

**THE SECOND ANNUAL
WESTERN HISTORY SYMPOSIUM
SPONSORED BY
THE SHARLOT HALL MUSEUM**

AND

THE PRESCOTT CORRAL OF WESTERNERS INTERNATIONAL

OCTOBER 15, 2005

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Stalwart Women

Speaker: Leo Banks

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: Museum Center

Pioneer women played a huge role in shaping the history of the Arizona Territory. This presentation will focus on the lives and experiences of some of these women, including their hardships, their sacrifices and the conditions they endured simply to survive on the Arizona frontier in the 1800's. One poignant example is the woman who, assisted by her 12-year old son, delivered her own child in her bedroom and then instructed him not to tell the other children of the birth of this new baby in order that she could get an "hour's rest" before she returned to her chores. The talk is based on a book the speaker authored for *Arizona Highways' Wild West Series* entitled *Stalwart Women*. More than just a recap of the stories in the book, the author will take us "inside" and explain why he chose to write on these particular women and the reasons that he finds them to be so fascinating.

Leo Banks: Leo is a journalist, historian and author. He has a master's degree in journalism from the University of Arizona and began his writing career as a reporter for the *Arizona Daily Star*. Since 1985, he has been a freelance writer and journalist and has traveled extensively throughout Arizona, searching out obscure historical facts in libraries and archives, primarily with respect to Territorial Arizona. His works have appeared in *The Boston Globe*, *Los Angeles Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *True West*, *National Geographic Traveler*, *Sports Illustrated* and especially *Arizona Highways*. Leo has authored or co-authored several books, including *Rattlesnake Blues*, *Double Cross*, *Days of Destiny and Manhunts and Massacres*. He is a frequent lecturer on the Arizona frontier of the 1800's.

Before There Was a Town: The Sanders Family Comes to Prescott, AT

Speaker: Al Bates

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: Museum Center

This is the story of Julius and Celia Sanders who, with five of their children, arrived in the Prescott area in the fall and winter of 1863-64 to become Prescott's first white family. Their experiences in helping to build a community in what was then a wilderness were recorded by one of their sons 60 years later. His account and family photos help us to understand the pioneer experience in early Territorial Arizona.

Al Bates: Bates is an "almost-native" of Arizona, having lived in the state since 1937. Since moving to Prescott 14 years ago, Al has been active in local volunteer activities, especially the Prescott Corral of Westerners International. Al has researched Arizona Territorial history both locally at the Sharlot Hall Museum archives and at other sources in Arizona and New Mexico. Recently, he edited the memoirs of Tom Sanders, one of the earliest Prescott pioneers into a book called *My Arizona Adventures: The Recollections of Thomas Dudley Sanders - Miner, Freighter and Rancher in Arizona Territory*, published in 2004 by the Prescott Westerners. He continues to work on a biography of Jack Swilling, one of the most colorful of Arizona's founding fathers.

Gail Gardner – Cowboy and Poet

Speaker: Dick Bowerman

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: Sharlot Hall Bldg.

The legendary Gail Gardner, for whom Gail Gardner Drive in Prescott was named, was a Skull Valley rancher, Prescott postmaster, storyteller and cowboy poet. Many of his poems were made into songs, including the internationally famous song "Sierry Petes", which tells the tale of two cowboys who, after spending an evening drinking on Whiskey Row, met the devil, roped him, and tied a knot in his tail. The song was recorded by many Western singers, including Ian Tyson, and was the subject of several paintings by renowned Prescott western artist George Phippen. Gardner was one of the founding members of the Smoki.

Dick Bowerman: Dick, a native of Arizona, is a retired schoolteacher, who has lived in Skull Valley for 25 years. A history buff, Dick has researched and presented other programs of local historical interest to such organizations as the Prescott Corral of the Westerners, Sons of the American Revolution, Prescott Camper Coach Club, and the Skull Valley Historical Society, including talks on King Woolsey, William Kirkland and Virgil Earp. He is a board member of the Skull Valley Historical Society.

The History of the Smoki People

Speaker: Bruce Fee

Time: 1:30 PM

Place: Sharlot Hall Bldg.

The Smoki was a "tribe" of non-Indians, organized in 1921 by a group of Prescott business and professional men to assist the then-financially troubled Fourth of July

celebration by performing historically-authentic Indian ceremonial dances, including the world-famous Smoki Snake Dance. From these humble beginnings the Smoki ceremonial dances grew to become world recognized as a spectacular and exciting pageant. Many well-known Prescott figures, including Gail Gardner, Danny Freeman, Taylor Hicks, Bill Shepard and Dorothy Chafin, as well as our speaker, Bruce Fee, were members of the Smoki and participated in the ceremonial recreations.

Bruce Fee: Western Artist and Historian Bruce Fee has lived in Arizona for more than seventy-five years. A Navy veteran of World War II, where he served on submarines, Bruce graduated from Arizona State College (now known as Northern Arizona University) in 1950 and shortly thereafter moved to Prescott where he has since lived. He was a member of the Smoki People and participated in many of the ceremonial dance reenactments. Bruce is generally recognized as one of the most knowledgeable historians in the Prescott area and is a frequent speaker on a myriad of subjects of local and Southwestern history.

To Kill a Witch: Witches, Cannibals, and Anthropologists in the American Southwest

Speaker: J. Andrew Darling Time: 1:30 PM Place: Museum Center

Scientific reports of broken and cooked human remains in the ancient sites of the Anasazi captivate the imagination with images of cannibalism and warfare. This presentation reconsiders the evidence for violence in the archaeological record and its connection with the practice of witch execution. Were the Anasazi cannibals? What can the Anasazi teach us about the way we deal with our own social demons and those who threaten us? Dr. Darling's presentation is based on original research. Images of human skeletal material are included in the presentation.

J. Andrew Darling: Dr. Darling received his doctorate in anthropology in 1998 from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and he is a former fellow of the Smithsonian Institution. His fieldwork includes locations in the United States and Mexico. His work has appeared on the Discovery Channel, been quoted in the *New Yorker* magazine, and he has published in academic journals. Dr. Darling is the Assistant Coordinator for the Cultural Resource Management Program, Gila River Indian Community.

What's in Your Wallet?

Speaker: Sandra Lynch Time: 2:30 PM Place: Museum Center

In today's world, Yavapai County natives literally can survive with a 2 x 3 1/2 piece of plastic--magnetically encoded to connect with any food they might need, a night's lodging on the road, clothes on their backs, or any entertainment they might choose. You could say with pride: "We've come a long way in a few hundred years." If you turn the

clock backwards and look at Yavapai County residents in 1840, you find half-naked Yavapai natives without pockets, sporting small pouches with no more than three or four two-inch stones, doing exactly the same thing as today's folks. We haven't come that far after all because there was no interest to pay on those few rock! Sandra Lynch looks into the resourceful world of the Yavapai Indians, and examines: "What's in their wallet?"

Sandra Lynch: Dr. Lynch is the Curator of Anthropology for Sharlot Hall Museum. She is known for the Museum's Prescott Indian Art Market--seven years and still running. Sandy's work can be seen in the museum's exhibit, "The Baskets Keep Talking," the history and ethnology of the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe. Her current interest is installing a living exhibit--a Yavapai ethnobotanical garden that will include walking paths with surprising rock art features salvaged from a large local archaeological site.

Prescott to Phoenix: The Black Canyon and Wickenburg Stage Routes

Speaker: Leland Hanchett

Time: 2:30 PM

Place: Sharlot Hall Bldg.

In the latter half of the 1880's the main routes of travel between Prescott and Phoenix were the Black Canyon and Wickenburg roads. This presentation will cover the evolution of those routes from early wagon roads established to haul freight into the Central Highlands from California and the Salt River Valley to routes which could accommodate stagecoach and buckboard travel between Prescott and the Valley, which ultimately included that growing farm community which later came to be known as Phoenix. The speaker will discuss the people and the events associated with these early roads, including stations and station keepers, stage coaches and highwaymen, and other persons of note in Arizona history.

Leland Hanchett: Lee is a retired engineer and businessman who has lived in Arizona for 30 years. His passion is Arizona history and he has written six books on the subject, including *Catch the Stage to Phoenix*, which will serve as the basis for his talk. He has a summer home in Montana and is currently researching the history of a frontier-era trail between Fort Benton, Montana and Walla Walla, Washington.

The following organizations are also actively participating in the Symposium:

- Skull Valley Historical Society
- Prescott Valley Historical Society
- Arizona Roughriders Historical Society