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.

Contact any of the following Board Directors with your comments and ideas to make the Museum even better!

**DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED**

**ADOPTION OF ARTIFACTS**

Children under 5    Free
Students                  $5
Adults $7
Seniors $5

**OPEN**

October 1, 2017 through May 31, 2018
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

**WHO’S ON BOARD**

President: Ron Roberts
RonR0923@gmail.com
Vice President: Mark T. Mulker
Mullerm1@msn.com
Recording Secretary: Alysa Edwards
AlysaDEdwards@gmail.com
Treasurer: Stephanie Bradley
Stephanielbradley@gmail.com
Executive Director: Karrie Porter Brush
Karrie@CaveCreekMuseum.com

**NUGGETS**

**APRIL EVENTS**

Sunday, 8: Family Fun Workshop —  Do Artifacts Talk?
1:30 to 3:00 p.m. — Hands-on history lets children learn to “listen” to what artifacts tell us and to practice proper handling of important items. We will also discuss learning to treasure our own heritage and memories.

You won’t want to miss this!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!
To hold your spot, visit www.cavecreekmuseum.org or call 480-488-2764.

Saturday, 14: Stamp Mill Runs — 1:30 p.m. followed at 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. by Kraig Nelson, speaking on: The Tale of Three Towns: Cave Creek, Marion, and Liscum and the Show Down at the Phoenix Mine.

Oops! Apologies for the appearance of the March issue of Nuggets. Technical difficulties and lost fonts led to distorted printing.

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You won’t want to miss this!

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!
To hold your spot, visit www.cavecreekmuseum.org or call 480-488-2764.

With the construction of the “new” museum building, the church once again resumed its role as meeting place for congregations and now for museum programs. But its heritage as a place to sanctify marriages continues, and indeed is growing, thanks to a practical couple.

When Jason and Sarah Hope decided to marry several years ago, they considered many options. They were dis-appointed to find that extravagance and gilt, along with accompanying staggering prices, were the rule of the day. With their lives together ahead of them, the pragmatic pair did not want to begin their marriage with debt for a big party when savings could be used for more substantial and long term expenditures.

In their search for their wedding venue they discovered the Museum and its Historic Church. How quaint! How heritage as a place to sanctify marriages continues, and indeed is growing, thanks to a practical couple.

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In their search for their wedding venue they discovered the Museum and its Historic Church. How quaint! How appealing! How affordable! They began their life wedded together at the Historic Church and in sense wedded to the Church.

Sarah and Jason decided that their experience at the Historic Church was so memorable that they wanted to share the experience and the modest cost with other engaged couples. The couple paired up with the museum, taking charge of wedding scheduling and offering an array of options for engaged couples, from “Shot Gun” to “Ultimate” weddings. Jason and Sarah are also officials so also legally join many of the couples in marriage.

The Historic Church has become even more popular as a small wedding site under their management.

Learn more details on different wedding packages at http://www.themissionchapel.com or calling 480-217-8389.
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Cave Creek is one of Arizona’s great historic towns. From its ancient times to just yesterday, Cave Creek folks have made its history more than a dusty textbook of local lore. This year’s Home Tour added to the lively scene. I have been deeply moved by the generosity and magnanimity of our four homeowners who opened their homes and shared their stories and treasures. Each host had a unique and welcoming abode.

The garden oases of the Monachino Residence offered Southwestern tranquility. The playfulness and creativity of the Davidson Residence showed off their lives’ work in glamorous fashion. The Coffee-O’Malley Home and Studio are a workspace, showroom, and gallery all in one. The Wind Horse Ranch Bed & Breakfast and Equestrian Resort is the perfect retreat for anyone to enjoy Cave Creek, riding the trails or in peaceful respite through a yoga pose or a book. All these hosts have my sincerest gratitude.

Our 2018 Homes through Time Home Tour would not be possible without the dedication of our army of volunteers! Tour Chair Sharon McGuire leads her committee to seek out the best venues and establish lasting relationships with our patrons. Rita Treat has created the popular Kitchen Garden Boutique. House captains, co-captains, and volunteers include Barbara Giannaklas, Jane Heidel, Debbie Peterson, Judy Smith, Anne Wallace, Nancy Zeno, and many, many others! Great thanks also goes to Pamela Patton who created a lovely keepsake to remember the beauty and wonder of these lovely desert homes. Stephanie Bradley greatly assisted with the Home Tour ticket booklet. Charlie Connell and the Dream Team provided the muscle and ingenuity to overcome hardware and hardship. Museum Assistant Karen Friend has been indispensable in advising and managing the administrative logistics and ticket sales.

All of us, however, are deeply indebted to the life’s work of Cave Creek Museum Director Emeritus Evelyn Johnson. Her mentorship during my on-going devotion to this institution ensures all will thrive.

I deeply, sincerely THANK YOU ALL.

Karrrie Porter Brace
Executive Director
Cave Creek Museum

APRIL ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH

Pressed Flower Albums

Preserving plants by pressing originated with early botanists. Even in Greek and Roman times, flower pressing was a practical way for a botanist to bring specimens back from the wild for later recording and analyzing. The botanist’s plant press comprised two large flat boards surrounding alternating stacks of paper which separated plants. The apparatus was kept tight with adjustable straps.

During Victorian times, flower pressing captured and preserved the beauty of the natural world. You may remember a grandmother or great aunt who pressed flowers between the pages of old books. Newcomers to the area found the local flora unusual and fascinating compared to the verdant green of their former homes. As is often the case with items in the Museum’s collection, we do not know the history of the album on display, but it is easy to imagine its creator being enthralled by the flora that thrives in this waterless, sun-blasted environment. Captivated by the delicate flowers that emerged despite the rigorous conditions, the album’s maker carefully collected and labeled each specimen.

Make your own pressed flowers! With spring upon us fully collected and labeled each specimen. Captivated by the delicate flowers that emerged during Victorian times, flower pressing was a practical way for a botanist to bring specimens back from the wild for later recording and analyzing. The botanist’s plant press comprised two large flat boards surrounding alternating stacks of paper which separated plants. The apparatus was kept tight with adjustable straps.

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Make your own pressed flowers! With spring upon us it is timely and easy.

—The best time to collect your flowers is in the morning, but don’t let timing stop you from plucking a pretty specimen any time of day. If there is dew on the flower, be sure to let it dry thoroughly.

—Arrange the blossom on any absorbent paper such as coffee filters, paper towels, blotting paper, etc. to dry the flowers as quickly as possible so they retain their color and shape. Once the flower is in place, add several layers of additional absorbent paper on top. Now weigh it down with a heavy book or two, a stack of magazines, any item that is heavy.

—Now Wait! Do not disturb the arrangement for at least a week or ten days; longer is better. If you try to peek before all the moisture is evaporated (or pressed out), the flower can be pulled apart when you separate the papers.

—Once sufficient time has passed, remove the weight and admire your efforts. Congratulations!

—Darlene Southern
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The Mission Chapel
Elopement Wedding Chapel
Est. 2014

Jason & Sarah Hope
Wedding Officials
Office: 480.217.8389
info@themissionchapel.com

Old Historic Church in Cave Creek, Arizona
6140 E. Skyline Drive, Cave Creek, Arizona
Ask us about our Hot Air Balloon Package

Visit our ghost on twitter: @cavecreekghost

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MUSEUM HAUNTINGS
The Museum Ghost speaks from beyond...
I hope to see some wildflowers, despite the poor winter rains. The cactus never disappoint, however, no matter their winter hardships, they always bring color our way. I may try pressing some of those buds.

Visit our ghost on twitter: twitter.com/cavecreekghost

Thanks to All Our Business Members

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April 2018

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Cave Creek Museum Nuggets

April 2018

www.cavecreekmuseum.com

BEV’S BITS

Romy Lowdermilk

In the 1880s cattle ranchers settled in the Cave Creek area. By the turn of the twentieth century, there were several well-established ranches. Among them were Hoskins (1881), Linvilles (1887), Cartwright spread (1887) at Seven Springs, the Morris’ Quarter Circle One outfit (1890) and others.

Cave Creek was good cattle country. The Arizona climate was in a wetter cycle in those days. The old timers told me stories of Cave Creek stream running above ground year-round all the way to the valley, of grass being knee high, and of lots of filaree. So there was plenty of water and feed for the herds, until the drought in the early 1900s. At that time, Cave Creek stream went underground and those ranchers that didn’t have a good water supply were forced to leave. The Carstairs’ spread was at the beginning of Cave Creek stream so they could keep going.

One of Cave Creek’s many real working cowboys was Romaine Lowdermilk. Romy worked at the Kay El Bar in Wickenburg. That had been a working cattle ranch before he turned it into a dude ranch. He became known as the “Father of Dude Ranching in Arizona.” After owning several other spreads he came to Cave Creek in 1943, and acquired the old Howard Ranch and turned it into his last dude ranch calling it “Rancho Mañana.”

In the book Folksingers and Folksongs in America, Romy, a noted singer, musician and composer of western music, states: “I was just lucky enough to be born early enough to get acquainted with some of the cowboys who had worked the ranges through the 1870s and 80s, to see occasional longhorns on open range. I saw big roundups and drives; saw the old backyard cowboy reunion commercialized into the modern rodeo; saw bands of wild horses on the mountain and plain, and the gradual change from the genuine Spanish mustang through the bronco era to fine quarter horses. I have seen altered brands, cow thieves, blackleg, ticks, pinkeye, screw worms, bad men in high places and good men on the dodge, stam pedes, range arguments, water troubles, storms, droughts, and lots of bright sunshine and fair weather when everything’s lovely and nothin’ is wrong, and I’m just lazy-like, lopin’ along.” That kind of tells you what the old cowboys were like that were my old friends.

I did not get a chance to meet this old cowboy, as he had sold Rancho Mañana and moved to Sedona, where he died just a few months before I moved here in 1960. But he was much like the other REAL cowboys I knew. They talked like that and had stories to tell. Just putting on a pair of boots and levis does not a cowboy make, knowing how to punch a herd of cattle does. I was fortunate enough to have known some of the old cowboys that were still here.

—Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

A Rescue Tail

We are used to seeing Paul Diefenderfer, aka, “Dief” working with the other Dream Team volunteers at the Museum. Dief has lots of interests and experiences beyond metal work, finagling and his artistic creations.

When the new year was still new, Dief was feeling a bit punk and stayed home. Distracting himself on Facebook, he spied a local call for help. A woman’s dog had fallen 50 feet into a dry well. Dief said Sophie, the pooch, was stuck in a space smaller than she is. He fashioned a noose onto a 50-foot length of rope. “It took time and patience, trying to get the loop under her legs,” Dief said. Eventually he wriggled and joggled the loop around the poor pup’s middle and hoisted her up with only a scratch on her head.

The well is now tightly covered.

The Mission Chapel
Elopement Wedding Chapel

Est. 2014

The Mission Chapel
Elopement Wedding Chapel

Est. 2014

MUSEUM HAUNTINGS
The Museum Ghost speaks from beyond...
I hope to see some wildflowers, despite the poor winter rains. The cactus never disappoint, however, no matter their winter hardships, they always bring color our way. I may try pressing some of those buds.

Visit our ghost on twitter: twitter.com/cavecreekghost

Thanks to All Our Business Members

C a v e  C r e e k   M u s e u m  N u g g e t s

April 2018

www.cavecreekmuseum.com

April 2018

We are sad to report the passing of longtime Museum member Dick Stewart on February 21 at age 89.

Remembering...
There was an important symbiotic relationship. The first Cave Creek. nix Mine have vanished but had a far communities were anchored by what became the nation-
seum in today’s Spur Cross Conservation Area. Both
the Museum’s historic Stamp Mill originated.

In 1873, he built the original Cave Creek road with 50 strong men, some hearty horses, and his own money. He intended to build Cave Creek Station (a resting spot for travelers) per historian Frances C. Carlson, but when other business issues arose, Jeriah Wood (brother of Hellings’s neighbor) and his wife Amanda established Cave Creek Station in 1877. Unofficially, the town of Cave Creek was established when the Woods built their one-room adobe home near the Creek. Officially, Cave Creek states its founding year as 1870 when General George Stoneman rode through this area while establishing a shorter route to the territorial capital of Prescott, from Camp McDowell (later in April 1879 Fort McDowell). Stoneman stayed only long enough to rest, feed and water his weary horses in this new-found oasis, near today’s Rancho Mañana Golf Resort, an area that did become the location of Cave Creek Station seven years later. The extremely ambitious Hellings started buying mining claims on Continental Mountain, including the Golden Star Mine. The Golden Star Mine eventually became the Golden Reef Mine which is where the Museum’s historic Stamp Mill originated.

The first neighboring hamlet was Marion, which was later renamed Liscum, located about five miles from the Museum in today’s Spur Cross Conservation Area. Both communities were anchored by what became the nation-
ally-famous Phoenix Mine. Marion, Liscum and the Phoe-
nic Mine have vanished but had a far-reaching effect on Cave Creek. There was an important symbiotic relationship. The first

Historian Charles Phillips identifies the three most important miners on Continental Mountain: Hellings, Charles S. Fleming, and Charles E. Philes. Each was important to the future town of Cave Creek. Philes’s mining claim eventually was incorporated into the last dude ranch in Cave Creek, Sierra Vista, which remained in business until 1962. Dr. Roland Rosson “grubstaked” Charles Philes, investing in the mine in hopes of future profit. Mrs. Carl-
son defines the concept of grubstaking as “Those unable to leave their profession grubstaked the…prospectors.”

Does the name Rosson sound familiar? The Rosson House is the magnificent Queen Anne Victorian mansion/museum in Heritage Square in central Phoenix. The ten-
room, 2,800 square-foot home was built with advanced amenities including hot and cold water, electric lights, in-
door bathrooms, and a telephone when completed in 1895. Dr. Roland Lee Rosson was a general physician, sur-
geon, and politician. He was elected Maricopa County coroner, county treasurer, the ninth territorial mayor of Phoenix, and he was a Cave Creek investor.

In 1897, Rosson was granted two mining claims on the ground. The three men were Francis A. Shaw, Hiram McDonald, and William Kent. Mr. Shaw and Mr. McDonald had important roles in Phoenix. Francis Shaw became the second mayor of territorial Phoenix from 1881 to 1883. Hiram McDonald became a deputy town marshal and spent fifty years with the Phoenix Police De-
artment. Little is known about Kent and was lost to his-
ory per Carlson.