Cave Creek Museum, Inc.
6140 E Skyline Drive
PO Box 1, Cave Creek, AZ 85327

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Cave Creek, AZ 85331
Permit No. 7

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

WHO’S ON BOARD
Contact any of the following Board Directors with your comments and ideas to make the Museum even better!

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Ron Roberts
RonR0923@gmail.com

Vice President:
Howard Beastall
rbeastall@cox.net

Treasurer:
Pan DiPietro
foothillsfoodbank@gmail.com

Assistant Treasurer:
Evelyn Holbrook
eholbrook@ccusd93.org

Recording Secretary:
Gregg Clancy
greggsummerfields@gmail.com

Board:
Sue Beastall
suebeastall@cox.net

Paige Coniglio
desertbeginnings2013@gmail.com

Linda Pierce
Linda@cavecreekmuseum.com

Evelyn Johnson, Executive Director; Karen Friend, Administrative Support Staff; Stephanie Bradley, Nuggets newsletter Editor

The Mission of the Cave Creek 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.

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OPEN
October 1, 2015 through May 29, 2016
Wednesday – Sunday
1:00 to 4:30 p.m.
Open Fridays 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed Holidays
480 – 488 – 2764

ADMISSION
Adults $5
Seniors $3
Students $2
Children under 12 Free
Donations Gratefully Accepted

Don’t miss our outdoor exhibits:
- ranch tank
- stamp mill
- mining artifacts, historic church, and tuberculosis cabin

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MARCH 2016

HOMES THROUGH TIME
HOME TOUR

By Stephanie Bradley

On Sunday, April 3, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., plan to go exploring three marvelous homes on the Homes Through Time Tour. Each home expresses different design ideas while exuding “welcome.” Here’s a little introduction to this year’s stellar homes:

Colyer Home—
The 4,500-square foot home mixes elegance with the joy of western casual. Nearby are a five-stall barn and an arena for ridin’ and ropin’.
The three-bedroom home is dramatically set on five acres of land with a spectacular mountain as its northern backdrop, presenting glorious vistas through window walls.
Works by many local and western artists are in evidence from a half-life size Remington bronze to art work by Howard Terpning, Sharon Brening, Ray Swanson, Kim Obrutz and many more, all arranged as artfully as the works themselves.
From floor, in polished gold travertine, to ceiling, with its beams and wood inset, details abound to please the eye.
Service to the gracious dining room is a snap from the works themselves.

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The generous great room, comfortably furnished in over-sized leather seating, brings the outdoors in with stunning views and connection to the pool patio area. An ideal backdrop, presenting glorious vistas through window walls.

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To floor, in polished gold travertine, to ceiling, with its beams and wood inset, details abound to please the eye.
Service to the generous dining room is a snap from the double galley kitchen. The beautiful “leather-finish” granite countertops soften the surfaces while enhancing the mineral patterns in the stone. Cabinetry is a blend of understated cherry with a surprising complement of crackled ecru lower cabinets.
The generous great room, comfortably furnished in oversize leather seating, brings the outdoors in with stunning views and connection to the pool patio area. An ideal party scene, the open plan allows guests to flow easily in and out.

Lights Out! Power will be off at the CCM on Monday, April 11.

(Continued on page 5)
President’s Letter

WELCOME TO THE DESERT FOOTHILLS. Wherever you come from this is the place to be. Hard to find better weather, better atmosphere or better people. You likely can’t because the weather is perfect, there are things going on to entertain every taste and the people here come from all over—not just America, but the world. The events are broad and numerous, starting with the car shows and auctions, the Phoenix Open golf extravaganza, the Arabian Horse Show, and more. All of these events put Arizona in the front of people’s minds. Visitors can leave the snow by coming to Arizona, visiting the Cave Creek area and, of course, the Cave Creek Museum. As always we are welcoming guests from all over the world. I have always found it curious that people who live near landmarks or historic sites do not visit them. Take, for instance, the Grand Canyon. How many of us who live here have not visited that wonder of the world? Granted, our museum is not the Grand Canyon but, it is often overlooked because it is right around the corner.

Recently, Evelyn and I were invited to the Carefree Kiwans meeting to accept their donation of $2,500.00 to support our children’s program. It was my first time to attend one of their meetings and it was an enjoyable experience. We were happy to report to them that this program they support touches from 450 to 550 children but, more than that, it touches their families. It is the nature of Charlie’s reproductions are shown with this sherd, and others are on display in the Archaeology Wing. He taught many people how to collect natural clay and make pots in open fires the ancient way. 

What was this little figure doing when it had its head and all its arms and legs? Many pots and fragments recovered from archaeological sites show the little people holding hands in line like dancers. Some had burden baskets secured by tumplines over their foreheads. Some are holding long staffs, some have feathers on their heads. And others, though unfortunately not in our examples, are playing flutes. The Hohokam lived in the Salt River and Gila River basins in central Arizona for more than a thousand years. The longevity of their culture and their accomplishments were amazing. They developed a complex society based on irrigation agriculture. It’s difficult to assign dates, but many archaeologists say the recognizable culture appeared about 450 A.D. People were living and growing corn in Arizona long before that, but in this era pottery became one of the marks of the culture.

When did the human figures appear on pottery? Technology of pottery making and popular designs changed over the centuries, allowing archaeologists to divide pottery into phases in an approximate chronology. The figures appear in the middle, around 600 to 1100 A.D. These centuries are divided into three pottery phases, Gila, Santa Cruz, and Sacaton. The round-bodied little people seem more common in the Santa Cruz phase. Whatever the date, we are fortunate to find these happy figures dancing around their (and our) pots.

Artifact of the Month: Pottery Sherd

THE ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH for March is a small sherd, a broken piece of pottery about the size of a quarter that has part of a human figure painted on it. It was made by the people we call Hohokam.

The Cave Creek Museum has some modern reproduction pots showing how these figures would look when complete. They were made by Charles Gilbert. Some of Charlie’s reproductions are shown with this sherd, and others are on display in the Archaeology Wing. He taught many people how to collect natural clay and make pots in open fires the ancient way.

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March is Archaeology Month
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-aack. She says: “March” into spring, I say. It may ‘poof’ over to the home tour April 3. It’s time to leave my old haunt at the museum, at least for a little while.
Visit our ghost on twitter: twitter.com/cavecreekghost

Thanks to All Our Business Members

Wanted: Creativity
During the Museum Home Tour on Sunday, April 3, we will present a “Kitchen and Garden” Boutique at one of the featured homes. Would you help create and donate items to sell at our Boutique?
Here are just a few ideas that you might be able to donate. Your own ideas are most welcome!

- HOMEMADE BAKED GOODS: cookies, brownies, candies, mini loaf breads, or your favorite specialty.
- HOME CANNED GOODS: jams, salsa, pickles
- CREATIONS: pot holder sets, table runners, kitchen towels, knitted/crochet scrubbers, coasters
- MISCELLANEOUS: plants, decorative garden items, decorated garden pots, wooden lazy Susan’s
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Since this is a “pilot” program, we are hoping to have about five to seven of each item listed above. Please ask for your tax donation forms in acknowledgement of your donation.

Drop your items off at the Museum during public hours starting March 2. Food items may be dropped off the last few days of March. Deadline for items is Friday, April 1. Items not sold will be dropped off the Museum during public hours starting March 2. Food items may be dropped off the last few days of March. Deadline for items is Friday, April 1. Items not sold will be used for the next fundraiser.

Please ask for your tax donation forms in acknowledgement of your donation. Our Sincere Thanks, Rita Treat

YesterYear • YesterYear

Bev’s Bits:
Early Cave Creek
I married Bill Metcalfe, my late husband, on November 2, 1960. Bill told everyone the reasons he married me were that we were both left handed and that we had the same initials, Bill Metcalfe and Beverly Myhre. It was probably as good a reason as any. This brought howls of laughter, as everyone knew he was not serious.

Having vacationed in Cave Creek several times in the previous two years, I already knew quite a few people. By 1960, Cave Creek’s population was about 500 in the entire school district, which was 144 square miles, with only 66 school children. Bill knew everybody in town and I was welcomed with open arms. I loved this community that would now be my home, and here I was with more ready-made friends than I had ever had in my life. Bill was called the “unofficial mayor”, and everyone stopped by his office to visit. All he needed was a pot belly stove and a cracker barrel. It was as though I were back in my beloved Elcho, Wisconsin, as if it had been transported from lake lands to the desert.
Cave Creek was really small town Americana, and it was wonderful. We never locked a door and kept the keys in the ignition in the cars parked in the driveways.

We had square dances on Saturday night at the American Legion Hall, where we did polkas, waltzes, schottisches and the “Grand Teton Mountain Stomp.” Church suppers (weather you were Episcopalian or not) the whole town turned out. Parties at various people’s homes always included music of some kind from guests who could play guitar, banjo, or piano and the like.

Of course there were hours of sing-alongs at these parties, and I fit right in because if anyone could not remember the lyrics, they just asked me to supply them. I had literally hundreds of song lyrics in my memory from all the singing I had done as a child. Even though many times I might be the youngest one there, I knew more than the older folks did. They were always amazed at my repertoire. I even got a mention in the local newspaper, The Black Mountain News on one occasion, regarding my knowledge of the old songs.

This is just a little bit of my first impressions of this community. As I keep saying, as nauseam, I am so glad I got in at least for a little while.

For the last years of “old Cave Creek”

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RD C 13125 RES
BOX 1365 CAREFREE, AZ 85377
(480) 488-3420
FAX (480) 488-3431

Chris Kempster, CPP, CLU, CSA
CKempsterAPC@aol.com

JAY NOLTE

Jay Nolte

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.

What a gem of a store! Find all new jewelry and gift ideas—like the new Cave Creek - Carefree History book!

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Horace Greeley’s advice and head west. Reddick had served three years in the Civil War, in the 123rd Pennsylvania Infantry. His grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War. The journey to Seven Springs (Cave Creek) began.

It took over five tedious months to reach elder brother Elias Jackson Cartwright in Chico, on September 21, 1869. Addie and Thomas donated two acres for the first school in the area, the “Cartwright District” was created and still exists today.

The Cartwright family arrived at Cave Creek in 1874. For four generations they were involved in the cattle ranching business. The Cartwrights eventually controlled thousands of acres northeast of Cave Creek for 98 years (1882 to 1980). They are an important and rich part of Cave Creek and Arizona history. Like many pioneers, their journey west followed the challenging Oregon Trail; about 2,000 rugged miles and months in a covered wagon. The story we will explore today, however, is the itinerary from the headwaters of the stream Cave Creek, called Seven Springs. This journey required about 13 years! It starts in 1869 with Reddick Jasper Cartwright, his wife Sarah, and their three children (including three-year-old Mantford)...

Reddick Jasper Cartwright was born June 24, 1837. His grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War. The Arizona Cattlelog, 1945, written by son Mantford, states his father served three years in the Civil War, in the 123rd Illinois Mounted Infantry. He mustered out as a Corporal. Mantford tells us his father and uncle (John) wanted to take Horace Greeley’s advice and head west. Reddick had a brother in Chico, California (about 90 miles north of Sacramento) who was a wheat farmer. This is how the journey to Seven Springs began.

It took over five tedious months to reach elder brother Elias Jackson Cartwright in Chico, on September 21, 1869. After about two years with his brother, Reddick was ready to move again. He had a dream of becoming a cattle rancher, so the family headed about two hundred miles to northeastern California, an area called Goose Lake Valley, near the Oregon border. The winters of 1873 and 1874 were vicious. Cattle suffered and perished. It was time to move to a warmer climate, Prescott, Arizona. The Cartwrights arrived in Prescott in September, 1874 with twenty dollars. By 1875 Reddick initiated the homesteading process for 84 acres. Historian Grady tells us Reddick received his homestead patent March 20, 1877. By late December, 1876, you guessed it, it was time to move again, this time to Phoenix, Arizona. After 2,824 days, that’s 7.74 years since leaving Illinois, the Cartwright family arrived in Phoenix, January 5, 1877.

Reddick filed homestead applications, near today’s 51st Avenue and Thomas, in 1877, 1883, and 1888 for a total of 480 acres per historian Grady. His son Reeves and daughter Addie (with husband Thomas Brockman), each homesteaded 160 adjacent acres for a total of 810 family acres. The “Cartwright Neighborhood” was born. In 1889 after Addie and Thomas donated two acres for the first school in the area, the “Cartwright District” was created and still exists today.

The Cartwright family acquired cattle, the neighborhood acquired people, and by 1882, it was determined that the foraging cattle had to acquire a new home. The following statement comes from Cartwright family archives, “…the family’s collection of cattle becoming a growing herd was driven to open range on federal land near Camp Creek and upper Cave Creek [Seven Springs]. The first ranch headquarters was near the old Onyx Mine. This was the beginning, in 1882, of the family ranching business.

Four extraordinary generations of the Cartwright family couldn’t begin to be covered in this article. Please join us for an in-depth discussion on this magnificent cattle-ranching family; you’ll leave us, feeling, as if you have…a steak in the Museum. It will be a rare treat.