

**THE TUBAC  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
50 BRIDGE ROAD, SUITE B-1  
TUBAC, AZ 85646-3261  
FEBRUARY – MARCH 2009  
(520) 398-2020**

## **Art, History and the Foods of Colonial Tubac: A Program by Jesús García of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum**

The topics of art, history, and food will come eloquently together when the Tubac Historical Society holds its March 18, 2009 program at the Tubac Center of the Arts at 10:00 am. Jesús García, an education specialist at the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum, will present a program entitled, “Foods of Colonial Tubac : Tantalizing Touch and Taste,” that explores the ecological tapestry that made up colonial Tubac. What better way to ponder local ecology than to eat its riches?

Jesús will introduce us to several of the Native American groups of the Sonoran Desert region including the Seri, the Yaqui, and the Tohono O’odham, describe their traditional homelands, and tell us how they employed the area’s natural resources and how the Europeans used and adapted these techniques to survive. Jesús is the principal investigator on a talented team of researchers working to re-establish the historic mission orchards at Tumacácori National Historic Park, and he’ll describe what is happening with the Kino Heritage Fruit Trees Project. This ambitious project seeks to identify fruit trees from the Spanish Mission Era by examining Father Kino’s own accounts, Forty-niner documents and journals, and the work of contemporary local ethnobotanists and horticulturalists to trace the legacy of these fruit trees. So far, research indicates that the trees included peach, quince, pear, apple, pecan, walnut, fig, and pomegranate. Together, they made up a portion of the mission community’s agricultural livelihood that also depended upon grape vineyards, grain fields, vegetable and pharmacy gardens, as well as livestock.



*Jesús Manuel García is an education specialist at the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum.*

The program will run about 90 minutes and is hands-on. Participants will experience the tastes of the actual foods enjoyed by historic Tubacans and Native Americans alike. Your appetite is sure to be whetted, and you might like to have a bite of lunch in one of the area restaurants after the program.

Jesús Manuel García was born and raised in Magdalena de Kino, Sonora, México. He completed a degree in Elementary Education, (Escuela Normal del Estado) in Hermosillo, Sonora, and then moved to Tucson and graduated from the University of Arizona with a Bachelor degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, with a minor in Cultural Anthropology. Jesús has been associated with the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum since 1991. Currently, in his role as an education specialist, he teaches natural history programs to the Hispanic community of the Tucson area schools as well as in the border region of the state of Sonora, Mexico. Jesús has many interests including conservation biology, cultural ecology, languages, music, gardening, and art.

This program is free to members of the Tubac Historical Society. Non-members will be charged \$5 to attend. Reservations are a must because space is limited, so fill out the enclosed reservation form or call the Society today at (520) 398 – 2020 to secure your place.

## Changes on the THS Board of Directors for 2009

Two longtime stalwarts on the THS Board of Directors are taking their leave this year. Eloise “Sandy” Johnson has served as Treasurer since 1994 with only one year off when she moved from Tubac to Green Valley. Sandy designed the financial forms used by the Society and kept tabs on the dedicated funds which the Society oversees. There is no way to adequately express the thanks Sandy deserves for her years of patient, thoughtful service!

Barbara Ruppman has served on the THS Board twice. The first time was as a member in 1998 when THS was trying to acquire the Barrio de Tubac archaeological site; the second was during the last two years when she served as Vice President. Barbara shares her understanding of our area’s history, particularly the archaeological aspects, in the walking tours she gives of the Barrio de Tubac archaeological site.

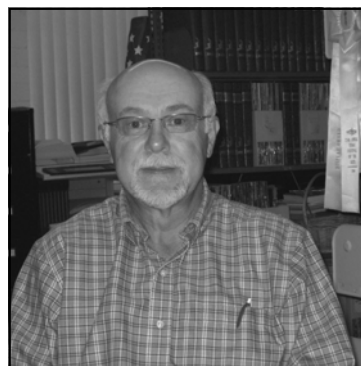
Jerry Ochs stepped in as President to serve out the remainder of Victoria Sikora’s term when she left for the East coast. He has agreed to remain as President for his own term. Jerry’s long term view, strategic thinking, and knowledge of dynamic speakers will provide energy and growth to THS.

Susan Buchanan became involved with THS in 2003 and came on the Board at her first meeting in 2004. She was enticed into being Secretary at that time and has been taking the Minutes and seeing to the official duties ever since. The Tubac Historical Society is lucky to have such a devoted Secretary.

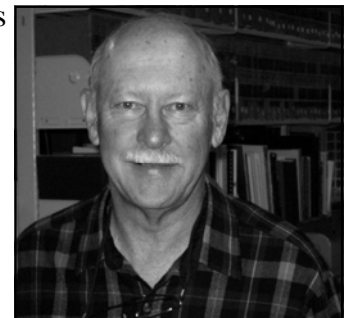


Two present Board members have agreed to step into the vacancies created by the departures of Sandy and Barb. Sam Chilcote will serve as Vice President and Shaw Kinsley will assume the duties of Treasurer. Sam has been on the THS Board since 2003 and provides sharp strategic thinking as well as a deep involvement in the annual picnics held at area ranches. Shaw joined the Board in 2004 and has edited the Society’s Newsletter since that time.

Three new faces were confirmed at our annual meeting on January 19th. Barbara Blake (*left*) has agreed to join the Board and brings vast fund raising and event planning experience as well as grace and beauty to THS. Don Davidson (*right*), who has been extremely helpful in organizing the THS Map Collection, has agreed to join the Board and will apply his enthusiasm and knowledge to other aspects of THS’s role in the



community. Ken Veal (*lower left*), a relatively new Tubacan having moved from Ft Collins, Colorado, has also agreed to become part of THS’s Board. Ken is enjoying learning about our area’s history and is helping assert some intellectual and physical control over the Photograph Collection.



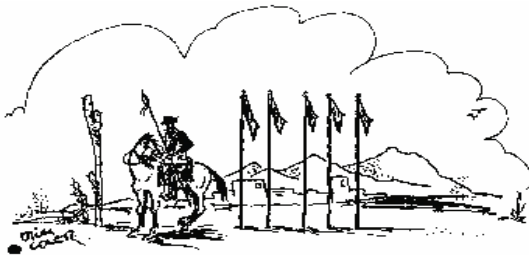
They join continuing THS Board members Loretta Lewis, Bruce Pheneger, Irene Deaton (who also serves as Executive Director), Gary Brasher, Karen Lang, Regina Ford, and Larry Robertson.

Photos from the past ...



*This is what the east side of the Tubac Country Club looked like in December, 1967. Other 20th century monster floods occurred in 1914, 1925, 1935, 1979, 1983, 1990, and 1993.*

## New THS Members



## Welcome to the Tubac Historical Society!

Karen Viechnicki

Sunny & Marilyn Hennig

Norman Alfing

Tim & Cathy Duffin

Tom & Dee Hall

Jorga Riggerbach

William Hofmann

## THS SEEKS VOLUNTEER

When Elizabeth Brownell's *They Lived in Tubac* went out of print a little while ago, THS decided to re-print it. We did so this past summer and now have about 40 cases of these new copies to distribute. We have a list of organizations where the book is a natural fit and need a volunteer to contact these organizations, send them our order form, and follow up any questions or issues. We have people to take care of the delivery of books, so there's no heavy lifting or manual labor!

If you have some spare time and an organized mind, THS would be devoted to you for your help with this project. Please call Shaw Kinsley at 398-2686 for the particulars.



by **Elizabeth Brownell**

This handsome casebound volume is the culmination of years of research through historical collections, family papers, first person interviews, territorial, state, and county documents, and newspaper files. The book contains 290 pages, over forty rare photographs and illustrations, notes, bibliography, and index. This reprinting is an exact reproduction of the 1986 original edition. THS members get a 10% discount! Price \$26.95

## An opportunity to help preserve Tubac's history, the village "Where Art & History Meet."



The Tubac Chamber of Commerce held a call-to-artists competition for the 50th Anniversary Celebration poster for the 2009 Tubac Festival of the Arts, and received 29 entries. The jury selected Amado Pena as the winning artist. Inspired by the 50th anniversary of the Tubac Festival of the Arts, Amado Pena created a work with 5 Indians and 5 pots, each denoting a decade. He placed a large 50 in the background of the painting along with the stylized Tubac "T." A part of Amado's 'Mestizo Series,' the painting captures and honors the way Art and History meet in Tubac.

Although a resident of Nambe, NM near Sante Fe, Amado Peña is recognized as an Artisan of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona. This is a particularly high honor and one that he cherishes. He is dedicated to furthering the public's knowledge and interest in the Tribe, its art, its history, and its culture. His art celebrates the strength of a people who

meet the harsh realities of life in an uncompromising land, and his work is a tribute to the Native Americans who survive by living in harmony with an adversarial, untamed environment. Amado's artwork is defined by its bold color and form and dynamic composition. Through his art, he communicates his vision of a land, its people, and their art.

You can be a part of preserving today's art and history for the future by contributing funds to help THS purchase Amado Pena's original gouache on board painting for Tubac's 50<sup>th</sup> Festival of the Arts. The purchase is important for the Tubac Historical Society in order to keep the painting in the village of Tubac, where it will constitute a part of our history for future generations. With this purchase, the people of Tubac will be able to enjoy the painting now as part of THS's collections, and for ten, twenty, and fifty years in the future our children and grandchildren will be able to see and enjoy it as well, and reflect on this part of Tubac's glorious history.

Donation checks for this this 18" by 24" original gouache on board painting should be made payable to the Tubac Historical Society and marked "For the painting." We are a non-profit organization and will provide a gift/tax letter to all donors.



## Save the Date!



You need to mark your calendar now for April 19, 2009, because this year the annual THS Picnic will be a once in a lifetime opportunity.

One of the constants in Tubac's history has been destruction: the Pima Uprising in 1751 destroyed 18th century Tubac, the Apaches laid it waste in 1848 when the Mexican troops withdrew and again in 1862 after the army left to fight on Eastern battlefields. Tubac has been destroyed so many times that some people call it 'the town with nine lives.' One unfortunate result of all this mayhem is that we have few buildings from our past to enable us to imagine what life might have been like.

The THS annual picnic this year will be held at the main hacienda of the 1,706-acre Tres Alamos Ranch. The Hacienda is not an ancient building, but it was created to evoke the look and feel of the great cattle estancias of times past. This building is amazing in every respect, and the THS picnic is one of very few chances for members of the general public to see it.

Tours of the Hacienda, a delicious bar-b-cue meal, live music, and the chance to soak up the romantic ambiance of a cattle baron's lifestyle will make this THS picnic one of the best we've ever had. Attendance will be limited, so be sure and get your reservations in as soon as possible. This is an event you need to attend. Checks should be made payable to the Tubac Historical Society and returned with the enclosed reservation slip. Tickets to see one of Santa Cruz County's most beautiful settings are only \$40 per person.

