## Tribute to Dorothy Amsden (continued from p. 6)

She worried if enough writers would submit their work, but the constant flow of fascinating, relevant, refreshing, and readable articles proved that she was right. Over time, Dorothy cultivated able contributors to Legacy. Another innovation was to publish papers presented at our fall conferences, thereby integrating the work of the Society. She also sought to find a balance between popular history and scholarly research that would attract sophisticated and informed readers. Another challenge was to develop a consistent, proper, and attractive format for the newsletter. With the collaboration of John Gravel of DT Publishing in Santa Fe, she achieved that goal.

Dorothy admits that editing a quarterly newsletter is full of challenges, problems and stresses. They range from missing deadlines, coordinating the layout, printing, and mailing of the newsletter, last-minute insertions, and checking the calendar. And then she bemoaned the inevitable errors that escaped onto the printed pages. But she feels the effort was well worth the trials and tribulations. Editing *Legacy* brought Dorothy great satisfaction, pleasure, and pride. She delighted in the interchange with interesting contributors, learned so much from the job, and enjoyed overcoming the challenges.

Dorothy was well prepared for the roles she played. She had years of experience and well-honed skills as an editor. Shé loved to write and had been captivated by history. She was attentive to details and recognized their importance. She was hard driven and persistent, and some

people found her abrasive and nit-picky. But the results have been spectacular.

She has a number of recommendations for future editors: Insist on readability and interesting stories. Do not compromise on accuracy and distinguish between Bubbe Maisers (grandmother's tales) and family "traditional" stories, on the one hand, and historical fact and context, on the other. Actively solicit articles from knowledgeable people. Consider going to a larger type.

Dorothy Amsden has left the Society with a major legacy. We are indebted to her that she took on so many jobs and responsibilities. We wish her much happiness, satisfaction, and good health for many years. And we hope to have her back in some capacity.

## HSNM Call for Papers 2015 New Mexico History Conference May 7-9, 2014



he Historical Society of New Mexico invites proposals for papers and presentations for the 2015 New Mexico History Conference, to

be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, on May 7-9 2015.

Conference sessions are 90 minutes in length. Most will consist of oral delivery of three papers or presentations, each approximately 20 minutes, including a moderator's introduction and questions from the audience. Proposals for individual presentations should be limited to one page in length, and must include presenter contact and biographical information, presentation title, a brief synopsis, and any technical support needed. Proposals for single presentations will be matched with similar topics to constitute a full session. The Program Committee invites proposals for topical sessions occupying the full 11/2-hour period. These should include a proposed title for the session, names of

presenters, titles of topics, a moderator, and contact information for all panel members. Presenters must register as conference participants. Digital projection systems and other audiovisual presentation equipment will be available.

Papers on any aspect of New Mexico history, the Southwest or Borderlands are welcome. However, individual papers and full sessions related to the history, development and growth of Albuquerque and the middle Rio Grande Valley, to include the surrounding counties of Sandoval, Torrance, Valencia and Cibola will be given special consideration. This can include, but is not limited to, a broad range of topics about the Pueblos, colonial Albuquerque, the Camino Real, the railroad, Route 66, TB sanitariums, Kirtland and Sandia bases, the influence of ethnic groups, and the region's colorful and influential personalities.

Deadline for submissions is November 30, 2014. Proposals may be submitted as attachments to email at

robertjtorrez@msn.com or by mail to HSNM Program Committee, P.O. Box 1912, Santa Fe, NM 87504-1912.



Notification of acceptance will be sent on or about January 1, 2015. To learn more about the Historical Society of New Mexico, visit www.hsnm.org, or if you have questions contact Robert J. Tórrez, program chair, at robertjtorrez@msn.com or (505) 836-9699.

Editor's note: NMJHS board member Janet Saiers is president of the Historical Society of New Mexico.☆

## NMJHS Welcomes New Members

David Mandel John and Susie Sandager