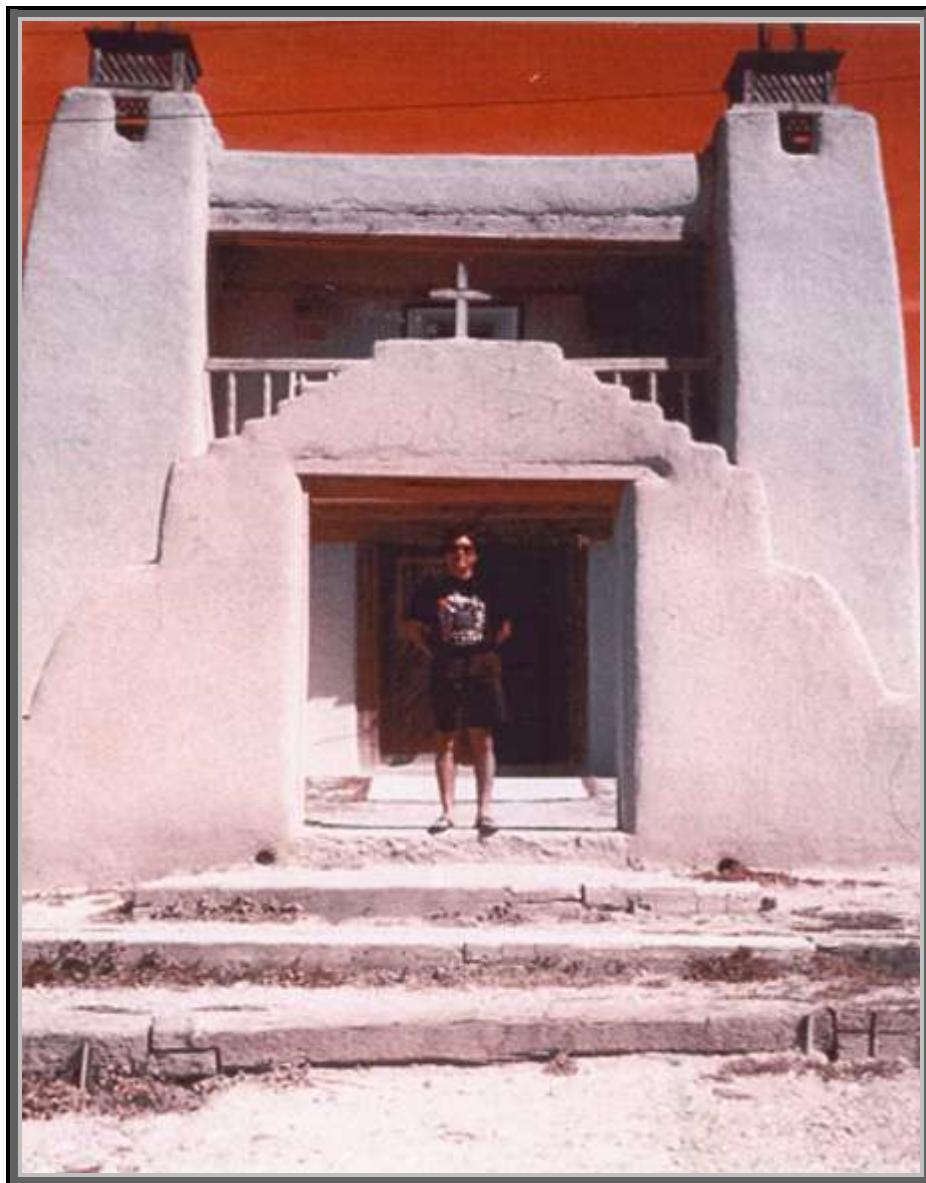


# A BRIEF HISTORY OF LOS TRAMPERO'S



By – Jerol Arguello

Most of us have always been intrigued with family history and in most cases when we begin to inquire about our family history our parents or family members provide us with some of the information. I was provided a tremendous amount of information by my parents Clarence Arguello, Clora Muniz Arguello and my grandparents, Jose Tiburcio Arguello, and Maria Antonia Cordova Arguello. My grand-parents owned a farm located in the northern New Mexico village called Llano. My grandfather knew that we originated from Las Trampas but had very little information of the history of the 12 original Trampero's. After years of research with help from other genealogists I have located some information on the 12 families. The first Trampero's came from various locations, some originated from Nueva Espana (Mexico), some from Africa and others from various Indian and Native American tribes from Mexico or New Mexico. The current form of identification through DNA may provide even more detail of their possible origin. Through DNA the Trampero's may be Sephardic Jews, Indian (Tlaxcaltec) (Pueblo) (Ute) (Apache) (Comanche) (Tewa) (Tano) etc., Africano's or other various ethnic groups. This is a brief historical summary of the 12 families of the Las Trampas Land Grant. It covers some of the known facts about the Trampero's and does not cover every part of the origins of the 12 families. This brief historical summary is not meant to degrade or embarrass any family members and is solely to provide a brief historical summary.

### NEHEMIAH 7:5 (KJV) Bible

And my God put into mine heart to gather together the nobles, and rulers, and the people, that they might be reckoned by genealogy. And I found a register of the genealogy of them which came up at the first, and found written therein.

## **LOS ARGUELLO'S**

**Juan de Arguello** was the son of Joaquin de Arguello and Juana Gutierrez de Arguello and was residents of the city of Zacatecas in the Spanish Territory located in Neueva Espana (New Spain), known today as Mexico. During the period of 1695-1697 when Vargas began the re-conquest of the Kingdom of New Mexico for Spain, Juana Gutierrez Arguello and I believe her two children, Juana De Dios Gutierrez Arguello and Juan de Arguello traveled with the colonies from Zacatecas to Santa Fe. There is no record indicating that Joaquin de Arguello traveled to Santa Fe, there is a possibility that he was not alive before his family entered New Mexico or if he passed away during the long trip from Zacatecas into New Mexico. Arguello was Juan de Arguello. On May 26, 1715 Juan de Arguello was a Spanish solder stationed in Santa Fe and married Juana Gregoria Brito the daughter of Juan de Leon Brito and Maria de los Reyes Granillo. The Brito family was Tlaxcalan Indians from Mexico. The Brito family was at that time well known in the trade of building churches in Mexico and was instrumental in building the San Miguel church in the Analco section of Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Juan de Arguello was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

When Juan de Arguello married Juana Gregorio Brito this began one of the times the Tlaxcaltec Indian history became a part of the Trampero's.

**Juan Jose de Arguello** the son of Juan de Arguello and Juana Gregoria Brito was born about 1720 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Juan Jose de Arguello married Joaquina Rodriguez on October 13, 1746 in Santa Fe, New Mexico she was the daughter of Melchor Rodriguez and Clara de Villarael Rodriguez. After his father Juan de Arguello passed away Juan Jose de Arguello was involved with a majority of the affairs of the Las Trampas Land Grant. **Juan Jose de Arguello was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

## **LOS LEYBA's**

**Luis Francisco de Leyba** was born about 1711 the son of Joseph de Leyba and Bonfacia Paz de Bustillos Onteveros Leyba. He married Juana Gertrudes de Arguello on July 23, 1731 in Santa Fe, New Mexico the daughter of Juan de Arguello and Juana Gregoria Brito de Arguello. Luis Francisco de Leyba died on July 23, 1773 and his death was believed to have been due to wounds sustained by the hands of the enemy (hostile Indians). **Luis Francisco de Leyba was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

**Eusebio de Leyba** the son of Jose de Leyba and Maria Bonifacida de Ontiveros de Leyba he married Maria Manuela Arguello on August 26, 1737 the daughter of Juan de Arguello and Maria Gregoria Brito Arguello. Eusebio de Leyba died in 1773 from the hands of the enemy (hostile Indians) and was buried in Trampas, New Mexico on September 21, 1773. **Eusebio de Leyba was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

## **LOS RODRIGUEZ's**

**Melchor Rodriguez** was born about 1702 the son of Sebastian Rodriguez and Juana de la Cruz Apodaca Rodriguez. Sebastian Rodriguez was the son of Manuel Rodriguez and Maria Fernandez both jungle Negroes of Loanda (Uganda) in Guinea Africa. Sebastian Rodriguez was in the Spanish army as the well known drummer for Vargas during the Spanish reconquest of New Mexico for Spain. Melchor Rodriguez married Clara de Villarael in Santa Fe, New Mexico and owned property in the Analco section of Santa Fe, New Mexico. Joaquina Rodriguez the daughter of Melchor Rodriguez and Clara de Villarael was married to Juan Jose de Arguello the son of Juan de Arguello. **Melchor Rodriguez was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

**Pedro Felipe Rodriguez** was the son of Melchor Rodriguez and Clara de Villarael and was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Pedro Felipe Rodriguez married Gertrudes Padilla in Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Pedro Felipe Rodriguez was one of the original 12 Trampero's.**

Through the Rodriguez family is where the African history began in the Trampero's.

### **LOS ARAGON's**

Jose de Aragon the son of Ambrosio and Casilda Gonzales de Aragon was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico and married his first wife Ysabela Melchora de Leyba on April 22, 1754 in San Lorenzo de Picuris, New Mexico. Ysabela Melchora de Leyba was the daughter of Joseph de Leyva and Maria Bonifacia Ontiveros. Jose de Aragon married his second wife Maria Barbara Lucero on February 26, 1797 she was the daughter of Vicente Lucero and Manuela Gorge Rodriguez. **Jose de Aragon was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

### **LOS BACA's**

Juan Salvador Baca was living in Santa Fe, New Mexico and it is unsure where his family originated. It is believed that he was Tlaxaican Indian. Juan Salvador Baca was married three times and his first wife was Maria Marquez, his second wife was Maria de la Luz Garcia and his third wife was Ygnacia Olguin. **Juan Salvador Baca was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

## **LOS DOMINGUEZ's**

Antonio Dominguez was living in Santa Fe, New Mexico and it is unsure where his family originated. Antonio Domingo married Quiteria Padilla on January 14, 1732 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. **Antonio Dominguez was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

## **LOS GARCIA's**

Juan Antonio Garcia the son of Antonio Garcia and Teodora Gonzales married Joaquina Juliana Rodriguez daughter of Melchor Rodriguez and Clara de Villarael Rodriguez. Juan Antonio Garcia was buried on March 25, 1762 in the Las Trampas church. Joaquina Juliana Rodriguez Garcia was buried on August 30, 1780. **Juan Antonio Garcia was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

## **LOS VARGAS's**

Ygnacio Vargas was living in Santa Fe, New Mexico and at this time his parents are not known and it is unsure where his family originated. Ygnacio Vargas married Juana Maria Vigil. **Ygnacio Vargas was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

## **LOS LUCERO's**

Vicente Lucero lived in Santa Fe, New Mexico and unsure where his family originated. Vicente Lucero married Manuela Gorge Rodriguez. **Vicente Lucero was one of the 12 original Trampero's.**

The original Trampero's were descendants of many ethnic groups and below is a brief summary on four of the ethnic groups which I believe the original 12 Trampero's have family relatives; The Tlaxcalan Indians; The Spanish Jews; The Tiwa Indians and The Uganda Africans. I have been brief with the information and any comments or additions are gratefully accepted.

## **THE TLAXCALAN INDIAN's**

The first known Indian ancestors Los Trampero's were the Tlaxcalan Indians who were from the southern part of Nueva Espana (Mexico) called Tlaxcala. The Tlaxcalan's were from the same great family of the Aztecs and lived on the western border of Lake Tezecuco. The Tlaxcalan's were not a hierachal people and upon the arrival of Cortes the great nation of Tlaxcala consisted of four provinces and each of the provinces had a ruler.

1. Quiyahuiztlan to the west and the king was Citlalpopoca
2. Tepeticpac to the North and the king was Tlehuexolotl
3. Tizatlan to the east and the king was Xicotencatl (the elder) and his son Xicotencatl Axayacatl (the son).
4. Ocotelulco to the south and the king was Maxixcatl

The Tlaxcalan Indians were the first to encounter and battle the Spanish who were led by Cortes. The main province, which opposed Cortes, was Tizatlan and the Tlaxcalan General

Xicotencatl (the son) of the elder Xicotencatl. After many battles were the Tlaxcalan's were unable to defeat the Spanish the Tlaxcalan's and the Spanish formed an alliance. This alliance between Cortes and the Tlaxcalan's and the death of the Tlaxcalan General, Xicotencatl Axayacatl who opposed Cortes was the beginning of the fall of the Aztec's empire. Cortes had General Xicotencatl Axayacatl who was 37 years old at that time, hung because of his opposition to the Spanish. The Aztecs were the enemy of the Tlaxcalan's and with the help of the Tlaxcalan warriors Cortes and the Spanish soldiers along with their armor and guns made the difference in the downfall of the Aztec empire. After the conquest of Nueva Espana (Mexico) the Tlaxcalan Indians were absorbed into the Spanish settlement of Nueva Espana, holding various positions and eventually converted to the Spanish religion. The Tlaxcalan Indians were used during all of the Spanish ventures into New Mexico and other areas of exploration by Spain. During the reconquest of New Mexico by Don Diego de Vargas the Spanish brought with them many Tlaxcalan Indians from Nueva Espana (Mexico). They were used as warriors, slaves, and servants during the settlement of Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Tlaxcalan Indians were placed in the Analco section of Santa Fe along with the meztiso's, genezaro's, africano's and retired Spanish soldiers. This settlement of the Analco section of Santa Fe had its own church and was a thriving portion of Santa Fe during this era. The Tlaxcalan Indians married into the Spanish families settling and converted to the Catholic faith and became part of the Santa Fe settlement. The ancestors of these Tlaxcalan Indians still reside in Mexico and are called the Nahuatl people dwelling in a region of Mexico, which still bears the name, which is the state of Tlaxcala and is located east of Mexico City.

## THE SEPHARDIC JEW's

In 2006 I joined the New Mexico DNA project headed by Angel Cervantes in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I submitted my paternal DNA sample and I received genetic code of J1 matching the Cohen DNA Sequence. The J1 matching means that the results of my (Arguello) paternal DNA test indicated that I am of Sephardic Jewish descent. I am in the process of locating the Arguello Sephardic Jewish connection which of course may take a while. First a brief explanation of the word Sephardic, Sefard is a Hebrew word meaning Spain. This identifies that a portion of the Sephardic Jews originated from the Iberian Peninsula. Historians believe the Jews arrived in the Iberian Peninsula with the Roman Legions, most likely as merchants and surveyors and possibly a second wave of Jewish arrivals after the destruction of the second temple in 70 C.E. The first known evidence of a Jewish presence in Spain is found in the grave of a young Jewish girl named Salomonulla from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century C.E. found in Adra, Spain. Jewish historians suggest that the Jews first arrived in the Iberian Peninsula after the destruction of the Temple in the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.E. and others date the Jewish arrival with the Phoenician merchants in the 10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.E., during King Solomans era. It is believed that the Spanish Jews in the New World began with Christopher Columbus exploring the New World in 1492. It was not until 1521 when Hernando Cortes conquered the Aztecs and with him were many conversos who settled in Mexico. There was a Juan de Arguello who was one of Cortes's soldiers from Leon, Spain who was killed by the Aztecs, unsure if he was a Spanish Jew. It is also believed that the arrival of the Spanish Jews in New Mexico began when in 1598 Juan de Onate entered Nueva Mexico to claim the territory for the Spanish crown. There were many Spanish Jews who traveled with Juan de Onate spearheading another venture to escape

from the prosecution and persecution of the Inquisition in Mexico. A large portion of Spanish Jews arrived in New Mexico with Vargas and land grants issued with Spanish Jews being settled by these conversos.

### OBADIAH - 1 (NIV) Bible

20: This Company of Israelite exiles who are in Canaan will possess the land as far as Zarephath; the exiles from Jerusalem who are in Sepharad will possess the towns of the Negev.

## THE TIWA PUEBLO INDIANS

The Tiwa Pueblo Indians were in New Mexico hundreds of years before the Spanish and Tlaxcalan Indians arrived in 1598. In the 1600's the Tiwa's were the largest Indian Tribe in Northern, New Mexico numbering well over 3000 and were located in the mountains of Northern New Mexico. They were the main Indian force that opposed the Spanish soldiers and settlers when they arrived into the Taos mountain area. The Tiwa's were lead by a great and brave warrior who was well known and his name was Pope'. He was the Indian leader who in 1680 united all the Indians in New Mexico to successfully succeed in defeating the Spanish soldiers and settlers, chasing them back to Nueva Espana (Mexico). Their success was short lived due to the inability of the Indian tribes to agree and unit as one nation. The different tribes had different agendas which made it easy in 1692 -1693 for Vargas to re-enter New Mexico with little resistance and re-conquer New Mexico for Spain. The Spanish relocated the Tiwa Indians and later returned back them to their ancestral lands where they currently continue to live in Taos, New Mexico and in the Picuris Indian Reservation. In the early 1900's the Tiwa's at the Picuris

Indian Reservation numbered only between one hundred and two hundred residents. The name Picuris is a Spanish name first recorded by Juan de Onate in 1598 and the name was probably borrowed from the Jemez Pueblo Indians who called them “Pekwiles” Indians and is believed to be a translation for mountain people. The name Tiwa is also from Ti’wan plural name is Tiwesh’ their own name. As the descendant’s of Los Trampero’s migrated and settled further into the Tiwa territory they became friends with the Tiwa’s Indians and married into the Tiwa families.

## **THE AFRICAN’s**

During the Spanish conquest there were many African people taken into slavery by the Spanish. During the 1500’s Spain provided licenses to Spanish Enterprisers and foreign traders to trade for African slaves. A majority of the African slaves where taken to Peru and Mexico where they were used as laborers for the Spanish Gold and Silver mines along with the Mexican Indians. Manuel Rodriguez and Maria Fernandez both jungle Negroes of Loanda (Uganda) in Guinea Africa were Spanish slaves and their son Sebastian Rodriguez was in the Spanish army as the well known drummer for Vargas. Through his son Melchor Rodriguez and grandson Pedro Felipe Rodriguez is how the African history began with the Trampero’s.

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