

GUAJALOTES, ZOPILOTES, Y PAISANOS

Newsletter of the Hillsboro Historical Society

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r. d. Brinkley

Chris Adams

May 15, 2009

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Minutes of Board meeting, May 5, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Harley at 6:30 PM. Those present were Paul, Patti, Matti, Patty Woodruff, Sonja, Harley, and Fred and Stretch Luna. The motion was made to accept February minutes by Paul and seconded by Patti.

Patty Woodruff gave the financial report. Sonja moved and Paul seconded that the report be accepted as distributed.

A letter from Jim Sullivan was read stating that he is not interested in owner financing of the courthouse property. Further discussion of strategies for purchasing the property was tabled until after the upcoming Music Festival, in order to have a better feel for fundraising potential.

A brief discussion followed about a possible party centered around the fire truck be held at the department. Sonja suggested doing an enchilada dinner that would serve to raise further money for HHS projects.

Patty reported on expenses and plans for the Music Festival. Paul moved and Matti seconded that funds be made available to pay for advertising.

Harley read Patty Woodruff's letter of resignation from the board. She emphasized that she wanted to continue serving the society but felt she could function better on specific committees.

Ike Wilton and Stretch Luna were elected to fill the two existing board positions.

Patty Woodruff will pursue organizing a home tour, perhaps in October.

Harley pointed out the need to have a board member serve as a liaison to the Geronimo Springs Museum.

Harley presented Craig Springer's idea of a photo book, to be sold to support HHS.

Matti, Patti, and Stretch agreed to serve on a cemetery committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

Speaking of the cemetery

The brief item in the minutes above noting the willingness of Matti, Patti, and Stretch to form a cemetery committee is actually an acknowledgement after the fact. These three have already done yeomen's work for sometime documenting and mapping the cemetery. Stretch and his father, Fred (now 90 years old) regularly clean gravesites in the cemetery and they post flags (provided by the local Masons) on graves of veterans on Veteran's Day. They have been working at mapping the cemetery for some time.

To see the results of the work of Matti and Patti, go to <http://www.findagrave.com/> on your web server. Click on locate a cemetery and once you have Hillsboro showing, click on interments. You'll find a list of 261 occupants of the Hillsboro cemetery, with some of the entrees displaying photographs of the individuals, photographs of monuments, and/or printed obituaries.



Comments by Fred R. "Stretch" Luna. May 25, 2009

In July and August, 1988, I mapped out the Masonic and Community Cemeteries in preparation of the Hillsboro School Reunion. At that time, there were 15 veterans in each of the cemeteries, totaling 30. In 1988-1991, I decorated the 30 graves four times yearly (July 4, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, Flag Day). I was living with Grandma Romie Byrd de Genaro Luna. As of May 2009, there are 24 in the Community and 13 in the Masonic Cemeteries. All have permanent holders for flags. Kingston Masonic Lodge in Hillsboro bought this last batch of flags. There are 15 new graves in the Masonic and 37 in the Community Cemetery since 1988. I have to update my two cemetery maps. In 1988, it took me a total of 103 hours. There is a total of 35 of the extended Chavez – Madrid – Luna clans in the two cemeteries. My dad, Fred C. Luna and I keep new flowers and flags on family graves year round.

The Cemetery Committee will be coordinating efforts that heretofore have been carried on separately. Anyone else in the community interested in helping can contact Matti, Patti, or Stretch.

As an example of information available, I've inserted the article about C. C. Crews from the Hillsboro Cemetery listing. It shows how much information is floating around cyberspace that relates to our isolated little town.

INCLUDEPICTURE

"http://www.findagrave.com/photos/2009/13/32919041_123195564498.jpg" *

MERGEFORMATINET

CHARLES COTILDA CREWS

Charles Cotilda Crews was born in 1830 in Harris County, Georgia, the son of Reuben and Elizabeth (Phillips) Crews. Brought up in Ellerslie, he studied law with his father but later switched to medicine, and in 1853 graduated from Castleton Medical College in Vermont. By 1860 he was a practicing physician in Cuthbert in Randolph County, Georgia.



Massachusetts Commandery, Military Order of the Loyal Legion and the U.S. Army Military History Institute

On January 10, 1861, nine days before Georgia seceded, Crews was appointed ensign of a local cavalry company. That October he was commissioned second lieutenant of Georgia cavalry. Crews enlisted in the Confederate army on March 4, 1862, at Cuthbert. On May 7, 1862, he was elected captain of Company C, 2nd Georgia Cavalry. The 2nd was attached to then Brigadier General Joseph Wheeler's cavalry corps of the Army of Tennessee. In the fall of 1862 Crews was captured during a raid into Kentucky. After being exchanged he was promoted to colonel of the 2nd on November 1, 1862. The "brave and faithful" Crews fought in all the battles of the Army of Tennessee. During Wheeler's January 3, 1863, attack on Dover, Tennessee, Crews was shot in the hip and severely wounded. Recovering, he led a brigade of Georgia cavalry regiments as senior colonel in the Chattanooga and east Tennessee campaigns of 1863. As early as December, 1863, his divisional commander urged that Crews be appointed brigadier general. During the Atlanta campaign Brigadier General Alfred Iverson was placed in command of the Georgia cavalry brigade; Crews reverted to regimental command. He particularly distinguished himself in the repulse of Stoneman's July, 1864, raid on Macon, Georgia, personally accepting the surrender of General Stoneman. By August Crews, "brave, intelligent, prompt, and always at his post," again took command of the brigade, now in Brigadier General William W. Allen's division. That month the division accompanied the bulk of Wheeler's corps on a raid against the supply lines of the Union army besieging Atlanta. The two-month raid through Georgia, Tennessee, and Alabama damaged Wheeler's cavalry more than it damaged the enemy. By early October the cavalry returned to Georgia to oppose Sherman's March to the Sea. The brigade fought in numerous skirmishes during Sherman's march and in the 1865 Carolinas campaign. On March 10, 1865, Crews was severely wounded in the Battle of Monroe's Crossroads, North Carolina. Crews was paroled as colonel on May 3, 1865.

After the war Crews returned to Georgia. In 1869 he was appointed general agent of the Bainbridge, Cuthbert & Columbus Railroad, and settled in Bainbridge. The company folded in 1872, and in 1874 Crews removed to Texas, stopping in Hill, Hamilton, and Bejar counties. In 1879 Crews settled in Hillsboro, New Mexico, a mining town in the arid mountains where the climate was better for his health. There he was a physician and part-owner of one of the local mines. Crews died in Hillsboro November 21, 1887 and is buried there.

CMH, Wood, Heitman, SHSP, and CV all list Crews as a general. CMH says he was promoted brigadier general before the April 26, 1865, surrender of the Army of Tennessee. However, the report of General Johnston, the army commander, dated April 24, 1865, terms him colonel, commanding brigade, as does General Wheeler's April 15 report, in which Crews is said to be "still disabled from wounds."

General (or Colonel) Crews was honored last year in a ceremony at the cemetery. His home in Hillsboro was the house now owned by Inga and Martin McCord, directly across from The General Store Café.

And a little more on the 1914 Flood

Hattie Given's account of the 1914 flood that appeared in the past newsletter reminded me of a paper I had stumbled across at the NMSU library a

couple years ago, while I was looking for something else. In 1946, Luna B. Leopold published an analysis of two major storm events in New Mexico. Hillsboro's 1914 flood was one of them; the other was a 1941 flood near Albuquerque. Below is the portion of the paper dealing with our area. When I stumbled across this paper, I was surprised to find Luna Leopold's name associated with Hillsboro and the Black Range. Luna's father was Aldo Leopold, for whom the Aldo Leopold Wilderness is named. Luna never attained the popular renown equal to his father's, but he was, in fact, a more accomplished scientist. He helped create the profession of modern stream hydrology and wrote a text on the subject that is still one of the best treatises on stream behavior. His shorter, popular treatment entitled *Waters, Rivers, and Creeks*, published in 1997 is a good resource for anyone who might want to understand the mechanics of streams and floods. For his foundational work in hydrology, Luna was elected to the America Academy of Science—an honor never accorded to his father. His analysis of the 1914 flood was published in the Transactions of the Geophysical Union in 1946. Although it is a technical paper, it reads easily. The following excerpt is from the section on the Hillsboro flood.

Storm of June 10, 1914, near Hillsboro, New Mexico--A storm of high intensity occurred the night of June 10, 1914, at the headwaters of Trujillo and Percha Arroyos near Hillsboro, New Mexico. Striking evidence of the flood was still plainly visible in 1939, 25 years after the storm. Logs of large walnut trees uprooted by the flow were left high above the normal channel and boulders a cubic yard in volume were rolled along grades of 1.0 to 1.2 per cent [Soil Conservation Service, 1939]. Amounts of rainfall at surrounding stations are shown on Figure 1 and Table 1.

Table 1--Rainfall, June 10, 1914

Station	Rainfall	Remarks
	in	
Hermosa	1.30	Between 20 ^h 00 ^m and 23 ^h 45 ^m MST
Lake Valley	1.05	Between 21 ^h 00 ^m and 23 ^h 30 ^m
Diamond Ranch	1.48	During night
Mimbres	1.65	During June 10
Pinos Altos	1.18	During night
Ft. Bayard	0.10	Between 18 ^h 30 ^m and 20 ^h 00 ^m
Fluorine	0.14	
Glorieta Ranch	0.02	

According to the Weather Bureau account "it is probable . . . that a much greater amount (than was measured by existing raingages) fell over the divide between Hillsboro and Mimbres at the headwater of the Rio Perches" [U.S. Weather Bureau 1914]. This is corroborated by field evidence of the flow in the normally dry washes. The flood in the Trujillo left high-water marks still visible in 1939, from which a peak-flow of 20,000 cfs from 22 square miles was estimated at Trujillo Park, 3-1/2 miles southwest of Hillsboro (point B in Figures 1 and 5). An equal flow was estimated downstream, just above the box in the Sibley Mountains (31 square miles, point C in Figures 1 and 5). Large logs jammed by this flow in the box canyon can be seen in Figure 2. Water abrasion to a height of seven feet can be noted on the upstream side of the walnut tree shown in Figure 3. Location of the photograph is shown by the letter A on Figure 1.

The watershed on which this flow developed is mountainous and the average gradient of the channel is three per cent. The soils in the upper watershed are brown to light brown and contain lime. The vegetation is piñon juniper association except for grassland in the valleys and Ponderosa pine association in the highest mountain areas.

The flood in the Rio Percha at the same time swept as a wall of water six feet deep through the town of Hillsboro, according to the Weather Bureau, and, owing to advance warning, only one life was lost [U.S. Weather Bureau, 1914]. Mr. NATIONS of Arrey told the writer that Mr. MURPHY'S body was found "hung in a tree near the box canyon some 50 feet out of the channel."

The available evidence allowed a rough estimate of the area of the storm. Approximately 600 sq. mi. received 1.5 inches or more, 1300 sq. mi. 1.0 inches or more. The center of the storm would have been 36 sq. mi. had it covered the watersheds of the upper Trujillo and Percha above the points where the peak discharges were estimated.

Only 24-hour (Northern Hemisphere) surface synoptic maps were available to study this storm. The local storm evidently was associated with flow of mT air from the south toward a weak wave developing in northern Colorado.

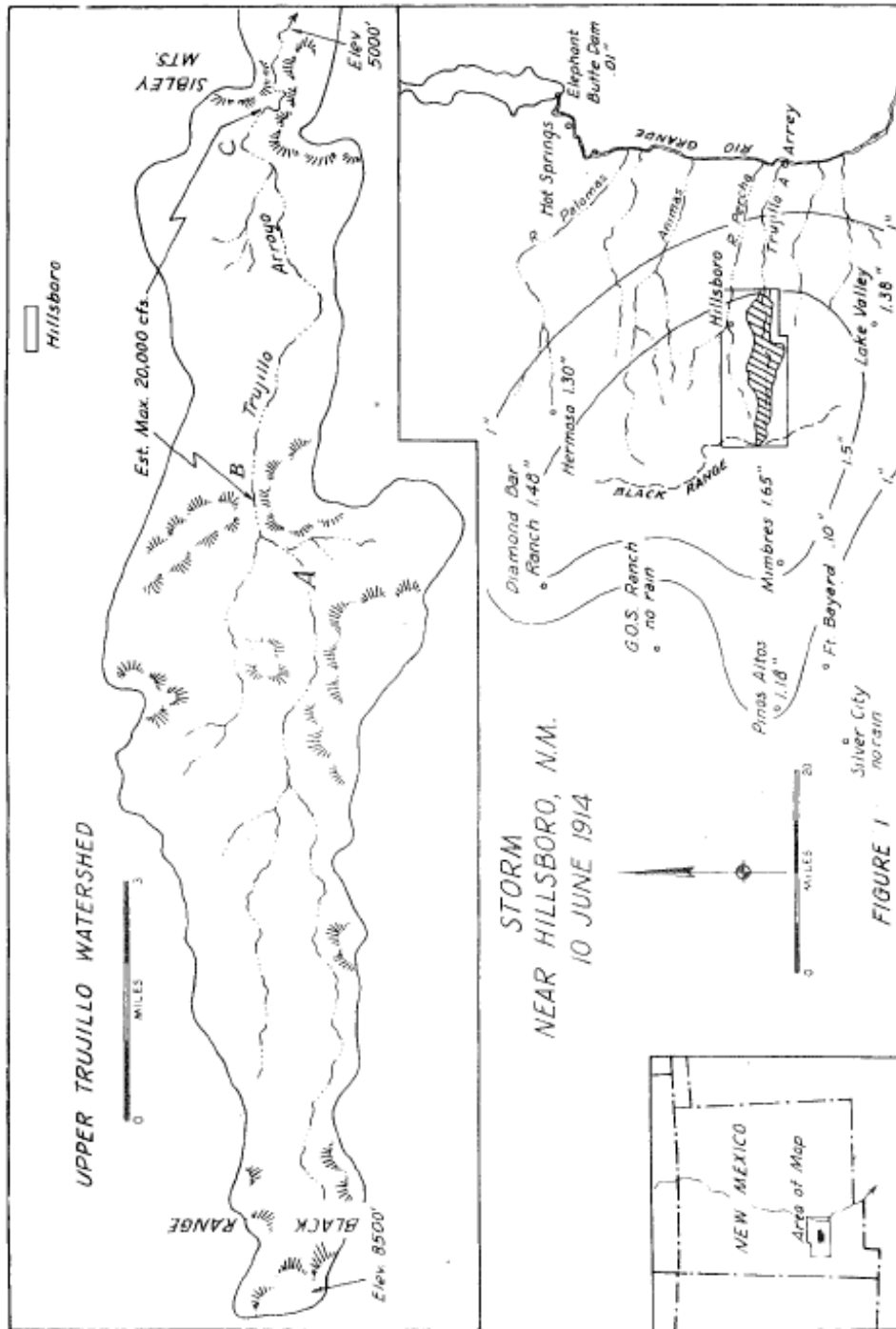




Fig. 2--Log jam caused by flood of June 1914 in Sibley Mt. box of Trujillo Arroyo, N. M.



Fig. 3--Water abrasion on walnut tree in wide channel of Trujillo Arroyo, N. M.

Hillsboro has suffered other storms, and people who endured the lethal 1972 flood still live here. I'm hoping someone who was there will write the story of that flood.

Heritage Music Festival Report

The Third Annual Heritage Music Festival was a delightful success. We netted approximately \$3100, including donations of over \$2400 from the silent auction as well as \$700 in direct donations from the bands.

It really does take a village...Contributors and Volunteers

Music: The bands!! Especially the Sabinal Sisters, Wayne and Kiki and Michelle who donated the fees.

Music support: Catherine Wanek, Music Empresario and Pete Fust, MC. And the Black Range Lodge for hosting the bands the Sunday music brunch. Mackie Redd and Kathy Reed who hosted Bill Barwick.

Hillsboro Community Center Board—especially Bob Shipley and Max Yeh.

Music Committee: Catherine Wanek, Bill Bussmann, Kathy Reed, Steve Dobrott, Jim McNiell, Bob Shipley, and Richard Spellman.

Sound Committee: Richard Spellman, Steve Dobrott, and Bill Bussman.

Poster: Gloria Garcia Spellman's Historical Photo Collection.

Design and procuotion: Satomi Lander, Catherine Wanek, Marge Myers, and Matilde Holzwarth.

Program and Flyer: Satomi Lander and Patty Woodruff.

Silent Auction: Kathy Lovell, Sherry Hartman, and Ruther Ford plus over 25 donors.

Food: Mary Wilton and Sue Bason at the Community Center.

Downtown ticket sales: Percha Creek Traders, Barbershop Cafe, and General Store Cafe.

Greeters, tickets and ushers: Steve Siegfried, Harley Shaw, Gary Grizbaugh, Paul and Mary Torres, Arlene Lynch, Lee Hawke, Jan Haley, Barbara Pearlman, Rita Rice, Gina Kelly, Joanna Schaefer.

Financial and advertising sales support: Gina Kelly, Director, Sierra County Tourism; the Sierra County Recreation and Tourism Advisory Council; Sierra County Lodgers Tax; Truth or Consequences Lodgers Tax, and New Mexico tourism Department.

Editor note. A special thanks to Patty Woodruff, who worried, fussed, cajoled, cried, screamed, and resigned at least twice daily, for coordinating the advertising and logistics of the festival.

REQUEST FOR STORIES

If anyone has stories to tell, history of houses or mines, anything appropriate that they might contribute, please send or email them to:

Harley Shaw

P. O. Box 486

Hillsboro NM 88042

hgshaw@windstream.net

575-895-5385

Also, we're still seeking ideas for a cover design. If anyone is interested in helping with the newsletter, I'm always willing to share the labor.

Our next regular meeting will be August 4, 2009. 6PM. Hillsboro Community Center. 6:30 PM.