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Arizona History Museum

Arizona Historical Society—
Southern Arizona Chapter Newsletter

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Preserving Arizona's Past: Challenges Are Nothing New for the Arizona History Museum's Library and Archives

by Dave Tackenberg, Archivist

The library and archives of the Arizona History Museum is a non-circulating repository with a large, outstanding collection of manuscripts, personal papers, maps, photographs, oral histories, books, and other materials that chronicle the history of Arizona, the American West, and Northern Mexico as it pertains to Arizona. The library and archives provides research areas and a professional staff to assist students, researchers, and the general public. In 2008, the library and archives staff fielded over 3,200 requests for historical information from researchers. Additionally, they answered more than 650 inquiries over the telephone and responded to 699 research requests from patrons who could not visit the facility to conduct their own research.

Despite reduced budgets and lowered staffing levels over the last seven years, the librarians, archivists, and volunteers continue to provide a valuable professional service to researchers both from Arizona and from areas outside the state. In doing so, they have

continued the outstanding tradition of the library/archives facility as the central facility of the Arizona Historical Society.

This tradition has existed since the very beginning of this organization. As early as 1884, the acquisition of books, manuscripts, and historical materials was a primary goal for the Historical Society. Initially, meetings were held once a month on the second floor of Tucson City Hall. As a central feature of the meetings, a member would present a historical reminiscence or report to the group. The intent was for these to be added to the Society's collections as lasting testaments of Arizona's history. The purpose of the organization, recorded by C. L. Sonnichsen in his book, *Pioneer Heritage: The First Century of the Arizona Historical Society*, was "to perpetuate the memory of those whose sagacity, energy, and enterprise induced

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Interior view of AHS headquarters, located on the northwest corner of Congress and Main Streets, ca. 1910 (AHS Accession No. 15485).



Continued from cover

Preserving Arizona's Past: Challenges Are Nothing New for the Arizona History Museum's Library and Archives

them to settle in the wilderness and become the founders of a new state" (Sonnichsen 1984:15-16). By the end of 1884, 24 books had been collected and donated, along with stories and photographs. Sonnichsen relates that on May 6, 1884, Jake Mansfeld volunteered to assemble the archives of photographs so it would appear that the Society had its first photo archivist!

The remainder of the 19th century proved to be difficult years for the Society and the reading room which housed the group's donations. Membership levels decreased, payment of dues languished and attendance at monthly meetings declined. To address this situation, the Society was reorganized in 1897 and incorporated by the Territorial Legislature as the Arizona Pioneer Historical Society. In addition to solving the difficult membership issue, the new constitution and by-laws specified that the Society's central focus rested upon historical interests. This concern involved added responsibilities for the Society's secretary to main-

tain the organization's records, care for the donated books and manuscripts, and write the official letters. With these responsibilities, the Society had its first true "ex-officio librarian" (Sonnichsen 1984:49). With continuing organizational difficulties, then-president, Monte Mansfeld, and a committee of members approached Edith S. Kitt to become the historical secretary for the Society in 1926. With organizational ability, charm, and persistence, she is widely regarded as the savior of the Arizona Pioneer Historical Society.

Through the dedication of Mrs. Kitt and the leadership of Society presidents, the library/archives acquired manuscript collections, photographs, books, and other historical materials. Researchers have always come for our unique items, including photograph collections with depictions of early mining scenes, Native Americans, Arizona towns and cities, and military personnel. The library continues to acquire old and rare volumes and



AHS librarian Margaret Bret Harte retrieves an archival collection from the stacks, ca. 1970 (AHS Accession No. 71342).

purchases and receives scholarly books on the history of Arizona and the Southwest. Notable materials regularly requested by our patrons include the Charles Gatewood, Prof. Byron Cummings, John and Isabella Greenway, George Chambers, and Frederick Dellenbaugh collections—all of which provide unmatched research opportunities for scholars.

Faced with declining budgets, the library/archives continues to provide researchers with reference support and access to historical materials. With continuing budget shortfalls in 2009, it is anticipated that a reduction in reading room hours for the

public may be necessary. Ultimately, however, the library/archives, as well as the Historical Society, will continue to provide the best possible assistance and support to researchers and citizens at our facility.

Reference Cited, Sonnichsen, C. L. 1984 *Pioneer Heritage: The First Century of the Arizona Historical Society*. Arizona Historical Society, Tucson.



Message from the President



About the Arizona Historical Society

Established by an act of the First Territorial Legislature on November 7, 1864, the Arizona Historical Society is Arizona's oldest historical agency. Architects of the Territory's code of laws realized they were making history and that it was important to preserve a record of their activities. One of the earliest actions was to create the means for documenting the past and recording contemporary events as they unfolded. This became the Arizona Historical Society, formed to collect and preserve "all facts relating to the history of this Territory."

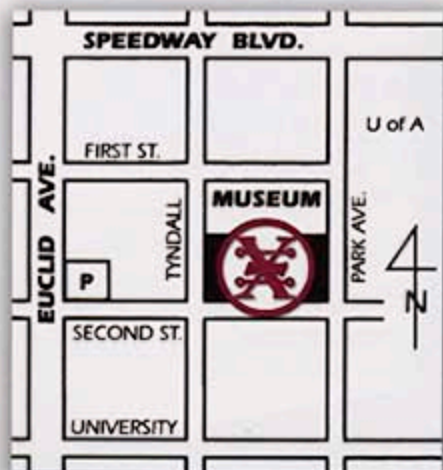


... marks the Arizona Historical Society. Our logo is the alchemic symbol for copper, one of the seven metals of the art of alchemy that reaches back in time to ancient Egypt. It was selected because copper plays such a prominent role in Arizona's development.

Make Your Next Event Historic!

The Arizona History Museum provides the perfect setting for a special occasion. The museum galleries and auditorium are available for rent for events of all sizes, from intimate dinner parties to large wedding receptions, and from corporate meetings to conferences and workshops.

With its built-in stage, the auditorium is a great place for lectures, as well as for receptions for up to 300 guests. After meeting or dining, your guests can relax and enjoy our spacious galleries, while exploring exhibits that present the dynamic history of Southern Arizona.



- Centrally located near The University of Arizona
- Free parking at Second and Euclid Streets
- Wheelchair accessible

Plan an event that won't soon be forgotten. Call the Arizona History Museum at (520) 617-1142 or (520) 617-1143 for information on rental fees and scheduling.

Arizona History Museum
949 E. Second Street

Dear Fellow Friends of Arizona History:

A warm greeting from your Arizona Historical Society-Southern Arizona Chapter Board. I'm pleased to be serving as the 2009 Chapter Board president.

As your president, one of my most important priorities this year is to expand our service to you as subscribing members of AHS. Without your support and enthusiasm, our organization would not be what it is today, the champion for preserving Arizona history.

I am excited to introduce you to the inaugural issue of *Arizona History Museum*, our new Southern Arizona Chapter newsletter! Our goal is to keep you better informed of the many fun and interesting activities that will be coming up in the near future. Additionally, we want to do a better job of keeping you up-to-date on what is happening at your AHS Museum in Tucson.

And last, but not least, we want to get to know you. Your AHS Chapter Board is planning visits throughout Southern Arizona to say "hi" and break bread with our fellow friends of history. At present, we are planning an April trip to Bisbee, co-chaired by Board members, Judge Charlie Irwin of Sierra Vista and Mark Suagee of Benson. In October, we will be hosting a luncheon in Nogales for our friends in Santa Cruz County, chaired by Board member, Greg Scott.

So, that's all for now. I hope you enjoy our newsletter. We welcome your feedback and suggestions. If we are missing anything that you would like to see included, feel free to e-mail our Board Editor, Scott Thompson, at sthompson@srcirm.com. Many thanks and adios!

Sincerely,

Daniel B. Chambers
President



Docent (doe-sent), n, [G. docent, dozent, from Latin docent, present participle of docere] 1: a college or university teacher or lecturer; 2: a person who leads guided tours, especially through a museum or art gallery; 3: a person who wears a blue denim vest at the Arizona History Museum.

By Betty Cirivello

If you happen to be in the Arizona History Museum on a weekday, you may see people in blue denim vests shepherding groups of children from one exhibit to the next. You may overhear them telling stories about the car that can go 60 miles an hour—if only there were enough paved streets—or about the stagecoach that was in the movie *Arizona*. Follow along and you might learn about a miner's pay, or what copper looks like when it's stuck in a rock, or how the coming of the railroad in 1880 forever changed the life and culture of Tucson.

You may have seen these same people in blue denim vests at Tubac Anza Days or the Tumacacori Fiesta showing children and adults how to make "God's eye" weavings or letting them play with territorial toys. The people in blue denim vests join in the Tucson Arts Festival and Tucson's birthday celebrations. They've even been seen at the Pima County Fair and telling stories at the library downtown.

Some of the group shed their blue denim vests and don period costumes before venturing out to schools or festivals. They bring along suitcases filled with items that bring to life the world of the cowboy, the Mountain Man, the Apache child or the schoolmarm of the 1870s.

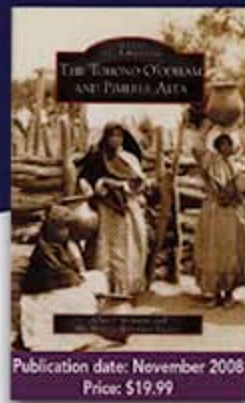
Once in a while, the people in blue denim vests leave their vests at home and set out to discover more about Arizona history, geography, and culture. They sometimes spill over into New Mexico and California in search of a better understanding of where they live. These trips from big towns to ghost towns to Indian reservations are great fun and help form permanent bonds among the people with the blue denim vests.

Every year, the people in the blue denim vests sponsor activities that raise funds for the education department of the Arizona History Museum. The money earned from such endeavors as trips, antique appraisal fairs, and white elephant sales helps pay for community outreach programs.

The blue denim vest is worn proudly by a group of people of all ages and backgrounds who are united by a love of Arizona history and a desire to pass that history on to others. The blue denim vest is the uniform of the Arizona History Museum's docents, members who have gone through special training to become part of the Museum's education department.

There is always room for one more person in a blue denim vest. For more information on our docent program, call Emily Spargo-Guerrero, Educator, Arizona History Museum, (520) 617-1153.

What's in Store?

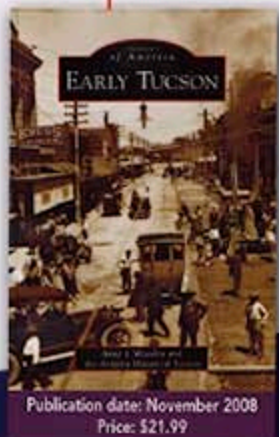


The Tohono O'odham and Pimeria Alta

By Allan J. McIntyre,
Arizona Historical
Society

The Tohono O'odham have lived in Southern Arizona's Sonoran Desert for millennia. Formerly known as the Papago, the people, acting as a nation in 1986, voted to change the colonial applied name, Papago, to their true name, Tohono O'odham, a name literally meaning "desert people." Living within a region the Spanish termed "Pimeria Alta," the Tohono O'odham, from the time of Spanish Jesuit, Father Kino's, first missionary efforts in the late 1680s, have been witness to numerous governmental, philosophical, and religious intrusions. Yet throughout, they have adapted and survived. Today, the Tohono O'odham Nation occupies the second largest land reserve in the United States, covering more than 2.8 million acres. The images in this volume date largely between 1870 and 1950, a period that documents great change in Tohono O'odham traditions, culture, and identity.

Author Bio: Allan J. McIntyre is a historian and an art dealer specializing in the American Southwest prior to 1950. As an archaeologist and a museum collections manager for over 25 years, McIntyre became



interested in Tohono O'odham history in attempting to understand connections with their prehistoric ancestors, the Hohokam. The photographs and illustrations used in this volume derive almost exclusively from the extensive archives of the Arizona Historical Society-Southern Division in Tucson.

Images of America: Early Tucson

By Anne I. Woosley,
Arizona Historical Society

Tucson is a history of time and a river. The roots of prehistoric habitation run deep along the Santa Cruz River, reaching back thousands of years. Later, the river attracted 17th-century Spanish explorers, who brought military government, the church, and colonists to establish the northern outpost of their New World empire. Later still, American westward expansion drew new settlers to the place called Tucson. Today, Tucson is a bustling multi-cultural community of more than one million residents. These images from the photographic archives of the Arizona Historical Society tell the stories of individuals and cultures that transformed a 19th-century frontier village into a 20th-century desert city.

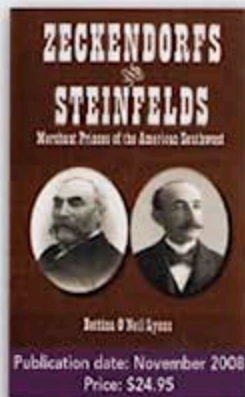
Author Bio: Anne I. Woosley is the executive director of the Arizona Historical Society. She received her undergraduate degree in history from University of California Santa Cruz,

a graduate degree in archaeology from Cambridge University in England, and her doctorate in archaeology from University of California Los Angeles. Her research interests and publications include prehistoric settlement, regional interactions, and subsistence practices of cultures in the American Southwest and West Asia. She serves on state and national committees promoting public history programs and historic preservation.

Zeckendorfs and Steinfelds: Merchant Princes of the American Southwest

By Bettina O'Neil Lyons

From their arrival in Santa Fe in 1853 with the earliest American occupation, to the close of Steinfeld's department store in downtown Tucson in the 1890s, the history of the Zeckendorf and Steinfeld families is intertwined with the economic development of the Southwest. In this detailed portrayal, Bettina O'Neil Lyons delves into family documents, archival records, and published sources to chronicle 130 years of mercantile enterprise through the eyes of a remarkable group of men and women who laid the business foundations and set the social tone of Arizona and New Mexico for much of the 19th and 20th centuries. Forty photographs, many published here for the first time, chronicle the lives and times of the Zeckendorfs and Steinfelds.



These titles, and many more, are available
at the Arizona Mercantile Museum Store.

ARIZONA MERCANTILE

The Arizona Mercantile Museum Store made a few changes over the long, hot summer that you will definitely want to check out this coming season. We were very lucky to have a wonderful intern from The University of Arizona's art history department, who dedicated her summer to researching the Arizona History Museum's vast archives and artifact collection for the purpose of developing exciting new merchandise for the store.

Jessie Stewart, a junior at The University of Arizona, did an excellent job of choosing maps and photographs that are representative of the museum's collections and will enhance our visitors' educational experience at the museum. Among the new items for sale are:

- Beautiful giclée-reproduction maps, including a reproduction of the Gadsden Purchase map, and a map drawn by Father Kino in an easy-to-frame 16"x20" size
- Giclée-reproduction photographs depicting iconic images from downtown Tucson, available in both 11"x14" matted or 11"x14" matted and framed
- Full-color, 16"x20" giclée reproductions of Southern Pacific Railroad advertisement posters
- Natural canvas tote bags (made in the U.S.A.) with the image of the Arizona History Museum's rose window façade on the front

- Later this fall, look for a line of greeting cards depicting close-up, detailed images from the museum's diverse artifact collection, including images of a saddle, a 1920s beaded dress, a typewriter, and Peruvian silver artifacts

In addition to Arizona Mercantile's new items, we carry an ever-expanding selection of unique things that you won't find anywhere else, including Arizona history books, high-quality reproductions of historical maps and photographs exclusive to the museum collection, and beautifully crafted jewelry.

Arizona Mercantile is your one-stop shopping destination for unique gifts for your loved ones (and yourself!). Best of all, AHS members and volunteers receive a 10% discount on every purchase and, as a non-profit, we do not charge sales tax on your purchases.

We look forward to seeing you at the Arizona Mercantile soon!

Store hours are Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m.–3 p.m., and Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.–4 p.m. Please call (520) 617-1167 for more information.





The Downtown Museum

In 2001, AHS, with the generous support of Wells Fargo Bank, opened the Downtown Museum.



Drawing on the rich artifact and photograph collections of the Arizona History Museum, the exhibits tell the fascinating story of downtown Tucson. Exhibit topics include trade and commerce, local

government, public transportation, education, and recreation and culture.

The exhibits depict early Tucson businesses and municipal services, including hotels, drugstores, barbershops, fire and police departments, public transportation, entertainment, and recreation. A special gallery space contains an exhibit highlighting the 1934 capture of the infamous John Dillinger and his gang of bank robbers in Tucson. Every January, the museum collaborates with the Tucson Downtown Partnership, Hotel Congress, and Tucson Police



Department to host the Dillinger Days festival. This event draws hundreds of visitors to the museum to see a one-day exhibit of the confiscated firearms and reenactment of the gang's capture. The museum is operated by Curatorial Aide Jim Bleess, whom you will find to be an energetic and informative guide to your visit.

The Downtown Museum is located at 140 North Stone Avenue in the Wells Fargo Bank building, across the street from the Main Library. Parking is available in the Wells Fargo parking garage on Alameda Street.

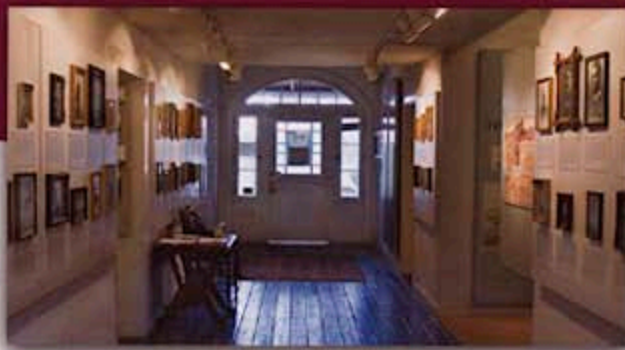
Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Admission is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for seniors, and \$2.00 for ages 12–18. There is no charge for AHS members and children 11 and under. For more information, please call (520) 770-1473.

AHS would like to thank Wells Fargo Bank for its continued support. By providing building space, utilities, and repairs, Wells Fargo makes this museum very cost effective for the Arizona Historical Society.



The Fort Lowell Museum

Established in 1963 as a branch museum of the Arizona Historical Society, the Fort Lowell Museum, located in Fort Lowell Park at 2900 North Craycroft Road, is a reconstruction of the Commanding Officer's quarters of Old Fort Lowell, a military post that provided protection to settlers and conducted scouting and offensive operations against the Apache from 1873 through the 1880s. The fort was also an important supply depot and supported field operations in the region until it was deactivated in 1891. Visitors to the museum will find a wide range of interpretive exhibits that include early Camp Lowell in downtown Tucson, garrison life, communications, the Apache wars, and archaeology.



Museum preservation projects include a reconstructed flagstaff, interpretive plaques around the parade ground, and adobe-stabilization efforts on the walls of the fort's remaining structures. In the realm of public art, the "Chief Trumpeter," a bronze sculpture of a towering horse and rider by Tucsonan Dan Bates, stands in Fort Lowell Park.

The Fort Lowell Museum is open Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. General admission is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for seniors, and \$2.00 for ages 12-18. Admission is free for AHS members and ages 11 and younger. For more information, please call (520) 885-3832.

Arizona Pathfinders Lead the Way

By Betty Bear

Who are the Arizona Pathfinders? They're an active and enthusiastic volunteer group of the Arizona Historical Society-Southern Division's Arizona History Museum in Tucson. The group currently has 298 members.

Pathfinder volunteers meet, work alongside, and socialize with friendly people who share an interest in Arizona history. They help to raise money to support the needs of the Arizona History Museum. Pathfinders provide volunteer services for the museum's front desk, gift shop, library and archives, the courtyard gardens and landscaping, collections and artifact preservation, and work with the Docents

in supporting educational services. They also assist with and host the openings of new exhibits, receptions, and other social functions at the museum.

Pathfinder members and their guests meet for "brown bag" or "pot luck" suppers in October, December, January, and March in the museum auditorium, followed by a special presentation that focuses on the Southwest.

Enjoyable and educational trips to Southwestern historical sites and places of interest are planned for November (1 day), February (1 day), and April (multiple days). In May, there is a brown bag picnic with a special presentation or band concert.

All Pathfinder members receive a newsletter with a schedule of upcoming brown bags, potlucks, picnics, and other activities and trips.

To learn how you can become an Arizona Pathfinder and for information on upcoming activities, contact Mary Snow (520) 878-9365 or Betty Bear (520) 888-3257.



Arizona Historical Society Membership Benefits

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP • \$50

- Unlimited individual admission to all Arizona Historical Society museums in Flagstaff, Tempe, Tucson, and Yuma
- Subscription to *The Journal of Arizona History*, our award-winning quarterly publication
- 10% discount on Arizona Historical Society lectures, classes, and publications
- Invitations to exhibit openings and special events
- 10% discount on Arizona Historical Society museum gift shop purchases
- Benefits at select museums across the USA through the *Time Travelers* program.
- Invitation to the Arizona Historical Society Annual Meeting
- Member voting privileges

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP • \$65

- All Individual membership-level benefits
- Free admission to all Arizona Historical Society museums for a second adult household member and all household children 18 years of age and younger
- 10% discount on Arizona Historical Society lectures, classes, publications, and museum gift shop purchases for a second adult household member and all household children 18 years of age and younger
- 10% discount on children's summer programs

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP • \$100

- All Household membership-level benefits
- Two single-use Arizona Historical Society museum guest passes

PATRON MEMBERSHIP • \$250

- All Household membership-level benefits
- Invitation to a behind-the-scenes museum tour
- Four single-use Arizona Historical Society museum guest passes

SPONSOR MEMBERSHIP • \$500

- All Household membership-level benefits
- Invitation to a personal tour of collections with curator
- 10% discount on facility rentals
- Six single-use Arizona Historical Society museum guest passes
- Recognition in *The Journal of Arizona History*

DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE • \$1,000

- All Household membership-level benefits
- Invitation to a personal tour of collections with curator
- Invitation to a behind-the-scenes museum tour
- 10% discount on facility rentals
- Eight single-use Arizona Historical Society museum guest passes
- Recognition in *The Journal of Arizona History*

Please address membership inquiries to:

Arizona Historical Society Statewide Membership Services

949 E. Second St., Tucson, AZ 85719-4898 • (520) 617-1165

Or e-mail us at: membership@azhs.gov • www.ArizonaHistoricalSociety.org

Arizona History Begins with YOU!

JOIN THE ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY TODAY!

Who Are We?

We are Arizona's oldest cultural organization, founded on November 7, 1864 by the Territorial Legislature and charged with preserving Arizona's history for the present and future.

Today, your membership support allows us to collect and preserve the precious artifacts of Arizona's colorful past to create imaginative exhibits and entertaining public programs.

What's in It for You?

As a \$50 Individual member, you receive:

- Unlimited individual admission to all AHS Museums in Flagstaff, Tempe, Tucson, and Yuma
- Subscription to *The Journal of Arizona History*, our award-winning quarterly publication
- 10% discount on AHS lectures, classes and publications
- Invitations to exhibit openings and special events
- 10% discount on AHS museum gift shop purchases
- Benefits at select museums across the USA through the *Time Travelers* program
- Invitation to AHS Annual Meeting
- Member voting privileges

Memberships at higher levels receive additional benefits. See facing page for a complete list of our membership packages.

This membership application may also be used to gift or renew a membership.

Any portion of your AHS membership fee above \$50.00 is 100% tax deductible.

Yes! I want to become a member of the Arizona Historical Society

\$50 Individual \$65 Household \$100 Sustaining \$250 Patron \$500 Sponsor \$1,000 Director's Circle

Name: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

We sometimes send our members text only e-mails about AHS events and news.

Please make checks payable to the **Arizona Historical Society**.

Credit Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ Verification Code _____

Signature _____

Your membership supports your regional museum unless you designate otherwise.

I Want to Give a Gift Membership

Donor: Please fill out your name and address above so we can thank you.

Gift Recipient: Mr. Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

Mail to: **Arizona Historical Society Statewide Membership Services**

949 E. Second St., Tucson, AZ 85719-4898 • (520) 617-1165