



# *Find Your Ancestors in New Mexico:*

The 62nd Anniversary New Mexico Genealogical Society Conference  
15 October 2022 — Hosted virtually from Albuquerque, NM

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**The 62nd Anniversary New Mexico Genealogical Society Conference**  
15 October 2022 — Hosted virtually from Albuquerque, NM

Register online at <https://nmgs.org/>

*Saturday, 15 October 2022*

- 9:30 a.m.** Opening Remarks
- 9:45 a.m.** **José Antonio Esquibel**  
*"And Then There Were 50: The 'Spanish' Settlers that Remained in New Mexico After 1609"*
- Although more than 240 soldiers and approximately 250 additional people came to New Mexico between 1598 and 1608 during the era of don Juan de Oñate's exploration and settlement, by 1609 only 50 soldiers remained, many with wives and children.
- Who were the settlers that elected to make New Mexico their home? What motivated them to stay in a region where they were far outnumbered by the indigenous population? Did they live isolated from the rest of the Spanish empire?
- 11:30 a.m.** **Joy Oria**  
*"Censuses from the Spanish Colonial Era"*
- Censuses were taken for nearly every location under Spanish rule, including parts of what are now the United States and Mexico. These censuses vary in purpose and content but can add to our knowledge of our ancestors. Learn more about these records and how to find them for your research areas.
- 1:00 p.m.** **Lunch**
- 1:30 p.m.** **Debbie Gurtler, AG**  
*"Finding Your Ancestor in la Madre Patria"*
- This presentation will highlight research resources that can help you to determine where your immigrant ancestor may have lived in Spain.
- 3:15 p.m.** **Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS**  
*"After the Fire: Reconstructing a U.S. WWI or WWII Service Record"*
- Many individuals who research World War I and II U.S. military ancestors encounter a significant roadblock, due to record loss from the 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC). Two case studies demonstrate strategies and alternative types of record collections that can help reconstruct a military service history despite a destroyed personnel file.
- 4:45 p.m.** Closing Remarks

## ***Additional Video-On-Demand Recordings***

Recordings of the lectures presented on 15 October 2022, as well as these additional lectures, will be available in the NMGS 2022 Virtual Conference portal through 15 November 2022.

### **Henrietta M. Christmas**

#### *“Los Bacas en Nuevo Mexico”*

The focus will be on the Baca Family of New Mexico who migrated from Mexico City to New Mexico during the Oñate Era in 1600. The large family which encompasses the Cabeza de Baca or C’de Baca lines, Colonial Women, Baca Soldiers and Land Grants will be reviewed.

#### *“A History of San Miguel County Through Genealogy”*

One of the largest counties in New Mexico was settled by many pioneers who came from other areas in the State. In 1794, San Miguel del Bado opened and the county’s history began. Land Grants, Soldiers, Communities encompass the early history and families who made that history. Migration in and out of the area will be discussed.

### **Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS**

#### *“Improving Your Research with the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS)”*

The GPS is the recognized standard for ensuring accurate research. This standard is not just for professionals. It is for any family historian who wants to make sure that the facts you have collected and conclusions you have reached are correct. Get started with the GPS following a case study that involves records spanning Mexico and the United States.

#### *“Making the Most of Academic Libraries for Genealogy Research”*

Academic libraries provide access to digital and physical collections that often go unnoticed by genealogists yet are invaluable for researching U.S. and international family history. This academic librarian and college instructor will walk you through key collections, demonstrate discovery tools that make finding those collections easier, and prepare you for a successful academic library visit.

#### *“Utilizing the HathiTrust Digital Library for Family History Research”*

This robust digital repository, underutilized by many genealogists, is packed with digitized publications from academic and research institutions that are relevant to your family history. This lecture walks you through HathiTrust’s discovery and access tools, showcases U.S. and international collections that are particularly relevant to genealogists, and demonstrates search strategies to help you find those valuable sources.

### **Debbie Gurtler, AG®**

#### *“Getting the Most out of FamilySearch.org”*

The FamilySearch.org is a site that strives to stay on the cutting edge of family history. As a result, the site changes often. This class will highlight some new features of the site and how to improve your search results.

### **Joy Oria**

#### *“Discovering Your Family History”*

Beginning the exploration of your family history is an exciting time that can lead to just as many questions as answers. Become equipped with effective research strategies and tools to piece together the parts of your family’s story. Examine sample records you may encounter in your genealogical research.

### **Diahan Southard**

#### *“Why the YDNA Test Should (Still) Be Your Favorite in 2022”*

YDNA can help anyone seeking to extend/verify/identify a paternal line! Learn about testing at Family Tree DNA; haplogroups; YDNA matching; and surname projects.

## *Biographies*

**Henrietta M. Christmas**, a well-known speaker has given hundreds of presentations on topics related to Hispanic/Southwestern research. Engagements include keynote, Santa Fe Trail Association, featured at annual conferences: Texas Genealogical Society, Historical Society of New Mexico, DAR and BIA International Conference. Frequent NMGS Lecturer and board member.

**José Antonio Esquibel** is a genealogical researcher, historian and author of articles and books related to New Mexico's Spanish colonial era history. He is co-author of *Juan Domínguez de Mendoza: Soldier and Frontiersman of the Spanish Southwest, 1627–1693* (UNM Press, 2012) with Marc Simmons, France V. Scholes and Eleanor B. Adams. In 2009, Juan Carlos II, King of Spain, admitted José Antonio to the knightly Orden de Isabel la Católica for his dedication to uncovering and preserving the history of Spain and Spanish heritage in New Mexico.

**Colleen Robledo Greene, MLIS**, is an academic librarian, college educator, and tech nerd who has been researching her family history since 1997. She is the Digital Literacy Librarian at California State University, and also teaches an online graduate-level genealogical research methods course for San Jose State University. Colleen is a nationally recognized speaker and educator specializing in methodology, Mexican & Hispanic research, libraries and archives, and technology. Her Mexican ancestors hail from San Luis Potosí, Chihuahua, Durango, Tamaulipas, California, New Mexico, and Texas.

**Debbie Gurtler, AG®** graduated with honors from Brigham Young University with a bachelor's degree in Family History. She worked as an intern at the New England Historic Genealogical Society. She has also made research trips to archives in Spain, Virginia, and North Carolina. She is employed by FamilySearch where she manages the Latin America/Southern European and German/Slavic teams at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. She is fluent in Spanish. She can also read genealogical documents in Portuguese, Italian, and French. She is a member of several genealogical societies including HISPAGEN and Antzinako in Spain, the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG), Texas Genealogical Society, New Mexico Genealogical Society, and the Utah Genealogical Association (UGA) in the United States. Debbie holds five AG® credentials. For Spain, the United States Mid-South region, Portugal, Chile, and Mexico.

**Joy Oria**, a Houston native, has been helping library customers discover their family history at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research since 2015. She has spoken nationally on Hispanic genealogical research and completed the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy course Advanced Hispanic Research in 2020.

**Diahan Southard** is a leading voice for consumer DNA testing from her position as Founder of Your DNA Guide. Diahan teaches internationally, consults with leading testing companies and forensics experts. Southard's company, Your DNA Guide (YourDNAGuide.com), deploys a team of scientists who provide one-on-one genetic genealogy education and research services. You will walk away enlightened and motivated as she has a passion for genetic genealogy, a genuine love for people, and a gift for making the technical understandable.