



# The Mansardian

The Quarterly Publication of the Silver City Museum Society

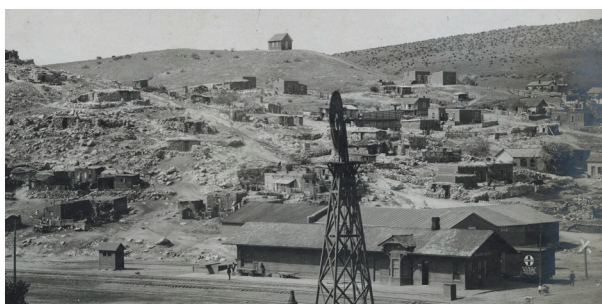


The H.B. Ailman home was completed in 1881, and now houses the Silver City Museum. The home also served as the town's fire department for a time. Pictured here is the Ailman family in 1888, with H.B. Ailman at the far left, next to his wife, Theora, and their children.

## In this Issue



**Feature Story:**  
H.B. Ailman: The Boom and Bust Cycle Personified



**Curator's Corner**  
Grandma Was a Bootlegger  
Rising Above Economic Segregation in Silver City



**On Exhibit:**  
Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880-1950

# Director's Desk

Thanks to your generosity and support during our 2021 Annual Appeal, we're riding high into this new year, with a slight financial "cushion" to help get us through this fiscal year, which ends June 30. We exceeded our goal, and on behalf of the Silver City Museum staff and board of trustees, I thank you!

This month we are launching the first in our series of quarterly exhibits that explore the themes guiding our work to create a permanent (well at least long-term) overview exhibition, "Silver City 101." Opening on March 26 is "Booms and Busts," a look at the small business community in Grant County from the end of the 19th Century through the middle of the 20th Century. The exhibit is based on the stellar work of WNMU Professor Scott Fritz, PhD, who produced the Museum's "Unpacking Silver City" public program series last year.

Museum staff worked with Scott's research to organize a fabulous exhibit of historical photographs and objects shedding light on

our region's economic development, from the rough and tumble beginnings of the mining industry to the arrival of local merchants, restaurants, banks and later, nationally known department stores. Mark your calendar for March 24, when we host a special "Members Only" preview with special guests and refreshments. Watch your mailbox for details.

Coupled with this new exhibit is a series of three public "community conversations" about the topic. These two-part programs are being offered in partnership with our friends at the Western Institute of Lifelong Learning, (WILL). Check out more details about these special offerings in this issue, and look for continuing news about WILL in future issues of the Mansardian.

These exhibitions and programs are designed to provide engaging, well-researched historical perspectives, combined with a panel of local experts who help us connect the past to contemporary topics of interest. The exhibits



and programs bring history to life, and go one step further by helping us gain a broader perspective on the present.

Thank you for your continued support, ideas and energy! We look forward to seeing you at one of our in-person events at the Silco Theater, here at the museum or online. Don't forget to check us out on Facebook or on our YouTube channel.

Until then, stay safe and thank you for your support.

Museum Director

## Support Spotlight

### Thank You Liz Mikols!

This year The Mansardian is underwritten by Liz Mikols, in memory of her husband Joe Schindler. The Silver City Museum community thanks Mikols for her ongoing support, generosity and passion for local history. Mikols recently presented a historical talk on behalf of the museum called, "From School Marms to the Moon: Education in Silver City," and has presented numerous papers to the Historical Society of New Mexico (HSNM), the Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL), and the Silver City Museum. A member of the Speaker's Bureau for HSNM, she has given numerous talks and Chautauqua performances throughout New Mexico.

## A Perfect Partnership by Tom Hester for WILL

IT types donned their farm overalls for a word describing separate organizations storing information - Siloing. We "silo" even though sharing information among organizations could strengthen all the organizations.

Silver City, a small town, features a gigantic barnyard of silos for history. Our county's got two great museums, three or four first-class libraries, a lifelong learning program, a university, two public school systems, a Forest Service, a big mining company, a county clerk, a county tax accessor, and residents with lots of pictures and memories. Silos all.

Now two major silos - the Silver City Museum and Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL) are breaking through some walls.

This spring term, Ashley Smith, the Museum Collections Manager, facilitates WILL's Sonnie Sussillo Memorial Course about Anita Scott Coleman. The Museum's Curator Javier Marrufo facilitates a course on the trials and triumphs of oral history, as he has experienced them in the Chihuahua Hill neighborhood.

WILL's spring offerings include another dozen or so history or art courses, each one a delicious morsel for any museum fancier.

Go to [will.community](http://will.community) to become a member. And while you're on the site check out Ann Hedlund's course on Navajo weaving and Doug Dinwiddie's tour to Lincoln County and Ted Presler's history of chocolate.



## The Mansardian

The Mansardian is a quarterly publication of the Silver City Museum Society, a nonprofit organization. The Museum Society is a vital partner of the Silver City Museum, and is governed by a volunteer board of trustees.

For membership information, please visit [silvercitymuseumsociety.org](http://silvercitymuseumsociety.org). The Mansardian is edited by Lisa Jimenez. Layout and design by Erin Griffith.

### Thank you to our board

Gayle Simmons, president	Doug Dinwiddie
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### Welcome to our new and renewing members!

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## The Silver City Museum

312 W Broadway, Silver City, NM

Hours T-F 9 am - 4:30 pm; Sat-Sun: 10am - 4pm 575-538-5921

[www.silvercitymuseum.org](http://www.silvercitymuseum.org)

# Feature Story



Side-by-side studio photograph of H.B. Ailman and Hartford "Henry" Meredith, 1880.

## H.B. Ailman: The Boom and Bust Cycle Personified

By Lisa Jimenez

Henry Boyer Ailman's entrepreneurial spirit lives on in Silver City, not only through the physical structure of the stately, Victorian, H.B. Ailman family home which houses the Silver City Museum, but is also reflected in the continued boom and bust cycles that present-day business owners face in a region traditionally dominated by mining and ranching.

Ailman, "H.B." as he was known, finally became a rich man when he at last discovered silver ore in Georgetown, not far from the Santa Rita mine. But he knew many financial ups and downs in his lifetime, and struggled mightily to make his initial fortune in Grant County. Ailman's life in many ways parallels the economic unfolding of Silver City, from the hard-scrabble mining camps, to merchandising and the gradual availability of more sophisticated goods and services.

Like many others before, Ailman left the eastern United States in 1870, seeking fortune and fame in the Wild West territories. His father was a farmer, and Ailman worked hard to earn money to become a school teacher, supplementing his earnings by unloading coal cars on the Pennsylvania Railroad. It was wartime, so he was soon working as a brakeman and later conductor. He saved his earnings, shared \$1,500 of it with his father, but soon realized he wanted more than a rail worker's life, and headed for the largely unsettled and burgeoning West.

His memoir, *Pioneering in Territorial New Mexico*, offers a vivid account of the tremendous physical challenges he endured, including nearly impassable terrain, blizzards, thieves, lack of sufficient food, water and supplies and too little cash. When he finally landed in Silver City on July 20, 1871, the territory seemed to offer little reason for sticking around. The Santa Rita copper mines were abandoned, primarily for lack of workers, gold mining in Pinos Altos had stalled, and small silver deposits had yet to be fully valued or exploited. Apaches, losing territory under pressure from the influx of Anglos and soldiers, ambushed prospectors and raided the helter-skelter settlements and mining camps.

Small discoveries of silver ore and the persistent prospect of striking it rich kept Ailman's dreams alive. Claims were made by some of Silver City's founders on Legal Tender Hill, just behind the Grant County Courthouse, known today as Boston Hill. Ailman forged ahead, determined to make his mark in the new territory, partnering with other prospectors as he could, given that "sinking a shaft" was done by hand; demanding, hard physical labor. Dangerous too.

According to his memoir, he and Frank Whitmer were encouraged when a sample from around Georgetown revealed a "value of 30 ounces to the ton." So, they built a simple shelter and began driving a shaft. On November 17, 1872, they reached a depth sufficient for blasting material - black powder and fuse. Ailman set the shot, cut the fuse, laid out wood shavings and struck the match - nothing. Or so they thought.

"Both of us put our hands on the windlass roller and were looking for the spit, when BANG! went the shot. I was knocked down and out, but I soon came to enough to call Frank. Receiving no answer, I called again without trying to get up; still no answer. By this time I had recovered a little, so I raised my head to look on my left where Frank had stood before the blast. Horror! One eye was a mass of blood and the other tight closed. I carried him to our cabin and stretched him out on the bed. He was unconscious and soon drew his last breath."

Ailman held a shiny piece of tin to his face and saw that his own eye was a bloody mess. Offering a prayer for his friend, he grabbed his gun and headed for Silver City. He came upon Sheriff H.H. Whitehill, who took him to the town doctor, M.H. Carson, who patched him up. Once recovered, Ailman began working for other prospectors in the Mimbres Mining District, which became Georgetown in 1874. He soon met Hartford "Henry" M. Meredith, "heavy-set, bald and with a mild disposition." The two became fast friends.

Ailman, Meredith and others continued to work the Georgetown claims. One day, H.B.'s experience, hard work and sacrifice at last paid off.

"Working as hard as I could, I sent up bucket after bucket, breaking everything with a sledge. Finally, a little bump struck out in the lime. "That's not lime," I told myself. "I believe that's ore." He quickly showed the lump to Meredith, who exclaimed, "My God. That looks good." With the help of a mining company manager, they quickly shut down the shaft, and started a rumor that Ailman was out of money, so as to conceal the strike until he and Meredith could determine that it was legal under existing mining laws. It was, and the Naiad Queen Mine became one of the most abundant in Grant County, employing 20 men at its height of production. Meredith and Ailman eventually sold the mine for \$160,000, a very handsome sum indeed. They were rich men.

By this time the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific railroads were nearing Silver City, now a substantial banking and shipping center. Ailman and Meredith decided to build homes in town and go into business, first buying out merchant Joseph Reynolds who was retiring. They remodeled the store at the northwest corner of Bullard and Broadway, adding a second story, and began work on their identical Mansard-roofed homes, built by contractor Robert Black.

The early 1880s were boomtimes in Silver City, and Ailman and Meredith soon expanded their mercantile trade and opened a bank in the north room of their store. But by 1883 two other banks had failed in Grant County, and though the Meredith and Ailman bank remained solvent, a combination of heavy investments in overstocked cattle at a time of severe drought, silver prices propped up by the federal government for coin making, and a run on the bank resulted in its failure in 1887.

(Ailman Cont)

This period marked the beginning of the end for H.B. Ailman's boom cycle in Grant County. It took five years for the courts to settle his estate, then in 1892 the Ailman family relocated to Long Beach, California, where Henry tried his hand in the oil business with modest success. He kept his hand in mining for the remainder of his career, and died in Long Beach in 1938 at the age of 94.

For more information about the economic development of Grant County, visit the museum's latest exhibit, "*Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880 - 1950.*" See also, "*Six Guns and Single-Jacks, A History of Silver City and Southwestern New Mexico*", by Bob Alexander, and *Pioneering in Territorial New Mexico, The Memoirs of H.B. Ailman*, edited by Helen J. Lundwall, both for sale in the museum's gift shop. Online, visit [silvercitymuseum.org](http://silvercitymuseum.org).

*Meredith & Ailman Bank on the west side of Bullard Street and one door north of Broadway Street. Shown in the photograph from left to right: H.B. Ailman, unknown person, Hartford M. Meredith and Colonel J.W. Carter, 1885.*



## In The News

### You're Invited

On March 24 at 6pm, there will be a sneak preview opening reception for the upcoming exhibit "*Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880-1950*" The invitation-only event is open to active members of the Silver City Museum Society, and will feature live music and refreshments. The scholars that helped inform the research for the exhibit, museum staff, and presenters for the upcoming series of community conversations will be on hand to answer questions.

### Give Grandly

Watch for this year's Give Grandly community fundraising event happening in May. Last year our generous supporters donated more

than \$5,000 to the museum, and we hope to top that amount this year. Visit [givegrandly.org](http://givegrandly.org) to watch our campaign video "*The Good, The Bad, & The Grandly*", starring local cowboy-poet turned western-action star, Stuart Hooker! Check the Give Grandly website, [www.givegrandly.org](http://www.givegrandly.org), for the 2022



event, and mark the date on your calendar. Give Local, and please Give Grandly!

### NMHC Grant

Silver City Museum staff are excited to announce that we have been awarded a \$23,500 grant from the New Mexico Humanities Council to develop programs

for teachers and students grades fourth through twelfth. The project will be led by a local consultant, Dr. Robert Haworth, who received his PhD in curriculum and instruction, focusing on social studies education with a minor in history. Dr. Haworth will be working with the museum's Volunteer, Youth and Family Program Manager, and experienced educator, Shannon Wilson. Our hope is that with the help of this grant, we will be able to establish a long-lasting relationship between the museum and local schools offering the museum's resources to support classroom instruction.



## Volunteer View

If you've recently moved to Silver City and have been kicking around the idea of getting involved in something, joining our volunteer crew at the Silver City Museum would be an excellent place to start. It's a chance to learn about our fascinating local history, meet new people and put your unique set of skills, talents and experiences to work!

The museum staff, volunteers, donors and members are excited to bring local history to life through our quarterly exhibits, educational programs, collections and more, and that means there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Right now we are looking for a few good folks to greet visitors, offer tours of the museum, help categorize and further organize our more than 20,000 items in the museum collections, provide technical support and any other service or assistance you, dear volunteer, might wish to offer!

I keep wondering, (oftentimes out loud) if all these new folks around town know how important volunteers are in this community, and how we can get to know them? Without the generosity of people willing to donate their time and talents, so much of what makes the museum and indeed our beautiful town so terrific would cease to exist. We just can't do it without you! So learn more about volunteering at the museum, please contact me, Shannon Wilson, at (575) 597-5722. Or stop by the museum anytime Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, or on Saturdays and Sundays, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm.



*Shannon Wilson, Volunteer, Youth and Family Programs Manager*

# Curator's Corner

## Grandma Was a Bootlegger:

Rising Above Economic Segregation in Silver City

By Javier Marrufo

The Chihuahua Hill History Project has been underway since mid-2021. The project, aimed at creating the first in depth history of the neighborhood of Chihuahua Hill, has turned up countless stories, experiences, and perspectives underrepresented in local history. As the museum prepares new programs and exhibits centered around the economic history of Silver City, I reflected on the historic poverty of Chihuahua Hill.

Raised by my grandparents, I had always heard the stories of the poverty they lived through. Mexican Americans consistently occupied lesser positions, received lower pay than their Anglo counterparts, and many were outright discouraged to seek betterment through education. Many people worked multiple side jobs just to get by. Whispers of bootlegging laced the casual conversations of my elders, but I never asked about it outright.

I got my chance to learn about bootlegging in Chihuahua Hill while interviewing a woman named Mary who divulged to me in a hushed whisper, "My grandma was a bootlegger."

Mary regaled me with the stories of her Grandma Josefa, who illegally bought and sold alcohol from her house, hiding the contraband in a galvanized steel trash can bought from Schadel's Bakery. The tin can retained cold better than the common tin bins of the time. She told me how she helped her grandma, hauling ice from the ice plant on Bullard Street, or finding bottles to reuse in the Big Ditch.

"I would go to the arroyo, to the depot, to look for wine bottles. I would find some and I would come and wash them for my grandma real good, soaking with water with a hose and everything, put them in the sun. Then I would help her pour with a pitcher. Then they were ready for my Grandma to sell for \$1.50" They were fun stories. I learned that aside from bootlegging, Mary's grandma owned rental property; another source of income.

Mary is proud of her Grandma who made money where she could, remarking with a grin, "My Grandma was a hustler."

A few months and a dozen oral histories later, I learned that bootlegging was a common practice in Silver City. Throughout the



*Chapel on Chihuahua Hill, Silver City. 1900. The chapel, La Capilla, was built in 1885 and dedicated that December to Our Lady of Guadalupe by local residents. The funds to build the chapel were provided by Hippolyta Manquero.*



*Javier Marrufo, Curator, Silver City Museum*

early 20th Century, "blue laws" prohibited the sale of alcohol on Sundays, frustrating citizens and alcohol serving establishments alike. The area was ripe for business, and many took advantage. Everyone I interviewed seemed to know someone in the bootleg game. I found myself expressing, "It seems like everybody's Grandma was a bootlegger."

After making that comment to an interviewee named Fred, I was reacquainted with a familiar name as he cheerily recounted, "There was quite a few bootleggers here, one of them was my Grandma. She lived on the Southside of town, and her name was Josefa Salazar." It turns out Mary and Fred are first cousins.

I'm not sure if I had any preconceived notions about bootleggers, but Fred's account gave me a vivid picture. Grandma Josefa struck a deal with the owner of La Alianza, part social club, part-time bar and dance hall, located at the foot of Chihuahua Hill. Josefa supplied alcohol to La Alianza, dedicating a room of her house as a recreation area for her clientele. A Sunday beer could be enjoyed over a game of cards, and the miracle cure of menudo was available to anyone nursing a hangover. In time, the business expanded as she casually paid anyone who would deliver product for the weekend sales. Grandchildren were always happy to help, hoping to earn some candy money. It was lucrative for the times. According to Fred, beer ran about \$2 for three quarts.

These small transactions supplemented other income and often meant the difference between going to sleep hungry or not.

Josefa put her money to good use. "My Grandma, a lot of people claimed that she was rich. I don't know how rich she was, but I can tell you one thing. She had a lot of property," Fred told me with an air of sentimentality. She rented most of her properties, multi-room apartments and old adobe houses. Her renters often consisted of viejitos, widows, and divorcees. She would take them in, feed them from time to time, and provide affordable living. Other properties were reserved for her family. Fred proudly lives in one of her properties to this day, nearly 70 years later.

Josefa Salazar was a Mexican-American businesswoman living in the informally segregated Silver City of the early 20th Century. Her story isn't uncommon. Although strictly residential today, Chihuahua Hill of the thirties, forties and fifties was full of small, family businesses, most run by women. Restaurants and grocery stores usually operated out of family homes, in converted front rooms, or freshly built additions. Restauranters, grocers, and bootleggers were often one in the same.

I asked if these casual bootleggers were ever troubled by the law. Fred told me how the barrio looked out for their own. "Even the cops knew, but I think a lot of them did them the favor and didn't prosecute them because that's the way they were making their living, you know." Warnings traveled from house to house when "federales," government agents from Santa Fe, lurked up and down the pitted dirt streets of Chihuahua Hill looking for a potential bust.

## Bootlegging (cont)

Fred and I talked for a few hours. He concluded the interview by saying, “I’m not ashamed, she was a bootlegger. She made her living. She had to. They had to. They had to do what they had to do to make a living, because there was only the mines.”

These were the same mines whose segregated wages led to the famed Empire Zinc Strike in the early 1950s. I understood the position Josefa was in. She was a single woman, a mother, and a grandmother. She lived in a world where economic lines were drawn along racial or gender divisions. Josefa, like so many others, did what she could with what she was given. She provided for her family and tried to help others where she could.

Bootlegging lasted only as long as the blue laws. Stores and restaurants typically lasted until the deaths of their owners. The arrival of brand stores like J.C. Penny’s or K-mart provided the final nail in the coffin for most family-owned businesses on Chihuahua Hill. The decades have past, and most are now memories of those old enough to remember. By doing these interviews, it is plain to see the respect that people still have for those people who provided for their community any way they could. Josefa Salazar lived and died long before I was born, but I’m grateful that I’ve learned her story.

Josefa’s story is one of countless that have materialized through interviews over the course of the Chihuahua Hill History Project. That is the importance of this project. Everyone has mothers, fathers, grandparents, or siblings, whose actions comprise the most precious memories of our lives, whose guidance has contributed to the physical, emotional, and cultural well-being of their community. The project seeks to shine a light on them.



View of Chihuahua Hill facing West. On top of hill, at the center of the image, is The Little Chapel, La Capilla. Adobe houses dot the hill from top the bottom. At front right is the old train station with tracks in front. A windmill in the front foreground.

## Upcoming WILL Class

Javier Marrufo will be teaching an upcoming WILL course, *Chihuahua Hill History Project: An Introduction to Oral History* on Monday, March 7 and Friday, March 11. On day one the class will explore the methodology behind oral histories, what they accomplish, and examine the real-life application of oral history with the latest updates from the Chihuahua Hill History Project. Participants will be asked to conduct their own interviews with someone in their lives before reconvening on day two to discuss their experiences. Javier will also be the keynote speaker for the WNMU Academic Symposium on April 26.

## Programs and Exhibits

A new exhibit, “Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880 - 1950,” opens March 26th in the Museum’s Dodge Gallery, and is the first of seven quarterly exhibits which take a deeper dive into each of seven themes that were highlighted in the popular educational series, *“Unpacking Silver City”*. These themes - Community Building, Cultural Identities, The Economy, The Environment, Health and Medicine, The Role of Government, and The Wild West in Pop Culture - provide a focal point for understanding the region’s culturally rich and diverse history.

“*Booms and Busts*” focuses on the theme of the economy, and will be on display through May. See page 4 for details about the members only “sneak preview” reception. The exhibit features several historic, large-format photographs which depict the economic development of Silver City, from rough-and-tumble mining outpost to a more organized and “civilized” town life. Highlights include the facade of the Silco Theater in different eras, including when it was known as the

Airdome Theater. Visitors will be taken on a visual tour back in time to Silver City’s early days, and delight in numerous, four-foot, black and white images of merchants past.

Organized by types of businesses, the exhibit features grocers and butchers, pharmacies and general mercantile, clothing stores, furniture and home goods, eating and drinking establishments, entertainment, transportation and banking, and hotels, including The Palace as it was in its original construction.

Visitors will enjoy learning about local history through the unfolding of the local economy, and locals will enjoy contrasting present-day businesses with the types of buildings and businesses that existed along Bullard and Broadway streets long ago.

An interactive family activity is also part of the exhibit, which allows children to explore and learn about the concept of merchant capitalism as it was experienced by early settlers to the region.





1941. Exterior of the Silco Movie Theater on Bullard Street. Marquee reads "Norma Shearer - Robert Taylor In 'Escape' / Latest Paramount News." Store on the left side of the entrance is the Silco Confectionary.

Source material is drawn largely from the work of local scholars, including WNMU Professor Scott Fritz, PhD.

Traditionally the local economy of Silver City and Grant County was driven by mining and ranching, both noted for their boom and bust cycles. In Silver City's early days, silver prices were propped up by the federal government, which recognized the importance of mining to the development of the Western territories, and so guaranteed the purchase of silver ore for producing coins. The cattle industry, too, has known its share of highs and lows over the millennia. A combination of drought, overstocking and overgrazing, for instance, contributed to the collapse of the Ailman and Meredith Bank in 1887.

Early on, general store merchants primarily existed to supply miners, who often were extended credit to stimulate mining claims, which contributed heavily to Silver City's boom of the early 1880s. By 1883 the arrival of the railroad put Silver City on the map as a center of transportation, which further spurred the development of the town as well as the entire region, leading to the diversification of goods and services.

For more information on "*Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880-1950*," please visit [silvercitymuseum.org](http://silvercitymuseum.org), or call (575) 538-5921. The museum gift store also offers several books on local history, including "Pioneering in Territorial New Mexico," the personal memoirs of Silver City businessman H.B. Ailman, and other titles which discuss the region's economic development.

*Opposite: Southwest corner of Main Street. and Broadway shows drug-store operated by Dr. G.W. Bailey; New Cash Store, owned and operated by Mr. & Mrs. H.D. Gilbert; and the Grant County Bank, which failed in December, 1883. From left to right: H.D. Gilbert; Miss Mary Sullivan; Mrs. Lottie Thumon (aka famous gambler, "Lottie Deno"); Jake House; Gordon Bradley; one of the next two is thought to be Mike O'Brien (train robber); Dr. G.W. Bailey; Judge W.H. Newcombe; Tom Cobb; surveyer Ross; others are unidentified, 1882.*

*Below: Interior of The Leader Department Store which was owned and operated by the Borenstein Brothers. On the right is Eli Borenstein and Ben is to the left, 1896.*



# Community Conversations

A three-part history lecture series and community conversations will further explore the theme of the economy. (For details, please refer to the calendar listing on the back page.)

The programs consist of two parts. The first is a history presentation by a featured speaker. After a brief intermission, a panel of guest commentators and stakeholders in the community will participate in a moderated conversation with the audience and each other on both the history presentation and related current issues.

All of the programs will be available to attend in person at the Silco Theater (with Covid-safe precautions), as well as via live stream on Zoom and Facebook.

Audience participation is highly encouraged. Audience members joining from home will have their questions and comments relayed to the speaker and commentators by the host in real time.

**March 26**, Kathryn Flynn of the New Deal Society will open the discussion on the social implications of boom and bust cycles. Later she will be joined by David Chandler, executive director of The Commons, and Christina Wofford, director of Serving People in Need, (SPIN).



**April 23rd** Scott Fritz, PhD, history professor at WNMU, will discuss how government policies have impacted Grant County businesses. Titled "*Business in Grant County: An Economic History of Southwest New Mexico 1870-1952*," Dr. Fritz will discuss New Deal-era policies, the end of the gold standard, times of recession, and other topics.

**On May 21** the theme of economic segregation will be highlighted by Museum Curator Javier Marrufo, through his research into the history of Chihuahua Hill. The Chihuahua Hill Project is a series of oral histories given by local residents.



These programs are co-sponsored by our partners at The Western Institute for Lifelong Learning (WILL)





# The Mansardian

The Silver City Museum Society  
312 W. Broadway  
Silver City, NM 88061

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# Upcoming Programs

## March

### Chihuahua Hill History Project: An

#### Introduction to Oral History

March. 7, March 11, WILL

Info at [www.will.community](http://www.will.community). Javier Marrufo will be teaching an upcoming WILL course, *Chihuahua Hill History Project: An Introduction to Oral History*. On day one the class will explore the methodology behind oral histories, what they accomplish, and examine the real-life application of oral history with the latest updates from the Chihuahua Hill History Project.

#### Exhibit Opening Reception

March 24, 6 pm, Silver City Museum

A members-only sneak preview opening reception for the upcoming exhibit *"Booms and Busts: Small Business in Grant County, 1880-1950"* event is open to active members of the Silver City Museum Society, and will feature live music and refreshments. Staff and scholars will be on hand to answer your questions.

### The Social Price of Economic Fluctuation

#### in Southwest New Mexico

March. 26, 11 am, The Silco Theatre and Zoom

Register & Attend online at [www.SilverCityMuseum.Org](http://www.SilverCityMuseum.Org) by selecting Programs & Events. Kathryn Flynn of the New Deal Society will open the discussion on the social implications of boom and bust cycles. Later she will be joined by David Chandler, executive director of The Commons, and Christina Wofford, director of Serving People in Need, (SPIN). Co-sponsored by WILL.

## April

### The Power of the Legislature: Lawmakers' Impact on the Economy

April 23, 11 am, Silco Theater and Zoom

Register & Attend online at [www.SilverCityMuseum.Org](http://www.SilverCityMuseum.Org) by selecting Programs & Events. Scott Fritz, PhD, history professor at WNMU, will discuss how government policies have impacted Grant County businesses. Dr. Fritz will be joined by a panel of community stakeholders.

## May

### A Thin Red Line: How has economic segregation influenced Southwest New Mexico?

May 21, 11 am, Silco Theater and Zoom

Register & Attend online at [www.SilverCityMuseum.Org](http://www.SilverCityMuseum.Org) by selecting Programs & Events. Economic segregation will be highlighted by Museum Curator Javier Marrufo, through his research into the history of Chihuahua Hill. He will be joined by a panel of community stakeholders that work closely with those affected by economic segregation.

## Become a Member

- Be part of a community institution devoted to southwest New Mexico's history.
- Newsletters and emails to keep you up to date on Museum activities.
- Invitations to exhibit openings and members-only events.
- 10% off everyday at the museum store (including online) and 20% holiday discount.

For more information visit our website at [www.SilverCityMuseumSociety.org](http://www.SilverCityMuseumSociety.org)

Like Us On Facebook!



## Membership Levels:

Basic Active Volunteer	\$15
Basic Student	\$15
Basic Senior	\$30
Basic Friend	\$35
Basic Family and Couples	\$50
Sponsor Membership Package	\$100
Basic membership perks plus: recognition on the Museum Appreciation Wall and a print of a historic photo from the Museum's Archives.	\$150
Business Membership Package	\$250
All sponsor benefits plus: window Decal of Appreciation and acknowledgement on our website.	\$500
Patron Membership Package	\$500
All Business benefits plus: Private, behind-the-scenes, tour of the Museum with the Director	\$500
Benefactor Membership Package	\$500
All Patron benefits plus \$50.00 Gift Certificate at the Museum Store	\$500