



# CORNVILLE COURIER

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## Roger Naylor to Speak at Holiday Fundraiser

The Society is pleased to announce that noted Arizona author and travel writer Roger Naylor will be the featured speaker at the Society's Holiday Fundraiser, set for 1 to 4 pm, Sunday, December 4, at Oak Creek School, 11490 East Purple Sage Road in Cornville.

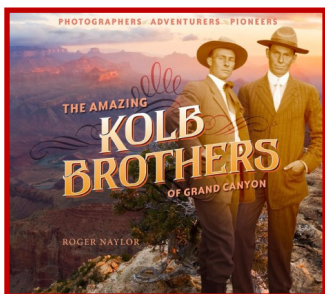


Naylor will present "The Amazing Kolb Brothers in the Grand Canyon" based on his book by the same name. The public is invited to hear Naylor's free presentation about the adventures of two pioneer brothers who went to great lengths (to say the least!) as photographers of the Grand Canyon.

The book preserves a fascinating story from Arizona's history.

Roger Naylor is a resident of the Verde Valley, a well-known feature writer for the *Arizona Republic*, *Arizona Highways* and more; and he is the author of several Arizona travel books. His writing is descriptive and filled with humor. Copies will be available for a book signing by the author.

Following the presentation, the annual event will again feature the popular gift basket raffle and holiday refreshments. A long row of baskets, each valued at \$50 or more, will contain themed items, wine, and gift certificates. Tickets are \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00. All proceeds will benefit the Society.



## President's Message

### Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Yes, it's that time of year. So busy, but a time to enjoy families and friends. We are grateful to now have all our Society files in one place in a storage unit in Cornville. It's not climate controlled, but is a big, clean unit. There is enough space to work at a card table. If you need to do research, you can have access to the Cornville Society's oral history files and site location inventories. Just let us know if you want to do some research.

Patrick Shamrell and Dan Derrick moved files out of the restored Post Office to the Storage Unit this summer. They will be doing some repairs and cleaning to enhance our Post Office exhibits. Don't forget to stop by sometime and look at the exhibits.

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## Annual Membership Drive Underway

Reminder letters were sent on November 1 to all members, friends and business leaders inviting them to join or renew their membership dues for Calendar Year 2023. Anyone interested in the Society's mission of gathering, preserving and sharing information about the history of the Cornville postal area is welcome to join. The Society was founded in 2004 and achieved a charter roster of 120 members in 2012.

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 just for the asking.

If you are already a member, please renew; and if not, please join! Restoration & maintenance of the old Cornville Post Office is our primary long-term project, but 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 Karen Wilkens at 920-650-1702 or kewilkens500@gmail.com.

**Join the Cornville Historical Society!  
Invite your friends & neighbors, too.**

## President's Message *(continued)*

Diana Stipek and I attended a workshop at the Sedona Heritage Museum in October. The Museum Association of Arizona led the interesting session on "Collection Policies". There were seven Historical Societies represented at the workshop. After lunch, each Society shared information about activities going on in their organization. This was a great get-together to meet other society members and share.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone December 4 at Oak Creek School at 1 pm. The speaker Roger, Naylor is very entertaining and will tell you about those "*Amazing Kolb Brothers of the Grand Canyon.*" Of course, everyone will have an opportunity to purchase raffle tickets and win a beautiful gift basket!

See you soon, Sharon Morehouse

### Once Upon a Creek



## CHS Presents History of Page Springs for OLLI

This Fall, the Yavapai College Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) program again invited the Cornville Historical Society to participate as part of a

series of presentations about Historical Societies in the Verde Valley.

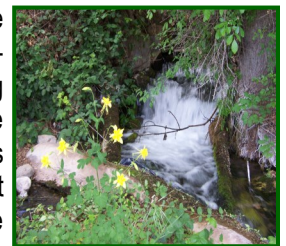
On September 19, Judy Miller & Sharon Morehouse attended and showed a "Once Upon a Creek" power point presentation that focused on historic Page Springs.

The typical "Once Upon a Creek" presentation has two parts. Part I highlights the formation and traces activities of the Cornville Historical Society since its founding in 2004; and Part II delves into some aspect of Cornville History. In the past, Janet Cassagio made presentations for OLLI, based on her extensive research of Cornville families and ranches.

Using information gathered for Page Springs Hatchery exhibit and interpretive signs placed at the historic Page Springs Store and Gas Station (Now Up the Creek Grill); and the James Page Homestead (now part of the Hatchery), Judy presented a summary of history from the time the first homesteader received title to his land at what we now known as Stewart Hill in 1880.

A highlight was the story of how Cornville got its name. By 1885, more pioneers settled further north on Oak Creek around the site of perpetual springs. Included were Ben Cople, James Page and Henry Mortimer Cone and family. Cone didn't stay long, but while there he supported establishment of a post office in what was then known as Lower Oak Creek. His goal was to name the community "Coneville", with his daughter as postmistress. However, agent George Kingston filed the application during a period of time when the Postal Service did not allow new post offices to be named after individual persons. So, the official record of the Postmaster General states that the name "Cornville" was assigned on July 9, 1885, with Kingston as postmaster. But Cone's daughter did serve as "acting" postmaster for 20 months.

Cople moved on and James Page eventually acquired three homesteads totaling 280 acres, including the springs named after him. Page married, raised a family, grew crops and developed one of the finest ranches in the County. In 1928, he started a trout farm that later became the Page Springs Fish Hatchery.



Page Springs keeps flowing at 68 degrees year round

## Support CHS With Amazon Smile

The Society has participated in the Amazon Smile program since 2019; and we have received as much as \$60 each year since then. Please consider adding the Society to your list of donors! Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/80-0598087>; or [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and select the Cornville Historical Society as your charity when shopping on Amazon; By doing so, the Society will receive .5% of the amount you spend on Amazon, with no additional cost to you. Please sign up now!



## Cornville Historical Society 2022-23 Board of Directors

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Diana Stipek (Vice President), 928-639-3632; Cheryl Chamberlain (Secretary), 928-639-0865 or [wormworm@earthlink.net](mailto:wormworm@earthlink.net); and Cindy Snyder (Treasurer), 928-649-9628 or [CindySnyder9550@gmail.com](mailto:CindySnyder9550@gmail.com)

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