



# CORNVILLE COURIER

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## Annual Meeting March 15

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Cornville Historical Society will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2017, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., at the First Southern Baptist Church, 11340 Circle Dr., in Cornville.

The agenda will include CY 2016 Reports, CY 2017 Budget Approval, Election of Board members, followed by a special program. Board members up for election include Cheryl Chamberlain, Veronica Moody and Cindy Snyder.

Nominations from the floor will be accepted. The program will present a reenactment of the life of Martha Dunham



Summerhayes, featuring a performance by Chris Nelson as Martha, and Don Godard as her husband, Lieutenant Jack Summerhayes. Chris and Don will reenact the Summerhayes' adventure based on the

autobiographical book, Vanished Arizona, first published in 1908, along with additional research Chris and Don did into the personal history of the family and the history of the areas through which they traveled. The presentation will be followed by an opportunity for questions; and refreshments will be served.

The meeting and program are open to the public. We look forward to seeing you.

## CHS Receives Grant from Thumb Butte and Yavapai Questers

The Society received a financial boost for the Old Post Office Project, on January 18, 2017, when they were presented with two checks totaling \$1,795 from the Thumb Butte Questers and the Yavapai Questers. Both groups selected the Society's project as one to fund for 2017. Paula Mohlenbruck, from the Thumb Butte Questers and Stevi and Phil Casdorff, from the Yavapai Questers were on hand to present the grant money to Muffy Vallely, President and Janet Cassagio, Treasurer.

The Questers raise money through the antique and art shows held semiannually at the Courthouse Square in Prescott. The funds they raise are awarded to group projects that focus on preserving history. The Society now has one year to use the money, specifically, for restoring and renovating the interior of the Old Post Office to look the way it did in the mid 1950s.



## U. S. P. S. Donates Old Post Office Boxes



Society members, Don Godard, Mike Meehan, Steve Schley and Stephen Cassagio, along with Cornville Postmaster, John Rachel, stirred up a bit of excitement at the Cornville Post Office on Friday, February

10, 2017, when the old Double Eagle post office boxes that have adorned the lobby for many years were picked up. The boxes were donated by the U. S. Postal Service to the Historical Society for display in the old 1909 Cornville Post Office and Store at Windmill Gardens. Some of the boxes will be used to recreate the way the post office looked in the 1950s; the remainder will be on display in another part of the structure.



## Holiday Event December 11, A Success!

The Annual Holiday Fundraiser was held at Iris Spring Ranch on December 11. The event featured a short presentation on the history of the 160 acres owned by Abraham Kiewe, Cornville's first land patent holder, a portion of which is now Iris Spring Ranch. The presentation was followed by a musical program featuring Cornville native, Alvie Self.



Participants were invited to tour the ranch property on their own and enjoy refreshments in the bunk house. More than 20 gift baskets filled with wine, merchandise, and gift certificates were raffled off. Although the event was held outside, the weather was beautiful and the guests spent an enjoyable Sunday afternoon with picturesque scenery, music, food, and each other. Surprisingly, no one took up the offer to go swimming in the natural spring-fed pool or to try out the zip line across the creek!

The event netted just under \$1,000 to support historical society activities. Sincere appreciation is extended to Ryne and Wendi Reed, the owners of Iris Spring Ranch and Bill Alfsen, ranch manager for their hospitality. Local businesses and individuals who donated items for the gift baskets included Up the Creek Grill, Blazin' M Ranch, Verde Canyon Railway, Canyon Mesa Country Club, Coyote Trails Golf Course, Cornville Mercantile, Harry's Hideaway, Javelina Leap Vineyards & Winery, Page Springs Cellars & Vineyards, Oak Creek Winery, Salon West, Windmill Gardens, and Society board members – past and present. THANK YOU all!

### Old Post Office Dedication Scheduled

Mark your calendars! The dedication of the old post office is scheduled for Saturday, June 17, 2017. Details are still being worked out, so watch for further information as to time and program. Scraping, sanding and painting still need to be done on the outside of the structure to get it ready for its big debut. If you have some time and the ability to volunteer a few hours, please contact Muffy Valley at 639-9558 or [valley@q.com](mailto:valley@q.com).

## Denise Domning Needs Your Help

The Society is proud to announce that we will be working with local resident and author, Denise Domning, on a book that will tell the story of Page Springs Road in a decade by decade approach. Denise is currently gathering information about the road and its nearby area. She is particularly interested in the flora, fauna and lifestyle, as it evolved through the decades.

If you have any information to share, please contact Denise at 928-202-4385 or at [denise@thefarmonoakcreek.com](mailto:denise@thefarmonoakcreek.com). Denise has prepared a survey to help jog your memory. Copies will be available at the annual meeting on March 15, or by email. You can also access the survey at our website. If you have any questions about this, you can also contact Janet Cassagio at 649-1426 or [janetcassagio@me.com](mailto:janetcassagio@me.com).

### Memorial Bricks for the Old Post Office Sold Out

The Historical Society is pleased to announce that we surpassed our goal of selling 75 memorial bricks. We sold 78 bricks for a memorial path at the historic Cornville Post Office at Windmill Gardens. The new path will meander from a parking lot and past an interpretive sign to the left end of the front porch. Watch for the walkway to start taking shape this Spring.

### Board Meetings Open to All

The Society's Board of Directors meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 am to noon, with the opportunity to stay for lunch (*optional*) at Up the Creek Grill, 1975 North Page Springs Road in Cornville. The owners have graciously offered space and refreshments for the meetings and the opportunity for further discussion and friendship over lunch afterward. The nine-member Board meets monthly from October through March (*except December*); and takes a summer break from April through September. All meetings are open to members and anyone interested in Cornville history. Mark your calendars and come join us!

Visit our Website at  
[www.cornville-historical-society.org](http://www.cornville-historical-society.org)

### Cornville Historical Society 2016 – 2017 Board of Directors

**Officers:** Muffy Valley (President), 639-9558 or [valley@q.com](mailto:valley@q.com); Don Godard (Vice-President), 301-5160;

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

Janet Cassagio (Treasurer), 649-1426 or [janetcassagio@me.com](mailto:janetcassagio@me.com)

**Directors:** Veronica Moody, 634-9221 or [wvmoody@cableone.net](mailto:wvmoody@cableone.net); Nita Rinehart, 963-1990 or [glorylandfarm@gmail.com](mailto:glorylandfarm@gmail.com);

Cindy Snyder, 649-9628 or [wheelz156@msn.com](mailto:wheelz156@msn.com); Diana Stipek, 639-3632;

Don Welcome, 649-3340 or [donwelcome@q.com](mailto:donwelcome@q.com)