



CORNVILLE COURIER

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SPECIAL NOTICE

The Cornville Historical Society will be providing baked treats to Honor Cornville's 140th Birthday at the CCA Community Meeting 7 pm, July 8, at Desert Star School

See you there!



Annual Meeting Held March 29: "CHS Celebrates Twenty Years"

The March 29 Annual Meeting featured an Anniversary theme, as members gather to celebrate twenty years since their first meeting in 2005. The agenda included a business meeting to hear annual progress & financial reports, approve a budget, & elect a board of directors for 2025-26.

This year's program included a display of items showing the Society's activities & progress since its founding. Past officers & board members were invited to share memories about their experiences with the Society.

While attendance was sparse, a quorum was present. Founding Member Jan Tomlinson attended and shared highlights of her time with the Society in the early years, during the time the Society was being established and incorporated. Refreshments were served, with plenty of social time for conversation & sharing.

The Society's Board of Directors is now on a summer break until September.

Board of Directors Elected for 2025-26

Cheryl Chamberlain



Judy Miller



Ginny Rench



Sharon Riffle



Cindy Snyder



Cindy Traverso

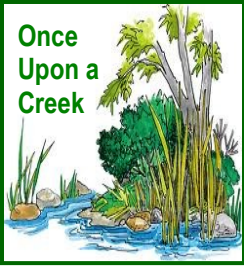


Muffy Valley



Karen Wilkens





LOOKING BACK & TAKING STOCK

Anniversaries are times to take stock. Look Back. That's what history is about. It becomes more significant as we age.

Where are we as a Historical Society? Right now, the Cornville Historical Society is operating as a skeleton crew. But we know that both tides and organizations ebb and flow, according to the amount of volunteer energy available. We deal with it. We adjust.

We're taking stock. That's what our annual meeting was about—sharing what we have, what we know so far, and our hopes for the future.

We have a big goal to find “a place” to store our stuff, to meet, to be available, and to be a visible part of the community. We offer the opportunity to make a tax-deductible donation to our new Facility Fund.

We have our historic Post Office. It's a community treasure. We have our rural, agricultural nature, from the time of pioneer settlement, with gardens and orchards that produced goods for Jerome mines and Fort Verde soldiers, to today's vineyards and farmer's markets. We have ranch stories. Out of eleven years of successful holiday fundraiser events, seven have been held at local ranches.

There are many stories to capture and share. Our Society's focus is more about collecting “stories” than “things”, which can be found in other local museums. That's the idea behind our “Once Upon a Creek” theme. One place we have stories is in the “Cornville Family Tree”, documented in Ancestry.com by Janet Cassagio. Starting with our first families, like Loy, Chick & Dickinson, Janet perused County records, interviewed descendants, and visited historic sites to build a comprehensive storyline. If there is someone out there who is familiar with Ancestry.com, please join us as a volunteer to maintain the data base.

We have an opportunity for a special project or event this year to celebrate our milestones. We have \$1,000 in Arizona Preservation Society grant funds available. What shall we do? Something enjoyable ... or tangible? An event ... or a collectible? ... or maybe plan a community mural project? Ideas welcome!

Membership is down. Folks are aging out. We need new members and business interests. Dues are low. For those who've lived in Cornville for 50 years or more, a free honorary membership is available for the asking. Volunteers are needed—people with interest in history, curiosity and time. Folks who like research, along with those with organizational skills and who know how to use computers! Come join us!

—Excerpts from Opening Remarks at Annual Meeting, March 29, 2025

2025 a Year for Milestones

140 Years Ago—The United States Postmaster General established the Cornville Post Office on July 9, 1885.

20 Years Ago—The Cornville Historical Society held its first membership meeting in March 2005, after becoming incorporated in November 2004.

10 Years Ago—In 2015, the original historic Cornville Post Office was being restored at Windmill Gardens., after its move in December 2012 and before its dedication in June 2017. This year, it received a facelift with a grant from the Arizona Preservation Society.



Cornville Historical Society 2025-26 Board of Directors

Cheryl Chamberlain (*President*), 928-639-0865 or wormworm@earthlink.net; **Judy Miller** (*Vice-President*), 928-301-3844 or jdymrlraz@gmail.com; **Ginny Rench** (*Secretary*), 928-300-4899 or rench8@gmail.com; **Cindy Traverso**, (*Treasurer*) 623-337-6332 or femtazme@aol.com; **Sharon Riffle**, 928-607-5610 or shriffle@hotmail.com; **Cindy Snyder**, 928-963-6875 or CindySnyder9550@gmail.com; **Muffy Valley**, 928-639-9558 or valleyllc@gmail.com; **Karen Wilkens** (*Membership*), 920-650-1702 or kewilkens500@gmail.com