

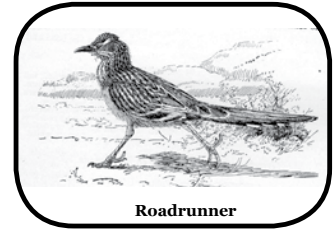
Guajalotes, Zopilotes, y Paisanos



Turkey



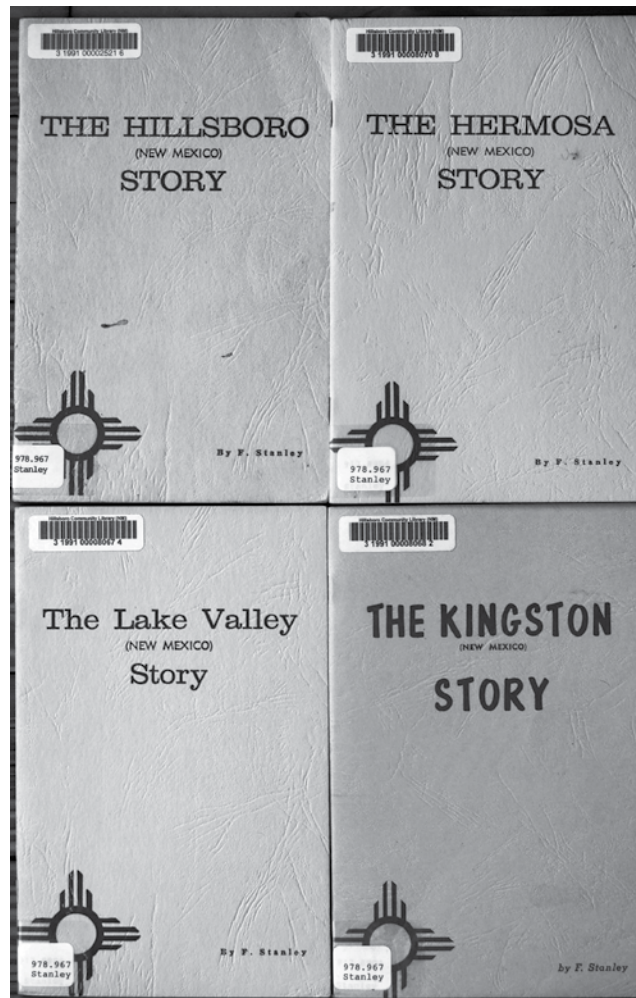
Vulture



Roadrunner

Hillsboro Historical Society

November 2014. Volume 7 Number 4



Feature Article: Hillsboro Area Histories

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From the President

I would like to take this opportunity to share with the Membership an idea that the HHS board recently discussed.

I have felt for some time that we need a place where the HHS can build a museum, have social events, a gift shop and a place to display and protect items that are donated-- a place that visitors can come and learn of our history and perhaps find their family history.

I think the old Hatcher Hotel, presently owned by Ike and Mary Wilton and where we now have our gift shop is the perfect answer. It has a history, the location is perfect and we would have lots of room to grow. The owners are willing to work with us and are in favor of selling to us.

The building is over a hundred years old and obviously will need repairs and require maintenance, and the HHS board is being duly cautious, beginning with an assessment of its condition by a professional inspector.

I sincerely hope that members will share their ideas on such a project. This is a big decision and something we all need to be involved with. Send me an e-mail srutledge505@windstream.net, call me 575-895-5326 or come by the shop on Saturdays. HHS will continue to consider this and will keep you informed as to our progress. I look forward to hearing from you.

I hope that you will remember our shop on Main street when you are doing your Christmas shopping, we have new merchandise, including antiques. Come by and see us!

And a very Merry Christmas to each and everyone. Sonja



News, Comments, Activities

The HHS Board has several rods in the fire. As President Sonja Rutledge notes above, purchase of the entire Hatcher Hotel building is being explored. There is not doubt that it is a historic building, and we can only wish we had the ledger book from it during the days it was an active hotel. Who knows who might have been a guest? Regardless of ownership, one of the ongoing goals of HHS should be detailed documentation of the histories of all of our older buildings.

Progress on the fire truck has been slow and a detailed report appears in this newsletter. What is mainly needed is some able-bodied and interested souls to do a few cosmetic repairs and transfer fire fighting fixtures from the parts truck. We also need to place it where it can be seen, with appropriate interpretive material.

HHS received an \$860 donation from the Donald Graham memorial fund. HHS cannot express our gratitude to the Graham family in any adequate way. We will always miss Donald. We want also to acknowledge that Donald's daughter, Penny McCauley, maintains our beautiful web page (<http://www.hillsboronmhistory.info/>).

We're happy to say that the Historic Hillsboro Walking Tour brochure has been reprinted with a few minor corrections. Thanks to Stretch Luna's critique, the brochure no longer calls our county seat Warm Springs. It was, of course, once called Hot Springs until it was renamed after a now-defunct radio show. Even in New Mexico, the booster types will do anything for a buck.

Stretch Luna and Sonny Hale took it upon themselves to place flags on all veterans' graves in the cemetery for Veterans' Day. Stretch informs me that he has documented 24 veterans buried in the community cemetery and 21 in the Masonic Cemetery.

From Barb Lovell, we received the following: "If you haven't looked at it, be sure to do so. The Hillsboro Historical Society Gift shop has been adding new items to its inventory in an effort to offer as much variety as possible. Our newest addition is a collection of antiques that have been gathered from across the country. Each item has been carefully researched and validated to insure authenticity and fair pricing. We are gearing up for Christmas in the Foothills which, this year will include a sale table featuring lots of unique and interesting items. We are looking forward to a fun and successful event and hope to see all of you there."

MEETING REMINDER: HHS MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS ARE ON THE SECOND TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH. 6:30 PM AT THE HILLSBORO COMMUNITY



New sign in town. A while back, Sherry Fletcher spoke to HHS about the New Mexico Women Historic Marker Initiative. Hillsboro now has one of the first signs to be placed under this initiative, acknowledging our own Sadie Orchard. Its in the park. Stop and take a look

Histoical Literature of Hillsboro Area

Harley Shaw



One of my first surprises upon arriving in Hillsboro in 2001 was the realization that no detailed history of the town had been written. I had read *Black Range Tales* before moving here and, although I found it enjoyable, quickly dismissed it as a definitive resource for the region. Its author, James McKenna made no such claim for it. As its title indicates, it is a collection of tales—some fact, some fiction. I've read it a couple times since, and, as my knowledge of people and places in our area has grown, I'm better able to glean the McKenna gems that reflect daily living around the southern Black Range in the late 19th century. But I don't take all of his tales at face value.

HHS Vice President Larry Cosper recently

suggested the literature of Hillsboro as a topic for a feature article for our newsletter. I've received no stories from HHS members and have about drained the current archives (complain, complain), so this seems a propitious time to tackle the subject. It can't be covered in one short article. In my past life as a research biologist, I learned that the best way to review the literature on was to start with the most recent publications, then work your way backwards. This saved a lot of time, because the later writers had usually summarized the earlier stuff pretty well. Starting with the oldest and working forward often turned out to be tedious and repetitious, especially if a lot of literature was available on a subject.

For our part of New Mexico, the civil war, gunslingers, lawmen, harlots, and normally psychotic politicians have been covered ad nauseum. If you want to read specifically about Billy Bonney; Pat Garrett; the Alberts, Fall and Fountain; Sadie Orchard; Madam Milly and all the other notorious folks, you're on your own. Although they, as well as the Apache wars, have captured the imagination of writers, in truth they had very little to do with the day to day lives of miners, ranchers, cowboys, woodcutters, and businessmen. Stories of these latter worthies normally don't do much to raise one's adrenalin, but they give us a much better understanding of how we arrived at our present set of conditions.

Actually, a unique fact of the history of our locale made *Around Hillsboro* possible--we had access to lots of photos. Compared with many towns in the West, Hillsboro, Kingston, and Lake Valley were settled late and abruptly. The concurrent subduing of the Apaches and discovery of valuable ore allowed all three towns to pop up between 1877 and 1880. Mining quickly brought a host of professionals to populate the area--engineers, lawyers, physicians, journalists, and a few photographers. Glass-plate film was available, and some of the people moving to the area had fairly portable cameras. They took pictures, saved them, and passed them to progeny. Copies of many of these photographs ended

"English was never one of my better subjects so when you read this please remember that. What I write down will be just as if I were talking to you. Thoughts are going to be put down when I think of them whether they fit or not. They will be in my words not somebody else's and you won't need a Webster Dictionary to understand their meaning. I'll probably slay the King's English. This all started back in the 20's when my mom, Hattie Durdin, and my dad, John Haywood Phillips, met and married at Sierra Blanca, Texas ". Barbara Wilkins, The History of Kingston.

So. . . I use all of the above as an excuse for recommending our own book, *Around Hillsboro*, as a legitimate primer. Four of us, Matti Nunn, Patti Nunn, Craig Springer, and I, put it together. Its content was constrained by Arcadia Press' rigid photo format, so detailed coverage of any subject was limited. I understand Arcadia's objective here--many of the people who assemble these photo books are not writers, and they need guidelines and deadlines to help them stay focused. The four of us writing this book disciplined ourselves mercilessly regarding the amount of text we could attach to each picture, and we grumpily met the publisher's deadlines. Looking back, I'm very happy we did it. For me, working almost daily with Matti and Patti made the anxieties worthwhile. While both Craig and I had written professionally, and Craig certainly had roots in Hillsboro, neither of us had the multi-generation credentials of the Nunns. Their quiet and gentle sense of humor combined with a demand for accuracy, helped make the book a product that will be around for a while. And yes, we're finding a few errors that can be corrected, should it ever be reprinted.

up in the Black Range Museum, and owner June Anders willingly shared them with us for use in the book. George Miller had bought out an early photographer J. C. Burge in 1893, and he left a collection of photos that covered decades. Finally, the Hopewell/Bucher coalition had taken many pictures of the Ladder Ranch, and Pastor Ed Ostertag had placed this collection in the archives at the Institute of Historical Survey Foundation in Las Cruces. Director Evan Davies facilitated our access to this collection. Add smaller family collections and the U. S. Forest Service archives, and we had a feast from which to choose. Narrowing the selection, rather than locating photos, was one of our main challenges. *Around Hillsboro* is not a book for history pros to pore over; it was meant for the curious layman to browse and enjoy. However, should someone want to write a detailed history of our Black Range towns, they might find the book useful as an outline.

Another interesting history of the area is Dr. James B. Sullivan's book, *A New Mexican Family: Tafoya--Sullivan and the Origins of Sierra County*. Dr. Sullivan is a history professor

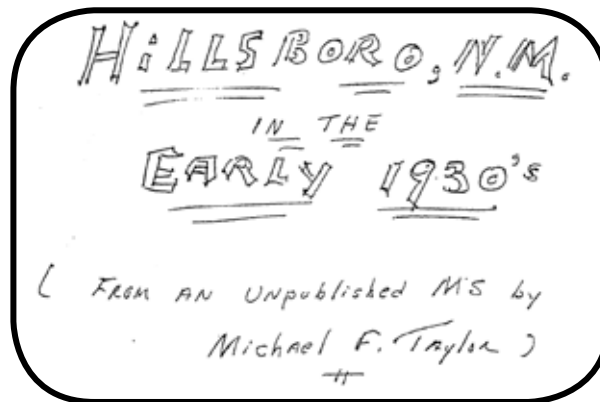
in Brownsville, Texas, but he grew up here. His book was derived from his Ph. D. dissertation. Probably better than any other resource, this book tells of the development of communities along the various creeks flowing from the Black Range and of their interconnectedness. I've always felt the title was an unfortunate choice, because the book is much more than a history of a single family. It is out of print, and I hope that Dr. Sullivan finds time to update it and publish a new edition with a title that reflects its broader coverage.

The only other published general histories of our three towns—Lake Valley, Hillsboro, and Kingston--of which I'm aware are the small yellow books written by F. Stanley. Like many readers of New Mexico history, I initially discounted Stanley's books. Their brief, disorganized, and uneven treatment of local histories at times seem almost comical. But like McKenna's book, one must read and reread them discerningly, giving them credit for what they are, independent of some "ideal" image of scholarship.

Father Stanley's given name was Louis Crocchiola. He was born in New York in 1908. He acquired a degree in English at Catholic University in Washington, D. C., then entered the priesthood in 1938. At that point he took on the names Stanley and Francis. However, he intended the "F" in his byline to refer to his assumed name of Francis, rather than his religious title. Incipient TB drove him west, and he soon became fascinated with the history of western towns. During his lifetime, he wrote 177 "books," 123 of them in the small yellow-backed format. Hillsboro Community Library has several. He personally financed publication of all of his books. Later scholars have criticized his books, but, as noted by his biographer, Mary Jo Walker, "his intent was to assemble fugitive information from obscure courthouse records, old newspaper files, and archives so that others more able could . . . carry on." If you take time to study his books, you'll see he did just that. Walker notes that his main plea was, "pardon the mistakes, but say a kind word for my effort." Anyone who has wallowed around in historical

literature, regardless of their credentials, can sympathize with Father Stanley's plea. The existence of such a unique body of writing created by an unusual, peace-loving man is in itself a fascinating piece of southwestern history.

I didn't intend to make this essay exhaustive, and I definitely don't want it to be exhausting. To understand our area's history, one must seek unpublished stories for insights into the past's daily living. Three documents come to mind. As a general overview supplementing Jim Sullivan's book, historian John Wilson's *Between the River and the Mountains: a history of early settlement in Sierra County, New Mexico* is a valuable source. A small, unpublished manuscript, Michael Taylor's *Hillsboro, N.M. in the Early 1930s* says a lot about day to day living during that decade. And finally, Barbara Wilken's book, *History of Kingston* [listed in the Hillsboro Library as *History of Hillsboro*--ed.] brings the reader up through the '40s, '50s, and '60s. No book covers it all, but the above list will illustrate where we started and how



we arrived. More material exists, with the opportunity for curious souls to put it together. Jack Rittenhouse, about Father Stanley, recognized three types of historians-- professors, grass roots, and buffs. He notes:

"We owe much to the grassroots historian and the buff. They are the prospectors who discover new lodes. They are curious about people and places and customs, combining the interests of the folklorist and the historian, and if they are good at what they do, they find their work accepted and even honored."

Guajalotes, Zopilotes, y Paisanos has been in print for seven years. Surely there are a few grassroot historians or buffs out there who have knowledge worth contributing. We're looking for fresh material--family histories, mine histories, ranch histories, anything about land and people, and submissions will be appreciated, and handled with respect. I'm sure that our readers will be willing to "pardon the mistakes, and say a kind word for the effort."

DID KINGSTON REALLY HAVE 7000 RESIDENTS?

Barbara Lovell

A population of 7000 is the number that Jim McKenna puts forth in his Kingston history "The Black Range Tales". Jim came to Kingston in the early 1880's shortly after Kingston was founded. This is first-hand information. The Silver City Enterprise, on November 30, 1882, when talking about Kingston's rapid growth, states that, "the town contains a population of about 1800 inhabitants and city lots on Main Street being as high as \$500." The same newspaper states, in February 26, 1904 that "Kingston has upwards of 5000 citizens". That's a lot of people when you consider that Kingston's population had been declining ever since silver was devalued in 1893. However, they were close enough to have known.

The census records show a different story. Kingston was founded in 1882. In 1885, the government conducted a special territorial census whose numbers indicate a population of about 385. The 1890 regular census gives Kingston a population of about 1300. But there are many other facts that we are aware of that make it impossible to accept these numbers at face value.

Kingston's population was able to support 22 saloons, 14 grocery stores and 3 hotels in addition to numerous boarding houses. This information comes from memoirs, tax records and period newspapers. We also know that there were many Chinese men in Kingston during it's early days and, yet, only six names appear in the census records. The Museum of New Mexico History in Santa Fe has photos of about 100 Chinese who were living in the Kingston area.

The nearby town of Mogollon was 60 percent Hispanic. If you look at the 1885 Kingston census there is not a Hispanic name listed, nor are there any Hispanic names in the real estate tax rolls. It is hard to believe that Kingston was the only community with no Hispanic population.

One also has to think about the process for gathering census data in 1885, or any other year of that time period in the West. Kingston was a mining district. Its residents were spread over a wide area. The larger mines established their own little communities around them, but they were still part of the Kingston mining district and their numbers should have been included in the census totals. It would have been very time consuming to access these areas and the census taker would have to have been very dedicated. This was actually such a difficult process that in 1890 there was a tax assessment in the territory of New Mexico to help with the census. It was supposed to provide relief from some of the work necessary and usually done by the enumerators.



Undated photo of Kingston in its heyday

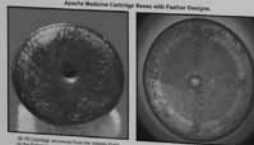
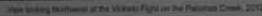
The only conclusion you can draw from this is that no one knows what the population of Kingston really was. We do know that Jim McKenna himself does not appear in the 1885 census records. We do know that Kingston grew up almost overnight once word got out that there was silver in it's mountains. We know that it had a large population as research shows. It's safe to say that the population was much greater than 365 but probably not quite 7000. These numbers don't change it's wonderful history and, in the big picture, really aren't very important. Kingston was and will always be a special part of New Mexico and its history.

MUSEUM STORE AND EDUCATION



**Hours: Friday, Saturday,
and Sunday, 11am to 4pm.**

**THE CURRENT DISPLAY AT THE EDUCATION
CENTER FOCUSES ON APACHE CULTURE
OF OUR REGION. IT WAS PROVIDED BY
ARCHAEOLOGIST CHRIS ADAMS OF THE
BLACK RANGE RANGER DISTRICT OF THE
GILA NATIONAL FOREST.**

LADDEN
III
BANCH

This particular petroglyph has been interpreted as a Minibird Cliff dwelling because of its close proximity to the Flying Fish Village LAS7767. The petroglyph also appears to represent a "Flying Fish" because the name of the Minibird archaeological site. The petroglyph was compared with classic Minibird pottery design (see below) and the style is very similar to the Minibird pottery assemblage. However, recent research indicates that it may be Apache in origin. The outer design depicts lines on the inside are very straight and exhibit a "cut cross" structure, which would indicate a metal tool such as steel. The body of the petroglyph was pitted and the two dots, which is a typical Apache design that is found on their narrative with scratched linear lines and this is the case at the Apache component of the Flying Fish Village, point.



body of the petroglyph was picked out and the two designs (not picked) on the main body of the snail are unique. The first design is a crescent moon which is a typical Apache design that is found on baskets, clothing, jewelry and historic rock art. The second design appears to be a Spanish Colonial narrative with scratched linear lines and this is the only example known in the southwest to date. A Spanish Colonial narrative fragment was found at the Apache component of the Pinyon Fish Village. Plans are under way with various Apache Tribes to consult on this unique and rare petroglyph panel.

Examples of Prehistoric Mimbres Pottery Illustrating Swallow Bird Designs



These Windows Policy Examples are from the Windows Policy Center Digital Publisher 2004-2005, the Journal of Information Systems, 20(4), Indiana State University.

2024 Paper Design by Christopher Adams. All Other Intellectual and National Assets



HILLSBORO FIRE TRUCK (OLD NO. 1) PROJECT

(What we know and where we are)

Harley Shaw

The Hillsboro fire truck (Old No. 1) is a 1946 (?) Ford. It was handed down (or purchased) from Hot Springs, NM fire department. We don't know the exact date it was acquired by Hillsboro, but a title search might produce its ownership history. This would be a worthwhile project for some history or antique fire truck buff. The truck was spotted about eight years ago by Pam Taylore, a former Hillsboro resident. It was in an auto salvage yard in Edgewood, NM. Pam told Nancy Jones about it, and Nancy alerted Matti and Bill Harrison. Gary Gritzbaugh and Kathy and Adrian Lovell stopped at Edgewood to see it and recommended that we acquire it. As I remember, the salvage yard was asking \$2000 for it. Our newly-formed historical society put the word out in the community, and within a couple weeks, we had \$1800. The yard owner agreed to sell it for that. Bill Harrison and Joe Shank brought it to Hillsboro. Its engine (a Ford flathead) had been dismantled and some parts were missing. Also much of the fire-fighting equipment was gone. We considered rebuilding the engine, but weren't sure it could be revived. Then Dave Manzara spotted a fire truck of the same model in a salvage yard near Mesa, Arizona. Its engine ran. It also had many of the fire fighting fixtures that were missing on the Hillsboro truck. We purchased it and had it hauled to Hillsboro.



Sue (Roach) Cunningham and Joe Lett accepting title



Hillsboro No. 1. fire truck "back home."

Albert Sanchez of Palomas Creek, who owned Big Dog Auto, agreed to do the engine swap, if he could do it between other more time-sensitive jobs. Albert finished the swap last spring. He also repaired the brakes, so our Hillsboro truck can be moved (with care).

Because both the Hot Springs and Hillsboro signs can be seen on the doors, the HHS board has decided against serious restoration. The signs are part of the history of the truck.



Door showing Hot Springs sign under Hillsboro



Parts truck

We can, however, bring it back as near as possible to its functional condition. To do this, the at least the following is:

1. Test and repair radiator. It has small leaks. It can be filled and used for short movements of the truck, but will leak down over time.
2. Reattach hood. To keep costs to HHS down, Albert did only the serious mechanical work, leaving a lot of wrap-up for HHS members.
3. Switch tires from the “parts” truck. They are better than those on the Hillsboro truck. This will take a hefty jack and a truck-sized lug wrench, as well as a couple strong backs to remove and replace tires.
4. Switch grills. The Hillsboro truck, when it was functioning, had a high-volume pump mounted on the front bumper. This has been removed, leaving a hole in the grill. The grill on the parts truck is in better condition.
5. Switch seats. The seats in the parts truck are still in pretty good condition.
6. Restore wooden bed. The oak floor of the parts truck might be salvaged. However, it might be cheaper to buy new wood and install it.
7. Replace the right side-view mirror. Both mirrors on the parts truck are excellent.
8. Replace door glass on driver’s side. Glass in parts truck is usable.
9. At some point, we may want to install a generator and wire lights, etc. For display, this isn’t necessary, and the battery can be recharged as needed. Not an immediate priority item.
10. Replace tail light lense.
11. Switch any fire-fighting utilities and railings possible from the parts truck. The parts truck has a water tank in front of the bed. I believe it is welded in. Someone should assess whether it is worth moving into the Hillsboro truck or not.
12. Larry Cosper has either a red light or siren from the top of the truck in his shop. Install.
13. Explore using some kind of clear coat to protect the patina and signs on the truck. The New Mexico sun has already taken its toll. We should try to stabilize the finish (or lack thereof) in its present condition.

No doubt other tasks will emerge when work on the truck begins. I see no reason that it couldn’t be displayed as is, with additional “restoration” done along the way. Alternatively, a swarm of energetic wrench turners could probably do a lot of the above items in a weekend or two.

Old No. 1 began its official service as Hot Springs No. 2. Its first trip to Hillsboro occurred in 1949, when four houses at the west end of Elenora Street burned to the ground. According to the Sierra County Sentinel: “Alarm was sounded from KCHS as soon as the plea for help reached the Hot Springs Fire Department . . . Ray Terry, driver of the Hot Springs fire truck, believed they arrived in just th enick of time. . . . “We felt helpless when we arrived,” Terry said, our truck had only 300 gallons of water. . . and after tha . . . all we could do was fill our truck tank with buckets and tubs and . . . wells “ Houses that burned belonged to the Ringer, Hamilton, Wolford, and Pengelly families.

No 2. became Hillsboro No. 1 several years later. --Ed.

Historic Buildings: Current Black Range Vineyards

With the demise of the S-X Bar, the Vinards have become the most popular evening gathering place for the community.



MEMBERSHIP

OUR MEMBERSHIPS ARE ON A FEBRUARY 1 TO JANUARY 31 BASIS. ANY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS WE RECEIVE AFTER NOVEMBER 15 WILL BE CONSIDERED 2015 MEMBERSHIPS VALID FROM FEB 1, 2015 TO JANUARY 31, 2016.

The Hillsboro Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to collect, preserve and share the history and artifacts of the Hillsboro, Kingston and Lake Valley communities of New Mexico. Members may choose to participate in many aspects of the Society's activities, including fundraising, collections and conservation, oral histories, education and interpretation, special events and programs. Member benefits include the quarterly newsletter, priority registration for lectures, programs and field trips. Dues are \$25 annually for individual or family and \$50 for business memberships. Please mail this completed Membership Subscription, along with your check made payable to Hillsboro Historical Society, P. O. Box 461, Hillsboro NM 88042.

Member Name _____ Today's Date _____

Address _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Email _____

Enclosed is \$ _____ annual (from Feb to Feb) individual or family membership

Enclosed is \$ _____ annual business membership that includes ad in newsletter.

Additional Donation \$ _____ Gift Membership \$ _____ for _____

Newsletter sent (check one): ☐ Digital by email ☐ Hard copy mailed

We prefer to send the newsletter via email. If we have no email address for members, we will mail them a hard copy.