

TIME LINES



MLK Brunch Highlights History

History was well represented at Tempe's 11th Annual MLK Diversity Awards Brunch held at the Buttes Resort on January 19, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The **Arizona Buffalo Soldiers Association** kicked off the program by presenting the colors, accompanied by a narrative about the contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers to the history of the West. The association was established to study and honor African Americans who served in the 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments and the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments between 1866 and 1940. Following the opening remarks of **Mayor Hugh Hallman**, the keynote speaker, **Lt. Col. Robert Ashby,** spoke of the segregation and discrimination faced by the **Tuskegee Airmen** as they strove to serve their country in the military during World War II.

The **Muslim Advisory Committee**, which was formed to help the Tempe Historical Museum broaden its scope to include the Muslim community in Tempe, was one of the Diversity Award recipients honored at the brunch. Working with the museum staff they planned and produced the exhibit, *Jewel in the Desert: Getting Acquainted with Our Muslim Neighbors*. In addition, the committee assisted the museum and the City of Tempe Diversity Department in planning the opening reception which was attended by over 200 guests. They also produced a community festival in conjunction with the exhibit opening.

Another Diversity Award recipient has ties to Tempe history. **Sundaram Engineering, Inc.** was established in the Valley in September 1983. They are a consulting engineering firm providing services in structural engineering and related civil engineering disciplines. The Principal of the firm, **Shan Sundaram**, is from India and first came to the United States in 1963 for graduate studies. Sundaram Engineering has been doing business with the City of Tempe for 15 years, most recently working on the structural assessment of the historic D.J. Frankenberg House in preparation for its rehabilitation. The house, which was built in 1915, is on the City of Tempe historic register and the National Register of Historic Places.



Members of the Muslim Advisory Committee pose with Mayor Hugh Hallman and members of the Tempe City Council. Left to right: Mayor Hallman, Esther Hasan, Maryam Shabazz, Aliya Ma Lynn, Wasan Awad, Councilmember Corey Woods, Karen Hadley, Zarinah Nadir, Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian, Nazli Currim, Aneesah Nadir, Councilmember Ben Arredondo and Muna Ali.

Museum Renovation Update

The latest timeline for the renovation is:

- April 2009 Construction begins.
- August 2009 Exhibit installation begins.

For online information visit: www.tempe.gov/museum/CIPinfo.htm

Traveling Exhibits

Jewel in the Desert: Getting Acquainted with Our Muslim Neighbors



A collaboration between the museum, Arizona State University, the City of Tempe Diversity Office and the Tempe Muslim community, this exhibit chronicles the history, experiences and contributions of Arizona Muslims. The exhibit is open through April 3 in the City Hall Gallery, 31 E. Fifth Street.

Useful or Collectible: from Toilets to Teacups



This is an exhibition of historic and contemporary ceramics, both utilitarian and collectible. Among the objects on display are commemorative plates, bottles, creamers, crocks, steamers, bowls, platters, pitchers, shaving mugs, chamber pots, commodes, flower pots, candle holders, medicine containers, jewelry boxes, clocks, toys, Disney collectibles and more. The exhibit is open through May 15 in the **Tempe Public Library** second floor gallery.

Museum on Mill

Thanks to **DMB Associates**, the Tempe Historical Museum has a storefront exhibit space at 680 S. Mill Avenue which features the museum's renovation, including consultant renderings of both the new exterior and the new exhibit hall. Also at this site are some historic photographs of downtown Tempe buildings. Try being a *Photo Detective* and determine which businesses now occupy the buildings shown in the photos.



Questers Help Preserve the Petersen House

The **Hayden's Ferry Questers** continue to support the preservation and interpretation of the Petersen House Museum through their fundraising efforts. Built in 1892, the Petersen House is a Queen Anne Victorian home that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Questers are an antique study group that raises funds for historic preservation.

This past year, the Questers raised \$4,756 to refurbish the northwest bedroom and wood floors of the house. The northwest bedroom is important to the Territorial Days Program, a curriculum-based program for fourth grade students, because it provides a context for the Tempe Normal School (the teacher's school that later became Arizona State University). **Edwin Decker**, **Susanna Petersen's** nephew, stayed in the room while he was attending the Normal School.

A long-time Tempe expert in old plaster techniques, **Charles Lee**, donated his craftsman's services to re-plaster the entire frieze and portions of the ceiling. The woodwork, picture railing, frieze and ceiling of the room were painted by **Arizona Painting**, **Wallcovering & Tile**. They also hung Victorian hand-printed wallpaper. The Questers also provided funds to purchase the textbooks used in Normal School classes taken by Edwin Decker, reproduction "honey bee" pattern lace curtains, desk accessories and bed linens for the room.

Mission Hardwood Floors restored the original maple wood floors nearly four years ago with funds provided by an international Questers grant. During the ensuing period, the finish began to wear from continual visitor traffic, endangering the original character of the wood floors. As a result, Mission Hardwood's master craftsmen applied a simple recoat to preserve the floors and protect them from deterioration. Mission Hardwood Floors donated \$500 in-kind toward this project, and the Questers grant paid for the balance.

This year, \$1,800 raised by Questers will be used for kitchen window treatments, accessories, and furnishings. Thank you, Hayden's Ferry Questers, for helping the museum to bring beauty and authenticity to the Petersen House Museum!



This is the bedroom that **Edwin Decker**, **Susanna Petersen's** nephew, stayed in at the Petersen House while he was attending the Tempe Normal School.

Museum Volunteers Honored With Presidential Service Awards

Museum volunteers are incredibly committed to the museum. This is evident by the number who reached the *Gold* level in the Presidential Service Award program last year. To reach this level, an individual must have an accumulation of at least 500 hours of volunteer service. The following museum volunteers were presented with a pin, certificate of achievement and a congratulatory letter at the City of Tempe's volunteer recognition event on March 19:

Linda Bordwell, Harry Boswell, Sharon Clunk, Louis Clunk, Betty Enz, Dick Enz, James Evans, Herbert Fibel, Beth Fisher, Russell Harris, Janice Jones, Judy Knoth, Amy Lettick, Penny McKinley, Robert McKinley, Peggy Maroney, Barbara Peters, Eleanor Pickett, Daniel Thompson, Joan Wall, Ruth Wineberg and Marlene Yragui.

The President's Volunteer Service Award program was created in 2003 as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. Motivation for the program's creation was **President George W. Bush's** 2002 challenge for all Americans to dedicate two years—or 4,000 hours—of service to their country over the course of their lifetime. For more information on the program, visit:

www.presidentialserviceawards.gov.

Many museum volunteers are well on their way to reaching the Lifetime Achievement goal. To date, the only museum volunteer to do so is **James Wright** who has served a total of 5,161 hours. Congratulations to all and keep up the good work!

Exhibit and Gift Shop Fixtures Recycled

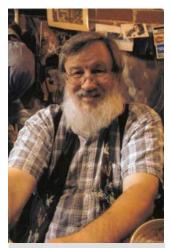
Many of the exhibit and gift shop fixtures that need to be removed from the museum in preparation for the upcoming renovations are still in good working order. In an effort to be as *green* as possible and to assist other institutions, the museum staff and the board of the **Tempe Historical Society** have made these items available to any institution that has a use for them.

We have been able to assist the following institutions:

- Hackett House: gift shop fixtures and display hardware
- Tempe Union High School District: 29 exhibit panels on the history of Tempe
- Pueblo Grande Museum: gift shop fixtures and shelf units
- Arizona Mining and Mineral Museum: glass display cases and gift shop fixtures
- Superstition Mountain Historical Society: exhibit text boxes, interpretive kiosks, exhibit case glass, terrain map base and gift shop counters, cabinets, fixtures and office cabinets
- Town of Guadalupe: sofa and two chairs from the museum lobby

Quarterly Calendar for April, May & June 480-350-5100

APRIL



Chris Smith as *William Mulholland*

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY LUNCH TALK Wednesday, April 8 11:30 am Globe Room Pyle Adult Recreation Center / Free Bring your lunch and hear

Chautauquan Chris Smith as William Mulholland. Although he ensured Los Angeles' growth, Mulholland's search for water caused numerous water wars with other communities, some resulting in deadly violence. Sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council. Coffee is provided.



3RD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ Thursday, April 16, 7 pm Connections Café Tempe Public Library / Free

Elizabeth Larson-Keagy presents, What is the World Growing To? Earth Beyond 6 Billion! Which parts of the world are growing at the fastest and slowest rates and what is the comparative standard of living in various world regions? Dr. Larson-Keagy teaches in the School of Geographical Sciences at Arizona State University. Sponsored by the Arizona Humanities Council.



CITY OF TEMPE NEIGHBORHOOD WORKSHOP Saturday, April 18, 7:30 am - 12 not

Saturday, April 18, 7:30 am - 12 noon Pyle Adult Recreation Center

The museum will have an exhibit on the history of the Eisendrath House at the event. Take a photo of yourself viewing the exhibit to be entered in our contest (see box at right). This year's workshop will focus on history and preservation. Advance registration is required to attend the workshop. For more information on the workshop, visit www.tempe.gov/neighborhoods/workshop.htm

PETERSEN HOUSE MUSEUM Tuesday, April 21 through Monday, April 27 Closed for cleaning and conservation.

MAY

No public programs, due to the museum's renovation.

MAY 25, Memorial Day. Museum offices closed.

JUNE

No public programs, due to the museum's renovation.

Would you like to receive *Time Lines* electronically, rather than in print?

It will save the Tempe Historical Museum money and you will reduce waste!

Here's how:

Go to www.tempe.gov/museum and click on the link that says, "Subscribe to Time Lines." You will receive a notification by email when the new edition is available.

If you want to make certain that your address is removed from the mailing list for the print version, send a short email with your mailing address to museum@tempe.gov to let us know that you've subscribed to the electronic edition.

We're Still Here!

The museum may be closed to the public, but we are still operating and are here to serve you. The popular Tempe History Detectives program for ages 6 to 12 is now online. All the activities are accessible via the museum's website at www.tempe.gov/museum. Some activities involve visiting historic sites around Tempe. So, kids, get online and get going on your own personal case files!

We will continue to keep you informed about the progress of the renovation project through our website. There are lots of historic resources for you to use online, as well. If you just can't wait to do more in-depth research in our archives or need to revisit your high school yearbook, you can make an appointment to meet with a curator by calling 480-350-5100.

Remember that you can scout out our traveling exhibits around town.



Look for the camera logo on page one and on this page to locate our traveling exhibits.

Bring your camera so that you can get a photo of your-self viewing the exhibit. Send it to museum@tempe.gov.

You will be entered into a drawing to receive a personal invitation to the preview reception for the renovated museum. Get a jump on seeing the amazing changes before the museum reopens to the public!

Passings

Tom Doll, a former museum volunteer, passed away on March 5. He volunteered from 2003 to 2006, working in the museum's collections area doing data entry and indexing and housing the three-dimensional collections. Most recently, he was a valued volunteer with the Tempe Police Department. **Ann Poulos**, the museum's Curator of Collections, recollects, "He was always a pleasure to have around, joyful always. He would talk to us about some of the things he was doing with his lectures on homeland security or tell us about his exotic vacations. We will certainly miss him."



Time Lines is a quarterly newsletter for museum supporters and volunteers.

Editors: Mary Anna Bastin Jerri Copenhaver **Amy Douglass**

Comments, suggestions? Call 480-350-5100.

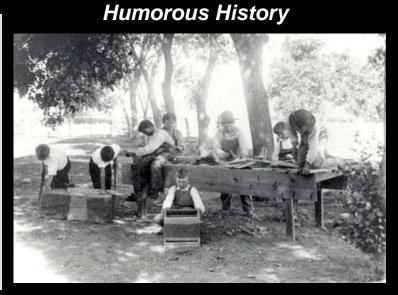
PETERSEN HOUSE HOURS Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Visit the museum's website at www.tempe.gov/museum

STEP INTO HISTORY

This recentlydiscovered photo gives a rare glimpse of the dedicated workers that constructed one of **Houdini's** famous escape chambers right here in Tempe. Unfortunately it was never used in his act as he had violated child labor laws in its construction.

(see below)



A. Meyers, donor.

School was located at Southern Avenue and Rural Road. Tempe Historical Museum Collections. April Fool's! This is actually a photo of a woodworking class at Rural School in 1915. Rural

The Tempe Historical Museum is a center where the community comes together to celebrate Tempe's past and ponder the future.