fancy attire.

One wonders just how the son of simple fisher-folk might feel knowing that he was going to inspire the religious unification of Europe throughout the Middle Ages and, later, to have a festival named after him in a land yet to be discovered.

James and his brother, John, were mending their nets one day on the shores of Lake Genesaret. They were the sons of lowly Zebedee. They were called by Jesus of Nazareth to be fishers of men. As Jesus got to know their personalities better with the passing of time, he gave them an additional name. That name was “Boanerges,” which means “sons of thunder” in Greek. The gospels speak of how James raised the dead daughter of Jairus to life in the name of Jesus. The Acts of the Apostles also says that he was the first of the apostles to undergo a martyr’s death for his faith. The story is that he was executed by King Herodes Agrippa I circa 44 A.D.

Popular tradition holds that James had preached in northwestern Spain when the area was still known as Galicia. It was to this area

that the body of the Apostle of Spain was returned by two of the nine converts he had made in the area, Theodorus and Athanasius.

The faithful followers of St. James asked permission to entomb the body from Queen Lupa, known as the “She Wolf” (La Loba). This may have derived from the early writings of the founding of Rome in which Romulus and Remus were nursed by a she-wolf and caused the country to prosper. Whatever the case, Queen Lupa eventually converted after she had made the lives of the disciples miserable. St. James was buried in her palace and later, the Cathedral of Compostela was built on the same foundation.

In the year 711 Moorish invaders crossed from North Africa to Spain and dominated the country until 1492. A hero was needed to inspire people to action against the enemies of the faith. A rumor was spread that during the Battle of Clavijo of 834, when Ramiro I of Leon defeated Abdurrahman II, a vision had been seen in the sky above the battle. An armed horseman on a white charger was seen trampling his enemies. Thus, a humble fisherman became a fearsome warrior. The cry of “Santiago Matamoros! (St. James Slayer of Moors!) was to echo in Spain for centuries.

According to the Codex Calixtinus a chapter in the Liber Sancti Jacobi, the first person known to make a pilgrimage to the tomb was French Bishop Gottskalk of Le Puy. By the 1100s though, a virtual sea of pilgrims adorned with scallop shells on their cloaks, were traipsing down from as far as Sweden. St. Bridget herself is known to have made the pilgrimage, as did St. Francis of Assisi.

The exact spot of the tomb of the martyr was lost for over 800 years. A hermit named Pelagius had a vision of the site of the burial place. The site uncovered was aglow with light.

The bishop of Iria Flavia declared the bones to be “the authentic relics of St. James.” Again, the tomb was lost for a thousand years and rediscovered in the late 1800s.

It is important to recall the story of Santiago on occasion for much was sacrificed that we might have some joyful days of rest in the shade.



# THE STREET NAMES OF TAOS

by Dave Cordova

A book written by Dr. Donald A. Dill, PhD, about 30 years ago, is the subject of this article. The book, "Stories Behind The Street Names Of Albuquerque, Santa Fe & Taos" had resided on my bookshelf for about that long, when a question about a street name cast a renewed interest in this book. Although out of print, the book gave life to the street names in the three cities, of which, I focus on the streets of Taos.

When visitors come into Taos, they must enter by one of the four Cardinal directions. From Santa Fe, entry is made on Paseo del Pueblo Sur, which was once known as South Santa Fe Hi-way or Road. From the north, entry is made on Paseo del Pueblo Norte, which was known as North Pueblo Road. From the east, entry is made on Kit Carson Road, once known as Canon Road or by the newer Paseo del Canon. From the West, entry is made from Ranchitos Road. These roads are the main arteries, with which all streets connect, and thus begins our journey.

Street names are most times just a description of the origin or destination of the road, whether matter of fact or fanciful. Originally, South Santa Fe Hi-way was the road to Santa Fe. North Pueblo Road was the road to Taos Pueblo. Since the road was the same, the name was changed to Paseo del Pueblo, designating Norte for north and Sur for south. Growing up, I knew that going east from the Plaza was on Raton Road, later changed to Kit Carson Road, which would eventually get you to Raton through Taos Canyon. The western approach was from Ranchitos Road, which is, in itself, State Road 240, but also has a lower and upper connection into the Town.

## NORTH:

From Taos Plaza north, is Bent Street, named for the first appointed Governor of New Mexico, Charles Bent. Charles Bent, who along with partner Ceran St. Vrain, established a mercantile on Taos Plaza and was the common-law husband of Ignacia Jaramillo Luna, a widow with a young daughter. They lived on this street, and was the place of the Governor's murder.

The next street is Martyrs Lane. There are two differing stories concerning the name. One, honoring Governor Bent, Sheriff Lee, the young Narcisso Beaubien and Pablo Jaramillo and others who were slain in the Taos Revolt of 1847. The second is for the lane where the surviving rebels, sentenced to hang at the trial, met their end.

Next is Civic Plaza Drive, as it is now known, but which was once known as Armory Street where the Taos National Guard had its armory.

From Civic Plaza Drive, there is a street named for Thomas William Hinde, with connections to Lund Avenue/Road. Lund Avenue is probably named for Fletcher Lund, and connects to Guyora Lane, named for Guy and Ora Lund who built a subdivision there. Lund Avenue also connects to Leatherman Lane, named for a family of that name.

North on the east side of Paseo del Pueblo Norte is Montano Lane, named after a family of that name. Then comes Brooks Street, named for Frank Brooks who had a slaughterhouse at the end of that street.

Further north is the entrance to the Taos Pueblo lands, with Paseo continuing north as it veers left, where it come to the north end of Camino de la Placita which goes west and then south behind the Taos Plaza to end up connecting to Ranchitos Road and Paseo del Pueblo Sur.

## SOUTH:

From Taos Plaza south, there's the cross-streets of Camino de la Placita on the west and Quesnel Road going east to meet Kit Carson Road. Quesnel more than likely is named for a family.

Further south is another cross-street, Siler to the west, named for the Siler family, and Los Pandos Road to the east. Los Pandos appears to have been named for the open flat lands to the mountains to the east.

Another cross street intersection has Tewa Stree to the west and Albright to the east. Tewa Street was named by Elish Randall in the Randall Subdivision and connects to several other streets that bear names of Native American Tribes of New Mexico. Albright Road is named for the family of Paul Albright, who was also the builder of a subdivision that would later connect to the Weimer subdivision further east.

Major streets further south is La Posta Road going west to meet up with Ranchitos Road, and possibly named for a long-forgotten Post in the area. Next comes Cruz Alta Road going east and named for the northern-most boundary of the La Serna Land Grant marked by a wooden cross.

Further south are Herdner Road, named for the Herdner Family, Camino de la Merced, named the Road of Mercy, but for unknown reason. Both Herdner Road and Camino de la Merced head west. Heading east, Camino de Santiago was named by Wallace Chatwin, who with partner Rod Thomas established the Wally Rod Subdivision.

## EAST:

From Taos Plaza east there are a few minor lanes and roads, beginning with Dragoon Lane, lies between the Kit Carson Cemetery and Kit Carson Road and is named in honor of the Dragoon soldiers who died fighting Mexicans and Indians near Taos. The First Dragoons were led by Zachary Taylor and Brigadier General Stephen Watts Kearney.

Further east is Morada Road, named after the Penitente Morada, dedicated to St. Francis. The road winds its way to the famous Mabel Dodge Luhan house.

The road veers right and drops into the valley. On the east side of the road are Roberts Lane, DeTeves Lane and DeTeves Place. One would assume that Roberts Lane would be named



for a family who lived on this street, the origin is unknown. DeTeves Lane and DeTeves Place are named for Pedro Jose DeTeves, contemporary of Kit Carson, Lucien Maxwell and Ceran St. Vrain, who was a charter member of the original Bent Lodge and also owned a saloon and mercantile on the Plaza. Pedro Jose DeTeves is more popularly known as Peter Joseph. Joseph Street is also named for the man.

On the west side of the road are Montoya Street, Burch Street, Liebert Street and Dolan Street. Montoya Street honors a prominent family by that name, Burch is named for a prominent merchant on Taos Plaza, Liebert Street is named for Aloys Liebert, original owner of the Liebert Hotel on the Plaza which later became the Columbia Hotel on the current spot of the La Fonda Hotel, and Dolan Street is named for Peter Dolan, successful grocer and owner of Kit Carson's house when it was sold to the Masons of Bent Lodge in 1909.

#### WEST:

West from Taos Plaza after Camino de la Placita is Padre Lane, named after Padre Martinez, who was the spiritual leader of Taos and lived on this street.

Following Ranchitos Road westerly, next comes the cross streets of Mananarez Street to the north and Salazar Road to the south. Both streets were named for their respective families. Salazar Road is a major artery that parallels Paseo del Pueblo Sur.

Further west are three streets that bear the family names of prominent Taosenos named Santistevan Lane, Peralta Road and Jeantete Road. These three names may resonate with you as the names of three of the recent mayors of Taos, but named for the mayor ancestors.

At the western most end of the Town limits are the cross streets of Carabajal Road and La Posta Road. Carabajal named for a prominent family, and La Posta is the other end of the road that winds its way from Paseo del Pueblo Sur.

Besides the names of the larger arteries, there are many names that evoke many memories of the by-gone days of Taos. Names such as:

Dea Lane and Alexander Lane, named for Melvin Weimer's children.

Duane Street named for Duane Van Vechten Lineberry, wife of Edwin Lineberry and Armour Meat Packing heiress who went on to build Mariposa Supermarket and Kachina Lodge.

Gusdorf Road parallels Paseo del Pueblo Sur on the east side. Named for Alex Gusdorf, successful merchant and flour mill owner.

Millicent Rogers Road is aptly named for the Standard Oil heiress who made her home on Ranchitos Road, but the street that bears her name is to the north, leading to the Millicent Rogers Museum.

Murray Lane off of Salazar Road is named after Curly Murray, who had a house on the street at the turn of the 20th century.

Curly Murray was horse jockey who, when he became overweight, turned to bootlegging whiskey and gambling.

Simpson Street, is named for Captain Smith H. Simpson who arrived in Taos during the Civil War. It was Captain Simpson, Kit Carson, Ceran St. Vrain who went into the forest and brought back a tall tree, tacked the American Flag at the top and raised on Taos Plaza. It became the flag that, by an act of Congress, may fly 24/7 without a light or being put up and taken down daily.

Juan Largo Lane, named for Long John Dunn. Jaramillo Lane named for the Jaramillo Family, whose daughters Ignacia married Governor Bent and Maria Josefa married Kit Carson.

There is Karavas Road, named for the prominent Greek family of John Karavas. Mabel Dodge Lane, named for the copper mine heiress and socialite who married Tony Luhan.

Teresina Lane, named for the daughter of Charles Bent and Ignacia Jaramillo. Teresina married Aloysius Scheurich, who has a street named Scheurich Lane after him.

Property developers have given their names to our streets. Weimer Road, named for Melvin Weimer. Witt Road was named for the Witt family who were also merchants in Taos.

Artists have had streets named for them. Ribak Lane for Louis Ribak and Hunter-Young Road for John Hunter-Young.

Many Many streets are named for important historical events and figures. Calle Conquistador and its lesser streets, Camino Coronado, Camino Alvarado and Ledesma Lane are all located in the Cruz Alta Subdivision.

There are several streets named for nature and natural features in the valleys and mountains of Northern New Mexico. Off of Camino de la Serna names for precious and semi-precious metals. You will find Cobre Street, Plata Street and Oro Street. Scattered throughout the valley, there are several streets named for trees. You can find several alliterations of indigenous trees, shrubs and plants, such as: Juniper, Pine, Piñon, Willow, Aspen, Spruce and Poplar for trees. Sagebrush, Mimbres, Chamisa, Lilac, and Purple and Blue Sage. Flower names can also be the names of women, such Rosa, Rosita and Flor. Earth and landscape features are represented well. You will find Vegas De Taos Loop and Camino, Valverde, Sierra Vista, Buena Vista, Sunshine (for the lack of trees), Cordillera Road, Frontier Road, Hill Drive, La Loma Road, La Loma Road, Montecitos Lane, Ojitos Road Rio Chiquito.

Prominent families and persons are very well represented. Lets begin with Kit Carson Road, Bent Street, Padre Lane,

Memory Lane was the original suggested name for the street leading to the radio station, but settled for KKIT Lane.

I am sure that there are many more street names that would bear mentioning, because these streets all have a story related to their naming. Whether descriptive or honorary, these streets still evoke a certain mystic that will forever be remembered.

## Lectures, Field Trips & Special Events (Tentative Schedule)

June 3rd - 2 PM  
Victorio Peak: 100 Tons of Gold or 100 Tall Tales  
Tim Eccles (HSNM)  
July - Field Trip  
Santa Fe School for Advanced Research-Tour of Grounds  
El Delirio or Indian Arts Research Collection  
August 5th - 2 PM  
"The Dixon School Case - Zelles v. Huff"  
Dr. Kathleen Holscher - UNM  
September 2nd - 2 PM  
"D.H. Lawrence in Taos"  
Bill Haller, President of Friends of DH Lawrence  
October 7th - 2 PM  
"The Land Shapes The People"  
Eric Valencia, Manager-Rio Grande del Norte NM  
October 14th - Field Trip  
Tour of Fort Burgwin  
November 4th - 2 PM  
"Descansos"  
Peter Warzel, ED Historic Santa Fe Foundation  
December 3rd - Noon (Sagebrush Inn)  
- Christmas Luncheon & Silent Auction -  
"Pastores" by Theresa Cordova, PhD

TCHS Lectures  
First Saturday of the month at 2:00 PM

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The Taos County Historical Society was formed in 1952 for the purpose of "...preserving the history of the Taos area." This part of New Mexico has a fascinating history, full of people, events, stories and places. If you are interested, we invite your participation in our field trips or lecture programs, or by supporting the Society by becoming a member.

## BECOME A MEMBER

We invite your participation and support through an annual membership, which includes subscriptions to "*Ayer Y Hoy*" and our periodic newsletters. Other activities include recordings of oral histories, maintaining archive materials and participating in community events.

### Membership categories:

Individual ..... \$30  
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Taos County Historical Society  
PO Box 2447 i Taos, NM 87571