



Verde Valley Archaeology Quarterly

Fifth Annual Archaeology Fair and American Indian Art Show Edition



Protecting the Ancient Cultural Heritage of the Verde Valley

Spring 2016

Center Hosts BBC/PBS Special Showing



The Center, in cooperation with the Sedona International Film Festival (SIFF), is pleased to present an episode of the PBS 3-part series, AMERICAN EPIC presented by Robert Redford, T Bone Burnett and Jack White, on Thursday, March 31, at the Mary D. Fisher Theatre in Sedona.

In this special advance screening, the filmmakers travel deep into the Hopi nation and its music, explore the origins of Hawaiian slack-key guitar, discover the hybrid of cultures in Tejano music, and head through bayou country and its Cajun music, ending in Avalon, and the delta blues and its innovator, Mississippi John Hurt. The Hopi segment includes portions of the historical film restored by the Verde Valley Archaeology Center with the Hopi Tribe.

Tickets are available through the SIFF box office. The Center will provide two free tickets to our Life Members and four tickets to our Patrom Members as part of their membership. The full story of this film and the Center's participation was given in the Winter 2015 issue of *Archaeology Quarterly*.

2016 Field School Schedule Announced

Dates for the Excavation Field School at Mitchell Springs, near Cortez, Colorado, are as follows: July 15 - 18; August 5 - 8; and, August 26 - 29.



The cost is \$185 per session for members and \$235 per session for non-members. To reserve your space(s) you must register and pay the fee at the time of registration. A \$75 cancellation fee is non-refundable. You can register online or by coming to the Center filling a registration form and paying your fee. These sessions are advertised nationwide and fill up fast.

Rivers & Castles Benefit Cruise

VVAC Capitol Fundraising River Cruise with Host Dr. Todd Bostwick, Archaeologist for the Center! Sail the Rhine, Main and Mosel Rivers seeing fortress towns, castles and Roman ruins, with AmaWaterways donating \$500 per cabin towards the fund! And a special offer for you – \$500 discount per person on the cruise portion plus free pre-paid gratuities (\$150 per person value). This cruise is open to members and nonmembers alike.

Cruise features include: Spacious accommodations in an outside stateroom – most offer French balconies; Fine dining with all meals included on board; Complimentary local wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner; Onboard entertainment; Complimentary Wi-Fi and in-room internet access; Fitness room and whirlpool; Bicycles for guest use; Variety of shore excursion in every port; Services of a professional Cruise Manager.

Pre-Cruise Option: 2 nights in Prague

Post-Cruise Option: 3 nights in Paris

For more information download the cruise flyer from our website home page.





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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President's Message

Dr. James Graceffa

The Center's Board has been active with new projects for the New Year. The archaeological features of our newly acquired property was officially named the **Homestead Site**. Thanks to our volunteers, the project instituted by Dr. Bostwick, our Director of Archaeology, of a complete survey of our newly acquired property has gotten a good start. Hopefully, once it is completed we will be able to report to our members the results and interpretation. This project needs to be completed by May for another study to be started. That study will be done by Dr. Steve Di Naso from Eastern Illinois University. He will bring some of his students with him. Dr. Di Naso is a geospatial scientist and geologist. He will be doing several tests on our property and giving us his results. Dr. Di Naso would like to be involved as work on the Homestead site continues. For those who have not seen results of his work from our field school in Colorado, we have some impressive posters at the Center. Come on in and take a look.

This year again we will have 3 field schools in Colorado. These are enjoyed by our members from all over the United States. It can be physically demanding, but also rewarding. Members are fortunate to be able to get this type of training at such a reasonable rate. Just another benefit of being a member.

The Board's main effort has been preparing for our Archaeology Fair and getting ready for our Capital Campaign which will officially kick off with the Fair. We will have a pre-kick off benefit dinner held at Javalina Leap Winery the evening before the Fair. We will be explaining the phases of our Capital Campaign in regards to construction of the new facility. There are still tickets available for the event. The day after this event begins our two-day Archaeology Fair. This one will be our best yet, with several artists that will be first timers at the Fair plus all your favorites from the past fairs. Our Executive Director has put together a fantastic line up of films and speakers and all this for free. It is an event you will want to bring your friends.

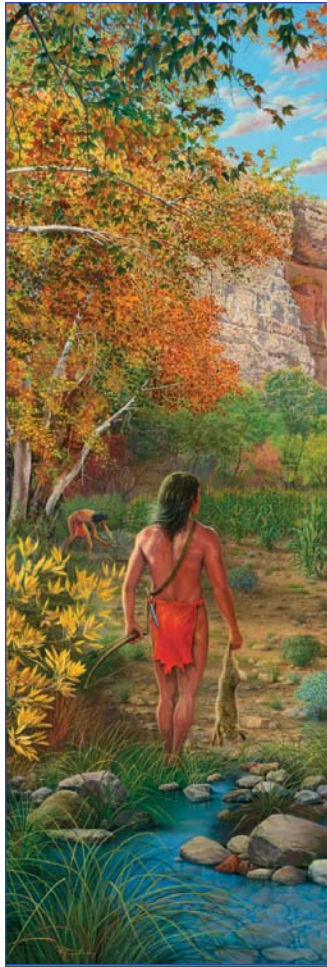
Investigation into our obligation and cost to construct the waterline to the property has begun by some of our Board Members. The cost of the pipeline is included in the first phase of our capital campaign. Included in this first phases would also be the cost of doing the subsurface investigation (excavation) over the footprint of the building. Our building committee will be meeting to layout some guidelines for the construction of the first phase of the building so we can get this information first to the Board and then to our architects and contractor. When we have more information we will pass it on to the members. This is a very exciting time for the Center.

I have often mentioned the value of our volunteers. The Center will be honoring our volunteers this March with a luncheon and they will be treated to a first time showing of a special archaeological film. We welcome all new volunteers and we have many areas in which we need volunteers. If you would like to help us out please contact the Center. In each upcoming e-newsletter we hope to highlight an area in which we can use volunteers.

We should all be proud of the positive comments we are getting from visitors to the Center's Museum. It is rewarding to me that we are getting some very well known archaeologists to the Center that are commenting on how impressed they are as to what we have accomplished. You, our members, are a part of a growing and prestigious organization.



The Past Is Our Future



Javelina Leap Vineyard - Benefit Wine Dinner - Friday, March 18 - 5:30 - with Jonah Littlesunday

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) has acquired 15.28 acres of the Simonton Ranch in Camp Verde that contains at least eight undisturbed ancient pit houses estimated to date from about A.D. 650. The property has been appraised at \$1.37 million. Mr. Scott Simonton of Gilbert, Arizona, donated \$1.12 million toward this acquisition. The remaining \$250,000 is covered by a note that is payable in five years. Referring to his donation, Mr. Simonton said, "It is exciting to see Camp Verde's history preserved and those who live in the Verde Valley today learn about and appreciate those who once lived there." Since its humble beginning in 2010, the VVAC has been turning big ideas into reality. At this moment, it is poised for a monumental transformation. Our vision is ambitious, but it is attainable if we use the full measure of our capacity and imagination. The development of the campus will occur in three phases:

PHASE 1: To Address the Curation Crisis

Collection Repository
Administrative Offices

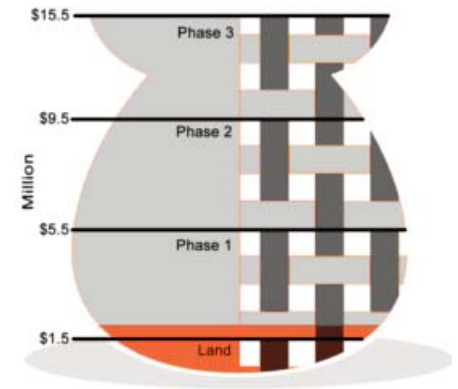
PHASE 2: To Engage the Public

Museum and Gift Shop
Courtyard Garden and Sculptures

PHASE 3: To Enhance Educational Opportunities

Auditorium Theater
Conference Center and Classrooms
Native American Heritage Park
Native American Traditional Use Garden

See the conceptual plan by the Design Group Architects of Sedona at our Fair booth.. The total estimated cost for this effort, including the land acquisition, is \$15.5 million which includes a \$2 million Reserve Endowment Fund.



Capital Campaign Contributors

(As of March 1, 2016)

Pledges

\$50,000 - Ken and Marcia Lee

\$25,000 - Native American Garden - Available

\$10,000 - Courtyard Garden - Tom and Janet Taylor

\$10,000 - Entry Garden - Dr. Charles Rozaire

\$1,000 - Interpretive Park Sign (10)

Ruthmary Lovitt

Dean and Kathi Olson

Dr. and Mrs. Dennison Shaw, Jr.

Larry Watkins

Ken and Nancy Zoll

Turquoise Circle Members

\$2,500+ to Capital Campaign

Anonymous (2)

James and Diane Graceffa

Bill and Justine Kusner

Bob and Estelle Jonas

Jo Parish

Craig and Sue Sigler

RJ and Jeanne Smith

Kimberly Spurr and David Purcell

Tom and Janet Taylor

Gerald and Janet Walters

George and Pat Witteman

\$500 - Theater Seat (200)

Linda Guarino & Ken Kaemmerle

Richard Henderson

Bridget Highfill

Stan and Sue Loft

\$500 - Park Bench (10)

Nils and Janet Anderson

Mary Byrd in memory of Harris Byrd

Susan and Avrum Cohen

Bridget Highfill

Stan and Sue Loft

Dean and Kathi Olson

Michael Pollard and Mary Wiseman

Lee and Jean Silver

\$250 - Conference Chair (300)

Ron and Jan Brattain

Bob and Estelle Jonas

Paul and Barbara Schnur

Craig Swanson

Other Contributions

Anonymous (3)

Laura and Andy Beeler

Melissa Bowersock

Ron and Jan Brattain

Marian Brookman

Bern and Linda Carey

Gay Chanler

Robert and Audrey Erb

Carol German

Mary Huntley

Charles Kaluza

Frank and Carol Lombardo

Ruthmary Lovitt

Thomas Mantovani

John and Elizabeth Oakes

Peter J Pilles, Jr.

Dr. and Mrs. Dennison Shaw, Jr.

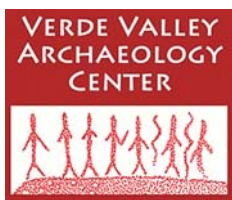
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Jo Ann Sawyer

Margaret Wallace

Greg and Amy Welden





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**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
KICK-OFF**
March 18, 2016
5:30 pm
Tickets available online

Become a member *to help protect the ancient cultural heritage of the Verde Valley. Stop by the Center or visit our website at www.vvarchcenter.org to join online or to download an application.*

Thanks For Your Support

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center would like to thank the following for their generous support of our General Fund **in the past 12 months**

Business Members



Gifts of at least \$250

Jim Collette
JoAnn and Larry Forristal
William Kern
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Peter J. Pilles, Jr.
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Dan and Janet Wheeler

Gifts of at least \$500

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Gifts of at least \$1,000

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Gifts of at least \$5,000

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Gifts of at least \$10,000

Donalyn Mikels

Employee Matching or Retiree Volunteer Grants received from

