

Cave Creek Museum, Inc.
6140 E Skyline Drive
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NUGGETS

JANUARY 2018



6140 Skyline Drive

Cave Creek, Arizona

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

ADMISSION

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Adults | \$7 |
| Seniors | \$5 |
| Students | \$5 |
| Children under 5 | Free |

Donations Gratefully Accepted

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Don't miss our **outdoor** exhibits:
ranch tools,
stamp mill
mining arrastre,
historic church,
and tubercular cabin



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!

| | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>President: Ron Roberts RonR0923@gmail.com</p> <p>Vice President: Mark T. Muller Mullerm1@msn.com</p> | <p>Treasurer: Evelyn Holbrook eholbrook@ccusd93.org</p> <p>Recording Secretary: Alysa Edwards AlysaDEdwards@gmail.com</p> | <p>Board: Paige Coniglio desertbeginnings2013@gmail.com</p> <p>Hillary Cummins hillarymwilliams@gmail.com</p> <p>Bill Kosanke cwkosanke@gmail.com</p> <p>Kraig Nelson knelson919@aol.com</p> | <p>Bill Oelman woelman@yahoo.com</p> <p>Pamela Patton pamelahpatton@icloud.com</p> <p>Rita Treat rktreat@gmail.com</p> <p>Anne Wallace annejwallace3@gmail.com</p> |
|---|---|--|---|

Karrie Porter Brace, 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 interpretative exhibits.

RUMMAGE AND REMINISCE!

On Saturday January 20, have our longtime appraiser par excellence Sean Morton look at your treasures. Sean, a frequent expert on Channel 8's *Arizona Collectables*, has been providing verbal descriptions on all manner of unique items to Museum goers for many years. His range of knowledge and detailed descriptions are amazing, no matter how arcane the item!
Donation: \$25 per item (limit two items)

A SHOT AT THE PAST

By Stephanie Bradley
With Antique Appraisal Days ahead on Saturday, January 20, we want to share a curious, and, for Board President Ron Roberts, a truly memorable, experience coupling a bizarre find and a quirk of time.



On February 10, 2017, Christmas came early (or maybe late!). A large, mysterious box had been delivered to the museum, to Ron's attention.

Full of anticipation, Ron and then-Director Evelyn Johnson sliced through layers of tape and thick cardboard to discover: packaging peanuts! Well, more than that. Hidden beneath was what looked like a rifle, worn and weathered.

Ron knew immediately what it was. The package might have contained a relic, but for Ron it was a time machine. As he gingerly lifted the long rifle, its metal pitted and wood parts eroded, Ron remembered being a youngster, adventuring with Cave Creek pals. They were down by the Verde River at a Boy Scout campout, wading through the water, chasing fish and each other, their imaginations carrying them to far off lands, to fight battles against imagined marauders and hav-

★JANUARY EVENTS★

◆Saturday, 13: Stamp Mill Runs—1:30 p.m.

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

◆Sunday, 14: Family Fun Workshop Time Travels—1:30 to 3:00 p.m.
Do you know where marshmallows originated? Where does our food come from? Join us as we go back in time to discover and taste the foods from yesteryear.

◆Saturday, 20: Antique Appraisal Day 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
For \$25 per item (limit of two), receive an anecdotal description of your treasures or mystery knickknacks (which may be treasures!).
Renowned appraiser Sean Morton will examine and explain the background of your objets d'art!

ing an all-American good time. In a time without video games or helicopter parents; in a time when development was decades away, these kids were free to play and frolic and explore.

The source of the old-time weapon was Russ Cockburn, one of those playmates. Russ enclosed a note with the rifle, which stated the following:

"I remember several guys had found sticks to splash with and I tripped on a submerged stick. So I picked up the stick to join in the mayhem and it turned out to be this gun.



(Continued on page 3)

DESERT AWARENESS COMMITTEE EARNS BOOK AWARD

"Chloe and the Desert Heroes: A Tale of Adventure in the Sonoran Desert" was awarded third place in the 2017 Arizona Literary Award, children's literature division.

"It is a good feeling to be recognized for something that has been a labor of love and has done so much good in promoting conservation and stewardship of the Sonoran Desert," said Diane Vaszily, spokesperson for the Desert Awareness Committee (DAC).



Chloe and the Desert Heroes is available in the Museum Store.

"Chloe and the Desert Heroes" is a coming-of-age tale that has become an important supplement of the fourth grade Arizona Studies curriculum, enhancing understanding of the desert ecosystem through a hands-on desert classroom program and field experience. The DAC hopes to expand the popular program statewide and nationally.

The DAC is a longtime collaborator with the museum, creating the museum's desert garden and the natural history display in the Ansbaugh Auditorium, as well as assisting with children's programming.



Brenda Olive, Diane Vaszily and Abby Hemingway accept their award on behalf of the DAC.

JANUARY ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH

The Chicago World's Fair was a huge event in 1893, meant to mark 400 years since Columbus arrived in the Americas.



World's Fair Book and two entrance tickets.

What does that exposition have to do with Cave Creek? While many residents of our area can trace their roots to the Chicago area, and many Arizonans were among the estimated 26 million visitors, there is a more intriguing link, especially to our museum.

Prior to the World's Fair, collections were mostly displayed in depositories or "curiosity" cabinets, filled with various items of interest to the collector. The items sat on shelves in no particular arrangement and with little signage or clarification.

When Chicago won the right to host the World's Fair, designers of the Exposition were determined to present to the world a spectacle like none other. For the first time collections were exhibited in a way that put them in the context of their use and history.

The idea of creating exhibits that relate objects to events, thus constructing a visual story, inspired small museums to evolve. Exhibits such as our TB cabin or Assayer's Office set a scene with various objects that otherwise might have been randomly displayed but now relate to time and events, giving the visitor a strong sense of the scope and reality of the tableau.



Santa, well, IBM, granted Executive Director Karrie Porter Brace's wish for four new laptop computers.

Thank you, IBM! The museum's current array of computers date back to CD and floppy drives.

We welcome the 21st century!

Museum Admissions Changes
As of January 1, admission rates have changed:
\$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors and students;
children under 5 free!



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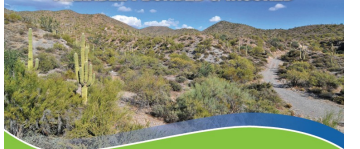
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ENJOY CULTURE PASS!

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.



CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



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CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

~BEV'S BITS~ "CAVE CREEK REVIEW"

WHEN I MARRIED BILL METCALFE, my late husband, in 1960., we lived in the house that is now the mini-storage building in the center of Cave Creek. Bill's real estate office was in the building just in front of it, where the Guitar Company is now. There, we were neighbors with Bud and Lora Hottinger.

Lora wrote and published a little weekly newspaper called *The Cave Creek Review*, a newsy collection of little tidbits about things going on in Cave Creek. In 1953, she also wrote a little history of Cave Creek, in which she talked to some of the old timers, and got some history of "old" Cave Creek. She captured my feelings, especially how it was when I first visited the Sierra Vista Guest Ranch in 1958 before I moved here in 1960. I am so grateful I arrived here for the last of the "old" days, and knew the "real" cowboys who could handle a herd of cattle. Just putting on cowboy boots and a pair of Levis does not a cowboy make.



The last paragraphs of Lora's history read as follows:
"Cave Creek may some day, be a moderately large town..at least double..or even triple..its present '700 plus' residents within the 'old Cave Creek' area.

But always..no matter how many modern conveniences of living appear on the Cave Creek horizon..and no matter how many buildings are silhouetted against the setting sun..for many of us who have chosen Cave Creek as

home, there'll be an almost imperceptible echo of wagon wheels in the distance. And..if you look closely..perhaps a pioneer rider from a century ago..almost visible on a distant hill. And, there'll be a sudden feeling of kinship with those who first came upon this land..loved it..and lived here.

And, finally, there'll be the 'feel' of Cave Creek..modern..but somehow still a little bit in the territorial days..with the beauty of the desert and the peace of the everlasting mountains around our tiny valley making our way of life in Cave Creek exquisitely unique.

And we'll give thanks that this is home."

Lora said it perfectly!!

—Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

YESTERYEAR ★ YESTERYEAR

(A Shot at the Past continued from page 1)



"I recall some of the people [with me] to be Ron Roberts, Rusty Quintron, Jane Binkley, Rick Elrod and Jim Binkley. This must've been about 1967.

My brother Andy spent many hours cleaning and disassembling the gun until the action worked. Harold Brown at the building supply helped me re-oil the stock to keep it from deteriorating further. This gun appears to be a

30-40 Krag-Jorgensen from the 1890s. (signed) Russ Cockburn."

Such a discovery for those kids! How each must have envied for Russ his remarkable find. Today we can only speculate as to how this firearm ended up in the Verde

River. Was it lost by a cavalry officer on patrol in the remote desert? Was there a battle where owner and gun were separated, perhaps by death?

The rifle is now part of the museum collections and will be displayed in the future. It, as with so many of the museum's artifacts, spark memories, imaginations and speculation, all rich experiences for the mind and soul.

Resolve!
To check out
great buys at the
Museum Store!



Remember: Members receive a ten percent discount on regularly priced items in the Museum Store.

★ JANUARY 2018 ★

www.cavecreekmuseum.com



Mountain Tales

Majestic Continental Mountain, gushing with numerous natural springs, was home to Cave Creek Museum's Golden Reef Stamp Mill and tram system, just 5.2 miles from the Museum.

Additionally, three of Cave Creek's pioneers made their home and living on the ancient 4,521-foot mountain: William B. Hellings, Charles Fleming, and Charles Philes. Sierra Vista Dude Ranch, owned by Dr. John and Jean Owen, welcomed guests until 1962 on land that had been Philes's original mining claim.

Finally, the mountain tied Philes's claim, the 1883 Bufalow [sic] Mill site, to Walgreens and Rexall Drug. Walgreens and Rexall Drug? This is history worth investigating.

Charles Philes, a Union veteran of the Civil War, came to Phoenix in 1876 to sell chairs. In fact, he arrived with about 250 chairs packed in a wagon train. Philes soon met William B. Hellings, who built the original Cave Creek Road in 1873, and was busy purchasing mines in the Cave Creek area. One of his sites was the Continental Mine, from which the mountain's name was derived. Hellings persuaded Philes to work at his Golden Star Mine, later renamed the Golden Reef Mine, and the source of the Cave Creek Museum stamp mill.

While working on Continental Mountain, Philes observed and claimed another site on the western side of the mountain with a natural flowing spring. He was now in business for himself as a miner. He created an oasis by planting peaches, oranges, walnuts, figs, and plums, putting him in the produce business as well. Philes died in 1922 at the age of 87. He had a wife and two children who resided in Phoenix.

According to historian Patrick Grady, another Cave Creek pioneer Ed Howard purchased 400 acres surrounding Philes's mill site and used it as a cattle ranch. (Howard also once owned the land where Rancho Mañana Golf Resort now sits.) After Howard's death, the 400 acres was sold to Charles and Edna Bradbury who almost immediately sold the land in 1937 to Francis and Betty Mognett. Historian Grady feels the Mognetts were probably the first to add a few guest cottages for the future Sierra Vista Dude Ranch.

Within a year or so (historians Francis C. Carlson and Patrick Grady differ on the date), the property was sold

Docent's Corner



to, as Francis Carlson describes them, a wealthy eastern family who built a substantial house. That wealthy eastern family was the Dart family.

Justin Whitlock Dart and Charlotte Ruth Walgreen Dart (known as Ruth) purchased the 400-acre cattle ranch. Ruth was the daughter of drugstore founder Charles Walgreen (Ruth founded the Poetry Center at the University of Arizona in 1960).

Justin and Ruth Walgreen married in 1929. Justin, a Northwestern University graduate, was hired by his father-in-law to be a sales clerk. In three years he was Walgreen's Director of Store Operations.

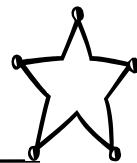
Have you noticed that pharmacies are usually at the rear of most drugstores including Walgreens? Such a layout affords privacy but also promotes sales as customers walk through the store, past displays. This pervasive concept was conceptualized by Justin Dart, possibly while they owned their winter residence on Continental Mountain.

Eventually Mr. Dart left Walgreens and divorced Ruth. He became the President of the United Drug Company, owner of Rexall Drug, which he made into a very profitable chain. During this time Justin Dart acquired substantial stakes in Avon, West Bend Housewares, Ralph Wilson Plastics, Archer Glass, and Hobart, collectively known as Dart Industries. In 1980, Dart Industries merged with Kraft Foods. On January 26, 1984, Justin died of heart failure. Ruth died on April 9, 1974, an apparent suicide.

One final note regarding the Continental Mountain area: fossils from an extinct mammal called an oreodont have been found in volcanic tuff. This pig-like creature lived from about 23 to 35 million years ago. While this is after the extinction of the dinosaurs, I pass on the following from the Arizona Museum of Natural History: "...the Age of Dinosaurs...is well represented in Arizona by many rich and important fossil sites..." There is some discussion that if a creature similar to the mighty bipedal carnivore known as the Tyrannosaurus Rex was found on or near Continental Mountain, it may be called the Tyrannosaurus Rex-all.



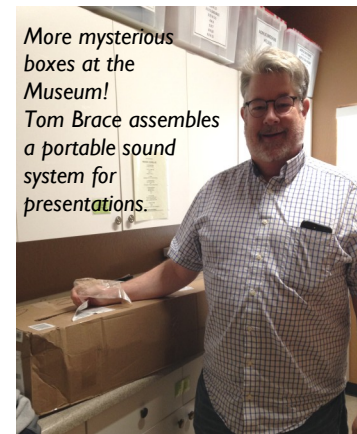
Kraig Nelson, Docent and Historian



Eagle Scout candidate Grant Lisk organized 20 cohorts to clear and clean up the museum's vacant lot. Thank you, Scouts!



Right: A quiet moment on "docent day" saw Shirley Bowman brushing up on area history. Shirley says to check page 112 for a chuckle!



More mysterious boxes at the Museum! Tom Brace assembles a portable sound system for presentations.



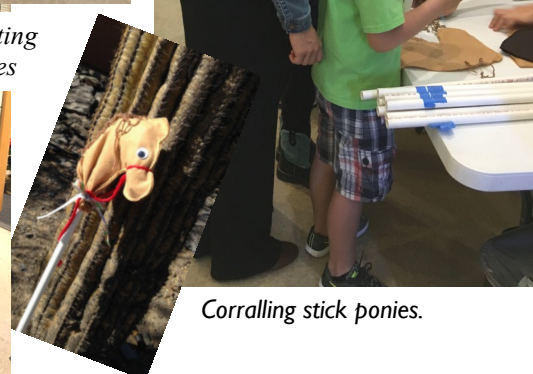
Holiday Magic



Jacob (age 8) and Lizzie (age 5) share Holiday Magic with Santa. Children decorated cookies, made stick horses and, of course, had special time with Santa at the December Family Workshop.



Decorating cookies



Corralling stick ponies.

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