

TIME LINES



Researching the Past

Helping people with their Tempe history research is among the many services offered by the Tempe Historical Museum. Hundreds of people call, e-mail, visit, or write the museum every year with questions about Tempe. These include students working on papers, family historians tracking down ancestors, developers investigating the past use of a parcel of land, and city employees wanting to understand Tempe's past to make decisions today. The answers to many of these questions are in the museum's research library.

The research library focuses on Tempe history and supports museum functions like collections and education. The research library is a collection of articles, books, newspapers on microfilm, photographs, copies of documents and maps, magazines, indexes, and databases. Copies of documents and photographs come from our archives and other places. Library materials cannot leave the museum.

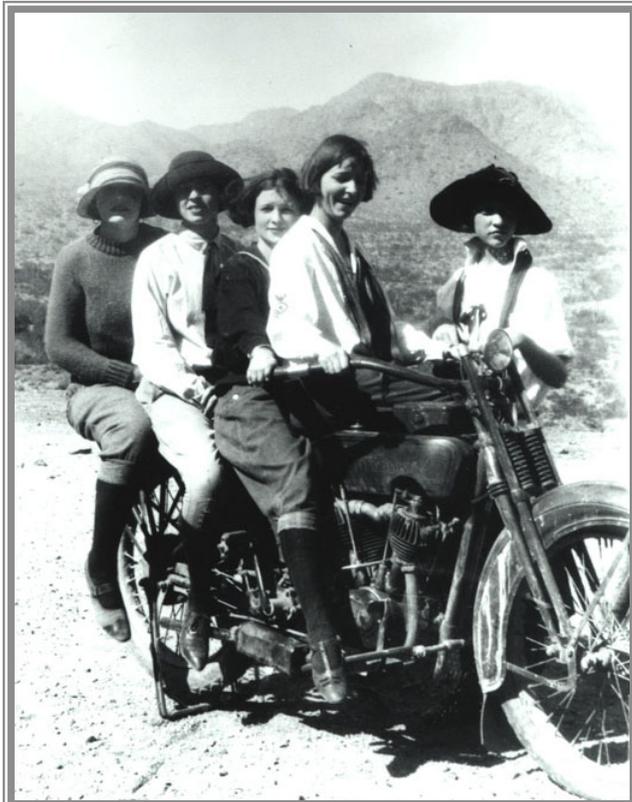
The research library houses the Tempe history files which contain articles and documents about particular subjects such as parks or schools. There are also resources about buildings and historical sites in Tempe. The Historic Property Survey files provide information on buildings that are 50 years or older.

The museum keeps information on Tempe people and families, too. The biographical files are organized by family name and include obituaries, articles, and similar items. Another source of information about people and history is the oral history collection. Many people have been interviewed over the years and the transcripts of original tapes

are available. In addition, many families have made albums about their family's history, and these albums contain copies of photographs and documents. These albums are housed in the research library as part of the Family History Albums Project.

The museum's website (www.tempe.gov/museum) also contains some of the information found in the research library including historical overviews, frequently-asked-questions, lists of past mayors and council members, population numbers, Tempe place names (like schools and streets), buildings, and oral history transcripts. In addition, researchers can learn more about the Tempe history and biographical files and view selections from the museum's photograph collection online.

The research library and its resources are available by calling 480-350-5100 to make an appointment.



A popular photo from the museum's photograph collection shows Tempe High School students posed on a Harley Davidson motorcycle about 1926.

Continuing Exhibits

Picturing Mill Avenue

Our newest exhibit features historic views of downtown Tempe paired with contemporary views from the same perspective, re-photographed by guest photographer **Larry Mishler**. A walking tour brochure, which will guide you to the Mill Avenue locations that are featured in the exhibit, is available in the museum lobby. Funding for the walking tour brochure was provided by the Tempe Historical Society. Open through January 5, 2006.

Time & Again: The Photographs of Allen Dutton

Photographer **Allen Dutton** has juxtaposed turn-of-the-century archival photographs from throughout Arizona with present day photographs of the same locations. This exhibit is on loan from the Arizona State University Museum of Anthropology. Open through August 4.

Scrapbooks for History

Some people make family heritage albums or "scrapbooks" to share family history. These types of albums can also make an important contribution to Tempe history. This exhibit explores ways of collecting family history and introduces the museum's Family History Albums Project. See completed albums. Get ideas and suggestions for making your own album. Open through September 1.

New Advisory Board Members Welcomed



Jean Berry has resided in Tempe for 38 years. Originally from Ohio, Jean and her family moved to Arizona to be closer to family living in California. Currently retired, Jean formerly spent her time raising three sons and then worked in a law office for 18 years. This spring she has been volunteering at the Petersen House helping to present the statehood program to fourth graders. She found that she loves the Petersen

House and plans to do more there, including assisting with the Petersen House endowment fundraising raffle.

Jean has a college degree in history and finds the topic exciting. That bit of information was all it took for the volunteer coordinator to suggest that Jean apply for the Advisory Board. The rest, so to speak, is history!

An Arizona native, **Narcisa “Narcie” Espinoza** has lived in Tempe for almost 50 years. Narcie’s family lived in Mammoth, Arizona, a town so small that her father had to take her mother in a horse-drawn wagon to the hospital in Winkelman to deliver Narcie and her twin sister. She then moved to the Florence area before settling in Tempe. She chose Tempe because her twin lived here and her children could go to ASU. She also attended ASU as an adult and earned a Masters in Education and Counseling. Narcie worked in the Tempe Elementary School District for many years. Her interest in preservation, antiques and genealogy brought Narcie to the Advisory Board.



Relatively speaking, **Ray Devine** is a newcomer to Tempe at 14 years. Ray grew up in Las Vegas, but moved to Arizona because he felt there were more opportunities in the Phoenix area for his profession—software engineering. It was the Tempe community and a particular house that got the family to Tempe. Ray is married and has four teen-aged daughters.



Ray is very involved in the Tempe community serving as treasurer of Tempe Nuevo Kiwanis, and on several committees for the Tempe School District. Ray had a desire to work on a city board that could offer new opportunities for children. While on the Advisory Board, his goal is to work to bring the school system and the museum closer together.



Do you recognize the buildings in this photo or their location? Can you guess the year it was taken? (see page 3)

SRP and Museum Partnership

Under the auspices of a grant funded by Salt River Project (SRP), the museum is partnering with 11th grade Honors American History students from Corona del Sol High School to conduct research on the Great Depression era in Tempe. Ultimately, this information will be available to all Tempe high school American History students and the public.

The Corona students will review oral history interviews from the museum’s archives and other repositories. They will supplement this information by conducting oral history interviews with other individuals who lived in Tempe during the 1930s. In addition, the students will conduct research using primary documents such as 1930s census records, city directories, local newspapers, historic property records, maps, high school annuals and photographs dating to the 1930s. Students also will photograph the oral history narrators and document any objects the narrators may have relating to this time period.

The research materials generated by the students will be housed at the museum where they will be available to the public. In addition, as stipulated by the grant, a sample of the student’s research materials will be archived in the American Folklife Center of the National Archives. These materials will also be added to the Tempe Historical Museum’s Great Depression website for use by future American History students. Some of the information will be made available on the museum’s main website as well.

As the final part of the project, the students will design and install a temporary exhibit at the Tempe Historical Museum that chronicles their research project. The exhibit will then travel to several other locations around Tempe.

As a result of this project, these students will have had the valuable opportunity to:

- undertake a more complete study of the Great Depression
- learn how to conduct original research and oral history interviews
- add to the knowledge base of the Depression era
- become familiar with museum resources in their community
- understand the lifelong learning potential of museums.

APRIL

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY SPEAKERS' PROGRAM

Wednesday, April 13, 11:30 am
Museum classroom / Free
Dr. Loui Olivas, *The Changing U.S. Demography: Implications for Arizona and the City of Tempe.* Bring your lunch. Coffee provided.

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BBQ

Saturday, April 16, 5 pm
Plencner Plaza, outside the museum
 This western-themed evening will benefit the museum. There will be dinner, live music, cowboy poets, photos and raffle drawings. Tickets are available for \$30 per person. The deadline for reservations is April 10. Call 480-966-6366.



3RD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ

Thursday, April 21
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Museum / Free

Jay Cravath, *When the Spirits Come to Dance*
 Through live and recorded music, artifacts and stories, Dr. Cravath explores the traditions of Arizona's Native people. (Made possible through the support of the Arizona Humanities Council.)

TEMPE HISTORICAL SOCIETY GIFT SHOP SALE

Saturday, April 23, 9 am – 1 pm
Lower level of the Library

MAY

ANNUAL CENTRAL ARIZONA MUSEUM MONTH

In commemoration of International Museum Day on May 18, the Central Arizona Museum Association (CAMA) and Robinsons-May stores are partnering on this month-long promotion. Pick up a free *Culture Passport* at Robinsons-May stores. Receive 2 for 1 admission or a free memento at participating museums.

ANNUAL DOWNTOWN TEMPE "WALK THROUGH HISTORY" TOUR

Saturday, May 7
Free
 John Akers, Tempe Historical Museum Curator of History, will be one of several guides leading informative tours through Tempe's downtown district. For more information, contact the Downtown Tempe Community (DTC) at 480-921-2300.



3RD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ

Thursday, May 19
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Museum / Free

Larry Mishler, *Behind the Camera: Picturing Mill Avenue*
 The guest photographer for the museum's newest exhibit *Picturing Mill Avenue*, will share his experiences during his project of "re-photographing" Mill Avenue.

MONDAY, MAY 30
Memorial Day. Museum closed.

JUNE

VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION
Tuesday, June 7, 1:30 – 2:30 pm
Museum Board Room

Find out how you can become a volunteer and make a worthwhile contribution to your community while meeting interesting people and doing rewarding work.

WILD WEDNESDAYS
Wednesdays, June 15 to July 27
10 am – 4 pm

Museum / Free admission
 The museum's "wildly" popular family program returns. Beat the heat and enjoy special hands-on activities, games and prizes. Each Wednesday will focus on a unique theme relating to one of our exhibits.

- **June 15:** Home on the Range
- **June 22:** Time Travel: The 1940s
- **June 29:** Scrapbook It
- **July 6:** Come to the Street Fair
- **July 13:** Your Town
- **July 20:** Groovy 60s
- **July 27:** Desert Wildlife

Looking ahead. . .
MONDAY, JULY 4
Independence Day. Museum closed.

Page 2 photo answer: Sixth Street & Mill Avenue, looking northwest at Tempe National Bank, Lamont's Jewelry Store and Tempe Hardware and Vehicle Company, 1918.

Wild Wednesdays Return for the 8th Year

The museum is once again planning its popular summertime program, *Wild Wednesdays*. The program, which was first offered in 1998, has gained in popularity each year. Thousands of visitors have discovered that *Wild Wednesdays* are a unique way for families to have fun together indoors during the hot summer months.

These free, family-oriented programs run on Wednesdays during June and July—this year June 15 through July 27. No advance registration is required, and visitors are invited to "drop in" any time between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Each Wednesday features a different theme and a variety of activities including crafts, stories and games. Due to the popularity of "time travel" last year, this year visitors will be whisked away to Tempe during the 1940s and the 1960s. Other themes are related to the museum's current exhibits. A full listing of dates and programs can be found in the *Quarterly Calendar* on this page. Make plans now to come join the fun!

Teen Volunteers Needed for Wild Wednesdays

Wild Wednesdays also offer a great way for teens age 14 years and up to get involved in their community. Teen volunteers are trained to help present the programs to museum visitors. It's a great way to learn Tempe history, to practice public speaking and presentation skills, to work with children, and to build a record of community service for job and college admission applications.

The program will run from Friday, June 10, through Wednesday, July 27, with shifts on Wednesday mornings or afternoons. There will also be a weekly two-hour training session, day and time to be set by participants. For more information and to sign-up, contact the Volunteer Office at 480-350-5190.

Thank you to the Tempe Historical Society for their generous donation of \$1,455 to the museum's oral history program. The funds were generated by the *Larry Campbell Tree of Lights*. Each year has seen a growth in participation for the fundraiser, which was started in 2002 by **Larry Campbell**, a past Society president who passed away in 2003.



Step Into History

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

Editors:

Mary Anna Bastin
Jeri Copenhagen
Amy Douglass

Comments, suggestions?
Call 480-350-5100.

MUSEUM HOURS

Monday - Thursday and Saturday
10 am - 5 pm
Sunday 1 - 5 pm

MUSEUM GIFT SHOP HOURS

Monday - Thursday and Saturday
10 am - 4 pm; Friday 10 am - noon
Sunday 1 - 4 pm

PETERSEN HOUSE HOURS

Tuesday - Thursday and Saturday
10 am - 2 pm

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

Volunteers—a Valuable Asset to the Research Library

As in every other area of the museum, volunteers help with the museum's research programs. These volunteers work with the research library, the oral history program, and exhibit research. They do everything from copying newspaper articles to answering research requests. At any given time, there are between two and 10 long-term and temporary volunteers working with the Curator of History.

Research project topics may change over time, but volunteers choose what they work on. Currently three volunteers are working with the University Park neighborhood history project. **Rebecca Wargo**, an ASU employee who volunteers on weekends, and **Lou Clunk**, a retired college professor, are looking through back issues of the *Tempe Daily News* for information on individual houses. Recent college graduate **Ben Hruska** is taking that information and writing a summary for each house in the neighborhood.

Betinna Rosenberg, a retired archaeologist from the Arizona Department of Transportation, has worked on a variety of projects. She did research for the Bug Line exhibit and has answered public research requests. **Judy Knoth** is a retired nurse and travel agent who also works as a museum docent. She is finishing a guide to the Petersen House Research Collection and has prepared a notebook with some of this information for use by her fellow docents. The museum depends on volunteers like these to keep the research library up-to-date, conduct research, and answer the hundreds of research requests that come in every year. Their help is invaluable.

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