



Summer 2007

The Old Santa Fe Association Preservation News

Preserving Santa Fe since 1926



The City of Santa Fe has decided to annex proposed high-density housing that will change the character of the Old Pecos Trail/Old Las Vegas Highway entry into Santa Fe. OSFA was opposed.

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It's Here: www.theoldsantafe.com

The Old Santa Fe Association's Web site is up and running. At the moment, it's pretty basic but it will be growing bigger, better and more informative by the day. Not only will we be able to communicate to you what's going on immediately, but you'll have at your fingertips OSFA's archives, suggested reading lists and upcoming events. We'll be able to ask you directly what you think about important issues facing the City. We'll be able to take "straw polls" reflecting your concerns; we'll be

able to communicate the results to the Mayor and City Council. We'll be able to issue "alerts" on important meetings. And for the first time ever, we'll produce questionnaires to candidates running for City office to determine their positions on historic preservation.

We're very excited about this new tool to keep us in contact with each other, and to advance our important work on behalf of Santa Fe. Welcome to www.theoldsantafe.com!

Message from the President

In January of this year, Karen Walker completed her three-year term as President of the Old Santa Fe Association. Karen has worked tirelessly and effectively throughout her tenure as our president, and the OSFA Board is grateful for her guidance and leadership. I am particularly thankful for her support for me personally, for her vast knowledge of the workings of City Hall, and for her continued dedication to historic preservation. Given Karen's history of service to the community, we were delighted - but not at all surprised - that she was willing to serve on the Historic Design Review Board representing our organization.

Jane's contributions toward preserving our City have been exceptional. She has been the constant force for communicating the importance of maintaining our City's historic heritage over inappropriate development; she has been the eloquent voice of preservation, following in the footsteps of her friend and mentor, Sara Melton. Jane has wanted for some time to return to family and friends unencumbered by the uniquely tortuous demands of the Historic Design Review Board. She's more than earned a rest - she has earned our deepest thanks for her passion, dedication and caring. Sara would be proud, Jane.

In July, Mayor Coss appointed Karen to replace Jane Farrar, OSFA's representative on the Historic Design Review Board for the last five years.

Throughout the first six months of 2007 the historic preservation community has had much to ponder, from the
(Continued on page 2)

OSFA Wins Award

On May 17, Santa Feans gathered to recognize those citizens and organizations that contributed to local preservation efforts over the past year. Held at the historic Paloheimo Estate on Acequia Madre, Heritage Preservation Awards were given to individuals and groups that contributed to the protection of the City's architectural patrimony.

The City of Santa Fe presented the Old Santa Fe Association with the first-ever *Sara Melton Award*, created in the memory of the late preservationist. The award recognizes the highest achievements in preserving Santa Fe's historic character. OSFA is delighted that the City chose to establish an award that recognizes

the tireless preservation efforts of our past Board member. OSFA is also honored to be the first recipient.

OSFA presented Cecilia Rios with our first annual *Cultural Preservation Award* in recognition of her devoted commitment to preservation and for her eighteen continuous years of service on the Historic Design Review Board.



HDRB Vice-Chair Cecilia Rios and OSFA President Marilyn Bane at the Heritage Preservation Awards.

Pete Ortega, of the City's Inspection and Enforcement Division, received the *Mayor's Award*.

After nearly three decades of working with those who restore, renovate, or build additions to historic buildings, he is retiring. His expertise and depth of

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The Sara Melton Award recognizes the highest achievements in preserving Santa Fe's historic character.

"...the Old Santa Fe Association will continue our tradition of proactive City

Message *(Continued from page 1)*
Downtown Vision Plan to the recent reorganization of the City's departments and services to the new development on Old Las Vegas Highway and Old Pecos Trail.

If it's happening in Santa Fe, it's a safe bet the Old Santa Fe Association is involved one way or another.

Most often it's in an official capacity – members of our Board are active at every level of City government. We appear and testify at the various commissions, boards and committees that make the important recommendations and decisions that affect our City and our lives. Informally, we meet on an ongoing basis with the Mayor, City Councilors, City Manager, Planning and Land Use Director, etc. to gain information, to clarify issues and to register our concerns. Largely as a

result of these efforts, we've had a fair number of successes to report, which you can see reflected in the pages of this newsletter.

I assure you that, in 2007 and beyond, the Old Santa Fe Association will continue in our tradition of proactive City involvement on your behalf.

Meanwhile, I am proud to be your new President, and I hope you will continue your support of our organization this year and in the years ahead. If there are questions you have about OSFA, committees you'd like to join or suggestions you'd like to offer, please feel free to call me at 984-8428.

Warmly,

Marilyn Bane, President

Awards (Continued from page 2)
 experience will be difficult to replace.

An archaeological award was given to Cordelia Snow for her research on his-

toric documents related to the downtown area. Cordelia has probably found, read and translated more Spanish documents about downtown Santa Fe than most scholars.



Cecilia Rios celebrates her Cultural Preservation Award from OSFA with her sisters.



Jan Wisniewski (OSFA), Jane Farrar (HDRB) and Rad Acton (OSFA) at the Heritage Preservation Awards ceremony.



Pete Ortega (center), with his wife, receives the Mayor's Award from Jack Hiatt, Acting Director of Planning and Land Use.

Lost Treasures

Santa Fe has lost three strong champions for preservation in 2007. OSFA valued the contributions of these hard-working individuals in protecting our City's historic fabric and ambience, but also thought of them as good friends. On the one-year anniversary of her death, OSFA members also took the time to remember the unparalleled efforts of Sara Melton to preserve our City's unique charm.

Sam Ballen, owner of the La Fonda Hotel and a lifetime member of OSFA, died in February after living in Santa Fe for 40 years. Sam bought La Fonda in 1967 and steadfastly preserved its historic flavor.

In addition to his concern with protecting Santa Fe's patrimony, he and his

wife, Ethel, supported many of our community's nonprofit organizations. Sam was actively involved with our local museums and cultural events, helping all in whatever way he could. In 2006, he shared his vision for the Santa Fe of 2031, worrying that the town would become more an image of Sedona or Scottsdale. His hope was that in 2031 "Santa Fe will remain Santa Fe."

Olivia Tsoie, a former OSFA president and Village of Agua Fria activist, also died in February. Oliva moved to Agua Fria in 1953 and cared for the character of her neighborhood and Santa Fe ever after. She was knowledgeable in land use, water, environmental, governmental and social justice issues. Those

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MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Mayor David Coss 988-7373

District 1

Patti Bushee 982-1270
 Chris Calvert 992-8097

District 2

Karen Heldmeyer 982-3968
 Rebecca Wurzbarger 982-6351

District 3

Miguel Chavez 984-8125
 Camichael Dominguez 955-6590

District 4

Matthew Ortiz 424-3930
 Ron Trujillo 424-1791

OSFA Efforts in 2007

January

OSFA presses for "findings of fact" from the Historic Design Review Board (HDRB) to reduce number of appeals to City Council

OSFA offers to subsidize an Historic Ordinance orientation for HDRB, staff and City Council members

OSFA works with the HDRB to streamline the board's tasks by giving staff preliminary review decisions in routine cases

OSFA advises on proposed development of St. Catherine's Indian School; registers concern over "benign neglect" of historic buildings

OSFA Board approves purchase of Web site domain www.theoldsantafe.com

February

OSFA Board welcomes new officers: Marilyn Bane, President; Tim Maxwell, Vice President; Richard Ellenberg, Secretary; Richard McCord, Treasurer

OSFA asks school board for postponement of status review of Carlos Gilbert and Acequia Madre schools

OSFA supports adoption of new State Codes prior to approving a green building code

March

OSFA works to protect the Manderfield School by adding it to the state registry

OSFA reviews preliminary architectural plans for the new County Courthouse

OSFA requests inclusion of a member of the historic preservation community on the Convention & Tourist Bureau advisory committee

OSFA Board members press for division status for the Historic Preservation Section at City Hall

April

OSFA reviews model of the proposed Lencic Project with Jeff Seres and Alexis Girard; requests special meeting regarding height

OSFA sponsors Rita Garcia as a candidate for La Reina in the Fiesta Court

OSFA Board votes not to endorse the Downtown Vision Plan and petitions the City

Council not to adopt the plan without further refinement

OSFA reaffirms our 10-year support for water in the Santa Fe River

OSFA plans new Cultural Preservation Award to be given during Preservation Week

May

OSFA receives Sara Melton Award from the HDRB, presents Cecilia Rios with OSFA's first Cultural Preservation Award during Preservation Week Awards ceremony

OSFA meets with Jack Hiatt, Acting Director of Planning and Land Use, receives assurance that Historic Preservation Section will be a Division under new reorganization plans; volunteers to offer guidance and ideas about changes in the Historic Code, particularly on appeals and procedures

OSFA Board votes to testify against proposed high-density housing near the Old Las Vegas Highway and Old Pecos Trail intersection, as it is the last remaining historic entry into Santa Fe

OSFA supports retaining the footprint of one of the oldest stone walls in Santa Fe on Paseo de Peralta between Washington Avenue and Otero Street, while reducing the height for public safety purposes; repeats concerns that a negative outcome could set a dangerous precedent affecting all the walls, driveways and streets in our historic districts

June

OSFA agrees to be a sponsor of the upcoming symposium "Liquid Assets: Using Water in the Arid Southwest" to be held in November

OSFA sends letter to Cultural Properties Review Committee in support of putting Manderfield School on the historic register

OSFA joins subcommittee to plan celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Historic Ordinance in October

OSFA attends meetings on Downtown Park and Shuttle Opportunities, presses for comprehensive marketing plan to include discounted parking rates for locals

OSFA successfully works to upgrade the City Historic Preservation Section to a Division.

OSFA petitions City Council to not adopt Downtown Vision Plan.

OSFA receives Sara Melton Preservation Award.

OSFA votes to protest high-density housing near the Old Las Vegas Highway and Old Pecos Trail intersection.

Treasures (Continued from page 3) interests were global, too, and she was a worldwide traveler. She frequently shared dispatches on local and world affairs with friends, acquaintances and those in the preservation community. As a friend described her, she was "100 percent world citizen and 100 percent local citizens."

Ransom Reynolds, well-known insurance executive and member of many local organizations, died in August. Though raised in California, he made Santa Fe his home in 1970. An active citi-



zen, Ransom contributed to many charities and actively worked in hospice care. He served as OSFA President in the mid-1970s.

Sara Melton died in 2006 but her spirit is not forgotten by the Old Santa Fe Association. A tireless advocate for preserving our City, her work influenced the fundamental elements of our organization's goals today. Unlike citizens who merely appreciate Santa Fe's charm, Sara fought ferociously to protect it. Her encyclopedic knowledge of buildings, issues, neighborhoods, history, and zoning is irreplaceable. She had officially been declared an "asset" by the OSFA Board of Directors.

OSFA Contacts

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Tim Maxwell, *Vice President*
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Richard Ellenberg, *Secretary*
992-1396

Richard McCord, *Treasurer*
982-4781

Directors

- Rad Acton
- Randall Bell
- Philip Crump
- Deanna Einspahr
- Bob Jones
- Ann Lacy
- Maurice Lierz
- Bill Loeb
- Joanne McCarthy
- Wayne Nichols
- Jane Petchesky
- Tom Spray
- Karen Walker
- Mac Watson
- Ted Williams

Ex-Officio

Eric Blinman, Ph.D.
Department of Cultural Affairs

Graciela Tome, Chair
Historic Santa Fe Foundation

Elaine Bergman, Executive Director
Historic Santa Fe Foundation

Bernadette LeRouge
Fiesta Council

Old Santa Fe Association; Historic Santa Fe Foundation: Organizations with the Same Goal — Historic Preservation


The Old Santa Fe Association is a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization. As such, we are a policy-oriented, lobbying organization, and dues are not tax-deductible. (Unless you're a business, in which case the expense can be deducted as advertising/promotion.) Our 80-year old mission is "To promote the prosperity and welfare of the City and County of Santa Fe and their inhabi-

tants, to preserve and maintain the ancient landmarks, historical structures and traditions of Old Santa Fe and to guide their growth and development in such a way as to promote that unique charm and distinction, born of age, culture, tradition and environment, which are the priceless assets and heritage of Santa Fe." For further in-

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If you haven't joined, now is a good time!





THE OLD SANTA FE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1055, Santa Fe, NM 87504

Annual Membership Dues

<p>ANNUAL DUES:</p> <p>_____ Regular \$25</p> <p>_____ Patron \$50</p> <p>_____ Business \$50</p> <p>_____ Leader \$100</p>	<p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>CITY/STATE _____</p> <p>ZIP _____</p> <p>PHONE _____</p> <p>E-MAIL _____</p>
--	--

Thank you!



PO Box 1055, Santa Fe, New Mexico

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We're on the Web
www.theoldsantafe.com

Our Mission

"To promote the prosperity and welfare of the City and County of Santa Fe and their inhabitants, to preserve and maintain the ancient landmarks, historical structures and traditions of Old Santa Fe and to guide their growth and development in such a way as to promote that unique charm and distinction, born of age, culture, tradition and environment, which are the priceless assets and heritage of Santa Fe."

Organizations (Continued from page 5) information, contact Marilyn Bane, President at mabinsf@aol.com or Richard McCord, Membership Chair at 982-4781 or richardmccord@msn.com

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. It was founded by the Old Santa Fe Association in 1961 as a way of acquiring and preserving historic properties in the City. Membership dues and gifts are

tax-deductible. The mission of the Historic Santa Fe Foundation is *to own, preserve and protect historic properties and resources of Santa Fe and its environs and to provide historic preservation education.* For further information, contact Elaine Bergman, Executive Director at 983-2567 or elaine@historicsantafe.com.

Both organizations need and deserve your support.

Cultural and Historical Perspectives on Water

OSFA is supporting the upcoming symposium *Liquid Assets: Using Water in the Arid Southwest*. How have Santa Feans and Southwesterners obtained and used water in the past? Can we learn and benefit from the knowledge and practices of our predecessors? What is the flow-history of our own Santa Fe River and the effect of damming? Who legally "owns" the Rio Grande's waters? These are a few of the fascinating questions that will be

discussed on November 3 at the Armory for the Arts.

Experts in anthropology, climatology, history, geography and law; from New Mexico's diverse cultures, will be speaking throughout the day. The cost is \$30 for the full day. For more information, contact Tim Maxwell at tim_maxwell@newmexico.com. To reserve, call 992-2715 beginning September 3.