



# Cornville Historical Society E-MAIL NEWS

P.O. Box 1200, Cornville, AZ 86325

Issue No. 11

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*The mission of the Cornville Historical Society is to gather, preserve and share information about the history of rural life from 1860 to the present within the Cornville postal area.*

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**Annual Meeting Date Set:** The ninth annual meeting of the Cornville Historical Society is set for **2-4 pm, Tuesday, March 19, 2013, at the Cornville Fire Station.** We will be honored to have **Vince Randall, former Tribal Chairman and Historian of the Yavapai-Apache Nation, as our guest speaker.** The Society is at an exciting crossroads, with the Old Post Office restoration ahead, ongoing research projects, and a collection of oral histories and a site inventory well underway. We are in urgent need of nominees to serve on our Board. If you would be interested in serving, please contact any board member shown at the end of this newsletter. The Society is growing and it is FUN to serve! Let us hear from you!

**The Historic Cornville Post Office & Store is Home Again:** The Old Cornville Post Office & Store was a community landmark for eighty years, from the time it was built in 1909 until it was moved away in 1989. Now, after surviving four moves, the original post office and store is home again! The structure was moved in the dark of night, arriving at 1:45 am, December 3, 2012, at the Windmill Garden Nursery, owned by Bob and Cindi Snyder. The structure will be restored, in cooperation with the Cornville Historical Society. Ultimately, the historic landmark will include a front porch and window exhibits for the public to see.



**Post Office Restoration Fund Drive:** In October, the Society kicked off a campaign to raise funds to move, preserve and interpret the historic landmark. So far, a total of \$8,826.57 has been raised, including \$5,250 in donations from Chick descendants. After payment for the move and related expenses, the balance is now \$1,427.61. As restoration proceeds, more funds will be needed. You can become a part of Cornville history by sending a tax-deductible contribution to the “Cornville Historical Society Post Office Fund”, PO Box 1200, Cornville, AZ 86325. Funds will be used solely for preservation and interpretation of the old post office & store as a historic landmark. For information, contact Janet Cassagio at 649-1426 or [janetcassagio@me.com](mailto:janetcassagio@me.com).

**KUDOS for Volunteer Work Crew:** Board Member Dan Derrick led a crew of volunteers to prepare the Old Post Office for its move back to Cornville. The group removed one room from the building; sorted (removing jillions of nails) and transported reusable materials to Windmill Gardens; and mixed concrete and poured footers at the new site. Final cleanup of the old site is near completion. Volunteers who helped were: Stephen Cassagio, Dan Derrick, Paul LaJeunesse, Dave Miller, Judy Miller, and Steve Morehouse. Together, they put in about 84 volunteer hours in several work sessions. The value of their work resulted in a worthwhile reduction in move costs. Besides, it was fun! KUDOS for everyone who gave their time.



**Top:** Tearing up flooring & removing a room; sorting, piling, pulling nails and preserving reusable materials. **Left:** Disturbing roof mouse habitat. **Right:** Mixing cement & pouring footers .



**Verde Valley TV Interview:** On December 19, President Linda Allen Kappel and Secretary Judy Miller were interviewed for the Verde Valley TV “Senior Living” Program, which airs regularly on Cable Channel 2. The interview with program host Pam Irvin covered the Cornville Historical Society in general; discussed the Post Office project; and urged community support. To see the interview, go to [www.verdevalleytv.com](http://www.verdevalleytv.com). Click on Senior Living; scroll to “Senior Living in the Verde Valley December 19” (Tape #20). The interview is the last segment on the tape.

**Annual Holiday Fundraiser a BIG Success:** On December 1, the Society hosted its seventh annual holiday fundraiser event, featuring Tucson Historian and Author Jim Turner, of the Arizona Humanities Council. Turner is the author of a special centennial book, *“Arizona: A Celebration of the Grand Canyon State”*; and he entertained the audience with the historical events and politics that led to Arizona statehood in February 2012. The fundraiser attracted an audience of 75 who enjoyed holiday refreshments and a raffle of twenty-one themed gift baskets of contributed items assembled by Society board members. Each basket contained a bottle of wine, merchandise, a gift certificate or coupon donated by a Cornville business. Sincere appreciation is extended to all the Cornville businesses that helped make the event a success: **Breakthrough Medicine, Cornville Country Market, Cornville Mercantile, Desert Market, Grasshopper Grill, Harry’s Hideaway, Javelina Leap Vineyards & Winery, Manzanita Inn, Oak Creek Vineyards & Winery, Page Springs Cellars & Vineyards, Salon West, Stage Stop Vineyards and The Shop at Cornville.** The gift basket raffle brought in \$767, which will help with the Society’s operational expenses. THANK YOU EVERYONE for your support!

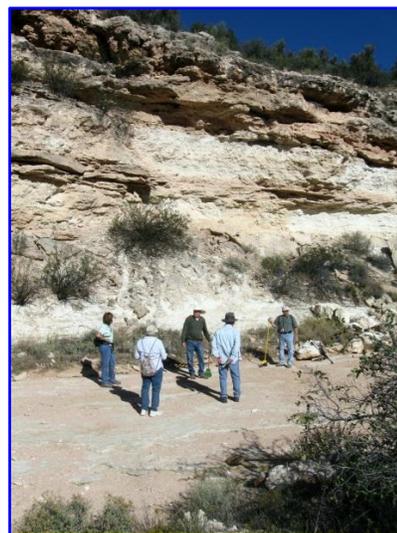


**Membership Drive Underway:** It’s that time of year again! In October, reminder letters were sent to all members to renew their dues for Calendar Year 2013. In addition, permanent laminated membership cards were sent to all honorary members and letters were sent to a long list of Cornville businesses, encouraging their membership. We were pleased to end 2012 with 75 members in good standing, but we’d like to have still more! There are four categories of membership: Individual \$15; Family \$25; Business or Organization \$50; and Contributing \$100. Those who have been in the Cornville area for 50 years or more are entitled to an honorary membership for the asking. Please consider joining the Cornville Historical Society! There is a lot going on, more to be done, and YOU can be a part of it all! For more information, contact Membership Chair Stephen Cassagio at 649-1426 or [St3ph3n@mac.com](mailto:St3ph3n@mac.com).

**Got Space?** The Society’s records, supplies and historical items are now kept in private homes and not as accessible as we’d like them to be. We urgently need a secure place to consolidate and store records, hold Board meetings, and do research. Please let us know if you have (or know of) an office, small building, or other spare space somewhere within the Cornville-Page Springs area that you would be willing to share. The Society maintains liability insurance; would furnish and maintain the space; and would pay utilities. Only Board members and their invitees would use the space. If you have a suggestion or space to offer, please contact President Linda Allen Kappel at 634-4698 or [losttango@sedona.net](mailto:losttango@sedona.net)

**Got Time?** We are always looking for help with oral histories, site inventories, restoring the post office, fund raising activities, serving on the board, and more. If you have just a little time to spare to help with any of these activities, please contact any of the board members listed at the end of this newsletter. We will appreciate any time you can give us!

**Board Members Enjoy Bee Canyon Trek:** On a beautiful October day, six members of the Society were guided by Board Member Dan Derrick into Bee Canyon on the Coconino National Forest south of Cornville. The group enjoyed a half-day trek to the canyon floor and sack lunch back on the top. It was easy to see why the canyon got its name from its many beehives where pioneers gathered honey. The canyon contains numerous prehistoric animal tracks, which are not marked and can only be seen with a qualified guide. Dan was joined by Janet & Stephen Cassagio, Judy & Dave Miller and Sharon & Steve Morehouse.



**Above:** Views of Bee Canyon from above and below  
**Below:** Elephant tracks, bee hive, and another track



**Check Out our Website:** The Society now has a website at [www.cornville-historical-society.org](http://www.cornville-historical-society.org) which includes information about the Society's mission and goals; membership form; lists of site inventories and oral histories completed; highlights of activities; past issues of *E-Mail News*, available publications; and more! It's a good place to learn more about Cornville and e-mail your comments or questions. Please check it out and let us know what you think!

**Cornville Historical Society 2012-13 Board of Directors:** Linda Allen Kappel (*President*), 634-4698; Diana Stipek (*Vice President*), 639-3632; Judy Miller (*Secretary*), 649-1916; Janet Cassagio (*Treasurer*), 649-1426; and Dan Derrick, 634-4358