

ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter of the Oro Valley Historical Society

Jan/Feb 2010

Web: www.ovhistory.org

“2009” A Great Year of Progress Some Highlights...

Native American Garden

The garden was designed and the first phase constructed



Joyce Rychener (on left) shares the joy of her hard labor yielding the first ear of corn picked by Pat Spoerl

Hohokam Lifeways in the Northern Tucson Basin

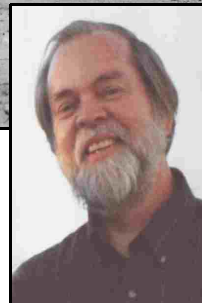
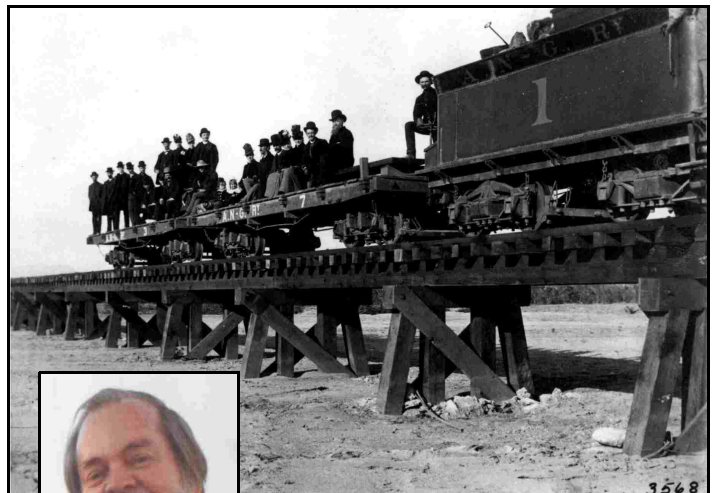
Presented by Dr. Suzanne Fish, curator of archaeology at the Arizona State Museum and a professor of anthropology at the University of Arizona.

For many years her research has focused in the Arizona-Sonora borderlands involving ethnobotany, traditional farming and Hohokam settlement patterns and social organization.



Fashions

Sherri Burke, of Vanished Arizona, presented an excellent overview of women's fashions during Arizona's Territorial period. This covered a time span from 1863 (think *Gone with the Wind*) to 1912



**Railroad to Oro Valley:
The Narrow Gauge**
presented by Gene Caywood

President's Message - New Challenges



It's a new year so it's time to renew your Oro Valley Historical Society membership for 2010. Renewing your membership is a simple way to support the Society's mission to promote research, preservation, education and dissemination of historical information related to the greater Oro Valley area.

We're looking forward to participating in community events, starting with the annual Oro Valley Book Festival at the Library on February 13th. We'll also plant a spring garden at the Steam Pump Ranch as well as the second "three sisters" monsoon garden this summer. We're planning education programs for local schools with programs involving Native American plants and their uses.

Tours of Steam Pump Ranch are available upon request and we anticipate participating in the restoration work funded to date at the Pusch House and Procter House later this year. The Town is completing a cultural resources inventory project and the information obtained on prehistoric sites and potential historic neighborhoods will form the basis of a lecture series in which the Society will participate.

For those of you who are Lifetime members, we thank you again for your long-term support of the Historical Society. An envelope is enclosed for all others to renew. An extra brochure is enclosed to give to a friend to help us grow the Society. Remember, the Oro Valley Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and dues are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. Your membership is essential for the Society to prosper.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Pat Spoerl

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar

- February 18, 2010, 6:30 PM, OV Library - Meeting Room
Speaker: Jan Cleere, Author
Topic: "Amazing Girls of Arizona"
- March 18, 2010, 6:30 PM, OV Library - Meeting Room
Brief Annual Meeting
Speaker: to be determined, suggestions?
- April 8, 2010, 6:30 PM, OV Library - Meeting Room
Speaker: Joyce Rychener and others
Topic: Heritage Garden at Steam Pump Ranch.

Public Tours of Steam Pump Ranch.

The Historical Society is authorized by the Town of Oro Valley to provide a site tour of Steam Pump Ranch on one day per month. If you or a group are interested please email us: info@ovhistory.org (do not include the spaces) or call 297-7347. Specific dates have not yet been set depending upon community interest. Tours would last approximately 1 hour and be conducted in the mornings during the fall months.

Oro Valley Historical Society

Officers:

President: Pat Spoerl (2011)
520 297-7347
Vice Pres: Jim Skalicky (2012)
Secretary: Roxy Johnson (2012)
Treasurer: Lyra Done (2012)

Directors:

Georgia Hollinger (2012)
Twink Monrad (2011)
Krista Neis (2012)
Fred Roof (2010)
Joyce Rychener (2010)

Note: Officers are selected by Directors each year from the elected Directors. The numbers in parenthesis are the year the Directors term expires in March.

Committees:

Membership: Twink Monrad
Fund Raising: Georgia Hollinger
Archival: Joe Frannea
Speakers: Roxy Johnson
Education: Tom Moser,
Joyce Rychener
Oral Histories: need help...
Historic Gardens: Joyce Rychener
Editor: Joe Frannea
joe@ovhistory.org

Donations:

Donations are always welcomed, much appreciated and needed. We are a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Corporation with donations being tax deductible to the extent of the law.

Memberships:

Family: \$25
Individual: \$15
Student: \$10
Corporate/Institution: \$100
Life-Family: \$400

Presentation by Jan Cleere February 18, 2010



Jan will use a PowerPoint Presentation to review her latest book “Amazing Girls of Arizona: True Stories of Young Pioneers “

Award-winning Oro Valley author and historian Jan Cleere concentrates her writing on the desert southwest, particularly the pioneering women who first ventured beyond the refinement of eastern society. Her latest book, *Amazing Girls of Arizona: True Stories of Young Pioneers*, tells the narratives of enterprising young girls who conquered the west in their own style. Hardships and heartaches, accolades and applause, and just plain hard work encompass the lives of these resourceful young innovators. *Amazing Girls of Arizona* won a Glyph Award from the Arizona Book Publishing Association as one of the best books of 2009, and was a 2008 finalist for the National Best Books Award.

In *Outlaw Tales of Arizona: True Stories of Arizona’s Most Famous Robbers, Rustlers, and Bandits*, Jan brings together a selection of Arizona’s most notorious desperadoes with massacres, mayhem and mischief winding through the pages like a whodunit from the past. *Outlaw Tales of Arizona* won the 2007 National Federation of Press Women’s Communications Contest for historic nonfiction, and was a Finalist for the Arizona Book Publishing Association’s Glyph Award.

Jan’s first book, *More Than Petticoats: Remarkable Nevada Women*, relates the compelling stories of pioneering women who displayed remarkable courage as they broke through social, cultural and political barriers to advance women’s roles. *More Than Petticoats* was a WILLA Literary Award Finalist. Jan was inducted into the Nevada Women’s History Project Roll of Honor for her “significant contribution in the preservation of Nevada women’s history.

She is now working on her next book that will bring together the numerous pioneering women of Arizona who forged some of the first westward paths.

Jan serves as Public Information Chair and sits on the Coordinating Council of the Arizona Women’s Heritage Trail, an organization dedicated to linking women’s history to historic sites throughout the state. Her freelance work appears in national and regional publications.

**The public is invited to join us..
Oro Valley Library - Meeting Room
Thursday, February 18, 2010, 6:30 PM**

Native American Garden Harvest



Bill Adler, major donor for the first Native American Heritage Garden, harvests an ear of corn from the garden.

More happenings in 2009...

Some Polaroid photos were provided by the Leiber Family of the Steam Pump Ranch Pump House Building. This one was probably taken in the 1970's



The Historical Society is working with the Historic Preservation Commission to scan and further inventory a collection of photographs and documents found in the chicken coops at Steam Pump

Our Ranching Legacy

A panel discussion provided various perspectives on the Ranching heritage of the greater Oro Valley area. Panelists included Henry Zipf, grandson of George Pusch, Ben Williams, author of "Tales of the Southwest", and Russell True, owner of the White Stallion Ranch.



Henry Zipf

Steam Pump Ranch Community Day

The Town of Oro Valley held a Community Heritage Day at Steam Pump Ranch. The event allowed the public to be able to visit the historic site and walk on the property for the first time. OVHS was instrumental in this event, providing:

- History stations to share photos and history about various features of the Steam Pump Ranch.
- A youth area by Old Pueblo Archaeology provided a glimpse of prehistoric times, including a few hands on activities.
- A memory station to record you memories of ranching life.
- A photo station that allowed you to take your picture with the likeness of the first owners of the Steam Pump Ranch, George and Matilda Pusch.
- Horses and colts showed and demonstrated some traditional cowboy and western skills including a blacksmith.
- A chance to see inside some of the building at Steam Pump.



Pusch Ranch House - Mathilda and George



Bill Ganz, Strolling Cowboy

More happenings in 2009...

Romero Ruin Tour

A walking tour of the Romero Ruin in Catalina State Park. Co-sponsored with Coronado National Forest and was led by Forest Service archaeologists.



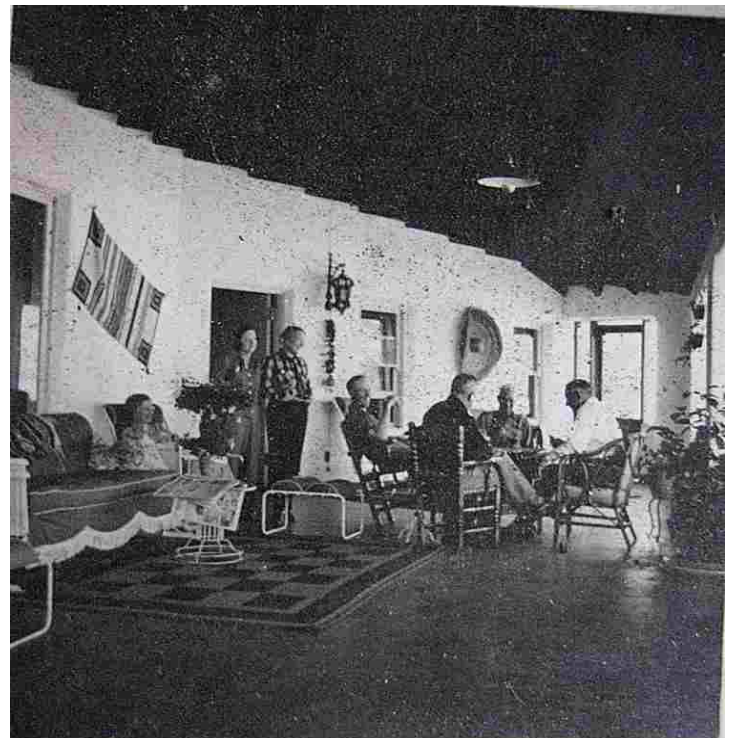
Honey Bee Village Tour

A walking tour of Honey Bee Village Archaeological Preserve led by Henry Wallace from Desert Archaeology.



Special Events At The Ranch

The porch of the Procter House was often used for special events. It was recently converted to Santa's house for the Town of Oro Valley Holiday Event. The other photo is from Steam Pump Ranch photograph collection showing how the porch looked in the 1960s.

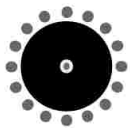


**Membership Fees for 2010...
We Need Your Support**

Annual Memberships	Fees
Family	\$25
Single	\$15
Student	\$10
Corp, Institution	\$100
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Family - Life Membership	\$400



Beautiful picnic table hand made by Board member Fred Roof for the Native American Garden at the Steam Pump Ranch. Funds for the table donated by John Ravesloot, seated at table.



**ORO VALLEY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 69754 - Oro Valley, AZ 85737

See our website for a color version of this Newsletter.
www.ovhistory.org

Membership Renewal Envelope Enclosed
Please Consider Renewing and/or Making a Donation...thanks