



ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter, August 18, 2006

Mark your calendars now.

The fall months are busy with activities involving the Oro Valley Historical Society.

Upcoming Programs:

September 21st 6:30 PM. General Membership Program. Visitors Welcome.

Oro Valley Library Conference Room.

Architect Richard Fe Tom will discuss the restoration of historic buildings. This topic is particularly timely because an agreement regarding public acquisition of the historic Steam Pump Ranch is nearing completion.

November 16th 6:30 PM. General Membership Program. Visitors Welcome.

Oro Valley Library Conference Room.

This program is being co-sponsored by the Center for Desert Archaeology and will include a talk by Henry Wallace, Field Director for Desert Archaeology, Inc. speaking on *"New Insights on Honey Bee: Results of Current Excavations"*.

Additional Important Dates:

October 28th-29th . Oro Valley Arts in the Park. The Historical Society will have a booth. Do you want to volunteer? Call Dick Eggerding at 575-0462.

The Center for Desert Archaeology is sponsoring a Fall Lecture Series, through a grant from the Arizona Humanities Council, about the excavations at Honey Bee Village in Oro Valley. The first one is October 25th at 6:30 PM at the Oro Valley Library *"The Hohokam of Honey Bee Village: Previous Research and Preservation Activities"*. The second is included with the Historical Society meeting on November 16th. The third will be held December 6th at the Oro Valley Library at 6:30 PM and is entitled *"Visualizing Hohokam Life: 3-D Computerized Models of Honey Bee Village"* by Douglas Gann.

The Center's grant includes a special public discussion, co-sponsored by the Society at our January 18, 2007 meeting: *"Interpreting the Honey Bee Village Preserve: A Community Panel Discussion"*. It will provide an opportunity for the community to share ideas for interpreting and maintaining the Preserve into the future.

Visit the Honey Bee Village Archaeological Site Excavations -- there's still time. Tours of the archaeological site are being conducted by Desert Archaeology, Inc. each Wednesday and Friday at 7:30 AM until September 8th.

Other News of Note:

The Town of Oro Valley is sponsoring a video of the archaeological excavations at Honey Bee Village. Initial filming was done during the week of August 13th. The video will be an excellent way to introduce archaeology in our community schools.

The Historical Society has purchased DVDs of "Oro Valley: An Oral History" produced by Epic Productions and the Town of Oro Valley. It presents a history of the Town by Jim Kriegh, Town Founder, and an interview with Henry Zipf whose great grandfather, George Pusch, established the Steam Pump Ranch in 1874. The DVDs have been distributed to area elementary, middle, and high schools and will hopefully be used in history and government classes.

The Town of Oro Valley and the Historical Society are entering into a Memorandum of Understanding to provide a framework for future relationships and contracts relating to the collection, preservation and dissemination of Town historical information. The draft MOU is being reviewed and should be brought before the Town Council in early September.

As part of the Oral History Project, Preserving People's Memories, the Historical Society is purchasing professional digital recording equipment, including equipment to transcribe interviews. Interviews of individuals with stories about past times in the Oro Valley area will begin soon. The funding for this equipment comes from a generous contribution by former Town Council Member Conny Culver. If you know anyone with memories to share, or have some yourself, please contact Jim Kriegh (297-4161).

The Historical Society will also be purchasing equipment for programs including a projector and sound system. To date we have been relying on the generosity of the Library and Town in loaning their equipment.

Committees have been organizing during the summer and are ready to start specific programs and projects. Stay tuned for more and become involved!

Web site: ovhistory.org