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 interpretative exhibits.

Visit the Museum Website at: www.cavecreekmuseum.org

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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Darlene Southern

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Cave Creek, Arizona

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Permit No. 7
A s we approach the end of our 2015-2016 season we want to thank the many volunteers who make the Cave Creek Museum experience one to remember. They contribute countless hours and skills to make each and every season a success.

We started the season with Smithsonian Magazine Museum Day. It was a great pleasure to have our friends from the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community join us. This was our third year doing this and we hope it can continue and grow.

During the season we had many successful events and had the opportunity to introduce our museum to many new people in different formats. Dinner presentations, history talks and other venues created these opportunities and I hope we’ll be able to continue them. We had visitors from all but four of the 50 states and several foreign countries and, at the time of this writing, our visitor count exceeds last season.

We were invited to participate in an outdoor expo at Desert Mountain on March 30, which was an excellent opportunity and the museum was very well received. The organizers intend to make this an annual event and we hope it can continue and grow.

I have to mention the Dream Team and their operation and maintenance of the Stamp Mill. It continues to grow in popularity and, as anticipated, has become a draw of its own.

Take this last opportunity to visit the museum before we end our season. Some of the displays will change and you’ll be sorry you missed them. Our Archaeology and Pioneer Days event last season.

“Dream Team” from Palm Valley High School in Peoria, under the leadership of Ron Roberts, was second to none and they continue to improve through the efforts of our devoted volunteers. There is a passion for much of this work and we are always looking for passionate volunteers. Such enthusiasm is what makes us what we are as a museum. If you have a passion that can translate into the bettering of our museum, please give us a call. There are many areas that can use more volunteers.

Also, invite your friends to become members or, if you are a local business owner, we have memberships for you, too.

Thanks to all for a great season.

Ron Roberts, Museum President

The first evidence of spurs appeared in about 5th Century B.C., appearing in the Roman Empire, Greece, the medieval Arabic world and amongst the Celts all at about the same time! These early spurs were “prick” spurs, long points welded onto a metal or leather yoke. They remained common until the 14th century, when rowel (spiked disc) spurs made their appearance, as did more ornamental designs and decorations. For example, the spurs of the Spanish Conquistadors were elaborately engraved and chased with precious metals and could have rowels as large as 6” around!

Spurs are still popular, especially in the American Southwest, where they are an important part of the cowboy tradition. A set of spurs is a key piece of a cowboy’s equipment. Spurs are used to signal commands to their horses when they cannot use their hands or reins.

The spurs used by cowboys are primarily of three types: the Mexican spur, the California or buckaroo spur and the Texas or cowboy spur. The spur is composed of a heel band with buttons that can be either stationary or swinging; a shank, straight or curved, and with or without a chap guard; and a rowel, that is, a small wheel of various types, such as “toothed,” “6-Point Spoke,” “5-Point Star” and “Sawtooth.”

The spur is an art form as well as a tool, with engraving and other artistic elements, often handmade and utilizing silver or other precious metals. There are many collectors of antique spurs, particularly western and cowboy aficionados.

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 Macy’s, for promoting the program.
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**What a gem of a store!**
Find all new jewelry and gift ideas—like the new Cave Creek - Carefree History book!

**Shop**
the Museum Store
Books•Jewelry•Gifts
open during Museum hours

**MUSEUM HAUNTINGS**
The Museum Ghost is baa-aack.

She says:
Merry May I can soon have the museum all to myself. Hmmn. Maybe not. Those pesky volunteers take over the place in the summer like ants at a picnic.

Visit our ghost on twitter:
twitter.com/cavecreekghost

What is Worth Preserving
What’s worth preserving we no longer see. Except as images tucked in our memory.
Hills and ranges, stirring Sonoran spans, Are Scottsdalized into boxes, stacked in a Lego-land. Where rugged and endless vistas thrilled the psyche Fencing and asphalt now accommodate Nikes.

Herds of horses that ran with the wind Are fading into “what once had been.”

Ghost of cowboys, dusty and dry, Haunt the bajadas and wonder why

The land, so vast, so vulnerable and free Has not been tended more thoughtfully. The ancient Hohokam have shed their tears

**What's Worth Preserving**

We all knew that someone who could ride as well as that old cowboy would make it so much easier on the mule, than someone who rode like a sack of potatoes. So all four of us were set to go on the trail the next morning. Unfortunately. A couple of the young people we had on the ride had never ridden anything before. This mule ride was not the place to start. By the time we got to the bottom, they were so lame and sore. Hube just told them to go to their room and he would come in and give them a massage. If he had not done that I don’t think they could have gotten on those mules and ridden to the top the next day. Here again, since Hube had trained boxes, he probably knew all the “tricks of the trade.” Good for him.

The next morning when we went to the corral to get our assigned mules, I got a cute little mule called “Speck.”

What a joy she was. So sure footed, as it turned out, as we were going down a trail that our guide (John O’Day) said, “If you look over the stirrup it is 800 feet to the bottom.” Good for Spec. She gave me a wonderfully safe ride all the way to the Phantom Ranch, where we stayed the night, before riding up to the top of the Canyon the next day. What an experience that was!

This was just the beginning of my exciting Arizona adventures over all of these fifty eight years later in this beautiful and wonderful Cave Creek, Arizona.

—Stephanie Bradley

**www.cavecreekmuseum.com**
T he issue had arisen at a Cave Creek town meeting that a cemetery was needed. The date was November 17, 1954. One of the residents, Mr. Elmer “Grandpa” Gillespie, suggested two possible locations. One location was on Federal “Forest” Land east of Cave Creek, and the other idea was to revitalize the old “Boot Hill” Cemetery. Boot Hill Cemetery…Cave Creek? Isn’t that cemetery in Tombstone, Arizona?

In any event, at the suggestion of Ted Loring (Rancho Mañana Dude Ranch co-founder with Romaine Lowdermilk in 1943), a committee was formed to explore the cemetery issue. Dr. Harold Budd was committee-chair; and members included Tribly Gillespie (Elmer’s son and builder of Rancho Mañana Dude Ranch with Romaine Lowdermilk), Frank Wright (known as “Mr. Cave Creek” and responsible for bringing street lights to Cave Creek), and finally, Tom Roberts (early Cave Creek real-estate developer and broker). In 1955, the committee’s decision created a new two-and-a-half-acre cemetery, located on the east side of Pima Road just south of Cave Creek Road. Mr. Elmer Gillespie, born in 1887, was the first inhumation in 1956. His son Tribly, born in 1919, joined him in 1994. The Cave Creek Cemetery was deeded to the town of Carefree in 2000. The only requirement for burial is one must have resided in the Cave Creek School District #93, for one year. Cost remains at $100 per plot.

By 1980, Cave Creek Station was the town center and owned by the “Sheep King of Cave Creek,” James D. Houck. Mr. Houck’s wife, Beatrice, and daughters, would bury ranch-hands and destitute tubercular patients (“lungers”) in the creek-side cemetery along with local denizens. Frances C. Carlson, in her book Cave Creek and Carefree, Arizona: A History of the Desert Foothills, states “the little cemetery beside the creek…was forgotten when the town-center shifted eastward.”

Over the years vandals have desecrated the sacred site; headstones stolen. In June, 1964 one headstone remained (now gone), and was photographed with the following inscription: “In memory of David Wesley Vaughn…born July 28, 1891…died September 25, 1893…aged 2 years and 2 months and 7 days…A blast one from us is gone…The one we loved is still…A place is vacant in our home…which never can be filled.”

David Wesley Vaughn suffered from scarlet fever and became destitute. A physician was frantically summoned by neighbor Frank Linville who gallantly rode to Phoenix through a vicious, pelting hailstorm. Young Doctor Bresee saddled his steed for the grueling six-hour trip to Cave Creek… but he didn’t make it in time.

I wish I had more time to explore this fascinating topic… unfortunately…I’m buried right now.

The talented
Ray Hostel (above) and
Bill Deiman (above right) directed more than 250 Home Tour visitors.

Kraig Nelson, Docent’s Corner