The Cave Creak Museum is to preserve the artifacts of the prehistory, history, culture and legacy of the Cave Creek/Carefree foothills area through education, research, and interpretive exhibits. The jewels of the collection are the few pieces of Hohokam red-on-buff pottery. These were produced by the Hohokam of the Salt and Gila Rivers at the apex of their civilization, roughly 800 to 1000 years ago. The Museum has had few of these vessels and is proud to exhibit them. The collection includes pieces from other cultures as well — black-on-white bowls from Ancestral Pueblo peoples, numerous corrugated designs, and plain wares that vary from rugged to elegant.

Don’t miss our outdoor exhibits: ranch tools, stamp mill, mining arraste, historic church, and tubercular cabin.

WHO’S ON BOARD

Make History! Join the Cave Creek Museum
All memberships include a ten percent discount in the Museum Store, free entry to the Museum with membership card, and monthly newsletters.

For membership, volunteer opportunities or other Museum information, call 480-488-2764 or Email: info@cavecreekmuseum.com
Visit the Museum Website at: www.cavecreekmuseum.org

Volunteer of the Year: Jane Heidel

Jane Heidel served on the Board of Directors. She initiated the popular spaghetti dinner annual fundraiser and has been integral to the success of many other fundraisers. Jane continues to be a lively and enthusiastic docent.

Winner: Jane Heidel

NUGGETS FALL 2016

NEW IN ARCHAEOLOGY

By Nancy Zeno

The Cave Creek School District had a surprise for the Museum this summer — 31 extraordinary pieces of prehistoric pottery. This collection has quietly resided in the Cactus Shadows Fine Arts Center for years. On May 31, it moved to our Archaeology Wing as a long-term loan.

Volunteers who participated in the pottery moving day were Sue Mueller, Alan Troxel, Nancy Zeno and Rory Alexander.

The jewels of the collection are the few pieces of Hohokam red-on-buff pottery. These were produced by the Hohokam of the Salt and Gila Rivers at the apex of their civilization, roughly 800 to 1000 years ago. The Museum has had few of these vessels and is proud to exhibit them. The collection includes pieces from other cultures as well — black-on-white bowls from Ancestral Pueblo peoples, numerous corrugated designs, and plain wares that vary from rugged to elegant.

(Continued on page 8)
President’s Letter

Summertime is coming to a close and all the while many volunteers and staff have been busy making changes, modifications and replacement of the museum’s exhibits.

Our opening day will be as exciting as ever and we anticipate another successful season. Opening day is October 1 but, on September 24, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., we celebrate Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day Live, an annual event sponsored by the Smithsonian Magazine. As a bonus, admission is free simply by going to Smithsonian.com and registering for an account. Attendees will get a first look at the museum’s new exhibits. Immediately after, we’ll be entertaining our members and guests with our pre-season opening reception. From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., the museum will be providing appetizers and beverages along with the opportunity for all of you to enjoy a special evening at your museum. This is always a fun event and we hope you will all attend.

Many more programs and events are coming to our members and guests this year and we urge you to visit our website at www.CaveCreekMuseum.org to check our events calendar and make your plans. We hope part of your plans will include our Miners’ Dinner on November 15 from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. This is always a hit entertaining our members and guests. Also, on September 24, from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m., we celebrate Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day Live. A bonus, admission is free simply by going to Smithsonian.com and registering for an account. Attendees will get a first look at the museum’s new exhibits. Immediately after, we’ll be entertaining our members and guests with our pre-season opening reception. From 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., the museum will be providing appetizers and beverages along with the opportunity for all of you to enjoy a special evening at your museum. This is always a fun event and we hope you will all attend.

Executive Director’s Letter

Once September starts the excitement, nervousness, anticipation and sometime sheer panic fills the Cave Creek Museum. Allow me to explain.

Excitement is in the air as we get to welcome visitors into the museum and show off all the changes and improvements that have taken place since closing at the end of May! Excitement unfolds also as we look forward to seeing old friends return from travels and making new friends. Our summers are the opposite of winters in other parts of the country. We hibernate in the coolness of our air conditioned car and home to escape the heat of summer. When we first moved here we were amazed at how neighborhoods are bare of any sign of activity except in the early, and I mean early, mornings or late nights. We experience excitement anticipating feedback from our visitors as they see how mighty our small museum is.

Nervousness overshadows us as we await feedback about the changes. Did we tell the stories that our visitors wanted? Did the exhibit capture the essence of the spirit of Cave Creek? Are we ready to invite visitors in? Are all the exhibits dusted; labeled correctly; and are all the pictures straight? As you can tell the museum goes through the same kinds of questions as you do when you have distinguished guests arriving for the first time.

Anticipation of a wonderful season beginning gives energy! We are always striving to have more people visit the museum each year and we want people to come more than once, support our events, learn new things and Value the Museum as a vital part of the community.

Sheer panic usually only belongs to me. Each year I go through the ‘To Do’ list and worry if we will be ready to open the doors! The calendar of events planning takes most of the summer to get complete and then it is sent to our Website 

Enjoy Culture Pass!

Enjoy free admissions to such venues as the Heard Museum, Phoenix Art Museum and, of course, the Cave Creek Museum!

Passes, good for seven days for two people, are available at local public libraries, including the Desert Foothills Library.

To see a full listing of FREE attractions and more, visit: www.theculturepass.org.

Thanks to the sponsors, including the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust and Mary’s, for promoting the program.
Cave Creek Museum Nuggets

Coming soon to Cave Creek Las Tiendas (near Bryan’s Barbecue)

‘It is a Divine Bakery Shop’
Baker of treats at the Museum’s Annual Meeting

602-695-2306

Museum Store

Add the Cave Creek/Carefree Book to Your Library
Travel back in time! Your copy of Cave Creek and Carefree is waiting for you in the Museum Store.

Museum Hauntings
The Museum Ghost is baa-sack. She says:
The simmering summer heat is lessened
and I just about had the vapors. Oh, wait, I am a vapor.

Visit our ghost on twitter:
twitter.com/cavecreekghost

Thanks to All Our Business Members

Yes Year

Steeped on the Gas

In the late 1960s, Carefree resident Dick Crawford opened the Black Mountain Gas Company in Cave Creek. If I remember correctly, he also owned a gas company in Minnesota. He operated out of the building that is a couple spots west of the old gas station with John Rhymer as his manager.

After several years Dick bought the building that now houses El Encanto restaurant. Fred Griffin had built it as an office building with an apartment on the back of the lot. Fred also dug a huge pool in the front of the property which he proceeded to fill. By the next morning, all of the water had drained into the sand. He had not sealed the pool with a jacket. Undaunted, he then did so and celebrated with a cocktail party that was lots of fun as we knew everybody there. All were from either Cave Creek or Carefree. (El Encanto is one of my granddaughter’s favorite restaurants, and we go quite often. I remember all of the above every time I walk into the place.)

The Art of the Month

Ballot Box

As a nod to all the elections presently holding us all in their grips, we feature a Ballot Box from our Historic Collections. We do not know its provenance as often happened in the early days of the Museum. On occasion mysterious boxes appeared at the Museum’s doorstep.

What we can tell from examining the box is that it is handmade, probably from machine-sawn oak that someone sanded smooth and capped with a routed lid, which fits nicely into the opening of the box. Beneath the iron strap of the hasp, age and handling have removed most of the varnish from the box. At the back of the box are the crumbling remains of a label—we can read: “A-V,” “R-E,” and then: “L-O-T-S.” We surmise that when intact, it said “Cave Creek Ballots.” Don’t you agree?

Many of the ballots and voting machines (thank you, Google), we are going to guess that this box faithfully served Cave Creek voters until the mid- to late 1950s. After which time we can only guess its location.

As an historic aside, the British colonies in America were the first to use a secret ballot. Until the 1880s, all but the most rural areas (think Cave Creek!) used the machines. Now most voting uses Optical Scanning (color in the dots), the infamous punch cards, and Mechanical Lever Voting machines appeared in 1892 and no single ballot however. Political parties issued long “tickets” listing all the candidates running for office on that party. Voters were urged to “vote a straight party ticket.”

Our artifact of the month is an excellent reminder that even the humble ballot can help us remember what we know about the history of ballots and voting machines.

Darlene Southern

This is not one of the most exciting things I experienced in Cave Creek over the years, but as I drive around town I can’t help reminiscing.

Much of it, is where my old friends lived, most of whom are gone. A good many of my old friends have died. There are only two adults who have been here longer than I, Fran Breitenr and Vera Roberts Gugal. Ron Roberts’ mother. She is my dearest, oldest friend, one with whom I have made many memories.

Perhaps spurred by mention of El Encanto, I recall in 1961 or so when Vera was caring for her mother. My late husband Bill, Vera and I would go out to dinner and some entertainment about once a week. Her mother would baby-sit our son Rusty, who was just a few months old. One time when we returned, Mom was not there to greet us. Vera found her snoozing. Bill did not know Spanish, but he began to call her “El Sleep-O,” as he put his hands to the side of his face as though he were asleep. She would laugh uproariously every time we went over. I have a lot of history with Mom, Vera, and of course our wonderful Museum President, Ron Roberts!

Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

Artifacts of the Month

Ballot Box

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On one of the sides there are more faint markings: “SPOILED BALLOTS” and “WARD NO.” So evidently the box served multiple purposes. We estimate from the font that it was probably made in the 1920s, and from...
Life was bustling with an international flair. Foreign languages and exotic accents were heard on a 160-acre ranch; including Spanish, Italian, Greek, and Japanese. Business was frenzied with a driven, entrepreneurial spirit.

Was this New York? San Francisco? No, this was Cave Creek Station (Cave Creek’s first Anglo settlement, begun in 1877) in the early 1900s, where one of the largest sheep-shearing enterprises in the Arizona Territory was located.

Woool was big business, and with the railroad able to accommodate Phoenix since 1895, shipping to the wool-capital, Boston, was possible. It was James Denny Houck’s clever vision that created this environment. Historian Patrick Grady states, “Mr. James D. Houck put Cave Creek on the map.”

Why was Jim Houck involved in the sheep business? And how did this Civil War veteran and entrepreneur who was born in Ohio in 1847, create Cave Creek’s early cultural center? Well, it started with a very dangerous job.

Like many Civil War veterans, Jim Houck headed west after the War and tried his hand at mining. After some time in Wyoming he accepted a job with the army carrying military dispatches and mail. This job paid quite well because it was a deadly job. If there was one thing Apaches didn't like, it was army couriers galloping through their land. Houck’s dangerous route entailed a ride from Fort Wingate in New Mexico (about 12 miles southeast of Gallup) to Fort Whipple in Prescott. This was about a 230-mile grueling ride on horseback. James Houck did this for three years!

The experience sharpened Jim’s business acumen. He became aware that the railroad planned to expand along this route which had a bounty of water. He called it Houck’s Tank. This trading post was established a trading post along this route which had a bounty for thirsty steam engines. In 1877 James Houck established. Interestingly, this 1877 trading post has a new incarnation today; it is the town of Houck, Arizona, in the heart of Navajo County, with about 1,000 residents.

James was married in 1880, and in 1885 he sold his now valuable trading post and purchased a ranch in Heber, Arizona, where he began raising cattle and sheep. Also, he developed a friendship with a ranching family by the name of Tewksbury. They were primarily sheep ranchers and had developed a contentious problem with the Graham family, who were cattle ranchers. Sheep and cattle feeding patterns conflict on the open-range for a variety of reasons and this created an adversarial relationship. A deadly feud developed and continued from 1882 to 1892. Approximately 25 were killed; this was the infamous Pleasant Valley War. James Houck shot and killed one of the Grahams, Billy Graham; Houck’s intimidating reputation was now firmly established.

After the Pleasant Valley War ended, Houck’s bands of sheep expanded, along with other sheep ranches in northern and eastern Arizona. The idea of relocating sheep to a warmer environment for shearing, during the cold months, became more attractive.

Next month we’ll explore the rebirth of Cave Creek Station with James Houck as the “Sheep King of Cave Creek.” By the way, welcome back to the Fall edition of the Nuggets. We hope to see you for our new 2016/2017 season. Our admission prices have not risen in years; I think this underscores the Museum’s honorable philosophy… of never… fleecing our cherished guests.

Kraig Nelson, Docent
Meet Our Partners

Visitors are urged to go to the rear of the Archaeology Wing to see the collection in new cases obtained with the help of a matching grant. Many thanks to long-time volunteer Alan Troxel for doing the heavy lifting when we set these up. And thanks also to Gwen Harwood and Kristin Lewis, who spent hours making pot rings, the woven circular supports for round-bottomed pots.

The loan was facilitated by Evelyn Holbrook, business manager of the district’s Education and Community Services, and a Cave Creek Museum board member. Superintendent Dr. Debi Burdick and the museum’s Executive Director Evelyn Johnson worked out the details with approval of their respective boards.

Passings and Shared Sorrows:

Jack Ingebritson, Founder and Chair of the Ingebritson Family Foundation, passed away in late July. The Ingebritson Family Foundation, dear to Jack’s heart, touched the lives of many through organizations like the Cave Creek Museum.

Longtime member, docent and Board member Bill Rintlemann passed away on August 21 following a long battle with cancer. Bill was an ardent storyteller and committed volunteer whose presence is sorely missed.

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Carol Caldwell, Collections chair for Charles Connell, with Bill Rintlemann, brought the items back home to the Museum their respective boards.

Moving Out of School

by Nancy Zeno

If you’ve attended performances at the Cactus Shadows Fine Arts Center in the past few years, you’ve seen a fine exhibit in the lobby of historic objects from the Cave Creek Museum. That came to an end when school was dismissed last May. Museum volunteers, with heaps of boxes and packing paper, removed the exhibit items to make way for a renovation of the Fine Arts Center.

Collections chair Carol Caldwell, with Sarah Ziker and Ardis Meduna, brought the items back home to the Museum and put them away for safekeeping. This took place the same day that our Archaeology volunteers carefully brought in a collection of prehistoric pottery to the museum. (See archaeology article.)

The school district and the museum are going to discuss creating a new exhibit for the Fine Arts Center lobby when renovations are completed.

Pokémon Go

The wildly popular game is at the Museum! Explore the Museum inside and out in a new way as you find and catch wild Pokémon. Your smart phone will vibrate to let you know you are near a Pokémon!

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Sunday, October 9, 2016, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
**A Political Time**

Presidential elections are an exciting time in America. Candidates make speeches and voters make decisions. Be sure your vote counts during this political year. Learn about items used in political races in the past and create your own political poster. Discover why it’s important to vote.

**Sunday, November 13, 2016, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**  
**Leave No Carbon Footprint**  
(Cave Creek Character Exhibit)

Geoffrey Platt lived his life leaving as small a carbon footprint as possible. Learn about carbon neutral living and how you too can be carbon neutral. Geoffrey’s lifestyle included writing poetry so there will be time to listen to some of his poems and try your hand at writing your own.

**Sunday, December 11, 2016, 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.**  
**Annual Holiday Party**

Celebrate the season at the Museum with lots of fun activities and maybe even a song or two. Decorate a cookie, make an ornament, learn about the ways different cultures celebrate this season.

**Sunday, January 8, 2017, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**  
**Catherine Jones, A Pistol Packing Momma**  
(Cave Creek Character Exhibit)

Catherine Jones was a deputy game warden in the 1920s. She loved to drive and homesteaded the 1280-acre Cahava Ranch. Discover how Catherine earned her nickname and participate in interesting activities of life in Cave Creek in the 1920s.

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**FODULES**

**FLood STORES**

**Frys**

**FOOD STORES**

**Frys**

**Fellery Community Rewards Program**

**Fellery Community Rewards Program**

**PLEASE RE-ENROLL (OR ENROLL FOR THE FIRST TIME) FOR THE FIVERY COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM**

1. *Go to [Fry's Community Rewards](https://www.fryscommunityrewards.com).*
2. *Click on ‘Sign-In’. Enter your email and password, click on ‘sign in’.*
3. *Click on your name (top right hand corner), under ‘Account Summary’ scroll down to ‘Community Rewards’.*
4. *Click on ‘Enroll’.*
5. *Under ‘Select Your Organization’, type in “Cave Creek Museum” then click ‘search’. The museum will pop up.*
6. *Click on ‘Enroll’.*

**NOT ENROLLED? Go to [Fry’s Community Rewards](https://www.fryscommunityrewards.com) AND ENROLL USING YOUR FRY’S CARD OR PHONE NUMBER. THIS WONDERFUL PROGRAM DONATES TO THE MUSEUM JUST FOR SHOPPING.**

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**Cave Creek Museum Calendar of Events for 2016-2017**

**October**

**October 1: 47th Opening Day**

**Saturday, 8: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 11: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, 12: Family Fun Workshop—Arizona Food 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Monday, 13: Kokedame Class—6:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 15: [Cave Creek Museum](https://www.cavecreekmuseum.com) presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.]**

**November**

**Tuesday, 15: Miner’s Dinner—4:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, 13: Family Fun Workshop—Leave No Carbon Footprint—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**First Weekend, 3-6: Wild West Days**

**Saturday, 12: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 12: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**December**

**Saturday, 10: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 10: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, 11: Family Fun Workshop Cowboy Christmas Annual Holiday Party—1:30 to 4:00 p.m.**

**Monday 12: Kokedame Class—6:00 to 8:30 p.m.**

**January**

**Sunday, 8: Family Fun Workshop—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Catherine Jones, A Pistol Packing Momma**

**Saturday, 14: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 11: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**Sunday, 12: Family Fun Workshop—Travel with Trunks—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, 12: Home Tour TBD**

**April**

**Sunday, 9: Family Fun Workshop—Hube Yates and Life on a Dude Ranch—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, 8: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 8: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**Spaghetti Dinner TBD**

**May**

**Sunday, 14: Family Fun Workshop—School Days—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, 13: Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**Saturday, 13: Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, 16: Annual Meeting**

**It’s as Easy as ‘Fry’s’**

**Each Fall Museum Supporters Need to Re-Enroll in Fry’s Community Rewards Program to Earn Dollars for the Museum.**

**How to Re-Enroll (or enroll for the first time) for the Fry’s Community Rewards Program**

1. *Go to [Fry’s Community Rewards](https://www.fryscommunityrewards.com).*
2. *Click on ‘Sign-In’. Enter your email and password, click on ‘sign in’.*
3. *Click on your name (top right hand corner), under ‘Account Summary’ scroll down to ‘Community Rewards’.*
4. *Click on ‘Enroll’.*
5. *Under ‘Select Your Organization’, type in “Cave Creek Museum” then click ‘search’. The museum will pop up.*
6. *Click on ‘Enroll’.*

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**JUNE**

**June 1: **

**Second Sundays, Anyone?**

**Second Sundays, That Is!**

**July**

**July 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series**

**August**

**August 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Family Fun Workshop—Leave No Carbon Footprint—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.**

**September**

**September 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**September 11: **

**Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**October**

**October 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**October 11: **

**Stamp Mill Run—1:30 p.m.**

**November**

**November 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**November 8: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**December**

**December 1: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**December 8: **

**Cave Creek Museum presents: Adult Discovery Series—2:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

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**LOOK AHEAD TO A YEAR OF FREE FAMILY FUN!**

**Sunday, February 12, 2017, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**  
**Food in Arizona**

**Sunday, March 12, 2017, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.**  
**Travel with Trunks**

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**FOOD STORES**

**Frys**

**F nécessities**

**F管理中心**

**F管理中心**

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**Thanks to Kiwanis of Carefree for its support of family programs!**

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**Please register at least one week prior to the program so that plenty of materials are on hand:**  
**email: info@cavecreekmuseum.com or phone 480.488.2764**

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**You’re Invited!**

**On Monday, October 31 at 10:30 a.m. at the Museum, join the Black Mountain foothills chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) as it celebrates its 25th anniversary. To honor the late Carey Wilcox, a museum charter member and a founder of the DAR chapter, an historical marker will be placed at the Tobin Ranch...Punch and sweets follow!**

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**FALL 2016**

**www.cavecreekmuseum.com**

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