



# ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**General Meeting - Open to ALL  
Thursday, Sept 18, 2008 at 6:30pm  
“History of the  
Arizona Daily Star Newspaper”  
Presented by: Debbie Kornmiller  
*Arizona Daily Star***

The Old Pueblo held fewer than 6,000 people and statehood was still 35 years away when Louis C. Hughes and Charles H. Tully published Tucson's first Daily Bulletin on March 1, 1877. It lasted 28 days. The fledgling paper was soon revived as the Arizona Tri-Weekly Star, closely followed by a new name: the Weekly Star.

On Jan. 12, 1879, the paper finally settled on a name that would last a while: The Arizona Daily Star. Stagecoach arrivals and details on the latest gunfight filled its pages.



Editor Hughes kept a Colt .45 nearby as a way to dissuade disgruntled readers. Close to 200 newspapers would come and go during Arizona's rough and raw Territorial days. Among the survivors: the Arizona Daily Star Southern Arizona's largest news-gathering operation.

While still serving local readers in the traditional print medium, its stories also reach out electronically to a worldwide readership. Its founders could have hardly imagined it. Though Tully left the business toward the end of its first year, Hughes carried on.

Written by: Bonnie Henry, Star columnist

The Star continued on changing hands many times over the years until the present. Come to Debbie's presentation to get all the details.



Debbie Kornmiller is the Arizona Daily Star's reader advocate - the voice of readers inside the newsroom. She joined the Star in 1981 after graduating from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in journalism.

She spent her first 10 years with the Star on the copy desk writing about 20,000 headlines and the second 10 years as features editor. She began as reader advocate on Sept. 4, 2001. As reader advocate, Debbie hears from up to 100 people each and every week, listening to the concerns of readers and explaining the Star's news-gathering standards and practices.

She organizes roundtable discussions with readers and top editors on how the Star covers specific topics such as the Mideast, and the relationship between news and opinion, and reader focus groups on new and existing sections and coverage issues.

Debbie is working with the Tucson Festival of Books, which will host more than 350 authors March 14-15 for a weekend of literary delight, and is president of the Star's Sportsmen Fund Send-A-Kid-To-Camp program, raising money to provide scholarships for over 900 kids to spend a week at overnight camp.

The meeting location is at the Town of Oro Valley Library, their large Meeting room to your right as you enter the Library, 11,000 N. La Canada, Oro Valley.