



Oro Valley Historical Society

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

www.ovhistory.org

Support OVHS ... Buy a Raffle Ticket!

Tickets for the "Millions for Tucson" raffle will be available at the OVHS table at Steam Pump Ranch on September 9, October 14 and November 11. Tickets are \$ 25 each, or 5 for \$100. You could win the first prize of a Ford Explorer Platinum, 2nd prize of two air tickets to anywhere in the world, and 3rd prize of \$ 5000 cash. One hundred per cent of the ticket cost goes to OVHS! Help support the Society-come and buy tickets. Thanks to the Jim Click Automotive Team for their donations of prizes!

Volunteers Are Needed!!

Second Saturdays at Steam Pump Ranch begin again on September 9. We need volunteers to provide information about the Society to visitors, and conduct tours. Contact jojo@ovhistory.org if you can help.

Society News

Several OVHS leaders participated in the OV Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting at Steam Pump Ranch on Monday, March 12, 2018. The booth to provide information and the participants made many good contacts ...

They are \$20 for individuals, \$ 30 for a family, and \$ 100 for corporate memberships. Contact OVHS at P.O. Box 69754, Oro Valley, AZ 85737, or go on the www.ovhistory.org for more information. We appreciate your support! Free memberships are only available to those individuals who have not joined the first time after January 1, 2017... Many volunteers helped host part of the OVHS Conference when they visited Steam Pump Ranch in June. Many thanks to all of the participants!

Save This Date - March 12, 2018

Mark your calendar for a major OVHS event at the Zellweger mansion on Monday, March 12, 2018. The building was once owned by John Zellweger, one of the early partners in Steam Pump Ranch. The structure has been beautifully restored and tours will be offered. Refreshments will include wine and hors d'oeuvres, short talks on the history of Pusch and Zellweger will be offered, along with a silent auction. Buses (at a small added cost) will be provided to transport guests from Oro Valley to the downtown site. Descendants of both George Pusch and John Zellweger will be present. Tickets will be on sale December 1st.

From the Arizona Citizen, July 5, 1879: "Messrs. Pusch and Zellweger of Tucson, have just had a large redwood tank built for their cattle ranch north of Town. These two men are growing wealthy steadily and may now be considered among the 'solid ones.'"

The Restoration of an Antique Doll named "Tootsie"

When the Society was formed in 2004, Pusch descendant Henry Zipf donated an old trunk with family memorabilia. Among the many treasures in the trunk were 15 pieces of a German made doll. In the fall of 2016, the Collections Committee examined and researched the historic doll. It seemed that we had an historically significant artifact and work should be done to restore this vintage doll to her former beauty.

One lady agreed to re-string the doll and replace the sleeping eyes. She also provided a beautiful, auburn wig for a doll now known as "Tootsie." This was the nickname of George and Mathilda Pusch's daughter, Gertrude Pusch Zipf, presumably her original owner.

The next step was to clothe this young lady. Funds were solicited for her costume. An OVHS member referred us to an internationally acclaimed doll costume designer in Tucson by the name of Ruth Fahden. Her work has

Upcoming Events

September 9

Second Saturday at Steam Pump Ranch

September 24

**Board Meeting at OV Library
3:00 pm**

October 18

John Lacy, speaker, at OV Library, 2:00 pm.



Our Volunteers at the State Historic Preservation Conference in June

wards all over the world. Part of Gertrude's satin wedding dress was included in the costume. In August, the project was completed and returned to the Society.

Tootsie will be highlighted at the Pusch House at Steam Pump Ranch on the second Saturday, October 14th, 9:00 am to noon. Costume designer Ruth Fahden will be present to answer questions. We hope you can stop by and see Tootsie and Ruth!



Ruth Fahden and Tootsie

Planned Giving

Non-profit organizations receive most of their funds from dues and donations. Another way to help groups like the Oro Valley Historical Society is through planned giving. Members, friends and those just concerned about preserving our local heritage can make a future donation by including the Oro Valley Historical Society in their will or trust. Consider leaving a legacy donation to the Society with a planned gift.

Speaker's Program

The Society's program of speakers at the Oro Valley library will offer a variety of interesting topics in 2017-2018. Each presentation is at 2:00 pm and is free of charge. The talks are open to the general public. Please bring your friends!

- Wednesday, October 18 – John Lacy will discuss “Whose Land Is it, Anyway?” This will focus on the land laws that shaped property ownership in southern Arizona.
- Wednesday, December 6 – Karen Board Moran will present a re-enactment of the life of “Clara Fish Roberts, Suffragette.”
- Friday, February 9 – Jim Williams will discuss “Early Settlers of Catalina State Park.”
- Wednesday, April 11 – Jennifer Jenkins of the University of Arizona will offer a talk on “Celluloid Pueblo: Western Ways Films.” This company produced newsreels about the Southwest in the 1930s and 1940s.

The Society also offers speakers for community groups. Topics include:

- Early Settlers in Catalina State Park

- Tootsie: The Restoration of a Vintage Doll
- Wash Day in the Desert in 1900
- Barry Goldwater
- Oro Valley, a Brief Historical Overview
- A Drive from Tucson to Oro Valley in 1940
- The Oro Valley Historical Society: Keeping History Alive

Contact Jim Williams at jaswilliams128@msn.com if your club, organization or school would like to arrange for a speaker. There is no charge. We already have presentations scheduled for Copperhealth, the Saddlebrook Hiking Club, Western National Parks Association and the Mountain View Retirement Community.