



# NUGGETS

## FEBRUARY 2014

### FEBRUARY IS AUTHORS' MONTH

**Y**OUR FEBRUARY SATURDAY AFTERNOONS ARE SET! Plan to be at the Museum for four lively visits with local authors who will describe their work and pass on stories behind their stories. All programs begin at 2:00 p.m. and are offered at no charge.



Patrick Grady

★★★**Saturday, February 1:** Our own Patrick Grady starts us off with very local history. Learn how he and Museum co-authors discovered new details on the history and prehistory of the area. His latest book, *Cave Creek and Carefree*, is full of delightful anecdotes and compelling photos from the Museum archives. Patrick, a Museum board member, has written two other books on area history.

★★★**Saturday, February 8:** Michael Sandford, a 50-year plus Arizonian, has made the Black Canyon area his home. He has researched and written about Arizona history, for more than 25 years.



His representation of the history of Rock Springs, Arizona is documented and factual from the view of the Warner family who settled there, and from State and County documents. Michael is also one of the three original founding members of the Black Canyon Historical Society,

★★★**Saturday, February 15:** Carolina Castillo Butler became a leader in the 10+ year battle to help the Yavapai tribe at Fort McDowell Reservation save their land. The government wanted to relocate the



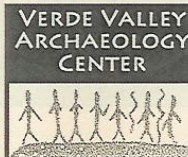
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### VERDE VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER PRESENTS PROGRAM on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24

**T**HE VERDE VALLEY ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER presents a special lecture at the Museum on Monday, February 24, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. by David Dove, Principal Investigator of the Champagne Spring Ruins and Mitchell Springs Ruin Group.

During the 10<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries, Champagne Springs Ruins and Mitchell Springs Ruin Group were the largest aggregated villages in the Northern San Juan Region. Evidence suggests one was built in a location designed to take advantage of enhanced hunting opportunities, while the other was built to take advantage of enhanced farming opportunities. Learn fascinating details on the ongoing research at these two community centers.

**This lecture is free but reservations are required. Please call the Cave Creek Museum at 480-488-2764 to reserve your seat as space is limited.**



### FUN & FREE FAMILY PROGRAM

**Come to a Valentine Party!**

**Sunday, February 9  
1:30 to 3:30 p.m.**



**B**E OUR GUEST at Cave Creek Museum's Annual Valentine Party. Make traditional Valentine crafts, enjoy an edible treat and make a card for your Valentine. Play historic games, find Valentines around the Museum and celebrate Arizona's birthday. All ages are welcome.

Call the Museum (480-488-2764) for reservations!





# CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

## President's Letter

Save your February Saturdays! Each one will bring an author talking about his/her book starting with the Museum's very own book: *Cave Creek and Carefree* by Patrick Grady and volunteers. This is a must have for your library! Also we have a great Children's Workshop "Come to a Valentine Party." Special thanks to the Kiwanis Club of Carefree for sponsoring all of our children's events. See more information on these topics elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Museum will host a Spur Cross Ranch Reunion on Friday, February 28 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Were you one of the "dudes" who stayed at the Spur Cross Ranch when it was a dude ranch? Were you part of the crew from Arizona State University and local volunteers from the Desert Foothills Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society who conducted archaeological excavations in the 1980s? Were you part of the Preserve Spur Cross organization? Did you vote to tax yourself to preserve it? Are you a docent or Ranger on the Spur Cross Ranch Conservation Area (SPCRCA)? If so, we would love to see you at the reunion party!

Were you 'none of the above'? If so, have you hiked out there or just gazed at Elephant Mountain and took pleasure in knowing it will be preserved for the birds, beasts and humans for all time? We'd like to see you too!!

While you are at the Museum for this free event you can look at the artifacts from the 1980s excavations, on loan from Arizona State University.

AND the very next day will be the 5th Annual Spur Cross Expo, Saturday, March 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Expo is sponsored by Desert Foothills Chapter, Arizona Archaeological Society, with booths from the Cave Creek Museum, the Desert Awareness Committee, Desert Foothills Land Trust, Animal Health Services and others. Tonto National Forest archaeologist, Scott Wood will be also be speaking. There will be hikes to archaeological sites, live demonstrations on pottery making and flint-knapping. You can pan for gold throughout the day with the Cave Creek Museum Stamp Mill Team. There will be other children's activities and crafts as well as the opportunity to view and hold prehistoric artifacts from the area. Come help celebrate Arizona Archaeology Month!

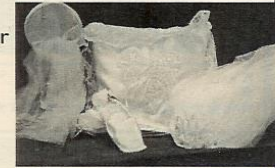
*Sue Mueller, Museum President*

### Did you know?....

This and back issues of "Nuggets" newsletters are available to you on our website: [www.cavecreekmuseum.com](http://www.cavecreekmuseum.com)

## ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH: LOVE IS IN THE AIR

SOMETHING OLD, SOMETHING new....and in our artifact-of-the-month case, very old.



Enjoy the delicate slippers meant for small bridal feet, dating from 1845. The wedding veil and ring bearer cushion, accented with pearls, are a century younger, dating from 1942

The amber bridesmaid's hat is from the 1930s era.



(Above) Congratulations to bride Heidi Lyn (Smith) Durham and groom Robert..



(Right) Escorted by her gun-toting father Hank Smith, Heidi Lyn heads to the altar. The couple was married in the Historic Church on December 14. The newlyweds are docents at the Museum.



ENJOY an all new array of fine photography by well-known local photographer Jerry Sieve, on display in the Ansbrough Auditorium. The exhibit captures the stunning natural beauty of the West.

## Remembering...

✧ Jack Cartwright, patriarch of the legendary ranching family, who passed away January 20.

✧ Frank Byrne, long-time Museum supporter, who passed away January 16.

Our thoughts and condolences to their families.



# 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.

dances every Saturday night in the Legion Hall with a press card in her hat. I would imagine that way she got a few tidbits to put in the paper.

## ROAD NAMES - PART TWO

I DID NOT COVER all of the road names in the last issue of *Nuggets*, so here are a few more. While certainly easy for getting around, our many streets with numerical names are a bit dull. How much more interesting to have unique names to our streets and discover their origins.



Some visitors and newcomers think Jomax Road is a Spanish name and pronounced "Ho-max," but the street was named by the area's developer to honor his wife Josephine and his sister-in-law Maxine. Hence, Jomax.

Travel a bit north of Jomax and find yourself on Dixieleta, which was named for Dixie Nissen and her sister Letta or Etta. Hence, Dixieleta. Dixie lived in Cave Creek in the forties. She and Jeff Houston (I was told by an old-timer that he was a cousin of Sam Houston, but do not know for sure) published a little two or three page paper during World War II to send to the boys from Cave Creek who were serving in the military. They put in such everyday things, such as who had dinner at whose house, who went to Phoenix, who got married and who had a baby. I would think that the boys were grateful for the small town happenings and the connection to home. She used to go to the square

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Next is the name of Tapekim. So many people over the years have said to me, "Is that an Indian name?" And I tell them, "No". When I moved to Cave Creek, there was only one family, the Nielsens, who lived on that

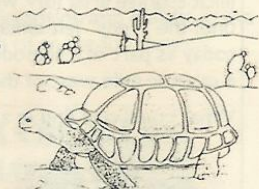
...Some visitors and newcomers think Jomax Road is a Spanish name pronounced "Ho-max" ...

little road.. They got to name it, of course, and they named it after their two sons, Pat and Mike. Put them together and turn them backwards and you have Tapekim.

As I said in the last issue, there are only two or three of us oldtimers who remember these things, so I thought I had better get them on record at the Cave Creek Museum.

Beverly Metcalfe Brooks

A bit of trivia: We still have part of the military road that was put in by General Stoneman from Fort McDowell to Fort Wipple, which is now Prescott. It is still called Military Road. Go south on School House Road, south of Cave Creek Road, and after a short block or two it is there on your left.



**Soleri Bells!** Come out of the cold and into the warm  
**Cave Creek Museum Store**  
 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.

**UPCOMING MUSEUM EVENTS:**  
**February is Authors' Month!**  
**March Blows in Great Events:**  
 ♦ March 1: Spur Cross Expo  
 ♦ March 16: Home Tour  
 Watch for the details in the next issue of *Nuggets* and online at [www.cavecreekmuseum.org](http://www.cavecreekmuseum.org)!





# CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS

## GENERAL STORE

**T**HE CONCEPT of one-stop shopping is not new. The country store or general store provided sustaining food and other life necessities for rural people in nineteenth century America. Some historians report the heyday for general stores was from about 1870 to the early 1930s. These dates coincide with early Cave Creek settlement. The general store often included a saloon and post office; and, was a gathering place for important community interaction.

The "General Store Exhibit" in the Museum's Pioneer Wing is loosely based upon James D. Houck's general store at Cave Creek Station which did have a saloon, post office, and was the community, cultural, and business center until the store and post office moved a short distance north to the Howard Ranch (today's Rancho Mañana area). After the move, the new location became the new town center for years. As an interesting side note, Houck's abandoned rock store (he died in 1921) became an illicit storage area for "white lightning" during prohibition, until the "Feds" felt differently. The structure still stands today as part of a remodeled home in Andora Hills, about a quarter mile west of the Museum, near the creek.

What could one find in a general store like Mr. Houck's?



The list is extensive and varied. Necessities such as milk, butter, eggs, meat, coffee beans, salt, tea, spices, baking ingredients, fruit, vegetables, were sold along side less necessities such as tobacco and cigars. Remedies, toiletries, cloth and the essential tools for clothing construction, pots, pans, seeds, ammunition, farm equipment and much more could also be procured. Phew! And don't forget crackers and hard candy.

Pre-dating Houck's store, as reported by historian Frances C. Carlson, was one owned by William B. Hellings on Continental Mountain. If the name sounds familiar it's because Hellings' name is embedded in early Salt River Valley history. He started as a storekeeper (sutler) at Camp

## Docent's Corner

(Fort) McDowell. He became one of the first homesteaders in early Phoenix where he started a flour mill and other enterprises. The prospect of gold in Cave Creek attracted Hellings' attention and he became one of the most important people in early Cave Creek history.

In the fall of 1873, Hellings personally financed the construction of Cave Creek Road to meet Stoneman's Military Road (shortcut to Fort Whipple in Prescott), in what would become the town of Cave Creek, near today's Rancho Mañana. (In 1877, that location would become Cave Creek Station. Its first hearty residents were Jeriah and Amanda Wood. One should note that William Hellings' neighbor in Phoenix was Josiah Wood, Jeriah's brother.)

In 1876, Hellings purchased several mines on Continental Mountain, including The Continental Mine (hence the Mountain's name) and The Golden Star Mine.

The thriving mountain, mining colony included an assay office, dining room, quarters for the miners, and...a store and saloon! Most of the miners' money stayed on Continental Mountain.



We invite you to see, reminisce and enjoy the "General Store" exhibit; there is so much to learn and enjoy at the Cave Creek Museum.

And we promise, your credit cards will be safe when you explore, invest, and reach... your intellectual Target.

*Kraig Nelson, Docent*

## CORRECTION AND THANK YOU FROM DOCENT'S CORNER!

Cave Creek Museum historian Patrick Grady states, "The task of writing is rewarding..." I agree. Many resources are used in writing Docent's Corner. We do want to be accurate. Last month I wrote that early Spanish cows in America were having calves three times a year (this, from a prominent website). Knowledgeable Museum supporter and *Nuggets* reader Ann Austin pointed out that this doesn't add up since the gestation period for cows is nine months. Thank you Ann for your correction! We always appreciate the feedback and will never make excuses. By the way, did I mention I have a touch of Mad Cow disease?



# CAVE CREEK MUSEUM NUGGETS



tribe for the proposed \$1 billion Orme Dam, as part of the Central Arizona Project. The dam was defeated.

She also worked for the construction of several bridges over the Salt and Agua Fria Rivers, and against a \$3 billion Rio Salado Project (used as a reason for the Orme Dam) and defeat of a new property tax to pay for this boondoggle. Hear more about her David and Goliath efforts during her presentation.

★★★**Saturday, February 22:** Find out how former Cave Creek councilwoman Grace Meeth discovered literary "gold in the attic", her mother-in-law's attic, that is. There she uncovered a trove of letters and documents on Civil War veteran, pioneer and prospector J.D. Miller, her husband's great-grandfather. Her book, *Letters from Home: The 1855 to 1913 Correspondence of a Colorado Pioneer*, captures the re-



Grace Meeth

markable life and achievements of J.D. Miller.

Grace, like the subject of her book, has made community service a prominent part of her life. In addition to the 12 years as a Councilwoman, she served three years on the town's Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment, and ten years as a scout leader for Boy Scouts of America.



## THANKS TO OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS:

**APS — Arizona Public Service**  
 Area Disposal, 480-515-4300  
 Arizona Archaeology Society  
 Becky Joy Fine Art, 602-910-1897  
 Carefree/Cave Creek Chamber Commerce, 480-488-3381  
 Carefree Dentists, 480-488-9735  
 Cave Creek Merchants and Events Association  
 City Sun Times  
 Desert Awareness Committee  
 Desert Rat Forge, 602-509-1543  
 Desert Foothills Land Trust, 480-488-6131  
 Desert Storage, 480-488-0555  
 Don Fredericks Building, 480-488-2437  
 Elrod Fence Co.  
 Foothills Focus  
 Frontier Town  
 Helping Hands Graphic Design Marketing, 480-389-9674  
 Jack Hallam at State Farm Insurance, 480-585-5115  
 Images Magazine  
 Chris Kempster, CFP, CLU, CSA, 480-272-9912  
 Sue Kern, SKF Communications, 602-810-1404  
 Kiwanis of Carefree  
 Lazy Lizard, 480-488-6505  
 Linda Budge, Animal Artist, 480-595-9985  
 Living Landscapes, 480-488-6350  
 A Peek at the Peak Magazine  
 Safeway Stores, Inc.  
 Sonoran Arts League  
 Sonoran News  
 State Farm Bill Mulliniks, 480-488-1152  
 Tech4Life  
 Tonto Bar and Grill, 480-488-0698  
 Towns of Carefree and Cave Creek  
 True West Magazine  
 Wilhelm Automotive, 480-342-7100

## MARCH 16: CAVE CREEK MUSEUM'S TRAILS THROUGH TIME HOME TOUR



**P**LAN NOW to enjoy an exciting Sunday, March 15, visiting four wonderful area homes. Back by popular demand: the famous Boulder Home! In addition, discover Creekside living, learn that geometry can add charm as well as dimension and delight in the welcoming warmth of an art-full classic southwest home.

## FIFTH ANNUAL SPUR CROSS EXPO SATURDAY, MARCH 1

**C**elebrate Arizona Archaeology Month on Saturday, March 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Enjoy the outdoors at the Spur Cross Expo, sponsored by Desert Foothills Chapter, Arizona Archaeological Society, with booths from the Cave Creek Museum, the Desert Awareness Committee, Desert Foothills Land Trust, Animal Health Services and others.



Hear Tonto National Forest archaeologist, Scott Wood. Hike to archaeological sites! See live demonstrations on pottery making and flint-knapping! Pan for gold with the Cave Creek Museum Stamp Mill Team! Find loads of fun activities for all ages!

★ FEBRUARY 2014 ★

[www.cavecreekmuseum.org](http://www.cavecreekmuseum.org)