

**FROM SOUTHWEST
REGIONAL OFFICE...
TO SOUTHWEST
SYSTEMS SUPPORT
OFFICE**



May 15, 1995
Santa Fe, New Mexico

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally-owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.



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P R O G R A M

Welcome by Master of Ceremonies

Ernest Ortega

History of the Regional Office

Neil Mangum

New Alliances for Old Friends

Jerry Rogers

Unveiling of the Plaque

Jerry Rogers

Reception and Reminiscences

BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENTS AND NEW PARKS MARK MORE THAN 75 YEARS OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TRADITION IN THE SOUTHWEST

The Depression years of the 1930s plunged the United States into unprecedented economic chaos. The Depression also acted as a magic elixir for the fledgling National Park Service--created as part of the Department of the Interior by an Act of Congress in 1916--which, until the Depression, had lacked sufficient monies. Within the span of seven years, Federal relief projects funneled more than \$220 million into National Park Service programs. This much-needed funding provided a face-lift for existing parks, developed new areas, and generally provided for increased public use and enjoyment of Federal and State parks. The establishment of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 joined historic sites with natural parks under the umbrella of the National Park Service.

Another major change in the National Park Service occurred in August 1937, when the NPS detached its administrative functions from the Washington Office by creating four regional offices. Region III (later to become the Southwest Region) was headquartered in Oklahoma City, and assisted parks in the six-state region of Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and southwestern Colorado.

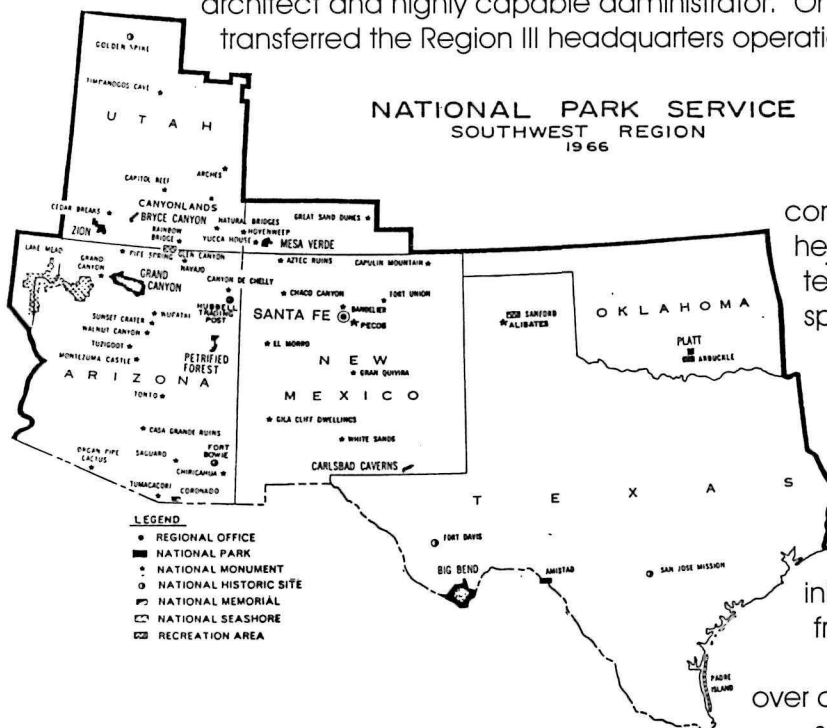
Perhaps no one had more influence on the development of the Santa-Fe-based Region III office than Acting Regional Director Herbert Maier--who was, in his own right, a brilliant architect and highly capable administrator. On October 9, 1937, Maier officially transferred the Region III headquarters operations to Santa Fe. He moved support

staff of 35 employees there, to join 17 staffers already in New Mexico who were engaged in the construction of the new regional office headquarters; and he housed the temporary headquarters in office space at Santa Fe's U.S. Courthouse.

On May 11, 1939, just six weeks before the completion of the new headquarters building, Hillyory A. Tolson arrived in Santa Fe to become Region III's first Regional Director. The Region III that Tolson inherited in 1939 differs dramatically from the Southwest Region of 1995.

Director Tolson's domain stretched over a larger area, and encompassed some of the "Crown Jewels" of the

National Park System, including Grand Canyon, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Mesa Verde, Big Bend, and Carlsbad Caverns. Region III also claimed some of the lesser-known areas, most of them classified as national monuments, including White Sands, Aztec Ruins, and Bandelier in New Mexico; Sunset Crater, Canyon de Chelly, Tonto, and Organ Pipe Cactus in Arizona; Cedar Breaks and Arches in Utah; and Great Sand Dunes in Colorado.



Region III continued to expand during the next three decades, as more and more parks were added to the National Park System. By the 1960s, Region III administered more than 50 units in a seven-state region that now included southern Nevada. In 1962, the National Park Service officially changed the name "Region III" to "Southwest Region."



From 1955 through 1980, the National Park Service again underwent periodic reorganizations. Six additional regional offices were added or carved out of the four existing offices. In November 1971, as a result of this boundary change, the Southwest Region lost Utah, southern Nevada, and southern Colorado. Arizona parks--except for those in northeast Arizona--shifted to the Western Regional Office. And park units in Louisiana and Arkansas were transferred into the Southwest Region.

Now, in 1995, the Southwest Regional Office has again experienced reorganization. As of May 15--after 58 years--the Southwest Region will cease to exist as a region. The Southwest Regional office will become the Southwest Systems Support Office--one of three systems support offices in the Intermountain Field Area (the other two are the Colorado Plateau and Rocky Mountain SSOs). The SSO in Santa Fe will provide support services to parks in Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Changes in names like "Region III," "Southwest Region," and "Southwest Systems Support Office" are relatively insignificant. What is significant is that the National Park Service core mission remains unchanged: "To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same ... by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Equally significant, the rich legacy of the Southwest Regional Office, represented by the dedicated men and women working to preserve the unique cultural and natural resources of the area, has not changed. Nor has the ethnic diversity of the region, which embraces and adds to the distinctive tradition, flavor, charm, and meaning of the National Park Service's important role in the Southwest.

THE SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE BUILDING

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MOVES TO SANTA FE

By the 1930s, the National Park Service Regional Office in Oklahoma had become isolated from the majority of the new Southwest parks, which were concentrated in Arizona and New Mexico. NPS Director Horace Albright championed the idea of a Santa Fe location for a new Region III Headquarters. The offer of 8.5 acres from the Santa Fe Laboratory of Anthropology solidified the decision to move. In the fall of 1937, Acting Regional Director Herbert Maier made the final announcement, and Regional Architect, Cecil Doty began preparing design drawings.

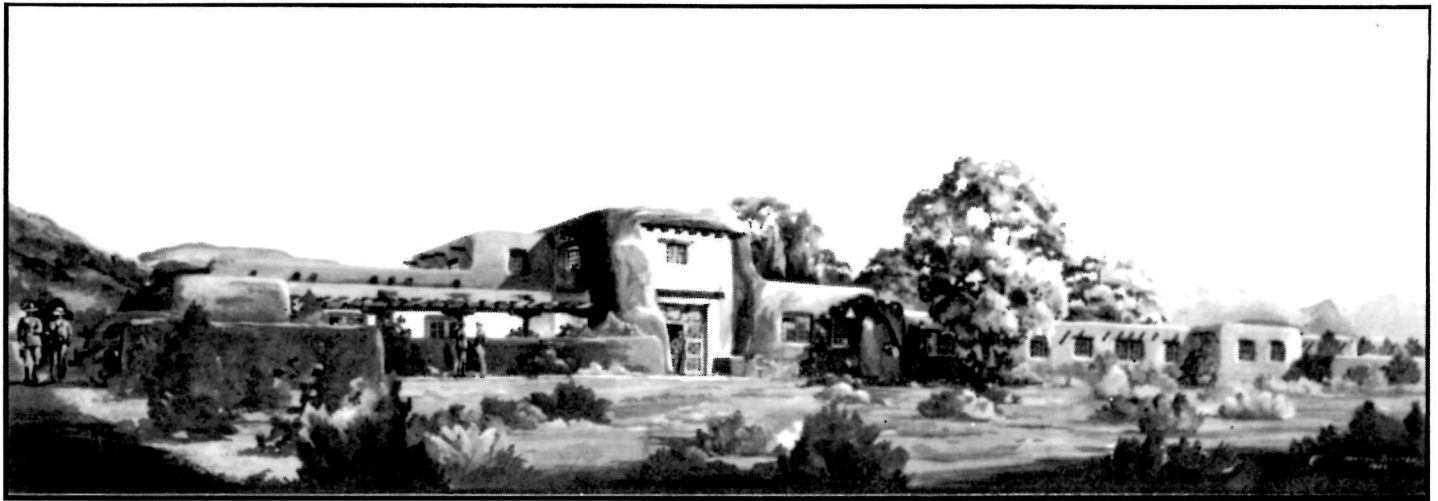
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS CONSTRUCTS BUILDING

The nation-wide impacts of the Great Depression prompted President Franklin D. Roosevelt to establish a number of Federal relief agencies, including two with a role in construction here: the Public Works Administration (PWA), and the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The PWA provided funds for materials and skilled workmen, and the CCC provided the unskilled labor force.

Conrad Wirth, NPS Chief Planner and head of the new State parks program of the CCC, was an energetic and shrewd administrator who later served as NPS director (1951-1963). Under his oversight, the recruits in CCC Company 833, based in Santa Fe, brought the plans of the architect and landscape architects to reality. Manufacture of adobe bricks consumed much of the enrollees' time and effort. More than 280,000 adobe bricks went into the walls. Other laborers installed the vigas and massive beams, corbels, lintels, and decorative wood details, and laid flagstone and brick. They also made the furniture according to Architect Cecil Doty's drawings.

Many of the CCC youths, all between the ages of 17 and 23, were New Mexicans. They enrolled out of economic necessity, and learned a wide range of construction skills while supporting their families. Thanks to this remarkably successful combined effort between the NPS, PWA, and CCC, the National Park Service moved into the new Southwest Regional Office Building on July 1, 1939.

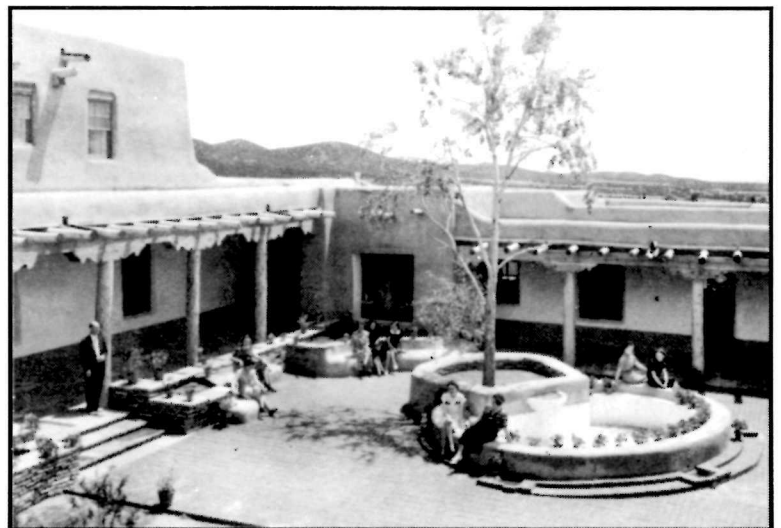




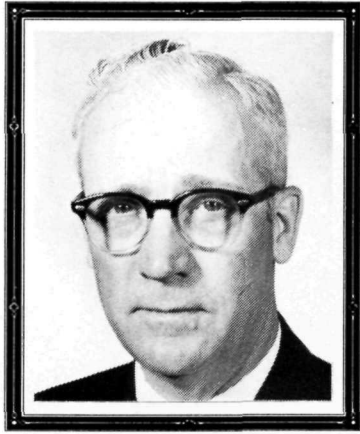
DISTINCTIVE ARCHITECTURE PREVAILS

The Southwest Regional Office Building is an excellent example of Spanish-Pueblo Revival Architecture. The sculptural, massive quality of the adobe walls, the rounded-edges, the hand-worked lintels, beams, and corbels are characteristic elements of the style. But what makes the building exemplary goes beyond these features to the ways the building is subtly integrated into its surroundings. Varying parapet heights, portals, and low site walls step gradually to the earth. The three minor patios serve as transition zones from outdoors to interior spaces. The landscape scheme changes gradually from native plants around the site to the non-indigenous perennials in the central patio. The layout and design of the building create a perfect response to the challenge faced by NPS architects of making buildings harmonize with the natural and cultural context.

This building is important because it is the physical expression of National Park Service expansion, design, and history, as well as local cultural history. Original art, rugs, pottery, CCC-made wood furniture, and tin light fixtures contribute further to its significance. The current organizational change signals the end of an era, but we can still continue our roles in valuing, using, and preserving this National Historic Landmark.



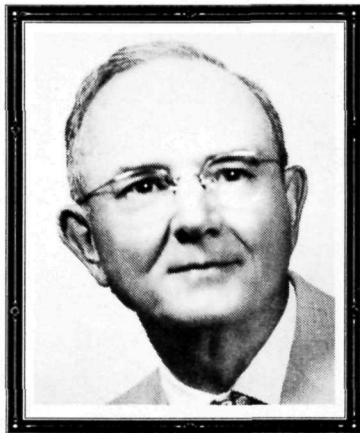
Southwest Regional Directors



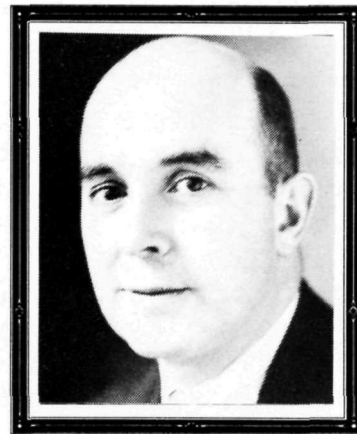
Hillory A. Tolson
5/1/39-4/15/40



Minor R. Tillotson
8/9/40-3/1/55



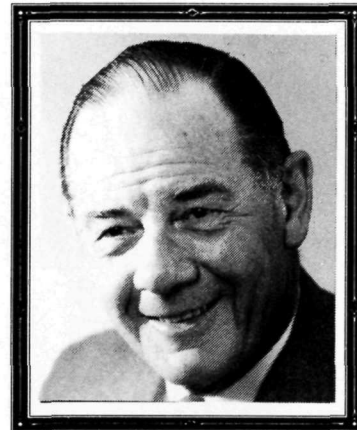
Hugh M. Miller
7/14/55-11/1/59



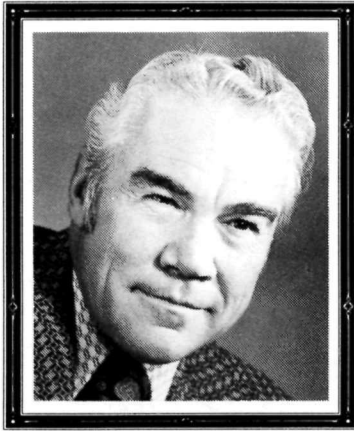
Thomas J. Allen
11/1/59-7/6/63



Daniel B. Beard
7/6/63-9/9/67



Frank F. Kowski
9/24/67-2/16/74



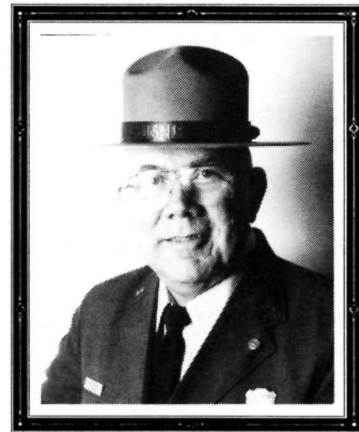
Joseph C. Rumburg, Jr.
2/17/74-12/31/76



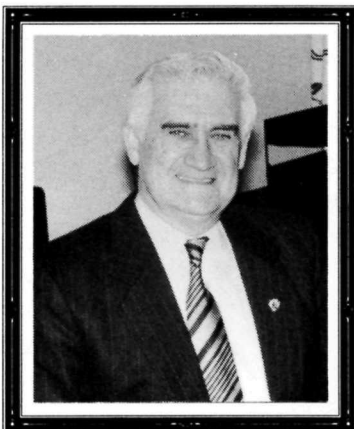
Lorraine Mintzmyer
8/12/79-4/5/80



Robert I. Kerr
10/19/80-5/10/86



John E. Cook
1/16/77-3/5/79 and 8/10/86-12/11/94



Jerry L. Rogers
12/11/94-5/15/95

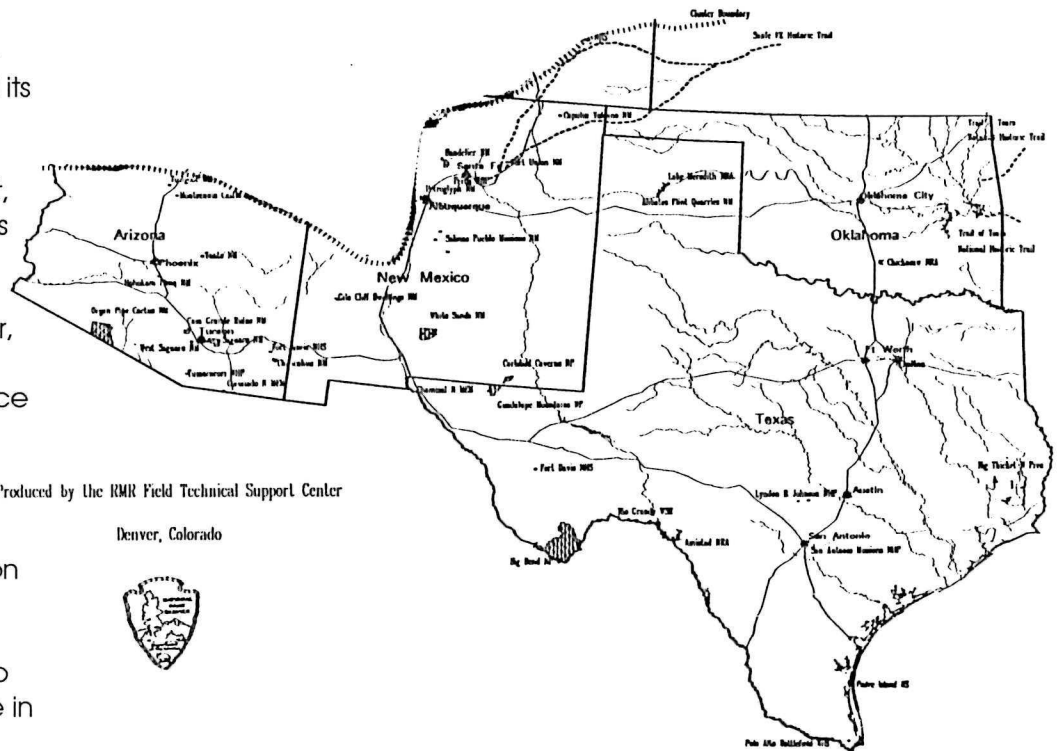
*John R. White, 4/14/40-8/9/40
(Not Pictured)

THE SOUTHWEST SYSTEMS SUPPORT OFFICE

Prior to the realignment of the Southwest Regional Office, the work of the regional office and its field units could generally be grouped into two broad categories: line management, and services in support of parks and partners. Now, with line management newly vested in the Intermountain Field Director, the functions previously served by the Southwest Regional Office have been taken on by the Southwest Systems Support Office.

Produced by the RMR Field Technical Support Center

Denver, Colorado



This statement sounds simple on the surface, but between the lines can be found the most sweeping new changes ever to affect the National Park Service in the Southwest--not the least of

which were boundary changes, the creation of a Colorado Plateau Systems Support Office, the interdependent clustering of parks, the empowerment of front-line managers, and downsizing.

In the new order, our goals remain unchanged: To ensure the preservation of park resources unimpaired for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations; and to lead and assist others in stewardship of park-like resources. It is our methods that have changed. Those whom we once directed, we now persuade. In what we once approved or disapproved, we now participate. Funding we once allocated, we now seek. Monopolies we once enjoyed, we now work to break by developing in parks and partners the very capabilities we initially want them to seek from us. Simultaneously building and destroying markets for our services, with significantly fewer people and in a competitive environment, we must lead by being in the lead.

The best leadership has always been characterized by persuasion rather than force. That best is now demanded of each one of us. Greater honor will reside in providing services that are sought than formerly resided in providing services that were required. In merit alone will we find the power to preserve resources, interpret their stories, ensure quality development, provide for visitors, and fulfill the needs of our Federal, State, local, tribal, and private-sector partners. With our energies now concentrated on discovering, motivating, suggesting, arranging, facilitating, and brokering, let us make the most of who we are, what we are, and what we can become. For the people who built the Southwest Regional Office to greatness, merit will be enough.

Jerry L. Rogers
Superintendent
Southwest Systems Support Office

FINAL ROSTER OF THE SOUTHWEST REGIONAL OFFICE

MAY 15, 1995

Abell, Sue
Abeyta, Marcella
Abreu, Edwina
Alire, Duane
Anaya, Imogene
Apodaca, Henry
Armijo, Berlene
Ashman-Smith, Susan
Askins, Adriane
Bality, Attila
Barela, Victoria
Barrow, John
Bars, Billy
Barthuli, Kaisa
Bass, Angelyn
Beauchamp, Robert
Benfer, Alice
Bengtson, Alan
Bernal, Terri
Bohnert, Allen
Bonanno, Tony
Bradford, James
Bradley, Doug
Brandt, Kevin
Brito, Carol
Britton, Carla
Brooks, John
Brooks, Margi
Brown, Delbert
Brown, Jeff
Brown, Margaret
Brown, Ron
Bruno, Joe
Bustos, Eloisa
Byrd, Teri
Catano, Dorinda
Chavez, Sarah
Chavez-Kerr, Michael
Chetwin, Cliff
Chetwin, Judy
Cintron, Ramon A.
Cisneros, Delia
Clement, Randy
Colby, Catherine
Cowley, Jill
Crowley, John T.

Dansby, Linda
Day, Fran
Day, Henry
DeLaCruz, Al
de la Garza-Newkirk, Marta
Donoghue, James J.
Donohue, David J.
Dowdy, Shaun
Duran, Al
Eininger, Sue
Endito, Edward
Erickson, Bruce
Espinoza, Ben
Estes, Vicki
Ferguson, Amalin
Fletcher, Milford
Frederick, David
Fresquez, Margie
Fresquez, Trish
Froeschauer, Peggy
Fulton, James
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Garcia, Antoinette
Garcia, Carol
Garcia, Max
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Goldman, Don
Gomez, Art
Gomez, Della
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Gonzales, Michael
Gonzales, Stella
Gorrell, Linda
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Griego, Annette
Griego, Marie
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Gurule, Olivia
Haecker, Charles
Harp, Norm
Harvey, Jane
Head, Genevieve

Heard, Susan
Henry, Ramona
Hernandez, Jodi
Herr, Sarah
Herrera, Anna
Herrera, Darla
Herrera, Jodi
Hickey, Carl
Hobbs, Harlan
Hotchkiss, Jesse
Howard, Bob
Howe, Kraig
Ireland, Arthur
Ivey, James
Jewell, Bill
Johnson, Peg
Kasper, Kenneth
Kaye, Glen
Keevama, Lloyd
Kerbo, Ron
King, Deborah
Kunkle, Samuel H.
Lange, Ellen
LaShure, Steve
Lauro, Sal
Lenihan, Daniel
Lennox, Kimberly
Leyba, Hilario
Leyba, Leo
Leyba, Robert
Lucero, Crystal
Lucier, Cindy
Lujan, Lourdes
Lujan, Melanie L.
Lutz-Ryan, Linda
Maez, Rudie
Mandel, Manuel
Mangum, Neil
Martinez, Brenda
Martinez, Carlos
Martinez, Ernesto
Martinez, Jose
Martinez, Olivia
Martinez, Rhonda
Mathien, Joan
Matic, Cecilia

Maunder, Delpha
Mayberry, Jim
McCalmont, Frances
McCrea, Gerald
McGivrey, Dawn
Miller, Carl E.
Mitchell, Joan
Montag, Gary
Montoya, Janelle
Moya, Stella
Muller, Robert
Murphy, Larry
Natay, Edward H. L.
Ness, Howard
Niemeyer, Rich
Niemeyer, Erik
Nordby, Larry
Olivas, Ramon
Olsen, Ollie
Orcutt, Jan
Ortega, Ernest W.
Ortiz, JoAnn
Ortiz, Rose
Ortiz, Virginia
Padilla, Henry
Padilla, Mary
Parks, John
Perez, Angela
Phares, Cindy
Plaisted, Gordon
Poole, Sandy
Post, Rebecca
Powers, Robert
Pozel, Robert
Ragins, Alan
Rivera, Robert

Roberts, Alexa
Romero, Barbara
Rogers, Jerry
Romero, Christina
Romero, Sam
Roybal, Jeanette
Roybal, Patricia
Russell, Matthew
Sacoman, Michael
Salazar, Linda
Salazar, Virginia
Sanchez, Denise
Sanchez, Erlinda
Sanchez, Joseph
Sandoval, Steve
Sandoval, Cornillia
Schmitt, Janet
Scott, Christopher
Sellars, Richard
Serrano, Lori
Seymour, Brett
Shellenberger, Edwin L.
Siler, Nelson
Silva, Carmen
Singer, Donald
Skinner, Nancy
Smith, Gary
Smith, Joe
Smith, Kenneth
Smith, Lonnie

Smith, Monica
Smith, Tim
Sovick, Joe
Spinale, Vito
Stanislowski, Barbara
Stein, Sari
Sulam, Barry
Tanner, William
Trimmer, Ethel
Trott, Jim
Trotter, Mary
Trujillo, Julian
Trujillo, Patricia
Tsosie, Taylor
Turley, Patricia
Van Zandt, Tineke
Vargas, Angela
Vernon, Robert
Vickrey, Charles
Vigil, Adelaida
Vigil, Diana
Vigil, Glenna
Vigil, Serafin
Vint, James
Wait, Walter
Walters, Jim
Waninger, Bonnie
Williams, Larry
Wilson, Andrea
Windes, Tom
Winslow, Bonnie
Wright, Joel
Young, Heather
Young, Phillip
Yuvienco, Clara
Zamora, Gloria