



*L. Alan Cruikshank*  
**River of Time Museum**  
 Fountain Hills & Lower Verde Valley  
 MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Debbie Skehen, Editor

Wayne/Anne Wicklund, WebWolf Internet Services

Jan/Feb 2009  
 Volume 21, Issue 1

## History of Film in Arizona

### Dates of Interest:

- Jan 2-31, Cactus Casita Exhibit
- Jan 5, Mon, 1 pm  
Volunteers' Meeting  
Docents/Diplomats/Store
- Jan 21, Wed, 6-9 pm  
Historical Society Dinner  
"History of Film in AZ"
- Jan 23, Fri, 7-9 pm  
Pony Express Dinner @  
American Legion Hall
- **Special** Jan 24, Sat, 10 am  
Verde Canyon Railway trip
- Jan 29, Thurs, 3-7  
Pony Express Riders Celebration  
Community Center
- Jan 31, Sat, Noon  
Deep-Stack Texas Hold 'em  
Poker Tournament  
Ft. McDowell Casino
- Mar 18, Wed, 6-9 pm  
Historical Society Dinner  
"Escape From Death Valley"
- Mar 21, Sat, 1-4 pm  
Carlos Hadaway Tour
- Apr 4, Sat, 6 pm  
Hall of Fame Dinner  
Rio Verde Country Club
- May 27, Wed, 6-9 pm  
Historical Society Dinner  
"Bashas' in Fountain Hills"

When we wrote to Ken Chapa to arrange his speaking date, we asked him what we should say about his talk. He replied "I will be chatting about Arizona's rich history of film from past to present." As Program Manager of the Arizona Film Office, Ken has worked closely with Film and Television professionals and executives to market Arizona as a premier location for film, video and photographic productions. The Film Office is actively involved with Arizona's Film and Television companies and professionals, as well as the educational institutions within the State, working in conjunction with nearly a dozen other film offices throughout Arizona and the Arizona Film & Media Coalition, a representative organization of the varied stakeholder groups in Arizona.



Ken's contributions to promoting film in the state are numerous. Most notably, he conceptualized the award-winning "Anything Can Happen in Arizona" media strategy designed to promote the state as a shooting location, capitalizing on the state's diverse geographic landscape and rich history in film. Ads with this catch phrase have been prominently displayed

In high profile trade magazines such as the *Hollywood Reporter*, *Variety* and *Movie-Maker*.

A native of Tucson, Ken is a certified member of the Association of Film Commissioners International, and graduate of Arizona State University, earning a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies in Communications and Theatre.

The public is invited to attend this dinner meeting on Wednesday, January 21. Reservations for the dinner and presentation must be made by Sunday, January 18. 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 "begin," click "Calendar of Events," and "Dinner Reservations". 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, Pork Tenderloin, Potatoes with Skins, Vegetables and Dessert.

## *From the President's Desk by* **Debbie Skehen**

The Board of Directors met last month to elect officers for 2009. I am thrilled to report that I have been elected President and that we have an excellent set of supporting officers. **Anne Wicklund** is the new Vice President, **Jerry Miles** takes over the Treasurer's job and **Walt Dunne** has agreed to continue serving as Secretary. Let me tell you briefly about your officers.

I've been involved with this Historical Society since 2001 when my husband Joe and I joined as Life Members. Together we took over the assignment of Membership Co-Chairs and have been raising close to \$20,000 each year from memberships and donations. Since being elected to the Board in 2003, I have served in various capacities filling in as Secretary, Treasurer, Chair of the Annual Spaghetti Dinner, Editor of the Legacy, Vice President, and representative to the Central Arizona Museum Association.

**Anne Wicklund** became involved in the society long before our Museum was a reality. She set up the docent program compiling a handbook for docent training. It was a huge task, involving many hours of work. Anne, with husband **Wayne**, got our website up and running. She has served in many capacities, the last being Secretary, and she is the reason our newsletter is so attractive and professional.

**Jerry Miles** has a long history with the society as well. Jerry did serve on the Board previously, returning last year as President and now Treasurer. He will assuredly carry on **Harold Denomme's** tradition of excellence. Harold chose not to run for another term on the Board and I do want to thank him for the enormous amount of time and effort he spent on properly recording income and expenses in a way that allowed us to fully understand our whole financial picture. Jerry will continue to track our finances and keep us well informed on the financial challenges we face.

**Walt Dunne** has also served in many capacities and always with a smile. He has assisted **Judy Confer** in more ways than we can remember and Judy has told me more than once that she just can't do without him. A desk in the office is always referred to as "Walt's Desk." Thankfully, Walt has agreed to continue on as Secretary.

Your officers and Board members are fully committed to improving and enhancing the Historical Society and its River of time Museum. We want it to be the best it can be. We want it to be well known and often visited.

Let us know your thoughts on how we can improve. Let us know of interesting speakers you think might agree to talk at our dinner meetings. We want your input and your ideas to make 2009 an outstanding year for our society.

~~ Debbie Skehen

### Your Dues are Due

By now you have received your membership renewal letter and brochure. Please take a moment and fill out the form, returning it in the enclosed envelope.

**New in 2009** ... showing your annual membership card means unlimited free admission for the entire year plus a 10% discount at the River Bank Store. We offer comprehensive levels of membership. The membership brochure describes these levels in detail and you will note that these levels provide more opportunities and benefits for you, while at the same time give needed extra financial support to your Historical Society.



### SOCIETY BOARD OFFICERS

President	Debbie Skehen	
Vice President	Anne Wicklund	<b>Executive Director</b>
Secretary	Walt Dunne	Judy Starr Confer
Treasurer	Jerry Miles	

### BOARD MEMBERS

Niobe Borman	Stephen Jones	Keith Millett	Barbara Wyman
Teena Borman	Linda Kavanagh	Sandy Myhr	
Alan Cruikshank	Jean Linzer	Kurt Pare'	
Arlie Denomme	Keith McMahan	Clinton Pattea	

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

2008 was the year that the *River of Time Museum* was renamed the *L. Alan Cruikshank River of Time Museum* in honor of our founder, Alan Cruikshank, as he stepped down after 15 years of leadership of the Fountain Hills and Lower Verde River Valley Museum and Historical Society. Alan remains on our Board of Directors but is able to side-step the pressures related to being President. **Jerry Miles** was elected President in May and served until the end of the year. Thank you Jerry for a job well done. It has been helpful to have your legal mind and experience of being our mayor to draw upon. Jerry is the President of the River of Time Foundation Board, and will remain on the Historical Society Board as Treasurer.

As of January 1, **Debbie Skehen**, current Vice President, will become our new President. We welcome Debbie to this new position and look forward to working with her as we begin a new fiscal year.

January is a busy month . . . The Society Dinner takes place this month on the 21st. **Jean Linzer** does a fabulous job as Dinner Chair. Many thanks to **Phil's Place** for our tasty dinners. See page 1 for information on the speaker and details of the dinner.

Also this month is the arrival of the Hash Knife Pony Express riders on the 29<sup>th</sup>. We celebrate this tradition for the 52<sup>nd</sup> continuous year. Chair **Niobe Borman** has entertainment, food and just plain fun planned for us at the Community Center. Why not mail a letter for the riders to carry and plan to celebrate their arrival into town with us? Also join us for the Pony Express dinner at the American Legion on Friday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> beginning at 7:00. **Scott Hallock** and **Nancy Damone** will be our musical entertainment.

On the last day of January the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Charity Poker Tournament will be held at the Fort McDowell Casino. **Linda Kavanagh** is the Chair of this grand event for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. We hope you will all play, buy raffle tickets, and/or bid on the fabulous silent auction items. Thanks to Board Member **President Clinton Pattea**, we are able to hold this, our major fundraiser of the year!

A note of gratitude to all of our Board Members and Historical Society Members for your generous financial support and generous gift of your time in 2008. Without you we would not keep evolving.

Special thanks to **Stephen Jones, Diane Jones, and Arlie Denomme** for creating the fabulous Holiday Mart and Holiday Raffle, Auction and Open House. **Niobe** and **Teena Borman** worked their magic for the Teddy Roosevelt Exhibit Reception. **Sherry Dillard** labors away every Saturday cataloging our collections. Thank you volunteers!

I look forward to working with all of you this coming New Year. It is indeed a privilege to get to know all of the Fountain Hills, Rio Verde and Fort McDowell people who share their talents with the *River of Time Museum*.

**Happy New Year!**

# Membership Report and Upgrades by **Joe & Debbie Skehen**

Welcome **NEW MEMBERS** Geri Davis, Joan Pharr and Brett Yenglin

~~~~~ Membership Gifts for 2009 ~~~~~  
We Thank You One And All

**Trailblazer Level:**  
**\$2,500+**

John Van Der Werf & daughter Barbara Russo

**Adventurer Level:**  
**\$1,000-2499**

Alan & Diane Cruikshank  
Hosea & Lily Harkness  
Sami Jack

John & Jane Mooty  
Mary Zicarelli

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

Fred & Barbara Hansen  
John & Linda Kavanagh

Joe & Debbie Skehen

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

Richard M. Carrabine  
Walt Dunne  
Robert & Barbara Hegwood

Elert & Chris Johnson  
Agnes Kramer  
Robert & Joan Lickman

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

Loretta Bayne  
John & Roseanna Bercel  
Craig & Jeanine Capirchio  
Harold & Arlie Denomme  
Clara Dolan  
Helen Felts  
Lee & Shirley Fisher

Bruce & Cassie Hansen  
Harold & June Hayer  
Pat Hemmer  
Ed & Dolores Kehe  
Jon & Diana Klesner  
Allen & Sharon Koehlinger  
Shelly Knuths

Robert & Marcia Krane  
Jean Linzer  
Bill & Sally Mantle  
John & Denise McCarthy  
Velma Monks  
Roald & Ruth Nelson  
Wally & Sheila Nichols

Ken & Phyllis Osterberg  
Richard & Virginia Siegle  
Val Stasik  
Earl & Ann Stavely  
James & Roberta Urban  
Tom & Pat Wells

# Thanksgiving Day Parade



It may have rained during the Thanksgiving Parade, but it did not daunt the spirits of the Time Travelers and Museum members. **Dr. Clinton Pattea** graciously offered us the beautiful matched team of horses, dressed and groomed to their finest. Thank you Fort McDowell Adventures for your donation of the team and wagon and a special thank you to **Troy Haviland** for driving our horses for the fourth year! **Executive Director Judy Confer** made certain that there was plenty of hot chocolate and goodies to keep the riders warm.



## 2008 holiday Mart

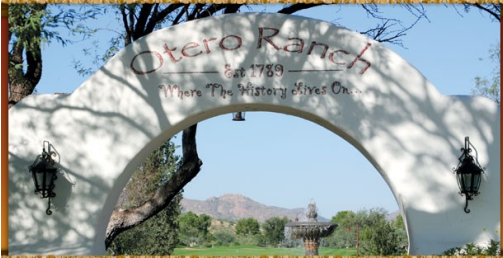
The Holiday Mart was a busy place from November 24th to December 24th staffed by the Historical Society Volunteers and many, many friends of the Museum. It couldn't have been accomplished without the energy and enthusiasm of **Arlie Denomme** who signed up a wonderful crew who made the Holiday Mart a busy and successful venture. **Stephen and Diane Jones** were extremely valuable in transforming our entry and Traveling Exhibit room into a winter fairyland. Pictured here are Arlie **Denomme** receiving help from two of her great grandchildren, **Tytus and J.D.**



## Traveling Exhibit

The Cactus Casita Exhibit will return this year for the month of January. This is the electrified two-storied cactus doll house that the fictional Cactus Clan Saguaro People call home. It tells the story of the lower Verde River Valley and the history of Arizona. Spokesperson for the Cactus Clan is Cactus Cowboy who is the River of Time's mascot. Director Judy Confer created and built the Cactus Casita. Bring your grandchildren and enjoy.

# Road Trips Planned



You need to make a reservation by the end of January to participate in the overnight trip on the weekend of March 7, departing Fountain Hills on a luxury motor coach and traveling south to the Tubac destination. First we'll visit the Tumacacori National Historic Park with a private guided tour. Then we'll check into the Tubac Golf Resort and enjoy lunch at this spectacular resort. There will be free time that afternoon for either driving into Tubac and shopping or an optional (added cost) round of golf at the resort. We'll enjoy dinner that evening and breakfast the following morning at the resort. We'll depart mid-morning and stop to tour the Tubac Presidio State

Historic Museum. After touring the museum, we'll stop for lunch on the road (cost on own) and return to Fountain Hills in the early evening. More details will be available soon on this trip which includes historic parks and the option of golf, spa or shopping.

The Historical Society will receive \$25 per person for everyone booking on one of these travel adventures as a charitable donation from Arizona Trails. What a great idea. The trips will be fun and will also help to raise money for the River of Time Museum. Call Roxanne at Arizona Trails to express your interest and learn more details (837-4284).

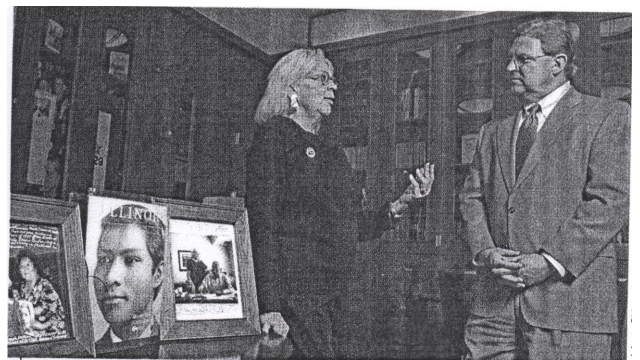
Did you know ~ ~ ~

Zane Grey wished to be remembered by his book

*The Vanishing American* which featured the plight of Native Americans

## Magazine Story Stirs Connections for the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation and the University of Illinois

Judy Starr Confer, a University of Illinois alumna, recently brought photographs to Loren R. Taylor, president and CEO of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, in Urbana, Illinois. The photographs show the Yavapai Tribal Council members receiving the September/October 2006 issue of *Illinois Alumni* which featured a story on Carlos Montezuma, Class of 1884, the first American Indian graduate of the U of I. Judy also presented Mr. Taylor with a signed copy of Carlos Montezuma's biography written by Leon Speroff. Judy visited the university campus to research Montezuma and bring this information back to the Yavapai Nation. A trip is planned this spring for the Yavapai Tribal Council to visit the Urbana-Champaign and Chicago campuses. Judy is coordinating the trip.



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

The final results of 2008 sales for the *River Bank Museum Store* are not yet in at the deadline of the Legacy printing, so we'll let you know the great news and bottom line at the January Historical Society Dinner. Suffice to say, we've surpassed all records for annual sales. We were already ahead of 2007 sales at the end of November.

December sales were plodding along very much like the economy has been going and as expected, sales will be down from December 2007 due to these recessionary times.

Having said that, you can still find wonderful merchandise at exceptionally good prices in the Museum Store, such as a new series of three books by Tucson author, Nancy Turner; photography on aluminum from local photographer Kurt Pare'; Mixed Media art by local artisan Greg Anderson; and if that isn't enough to wet your palate, jewelry - Indian jewelry with stone work in Turquoise, Spiny Oyster, Coral, White Buffalo, and Gaspeite and more.

If you haven't been in the Museum Store lately, you're missing a great shopping opportunity. And if you didn't know, as a member, you receive a -10% discount on all purchases of regularly priced items. Add the additional opportunity of NOT having to pay our 8.9% sales tax and what a burning good deal you're missing for not shopping at the *River Bank Museum Store*.

If you have some spare time, we'd love to have you volunteer to work in the store. It is a rewarding experience and we could truly use your help. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 1pm to 4pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.

~~ Stephen Jones  
Director of Marketing

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## *From the Desk of our* **Museum Archivist**

The following is excerpted from Arizona 2000: A Yearbook for the Millennium by © Marshall Trimble, Arizona's State Historian, Flagstaff: Northland Publishing Company, 1996, p. 50.

### **Flickers and Talkies**

The newfangled motion pictures created a whole new form of entertainment for cowboys, too. In the early days, a cowboy coming into town had little else to do but get cleaned up, hit the saloons, and then visit the ladies on the line. Now they could see a movie too. A story is told of a cowboy going into a Flagstaff theater to see his first movie. He sat in the front row and watched wide-eyed as an array of beautiful young women strolled down to a country swimming hole where they began to disrobe. Just as they got to the interesting part, a freight train rolled by, blocking the view. After the movie, the cowboy went to the ticket office and asked to purchase six more tickets.

"Why would you want to do that," the cashier asked, "when we're showing the same movie over and over?"

"I don't know anything about these newfangled motion pictures," the cowboy assured her, "but I do know something about trains. Sooner or later one of 'em's gonna be late, and I aim to be there when it happens."

# Upcoming Events

## Pony Express

Chow down on January 23 for a Pony Express dinner at the American Legion beginning at 7 pm at a cost of \$9 per person.

And on January 29, the Hashknife Riders come into Town for the 5th Annual Pony Express Event taking place at the Community Center from 3-7 p.m. There will be food, music, entertainment and a raffle. Further information will follow in the *Fountain Hills Times* or you can phone **Niobe Borman** at 837-0239.



Plan to join us and enjoy a fun day.

## Poker Tournament



The River of Time Museum is holding a Deep-Stack Poker Tournament fundraiser at the Fort McDowell Casino on January 31<sup>st</sup> at 12 noon. In addition to the tournament, there will be authentic Sports Memorabilia for sale, pink underwear, and other Sheriff items. Sheriff Joe Arpaio has agreed once again to be our celebrity guest and he will cut the ribbon to open the tournament at 12 noon.

This fundraiser is a big money-maker for the museum and you all know that funds are needed to further our educational outreach programs, to bring in new traveling exhibits, to better fund the upkeep of our current pieces, and to bring in interesting speakers for our dinner meetings.

In order for this tournament to be a success, we need the help of each of our members to spread the word about the event to your friends. The museum gets half of all the income from the sale of tickets on that day so the more players we have, the more we make. Tickets for the buy-in are \$100 each.

If you don't know how to play the game, look for training sessions to be conducted around town during January. They are free and lots of fun!

The prizes for this tournament are very exciting. The first place winner will be awarded a seat at the World Series of Poker championships in Las Vegas. The value of this prize is \$10,000. There is also an additional \$10,000 in prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> place. We will also have raffle prizes that will be awarded throughout the event.

For more information or to buy tickets, please call 1-800-TheFort ext 4284. For general information about the event, call Linda Kavanagh at 837-5612 or [lmkavanagh@cox.net](mailto:lmkavanagh@cox.net). Thank you in advance for your help and support of our wonderful museum

## HALL OF FAME DINNER

**"Save the Date! for the annual Lower Verde River Valley Hall of Fame Recognition and Installation dinner, to be held at the Rio Verde Country Club on Saturday, April 4th, 2009. Details to follow."**



The “Teddy” Roosevelt statue that resided at the River of Time Museum for two months was moved on Nov 22 to its permanent home in Fountain Park. A dedication ceremony was held.

## **Legacy What Will Yours Be?**

What will you bequeath to future generations? How will the ideals and memories you cherish now be sustained then?

The Mission of the River of Time Museum is to recount and preserve the captivating past of the Lower Verde River Valley and to illustrate the vital role of water in our Sonoran Desert.

Your membership can go on into perpetuity and also provide you with significant tax savings for your estate.

For more information, please  
Contact Bob Thomson at  
480/948-7060  
rthomson@jekel-howard.com

### **Historical Society Dinner March 2009**

Allen Fossenkemper wrote us about a year ago suggesting we ask John Krizek from Prescott to be a speaker at one of our society dinners. Mr. Krizek has agreed to come to our March 18<sup>th</sup> dinner and will talk to us about a train of 107 wagons that left the Salt Lake area and traveled west in 1849 in search of California gold. This incredible story is the subject of an award winning PBS documentary “*Forgotten Journey: The Saga of the Johnson Townsend Murphy Party.*” from producer John Krizek.

The title of his talk to our society members is “Escape from Death Valley,” a new documentary he has been working on for four years and is a little more than half done. It is a classic American story of character, courage, duty and triumph over extreme adversity. These gold rush pioneers thinking they were taking a shortcut to California, became hopelessly stranded in the place to which they would later give the name “Death Valley.” This documentary will tell how two young heroes named Lewis Manly and John Rogers, driven by strong moral convictions and the chivalry of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, walked, crawled and climbed almost three hundred miles through desert wastelands, over mountain ranges and across waterless plains in search of a rescue for their fellow pioneers, who were dying in the desert of Nevada.

This will be an unforgettable program. Be sure not to miss it,



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

**P.O. Box 17445**

**Fountain Hills, Arizona 85269**

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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

|                                                                                                                        |                    |                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| <b>General Individual Membership</b><br>\$20 / Year                                                                    | <b>PATHFINDER</b>  | <b>\$100 - \$249</b>   |
| <b>General Family Membership</b><br>\$25 / Year                                                                        | <b>WAGONMASTER</b> | <b>\$250—\$499</b>     |
| <b>I would be interested in contributing<br/>On a higher financial level or a gift<br/>endowment or major bequest.</b> | <b>PIONEER</b>     | <b>\$500—\$999</b>     |
| <b>Please Contact Me [ ]</b>                                                                                           | <b>ADVENTURER</b>  | <b>\$1000—\$2,499</b>  |
|                                                                                                                        | <b>TRAILBLAZER</b> | <b>\$2,500 OR MORE</b> |

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.