



CORNVILLE COURIER

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**Tenth Annual
Meeting Held
March 19**



*Above & Right:
Connie Godard Phillips &
Darlene McMenamin Moreno*

The Society held its tenth annual meeting on March 19. The meeting was attended by thirty members; and the agenda included progress and financial reports for 2013; approval of the 2014 budget, and election of Board members. The nine-member board now includes Frances Baxter, Janet Cassagio, Cheryl Chamberlain, Don Godard, Judy Miller, Ann Schaeffer, Cindy Snyder, Diana Stipek and Muffy Vallely. In addition, Don Welcome will serve as Membership Chairman and Stephen Cassagio will continue as Old Post Office Project Liaison. Guest speakers Connie Godard Phillips and Darlene McMenamin Moreno delighted the audience with their memories of growing up in Cornville. They were classmates and shared many experiences from the sixties and seventies. Refreshments were served.

Page Springs Historic Markers Dedicated

On May 3, the Society hosted a dedication of historic markers honoring the James Page Homestead and the Page Springs Store & Gas Station. Yavapai County Supervisor Tom Thurman was guest speaker and unveiled the markers with help from Fayth Black, a sixth generation member of the Page family. Twenty members of the Page Family, including Fanita Page, Jack Page and Joe Birch, and many children and grandchildren, attended the ceremony at Up the Creek Grill on Page Springs Road.

One marker is now installed at the south parking lot of the Page Springs Fish Hatchery, near the site of the last surviving structure from the Page homestead. The other is placed at the entrance of Up the Creek Grill, which was the original site of the Page Springs Store and Gas Station, established in the 1950's by Jim and Fanita Page.

The Cornville Historical Society has now placed a total of four markers, in cooperation with private property owners. In 2012, the first two were placed at sites of the old Cornville Post Office on Cornville Road. Over time, the Society hopes to place a series of markers at key historic sites.



Left to Right: Jeri Page Spude, Fanita Page & Fay Page Mauk



Above: The front façade is taking shape.



Below: A lot of hard work is needed to reinforce the façade.



Above: The structure as seen from the rear in Windmill Gardens.

Old Post Office Changing Face

The old Cornville Post Office & Store has undergone a major change in appearance during the past couple months, with construction of the porch and façade well underway. Volunteer work crew members have completed repairs of board and batten siding on the sides and back, the front façade requires extensive work to install flashing and add reinforcement.

The photos above left and center show (1) how the structure appears from Cornville Road and (2) a view of the back of the façade, which illustrates the reinforcement work that is being done. The above right photo shows the wooded setting of the structure, as it appears from the rear in Windmill Gardens.

Next steps in the work include reconstruction of door and window frames, completion of the porch roof, and exterior finish. Then, interpretive features will be designed and installed that can be viewed from the porch through the front windows. A pathway of commemorative bricks is envisioned leading to the porch, where wooden crates and barrels will be displayed as in the historic photo.

Donations are always welcome to keep the project going. Tax-deductible contributions can be addressed to the Cornville Historical Society Post Office Fund, P.O. Box 1200, Cornville, AZ 86325.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

Planning Ahead

The Board of Directors will be taking a summer break from monthly board meetings, but work will continue at the old post office site, on research and oral histories. And the board is already planning ahead for Fall, with various events in planning stages. Several fundraiser projects are being considered, including a chuckwagon dinner, yard sale, holiday gift basket raffle, and a commemorative brick project. Watch for details in the next *Cornville Courier*, which will be published in September.



Board members enjoyed a visit to the Dancing Apache Ranch & Lodge to consider possibilities for a fundraiser event.

Society Seeking Grant Funds

In March, the Society applied for a Yavapai Community Foundation Grant for the Old Post Office Restoration Project. If approved, the funds will be used primarily to design and develop the exhibit phase of the project. Grants will be awarded in June 2014. When reconstruction of the historic landmark is complete, exhibits will be placed inside to be viewed through the windows from the porch. Some display items have already been collected and others will be needed to make the structure appear as it did between 1909 and 1914.



PAGE SPRINGS HISTORIC MARKER DEDICATION - May 3, 2014

Photos Clockwise from Top Left: An audience of about 40 people, including 20 descendants of pioneer settler James Page, attended the dedication of two historic markers at Up the Creek Grill. Fanita Page checks out the marker at the entrance of the restaurant, which was once Page Springs Store & Gas Station, established by her and her husband Jim, grandson of James Page. Yavapai County Supervisor Tom Thurman and Fayth Black, a sixth generation member of the Page family, unveiled the markers. Historical Society President Judy Miller and Cindy Dunn, Assistant Manager, Page Springs Fish Hatchery, stand by the marker at the James Page Homestead. Fanita Page and Geraldine Birch greet Tom Thurman. The cake featured a photo of the Page Springs Store as it appeared in the 1950's.

Who? What? When?



While driving around Cornville, have you ever said “I wonder how they came up with this street name? The Cornville Historical Society would like to start a file documenting for whom streets were named and when or simply the stories behind the names. For example, for whom was Loy Road named? Was it for Samuel Loy or William Loy or someone else? Who actually named it? When did it become Loy Road?

A sample of street names that we would like to learn more about include: Loy Road, Chick Road, Zale Drive, Priscilla Lane, Maggie Lane, Derrick Lane, Whatever Way, Aspaas (both North and South), Greenwell, Mel's Road, Slipper, Baxter, Mulcaire, Manley, Fern, Bright, Koch Ranch, Mountain View, Tissaw, Rattlesnake, Lee Pasture, etc. You get the idea, just about every road in Cornville has a story behind it. Can you help us? If you know anything about the streets of Cornville just share your information either by email at janetcassagio@me.com, or mail at Cornville Historical Society, PO Box 1200, Cornville, AZ 86325. We would love to hear from you! We will share whatever information we receive through this newsletter.

“Once Upon a Creek” Feature Series Coming



The first settlers on “Lower Oak Creek”, later to become known as Cornville and Page Springs, were attracted first to the creek and then to the abundant natural springs throughout the area. Oak Creek is truly the lifeblood of the community as it meanders 23 miles from Deer Pass to the Verde River. In the Fall of 2014, the *Cornville Courier* will begin a series of feature historical articles that tell the story of pioneer settlement and life “Once Upon a Creek”. Stay tuned and let us know your ideas for articles.

www.cornville_historical_society.org

Oral History Help Wanted

The Society has a list of long-time residents that they'd like to interview and other residents or former residents who have said they are willing to be interviewed. What is needed, though, is a reliable team of members who would take on the task of making contacts, scheduling time and place, conducting, recording and transcribing oral interviews, usually about two hours long. It is rewarding work if you like history and enjoy listening.

♦ **Interviewers**—Outgoing people to schedule and conduct interviews with people that have knowledge of Cornville and Page Springs History. Use recorder and take photos, working alone or with someone. Guidance and recorder provided.

♦ **Computer Operators**—People with basic computer skills to transcribe and proof oral interviews from digital recorders, working on your own time, as needed.

To learn more, contact Muffy Valley at valley@q.com or 639-9558.

Office & Storage Space Wanted

The Society urgently needs secure office space to store records, hold meetings, and do research.

Please contact us if you know of an office, small building, or other unused space somewhere within the Cornville-Page Springs area that would meet our needs. If you would be willing to pledge funds to defray rental costs, please let us know that, too!

The Society maintains liability insurance; and only Board members and their invitees would use the space. The Society would also pay utilities, furnish and maintain the space. If you have a suggestion or space to offer, contact any board member listed below.

Cornville Historical Society 2014-15 Board of Directors

Officers: Judy Miller (President), 649-1916 or jdymir@cableone.net; Diana Stipek (Vice President), 639-3632;

Cheryl Chamberlain (Secretary), 639-0865 or wormworm@earthlink.net;

Janet Cassagio (Treasurer), 649-1426 or janetcassagio@me.com;

Directors: Frances Baxter, 634-4534; Don Godard 301-5160; Ann Schaeffer, 634-5144 or bannschaeffer@aol.com;

Cindy Snyder, 649-9628 or wheelz156@msn.com; Muffy Valley, 639-9558 or valley@q.com.