



# River of Time Museum

Fountain Hills & Lower Verde Valley  
MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Legacy

Debbie Skehen, Editor

Wayne/Anne Wicklund, WebWolf Internet

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### Special Dates of Interest:

- March 19, Wed, 6 pm  
Historical Society Dinner  
*History of the Grand Canyon  
Railroad*
- April 5, Sat, 6 pm  
Hall of Fame Dinner  
Ft. McDowell Radisson  
Resort
- May 21, 6 pm  
Historical Society Dinner  
*Warbirds of WWII*

## ~~~ All Aboard ~~~ FOR THE RIVER OF TIME MUSEUM'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Long before there were Grand Canyon helicopter tours, air tours, white water rafting tours or even mule tours, there was the train. Before paved roads, Grand Canyon hotels and restaurants, and even before the canyon was made a national park or Arizona made a State, the railway brought interested travelers from all over the world to stand on the rim and ponder the feeling that touches all of us. The Grand Canyon Railway was the lifeline to the Grand Canyon National Park in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It was the railroad, along with the Fred Harvey Company, that commissioned and built



most of the historic structures that still exist along the South Rim.

Jerry Miles will inform and entertain us by telling the history of the Grand Canyon Railroad from September 17, 1901, when the first steam train took passengers and supplies from Williams, Arizona, to the South Rim of the Grand Canyon, to the sad day on June 30, 1968 when the last train ran and to the happy day on September 17, 1989 when entrepreneurs Max & Thelma Biegert brought the train back to life and it once again chugged its way to the Grand Canyon. Today, the Grand Canyon Railway carries more than 230,000 people by rail to the Grand Canyon National Park each year.

In addition to this intriguing story, we will celebrate the fifth anniversary of the River of Time Museum – perhaps

with a toast to its beginnings, its growth, and future plans for this “gem” of the Verde Valley.

The public is invited to attend this dinner meeting. Reservations for the dinner and presentation must be made by Sunday, March 16. They can be made by sending an e-mail to

[reservations@riveroftimemuseum.org](mailto:reservations@riveroftimemuseum.org), telephoning reservations to (480) 837-2612, or going to the River of Time Museum website:

[www.riveroftimemuseum.org](http://www.riveroftimemuseum.org), click to begin, click on Calendar of Events, and click on “Dinner Reservations” at the March 19<sup>th</sup> date. Cost is \$18 for members and \$22 for guests. The dinner starts at 6:30 p.m.; cocktails are available at 6:00 p.m. at the Fountain Hills Community Center, 13001 N. La Montana Drive, Fountain Hills. The menu is Mixed Salad, Corn Beef and Cabbage, Soda Bread, and Dessert.







### SOCIETY BOARD OFFICERS

President	Alan Cruikshank	<b>Executive Director</b> Judy Starr Confer
Vice President	Debbie Skehen	
Secretary	Anne Wicklund	
Treasurer	Harold Denomme	

### BOARD MEMBERS

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

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

This 2008 winter season is in full swing. Our most valued winter resident volunteers have returned. We warmly embrace them, as we do all of our treasured volunteers who keep the Museum wheels turning.

Circle these dates on your calendars: **March 19**, the Historical Society Dinner celebrates the River of Time's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday (see the story on page 1) and **April 5**, the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Lower Verde River Valley Hall of Fame Dinner (see the story on page 6)

Kudos to Board Member Niobe Borman, chair of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the Hashknife Pony Express and her crew of Board member Teena Borman, and Nancy McNamara and Gwen Laske. Gwen's "Bakery" produced the largest bake sale ever seen with the help of many, many community donations of baked goods. Entertainment every hour and Nancy McNamara's children's room were huge successes. Thank you to clowns, Myrna and Dave Messinger, the Senior Center Line Dancers, F.H. High School Dance Company, and the F.H. Community Youth Theater. Special thank you's to Doug Katonak (one of our Los Artistas Vaqueros) for donating a beautiful print and Ralph Sealund for donating a saguaro wood hand-carved cross to the raffle. Food was provided by Toms Bar-B-Q, and Sweet Town. Music by Chris and Mike Alberts of Chicago and local favorites Scott Hallock and Nancy Damone was very much enjoyed. Many community volunteers from the American Legion Auxiliary and Parkinson Support Group joined in to help. Bashas' supplied the cake for all and sponsors of the event were Meridian Bank, Borders Studios, Red Rock Doors, Borman Construction and Style Doors.

The wonderful family-oriented event will be held again next year! The thrill of watching the Pony Express gallop up the Avenue of the Fountains to deliver the mail on horseback to the F. H. Post Office takes us all back in time, makes history come alive, and brings out the child in everyone of us. Thank you Niobe and thank you Fountain Fashions for the glorious style show of western wear the got everyone in the mood for Pony Express.

A Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament was held at Ft. McDowell Casino on Feb 2. Board Member Linda Kavanagh with the help of husband John, our District 8 State Representative, and Debbie Skehen, as her right hand diligently worked with Casino Poker Room Manager Mike Byrne to pull off our most successful fundraiser to date. (See story on page 7)

Did you know that Sherry Dillard, Collections Manager for the Museum, and her assistant, Marilyn Plavan work quietly every week in cataloging our Museum collection of artifacts? Many thanks!

Board Member Jean Linzer does an outstanding job as Dinner Chair for the Historical Society Dinners and how about the great job River Bank Store Marketing Director Stephen Jones is doing! Watch for March specials!

Jean Boatman has successfully managed to bring the Arizona State History Day to Fountain Hills! We will e-mail information to you and solicit your help with this statewide event!

# Membership Report and Upgrades by Joe and Debbie Skehen

We welcome many new faces to our Historical Society:

Charlotte C. Dunagan \* Mike & Sheila Jones \* Helen Mitchell

## ~~~~~ Membership gifts for 2008 ~~~~~

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

Alan & Diane Cruikshank  
Hosea & Lily Harkness  
Sami Jack  
Walter & Janet Johnson  
Jerry & Jackie Miles

Keith & Dottie Millett  
John & Jane Mooty  
Doug Schmidt  
John VanDerWerf  
Mary Zicarelli

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

Fred & Barbara Hansen  
Mike & Sheila Jones

John & Linda Kavanagh  
Joe & Debbie Skehen

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

Walt Dunne  
Carl & Eunice Feinberg  
Carolyn McClure

Dave & Edith Roberts  
Mardelle Willson

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

Charlie Axtell  
Don & Andy Baer  
Loretta Bayne  
Beverly Belury & John Hersey  
Mali Berger  
Joe & Nancy Bill  
Jean & Doris Boatman  
Hank & Roxanne Boryczki  
Evelyn Breting  
Art & Jeanette Carpentier  
Joan Colomo  
Harold & Arlie Denomme  
John & Clara Dolan  
Bill & Shirley Eckhardt

Helen Felts  
Lee & Shirley Fisher  
Jeff & Marla Fryer  
Bruce & Cassie Hansen  
Greg & Marian Hermie  
Norma Homrich  
Jim & Betty Isaacson  
Elert & Christine Johnson  
Ed & Dolores Kehe  
John & Diana Klesner  
Allen & Sharon Koehlinger  
Robert & Marcia Krane  
Shelly Knuths  
Marvin & Darline Leader

Robert & Joan Lickman  
Jean Linzer  
Linsley & Jane Lundgaard  
Bill & Sally Mantle  
Terry & Vivian Merrell  
Roald & Ruth Nelson  
Ken & Phyllis Osterberg  
Dr. & Mrs. Clinton Pattea  
Richard & Virginia Siegle  
Earl & Ann Stavely  
James & Roberta Urban  
Tom & Pat Wells  
Wayne & Anne Wicklund  
& Snow

## *From the River Bank by* **Stephen Jones**

The River of Time Museum's *River Bank Store* celebrates its 5th Anniversary this March. We'd like you to share in the joys of our success by having a special for all of you who helped make this success possible.

If you'd like a deal on your purchase, all you need to do is wish the sales person a "Happy 5th Anniversary" and you'll receive a discount of 15% off any regular priced merchandise. {*No other discounts nor sale price & special offers apply to the -15% deal!*}

Our current Holiday Cool Deal is our big "ST. PATRICK'S DAY MUG" cutely wrapped and filled with candy kisses for your special sweetie for only \$5.00. You could wait until March 17th; however a limited number of these mugs won't last long at all.

Some wonderful pieces of silver jewelry, purchased prior to the increase in the price of silver are still available at seriously super price points, and that means DEAL! Silver has gone from \$4.00 an ounce to \$17.00 an ounce and Gold is now over \$900.00 an ounce.

If that isn't enough, because the store is part of the River of Time Museum, there is NO SALES TAX. You receive an 8.9% discount with each and every purchase you make at the *River Bank Store*!

The River of Time Museum's *River Bank Store* is open for business every Monday through Friday, 1pm to 4pm daily and Saturday, 10am to 4pm for your shopping pleasure.



**Did you know ~ ~ ~**

**Referring to the Grand Canyon, President Theodore Roosevelt said**

**“You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it,  
and man can only mar it.”**

# Upcoming Events

## Hall of Fame Dinner

*Nine new members will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at a special dinner on Saturday, April 5, to be held at the Radisson Fort McDowell Resort & Casino. They are:*

**Mary Rairigh Davenport**, who helped with the formation and development of the Fountain Hills Civic Association, the Fountain Hills Republican Club, the Fountain Hills Women's Club, the Catholic Church of the Ascension Rosary Society, the River of Time Museum and the Fountain Hills Historical Society.

**Frank Ferrara**, the chief executive of the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce and a major influence on positive business development in the community.

**Jim Flynn**, an executive of MCO Properties which developed Fountain Hills, the originator of the school districts Mentoring Program, and the originator of the Sunridge Foundation.

**Joe Goyena**, a very successful Fountain Hills Realtor who has been a volunteer for more than 25 years and was named one of the town's top 20 volunteers in its first 20 years.

**John Kavanagh**, an active volunteer and board member of the Fountain Hills Parks & Recreation Department, a Town Councilman and an Arizona State Representative.

**Joanne Meehan**, a long time educator in the community, administrator for the Fountain Hills School District and numerous volunteer organizations.

**Kimberly Williams** of Fort McDowell, an active participant in the tribe's successful campaign to defeat the planned construction of the Orme Dam and Reservoir which would have flooded most of the Fort McDowell land.

**C. V. Wood**, the master planner for Fountain Hills and other communities, recognized posthumously.

**Mary Zicarelli**, a long-time resident of Rio Verde, a tireless volunteer for the Rio Verde Community Church and a generous financial contributor to numerous organizations including the River of Time Museum.

The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to recognize those individuals, living or deceased, whose involvement has contributed in a positive way to the betterment of the communities of the lower Verde Valley including Fountain Hills, the Verde Communities, Fort McDowell and Goldfield Ranch.



## Texas Hold'em

The Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament to benefit The River of Time Museum was a huge success. On behalf of the museum, I want to first thank President Clinton Pattea, without whose support this fundraiser would not have been possible. Thank you to Mike Byrne, poker room manager, who worked tirelessly and patiently with our committee and who filled the room for us with his poker players. Thanks also to Jamie Brooks, Carl Ember, George Hitt, David Rogers, Karen Rogers-Byrne and all the dealers and staff.

Our Celebrity Guest was Sheriff Joe Arpaio and we thank him for cutting the ribbon to open our tournament. Thank you to our very generous sponsors: Sami Fine Jewelry, Century 21 Phylliss Kern, Sellzy's Women's Fashion, Water's Edge Restaurant, Hensley & Company, Crescent Crown Distributors, Beer & Wine Distributors of Arizona, Fort McDowell Service Center, Sunset Pools & Spas, *Let's Go*, and *The Times of Fountain Hills*.

On the day of the fundraiser, we had a very successful raffle thanks to the coordinating efforts of President Clinton Pattea and Steve Pattea. Thank you to all the very generous contributors to the raffle: DDB Ventures LLC, Dale Jenson and Brad Yanover, Yavapai Materials, Steve Pattea, Fort McDowell Marketing, We-KoPa Golf, The Radisson of Fort McDowell, Fort McDowell Adventures, The Verde River Buffet, The Fort McDowell Casino, and The Poker Room.

Thank you to those who sold items on the day of the fundraiser and donated a portion of the sales to the museum: Charity Benefits Unlimited Sports Memorabilia, Los Artistas Vaqueros, and Emerson Quannie and his associate Native Artists. Thank you Al Aldridge and the Sheriff's Posse for selling pink underwear and for donating items to our raffle. Special thanks and much appreciation to Carol Goodly and GPI Gaming for their assistance and to their artists who donated hours to finish our winning table felt. Thank you Meridian Bank for assistance with our charge purchases.

We greatly appreciate being allowed to hold training sessions at The Stein, Sunset Kiwanis, and Sami Fine Jewelry to prepare players for the tournament.

Publicity is invaluable for the success of an event like this one. Thank you to *The Winners Edge* for the great feature article about the fundraiser, to *The Times of Fountain Hills* and *Let's Go* for the many articles preceding the event and special thanks to Linda McThrall for her outstanding coverage. Thank you to the Fort McDowell Marketing Division, Tom McGill, Eileen Luisi, and Dale Cody and Events Coordinator Alicia Baldarez and The Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce, Frank Ferrara, Keith McMahan, and Jean Yanish.

To my Museum Poker Committee a very special, heartfelt thanks for four months of hard work and dedication: Debbie Skehen who worked tirelessly with me on a daily basis, Niobe Borman, Teena Borman, Charlotte McCluskey, Judy Confer, and Alan Cruikshank. Thank you to those who helped us out on the day of the event, Harold Denomme, Arlie Denomme, Gwen Laske, Fred Hansen and John Kavanagh. For great website publicity, thanks to Anne, Wayne and Snow Wicklund and Walt Dunne for all the office assistance.

Finally, a poker tournament is nothing without players. Thank you to the 290 wonderful poker players who came out to support our fundraiser. May your stacks stay high and your pocket rockets always prosper.

~~ Linda Kavanagh



## Gems of the Verdes

**Gems of the Verde Raffle** was held Saturday, February 9th at Sami Fine Jewelry on the Avenue of the Fountains. I want to thank Sami and her sales staff for their enthusiastic participation in the success of this Raffle. Sami scheduled our drawing to coincide with "Meet the Miners" of the Four Peaks Amethyst Mine. It was a huge success.

Winner of the 8.88 ct **Four Peaks Amethyst ring** from Sami Fine Jewelry was Regina Reber of Los Angeles



## Fort McDowell Adventures

From **Fort McDowell Adventures**, the winner of the Party of 10 for Wine & Cheese Reception and Tour - Boulder House was Gary Szrama from Fountain Hills



From Amethyst Body Renewal Treatment, exclusively at **Copperwynd Resort and Spa** the winner was Carol Gaziano, Fountain Hills

Thank you to our Board members who helped sell tickets, and, of course Suzy Loe, the star of raffle ticket sales and a new member of the Fountain Hills Historical Society Betty Kroeller. Special thanks for excellent newspaper coverage in the Fountain Hills Times and Let's Go. And a big thank you to CSI, Fountain Fashions, Grecian Hair Salon, Planet Beach Tanning Spa, Gridleys and our volunteers at the River of Time Museum for selling so many raffle tickets. Let us not forget the great interest in the Rio Verde communities, kudos to Board Member Dr. Keith Millett and his wife Dottie.

~~ Arlie Denomme

## LOS ARTISTAS

### Los Artistas Vaqueros Exhibition moves to Community Center

The fourth annual Los Artistas Vaqueros event, chaired by Board Member Charlotte McCluskey, on February 16 was another successful fundraiser. Newly inducted members Arizona native Roger Archibald and Scottsdale artist Michael Swearngin were joined by 50 members of the community. Los Artistas members Paul Kolwaite, Carlos Hadaway, Doug Katonak and Christine Marchell were on hand to discuss their recent works, and members Bob Boze Bell and Joseph Robertson are part of the exhibition as well.



Charlotte's committee of Jeanine Capirchio, Jackie Kolwaite and Carol Pletz along with the Four Peaks Women's Club, Sandi Thompson, and Jo Strehlow helped make this an elegant affair to remember which was underwritten for the third year by Doug Schmidt of Legacy Asset Management and Image Weaver's. School Supt. Bill Myhr was even seen lending the artists a hand at the end of the evening.

The Exhibition and Sale continues in the Community Center through March 7<sup>th</sup>. A large portion of the show will then move to the Traveling Exhibit Gallery in the River of Time Museum for an extended run. Works from the artists, as well as Los Artistas greeting cards and Exhibition commemorative posters will be available year round in the River Bank Store.

## MUSEUM DAY AT THE CAPITOL

On February 14<sup>th</sup> the River of Time Museum was well represented at the Statehood Day at the State Capitol: Museums on the Mall. Every certified museum in the State was invited to set up a table on the grass and visit with state legislators and other museum people. The River of time Museum stirred up interest with our turquoise skull.



On the left are Judy Confer with Michael Renaud, renowned documentarian, greeting Legislative District 8 Representative Michele Reagan.

On the right is Judy Confer with Arizona Historical Society's Jim Turner.





**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](mailto: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**

**General Individual Membership  
\$20 / Year**

**General Family Membership  
\$25 / Year**

**I would be interested in contributing  
On a higher financial level or a gift  
endowment or major bequest.  
Please Contact Me [ ]**

**PATHFINDER  
\$100 - \$249**

**WAGONMASTER  
\$250—\$499**

**PIONEER  
\$500—\$999**

**ADVENTURER  
\$1000 or more**



Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone : \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed or

Please Charge my VISA or MASTERCARD

Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

• **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.**