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## Spring 2022 Newsletter



### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE Farina King, Ph.D.

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#### SOHA 2022 Memories Forever

I will never forget our SOHA 2022 annual conference in the homelands of the Nuwuvi, Southern Paiute People, at the UNLV Lied Library. It was a bittersweet moment to announce that I would be concluding my term as the SOHA President by this October 2022. This was the first time that SOHA members met in person since we joined the Oral History Association meeting in Salt Lake City in the fall of 2019. I finally met some of my friends that I made in SOHA over the past several years in person for the first time too! I am so grateful to everyone who made this conference happen. It was magic. We wish that everyone could have joined us in person, but the hybrid option opened our conference to the world and allowed more people to participate in safety. Whether we were in person or on screen, we shared, listened, learned, and enjoyed each other's company.

I realize that SOHA pulled me through the hardships and isolation of the pandemic in many ways. I have learned that we all can come to know each other better as friends, and we all can support each other more through empathy, patience, kindness, and honesty. For the SOHA memories oral history project, oral historian Nathalie Martinez asked me how I would describe my experiences with SOHA in a phrase. I answered something to the effect of (since I need to listen to the recording of the oral history to know exactly): "SOHA is a beautiful journey of making friends and growing community." This journey can challenge and stretch us, but we grow along the way together through the connections and understandings that we make and learn.

Thank you to everyone who made the SOHA 2022 conference at the UNLV Lied Library possible, especially the SOHA program and local arrangements committees with Summer Cherland as the leader and the UNLV Libraries and College of Liberal Arts. Thank you all for making SOHA a community that sustains me through friendship with so many different people who share a love and dedication of oral history and memory work.

Díí Baa Ahééh Niilzin (We are thankful for this)!

Ahéhee' (Thank you) for supporting me as the SOHA President, 2021-2022. I am a happy lifetime member of the SOHA family.

Best wishes,  
Farina King

# James V. Mink Award Barbara Tabach



Receiving the 2022 James V. Mink Award from SOHA was a stunning surprise. When Jennifer Keil called me with the news, I was brought to tears. Being recognized by one's peers for work you love is among the highest honors of a lifetime and it was never expected.

It gave me pause to reflect on the important role oral history has played in my personal story. It has been a joyful and humbling aspect of my being. As a profession, becoming a professional oral historian was an accident. An accidental collision of career adjustments and experiences that brought me to the edge of the cliff and then I jumped in.

Using oral history is innate. Born of curiosity and nurtured by listening, being a successful oral historian takes practice. It may not be an essential skill, but it sure helps in many roles we play in life.

For me at a very young age. I loved my Grandma Berardi so much and I was endlessly curious about her youth, how she came to leave Italy, and how to make great meatballs. She was more than this snuggly persona and a woman with depth and experiences I would never have. However, knowing her experiences would subtly influence the person I became. It would also help me to come to understand my father and his unfulfilled aspirations; the major one being a college education.

That aspiration was passed along to me. I am the first, and only, of my generation to attend and graduate from college. I fulfilled the dream. And for six years I taught high school English and journalism in Iowa. My first position was in a rural school district. Suddenly I was the city girl landing in the rolling farm country surrounded by corn, soybeans, sorghum, hogs, and cattle. Class sizes were small, and farm chores could constitute an excused absence for students.

Getting a teaching job in the early 1970s was challenging and I felt fortunate to secure a position. To be a better teacher, the city-girl in me needed to come to understand the rural lifestyle. To engage in storytelling and empathy with others, I used the recordings of Studs Terkel in the classroom. Together we listened to the human experiences of the 1940s and discussed the limitations and the possibilities that exist for all of us.

My vicarious understanding of the rural perspective blossomed. I gained a respect for the labor and pride of farmers, of how the family farm was an endangered entity on the landscape, and what the ambitions of my students might include. As I connected to my students' life experiences, I was becoming a better teacher I hoped. Like me many were aspirational. Though many would remain on the family farm, others sought work at nearby factories, and still others set the goal to become the first in their family to go to college. I understood that spirit and was proud to be a small part of their learning process.



Teaching was a wonderful career. However, life charts its own course as we open doors, meet new people, and make unexpected choices. No matter what I did, my curiosity and openness to listening to the stories of others served me well. Yet, it would not be until years later that it became my passionate focus.

By the time I started my LifeCatching business, I could describe myself as a rites of passage expert. I had owned bridal shops, been an innovator in the industry and had helped establish our stores among the top ten percent of bridal retailers. Later I was asked to apply my rite of passage knowledge to funeral homes, which is a story all its own and for a later time. However, during my death and dying research, I came to understand how little people really know about their loved ones.

Then in 2007, the same curiosity about locals that I had when I was a 21-year-old teacher in Iowa bubbled forth when the Frontier Hotel and Casino announced it was permanently closing its doors. My husband must take credit for that inspired move to walk into the Frontier without an appointment and then spend two months doing short oral histories of Frontier employees. This would include those who participated in the longest union strike in U.S. history; a cocktail waitress who had worked there since graduating high school in the 1960s; a desk manager who received her U.S. citizenship the day I interviewed her; and another who remembered a dissatisfied guest dragging a mattress to the front desk.

By the time the hotel closed, I had been the judge at the final mud wrestling event and a mediocre Texas two-stepper at Stoney's. This was Las Vegas of yore, an incredible opportunity to experience the Las Vegas that was fading away as the Strip was re-envisioning itself. Another WOW moment for me. Curiosity and listening served me well!

Within a few years, in 2011, I was hired to assist with projects at the Oral History Research Center at UNLV Libraries. As of today, I have participated in a list of projects that range from African American Experience to Latinx Voices, that document the Southern Nevada Jewish population and captured stories from the tragic shooting of 1 October, any many more. I have invested my heart and soul into creating a treasure trove of oral history content.

Today, eleven years after first coming to UNLV's Oral History Center, my journey is taking me to a new adventure. With me, I take my love of oral history. I will always wonder how much better each oral history might have been if I had been just a bit more curious, if I had listened a bit more closely. Suffice it to say, I am not done. New opportunities are before me. Stay tuned to the saga of an always budding oral historian.

Joyfully,

Barbara Tabach

# Lifetime Achievement Award Marcia M. Gallo



The author of two prize-winning books: *Different Daughters: A History of the Daughters of Bilitis and the Rise of the Lesbian Rights Movement* (Carroll & Graf, 2006; Seal Press, 2007) and *"No One Helped": Kitty Genovese, New York City, and the Myth of Urban Apathy* (Cornell University Press 2015), Marcia M. Gallo has authored numerous articles, reviews, and blogs.

Her work was published as part of the groundbreaking *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Queer Oral History* (Boyd and Roque Ramirez; Oxford, 2012) and *Breaking the Wave: Women, Their Organizations, and Feminism 1945-1985* (Laughlin and Castledine; Routledge, 2011).

She also contributed to the *Oxford Handbook on American Women's and Gender History* (2018); the *Routledge History of Queer America* (2018); and *Bloomsbury UK Same-Sex Relationships In History: International Perspectives* (2019). Currently she is exploring the impact of post-World War II radical feminist and lesbian artists and activists on LGBTQ+ politics. For this work she was named the 2017-2018 New York Public Library Martin Duberman Visiting Scholar.

Gallo taught courses at Lehman College in New York (2004-2008) and UNLV (2008-2020) ranging from post 1945 American history and the history of sexuality to the theory and practice of oral history and the politics of place and memory. Before entering academia, she served as the Field Director for the American Civil Liberties Union in San Francisco (1981-1995) and as Director of Donor Programs and Development at the Funding Exchange in New York (1995-2004).

Gallo lives in New York City and Wilmington, Delaware with her spouse Ann Cammett.





# SOHA 2022 Conference Awardees



**Eva Tulene Watt**

**Dr. Elizabeth Rule**

Dr. Elizabeth Rule is Assistant Professor of Critical Race, Gender, and Culture Studies at American University. She is an enrolled citizen of the Chickasaw Nation. Her research on Indigenous issues has been featured in the *Washington Post*, *Matter of Fact* with Soledad O'Brien, *The Atlantic*, *Newsy*, and NPR. She is also a published author, releasing scholarly articles in the *American Quarterly* and in the *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*. She has two forthcoming monographs. The first, "Reproducing Resistance: Gendered Violence and Indigenous Nationhood," analyzes the intersection of violence against Native women, reproductive justice, and the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. Rule's second monograph, "Indigenous DC: Native Peoples and the Nation's Capital" (Georgetown University Press), analyzes historical and contemporary sites of Indigenous importance in Washington and complements her Guide to Indigenous DC mobile application.



**Teagan Dreyer**

Teagan is a citizen of the Choctaw Nation. She began to serve as the SOHA Student Representative in 2019, while she was a MA student in American Studies at Northeastern State University. For her MA thesis, "The Perpetual Impact of Native American Boarding Schools," she developed an oral history project focusing on Native American boarding school experiences in Oklahoma. She continues to study Native American history in her doctoral history program at Oklahoma State University.




**General Scholarship**

**Jonathan Angulo**

Jonathan is a doctoral student in history at Southern Methodist University. Jonathan lived along Southern California's borderlands for twenty-four years before he moved to Dallas, Texas to pursue his Ph.D. at SMU. His studies focus on the transnational (U.S.-Mexico) informal economies of border contraband, odd jobs, and illicit government activities along the California and Texas borderlands during the mid-twentieth century. Jonathan's identity as an ethnic-Mexican who grew up in a bi-national community informs his current research project. He would like to use his research to obtain a job in academia or acquire an occupation in a public history position.

**Matthew Jason Green**



Matt has been a Maybelle Burton Graduate Fellow studying for the Ph.D. in history at the University of Utah. Since 2018, he has conducted over thirty oral history interviews with many of Utah's outdoor recreation industry leaders, conservationists, and prominent back country skiers.



**Karen Marie Villa**

Karen Marie is a sociology doctoral student at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and examines diasporic queer Filipinx communities and uses film as additional medium. She intends to incorporate oral history methodologies into her art and activism. Her areas of research include Justice Studies, Social Problems, Inequality, Marriage and Family, Race and Identity, Gender, and Society.



# Matthew J. Green SOHA 2022 Scholarship Awardee



I would again like to express my gratitude to SOHA for offering me this award and funding to attend the conference. It was my first in-person SOHA conference, and what was so apparent and interesting to me was how the SOHA leadership is so intimately connected. I enjoyed seeing this first-hand and learning how the organization had developed over the years, guided by the leadership and collaboration of friends and close colleagues.

At the conference, I drove down to Las Vegas from SLC, departing early Friday morning. I'd planned to leave Thursday afternoon to attend the opening sessions on Friday morning. However, I was delayed slightly by having to finish editing my dissertation prospectus, which my advisor Greg Smoak had asked me to complete that week. On Friday, I arrived in time to attend Art Hansen's Keynote Address: "The Last 40 Years of Oral History in the Southwest." Art traced a long history of relationships and was itself, in a way, a model oral history of SOHA. For the remainder of the conference, I attended multiple in-person sessions in the Goldfield Room, as follows:

- **Featured Plenary: SOHA Memories and Growing since 1981**
- **Oral History and Memory Activism**
- **Looking through the Portal: Perspectives on Partnering for Digital Oral History Projects**
- **Recent Historiography of Southwest Oral History**
- **Strategies of Segregation: Community Reflections of Schooling and Housing Segregation" by David G. García**
- **Native Voices, Stories and Knowledge Matter: Conservation, Repatriation, and Interpretation throughout the United States**
- **Closing Plenary: The Next 40 Years of SOHA**





The two sessions that really stood out to me from the conference were:

**Looking through the Portal: Perspectives on Partnering for Digital Oral History Projects: Leisl Carr Childers, Colorado State University; Mary Palevsky, Nevada Test Site Oral History Project (absent); & Cory Lampert, UNLV; also Michael Childers, Colorado State University**

It was interesting to hear the panelists discuss the process of planning and conducting a large oral history project. I thought the Q&A afterwards, especially the questions raised by Claytee White regarding what low budget oral historians can do at scale, or simply what big budget projects can teach us. Panelists Leisl Childers and Michael Childers have written important books and articles related to my area of study in outdoor recreation history, and I had the chance to ask them questions and speak with both of them at length, which highlights the importance of in-person conferences for building relationships and networks.

**Native Voices, Stories and Knowledge Matter: Conservation, Repatriation, and Interpretation throughout the United States: Josh Little, UC Riverside; Danny Archuleta, UC Riverside; & Rocio Gomez, UC Riverside; Moderator: Farina King, Northeastern State University**

Danny discussed questions related to returning native lands, objects, and burial remains. Donald L. Fixico's book is an important influence on his thinking. Josh's presentation was titled "How Lakota Conceive of Land & Water" and he focused on questions of sovereignty. I thought it was interesting how he discussed and compared "the (US) superstructure as we know it today" to the deep history of native habitation of the land. He also offered interesting insights on Army Corps of Engineers Projects, which tended to neglect Native American rights and needs, in contrast to "Wolakota" or the Lakota ecological worldview that he described as caring for all of the land and people. He also referred to the extensive holdings in the University of South Dakota Oral History Center. My advisor Greg Smoak has planned to write an environmental history of Little Bighorn, so I mentioned to Josh that he might consider reaching out to him. Finally, Rocio discussed Pipe Springs National Monument and how "pioneer," "Indian," and "Park Service" narratives are all on display, and possibly in competition with one another, on these and other public lands today.

# SOHA Mini-Grant Awardees 2022



**Alexis Meza**

## "Memory, Meaning Making, and Radical Imaginaries in the Salvadoran Diaspora"

Dissertation with Oral History

Alexis Meza is a Ph.D. candidate in History at UC San Diego expected to graduate in 2023. Her dissertation explores the radical politics and historical memory of the Salvadoran diaspora in Los Angeles. Alexis participated in the UC Berkeley's Oral History Center's Introductory Workshop earlier this year and has since conducted multi-session oral histories for her dissertation. In addition to her research, this quarter she is collaborating with UC San Diego's Race and Oral History Project. As part of this collaboration, she assists in training students in transcribing interviews with persons seeking asylum and conducting oral histories with local grassroots advocates that will be added to the project's online archive.

*Image (right) of Matt, an interviewee, from one of the Hot Chocolate Chats*



## Janelle Vannoy Harbor Christian Church Oral History Project

Janelle Vannoy is the contact person for this small community oral history project team in Newport Beach, California for the Harbor Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). The Harbor Christian Church is a small progressive church located in Orange County, California that is celebrating their 60th anniversary. Reflecting on this milestone and the impacts of COVID-19, the church seeks to trace the history of its beginnings and continuing ministry to the surrounding community. This church community is part of a larger domination called the Disciples of Christ Denomination.

Janelle shares the following update: "We were able to begin our Oral History Project in December [2021]. We began with what we like to call Hot Chocolate Chats. We had 4 volunteers who were happy to showcase how an oral history works for the rest of the church. We kept these oral histories small and light and centered around the Christmas Holiday and Their relationship with the church (Harbor Christian Church). From this mini project we were able to gather a number of people willing to give us a complete oral history. I was also asked by a few members to be trained to do Oral Histories so that they can take it to other organizations and families. We are currently planning a small class for this church on how to interview and provide oral histories. I will also be going back for a weekend each month through the end of the year to do Oral histories with the rest of the church. We are very grateful for this mini-grant as it is allowing for a more consistent ability for me to return to California and complete our goal of interviewing each member of the church.



**Corliss Lee**

## Locke Foundation Oral History Project

Corliss Lee, who has a degree in Sociology from Santa Clara University, is the chair of the Locke Foundation Oral History Project. The Locke Foundation is a non-profit that serves the town of Locke, California, which is known as the last rural Chinese town in the United States and a National Historic Landmark. The Locke Foundation initiated this new oral history project to collect interviews of past and present residents and families of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, which is a National Heritage Area. These interviews will be preserved in the Locke Boarding House Museum for future generations, made available to scholastic institutions, historians, media, and the public with the primary mission to gather stories of the Chinese Americans who helped build the levees that created the farm lands of the region.



# SOHA

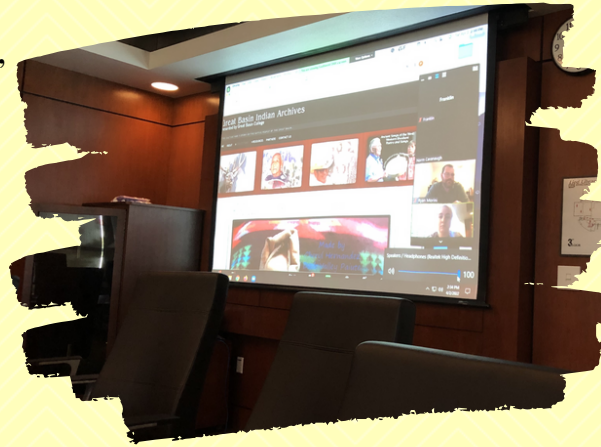
## 2022 Conference



Summer Cherland, Farina King,  
and Joyce Marshall-Moore



*Lifetime Achievement  
Award Recipient  
Marcie Gallo*



Plenary: *"Indigenous Oral  
History in Nevada"*

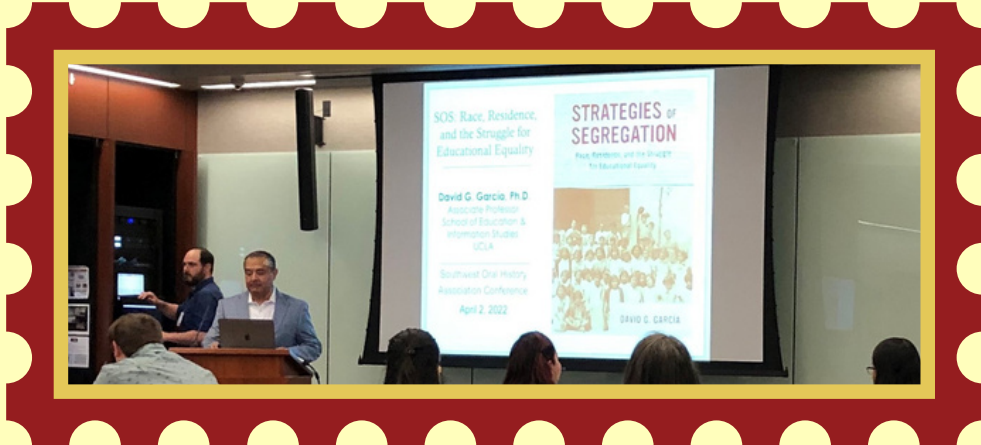


*Mink Award Recipient  
Barbara Tabach*



Panel: *"Indigenous Oral Histories: Lives  
and Memories that Matter"*





*“Strategies of Segregation:” Community Reflections of Schooling and Housing Segregation*  
David G. García



Plenary: *“SOHA Memories and Growing Since 1981”*



*“The Last 40 Years of Oral History in the Southwest”*  
Keynote Speaker: Art Hansen



*SOHA Award Recipients*  
Karen Marie Villa, Teagan Dreyer and Jonathan Angulo



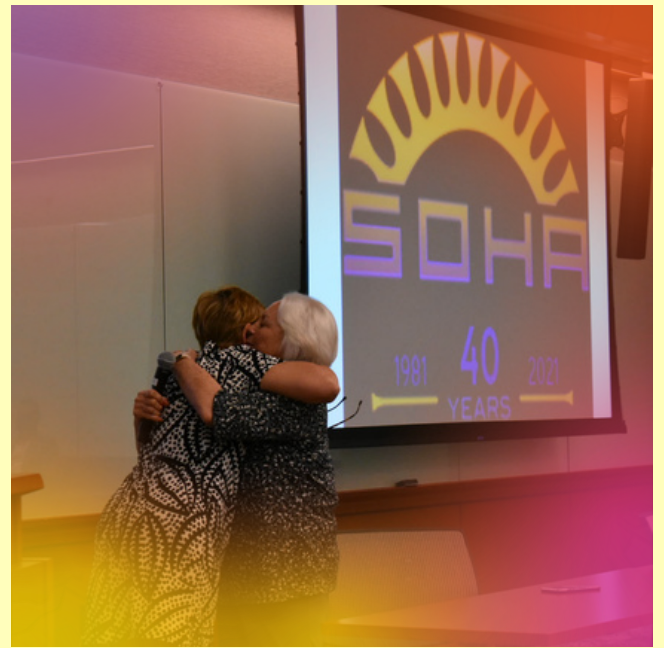
Social Hour Pizza Dinner



Zonnie Gorman and Farina King



Plenary: "The Next 40 years of SOHA"



Marcie Gallo and Joyce Marshall-Moore



Caryl Dzedziak

*Thank you to Nayeli Garcia, Farina King and Annie Duwall for photographs from our conference!*

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## SOHA 2022

**"Thoughts and What We Learned"**

***"From the Inland Empire to the City that Never Sleeps: UCR Students Share the Importance of Oral Histories"***

**Daisy Herrera, MA  
California Co-Delegate**



This year, California Co-delegate Daisy Herrera led a large effort in bringing University of California, Riverside (UCR) students, alumni, and its very own Public History program director, Dr. Catherine Gudis, to their first SOHA conference. Their presentations offered different oral history perspectives and methodology while highlighting the exciting work everyone is accomplishing for their studies.

Saturday morning began with a roundtable discussion between Dr. Gudis and alumni Steven Moreno-Terrill and Dr. Audrey Maier's, "Public and Oral History Practicums of Underrepresented Stories at the College/University Level: Methodology, Interpretation and Insights." They discussed hands-on classes they led with undergraduates at UCR and Riverside City College, which encourage students to gain tangible experience while earning course credit. Herrera, the newest member of Drs. Gudis and Maier's practicum team, briefly spoke on her experience with oral history and working with students as her parents smiled from the audience. In the evening, the "Community-Based Oral Histories from Northern to Southern California: Collective Memory and Healing, Bottom-top Methodology and Counternarratives" featured Antone Pierucci's work on highlighting Lake County's communal healing after the deadly Valley and Rocky Fires; Dr. Meier's work on grassroot commemorative filmmaking for Bryn Mawr; Carlos Cruz's methodology to build bridges and trust with residents of Casa Blanca; and Herrera's demonstration of the power of transnational counternarratives within Greater Mexico's student movements. The following day, the "Native Voices, Stories, and Knowledge Matter: Conservation, Repatriation, and Interpretation throughout the U.S." panel featured Danny Archuleta's work on the repatriation of ancestral remains; Josh Little's focus on Lakota water knowledge, and Rocio Gomez's efforts to highlight Native on-site interpretations.

The UCR group celebrated their involvement with SOHA's conference by dining at the Mint Indian Bistro recommended by Angela Moor. Cheers to a successful 2022 conference, and to the next 40 years of SOHA!

***"Remembering Vegas"***

**Midge Dellinger, MA  
Muscogee (Creek) Nation  
SOHA Native American Representative**

Hesci (His-jay) (Hello) to All!

What a wonderful April weekend in Las Vegas! Beautiful weather, a fantastic meeting venue, great company, and presentations! I hope all who attended the conference experienced the same. It was terrific to re-connect with existing members and to meet new attendees. And I thoroughly enjoyed every workshop, panel session, and plenary I attended.

My highlights from the weekend include Dr. Art Hansen sharing his renderings and the history of SOHA. Dr. Hansen's presentation was fascinating. I now have a fuller understanding of how and why the Southwest Oral History Association came to be. Gabriela Corona Valencia's critical presentation and personal story about decades of forced sterilization enacted upon marginalized women and young girls moved me to the core. In addition, Danny Archuleta's presentation "Stories to Carry Our Ancestors Home," based on a collaborative project, "Carrying Our Ancestors Home," created at UCLA that focuses on repatriation and bringing "home" the remains of Indigenous ancestors, stirred many emotions within me. It was indeed a weekend of sharing, learning, reflection, and community.


I want to acknowledge those from Indian Country who attended, and, or participated in this year's conference program. Many tribal nations were represented at this year's conference. Mvto (Muh-doe) (thank you) for your meaningful work and projects with Indigenous communities and peoples! And mvto for sharing them with SOHA!

If anyone is interested in meeting with an Indigenous oral history "working group," please contact me at [ddellinger@muscogeenation.com](mailto:ddellinger@muscogeenation.com). This group is open to anyone engaging with Indigenous communities and oral history.

Take care and have a great summer!







**"A Hint of Normal"**  
Cynthia Castaneda, MA  
SOHA 2nd Vice President

Four years...

It has been four years since SOHA last had an in-person conference. It is hard to believe that we are more than two years into this pandemic but during this year's SOHA 2022 in-person/hybrid conference I finally experienced 'a hint of normal'. It is different being in the same room listening to panelists, surrounded by fellow historians, academics and enthusiasts. Even now, as we start to emerge from the fog of the past two years, the ability to interact with each other has diminished. It is not until we are among one another that we realize how interconnected we all were from the start. Through casual conversation, we discover former teachers and peers we had forgotten until we were together again. I always knew human interaction was important. What I did not fully understand was how important it was, until I lost it. SOHA 2022 gave it back.

Variety:

That was one of the first things that stood out to me. Our panelists came from a wide array of fields which gave the audience plenty of content to enjoy and take in. I have lived in California's Inland Empire most of my life. History has been my focus for 10 years and I was unaware that just fifteen minutes from where I lived was the proud, familial community of Casa Blanca. Thanks to Carlos Cruz (U.C. Riverside) and his presentation, "*Building Bridges with the Casa Blanca Community: Methodology of Collecting Oral Histories*", that was no longer the case.

Educational disparity:

Having worked in education for the past six years, I am aware of how different the quality of education can be between districts and even schools within the same district. Funding for schools typically comes from multiple sources; federal, state, district, and at the end local taxes. The lower the average income of the area, the lower the funding for its schools. Dr. David G. Garcia's (U.C. Los Angeles) presentation and book, *Strategies of Segregation: Community Reflections of Schooling and Housing Segregation*, demonstrated how devastating segregation, that ceased decades ago continues to impact those communities today.

Enlightenment. Knowledge. Passion. Normalcy. SOHA 2022 gave me 'a hint of normal' and so much more. Happy Spring!

**"Maternal Care and Child Nutrition in Colonial and Postcolonial Ibadan Presentation"**

Mathew O. Ayodele (B.A, M.A.)

**Introduction:**

The British colonial administrators' economic exploitations and expropriation in Nigeria, as well as other colonies in Africa, were dependent on the healthiness of the indigenous populace. The introduction of western maternal and child care methods such as industrial baby food and milk created multiple modes of indigenous and western maternal care system.

Scholars such as Blacklock and Van Tol, argue that the introduction of a new mode of infant nutrition, baby food and milk, as an alternative to breastfeeding in the colonies was targeted at reducing maternal and child mortality in the colonies.

This study explored colonialism's introduction of multiple modes of maternal care and child nutrition in Ibadan. It attempts to unmask the colonial legacy of maternal care and child nutrition in postcolonial Ibadan by interrogating the following questions;

- **How did the people respond to the existing multiple modes of maternal care and child nutrition?**
- **What was the effects of these dual regimes of care and nutrition on postcolonial Ibadan?**
- **Why did mothers choose a particular form of care and nutrition over the other?**
  - The presentation argued that the duality in maternal care and child nutrition in postcolonial Ibadan is a continuum of the medical pluralism prevalent in colonial Ibadan.
  - The focus on Ibadan was due to the high rate of maternal and infant mortality experienced in the area of study throughout colonial and postcolonial periods.
  - The study used archival materials from the National Archives Ibadan, oral histories of seven young mothers (age 20-35), four aged mothers (age 50-75) and related secondary sources.

**Conclusion:**

The study showed the existence of contestation between indigenous and western child nutritional system. While the indigenous system upheld breastfeeding with liquid medicinal herbs, the western system gives significance to breastfeeding and bottle feeding. It contended that in postcolonial Ibadan, mothers' attitude to child nutrition varied. Aged mothers were prone to breast milk feeding and liquid medicinal herbs as supplements. On the other, young mothers adopted breast milk, bottled baby milk and infant food feeding. In addition, the socio-economic status, educational level and household economy were the determinant factors for mothers' choice of child nutrition in Ibadan.





**"From Virtual SOHA to In-Person SOHA"  
Jonathan Angulo  
SOHA Scholarship Awardee**

I was getting ready in March of 2020 to present at the SOHA Conference when nations implemented measures to slow the spread of Covid-19. As a result, people worldwide transitioned to virtual work to do their part. Our panel members reconvened in September to present at the virtual SOHA Conference.

Our panel discussed Southern Methodist University's Voices of SMU Oral History Project. The initiative details the often-difficult histories of multiracial alums at a predominantly white institution in Dallas, Texas. We were all nervous as we had never participated in a virtual conference. Once we finished our presentation, participants were glad to know that our oral histories informed the administration about microaggressions, integration history, and racial equity work at the school.

After about two years, I was fortunate enough to attend the 2022 SOHA Conference in Las Vegas. I enjoyed presenting alongside Gloria Rhodes, and Dmitri Brown and having Carlos Lopez as a moderator. We thought that the environment was respectful, welcoming, and engaging. Often graduate students can feel that their thoughts or work will be diminished at conferences. I did not feel this at SOHA.

I enjoyed the opportunity to hear about oral history projects throughout the Southwest and meeting new people. I learned how several presenters used oral history methodologies to preserve Chickasaw, Navajo, Muscogee, Mexican American, and other essential histories. After attending the 2022 conference, I am looking forward to engaging with the SOHA community and learning about more histories at the 2023 gathering.

**"California Community Oral History"  
Jennifer Keil, MA**

I was able to virtually participate in the SOHA 2022 Conference on a panel titled, "Interpreting and Presenting Oral History" As the founder of 70 Degrees and Past President of SOHA, I presented "California Community Oral History." It was exciting to showcase our partner sites that opened in 2021 such as the Aliso Viejo Ranch and Laguna College of Art + Design exhibits. We are preparing to open Moulton Museum this summer in Laguna Hills, CA. I was followed by Nicholas Harvey, a current high school student, who shared "Oral History, Community, and the Pandemic Classroom." Our panel was concluded by Patrick Daglaris of Oklahoma State University, "How Many Times Can They Remember? Exploring Narrator Edits as New Points of Interpretation in Oral History Transcripts." Please see our recorded session at: <https://70degrees.org/soha-2022>



California Community Oral History



**Jennifer Keil, M.A.**  
Founder of 70 Degrees  
President of SOHA 2019-21



## Thank you, Anthony!

Dedicated. Passionate. Loyal. These are just a few of the words that can be used to describe Anthony Graham. Although Anthony will be stepping down as Graduate Assistant, we are thrilled that he is still remaining a part of SOHA. Prior to SOHA and UNLV, Anthony received a Masters in history from CSU East Bay and a bachelors from U.C. Davis. His research has included the study of environmentalism, historic preservation, public memory and museum studies. He is currently working with the Nevada Site Specific Resource Board, which advises on the environmental clean-up of the Nevada National Security Site. You can see why SOHA is so lucky to get to work with him.

Thank you Anthony for all your contributions to our organization these past few years. Whether it was presenting during our conferences, managing SOHA's email accounts, or being head of technology during our conference, you did it all and we are very grateful. We wish you the best of luck as you complete your Ph.D and look forward to continue working with you!



## A Shout Out from SOHA to our Extended Oral History Family By: Suzi Resnik

When Alon Wald, Operations Director of the Ammunition Hill Museum in Jerusalem, Israel, embarked on a nationwide trip in early November 2021 sponsored by the Jewish National Fund (JDF) to describe the mission of this historical site and raise funds to support its varied components, I received a phone call asking if I would agree to meet with him to discuss his expressed interest in finding someone with oral history expertise, initially considered to be me, to help him create a project called "Adopt a Liberator." As conceptualized, it would involve selecting Israeli high school students and classes and teaching them to conduct oral histories of surviving paratroopers of the Battle of Ammunition Hill, which ended the Six-Day War and unified Jerusalem in 1967. I responded that I am very much interested in participating in an advisory manner and suggested that the first step would involve my reaching out to our oral history community to locate oral historians who live in Israel who could help him to begin the project.

Starting with our SOHA leadership, I wrote to our SOHA President, Farina King, who immediately reached out to the leadership of the Oral History Association (OHA). Amy Starecheski, President of OHA, instantly reached out to oral historians Ida Milne and Martha Norkunas. They contributed suggestions of Israeli oral historians and contacted other colleagues on the international level. A colleague of Martha's, Regina Bendix from Germany, identified the Oral History Division at Hebrew University within the Institute for the Study of Contemporary Judaism, suggesting that they contact Sharon Livne and Amos Goldberg. She also mentioned Galit Hasan Rokem. I reached out internationally to my cousin Zvia Nardi, a historian residing in Jerusalem, who suggested Margalit Bejerano, the director of the Hebrew University Program. I shared each step with Alon Wald who is so appreciative and contacted oral historians from the Hebrew University.

We appreciate the immediacy and generosity of our world-wide oral history community's response. Building upon this initial project, focusing on the involvement of high school and college students interviewing elders, is a theme that cuts across all cultures within nations and internationally. The power of oral history to build bridges and initiate respectful communication and enhance empathy cannot be overstated. We hope that you share your thoughts and experiences regarding SOHA's role in helping to foster more sharing around these topics and global connections of oral history.

In a future message, we would like to highlight the Del Mar Historical Society's exciting new project that involves San Diego State college students working with the Del Mar Historical Society to interview elders of our community. The impetus was a bequest by a San Diego State University professor of sociology who donated funding for this purpose. Follow the SOHA newsletter and blog for more updates.





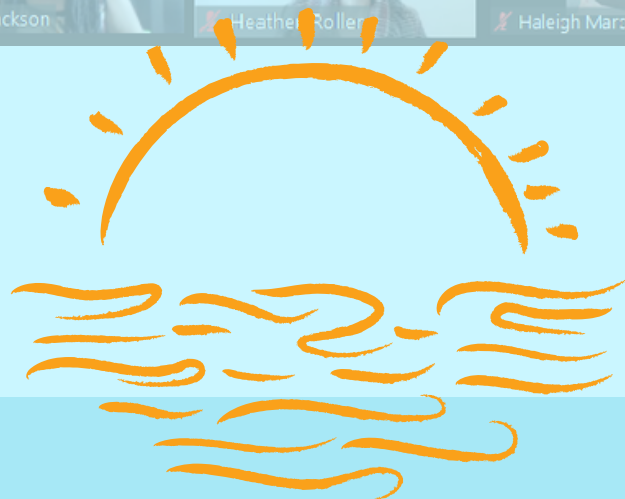


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# SOHA'S 2022 SUMMER BOOTCAMP!

Contact Juan Coronado for more information. See you there!

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# Join the Southwest Oral History Association

## Mission & Membership

The Southwest Oral History Association (SOHA) was founded in 1981 to serve practitioners of oral history in Arizona, Southern California, Nevada, New Mexico and contiguous areas.

Through publications, meetings, workshops and special events, SOHA supports and promotes oral history as a method for exploring and recording history, culture, and current experiences in the Southwestern United States. In this endeavor the association cooperates with other organizations and institutions in the region, and it maintains close ties with the national Oral History Association. Membership in SOHA provides meaningful opportunities for participation in the exchange of information and the discussion of matters of common concern among those interested in oral history throughout the Southwest region.

ONLINE MEMBERSHIP  
ACTIVATION/RENEWAL:  
[bit.ly/supportSOHA](http://bit.ly/supportSOHA)

## OFFLINE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Print membership form and mail to:

SOHA  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
4505 S. Maryland Parkway Box  
455020  
Las Vegas, NV 89154-5020

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## SOHA MEMBERS

SOHA's membership includes professional oral historians, public historians, students, teachers, genealogists, family historians, volunteer interviewers, archivists, librarians, individuals, and community programs interested in oral history. Institutional and community members include oral history programs, universities, libraries, archives, historical societies and museums.

## BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

### Annual Meetings

Held in the spring, the SOHA annual meeting offers a variety of experiences valuable to the membership including introductory and advanced workshops, session topics of both general and professional interest, presentation of awards, the annual business meeting and election of officers.

## Subscription to the SOHA Newsletter

The SOHA Newsletter, issued three times a year, contains regional news, articles by oral historians about oral history, reviews, trends, and discussions of oral history concerns at all levels.

SOHA Member Directory Listing  
The directory is published and sent to all current members on a biannual basis via E-mail (unless otherwise specified by the individual member).

It is also available by electronic means to current members. It is SOHA policy not to distribute or sell either our membership list or newsletter to other organizations.

## Training Workshops and Special Events

Workshops focus on practical approaches and solutions to problems common to the practice of oral history. Other events may include regional tours to places of historic interest, lectures and book reviews.

## INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Members are encouraged to become involved in one of the SOHA standing committees (Annual Meeting, Membership, Grants/Scholarships, Marketing and Publicity), develop projects, and to expand the potential of the Southwest Oral History community through organizational leadership positions and elected office. SOHA values the energy and ideas that new members bring to the association.

## MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

1. Annual Individual \$35
2. Student \$20
3. Individual Lifetime \$250
4. 2-Year Individual Membership \$65
5. COVID-19 Pay What You Can Option
6. SOHA Community Partners \$100
7. SOHA Corporate Partners \$350
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Designed and edited by Cynthia Castaneda, 2nd Vice President, and Farina King, President. Please contact us at [soha@unlv.edu](mailto:soha@unlv.edu) to contribute to our next newsletter or to be featured in our social media.