

NUGGETS

DECEMBER 2013

“DOME” EXHIBIT

FEATURED AT CAVE CREEK MUSEUM

THE MUSEUM PAYS TRIBUTE to famed architect Paolo Soleri with a special new exhibit, “Paolo Soleri in Cave Creek: The Dome House,” curated by Cave Creek architect Michael P. Johnson and produced by Linda Pierce, a volunteer with the Museum.

While Soleri is best known for his award-winning ceramic and bronze wind bells and his work to establish the self-sustaining community Arcosanti near Cordes Junction, many people don’t realize his first commissioned building was the Dome house in the heart of Cave Creek.

This unique glass, one-room house was built for Nora Woods over a two-year span and completed in 1951. The singular structure features desert masonry walls developed by Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin West, a movable glass dome and expansive views of Elephant Mountain.



Construction of Cave Creek’s futuristic “Dome” House began in 1949.

The home is also important because it was Soleri’s first real-world project that introduced his idea of “arcology,” a concept he envisioned in 1948 while working with Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin. Soleri viewed arcologies as a way of combining architecture and ecology to minimize human impact on natural resources. Many of his ideas included dome structures and the revolutionary idea of excluding automobiles from his communities.

Johnson, who has received international accolades for his contemporary architectural designs through his firm MPJ



Soleri bells frame the Museum’s exhibit. A limited number are available for purchase.

Studio, met Soleri in 1963 and brought him to Wisconsin to lecture at the Milwaukee Arts Center. He moved to Cave Creek in 1976 where he and his wife, Suzanne, a documentary filmmaker, built their dream house. For the past 25 years, Johnson has shared

(Continued on page 5)

DECEMBER DOINGS

FREE FAMILY FUN: COWBOY CHRISTMAS

JOIN US SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, at the Museum from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. as Gary, Arizona’s Singing Cowboy, and his trusty horse Dusty entertain at the Museum’s annual holiday party. Gary and Dusty will perform at 2:30 p.m.



Before they arrive, try your hand at roping a steer with a hula-hoop, making chaps, and other crafts and games. Treats include the cookie you decorate. All ages are welcome.

Registration required. Please call the museum to hold your spot for this free event. : 480-488-2764.

Thanks to Kiwanis Club of Carefree for sponsoring children’s programming at the Museum.

PAOLO SOLERI DOCUMENTARY FILM

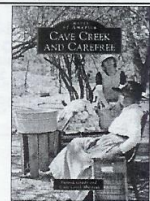
ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., the Museum partners with the Desert Foothills Library, to present *Paolo Soleri: Beyond Form*, part of Arizona Filmmakers Speak: Sip Wine and Savor Stories. Enjoy the short film, shown at the Museum, followed by a discussion with Director Aimee Madsen.

This cinéma vérité-style documentary presents a fresh look at the legendary and multi-talented artist and architect, Paolo Soleri, who founded Cosanti in Paradise Valley and Arcosanti at Cordes Junction.

Pre-Registration required at the Desert Foothills Library: 480-488-2286. Cost: \$10.

Holiday Gift Idea

Give that special someone OUR book of charming photos and eloquent stories found in the just-published *Cave Creek and Carefree*. Available at the Museum Store.





CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

President's Letter

EVEN THOUGH THIS IS THE DECEMBER issue of the Nuggets newsletter, it will be mailed before Thanksgiving. In addition to the usual things I'm thankful for (family, health, friends, and more), I'm thankful for our wonderful Museum and its staff and volunteers who keep it open. The new exhibits look great and have been well received. After six months of hard work, our *Cave Creek and Carefree* book has been published and is selling well. Thanks to the "Dream Team", the stamp mill is running and the Miners' Dinner was a huge success.

Now on to my December wish list! The Cave Creek Museum has been running a deficit for several years.

We need help, We need **YOU** to:

- ★ ★ Do your Christmas shopping for those stocking stuffers, hostess gifts, and family gifts at the Museum store. Small Business Saturday is November 30th.
- ★ ★ Give someone a membership to the museum or ask a family member to make a donation in your name.
- ★ ★ Volunteer to work on a committee. The membership, hospitality, maintenance and fundraising committees need volunteers.
- ★ ★ Sponsor or host a fundraiser to benefit the Museum.
- ★ ★ Become a docent. Our docents are stretched thin and more docents would be a wonderful gift to the museum.
- ★ ★ Check the museum's busy calendar of events on our website and volunteer to help at one.
- ★ ★ Attend events and fundraisers.
- ★ ★ Support the Museum's year-end fundraising campaign. Details to be announced separately.
- ★ ★ Note that you can make a donation at any time by visiting cavecreekmuseum.org/donate-2

I hope you will visit the Museum this holiday season and bring your family and friends. Happy Holidays!

Sue Mueller, Museum President

ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH: 1897 HARPER'S MAGAZINE

The holidays make us nostalgic for idealized olden days. Our artifact for December takes us to another era when print was very much alive.

The first issue of *Harper's* appeared in June 1850. Its reprints of stories by notable British authors such as Charles Dickens, and the Bronte sisters made it popular. Soon the magazine became a forum for prominent American writers such as Mark Twain, Jack London and Herman Melville. In fact, part of Melville's *Moby Dick* was first printed in *Harper's*.

Enjoy the *Artifact of the Month's* December 6, 1897 issue of *Harper's* with stories, poems and illustrations such as those in this column:



Excerpt from: **A Song for Kriss Kringle**

by Alice Rogers

*Set the baby's cradle rocking,
Hang the baby's tiny stocking;
To forget her would be shocking
On this happy night.
'Tis a Babe who brings us pleasure,*

*Fills the weary world with treasure
In the Christmas light.*

*What though wiled the wintry weather,
Where the fluffy snow-flakes feather,
By the shining hearth together,
Here we meet at home,
Oh, so happy! Father, mother,
Little sister, little brother,
None would wish to roam.*

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Photo and Document Scanning January 18

ORGANIZE precious photos on a disc for your records, to share with family members or have accessible for genealogical research.

In conjunction with Antique Appraisal Day on January 18, 2014, the museum offers high speed scanning of photos and documents. This unique service will allow you to store your valuable documents on computer files. Photographs and documents up to 8-1/2 inches



wide and 34 inches long or as small as 2 inches by 2-1/2 inches can be scanned. Most materials can be scanned including laminated photographs, color or black & white photographs, Polaroids, postcards, photographs on cardboard, and other media.

As the holidays approach, why not bring kin together to sort through those family treasures and plan to start the new year with your photos on DVDs and available for viewing on computer screens.

Cost: 20 cents per scan; scanned to a free DVD with case.

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



Longtime resident and Museum volunteer Bev Brooks shares her experiences and memories of events and people from early Cave Creek and Carefree.

However, in the best of events there are little things that can come up.

Bev's Bits

Christmas Pageant Memories

I MARRIED BILL METCALFE ON November 2, 1960, and moved to Cave Creek. I have always been singing, and probably did so before I could walk. Knowing this, Bill had me out to Beverly Thelander's house within the week for the first session of the chorus for the Christmas Pageant. That night I met some new friends who are now LONG time friends.



The Pageant was held on the old Pageant grounds at the base of Black Mountain, on the north side. Rehearsals were great fun, and Beverly was a marvelous singer and chorus leader.

After several weeks of rehearsal, it was time for the Pageant. The manger scene was all set up and the live animals were brought in by Hube Yates. The lighting, was arranged to dramatically shine on the scene. The narrator was Bill Van Wyck, the Episcopal minister.

The night was beautiful, brilliant and clear. It was so easy to sing out in the natural amphitheater that the old Pageant ground was. It was just magical! We had a young man that had the most wonderful, trained voice, Johnny Brietner. He sang "O Holy Night" the likes of which I had never heard before or since. Of course everything was a capella in those days. I reveled in the serenity of all of the performance and staging.

The choir was up above and a little to the left of the manger scene. The night was a bit crisp and cold, but the stars were like diamonds, just magnificent. From my position, which was on the extreme right in the chorus, I had a view down into the bushes where the barbershop quartet awaited their cue. They were to portray the three wise men and their slave (thereby making it a quartet). The quartet included Sam and Mid Jones from Cave Creek and a couple of their friends from the Phonicians Barbershop Chorus in Phoenix. They all liked to drink a bit and, as I said, it was cold and damp. I think I am the only one who saw them as they finished off a huge bottle of liquor. I was afraid they were all pretty drunk, but as they sang their three songs, they did NOT miss a note or a beat. They were superb!



I have not been able to get myself to go to the Pageant since it left the base of Black Mountain. Change is of course part of time passing but I was in so many Pageants and have so many great memories of that amazing event every year that I suppose I prefer to relish those memories and let another generation make their own in a new place.

Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

A BIT OF TRIVIA: The last two girls who started the Pageant with their leader years ago were Kris Bazinaw and Barbara Clark. They were my good friends and they died a few years ago. I miss them so much.

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Soleri Bells! ♪ ♪ Oh what fun it is to buy in the one-stop ♪ ♪

Cave Creek Museum Store

Skip the mall! ✨ ✨ ✨ Find perfect gift ideas right here at the Museum Store...

Cave Creek Carefree Book!

Remember! Museum members receive a ten percent discount on most items at the Museum Store.

~As always, your membership supports collections, preservation and educational programming. Thank you for your continued faith in and enthusiasm for the Cave Creek Museum.

Get Well Wishes... To Faith Pipp, who is recovering from surgery. So who is minding the store? Speedy recovery, Faith!



CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

COLONEL STONEMAN

Docent's Corner

MANY TIMES DURING docent duties I'm asked about the Anglo origins of Cave Creek. Unquestionably, I must address the stout-hearted miners and pioneers who sought to fulfill America's Manifest Destiny. By 1877, the first adobe-brick home was built by cattle-ranchers Jeriah and Amanda Wood on the east bank of the flowing Cave Creek. Soon, thereafter "Cave Creek Station" was established.

On October 2, 1870, Cave Creek's "military-shortcut" was charted by Colonel George Stoneman. This shortcut was one very important reason for the future town's growth. This shortcut became the preferred route between Camp McDowell, twenty eight miles southeast of Cave Creek, and Fort Whipple, near Prescott.

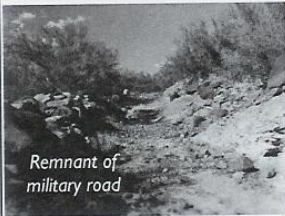
Why a military shortcut? And who was George Stoneman?

First, we have to examine early Arizona Territorial history. On February 24, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the "Organic Act" making Arizona a new Territory. On December 29, 1863, Fort Whipple was established at Del Rio Springs in Chino Valley, becoming the first Territorial Capital (Prescott didn't exist yet). In 1864, Fort Whipple was re-established about a dozen miles south on the banks of Granite Creek. Prescott, Arizona was soon established nearby and would become a two-time Territorial Capital.

Eventually, 18 Arizona territorial forts were established. Camp McDowell, garrisoned in 1865 along the west bank of the Verde River, was originally established to protect early miners from hostile Tonto Apaches and Yavapai in central Arizona (including the future Cave Creek area).

The February 18, 1871 issue of Prescott's, *Arizona Weekly Miner* stated Colonel George Stoneman, who had taken command of the "Department of Arizona" on May 3, 1870, had made a "thorough inspection" and "careful examination" of the territorial forts. Expedient routes between forts were paramount!

An old and established Apache/Yavapai trail, and possible shortcut, was explored and then verified by Colonel Stoneman during this inspection period; thus the name: Stoneman's Military Road. Using this generations-old trail resulted in saving a full



Remnant of military road

day's ride, or 18 miles between Camp McDowell and Fort Whipple. Previously, the awkward itinerary from Camp McDowell (re-named Fort McDowell in April of 1879) to Fort Whipple started with the brave cavalry heading southwest towards the future town of Phoenix, riding along the Salt River, then northwest towards future Wickenburg, and north to Fort Whipple. The shorter, more direct-route through future Cave Creek offered precious, high quality water, abundant grass for the hungry horses, and seemingly inexhaustible mesquite wood. This bounty established this important territorial route for the next 20 years.

♦ George Stoneman Jr., the oldest of ten children, was born on the family farm in Busti, New York, August 8, 1822. A West Point graduate, Stoneman became a distinguished Union Commander achieving the brevet (temporary, war-time) rank of Major General in 1862. His military career included involvement with the Mormon Battalion, the Yuma War, and the Civil War Battles of Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. In one of his early treks through the future Arizona Territory, the young lieutenant shot off his thumb during an encounter with wild bulls. Additionally, the six-foot-four, powerfully-built Colonel, suffered from chronic hemorrhoids which greatly challenged the stoic cavalryman.



Colonel Stoneman's tenure in Arizona was short-lived. He was mustered out of the Army in May of 1871, probably due to his not being ruthless enough with the threatening Tonto Apaches. President Ulysses S. Grant replaced Stoneman with fearless General George Crook.

Stoneman and his wife, Mary Oliver, moved to California and settled in the San Gabriel Valley on a 400-acre estate called Los Robles: He became the California Railroad Commissioner from 1876 to 1878. In 1882, he defeated multi-millionaire George Hearst (father of William Randolph Hearst) for his one-term governorship of California. On September 5, 1894 George Stoneman died, at age 72, following a stroke in Buffalo, New York. He was buried in Lakewood, New York.

In 1870, a Prescott reporter described "Old George," the "Chief of Arizona," as having, "a national, and yes, worldwide reputation for gallantry, high-toned honor and gentlemanly bearing...." General George Stoneman was a highly respected man and officer who didn't take shortcuts...except one.

Kraig Nelson, Docent

CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

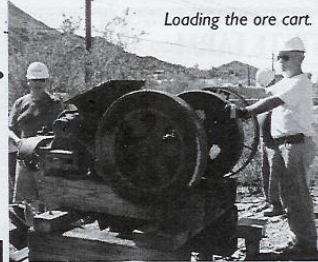


Margie and Paul Olson enjoy delicious dining under the stars.

Miners' Dinner 2013



Right: Pouring coffee the cowboy way



Loading the ore cart.



(Left) Joni Chattman and Anna Marsolo bid on silent auction treasures.

Thank You, Dream Team

Without our Dream Team, the stamp mill would not rumble and ore would not crumble. Thanks to our volunteers for giving us a fascinating glimpse of working history:

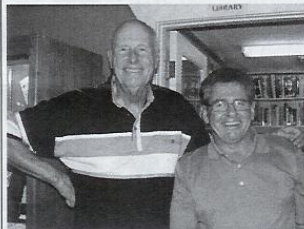
Charlie Connell ♦ Al Zeman ♦ Hank Smith ♦ Paul Diefenderfer ♦ Bob Flach ♦ Wes Cooper ♦ Reg Monachino ♦ George Smith ♦ Stuart Harrah ♦ Ric Parrish ♦ Morris Jackson ♦ Stuart Harrah ♦ Roger Camplin ♦ John Hollas

Thanks also for assistance from:

Bob Hilton ♦ Chris Finnerty ♦ Everette Dixon ♦ Paul Meredith ♦ Howard Beastall ♦ Jay Williams ♦ Tom Cross ♦ Ron Roberts ♦ Ron McGee

THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS:

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- Tech4Life
- Tonto Bar and Grill, 480-488-0698
- Towns of Carefree and Cave Creek
- True West Magazine
- Wilhelm Automotive, 480-342-7100



Libation Administrators Steve Bradley and Ray Heidel, ready to serve.



Holly and Al Zeman (seated) explain mining paraphernalia to Kathy Connell.

(Soleri Dome House continued from page 1)

his passion for modern architecture as a professor of architecture at Taliesin. He initiated the design concept for the Dome exhibit with Cave Creek Museum about a year ago, prior to Soleri's death in April.

"The Dome is truly one of Cave Creek's historical treasures. I hope our exhibit piques people's intellectual curiosity so that they will visit Cosanti and Arcosanti and learn more about Paolo's vision as an urban theorist for living and interacting with each other," Johnson said.

Plan to enjoy several events to celebrate the Dome exhibit, including a special showing of Scottsdale filmmaker Aimee Madsen's documentary "Beyond Form" from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thurs., Dec. 5 and a gala in March, which will include private tours of the Dome house and a demonstration of how Soleri created his silt cast panels. In addition, guests viewing the Dome exhibit at the Museum can purchase the ce-

★ DECEMBER 2013 ★

www.cavecreekmuseum.com