

# HISTORIC SANTA FE

MONTHLY E-MAGAZINE OF THE HISTORIC SANTA FE FOUNDATION

DEC 2016



# INSIDE HISTORIC SANTA FE

Feliz Navidad y un Feliz Año Nuevo. We are about to experience the holidays in Santa Fe, the madness that is the Canyon Road Farolito walk and the newly instituted fun of New Year's on the Plaza with bonfires placed strategically for warmth. The sun is about to make the turn toward more daylight and the rhythm of this place begins again.

Likewise in rhythm with the daily doings of the Foundation we say goodbye to Melanie McWhorter and hello to Caitlin Olsen. Melanie brought a distinctive style to our organization that will be missed, but Caitlin will refine that with her own creativity as we go forward in 2017. We interview Caitlin in this December eZine issue to get to know her a bit better, and also review the book *Ladies of the Canyons* written by Lesley Poling-Kempes and reviewed by Alan Peters.

We also ask that in the last days of this eventful year you consider making a donation or membership renewal to the Historic Santa Fe Foundation.





A good way to do that would be to check out our new website and click on the Historic Register shield of your preference under the Join and Give menu tab. The web site is the same address – [www.historyofsantafe.org](http://www.historyofsantafe.org) - but with a new face. One that we hope you will visit often to keep up to date and in touch with HSFF. Look for that to be launched and live later this December. Let us know of any glitches in the new site. We will be adding more functionality over the next several months.

We also wish birthday greetings to HSFF Board Director Michael Dale.

Lastly, we at the HSFF wish you and yours a wonderful New Years Eve and an inspiring New Year filled with good health, purpose and community service.

**Pete Warzel, HSFF Executive Director**





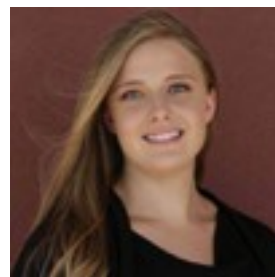


## OUR NEW DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE CAITLIN OLSEN

**Q: You come to us with a trove of interesting experience, but tell us about your bakery in Germany.**

A: While living in Meinerzhagen, Germany, I started an American bakery stand at the weekly Farmer's Market called Bäckerei auf dem Huegel (Bakery on the Hill). I lived at the top of a hill near an old dairy farm and in that small

kitchen I baked items such as muffins, cookies, pies and brownies that are



Caitlin Olsen

popular in the US, but not commonly available in Germany. It was a delight and an excellent way to practice speaking German.

The other vendors at the market were very friendly and I often traded baked goods for delicious cheeses, produce and fresh meat.

**Q: You are a native Wisconsin Cheesehead – what is up with the Packers this year?**

A: I wish I knew! Although, if Packers fans are anything, they are certainly loyal. Perhaps their diehard devotion will pull the team out of their slump.

**Q: Besides development experience with the National Dance Institute you worked with the Department of Cultural Affairs of New Mexico in Communications. Tell us a bit about that experience and the various projects you were involved with.**

A: While working for New Mexico Arts, the state arts agency and a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, I was involved with several interesting public art projects. “Pull of the Moon” was a temporary public art installation that took place in a remote part of the Navajo Nation. It was part of the series called TIME (Temporary Installations Made for the Environment) and was a collaboration between Chinese dissident artist Ai Weiwei and Navajo artist Bert Benally. In addition to this fascinating project, I helped to organize the annual Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts. It was delightful to get to know these talented artists and supporters of the arts.

**Q: Not a fair question since you have been with us for only a week, but what do you see are our biggest challenges as the Foundation enters 2017?**

A: The biggest challenges I see facing the Foundation as it enters 2017 are evaluating the benefits and drawbacks of the properties we currently own and putting in place a long term plan for them. We need to further diversify and increase our sources of funding.

**Q: How would you like to make your mark on our goals and vision at HSFF?**

A: I would like to improve outreach and introduce new individuals, businesses and public officials to the Foundation and the positive impact of what we do in the community.

**Q: Christmas wish? Personally or for the Foundation.**

A: I would love to travel home to Wisconsin to see my family for Christmas.

**Q: This eZine will soon be your project, any ideas for enhancement or focus?**

A: I would like to include video segments in the eZine and an interactive section to further engage our audience.

**Q: Anything you want to tell us about yourself?**

A: I have a lifelong passion for the theatre and I very much enjoy acting and directing.





# BOOK REVIEW **LADIES OF THE CANYONS BY LESLEY POLING- KEMPES**

REVIEWED BY ALAN PETERS

**Tucson: University of Arizona Press,  
2015.**

**ISBN 9780816524945 viii + 375 pp.**

**Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index.**

**\$24.95, paper.**

In *Ladies of the Canyon*, Lesley Poling-Kempes recounts the stories of a unique group of women who came to the Southwest in the early 20th century. With a primary focus on Natalie Curtis, Alice Klauber, Carol Bishop Stanley, and Mary Cabot Wheelwright, the book explores not only how these women came to value the region, but also how their connection to the place shaped their artistic voices.

Poling-Kempes begins with Natalie Curtis Burlin. A talented pianist, Curtis was part of Manhattan's elite. After suffering a breakdown in 1903, she traveled with

her brother to Arizona to recover. She became fascinated with Native American music and started working at the Hopi reservation to produce transcriptions using both an Edison cylinder recorder and pencil and paper. Because the policies of the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs discouraged reservation Indians from speaking their language or singing their music, it was only through the intervention of her friend President Theodore Roosevelt that she could continue her work. In 1917, Curtis spoke about her work with Native music at the St. Francis Auditorium in Santa Fe in honor of the opening of the Museum of Art. She had recently married Paul Burlin, and she and her husband lived in a casita on the corner of Old Santa Fe Trail and Buena Vista, which was later owned by the poet Witter Bynner and is today the Inn of the Turquoise Bear. Despite her prominent role as an ethnomusicologist, Curtis remains relatively unknown, perhaps in part because of her early death at the age of 46.

Poling-Kempes next turns to Alice Ellen Klauber, a San Diego native and artist. She studied art in San Francisco at the School of Design and the Art Students League and later with William M. Chase and Robert Henri in Spain and Hans Hofmann at UC Berkeley. A close friend of

Natalie Curtis, Klauber was with Curtis when she met with Teddy Roosevelt in the desert at the Hopi Snake Dance at Walpi in late summer of 1913. She was involved with the 1915 Pan-American exhibitions at Balboa Park in San Diego, and she helped establish the Museum of Art in Santa Fe and was involved with the modern artists who came to town to work and exhibit at the new museum.

Carol Bishop Stanley, a pianist from Nahant Island, Massachusetts, was educated at the New England Conservatory of Music and taught at a private school in Baltimore before traveling to Arizona in the spring of 1915. In 1916, she married Roy Pfäffle and together they ran the Rancho Ramon Vigil on the Pajarito Plateau near present-day Los Alamos. In 1920, the couple purchased the San Gabriel Ranch in Alcalde. After she divorced Pfäffle in 1931, Stanley moved to el Rancho de los Brujos, the place she called "Ghost Ranch." Here she started the guest ranch that Georgia O'Keeffe first visited in 1934.

Mary Cabot Wheelwright was born into a wealthy Boston family. Wheelwright first visited the Southwest in 1918, just before her 40th birthday. She was introduced to Hastiin Klah, a Navajo religious leader or "singer" who was worried that the Navajo culture and religious traditions were



under threat. Together they worked to record ceremonial narratives, prayers, and chants as Klah shared details about Navajo ceremonies with Wheelwright, who recorded and translated them.

In 1923 she purchased and completely refurbished Los Luceros, a 140-acre estate and hacienda near Alcalde, New Mexico, where she lived until her death in 1958. During the early 1930s, she was encouraged by her friend David Rockefeller Sr. to found a museum to house her collection of weavings, paintings, audio recordings, and other documentation related to Navajo ceremonial traditions. The museum that she established in Santa Fe in 1937 was designed by William Penhallow Henderson in the octagonal shape of a hogan to honor the spirit and tradition of the Navajo. Initially called the House of Navajo Religion, it was later renamed the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian.

In addition to founding the Wheelwright Museum, Wheelwright made significant contributions to the New Mexico Historical Society and the Spanish Colonial Arts Society.

In addition to presenting the stories of these unique women, Poling-Kempes'

book involves more well-known women: Alice Corbin Henderson, Mabel Dodge Luhan, Mary Austin, Willa Cather, Elizabeth Shepley Sergeant, sisters Amelia Elizabeth and Martha White, and Elsie Clews Parsons. And she does not neglect the men, including John Sloan, Robert Henri, Witter Bynner, Charles Winfred Douglas, Arthur Pack, Charles Fletcher Lummis, Will Shuster, Jack Lambert, Randall Davey, and Walter Pach.

Indeed, some readers might consider it to be a weakness of the book that so many characters – many lugging significant back stories – are pushed to the forefront and then abandoned. These digressions diffuse the momentum of her central theme. Also, *Ladies of the Canyons* suffers from occasional factual errors. For example, Santa Fe's Sunmount Sanatorium was not "just north of the old Plaza" (168) but was located on what is currently the Carmelite Monastery, southeast of the Plaza. Artist Randall Davey did not come to Santa Fe with his wife Isabel in 1920.

At that time he was married to his first wife Florence Sittenham Davey, whom he divorced in 1930. He did not marry Isabel Holt until 1932.



That said, *Ladies of the Canyons* provides an excellent overview of the lives of some really remarkable women, interweaving histories on how they came to value the desert landscape. While the balance of the pages represents the Anglo perspective, intercultural themes and cross-cultural insights abound.

Anyone interested in the intersection of gender, culture, and the Southwest during the early 20th century will be interested in this book.

**All photos by Anna Yarrow**





## THANK YOU EZINE SPONSORS



The Historic Santa Fe Foundation would like to thank Dave Feldt, Associate Broker at Santa Fe Properties, for his sponsorship of HSFF's 2016 eZines.

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## HSFF MISSION

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area, and to educate the public about

Santa Fe's history and the importance of preservation.

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## HSFF STAFF

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Caitlin Olsen



# DEC. 2016 AND JAN. 2017 CALENDAR

## **Canyon Road Christmas Eve Farolito Walk: Starts around dusk on December 24, 2016: Canyon Road and neighboring streets.**

This beloved Christmas Eve tradition lights up the heart and soul, as thousands of people stroll this famous road, which is decorated with farolitos (small, sand-filled bags with votive candles) and luminarias (bonfires). The joyous sounds of carols and friends and families greeting each other fills the air.

## **New Year's Eve Celebration on the Santa Fe Plaza: December 31, 2016 8:45p.m.-12:15p.m.**

Round up your family, friends and visitors to welcome the New Year to Santa Fe on Saturday, December 31, 2016. Be part of the fun as the City Different says Adios to 2016 at the Second Annual New Year's Eve on the Santa Fe Plaza.

The festivities begin at 8:45 p.m. with the Plaza warmed by stationary heaters and cozy piñon bonfires scenting the night

air with an unmistakably comforting New Mexican fragrance. Local music heroes Sol Fire and Nosotros will fill the Bandstand with upbeat and cheerful sounds to keep the crowd rocking and the night alive. The Kiwanis Club of Santa Fe will provide hot chocolate and biscochitos, along with a memorial banner for all to write down their hopes and dreams for a Prospero Año Nuevo.

## **Cornerstones Exhibition Opening: Friday, January 6, 2017 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m.**

An Exhibition at El Zaguán, 545 Canyon Road, Suite 2, featuring Jim Gautier's photographs of projects by Cornerstones over time.

## **Salon El Zaguán: Thursday, January 12, 2017 3:00p.m.**

Jake Barrow, Executive Director of Cornerstones Community Partnership will give a lecture in conjunction with the photography exhibition on the history of Cornerstones and current projects at El Zaguán, 545 Canyon Road, Suite 2.