





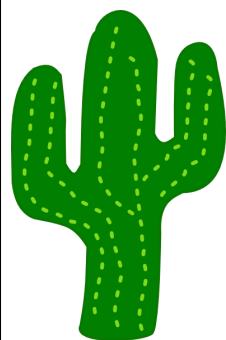


## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

SPRINGTIME IN CENTRAL ARIZONA!! When our fancies turn to all those things we love about this amazing place. Arizona surpasses every other state for perfect weather, epic landscapes, breath-taking sunsets, and bustling venues. Where else can you experience the Wild West, Major League Baseball's Spring Training, adventuresome retail shopping, and festive nightlife?

The Cave Creek Museum is at its PEAK during the spring! We put our sincerest efforts into bringing you the best the museum has to offer. We welcome international visitors, seasonal residents, and local folks who comment in surprise on the quality and content of the collections, displays, and stories of Cave Creek and Carefree. Our main attractions include the Golden Reef 10 Stamp Mill, the only remaining Tubercular Cabin in the state, our spectacular Hohokam pottery installation, and our featured exhibit, the Photographs of Edward S. Curtis. If you've ever taken a tour led by one of our docents, you may have stood in awe of the power of the 19th century mining technology, wistfully reminisced of the early days of the communities, or pondered the past and present of our indigenous peoples.

How does a small museum in a small community bring all of this to such an audience? Everything the Cave Creek Museum curates comes from the generosity and commitment of our stakeholders. These are the people who think of the Cave Creek Museum when considering the value of their time, resources, heirlooms, legacies, and stories, and then establish an enduring covenant with the institution that holds their treasures in the public trust in perpetuity. This covenant exists and persists through their enthusiasm, participation, and forethought. Through personal and business memberships, volunteer efforts, docent work, and attendance at our public activities, they've kept the museum thriving from its origins 50 years ago, well into the 21st century. These connections and opportunities exist for anyone who loves the Cave Creek and Carefree area, Arizona history, archaeology, and wishes to share them with everyone they know.



*Karrie Porter Brace*

*Please consider the Cave Creek Museum when creating memorial funds for loved ones and in your estate planning.*

## MARCH ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH WHITE MOUNTAIN REDWARE

PREHISTORIC POTTERY has fascinated amateurs and archaeologists alike. It's found all over the Southwest, usually in pieces, wherever people have lived. It breaks yet the pieces are nearly indestructible. They hint of stories to tell.



*Pot from the Bill and Marsha Heckel Collection*

Archaeologists use pieces and pots to distinguish different cultures and time periods. There are many things to find out about people and their way of living, but because the ceramics are so durable, these are the artifacts that often dominate the record.

No group of wares is more fascinating than the White Mountain Redwares made in the White Mountains and the Little Colorado River watershed from about 1175 to 1400 A.D. In the 1990s the Cave Creek Museum received some of these beautiful vessels from William and Barbara Hinkley.

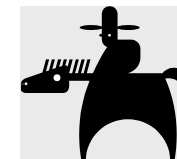
They were made by the coil and scrape method and have been carefully reconstructed where possible. Bowls were painted all over with a slip of liquefied red clay and polished. The interiors have a great variety of black designs, many with empty circles in the bottom. Simple line figures, usually in white, circle around the outside.

J. Scott Wood, author of "Checklist of Pottery Types for the Tonto National Forest," divides White Mountain Redwares into three time periods and dominant types: 1175 to 1300, St. John's Polychrome and related types; 1275 to 1350, St. John's Polychrome and related types; 1325 to 1400, St. John's Polychrome and related types.

There may be several "related types" in each group, and archaeologists may not always agree on how to name them or divide the categories. Notice how each type is named for the area where it was first identified, either a modern town or an ancient ruin.

Our featured photo shows a Pinedale Polychrome. Please visit the Archaeology Wing to see more beautiful examples of the potters' art.

—Nancy Zeno



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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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★ MARCH 2018 ★

# CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



**~BEV'S BITS~  
LON MEGARGEES**

He was born Alonzo Megargee III  
in 1883 to a prominent Philadel-  
phia family. It is said that his father  
was American and his mother was  
Cuban. He moved to Arizona to  
become a cowboy. After working  
at several ranches and learning to

rope, ride, bulldog and such, he bought his own ranch,  
the Cinco Uno (the 51), north of Cave Creek. He later  
moved to Phoenix, and started the Casa Hermosa Dude  
Ranch where Lon's Restaurant is now located. His last  
move was to Sedona, where he passed away in 1960.

Since his time in Cave Creek was before I came here, I  
did not know him. He built a house that still stands off  
Spur Cross Road, which I visited many times, as folks we  
knew, the Marek's, lived there. I remember there was a  
wonderful old adobe beehive fireplace in the living room.

I first became aware of Lon in my late husband's real  
estate office, Cave Creek Realty. We lived in what is now  
the Mini Storage house in the center of town. Bill's office  
was the building right in front of it on Cave Creek Road  
(what is now the Guitar Company, etc.). Hanging on the  
office wall was a framed picture that was about three feet

by two feet. I loved it. Bill told me that the Arizona  
Brewing Company (A-I Brewery) had commissioned Lon  
to paint four advertising posters. The one in the office  
was of a barbershop quartet singing in front of the Poker  
Flat Saloon with Black Bart on a burro. In the background  
Bart's wanted poster hung on the wall. Lon painted it in  
Cave Creek with Black Mountain in the background. The  
doors are the Corral Bar and the tall singer is Red Whet-  
stone, who was the deputy sheriff out here at the time.  
Red was PeeWee Simmons nephew. Each of the four  
paintings had A-I in it somewhere to advertise their beer.  
He was a terrific painter!

Fran Carlson in her history of Cave Creek and Carefree  
gives him one paragraph: "Some unemployed ranch  
hands traveled on to areas that were still producing cattle  
and others turned to different lines of work. One Cave  
Creek cowboy, Lon Megargee, who has been riding the  
range for fourteen years, turned to painting pictures. He  
began his career as a commercial artist and progressed to  
one-man shows in galleries across the country. His stud-  
ies of desert landscapes, cowboys and Indians reflect his  
long years in the Southwest. Several of his works hang in  
the Arizona State Capitol today, a striking achievement  
for the one-time cowpoke from Cave Creek. In recent  
years there has been a resurgence of interest in Megar-  
gee's paintings, and the Cave Creek Museum has several  
of his works on display." —Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

**YESTERYEAR**



**YESTERYEAR**



It's That Time of the Year  
Again!

The Cave Creek Home Tour is  
Sunday, March 11, 2018

Our Kitchen and Garden Boutique  
will be appearing once again at one of our fabulous  
homes selected for this event.

We are asking for the following donations.

- ♦ Home-baked Goods such as brownies, cookies,  
mini loaf Bread and candies.
- ♦ Homemade jams, salsas, meat rub mixes and  
spice mixes.
- ♦ New miscellaneous decorative garden items  
such as garden art, pots and garden tools are  
needed as well.

We target items that can be found in the Kitchen  
and outdoor gardens. If you have a donation,  
please contact Rita Treat at 602-692-5040 or at  
rktreat@gmail.com.



Volunteers are ready  
for Home tour visitors.

Your donation may be dropped  
off at the Museum starting on  
March 7 up through March 9,  
2018. Or you may call Rita  
Treat to make alternate ar-  
rangements.

Please make sure to ask for a  
tax donation form in acknowl-  
edgement of your donation.  
The Cave Creek Museum

thanks you for your support.

Our Sincere Thanks

Home Tour Kitchen & Garden Boutique Committee

★ MARCH 2018 ★

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## Amazing Stick

The Cave Creek Museum has a replica of one of humankind's most important technologies for hunting and warfare; a technology which lasted for about 30,000 years. It's called the atlatl.

The atlatl, usually pronounced "at-lat-ul," is a Nahuatl (nawat-ul) or Aztec word that means a "spear throwing stick device." After the Spanish conquest of Central America, many Nahuatl words, like atlatl, were absorbed into Spanish and later by English, such as avocado, chili, chocolate, coyote, and tomato.

The spear or dart preceded the atlatl and bow and arrow technology by thousands of years. Archaeologists speculate the spear was "invented" about 400,000 years ago, and not by *Homo sapiens*. The credit goes to *Homo heidelbergensis*, the ancestor to Neanderthal and modern man.

The atlatl is believed to have been first used by modern man about 30,000 years ago. The earliest evidence comes from atlatls made of reindeer antlers found in caves in France dating from 21,000 to 17,000 years ago. The American atlatl was used by early hunter-gatherers who crossed the Bering Land Bridge (Beringia) around 18,500 to 15,500 years ago, when, archaeologists speculate, they followed now-extinct megafauna into North America. The atlatl spear could pierce the tough hide of the mammoth and was versatile enough for effective fishing. Historically, the technology also served as a deadly weapon and was also used for friendly competition.

This seemingly magical dart thrower is analogous to the tennis racket. An 18" to 24" piece of flat wood or reindeer antler would remain with the individual; serving as a "rocket launcher." The launcher or atlatl was secured to the individual's fingers by leather straps called an amenum. Sitting atop the launcher (atlatl) was a four to five

foot spear with an attached, deadly, stone projectile-point. The back of the spear was secured in a cup and provided the launching-energy, as the atlatl was vigorously hurled like an aggressive tennis serve. This turned a hunter's arm into a catapult. Later, the atlatl held a secured stone for mass, which added to



## Docent's Corner



Credit: Pic2fly.com  
http://www.warpaths2peacepipes.com/images/atlatl

the launching power. Feathers (fletching) were added to the spear for accuracy.

The atlatl had a range of up to 500 feet. The spear reached speeds over 90 miles per hour. The amenum, used correctly, could spin the projectile. The engineering firm, BPS Engineering, which has analyzed the atlatl, states, "...it was the atlatl and dart that first placed humans at the top of the food chain, ranking us above all other predators...it is, in fact, our ability to throw a projectile at prey that separates us from all other predators...and when humans used this weapon we did not take more from the environment than the environment could naturally replace...thus, humans and nature, for thousands of years, were in balance with one another."

There were additional social benefits. John Whittaker, anthropologist at Grinnell College, Iowa, suggests the atlatl was a social equalizer in that it required skill rather than muscle-power alone. Therefore, women and children would have been able to participate in hunting.

We would be happy to discuss this important Native American technology with you and other extraordinary artifacts. We are confident that Cave Creek Museum docents will never let you down...we are straight shooters...and, we always get to the point.

**Kraig Nelson**

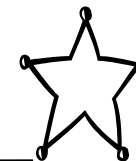
The above article was originally printed in the March 2015 edition of the *Nuggets* newsletter.

We are sad to report that Kraig has left the museum community. His in-depth research and interesting articles have added greatly to all of his readers. We wish him good luck as he explores new opportunities to express his talents.

If you would be interested in contributing articles to the museum's newsletter, whether research, observation or commentary, contact Editor Stephanie Bradley for details and deadlines:

stephaniebradley@cox.net or 480-488-7961.  
All are welcome to contribute.

**Museum Admissions Changes**  
**Admission rates have changed:**  
**\$7 for adults; \$5 for seniors and students;**  
**children under 5 free!**

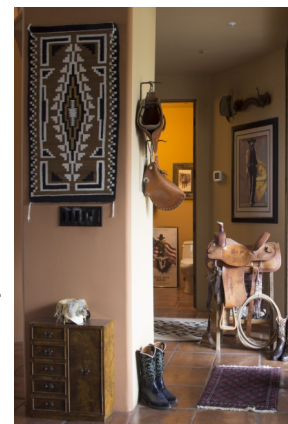


(Home Tour continued from page 1)

This includes a whimsical collection of oil paintings featuring Santa Claus in many adventures.

A separate artist studio, designed in keeping with the architecture of the home, was constructed to bridge a wash that meanders through the property.

The **Monachino Home**, in the Rancho Mañana area, is a beautiful territorial home sits on a secluded lot overlooking a wide, sweeping wash. The interior has classic southwestern finishes combined with a gorgeous kitchen and baths. Traditionally decorated, the home features many unique pieces, authentic prints and paintings, blended to give a feeling of comfort and peace.



The home includes four individual, uniquely named courtyards. One of these delightful courtyards will house this year's **Kitchen and Garden Boutique**, which is always a favorite Home Tour event.

The **Davidson Home** is best described as a contemporary territorial. The former owner renovated and expanded a small territorial into a larger, architecturally

unique home. Patio additions with contemporary rooflines give the traditional Santa Fe style home a unique, almost Frank Lloyd Wright, feel.



The addition of an expansive open family room and kitchen area creates a more contemporary look. The sunken living room is authentic to the home and blends beautifully with the newer additions.

Throughout the home you will enjoy fine art, authentic early movie posters, theater related collectables, such as a mirror purchased by Debbie Reynolds at an MGM prop auction, as well as many other collectable and film-related memorabilia.

Jody Davidson trains dogs, so the back yard is set up with that purpose in mind.

## Cave Creek Museum Home Tour and Garden Boutique

Tickets are on sale now. The ticket price is \$35 if purchased before March 5, and \$40 March 6 - 11, or until sold out. Tickets may be purchased by phone (480) 488-2764 with a credit card or at the Museum.

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