Center Receives Van Donation

The Center recently received the donation of a 1996 15-passenger Ford Clubwagon XLT. The van was donated by Trans Canyon Shuttle. Trans Canyon Shuttle was born in 1989 when the growing popularity of trans canyon hiking made it apparent that there was a need for convenient and reliable transportation between the north and south rim—dedicated to the needs of Rim to Rim hikers. Through a chance meeting with a local employee of the company, the Center learned that they were going to upgrade their fleet after the current season ended. The company was contacted about their intentions for their used vehicles. After a series of phone calls, the owner contacted the Center and offered to donate the vehicle shown below. It is in excellent shape and despite its significant mileage, will serve the Center well for its upcoming Field Seminars and other transportation needs.

Center Hosts Egyptian Visitors

The U.S. Forest Service hosted a delegation from the Egyptian Ministries of Culture and Tourism and the US Agency for International Development (USAID) in Egypt. This visit to Arizona was designed to exchange best practices around antiquities management and cultural heritage preservation. On November 9, the Center hosted this group from USAID Egypt, the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism, and the Egyptian Ministry of Antiquities. Topics included interagency partnerships and resource management; site planning and design; visitor interpretation; volunteer and partner contributions; and economic development.

Hopi High School Visitors

The Center, in cooperation with the National Park Service, received a grant as part of a Hopi youth engagement program to bring Hopi youth to the Verde Valley to connect with their ancestral sites. So far we have hosted a group of youth from Second Mesa and two Native Studies groups from Hopi High School. Two additional groups are being planned.

For the R. Carlos Nakai Concert, we will host an eleven-piece classical guitar ensemble from Hopi High School. They will receive a mentoring session with Chickasaw composer Jerod Tate and then attend the concert in Camp Verde. The group will perform at Montezuma Castle on November 19 at 10 am and again at Noon.

We are also planning to host a group of student artists to visit various ancestral sites, and in particular, some of the rock art locations.

END-OF-YEAR giving campaign

Yes, it is that time of year when you start to receive End-of-Year appeal letters. Our end-of-year campaign usually provides most of the operating funds for the coming year, so please respond with a tax-deductible contribution when you receive our letter.
The mission of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center is to preserve archaeological sites and collections, to curate the collections locally, and to make them available for research and education; to develop partnerships with American Indians, cultural groups and the communities it serves; and to foster a deeper understanding of prehistory and American Indian history in the Verde Valley through the science of archaeology.

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Director of Archaeology
Todd Bostwick, PhD, RPA

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Verde Valley Archaeology Center, Inc.
a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
385 S. Main St.
Camp Verde, AZ 86322-7272
(928) 567-0066
www.vvarchcenter.org
center@verdevalleyarchaeology.org

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President’s Message - Waterline Project for the Center’s Property
Dr. James Graceffa

I would like to deviate from my usual newsletter format to take you behind the scenes with your fellow members. One activity vital to the Center is development of the waterline which brings city water to the Center property and without which we cannot have a garden or build our museum and repository. Here’s our story:

The project’s journey began when Scott Simonton donated a parcel of land to the Verde Valley Archaeology Center. The Center agreed to pay for the waterline, running from the pavement at Homestead Street to the Simonton property line. Fortunately, two Directors, Tom Burris and RJ Smith, assumed responsibility for working with the water company and the town of Camp Verde. Our Executive Director, Ken Zoll, took on the task of raising the needed $75,000. Our membership generously stepped up and in less than a year, we had the necessary funds, selected a construction company, and were poised to proceed.

Unfortunately, when our engineer presented the plans, the water company required a 12-inch line (not eight-inch as was previously advised). They also advised that they would select a construction company. Suddenly the price tag grew from $75,000 to $96,000. Scott Simonton then generously provided most of the additional funds, responding to Ken Zoll’s request.

We were ready to go after doing a surface survey; however, the survey revealed a heavy concentration of sherds. This meant there could possibly be some archaeology encountered when excavating the ditch. An additional concern was whether burial remains might be found. Board Member Kim Spurr, owner of Past Peoples Consulting LLC, which handles burials discovered in excavations, generously offered to obtain the burial permit from the State of Arizona.

Finally, on September 5th, a group of Center members met at the site, equipped with the required bright-colored vests and hard hats. Board Member and professional archaeologist Kate Compton-Gore instructed participants on the correct procedure to monitor the trenching. Kinney Construction Company had difficulty locating where to tie into the existing waterline, so unfortunately, the trenching stopped at 12:30 pm that first day. The next few days followed a similar pattern.

Physical archaeology was discovered on September 12th, revealing two pit houses in the cross section of the trench and an extramural fire pit. One pit house contained a partially burned roof as well as some sherds on the floor. These pit houses, located approximately 90 centimeters below the ground surface, were recorded but not excavated. The areas identified in our survey that had the highest concentration of surface artifacts yielded no structures below the surface. The entire project was a success: Center members donated five days for a total of 296 hours. A hearty thanks goes out to all who gave precious time as well as money to make the project successful.

As the calendar moves from September to January, our annual meeting and election of Directors to the Center’s Board will take place. If any member is interested in actively furthering the success of the Center, I invite him or her to contact me or Bud Henderson at budhenderson.1940@outlook.com or call (928) 300-9981. The two-year term can be a very rewarding experience.

With best wishes to each of you,

Jim Graceffa
Museums for America Grant

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) has received a $24,000 Museums for America grant from the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). In 2017 the IMLS received 558 applications. IMLS’s peer reviewers evaluated all eligible grant applications, assessing the merit of each proposal and its fit with the goals of the grant program. IMLS staff presented this information to the IMLS Director, who then made the final funding decisions. The VVAC project was selected as one of only 132 to receive funding.

The mission of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) includes fostering a deeper understanding of prehistory and American Indian history in the Verde Valley of Central Arizona. The Yavapai-Apache Nation (Nation) is located within the Verde Valley and has been on the VVAC Advisory Council since 2010. In discussions with Gertrude Smith, the Yavapai Culture Director and Vincent Randall, the Apache Culture Director, it was agreed that the current Yavapai-Apache exhibit in the Center needed to be updated and expanded. The directors also expressed the feeling that the public was not sufficiently aware of their long and challenging history and that they are, in fact, “still here.”

The VVAC will lead this project but will closely partner with the Yavapai-Apache Nation’s cultural directors and archaeologist. The VVAC will work with the Nation’s representatives to determine the “storyline” of the new exhibit and collect historical photographs and documents. It will also be the goal of the project to include the youth of the Nation in the design and decision-making. Since the Nation’s ancestors left no “archaeological footprint” of their dwellings that were made of organic materials, a diorama likeness of a typical village will be considered. In addition, since the Nation speaks two different languages (Yavapai – Yuman; Apache – Athabaskan), an audio component will be considered to allow the public to hear these distinctive languages. The plan is to develop, fabricate and install the exhibit by the end of September 2018. The intent of the exhibit will be to provide a better understanding and appreciation of the ancestral and current Yavapai and Apache, who have been in the Verde Valley since 2,000 B.C.

Sherman Loy Award Recipient

Each year the Verde Valley Archaeology Center presents the Sherman Loy Memorial Award to an avocational archaeologist for outstanding efforts in the protection and promotion of the archaeological heritage of the Verde Valley. The recipient is chosen based on contributions to our knowledge of archaeology and active participation in the preservation or protection of archaeological sites. The 2017 recipient is Shelby Coody of Lake Montezuma. The award was presented on September 26.

Born in 1923, Shelby is a World War II U.S. Air Force veteran. After the war he earned a B.S. degree in education and taught school for five years before becoming a designer for Rockwell International for 25 years. Before his retirement to Arizona in 1978, he worked on the space shuttle program. Shortly after arriving in Lake Montezuma he became interested in the rich cultural heritage of the area. Being a licensed pilot, he began to fly over the Verde Valley doing aerial reconnaissance. He covered over 14,400 acres in 1986 alone and located eighty-one archaeological sites. The U.S. Forest Service acknowledged that most had not been previously known.” The Forest Service recognized his work with an award in 1987 for greatly augmenting the site inventory records. Using his design skills from Rockwell International, he began to prepare detailed instrument maps of several major pueblos including the ruins at Sacred Mountain, John Heath, Jackson Ranch, Clear Creek, and the Red Tank Draw petroglyphs. These were the first detailed maps ever made, and they greatly increased the knowledge and appreciation of these significant sites.

Shelby was also one of the first site stewards with the Arizona Site Steward Program. The site steward program was begun in 1987 by the Arizona Archaeology Advisory Commission. It is operated by the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. He was appointed as a site steward on April 1, 1988. At the time of his appointment, Shelby was assigned to monitor twenty-one sites including the Sacred Mountain Ruin in the Beaver Creek area. In 1992 he was awarded the “Thief of Time Award” by the Forest Service and the Arizona Site Steward Program for his dedication and stewardship of the sites.
Public Phase of Capital Campaign Begins

The Capital Campaign logo to the left represents the shared history of the Verde Valley. The left side of the vessel reflects the plain ware pottery of the Sinagua, while the right side recognizes the basketry of the Yavapai and Apache cultures.

Since our founding in 2010, we have been very successful in raising operational funds and the necessary funds for the land acquisition, water main installation, and development of the Native American Heritage Pathway. Now comes the BIG challenge - raising the funds for the property note and for the new campus buildings. At our annual benefit on October 21, we presented the revised campus design, exterior elevation views, and a scale model of the structures. The scale model is available in the Center and will be taken around to various locations in the Verde Valley in the coming months. The estimated construction cost is $7 to $8 million.

Donor Recognitions
A donor can contribute any amount to the campaign. Donations can be made online on the Support web page with a designation to the Capital Campaign, or with the Capital Campaign Donation Envelope.

Pledges may be paid over a period of time, not to exceed four years. The Donation Pledge Form is available online or at the Center. Gifts of $1,000 or more will be acknowledged on a Donor Plaque. Contributors from $100,000 will be listed on a special Founder’s Plaque.

Naming Right Opportunities
Naming rights are available for various spaces and items. Each will include your name, company or logo displayed as appropriate for the space or item. Donations for a Community Room or Classroom item can be identified in the comments section of the online Support page, or on the Capital Campaign Donation Envelope.

Please contact our Executive Director for details or for a copy of the space Naming Rights Agreement. Space sponsors also receive licensing rights to use the Center logo for promotions in accordance with our Licensing Agreement.

Collections Repository: $1,000,000
Collections Processing Room: $500,000
Exhibit Preparation Room: $250,000
Curator Office: $75,000
Administrative Offices: $75,000
Conference Room: $150,000
Museum: $1,000,000
Sinagua Exhibit: $250,000
Yavapai-Apache Exhibit: $250,000
Ancestral Hopi Exhibit: $250,000
Children’s Archaeology Area: $250,000
Gift Shop: $150,000
Lobby Mural: $100,000
Learning Center: $1,000,000
Community Room: $150,000
Community Room Seats: $500
Classrooms (3): $150,000
Classroom Chairs & Tables: $250
Library: $150,000

Endowment Fund
While the new museum and curation facility are the largest phase of the Capital Campaign, we are also seeking to increase our Endowment Fund. Our goal is $4 million. Download or stop by to pick up the Archaeology Legacy Circle brochure for how to include the Center in your estate plans.
At the October 21 benefit, we unveiled the newest design for our future campus. In addition, a scale model was available to visualize its place on the property. The model is being finalized for easy transport to various events and will be available for viewing in the Center by mid-November.

The Capital Campaign will (1) **Create** a Cultural Center for the Verde Valley of tomorrow; (2) **Preserve** and interpret stories of the people of the Verde Valley through innovative exhibitions and exceptional educational programs; and, (3) **Build** a museum campus for today and the future.

### Campus Building Square Footage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Square Footage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collections</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallery</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning Center</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support, walls, halls</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Building Support Spaces

- P – Janitor
- Q - Mechanical
- R - Restrooms
- S - Storage

### Outdoor Spaces

- T - Tom & Janet Taylor Courtyard Garden
- U - Portal
- V - Arbor
- W - Dr. Charles Rozaire Entry Garden Walk

---

**Floor Plan Legend**

- **Collections**
  - A - Repository
  - B - Laboratory/Study Area
  - C - Receiving/Quarantine
  - F - Prep Workroom

- **Gallery**
  - D - Lobby
  - E - Museum/Exhibitions
  - G - Gift Shop

- **Learning Center**
  - H - Community Room
  - I - Classrooms
  - J - Library

- **Administration**
  - K - Staff Kitchen
  - L - Break Room
  - M - Conference Room
  - N - Tech Room
  - O - Offices
As described in our President’s Message on page 2, the water main was installed down Homestead Parkway during September. The construction had to be monitored since it was so close to the known pit houses. As was expected, additional features were discovered. Two pit houses were discovered along with an extramural hearth. This brings the features associated with the site to twenty. The type of pipe installed did not lend itself to writing donors names as we had envisioned. A special donor recognition plaque is being developed for display in the Center.

Shortly after the water main was installed, work began to bring water to the Native American Heritage Garden that is being developed along the pathway. This work also had to be monitored for artifacts. Pottery sherds and stone tools were found along the trail. Work on the pathway has been ongoing with the clearing of brush. Over 350 tons of aggregate rock has been donated by the Yavapai-Apache Sand and Rock Company which was delivered to the site. Work on the trail will begin in January.
Our 2017 International Archaeology Day Benefit was our largest to date, and 119 of the 120 available seats were filled. Likewise, our Silent Auction was also one of the most successful. During the event we unveiled a scale model of our future archaeology campus and revised floor plan shown on page 5.

Our featured speaker was British-born and Cambridge University educated Brian Fagan who is widely regarded as the world’s leading archaeological writer and who has an international reputation as an author of influential books about major issues. His books have been translated into over nine languages. Brian took us on a journey through the compelling world of our past, from early human ancestors to ancient cities and the world of the Ancestral Pueblo. He told us why archaeology is important, indeed essential, in today’s interconnected and industrialized world.

Many Thanks to our Sponsors

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Thanks also to our generous Silent Auction donors

- Dr. F. Dennison and Janet Shaw
- Jerry Walters
- Bill and Lynette Kovacovich
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- Jo Ann Forristal
- Todd and Heidi Bostwick
- Nick and Cherie Meyerhofer
- Norm and Sharon Olson
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- Arizona Stronghold Vineyards
- Burning Tree and Chateau
- Tumbleweed Vineyards
- Verde Canyon Railroad
- Bearizona Wildlife Park
- Grand Canyon Railway
- Barlow Adventures
- Best Western Cottonwood Inn
- Blazin’ M Ranch
- Out of Africa Wildlife Park
- Cliff Castle Casino
- Poco Diablo Resort
- Victorian Cowgirl
- Summit Mountain - Susan Favour
- Stockyards Steakhouse
- Kimpton Palomar Phoenix Hotel
- Phoenix Symphony
- OdySea Aquarium
- Boat House Bar and Grill
- Clarkdale Kayak Company
- Enchantment Resort
- L’Auberge de Sedona
- Stockyards Steakhouse
- Phoenix Zoo
- Desert Botanical Garden
- Oakcreek Country Club
- Pink Jeep Tours
- Hassayampa Inn
- Verde Valley Wine Consortium
Annual Meeting
January 16, 2018
Cliff Castle Casino
Lodge Conference Center

Please Support Our Business Members

Thanks to these Employee Matching or Retiree Volunteer Grants