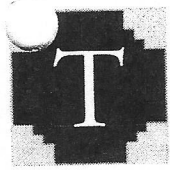


## Hurst Award Recipients

by Stan Hordes



The Dr. Allan and Leona Hurst Award is given to the person, persons, or organization who has contributed to New Mexico Jewish history, culture, and community over a substantial period of time. At the May 17, 2009, NMJHS annual meeting at Congregation Beit Tikvah in Santa Fe, 65 attendees applauded as the award was presented to Lance Bell and Dorothy Corner Amsden.

I was the first recipient of the award in 1998. Subsequently it was given to Walter Kahn, Henry Tobias, Melanie LaBorwit, Claire Grossman, the Taos Jewish Center, Sh Kellogg, Rabbi Leonard A. Helman, Noel Pugach, and Abraham Chanin.

The family of Allan and Leona Hurst has generously agreed to support the award with an annual contribution of \$200. We thank David and Vickie Hurewitz, Stuart and Kathy Iskow, Neil and Donna Iskow, and Mr. and Mrs. David Hurst.

### Lance Bell

Claire Grossman submitted the nomination for Lance Bell. In her letter she notes that Lance's family was a pioneer Jewish merchant family in Santa Fe. "Not only was Lance a fine president of NMJHS, but he worked for years to bring the Society's name to residents all over the state. He has remained in contact with various Society members for many years. He arranged several walks around the Santa Fe Plaza with talks and stories of and by some people who knew and worked for his family."



Lance Bell

Lance spent countless hours for NMJHS getting advertisers for *Legacy*. He continues to be a remarkable fundraiser. He was willing to fit in the time-consuming role of president even though he traveled almost every week as a very busy young cancer drug salesperson. He personifies someone who has contributed to New Mexico Jewish history, culture, and community for a substantial period of time.

To Claire's endorsement I would like to add that I remember Lance attending NMJHS events in his twenties, with his dear mother (who sadly passed away just a couple of weeks ago). His interest continued to grow, and eventually Lance joined the Board of Directors.

Back about 8 years ago, Lance generously agreed to serve as president of the Society, which represented the passing of leadership from old people from newly arrived families to young people from old, established families.

Lance has consistently demonstrated his commitment to the NMJHS and to the cause of Jewish history, sacrificing precious time from work and family obligations. This award should be shared with his lovely wife, Julia, and his wonderful daughter, Jacqueline.

### Dorothy Corner Amsden

Outgoing treasurer, Bob Gale, summed up Dorothy Amsden's contributions to NMJHS. "Having published a subscription-based newsletter for many years in the private sector, I know bet-

ter than most, the amount of time that Dorothy donates to our organization, and I can assure you that it is probably greater than any other single member of our Society, myself included. Her reward is the pride she takes in putting out this exceptional publication over the past several years. To many, *Legacy* is the Society, and Dorothy makes sure, with every issue, that NMJHS is well represented by the publication.

"Beyond the newsletter, Dorothy is always prepared to give a little more including, when appropriate, considerable monetary support to the Society way beyond her dues. In addition to her direct contributions to the Society she has never submitted an expense reimbursement request for anything; not postage, not supplies, or mileage. She also contributes keeping the NMJHS website visible, updated, and championing its continuation and modernization." Bob writes that he can think of no one who is more deserving of this award for multiple and consistent contributions to our organization.



Dorothy Amsden

To Bob's endorsement, let me add a few comments of my own. I remember when I first met Dorothy four years ago. She was concerned that the Society was missing a bet by not paying more attention to genealogy. Well, that was the beginning of Dorothy getting hooked on the Society, and the begin-

ning of the Society getting hooked on genealogy – and Dorothy.

She has given and given of her time in so many areas, modernized and professionalized our newsletter, and as an extra-added bonus, brought along her husband Tony, who served on the board as corresponding secretary. ☆