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NUGGETS

MAY 2016



FRONTIER MEDICINE
VOLUNTEER GWEN HARWOOD has combined her background in nursing with her interest in history to create the Medical History exhibit in the Ansbaugh Auditorium. Gwen has gathered an array of interesting items from collections to illustrate the challenges and limitations in finding medical care in the early days of Cave Creek.

As settlers moved west, Indian threats grew, precipitating the arrival of the army for protection. Forts provided refuge in the isolated west and provided medical facilities and a surgeon. More soldiers died of diseases such as scurvy, dysentery, small pox, syphilis, fevers and infections than from combat.

For the smattering of miners, ranchers and settlers in Cave Creek, the trek into Phoenix to see one of its three doctors (of dubious competence and training) necessitated a six-hour trip over rough terrain. Thus medical care fell to home remedies.

Health in Cave Creek was a microcosm of the Arizona Territory. Diphtheria, pneumonia, TB, whooping cough, measles, snake bites, and accidents were common. Patients with lung ailments sought the purported curative powers of the Arizona sun in the 1880s. To serve patients, small compounds composed of a half dozen or so rude shacks or canvas tents that housed mold as well as “lungers” sprang up. Despite primitive conditions and treatments, many people suffering with lung ailments improved.

Settlers devised their own cures and restoratives, or those promulgated and probably prepared by “traveling salesmen.” Various “patent” formulae promised many things but only the name of the product was trademarked. The ingredients were unregulated and often unknown. Alcohol,

morphine derivatives, cocaine, and mercury were often in the mix.

One intriguing “medicine” on display is labeled “Neurosine,” promoting itself as, “The remedy par



Annual Meeting and “Just Desserts”
Tuesday May 17 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
in Dorothy's Hall at Christ Church,
Cave Creek Road, Carefree.

MERRY MAY

★Sunday, May 1, 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Family Program: Creating Art

Hodge-Podge: Create something artistic and uniquely you from craft supplies not used up during the season. Discover the creative side of you!

All ages welcome. Thanks to Kiwanis of Carefree for generously supporting children's programming.

★Saturday, May 14, 2:00-3:30 p.m.
History Highlights: It's a Dry Heat

Many early settlers to Arizona came with lung diseases and with hope that the climate would cure them. Discover compelling stories, featuring the TB cabin, with Evelyn Johnson and Stephanie Bradley.

To register for programs, call 480-488-2764 or visit www.cavecreekmuseum.org.

★Sunday, May 15, 2:00 p.m.
Stamp Mill Runs



★Wednesday, May 18, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Vino and Canvas

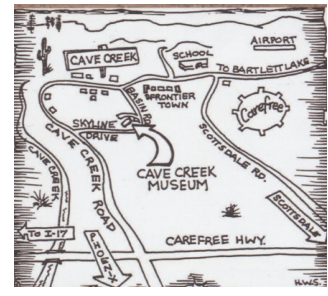
Enjoy a fun evening of camaraderie and libations as you paint your own scene.

Cost: \$35; register on the web: vinoandcanvas.com

Excellence for Delirium and Restless Fever.”

Among its ingredients were sodium, potassium, ammonium and zinc bromides; henbane and belladonna (both poisonous in large doses), oil of bitter almonds (presumably with the cyanide removed), Cannabis Indica and alcohol.

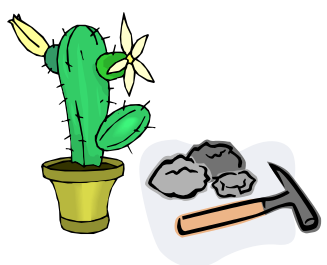
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Cave Creek, Arizona

OPEN
October 1, 2015 through May 29, 2016
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and tubercular cabin!



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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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Evelyn Johnson, Executive Director; Karen Friend, Administrative Support Staff; Volunteer Support Staff: Linda Pierce
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 interpretative exhibits.

President's Letter

AS 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 county 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 will be part of a growing relationship.

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 wings are 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



Artifact of the Month: A Cowboy and His Spurs

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.

GET WELL WISHES GO TO...

✚ **BOTH Dian and Bob Flach, who are recovering from falls. (The family that scars together, stays together?)**

✚ **Kraig Nelson, who is recovering from toe amputation and associated infection.**



IN MOURNFUL LOSS...

After a valiant battle with ALS, museum member and former Carefree Mayor David Schwan passed away April 7. Our most sincere condolences and sympathy to Binka, her family and all of us who grieve with them.

★ MAY 2016 ★



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**DESERT
STORAGE**

Map showing location near E. Cave Creek Rd and E. Lone Mountain Rd.

(480) 488-0555

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.

★ MAY 2016 ★
www.cavecreekmuseum.com



CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



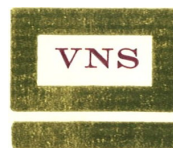
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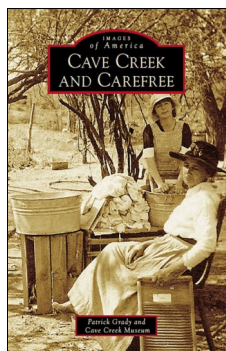
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MUSEUM HAUNTINGS

The Museum Ghost is baa-aack.

She says:

Merry May I can soon have the museum
all to myself. Hmmm. 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

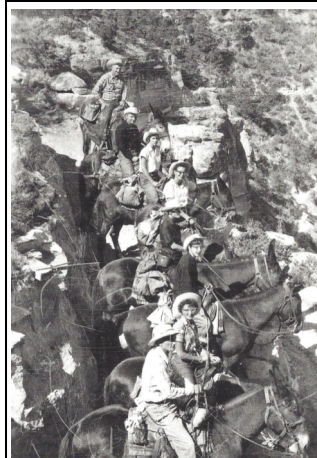


**Thanks to All Our
Business Members**

★MAY 2016★

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CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



Among the riders: were (top) Hube Yates
and second from bottom,
Bev Myhre (Brooks)

BEV'S BITS GRAND CANYON MULE RIDE

IN 1958, WHEN I FIRST CAME
TO CAVE CREEK, to visit Si-
erra Vista Guest Ranch, I also
had reservations for the mule
ride down to the bottom of the
Grand Canyon. There were a
couple of other guests at the
Ranch, and Hube Yates drove us
all up to the El Tovar Hotel at
the south rim of the Canyon.

We checked in at the Bright
Angel Lodge as the El Tovar
was full up. We checked on

the mule ride at the El Tovar that night, and they had
room for all of us, but had a weight limit of 200 pounds.
We all made the weight except Hube, as he weighed in at
205. Well, we went into the gift shop and bought him
some moccasins so he could take off his heavy cowboy
boots. Then we went into our motel room, and he emp-
tied out his pockets. That took a couple of pounds off,
and before we went to check in again, Hube told me he
learned a lesson when he taught prize fighting. He would
just look over his fighter's shoulders and "accidentally" put
his hand under the waistband of his boxer's tights if they
could not meet the weight. It always took a couple of

pounds off. I did that, and he passed the weight problem.
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 bot-
tom, 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 boxers, he proba-
bly 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 bot-
tom." Good for Speck. 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 adven-
tures over all of these fifty eight years later in this beautiful
and wonderful Cave Creek, Arizona.

Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

We started the "Nuggets" season with Kraig Nelson's "Overton Mystery," his award winning entry in Peak magazine's "Write Stuff" contest last summer. We end the season with our other award-winning writer Stephanie Bradley, who won the poetry division in last year's contest with the following:

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."

Ghosts 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

Worn by changes over so many years.

Gone are rustic spots to quench the thirst
It matters not who was there first.

Is no one guilty? Or are we all to blame?
Excusing our nature that makes change our aim.

Still there should be some things to protect and revere
So that those who come after can touch and be near:



A stand of saguaros, climbing the McDowells,
A bobcat's nonchalance, as the wind howls;

Swaths of wildflowers in a magical spring
All the marvels and miracles the desert brings.

What you read here sounds a cynic's plea
To leave some desert as it was meant to be.

—Stephanie Bradley

★MAY 2016★

www.cavecreekmuseum.com

As noted in our "Get Well" item on page 2, Kraig is recovering from a seven-day stay in hospital that has left him minus a toe! While his hands can still type, the follow-up care to ensure his recovery precludes his writing a new "Docent Corner" column for this month. We are reprising the following column from Fall 2013:

Docent's Corner

A Tale of Two Cemeteries

THE 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 Trilby 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 Trilby, 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.

So what about Cave Creek's Boot Hill Cemetery? First the name. "Boot Hill" became a generic term for men (usually) who died with their boots on, usually violently and quickly--gunplay or hanging, for example. And quickly enough so they couldn't remove their boots prior to meeting their maker!

There are at least forty "Boot Hill" cemeteries in America. The first Boot Hill was probably the infamous ceme-

tery in Dodge City, Kansas. Bat Masterson, Wyatt Earp, and Doc Holliday spent time there. Wyatt and Doc eventually moved on to Tombstone and maintained the deadly, Boot Hill concept. I know Billy Clanton, Frank and Tom McLaury would have agreed; however, I doubt if they were "OK" with the idea.



The historic, pioneer-cemetery is located on the east bank of Cave Creek (the stream), about a half-mile south of today's Rancho Mañana Golf Resort. It was just south of the first Cave Creek Anglo settlement (1877) of Jeriah and Amanda Wood. In the 1880s it was called Cave Creek Station, accommodating some of the first local miners and ranchers.



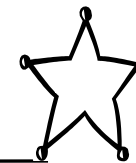
By 1900, Cave Creek Station was the town center and owned by the "Sheep King of Cave Creek," James D. Houck. Mr. Houck's wife, Beatrice, and daughters, would bury ranch-hands and destitute tubercular patients ("lungers") in the creek-side cemetery along with local denizens. Frances C. Carlson, in her 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 blest 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 deathly ill. 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.

Kraig Nelson, Docent



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



Below: Helped by troop 440 committee chair Marc Peagler (right), Scouts Matthew Peagler and Gage Kinder were well prepared to serve folks at the Spaghetti Dinner.



Jane Heidel, Spaghetti Dinner Chair, shares pasta and passels of fun with grandson Jeremy and daughter Wendy Steinberg.



Karen Friend, Paul Olson and Diane Dollison prepare to bid on silent auction items.

Enjoying a beautiful day for a home tour are, left to right, volunteers Betsy Wise, Gwen Harwood, Ardis Meduna and Audrey Stephens



Domenica Corbo leads a calligraphy workshop. See what else she does at: www.writtenletters.com.



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