

Cave Creek Museum, Inc.
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OPEN
October 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021
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
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Don't miss our outdoor exhibits:
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stamp mill
mining arrastre,
historic church,
and tubercular
cabin



Make History! Become a Member of 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!

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The Mission of the Cave Creek Museum is to preserve and interpret the natural resources and cultural heritage of the Northern Sonoran Desert

Suzanne Johnson, Interim Executive Director, Remington Pettus, Museum Program Coordinator



NUGGETS

November 2020

Just Who was James D. Houck?

By: Nicole Rodrigues, Cave Creek Museum Intern



One cannot study the history of Cave Creek's settling without referencing James D. Houck. He and his wife, Beatrice, moved to Cave Creek following an exodus of its original settlers due to drought in the 1890s. By 1900, Houck was the new owner of the Cave Creek Station and his family eight one of the central forces driving the economy and growth of the town. According to Images of America: Cave Creek and Carefree, he also opened a sheepshearing ranch, along with providing Cave Creek with a post office, boardinghouse, schoolhouse, saloon, and general store. The newspapers hailed him the "Cave Creek King." Houck's contributions to the success of Cave Creek cannot be overlooked, yet his pre-Cave Creek days might be even more interesting.

Born in 1846 in Ohio, James Houck grew up in Wisconsin. At fifteen, he took off to join a Union regiment from Wisconsin during the Civil War. His first battle found him in the decisive Battle of Shiloh, commencing what would be a rather bloody interlude in his life. Upon exiting the war in 1865, Houck had learned how to fight and handle a gun. As did many ex-soldiers following the war, Houck headed West where he worked as an army messenger, riding the extremely dangerous, Apache-targeted route between Fort Wingate in New Mexico and Fort Whipple in Arizona. After three years, he settled in Holbrook, Arizona, setting up a trading post in the middle of Navajo land. His fearless determination to maintain his business and land eventually earned him the respect and patronage of the surrounding tribes. He soon financed five ranches along the rim, while furthering his intrepid, and at times, lawless reputation.

By 1880, Houck sold the trading post and tried a new endeavor- politics. This foray as a representative for Apache County eventually led to Houck serving as an Apache County Deputy Sheriff and into the infamous Pleasant Valley War. Over the course of a decade, the Pleasant Valley War, stemming from an argument between cattle ranchers and sheep herders, claimed a possible fifty lives. The first individual murdered in this feud was a Basque sheep herder who also happened to be the brother-in-law of Houck. Houck eventually became complicit in the deaths of at least four individuals, all of whom were cattle-ranching allies. Upon the commencement of the war, which resulted in no prison sentences, Houck moved to Cave Creek.

James D. Houck spent the rest of his life in the town of Cave Creek, becoming an essential player in the growing economy and culture. His indomitable and resilient spirit carried him through success and failures, in both his public and personal life, including the eventual loss of his businesses and the breakdown of his marriage. In 1921, Houck committed suicide by taking a fatal dose of strychnine.

November 2020 Events

November 14th–
Stamp Mill Demonstration
1:30 pm

November 15th– Kiwanis Family Sundays: Be a Miner for a Day!
2:00-4:00 pm
Cave Creek Museum's very own Dream provides a virtual in depth look at how miners conducted placer mining, where they mined from an open stream panning for gold! You don't want to miss this grand reveal of Cave Creek Museum's Gold Panning Display.

November 18th– Cave Creek Museum Opening!
11:30 am - 4:30 pm
Join Cave Creek Museum for our grand reopening! Eat at the Hibachibot food truck, listen to Gary Sprague the Singing Cowboy, and shop at the Kitchen and Garden Boutique!

November 21st–
Desert Discover Day
at Jewel of the Creek Park
10:00 am– 2:00 pm



Cave Creek Museum Nuggets

Historic Highlights

By: Kraig Nelson, Cave Creek Museum Historian

Cave Creek and the Judge

The Cave Creek school teacher needed the job. The pay was around \$65 a month (\$2,050 in 2020) per Cave Creek School District #93, and now School District #23. He was in his third year of teaching at the one-room school located on the east side of the ancient Cave Creek stream (near today's Rancho Manana Golf Resort). Twenty-four-year-old Alfred C. Lockwood had a problem in 1899, too few students, his needed job was in jeopardy, and he needed to pay for his law-school education.

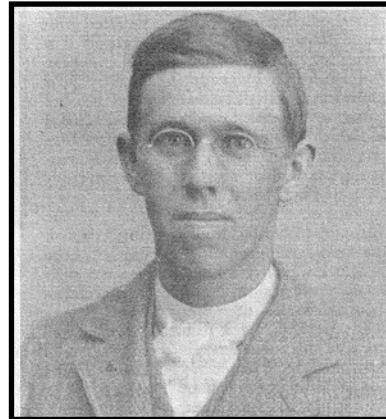
The school had been built in 1886 on the property known as *Cave Creek Station*, which had been established as an isolated, welcoming store and later post office in 1877 by Jeriah and Amanda Wood. The property was now owned by "Jedder" and Jennie Hoskin. In 1899 the Hoskins' were in their nineteenth year of ownership when tragedy struck; Jennie Hoskin became seriously ill and unfortunately died. The shaken husband sold Cave Creek Station to James D. Houck (the "Sheep King of Cave Creek") and moved to Phoenix taking his seven children. That was a devastating blow to the small Cave Creek school putting the school's existence in jeopardy because of too few students.

The late historian Francis C. Carlson tells us how Alfred Collins Lockwood solved the enrollment issue and therefore his job. Resourcefully, Alfred brought his three younger siblings, one sister and two brothers from the small town of Phoenix, about thirty-five miles away, and enrolled them in the small Cave Creek school. He set up two tent-houses near the school to shelter his youthful siblings. His father, Walter C. Lockwood (1853-1904) remained in Phoenix and his mother, Elizabeth W. Lockwood (1853-1897) had died two years earlier.

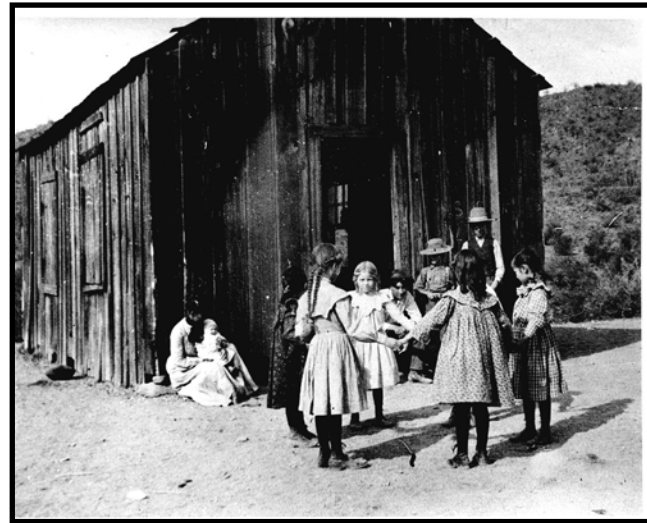
His ingenious enrollment solution provided a way to keep the school open and continue his education, which was an apprenticeship. Alfred was a law-apprentice, he was "reading law." This was the process which one procured a law profession. Although the American Bar Association, established in 1878, set standards for law schools, the process of attending a law school to facilitate a law degree was decades in the future.

The sagacious Alfred Lockwood was admitted to the Arizona Bar in 1902. The Cave Creek teacher from Ottawa, Illinois, born July 20, 1875, married Daisy Maude Lincoln, and moved to Nogales, Arizona, where he practiced law for a year. He and his wife and new baby daughter, Lorna Elizabeth, moved to Douglas, Arizona where Alfred spent five years as city attorney from 1905 to 1910. Another daughter would arrive in 1907 (Alfreda Charlotte) and a son (Chester Ralph) in 1912.

Alfred Lockwood's professional ascension continued with his becoming an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Arizona in 1925. The highlight of his legal career was becoming the 8th, 11th, and 14th **Chief Justice** of Arizona's Supreme Court in 1929, 1935, and 1941, respectively. The esteemed former Cave Creek teacher retired from the bench in January 1943. He continued to practice law until July 1, 1950; his legal career spanned an impressive forty-eight years. On October 29, 1951, the admired jurist died in Phoenix. Historian Carlson stated, "Although he taught at Cave Creek for only three years, he retained for the rest of his life fond memories of his teaching days there, and the friends that he made."



Alfred C. Lockwood, former teacher at Cave Creek's schoolhouse, eventually became a Lawyer and Chief Justice of the Arizona Supreme Court.



Children playing a game in front of Cave Creek's schoolhouse. The schoolhouse was one room and nearby the current structures of Rancho Manana.

Cave Creek Museum Nuggets



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A membership to the CCM also provides you advanced notice of upcoming events, our Nuggets Newsletter and special member discounts at our Museum Store.

To learn more about our Seasonal Memberships go to <https://cavecreekmuseum.org/membership-in-the-cave-creek-museum/>

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Cave Creek Museum Nuggets

Cave Creek Mining District: Back in the Day

By Charlie Connell, Dream Team Leader and Stamp Mill Expert

UNION MINE LOCAL

The picture below shows the on-coming shift at the Union Mine taken in 1893. This is one of several original pictures that were donated to the museum.



Arizona Republic
Sunday, February 26, 1928
Bisbee Group opening new Maricopa Mine

Progress on construction and development work on the properties of the Union Extension Mining Company, in Maricopa county, in which many Bisbee residents are financially interested, was reported by James Malley, deputy state mine inspector, who has just returned from an inspection of the property. Mr. Malley was accompanied on his return trip from the mine by W. A. Robinson, an official of the company. The compartment and a half shaft ground for which was broken January 1 has reached a depth of 40 feet. Mr. Malley reports. The work was carried on by means of hand steel and windless, while machinery was being installed. A headframe 24 feet high has been put in place and a 20 Hp hoist will be installed immediately. Meanwhile work of installing a semi-diesel compressor with a capacity of 212 feet is being rushed and this is expected to be in operation early next week. The will greatly facilitate development work by speeding up progress and reducing the cost of sinking the shaft. The company's property, which mining experts have declared to be one of the mines in development in the state at the present time, is located in the Winifred Mountains 20 miles north of Phoenix. The extensive development campaign which has been mapped out is being financed entirely by local men and as the property is situated in a mineral bearing territory which has furnished many producing mines in past years. Officials of the company are confident that the venture will prove profitable.

Sources: Arizona Republic

In Memoriam...

Nancy Zeno (1941-2020)



Cave Creek Museum is saddened by the loss of Nancy Zeno, who lost her battle with Parkinson's Disease on October 6th, 2020. A resident of Cave Creek since 1984, Nancy worked for the Foothills Sentinel and was employed by the town of Carefree's Zoning and Planning Commission in 2007. Nancy was a long time volunteer of Cave Creek Museum. Nancy played a pivotal role in the redesign of the Archaeology Wing in 2013. As an active member of the Desert Foothills Archaeology Chapter, Nancy received the Avocational Archaeologist Award in 2018 for her dedicated efforts to the group. Nancy is survived by her loving husband, Jim, her daughter, grandchildren, and brother. Donations can be made out to Cave Creek Museum and Hospice of the Valley.



Pictured from left to right:
Nancy Zeno, Mary Kearney, Alan Troxel, and Sue Mueller

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A Message from Our Director...

My parents moved here in 1970, the same year the Cave Creek Museum was established, and the community was celebrating Cave Creek's Centennial. A born and bred City Kid, I fell in love with the Sonoran Desert and found myself frequently coming back to a town that was then nothing more than a veritable hole-in-the-wall.

After returning home one Christmas I determined not to go back to the frigid East Coast winter and figured out how to spend my next few peripatetic years wintering here to avoid the cold and shooting television commercials in the beautiful light of Arizona. The realization that one makes choices and actually produces one's life encouraged me to start my own production company and I branched out into other areas that furthered my understanding of the creative process. In addition to film work, I got involved in event planning, producing tours, publishing books and working with people who enhanced and nurtured my understanding of how one gets from emotive vision to valued result.

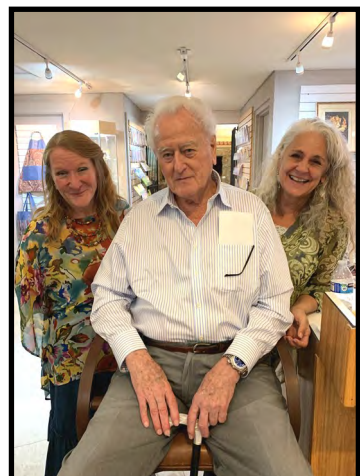
I am a Producer and through multiple community collaborations I have worked with many friends and neighbors on meaningful projects inclusive of a video celebrating the Town's efforts to Save Spur Cross; several Museum Home Tours; Movie Camp through CCUSD Community Education; a Habitat for Humanity Design Competition; the Cave Creek Film and Arts Festival; recording oral histories for the Desert Foothills Library; publishing a book of Herb Cohen's 1970s portraits of early Cave Creek denizens, *Cowboys Don't Do Lunch*; and a documentary on the sensibility of Cave Creek, *Cave Creek Uncovered*. But truly, one of my greatest pleasures culminated in working with a fully committed team of Cave Creek and Carefree residents to produce the Museum's 2019 Gerry Jones Exhibit, Lecture, and Home Tour. By that time the Museum had my full attention.

I served on the Museum Board for a couple of years before I was asked three weeks ago to step in administratively. Covid had ravaged our finances and by this Fall, after seven months, the Museum could not afford to keep our full staff on board. However, prior Museum Executive Director Karrie Porter Brace and Development Director, Becca Bober had worked very hard to lay the foundations of a growing, evolving 21st Century institution.

The Board resolved to continue to engage Remington Pettus, a 2019 graduate from Grand Canyon University with a B.A. in History. In addition to her abundant museum duties and projects as Museum Programs Coordinator, she is currently pursuing a Master of Arts Degree in History at the University of Nebraska - Kearney online. As well, through a CARES grant, Elizabeth Kapp was initially hired as a Curator to help assess our collections and archive. She had graduated from the Cooperstown Graduate Program with a Masters in History Museum Studies and worked as a Museum Educator at the Arizona Capitol Museum downtown. After the damaging flood of the former Pioneer Wing, it was clear that Liz was needed to assist in the modernization of the Pioneer Wing and remove, manage and reengineer the exhibit's displays, archives and accessions. On our Opening Day, November 18, the History Wing renovation will be presented, along with a new show in the Auditorium for the Museum's growing audience.

These reliably informed women are keenly important to the future plans of the Museum. With their well-honed expertise and familiarity with a museum's functions and goals, I am here to assist them and our dedicated Board of Directors. Along with the Dream Team and the loyal Docents and Volunteers, we are all determined to keep things moving forward.

**Suzanne D. Johnson,
Interim Executive Director**



From left to right:
Karrie Porter Brace
Gerry Jones,
Suzanne D. Johnson