



ORO VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter of the Oro Valley Historical Society

March/April 2010

Web: www.ovhistory.org

Steam Pump Ranch Tour and A Very Brief Annual Meeting March 19th (Friday) 1:30 PM



Members please come for a fun and informative afternoon
Bring along a friend...

Snacks and water will be provided
Wear comfortable shoes for the Walking Tour
Enter at the South Gate (gate will be open)

Coming North on Oracle you will need to make a U-turn at Steam Pump Village
then pass the first gate and enter at the second gate.
(10901 N. Oracle Road - just north of Home Depot shopping area)

Proceed on the paved drive straight ahead and to the right about 200 feet

Restroom facility available.

President's Message - Spring...



It's almost spring and, with the recent rains, it looks like the next several weeks will provide a multitude of colorful outdoor venues for viewing wildflowers and watching water flow in the Canada del Oro and other drainages. This spring is also special because the Oro Valley Historical Society is holding its annual meeting at Steam Pump Ranch rather than in a meeting room. This

will give all members and guests an opportunity to visit the Ranch. If you haven't yet been there this will be a chance to see the "historic heart" of Oro Valley. If you have visited previously I know you will see something new or different on the property. We'll also have our posters for a historic tour on display.

The annual March meeting is when members select a Board of Directors for the following year. Please complete your ballot, add any suggestions you have for the Society in general, and mail it or bring it along to Steam Pump Ranch. March 19th at 1:30 PM -- I hope to see you there.

Pat Spoerl

Board of Directors Election Ballots - If you are a current (2010) OVHS Member, a ballot is enclosed for you to be able to vote for up to three Board Members. One Board Member has moved to California (Georgia) and two members whose terms are expiring have decided not to run again. We have three new candidates running for three open positions. 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 Saturday March 20th or brought to the Friday March 19th meeting at the Steam Pump Ranch. The enclosed ballot can be folded in half, taped on the edges near the bottom and mailed to us. Please add a first class postage stamp.

Display Cases in the Oro Valley Library - If you have not discovered the two Oro Valley Historical Society display cases in the library, you are missing some interesting history. Currently the display has a lot of information about Native American Crops and our Heritage Garden at the Steam Pump Ranch. We try to change the display every month with new items. The cases are located to your left as you enter the Children's book area. We plan to have school children contribute display items in the future to showcase some of their history related projects for the greater Oro Valley area. If you would like to participate or have other ideas, please contact us.

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: need help

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

Web: www.ovhistory.org

Native American Heritage Garden



Spring planting at the garden is ready to begin: the soil is being turned, compost and sulphur is being added and a flint corn is ready to be planted. Gourds, tomatillos and beans will go in mid March. Stay tuned for updates and if you would like to help, please contact us.

We are also starting to collect agave *murpheyi* plants -- the species cultivated by prehistoric Hohokam and more recently Apaches. We just planted 50 agaves near the garden to be used at a later date when the agave field is added.

Archival and Preservation of Documents

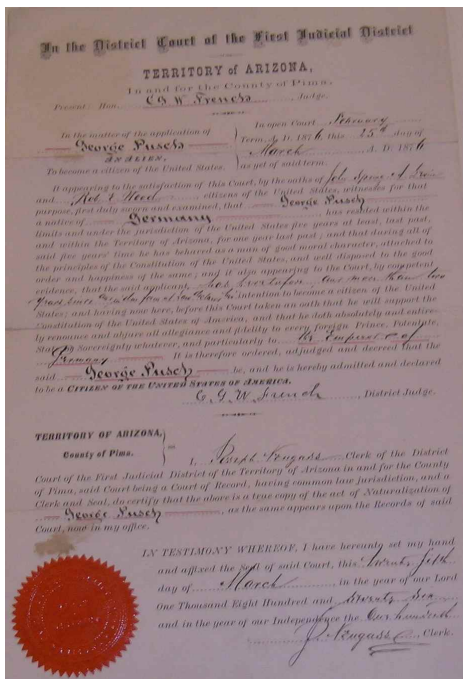
Monique Shephard (left) and Roxy Johnson have been busy every Tuesday morning working at the OV Library, scanning and digitizing the documents from the Pusch Ranch collection that Henry Zipf has given the OVHS. This process stores images of the documents as well as recording them in our *PastPerfect* software. The work is going slowly, but with definite progress as we have finished the first book of documents with several more to go.

If anyone is interested in helping Monique on Thursday mornings, please call Roxy Johnson (797-9597) or Pat Spoerl (297-7347) to see how you can help. When we work during non open hours for the library, we have access through the employee's entrance.

Monique has been a very valuable asset to this project. She is working on her master's degree in Library Science and is volunteering at the library during her non-school time.



Roxy (right) scanning documents and Monique entering PastPerfect archival reference numbers



George Pusck, Native of Germany, USA
Citizenship Certificate - March 25, 1876



George Pusck, one of five Delegates to the Constitutional
Convention, Territory of Arizona, Pima County, 1910



PZ Feldman Ranch House near Mammoth, Arizona
Memoirs by Henry Zipf and more photos in May/June Newsletter

OVHS

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 material that needs mailed such as renewal envelopes, election ballots or a special event notice.



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 HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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

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