

PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY

- Assist the Town of Oro Valley in protecting and preserving places of historical importance.
- Provide educational opportunities in our schools to encourage student awareness and interest in history.
- Sponsor informative programs to increase interest and knowledge of area prehistory and history.
- Play a key role in the Oro Valley community to make our past an integral part of our future.



The Steam Pump Ranch house with George & Mathilda Pusch in the front yard, c. 1900

The Steam Pump Ranch has been occupied in the heart of Oro Valley since 1874. George Pusch and John Zellweger established the ranch and the PZ brand. Pusch dug a well and powered it with a steam pump imported from Germany. The Ranch became a popular watering hole and stopping point.

In 1933, the Ranch was sold to Jack Procter, owner of the Pioneer Hotel in Tucson. He used it as a family retreat from the city. His grandson, John Leiber, lived there for many years until the 15 acre property was acquired by the Town of Oro Valley in 2007.

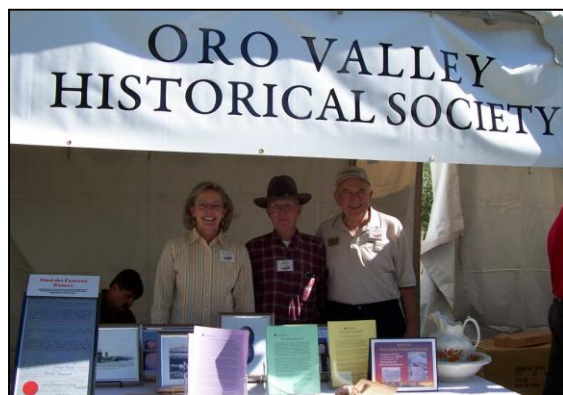


Emergency stabilization work at the steam pump building summer 2007. Historic adobes were saved for future restoration.

We at the Historical Society are excited about the public ownership of and access to the historic Steam Pump Ranch. Join with us to participate in the renovation of the historic steam pump building and ranch house and development of interpretive exhibits and programs for our community to enjoy.



A hayride at the White Stallion Ranch fundraising event.



Founding Board Members Pat Spoerl, Jim Kriegh, Dick Eggerding at the Oro Valley Arts Fair 2005.

OUR MISSION

To promote research, preservation, education, and dissemination of historical information related to the greater Oro Valley Area.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

- Play an important role in the restoration and care of Steam Pump Ranch.
- Conduct oral history interviews. Learn stories of the past from those who know it best.
- Prepare archival inventories of historic documents.
- Develop school programs to help students understand the prehistory and history of southern Arizona.
- Plan exhibits for our display cases in the Oro Valley Library.



Students and teachers care about Oro Valley's past. Emily Graves, Joyce Rychener and Tom Moser.

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

There are a variety of opportunities for participation by members of all ages and experiences who enjoy fun and learning from our historical heritage.



Excavating a Hohokam pithouse at Honey Bee Village. A 13 acre Archaeological Preserve is being preserved for community use.

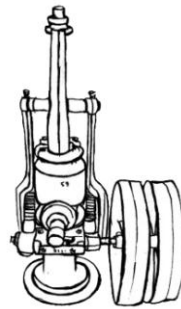
OUR ORGANIZATION

The Historical Society is a non-profit 501c(3) corporation established in 2005. It is run solely by its members and elects Officers and Board members annually in March.

Memberships and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

Please join us and visit us at:

www.ovhistory.org



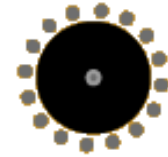
Drawing of the steam pump jack driven by the steam engine used at the Steam Pump Ranch.

Drawing by Joyce Rychener

OFFICERS

President: Dick Eggerding
 Vice-President: Pat Spoerl
 Secretary: Roxy Johnson
 Treasurer: Lyra Done

Photos courtesy of Pat Spoerl
 Revised 1.2008



ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*Preserving our Heritage
 for
 Future Generations*



Steam Pump Ranch awaits restoration

www.ovhistory.org