

Prescott Valley Historical Society

7501 E Civic Cr., Prescott Valley, AZ 86314

Telephone 928-759-5524

prescottvalleyhistoricalsociety@yahoo.com

Web Site: pvazhistoricalsociety.org

Newsletter, April, 2011

Spring Greetings,

Thanks to Larry Renken for speaking at our March meeting. He shared some little known info about the development of Prescott Valley, as well as some humorous incidents of the early days.

We **will not** be having our usual April general meeting due to conflicts in dates. The **Family Art Fair** at the Civic Center is scheduled for our usual meeting time, April 16th, and since we always participate in this event your Board opted to forego the meeting. We hope you all will come out to the Art Fair and see what we are doing this year. If you would like to help “man” our table, please call the office and leave your name. Remember—Saturday, April 16th, from 10 AM to 1 PM at the Civic Center. Come and join the fun.

On Tuesday, April 12, we will have a field trip to **the Skull Valley Museum** where we will have a guided tour. We plan to carpool and meet at the Civic Center parking lot at 10 AM for an 11AM tour. Please call the office if you would like to go.

On Arbor Day, April 29th at Mountain Valley Park there will be a **celebration of tree planting** in conjunction with the upcoming centennial. Your Historical Society has had a part in this celebration as we were asked to research an important event for each year of our State’s history from 1912 to the present. It was quite a challenge! There will be a sign listing an important event on each of 100 trees denoting a year in our state’s history. The town is planning this so look for more information in your paper, but hopefully we will have a good representation from our Society at this celebration.

We have rummage! But we can always use more. Call Barb at 772-8582 if you have things to contribute. **Our sale will be Saturday, May 14** from 8 to 2 at the home of Pauline and Al Rice on Robert Rd and Loos. We can always use help the day of the sale. Please call Barb if you can spare some time, but definitely come and shop!

By popular demand we will be having our May 21st meeting at Fain Park and it will be a **hot dog roast**, compliments of your Society. We hope to offer a tour of the Fitzmaurice Ruin, and possibly of the Chapel. Jerry Munderloh has offered to take a group over the footbridge to the mining exhibit, so there will be something for everyone, including food! This will be the final meeting until September, so mark your calendars now and plan to be there...10:30 AM on Saturday, May 21st.

Board member, Kay Demski has agreed to chair **the Oral History project** for the Society. We are still planning a workshop, probably in June. Call Kay at 775-4989 if you are interested and you have not already signed up. We’ll keep you informed as to time and place.

Thanks to Barbara Sullivan at **Batteries Plus**, 7129 E 1st Street for giving us a most appreciated discount on a new battery for our PA system. They will welcome your business.

If you have not already seen **our new website** you are in for a treat. A very talented member has developed this for us and we are grateful. The address is pvazhistoricalsociety.org. The website will be updated as new events are scheduled so keep watching!

Short bio for April

Paulino Weaver has been credited with being the first citizen of Prescott, even before the town was founded. Weaver was born in Tennessee in 1800 to an English father and a Cherokee mother. Early on he joined the Hudson Bay Company as a trapper and hunter, and this was to be his lifestyle. He lived and traveled throughout the west, a nomadic existence, but did settle for a time in California. He was known as a peacekeeper among the Indians and spoke many Indian languages. In the 1850s and 60s he guided parties that were successful in finding gold, and it is believed that it was Weaver who first told Joseph Walker of the gold in our area. He was a big man with long black hair and a beard so wild that it was said when he shook his head anything including living things might fly from the beard. After a life as a true mountain man, he died in Camp Verde in 1867. He was buried there but removed to the Presidio in San Francisco when the fort was decommissioned. Years later Sharlot Hall was instrumental in having his body brought back to Prescott and he now lies beneath a granite boulder at Sharlot Hall Museum.

Thanks to our corporate members

Country Bank on Glassford Hill Rd.

Days Inn on Highway 69

Keller Williams Realty

Kathy Renken (713-6292) and Charlie Musarra (710-2189)

Dr. Julie Schifferli, Chiropractor, 775-0522

**See you at the April 16th Art Fair and the April 29th Arbor Day
celebration at Mountain Valley Park**