

THE LINK

Graham County Historical Society Newsletter: "Linking the Past with the Present" Summer, 2009

HAL HERBERT DONATES COLLECTION

Hal Herbert, the historian of the Graham County Historical Society, has donated a collection of his books and other historic memorabilia to the Museum. The collection contains many books on the history of Arizona and Graham County along with early-day maps of Safford and the Gila Valley. Included in the collection past copies of the *Journal of Arizona History* covering several years.

Other items included in the collection are a stereo-viewer and many old slides that show how the "old-timers" looked at pictures, along with a micro-fiche reader.

The public is invited to come by and see this collection and enjoy its presence in the museum.

MODERN WOODMEN PLANT GRASS

The Modern Woodmen of America have donated some trees and planted grass at the Museum on Highway 70 in Thatcher to beautify the existing landscape. Thanks to all who helped with this beautification project. It is greatly appreciated.

The Modern Woodmen also help fund the Gila River Roundup and Heritage Days each year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please be aware that the GCHS and Museum have scheduled the following events for your enjoyment, education, and entertainment. These will be held at the Museum on Highway 70 in Thatcher.

1. July 2, 7:00 p.m.: A slide presentation by Hal Herbert, the Museum Historian, about the WWII European Memorials which he recently visited.

2. July 17, 7:00 p.m.: A presentation by Herb Spencer, the director of the San Carlos Apache Cultural Center in Peridot, on the history, culture, and foods of the Apache.

3, September 3, 7:00 p.m.: Bonnie Briscoe will present a slide presentation of "Recognizing Different Types of Old Photographs". Invite you friends and come enjoy

the evening learning how to identify and enjoy your old photos.

SUMMER CLOSURE

The GCHS Museum will be closed from Monday, August 10 through Saturday, August 22, and will re-open on Monday, August 24.

The Museum will continue to be opened on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., except for holidays.

CUB SCOUT DAY CAMP

On Wednesday, June 17, Cub Scouts and their leaders from the Coronado District convened in Thatcher to hold their annual Day Camp. As part of their activities, 96 boys and their leaders visited the Museum and enjoyed seeing the Murdock Room, the Main Street Rooms, and the Music Room. The Cub Scouts were mainly interested in the Indian relics and hearing stories relating to the "old West"!

GCHS BOARD MEETING

The Summer meeting of the Graham County Historical Society Board was held on Friday, June 26, after a barbeque and socializing by board members, friends, and docents of the Museum. The By-Laws of the Society were finalized and approved as well as plans for upcoming activities.

ROOF GETS NEW COAT OF PAINT

Several friends and docents of the Museum met on Thursday, June 18 and cleaned the debris off the roof in anticipation of putting a new coat of roof paint on the building. Ross Ferrin was the consultant for the project and was assisted by Randy Mullenau, Glen Woods, and Mel Jones, the Museum Director. Several students from EAC also assisted them in finishing the project on Saturday, June 27 in anticipation of the Summer monsoon season.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE GCHS

Zilpha Gardner, the Society Treasurer, reports that memberships for the 2009i year are still coming in and encourages all former members to enroll before the summer and fall activities begin. You may contact Zilpha at 428-7422 or send your membership

fees to: Graham County Historical Society, P. O. Box 270, Thatcher, AZ 85552

GILA RIVER HERITAGE ROUNDUP

The 2010 Annual Gila River Heritage Roundup sponsored by the Graham County Historical Society has plans under way for the Annual Heritage program to be held next January. Ralph Smith and Linda Schell-Curtis and their committee are working hard to make this event another great success in honoring pioneers of the Gila Valley who have contributed to the farming/ranching life style.

If you have anyone you would like to nominate for the Heritage Award, please give your suggestions to Linda at (928) 348-9371 or email her at: lscfromaz@yahoo.com

FALL TREK AND SYMPOSIUM

Under the direction of Brent Quinn, the Historical Society Vice-President, plans are under way for the Annual Fall Trek to be announced later as to date and location.

Likewise, the Fall Symposium is being planned with several excellent presentations on the history and lives of early day pioneers who settled this area. Watch for the date to be announced shortly.

CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF SCOUTING

Under the direction of Leon Peterson (428-1735) and Mike Crockett (485-9626), the local scout organization is collecting history and photos to be published early next year during the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. If you have any history or photos that you would like to share with the committee, it will be greatly appreciated.

This history will include the Scouting activities of the old 3-G Council which included Graham, Greenlee, and Gila Counties along with Silver City, New Mexico.