TIME LINES

A Proud Journey Home: Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese Communities in Arizona

The Tempe Historical Museum and the Program for Southeast Asian Studies (PSEAS) at Arizona State University have joined in a cooperative venture to assist Southeast Asian communities to celebrate their past and ponder their future.

A community history exhibit in the making...

In early November 2004, student curator **Tony Thipdavong**, with support from PSEAS, contacted the museum staff asking us to assist his efforts to produce an exhibit about Laotian communities in Arizona. Tony expressed that the goal of the exhibit was to "show the multi-generational experience of Laotians and Laotian-Americans from the time they left Laos to the time the first generation was born in the United States;" and to "highlight the accomplishments and challenges the communities have faced...in response to the...mass exodus of Laotian refugees from Southeast Asia after the end of the Vietnam War."

The museum and PSEAS were eager to assist Tony and accepted his proposal, expanding the exhibit to include other communities affected by the Vietnam War. PSEAS project co-directors, **Dr. Karen Adams** and **Jacqueline Butler-Diaz**, assisted Tony in spearheading the assembly of an exhibit advisory committee from the Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese American communities to create a community history exhibit that speaks directly from the Southeast Asian community's voice. The exhibit will feature oral histories collected in ASU's Asian Pacific American Studies classes, photographs and objects collected from valley communities. **Dr. Melinda de Jesus** and **Dr. John Rosa**, faculty from ASU's Asian Pacific American Studies, are serving as further consultants to the exhibit.

Tony believes the exhibit will "educate and inspire the next generation to remember their heritage and history, ...take the hopes and dreams of the last generation along (Continued on page 2)



Exhibit Advisory Committee members: (left to right) Robert Thipdavong, Jacqueline Butler-Diaz, Mrs. Thipdavong, Tony Thipdavong, and Dr. Karen Adams.



New Exhibit

A Proud Journey Home: Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese Communities in Arizona
See article, this page. Funded in part through an Arizona Humanities Council "We the People" grant, the exhibit will open on October 8.

Continuing Exhibits

Picturing Mill Avenue

This exhibit features historic photographs 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 brochure was provided by the Tempe Historical Society. 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 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. Through September 1.



A Proud Jouney Home (Continued from page 1)

with them and make a leap forward in creating a new future for themselves..." In addition, we hope this exhibit will establish a longterm relationship with these and other Southeast Asian communities.

Come join us this October 22 at the exhibit reception for a special exhibit blessing performed by Cambodian, Lao, Vietnamese and Thai monks. For more information on this exhibit and opening reception, please contact the museum at 480-350-5100.

This exhibit is funded in part by the City of Tempe and an Arizona Humanities Council "We the People" grant.

Family History Albums Grant

The Arizona Humanities Council (AHC) recently granted the Tempe Historical Museum funds for its Family History Albums project. These scrapbooks contain copies of photographs and documents, genealogies, and stories about Tempe families and community groups. The museum developed the Family History Albums project as one way to collect information about Tempe, and currently has about 30 albums, mostly from local Hispanic families.

The AHC grant will allow the museum to make six new books representing Tempe families of African, European, Jewish, Danish and Macedonian heritage. Wanting to branch out beyond Hispanic heritage, these cultures were selected because they are represented by families in the Tempe community.

These families include the **Eduarda Yates' Woolf** family, European Americans who arrived in Tempe in 1889. The **Lassen** family is putting together another album as **Niels Petersen** brought their ancestor, **Obed Lassen**, from Denmark to America around 1900. More recent arrivals to the area, such as the **Kochanoff** family, will record the history of the local Macedonian community. **Narcie Espinoza** is also making a book for her native Arizonan family who came to Tempe in the 1950s. The museum is still looking for a long-time Tempe African American family who would be interested in making an album.

As the albums are completed they will be featured in the "Scrapbooks for History" exhibit. The museum will also display the entire collection at its "Family History Day" on Saturday, September 24. The event will include a discussion by **John Akers**, Curator of History, on the importance of family history in Tempe. The creators of the new albums will also share some of their family stories.

A Heartfelt Thank You

At their annual meeting, the **Tempe Historical Society** gave the museum checks totaling \$14,700. These funds have been allocated for a variety of purposes including artifact conservation, the Wild Wednesdays summer program, sound equipment, a downtown walking tour and general staff support. Thank you to the Society for all their hard work throughout the year to raise funds that will have a significant impact on the museum's operation. Their continuing support is especially valuable during economically challenging times.

My Love: Tempe

By Satish Bhakta

Tall sentry—Mountain 'A'
Watching Sky Harbor Airport
A wide window to Tempe, the Nation and the world.

Look at the panoramic view atop 'A' How nice, Tempe, metro-Phoenix is! Like beauty personified all around! A real unique treat for visitors, tourists!

The Hayden's envisioned hidden glory, Established pioneer industry, On the banks of Rio Salado; The Hayden Flour Mill, Lead prosperity to Tempe, Phoenix, Arizona.

Foothills nestle protector,
The Police and the Court.
Also, sporting, Sun Devil, home for the Cardinals,
Sun Angel, Packard and Activity Center,
In the caring lap of Arizona State University.
A beauty between Apache and University Drive,
Lush green, picturesque, hubbing and humming
Education center, a life-line of the State!

Glittering dazzle of evergreen Mill Avenue Famous for live youth entertainment, Delicious gourmet heart-warming cuisine, Think not from where!

Downtown flourishing, With avant garde corporate culture, Organized sectors and ventures with clients, too! Busy business houses, Galleries, Stores and mini marts Luring loyal customers.

Historical Museum, Library, Arts centers, Kiwanis Park, Gammage, community festivals, Golfing and recreational facilities thrive, Amidst cultural openness and acceptance of Tempe neighborhoods a bicycle friendly community!

'State of the Art', Rio Salado, Town Lake Project, Ancillary multi-dimensional development activities, Made possible by City Council's ever growing concerns; Citizen participation, Neighborhood preservation, Human Relations and cultural appreciation. A model vision for Dream-city Tempe!

Tempe, get ready for High-Rise development Into new millennium!

Satish Bhakta is from the state of Gujarat in western India. He came to Tempe to "have a family life" with his son and daughter-in-law. Mr. Bhakta volunteers at the Tempe Public Library because volunteering is a passion in his family and he loves books. He wrote this poem because "Tempe to me is a very fascinating city. Tempe has everything that a citizen would like to have."

JULY

WILD WEDNESDAYS Wednesdays, through July 27 10 am – 4 pm Museum

The museum's "wildly" popular family program continues. Beat the heat and enjoy special hands-on activities, games and prizes. Each Wednesday focuses on a unique theme relating to our exhibits.

July 6: Come to the Street Fair

July 13: Your Town July 20: Groovy 60s July 27: Desert Wildlife

AUGUST

Museum staff are busy planning the upcoming fall and winter calendar during this month and do not conduct special programs or activities.

PETERSEN HOUSE

Closed for cleaning and conservation from Tuesday, August 2 through Monday, September 5

SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER 5 Labor Day. Museum closed.



"Lovely Buttons" the Clown (Julie Varholdt) telling stories "around the campfire' at the Wild Wednesday program, *Home on the Range*, on June 15.



THIRD THIRSTDAY NIGHT CAFÉ Thursday, September 15, 6:30 - 8:30 pm Museum / Free admission

Doug Kupel, Not a Drop to Drink: Arizona's Last Great Drought, 1920-1941

Arizona is facing a severe drought, but this is not the first significant drought the state has had to endure. Find out how Arizona coped with drought in the past and how this experience offers a revealing perspective on today's challenges. (Arizona Humanities Council)

FAMILY HISTORY DAY Thursday, September 24, 1 pm Museum / Free Admission

See the museum's entire collection of family history albums. **John Akers**, the museum's curator of history, will discuss the importance of family history in Tempe. The creators of the some of the albums will also share their family stories.

Looking ahead...
OCTOBER

PETERSEN HOUSE ENDOWMENT RAFFLE Saturday, October 29 Museum lobby

Tickets will be available for purchase in August.

Passings

Raymond Babina, museum volunteer and past chair of the Historical Museum Advisory Board, passed away on April 12, at the age of 75. Ray had served as a museum docent giving tours of the exhibit hall and more recently had volunteered in the collections area. In addition, he served on the Advisory Board from 1997 to 2003.

Robert Hubbard, a volunteer docent at the museum, passed away on June 8 at the age of 83. A native Arizonan and a Tempe resident since 1964, Bob regaled museum visitors with tales of "old" Tempe. Bob also volunteered with the Tempe Police Department.

Marjorie D. Smith, a former museum volunteer, passed away on April 24 at the age of 81. Marge served on the Historical Society Board, worked in the gift shop, and volunteered in the museum's research library. In honor of her past service to the museum, Marge was designated a Volunteer Emeritus in May 2002.

We Are Lucky to Have Volunteers

Museum volunteers were thanked and celebrated at the museum's annual ice cream social. Held amidst spilt salt, ladders and black cats on "Friday the 13th" of May, the following volunteers received length-of-service pins: three years: Joanne Armour, Lillian Carr, Juanita Harelson, Birgit Jordan, Marika Lange, Alan Tamol and Daniel Thompson; five years: Vici Dumont, Russell Harris, Dorothy Moomaw, Barbara Rentz, Joan Wall; ten years: Janice Jones and Jim Evans; fifteen years: Lynn Drury and Irene Parady.

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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.

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; 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

Step Into History

Museum Volunteers (Continued from page 3)

On March 30, seven museum volunteers were honored with Presidential Volunteer Service Awards which are based on the number of hours served in a 12 month period. Claire Young, gift shop manager, received a gold award for more than 500 hours of service. Ellen Cornwell, Russell Harris, Mary Ann Kwilosz, Thaddeus Swiecki, Matt Venzke, James Wright and Marlene Yraqui received silver service awards for completing more than 250 hours.

The museum also was well-represented at the city's Annual Mayor and Council Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon held on March 30—six awards were presented with museum staff and volunteers receiving half of them! Volunteer **Amy Lettick** received the Continuous Service Award for her more than ten years of work on museum research databases. Volunteer **Maya Sherrod** received the Special Project Award for her redesign of two rooms at the Petersen House Museum. In addition, staff member **Ann Poulos** was recognized for her work with volunteers with the Site Supervisor of the Year Award. More information on these award recipients is available online at www.tempe.gov/volunteer. Congratulations to the award recipients and our thanks to ALL our museum volunteers!

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