

President's Annual Report for the Year 2018

The Center had a busy year with many or goals being accomplished.

Included in the Archaeological Field work was monitoring for the water line and later monitoring the area for drainage ditches. We also re-surveyed areas on and around the trail and garden

A 40' X 8' container was purchased to help store certain artifacts not affected by the temperatures and a place to store maintenance materials for the property. It has been a great help. The Center also put in a fence of split rail.

The trail was laid out and with the help of a group of men from Camp Verde called the "old guys". They were indispensable to the construction of the trail. The benches were installed along the trail with tables at the Learning Center. Gerry Quotkoyva and Kayo Parson-Korn did a wonderful job preparing the garden, and putting up the fences around the garden. These were all done thanks to donations.

Due to the heavy rain this summer some severe damage was done to the trail and needed major repairs. A new culvert was placed and debris was cleaned out of the drainage ditches. Many of the check dams needed to be re-built and the flow of water was diverted. Extreme damage was done to the area on the Northeast part of our land and a diversion drainage had to be built. This was done by our members and we had members there observing for features and collecting artifacts that might have been un-earthed. We are now ready for the new year.

Many visitors came to the see and enjoy our trail and garden as well as our Museum on Main Street. There were many comments of praise. Our docents did an excellent job helping our visitors.

Our speaker series was well received. Among our speakers was Dr. Richard Rogers on Petroglyphs. Gary Stroutsos on Hopi flutes, Dr. Laurie Webster on Textiles, Dr. Todd Bostwick on Hohokam Irrigation systems of the Salt River Valley, Dr. Saul Hedquist on Turquoise and Social Identity in Late Pre-Hispanic times, Dennis Gilpin on Architecture of Awatovi Pueblo, Justin Parks on The Function and Role of the Bow and Arrow in the Prehistoric Southwest and lastly Dr. Todd Bostwick on Life and Death at Ironwood Village

Besides these speakers, we had several others and films at our very successful Archaeology Fair in March. The Fair also featured Native American Artists with their wares for sale.

The Center sponsored many trips in 2018. There were several trips down to Paquime and to Hopi. We had trips to the Grand Canyon and the main trip was to Central America to visit Mayan sites and learn about their culture.

The Center also sponsored several classes for its members. Some of the classes included, Pottery Identification, Archaeology of the Verde Valley, Traditional Methods of Working Wood and Bone or Antler and Prehistoric Astronomy of the Verde Valley.

Through a grant Ken Zoll was able to bring many Hopi Youth to Verde Valley to acquaint them with their Heritage in the Verde Valley.

The Center resumed offering our field trips for members, thanks to a few of our members volunteering to lead hikes. This was one of the most called for activity from our online survey.

The online survey was our first and we had a good response of over 25%. Your Board of Directors is attempting to address all the concerns expressed in the survey.

Two Field Schools in Cortez, Colorado at the Mitchell Springs site was held in August. Members that attended enjoyed themselves and learned more about the Anasazi and how to correctly excavate.

Due to a limiting and demanding agreement with Scott Simonton regarding the Homestead property, the Board of Directors decided to refinance the property and pay off Mr. Simonton. The note is still the same at \$280,000 due in 5 years. This give the Center the leeway to do more with our property.

The lab work continues, mainly on the Dyck collection as they help Dr. Bostwick prepare for the publishing of his new book on the Dyck excavation and collection. Many renowned archaeologists came to visit the Dyck collection and are helping in the research. Among those assisting are Dr. Laurie Webster, Dr. Karen Adams and Dr. Chris Loendorf. We hope to have it published next year.

Jan Anderson headed up our outreach to school program and was able to present the Archaeology of the Verde Valley to several 4 grade classes. She and her group are in big demand.

Ken Zoll applied for and received a grant for a new exhibit. With the help of Dr. Bostwick and Dr. Lynch as well as a graduate student from NAU, the Center is now the proud owner of a up to date exhibit on the Yavapai-Apache that can rival any large Museum.

Our Field Seminars got started this year and we have not have had time enough to evaluate the program, but I can say we have had requests from local hotels for this service.

Our store continues to impress members and visitor alike as new items are continually being added. Ken Zoll has now made many of those items available for the first time on the website.

None of what was accomplished could have been done without our volunteers. The Center had over 8,000 hours of volunteer time. This does not include all the volunteer time by the experts who have generously volunteered to help analyze with the Dyck collection.

This year we had many more business and Gala sponsors. I would like to Thank all of them. The Gala was a big success, again. We were also able to have a Concert, presented by

The Hopi have come out to Bless our property and we are thankful for their blessing.

I believe that we can say that it was a very successful year.

As for the Coming Year:

The Center will continue to move forward with all of its existing programs.

The Lab work will continue on the Dyck collection and others. Continued monitoring of the property for artifacts when any work is being completed. This will happen when Scot Simonton will be putting in a catchment on the east side of our property.

New field trips will be offered to our members and a new International trip to Mexico is offered.

We will have a innovating and entertaining lecture series. The coming year, two of the lectures will be joint lectures with the Verde Valley Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society.

Our Archaeology Fair will be replaced by an Archaeology Extravaganza, with different Lectures, Films and classes each week of the month.

We plan on have a Fund Raising event in April at the Jack Pot Ranch. This will be a picnic with entertainment and games for all.

The call will remain out for all those who would like to be involved with the Center.

Our Executive Director Ken Zoll will continue to work on the Fund Raising efforts for our Capital Campaign.