



## The oatman massacre

### Special Dates of Interest:

- Jan 8, Monday  
Docent Meeting,  
1:30 pm
- Jan 11, Thursday  
Time Travelers Tours
- Jan 17, Wednesday ,  
Historical Society  
Dinner, 6 pm
- Jan 26, Friday, Kick-Off  
Dinner to Western  
Days, 5-7:30 pm
- Jan 28, Sunday,  
Western Wear Fashion  
Show, 2-4 pm
- Feb 1, Thursday,  
Pony Express Rides  
into Town, 11-5 pm
- Feb 3, Saturday,  
Los Artistas Vaqueros  
Art Sale & Artist  
Reception, 3-6 pm
- Feb 3, Saturday,  
La Fiesta Vaqueros  
Dinner & Dance,  
6-11 pm
- Feb 4, Sunday,  
Los Artistas Show &  
Sale, 1-4 pm
- Feb 4, Sunday. Western  
Days Picnic in the Park,  
1-4 pm
- March 14, Wed, Histori-  
cal Society Dinner, 6 pm
- March 31, Sat, Hall of  
Fame Dinner, 6 pm



"The Massacre." This artist's conception of the Indian attack of February 18, 1851, appeared in the New York edition of Royal B. Stratton's *Captivity of the Oatman Girls*. Courtesy The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley.

In 1851, seven members of a pioneer family heading toward Yuma were killed by Indians near Gila Bend. The eldest son was left for dead and two daughters were kidnapped into slavery. At our January 17 dinner meeting, Jerry Miles will tell us about the

Oatman family massacre and Lorenzo Oatman's five year struggle to rescue his sisters.

The general public is invited to this program and catered buffet dinner at the Fountain Hills Community Center. Reservations are required by Sunday, January 14. They may be made by calling the River of Time Museum at 480-837-2612 or sending an email to

[reservations@riveroftimemuseum.org](mailto:reservations@riveroftimemuseum.org).

For members the price is \$18. For non-members it is \$22.

The menu for the dinner is mixed salad, roast beef, vegetables, potatoes and gravy, rolls and dessert. Let us know if you prefer a vegetarian dish. The dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.; cocktails are available at 6:00 p.m.

WELCOME  
TEENA JOWERS

Our new Online Store

## From the Desk of Alan Cruikshank

If you remember my first column of this season, I mentioned I would like to see a program started for young people that could get them involved with the museum.

Well in this edition of The Legacy, you will see that a group has been formed and I want to congratulate board member Joe Bill, Docent Chairman Rick Wambach, Fountain Hills School District teacher Jean Boatman and Francesca Carozza of Image Weavers for bringing the program together. Bill came up with an absolutely great name for the members of the group – Time Travelers. Doug Schmidt of Legacy Asset Management is underwriting the program. The student members will be conducting tours of the museum from various schools in the Valley.

Our program for January will be former Fountain Hills Mayor Jerry Miles. He will be talking about the Oatman Massacre. A fascinating story.

We had a busy November and December.

~~ Alan

## From the Desk of Museum Archivist by Dave Roberts

The following is excerpted/edited from a Museum Archives album, entitled "*Things I Remember*", by P-Bar ranch cowboy Robert Calvin Lincoln (1917-2003), nephew of ranch manager Dick Robbins (1900-1983), who married ranch owner/widow Delsie Barkdoll in 1939. Most of this cattle ranch later became Fountain Hills (~12,000 acres) and McDowell Mountain Regional Park (~21,000 acres).

**Tough Times I:** "In 1933, I left home in Safford AZ and went to my grandparents' farm in Tempe. I had decided to quit high school and try to make it on my own, but when I got to Tempe, Grandpa (John Calvin Robbins, 1856-1936) had other plans. He said, "Young feller, you will be ready for school tomorrow." That settled that, and I finished my junior high school year there in 1934. He believed in education and had made my Mom and all my Aunts go through Tempe Normal School (now ASU) and get teachers degrees.

Grandpa Robbins' 160-acre farm was at the southwest corner of Rural & Apache, purchased in 1900. One of Grandpa's sons, my uncle Ben Robbins, did the farming, and he had borrowed money to buy about 100 head of rough steers. He figured to use the feed he raised on the farm to fatten the steers and make a little profit. At that time, the Depression was getting worse by the day. The price of cattle would be down every week and, when Ben finished all the feed he had, he had to sell the fat cattle for 5¢ a pound. Ben, his younger brother Dick, and I worked long hard hours and fed those cattle for 100 days. Ben had told me that he would buy me a model T Ford when he sold the cattle, but he barely had enough to pay off his loan. At that time, the price of a used model T was about \$5.

Grandpa Robbins was the cattle inspector from 1906 'til he died in 1936. It was an appointment originally given to him by George W. P. Hunt, who became Arizona's first Governor (7 terms, actually) and whom Grandpa John had befriended many years ago in Globe. They turned out to be life-long friends (that's another story). It was lucky that Grandpa had a steady job, so we could keep eating. The farm just made enough to pay the taxes and water bills.

Uncle Dick said he would take me on the rodeo circuit with him the Summer of 1934, and I enjoyed it. We went through California and to Oregon, then back to Arizona to make the Prescott show. I went back to Safford to finish my senior year of high school, and graduated in May, 1935." ... Bob Lincoln (~2002)



### **SOCIETY BOARD OFFICERS**

<i>President</i>	Alan Cruikshank	<i>Treasurer</i>	Michael Downes
<i>Vice President</i>	Debbie Skehen	<b><i>Executive Director</i></b>	Judy Starr Confer
<i>Secretary</i>	Anne Wicklund		
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mike Downes		

### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Joe Bill	Arlie Denomme	Jean Linzer	Clinton Pattea
Niobe Borman	Teena Jowers	Keith McMahan	Rick Wambach
Mary Davenport	Linda Kavanagh	Keith Millett	

## *From the Director's Desk by* **Judy Starr Confer**

We began 2007 with so many exciting activities planned, as you are reading in this issue. I want to tell all of you how very appreciative the Board of Directors is that so many of you have stepped forward to assume very large responsibilities to help make the museum function in a professional way. Without you we would not be where we are nor able to go forward. Speaking of the Board, we welcome Joe Bill, Teena Jowers and Jean Linzer as new members. Their terms begin this month.

I am looking for someone to take on the duties of several activities:

- \* Historian (keeping track of all the publicity, etc., for the museum)
- \* Collection's management person
- \* Special exhibits chairperson for the traveling exhibit hall
- \* Graphics person to be in charge of our lobby bulletin board with monthly changes and updates. This is our face to the world and we need a "make-over."

All of you Museum Angels and so many of you who contribute anonymously are honored every year before Christmas. Hope you had fun "fluffing your wings" and getting your "halos polished" last month. It was wonderful to see those of you who could drop in.

It was a fabulous December. I want to personally thank Pier I, Arlie Denomme, Bonnie Kline, Charlotte and Bill McCluskey and Carlos and Nancy Hadaway for making it so successful. The Christmas Mart and personalized letter from Santa are additions we will continue next year.

Again thank you Teena Jowers and Niobe Borman, Judy and John Gibson, Stephen and Diane Jones, Peggy and Curt Fiandaca, and Silvia and Tony Christov for graciously showing your homes to the community. This is a fundraiser that everyone loves.

We all immensely enjoyed seeing Carlos Hadaway's studio and huge collection of cowboy memorabilia. Carlos is not only one of our Los Artistas Vaqueros, but one of the warmest people you'll ever meet and he loves to share his collections, his paintings and his exuberant personality with all.

Happy New Year! The January Docent meeting is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup>, Monday, at 1:30 pm in the conference room off the lobby. Diplomats, store volunteers and anyone interested in becoming a docent are all invited. I hope you will continue to support us in the New Year.

Mark your calendars: Hall of Fame Induction will be Saturday, March 31, at the Rio Verde Country Club.

# Membership Report and Upgrades by Joe and Debbie Skehen

We welcome many new faces to our Historical Society:

Jim & Donna Beers \* Don & Chris Gilboe \* Norma Homrich \* Ed & Dolores Kehe  
Lawrence & Suzanne Lemire \* Mary Meyer \* David & Marilyn Ritchie \* Clarence Walters

**A special thank you to the following members who renewed their memberships  
at an elevated level for 2007!**

## **Adventurer Level: \$1,000+**

Alan & Diane Cruikshank	Doug Schmidt
Sami Jack	John & Pat VanDerWerf
Keith & Dottie Millett	Mary Zicarelli

## **Pioneer Level: \$500-999**

Richard M. Carrabine	John & Linda Kavanagh
Carl & Eunice Feinberg	Hank & Susan Lickman
Hosea & Lily Harkness	J. P. & Dee Poole
Karen Holloway	Joe & Debbie Skehen
Walter & Janet Johnson	

## **Wagonmaster Level: \$250-499**

Walt Dunne	Carolyn McClure
Robert & Barbara Hegwood	Dave & Edith Roberts
Robert & Marcia Krane	

## **Pathfinder Level: \$100-249**

Verna Alexander	Lee & Shirley Fisher	Gary & Ronna Martinson
Jim & Donna Beers	William & Lois Grate	Robert & Dorothy Mason
Mali Berger	Bruce & Cassie Hansen	Terry & Vivian Merrell
Joe & Nancy Bill	Elert & Christine Johnson	Ken & Phyllis Osterberg
Jean and Doris Boatman	Ed & Dolores Kehe	David & Marilyn Ritchie
Martin & Terry Brown	Jon and Diana Klesner	Richard & Virginia Siegle
Craig & Jeanine Capirchio	Shelly Knuths	John & Val Stasik
Mary Davenport	Allen & Sharon Koehlinger	James & Roberta Urban
Harold & Arlie Denomme	Don & Lisa Lawrence	Wayne & Anne Wicklund & Snow
John & Clara Dolan	Bill & Sally Mantle	



## *From the River Bank* by **Ann Stavely**

For all of you who did Christmas shopping at the River Bank, the Museum thanks you!

We still have lots of books, jewelry and kachinas, and continue to buy more to keep our shelves full.

~~ Ann and Earl



### Time Traveler Program

A great new program for the River of Time Museum is arising from a few creative ideas that originated in the marketing committee this summer. The goal was to figure out how to get more young people interested in the Museum as well as their parents. From this thought process, the Time Traveler Program was born. Students primarily from the grades 4 through 6 challenge classes were invited to become youth docents for one of the 11 sections of the Museum. Twenty-four students eagerly signed on to learn more about being a miner, or a trapper, or a geologist, or one of the other characters represented in the 11 sections.

Rick Wambach, chair of the docents, did a terrific job lining up adult mentors for each of the 11 stations. Those mentors are Derald Hoffman, Nancy Hackworthy, Mike Downes, Ellen Cagney, Barb Wyman, Toni Patterson, Chuck Hubbard, Chris Johnson, Joan and George Babic, and Joan Larson. Credit for soliciting interest among the students and acting as the overall student leader goes to Mrs. Jean Boatman, a challenge and history teacher in the FH school district. She has done a phenomenal job.

The final “dress rehearsal” for the Time Travel Guides is scheduled for January 9. Busloads of students will arrive at the Museum on January 11 for tours to be given by the Time Travel Guides. After these students complete the tour, they (as well as the Guides) will be given a card that officially designates them as a “Time Traveler” and entitles them and their family to free admission to the Museum for one year. This will hopefully achieve one of the objectives of the program, which is to increase the foot traffic in the Museum and expose many more Fountain Hills residents to a community gem that they might be unaware of, the River of Time Museum.

More groups (students, teachers, clubs, etc.) will be invited to be given a tour by the Time Travel Guides. Those plans are not yet finalized, but if a group is interested, please contact the Museum.

The other key members of the Committee for this program besides Rick Wambach and Jean Boatman, are Francesca Carozza, Joe Bill, and Alan Cruikshank. The program is being underwritten by Doug Schmidt of Legacy Asset Management.



### Our magic number is 23927!

#### **Bashas' Thanks a Million Program**

If you haven't already done so, please tell the cashier on your next visit to Bashas' to link your Bashas' card to the above number. For every dollar you spend at any Bashas' store, our society will receive 1%. Please help us participate in this wonderful charity program.

## Pony Express Western Days in the Hills Celebration

This year the community and the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with the River of Time Museum, are planning expanded and improved activities for the Third Annual Pony Express/Western Days in the Hills Celebration. This year the celebration will be a week long festival with various events planned including a kick-off dinner at the American Legion, a western fashion show in the museum lobby sponsored by Kay Kinder of Fountain Fashions, Pony Express Day with a variety of entertainment and activities, the opening exhibit and reception of the Los Artistas Vaqueros of the Verde Valley at the museum, and a family Western Days picnic in the park. Mark your calendar for all the events described in the following.

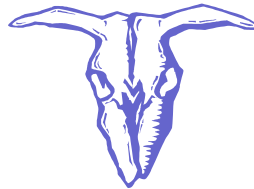
**Western Days Barbeque** on Friday, January 26, will be held at the American Legion Post, 16837 E. Parkview, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The cost is only \$8.00 per person for a barbeque rib dinner and no host bar. The Scott Hallock Band will provide free music for dancing and entertainment starting at 7:30 p.m.

**Kay Kinder's Western Wear Fashion Show** on Sunday, January 28, will take place in the Lobby of the River of Time Museum, 12901 N. La Montana Blvd., from 2-4 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person in advance and \$20 at the door. Bring a friend and enjoy this fabulous collection of contemporary Western wear. Wine and cheese will be served. Tickets may be purchased at Fountain Fashions in the Bashas Center. Musical interludes will be presented by Stephanie Kniffen.

**Pony Express/Hashknife Gang Celebration** is on Thursday, February 1, from 11 am to 5 pm. There will be Native American dancers, musical entertainment by Frank Boyd in the Lobby of the museum, the "Melting Pot" band in the Museum Courtyard, and the Senior Center Line Dancers. Food will include chicken and BBQ sandwiches from Tom's Barbeque and brats, burgers and hot dogs from the American Legion. There will be a beer garden in the museum courtyard. A bake sale is planned. Pony rides and wagon rides will be offered. The Navajo County Sheriff's Posse Hashknife gang carrying the U.S. mail from Holbrook to Scottsdale will arrive between 1-3 pm and will sign autographs. Admission is free all day including admission to the River of Time Museum.

### **Los Artistas Vaqueros Art Sale and Artist Reception**

on Saturday, February 3 from 3-6 pm will take place at the River of Time Museum. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available at Yates Gallery and the River of Time Museum. Come and enjoy western art, visit with the artists, and celebrate the installation of Amado Pena and Joseph Robertson as the newest members of Los Artistas Vaqueros. The reception will include a hosted bar featuring margaritas and tapas and is being underwritten by Doug Schmidt of Legacy Asset Management. 2006 inductee into Los Artistas Vaqueros Chris Marchell has donated a cowboy photo "Comin at ya" for the silent auction.



The Los Artistas Vaqueros is a select group of artists dedicated to preserving the essence and history of the old southwest through depiction of its culture and tradition. The internationally admired Santa Fe artist, Amado M. Pena, Jr., is recognized as an Artisan of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona and is dedicated to furthering the public's knowledge and interest in the Tribe, its art, its history, and its culture. Arizona native and long-time Prescott resident Joseph Robertson has spent his life in the arts: First as a musician and composer, then as a recording studio owner and engineer, and finally as a visual artist. Self-taught, Joseph has worked in stone, acrylics and now scratchboard. Drawing on a life in the west, the artist's depictions of cowboy life and wildlife are intricate in detail and rustic in form. Scratchboard is an etching process developed over 300 years ago in Europe. Using hand tools such as scalpels and needles the artist removes black India ink that has been applied to a white board. As the black ink is removed, the white board underneath is exposed and an image is formed. Whereas the pencil artist draws shadows, the scratchboard artist draws light. Color can be added or left out depending on the desired effect. We welcome Joseph Robertson in

We are very pleased to welcome Amado Pena into the Los Artistas Vaqueros family.

**La Fiesta Vaqueros Boot Scootin'Boogie Dinner and Dance** will take place on Saturday, February 3, following the reception above in the Community Center Ballroom. This is the first annual Los Artistas dinner dance and will feature a beef and chicken and veggie fajitas buffet, one drink ticket for beer or wine, dancing to live music, line dancing lessons, and 10 ticket-holders will win a Los Artistas Vaqueros 2006 poster. Tickets are \$50 per person and will be on sale at Yates Gallery, the River of Time Museum, and at the January Historical Society Dinner. Tickets for *both the reception and dinner* are \$60 per person and will be available at that special price from January 12-18. After January 18 and at the door, the tickets are \$15 and \$50 respectively. Enjoy a fun-filled evening of dinner/dancing to versatile country band. There will be line dancing and 2-step lessons.

**Los Artistas Vaqueros Show and Sale** on Sunday, February 4, from 1-4 pm is free to the public. Enjoy western art, and visit with the artists. The sale will feature all the artists of the Los Artistas Vaqueros.

**Western Days Picnic in the Park** will take place on the west side of Fountain Park on Sunday, February 4 from 1-4 pm and will wrap-up the Western Days in the Hills. The Chamber of Commerce and the Town are organizing entertainment, food and dancing featuring the Native American dancers at the Park. This is a family fun day for kids of all ages. There will be Wild West demonstrations from Ft. McDowell Adventures and bandana souvenirs for the kids. Food vendors will also be present.

What a week!! Wear your best western wear the week of January 26 through February 3 and enjoy all of the Pony Express and Western Days Celebration Events!



## We Saluted our Service Clubs

To celebrate the many contributions of the service clubs to our community, the River of Time Museum has hosted several Wine and Cheese Receptions honoring these organizations during the past couple of months. The officers and board members of Four Peaks Women's Club, Sunset Kiwanis, Noon Kiwanis, American Legion Auxiliary, Noon Rotary Club, Four Peaks Rotary Club, and Friends in the Hills Welcome Club were recognized for their contributions to our town, were treated to refreshments and a brief tour of the River of Time Museum.

## Membership Dues for 2007

If you haven't sent in your dues for 2007, please do so right away so you won't miss the next issue of Legacy containing information on all the upcoming events. We all hope you will continue your support of the Historical Society and its River of Time Museum and value, as we do, the wonderful relationships that have developed from this association.

**Did you know ~ ~**

**The town of Payson was named after someone who was never there— a Senator who secured the US Post Office for the village**



**THE LEGACY NEWSLETTER  
FOUNTAIN HILLS AND LOWER  
VERDE VALLEY HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY AND MUSEUM**

**P.O. Box 17445**

**Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269**

Phone: 480-837-2612

Fax 480-836-4292

Email: info@riveroftimemuseum.org



***The River of Time Museum is certified  
by the Arizona Historical Society***

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!!**

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

**NEW MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL APPLICATION**

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**PIONEER  
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**ADVENTURER  
\$1000 or more**



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• **The IRS has designated this Society and Museum as a 501 (C) (3) organization.**

**Donations are tax deductible to donor. Please consult your tax advisor for specific information.**