

ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter of the Oro Valley Historical Society

March/April 2009

Web: www.ovhistory.org

The First Development Project for the Steam Pump Ranch has been Approved!

The Oro Valley Historical Society and the Town attorneys completed their operating agreement so the Native American Garden Project could proceed to the Town Council for discussion and consideration. It was approved at the February 18th Council Meeting and subsequently signed by the Mayor and our OVHS President.

We are very excited to have the green light to proceed with our plans. We are planning to have the garden site ready for a monsoon planting this summer. We will need lots of volunteers to help once we get the garden underway. The Native American Garden will be located on the north side of the property and will start with traditional corn, beans, and squash with native agaves nearby. We are researching designs, crops, and watering methods and want to connect the community and our schools to native and historic foods and farming methods.



Native American Demonstration Garden - sketch by Joyce Rychener

The initial concept for the garden has two areas. The enclosed area will be the “Three Sisters” garden which includes corn, beans and squash planted together as companion plants. The garden will provide not only an educational opportunity but establish the connection to local sources and growing practices. Plans are for some community gatherings as well.

Outside of the circular enclosed area will be rocky mounds with *Agave murpheyi* plants. This was an important food and fiber source for the Hohokam who farmed in the area.

Our agreement also includes permission to conduct guided tours at Steam Pump Ranch one Saturday per month. We plan to start the tours this summer. Stay tuned for more information and opportunities to participate.

March 26th – Hohokam Lifeways in the Northern Tucson Basin

Dr. Suzanne Fish is a 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.

This presentation will be held at the new Wyndham Hotel, Steam Pump Village, 11075 N. Oracle Road, 6:30 PM.

April 9th – Our Ranching Legacy

This will be a panel discussion providing various perspectives on the Ranching heritage of the greater Oro Valley area. Panelists include Barbara Marriott, author of “Images of America: Oro Valley”, Henry Zipf, grandson of George Pusch, Ben Williams, author of “Tales of the Southwest”, and Russell True, owner of the White Stallion Ranch. We’ll also have maps to help us locate some of the old-time ranching areas. Please join us for an evening of history and stories. This presentation will be at the Oro Valley Library Meeting Room, 6:30 PM.

President's Message - Activities Galore!



Spring is always a busy time in Oro Valley but there are programs that allow us to pause and look back on the past and our cultural heritage. March is Archaeology Awareness Month Arizona. There are specific programs and activities being held throughout the state celebrating archaeology. An Archaeology Expo is being held in Phoenix this year. May is National Historic Preservation Month where the emphasis is on significant historic


buildings and structures. It celebrates the unique and diverse heritage of our country's cities and towns.


Our Town Heritage Month in April fits well between these two months and is an opportunity to celebrate our local history. This is the first year the Oro Valley Historical Society is sponsoring a Town Heritage Month, in honor of the Town's 35th birthday (founded April 17th, 1974) and in appreciation of the cultural resources within our Town. The lecture series, heritage guide and other activities are funded in part by a Community Funding grant from the Town of Oro Valley. So, please join us for some of the activities listed on page 3 (and on the Flyer).


Pat Spoerl


Steam Pump Ranch Community Day- April 18th


The Town of Oro Valley is holding a Community Heritage Day at Steam Pump Ranch on April 18th. The event is the first time the public will be able to visit the historic site and walk on the property. The day also celebrates the Town's 35th anniversary and the Mayor will cut a birthday cake. OVHS is very excited about this event and is providing a number of activities for this special day. . . .


 History stations staffed by OVHS members to share photos and history about various features of the Steam Pump Ranch.


 A youth area by Old Pueblo Archaeology that will provide a glimpse at what prehistoric times have been like in the area including a few hands on activities.

 A memory station to record you memories of ranching life.

 A photo station so you can take your picture with the likeness of the first owners of the Steam Pump Ranch, George and Matilda Pusch.

 Horses and colts to show and demonstrate some traditional cowboy and western skills including a blacksmith.

 A chance to see inside some of the building at Steam Pump.

 Visit with cowboys and ranchers who worked on some of the southern Arizona ranches.

**Volunteers are needed for this April 18th Community Day Event
Email us or call Pat at 297-7347 if you would like to help**

Oro Valley Historical Society

Officers:

President: Pat Spoerl (2011)
520 297-7347

Vice President: Joe Frannea (2009)

Secretary: Roxy Johnson (2009)

Treasurer: Lyra Done (2009)

Directors:

Georgia Hollinger (2009)

Twink Monrad (2011)

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: \$5

Corporate/Institution: \$75

Life-Family: \$200

Life-Corp./Institution: \$400

Web: www.ovhistory.org

Email: [info at ovhistory.org](mailto:info@ovhistory.org)

Don't Miss Any of these Great Events!



ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Presents

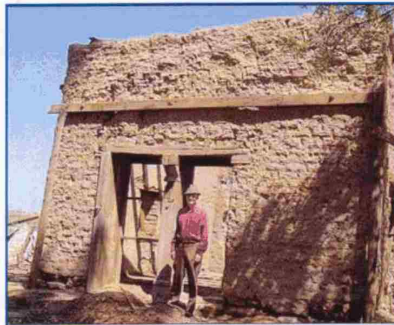
TOWN HERITAGE MONTH 2009

THE FIRST ORO VALLEY TOWN HERITAGE MONTH WILL PROVIDE COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN ABOUT ORO VALLEY'S PAST AND TO HONOR THE TOWN'S 35TH BIRTHDAY (APRIL 17, 1974).

LECTURE SERIES

A SERIES OF PROGRAMS THAT FOCUS ON THE LONG AND RICH HISTORY OF THE ORO VALLEY AREA

DATE	TOPIC	SPEAKER/SPONSOR	LOCATION
MARCH 26 TH (6:30 PM)	HOHOKAM LIFEWAYS IN THE NORTHERN TUCSON BASIN	SUZANNE FISH, PHD UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA	Wyndham Hotel Steam Pump Village 11075 N. Oracle Road
MARCH 28 TH (9:00 AM)	TOUR OF ROMERO RUIN CATALINA STATE PARK <i>RESERVATION NECESSARY</i>	CO-SPONSORED BY CORONADO NATIONAL FOREST & ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY LED BY BILL GILLESPIE (FS) & PAT SPOERL (OVHS)	MEET CATALINA STATE PARK ROMERO RUIN PARKING LOT
APRIL 3 RD (8:00 AM)	TOUR OF HONEY BEE VILLAGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PRESERVE <i>RESERVATION NECESSARY</i>	LED BY HENRY WALLACE PROJECT DIRECTOR DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY	MEET AT TOWNE CENTER ROADWAY AT SITE
APRIL 9 TH (6:30 PM)	OUR RANCHING LEGACY A PANEL DISCUSSION OF HISTORIC RANCHES IN THE ORO VALLEY AREA. COME SHARE YOUR STORIES.	PARTICIPANTS INCLUDE: BARBARA MARRIOTT, AUTHOR RUSSELL TRUE, DUDE RANCH BEN WILLIAMS, AUTHOR HENRY ZIPF, GEORGE PUSCH'S GRANDSON	ORO VALLEY LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
APRIL 18 TH (9:30 AM THRU 2:00 PM)	STEAM PUMP RANCH COMMUNITY DAY	CO-SPONSORED BY TOWN OF ORO VALLEY ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY	STEAM PUMP RANCH ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY SELF GUIDED TOURS OF THE RANCH
MAY 14 TH (6:30 PM)	RAILROAD TO ORO VALLEY: THE ARIZONA NARROW GAUGE	NARROW GAUGE RAILROAD BY GENE CAYWOOD	ORO VALLEY LIBRARY MEETING ROOM



Jim Kriegh, Founder of Oro Valley Historical Society, at the Pump House Historic Site, Oro Valley, Arizona



To make reservations or for information email www.info@ovhistory.org or call (520) 297-7347

Ballots - If you are a current (2009) OVHS Member, a ballot is enclosed for you to be able to vote for up to five Board Members. We have three of the four existing Board Members running for a second term and two new candidates. If you have a Family Membership you are allowed to use both voting columns on the ballot (two votes).

The ballot must be returned to OVHS before Friday March 27th or brought to the March 26th meeting. The enclosed ballot can be folded in half, taped on the edges and mailed to us, don't forget a first class postage stamp.

Membership Cards - If you have renewed your Membership for 2009 we have also enclosed a new membership card, please check it to be sure it is correct. If you are a Life Member and have lost your card, you can request a new card by emailing or writing to us.

Town Heritage Month Flyer - Also enclosed is our Town Heritage Month 2009 flyer, the same information contained on page 3 of this newsletter. Please share it with a friend who may be interested in the upcoming events.

Membership Fees - Some of our Membership fees will be changing effective July 1, 2009. Please see the table below.

Annual Memberships	Current Fees	After June Fees
Family	\$25	\$25
Single	\$15	\$15
Student	\$5	\$10
Corp, Institution	\$75	\$100
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Life Memberships		
Family	\$200	\$400
Corp, Institution	\$400	not available

Newsletters - We are currently publishing newsletters six times a year. Our newsletters are mailed to those members without email addresses (black and white copies) and made available to all others (color version) on our web site. We mail a copy to all members when we have any enclosures, like this month.



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

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

**Six Great Events!!!
 Details Inside...**