

The Arizona Coach Talker

Newsletter of the Arizona Guides Association

Volume 23, Issue 2

November, 2009

"Taliesin Welcomes AGA"

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation is an Arizona 501.c.3 tax-exempt educational enterprise established in 1940 by Frank Lloyd Wright. Today, the Foundation owns, maintains, protects and operates:

- Two National Historic Landmark properties, Taliesin (Wisconsin) and Taliesin West (Arizona) attracting over 150,000 visitors each year
- The Frank Lloyd Wright Archives containing over 22,000 of Wright's architectural drawings and over 300,000 documents, works of art, prototypes and other personal effects
- The professionally accredited Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture, founded in 1932, which offers both Bachelors (BAS) and Masters (M.Arch) degrees
- 21 registered US and 11 international trademarks plus hundreds of design copyrights protecting the value and the historic significance of the works of Frank Lloyd Wright
- A residential community of scholars and artists, including members of the original Taliesin Fellowship, founded by Frank Lloyd Wright in 1932.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation employs over 100 full time and part time staff who work at both of their properties. The Foundation also operates a comprehensive Volunteer program in Arizona and Wisconsin. Established in 1990 to manage historic preservation at the Wisconsin campus, the Foundation's sister not-for-profit company, [Taliesin Preservation, Inc.](#), with whom the Foundation shares a number of Trustees, works in close partnership with the Foundation on several key educational and facilities preservation initiatives.

"Taliesin Welcomes the AGA"

When: Monday, November 2, 2009

Where: Taliesin West, Entrance at Cactus Road and Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard in Scottsdale.

Time: 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. AGA Board Meeting
6:00 - 7:00 P.M. Hospitality and Tour of Taliesin West
8:00 - P.M. General Meeting

Please RSVP to Diane @ 480.699.0119 or Dianne_wilhoit@q.com

AGA President Notes.....

Thank you for making our first meeting of the year such a fun time. It was great to see all of you, and thanks also for filling out the Quick Questions - it helps as we plan programs during the year. More than half of the respondents said they have taken AGA trips - six people said they have taken 10 or more trips!! All who responded said the trips were worth the time and money and they would take more trips. The Education Committee has a great trip planned for Nov. 9, and there are still a few seats available, so if you aren't working that day, please join us. By coincidence, this trip was featured in the auto section of The Arizona Republic on Oct. 29.

Are you considering taking the AGA Certification Test? Thirty-five of you answered "yes". If this is the year you have time to study for the test, check out the Education section of this newsletter.

Beginning in January, the format for our meetings will change slightly. Because Board Meetings are held one hour before the regular meeting time, and all business is done at Board meetings, we will immediately follow the Board Meeting with the short Regular meeting, and then have our speaker/tour/social hour. Everyone is invited to the Board Meeting. For business that is to be transacted, a motion can be made only by a Board Member, seconded by a Board Member, then everyone can be part of the discussion, and following that, it will be voted upon by Board Members. Watch for details in your January meeting notice.

Happy Halloween!! ~ Dottie

In case you missed it...from the Arizona Republic

Taliesin West on threatened list Taliesin West in Scottsdale joins Peru's Machu Picchu ancient ruins and Antoni Gaudi's Sagrada Familia church in Barcelona as cultural heritage sites threatened by neglect or overdevelopment, a preservationist group said Tuesday. The World Monuments Fund's watch list for 2010 includes 93 sites in 47 countries, ranging from Phajoding, a remote monastery in Bhutan, to the bridges along Connecticut's scenic Merritt Parkway. "The 2010 watch makes it clear that cultural heritage efforts in the 21st century must recognize the critical importance of sustainable stewardship and that we must work closely with local partners to create viable and appropriate opportunities to advance this," World Monuments Fund President Bonnie Burnham said.

U.S. sites on the watch list include architect Frank Lloyd Wright's home Taliesin in Spring Green, Wis., and Taliesin West in Scottsdale. Anne Maley, interim CEO of the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation, which operates both sites, said she could not comment on their inclusion on the watch list.

The Monuments Fund, dedicated to saving important landmarks around the world, said a new underground rail line in Barcelona will run perilously close to Gaudi's masterpiece, which was designed as an 18-tower church telling the tale of the Holy Family and has been under construction since the 1880s. Also threatened by new development are traditional townhouses in Kyoto, Japan, called machiya, which date from the early 1600s and are considered models of their type throughout the country. The monuments fund said the townhouses are being torn down, diminishing Kyoto's cultural history. Machu Picchu, an important Inca site and Peru's main tourist attraction, is threatened by its high volume of visitors. The fund said two sites in New Orleans, St. Louis Cemetery No. 2 and the Phillis Wheatley Elementary School, face continuing challenges following Hurricane Katrina, which devastated the area in 2005. The New York-based World Monuments Fund issues its watch list every two years. The list was initiated in the mid-1990s to call attention to sites that are threatened by neglect, vandalism, conflict or disaster. It's assembled by a panel of experts in archaeology, architecture, art history and preservation. The last list, in 2007, was the first to add global warming to the roster of forces the monuments fund says are threatening humanity's architectural and cultural heritage.

Hermosa Inn's \$2 million renovation near's completion A \$2 million project to update guest rooms and grounds is nearly complete at the Hermosa Inn in Paradise Valley. The improvements began in July and should be finished by the end of this month, according to Hermosa General Manager Mike Gildersleeve. Originally, a \$16 million project was planned, which included the construction of new rooms. The project had to be scaled back because the hotel could not obtain financing for the larger renovation. It refocused its attention on the room makeovers. The Hermosa, 5532 N. Palo Cristi Road, consists of a main lodge, 34 guest rooms, Lon's restaurant, swimming pool with private cabanas, an underground wine cellar, meeting space, and patios with wood-burning fireplaces. The hotel dates to the 1930s when cowboy artist Alonzo "Lon" Megargee built his home and studio called Casa Hermosa. The improvements to the 34 room hotel are expected to position the Hermosa in the luxury market as a small boutique-style hotel. The hotel boasts one of the Valley's finest restaurants, Lon's at the Hermosa Inn.

Most of the rooms were redone, and those untouched were used for guests during the construction. Those rooms will be dealt with in future phases. Gildersleeve said there are guests who still ask for the untouched rooms, which include shower curtains and older fixtures. The rest of the guest rooms were enlarged and updated with the bathrooms receiving new WaterWorks brand products including large walk-in showers with chrome faucets and showerheads, sinks and double vanities; oversize antique pedestal bathtubs, ceramic white tile floors, and white beadboard wainscoting. Each suite also features hand-cut flagstone tile entryways, olive loop carpeting, updated lighting treatments, multitextured walls, custom artwork, flat-screen plasma TV's, floor-to-ceiling French doors, and private patios furnished with teak furniture. The guest bedrooms include Egyptian cotton bedding, hand-crafted rod iron and wood headboards, canopy beds, and large walk-in closets. Four of the Hermosa's larger suites were divided into eight rooms, but can be combined for larger groups.

Wireless access was added throughout the hotel. Improvements to the grounds include new Sattillo tile sidewalks, additional landscaping featuring desert gardens and flower-lined meandering paths, and a hidden secret garden with privacy walls for small wedding ceremonies or for guests to relax. Rates will start at \$269 a night for the newly-remodeled rooms through the end of the year. Rates will start at \$349 per night during the peak season of January through April. Information: www.hermosainn.com or call 800-241-1210.

Justice's old house finds a new home Known for her stoicism, former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said she could not mask her emotion at the sight of her 1958 adobe house restored on a desert bluff in Papago Park. This week, O'Connor celebrated the effort it took to move the house brick by brick from Paradise Valley to Tempe. Tears came earlier this month when O'Connor sat at the front of the dinner table in the house where she reared her three boys - Scott, Brian and Jay - and lived with her husband, John, from 1958 to 1981.

O'Connor left behind the house and memories of her life's transition. In Arizona, she became one of few women to practice law during the 1950s. In 1969, she was appointed to the state Senate. She was re-elected twice, eventually becoming the first woman in the nation to serve as a state Senate majority leader. Later, she was appointed as a state Court of Appeals judge. In 1981, former President Ronald Reagan appointed and the U.S. Senate confirmed O'Connor as the first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court. O'Connor's rise from cowgirl to national icon has earned her respect - locally and nationally. "It was absolutely not a (typical) Ivy League background," said Peter Welsh, director of the Arizona Historical Society Museum at Papago Park in Tempe. "Her life - and where she came from and what she achieved - is truly inspirational." The museum has opened its "Sandra Day O'Connor: A citizen for all seasons" exhibit. At the opening, the former justice hosted what she coined a "mudslinging" party to celebrate the work it took to preserve her house. Mudslinging, O'Connor style, involved slathering a milk-and-mud concoction onto the house's exterior walls to seal the adobe, and said "John and I wanted to live in a sun-dried adobe because it speaks to me of the desert," recalling how, decades before, the two sealed the walls of their house in a manner taught to them by Native Americans. The proteins in milk prevent the adobe from flaking.

The house would become a place to broker compromise and make history. A clever host, O'Connor went straight for her fellow legislators' stomachs and got them talking over her famous chalupas. The informal dinners spurred friendships in spite of politics, making it easier to find common ground, O'Connor has said. O'Connor also welcomed Richard Nixon and Barry Goldwater, and was vetted for the Supreme Court in the 1,700-square-foot adobe. In 2005, when friends discovered the house was to be demolished by the current landowners, they recognized the adobe's historical significance and rallied to save it. Rarely deterred, O'Connor had an uncharacteristic response to the move. "I said, 'You can't. I mean - it's adobe; that's impossible.'" But with its 2,883 bricks, which were taken apart by hand and reconstructed in Papago Park, the house is testament to the steely matriarch who built it. Only five bricks broke in the process of moving the house. "I have such respect for Sandra," said Janie Ellis, the woman who led the move and daughter of the man who taught the O'Connors how to collect mud from the Salt River bed for their adobe. "It was trying but worth the blood, sweat and tears."

The house has become much more than preservation work; it is now at the center of an effort to promote civic discourse as Arizona heads into its second century. "We're about to celebrate Arizona's 100th birthday. As time goes on, we'll be making suggestions for Arizona's next 100 years," said O'Connor of the O'Connor House Project, an umbrella for recent bipartisan reform efforts and work to prevent domestic violence. Tempe Mayor Hugh Hallman, who helped with the "mudslinging", noted the beauty of the desert house and the work politicians of his generation have ahead. "It looks like it belonged here," he said. "It will stand as an icon not just for the woman who made it famous but for the progress we need to make for this state to survive."

Scottsdale Historical Society outgrows Red Schoolhouse It took the Scottsdale Historical Society more than 20 years to find a permanent home for its collection of Scottsdale artifacts - but it is still growing. The group, founded in 1969, moved into the Little Red Schoolhouse, 7333 E. Scottsdale Mall, in 1991. The historical society quickly opened a museum to display everything from pieces of Scottsdale founder Winfield Scott's silverware to memorabilia from the former Scottsdale High School. Based on visitor sign-in sheets, the Scottsdale Historical Society has from 25,000 to 30,000 visitors annually, museum manager JoAnn Handley said. The museum is open 10 months out of the year, closing during July and August. But the museum needs more room to store its growing collection. The historical society has resorted to renting public storage lockers to house items. Artifacts in storage include the exterior letters and empty movie reels from the old Kachina movie theater; an exercise machine from the historic Jokake Inn; a doll house, trophy cases and trophies from Scottsdale High; and metal signs and wooden baseball lockers from the original Scottsdale Stadium. According to the signs, grandstand seating was \$2 and bleacher seats cost \$1.50 at the old stadium. The locker used by former left-handed pitcher Dave Righetti, who played for the New York Yankees and other major league teams, is included in the collection. Righetti is currently the pitching coach for the San Francisco Giants.

The historical society hopes to find a benefactor willing to provide additional archival and office space. "We certainly have talked about expanding. At one time we talked about having a satellite in north Scottsdale," said Janet Larkin, historical society president. Some of the historical society's board members live in north Scottsdale and look for potential space. "Periodically, we look into whether there could be a storefront or something available because we don't have much money. We are all volunteers," Larkin added. The goal would be to find additional storage room to free up space in the basement of the Little Red Schoolhouse. The basement is now crammed with yearbooks and other artifacts and is used by volunteers to sort and catalog items. The ground floor houses the public displays along with a museum gift shop. "We talked about going into the era of the '50s, maybe even the '60s," Larkin said. "That room downstairs would be a good place to expand to if we had another location for the archives and office space." Handley said the historical society rents three storage units and may have to rent a fourth. Space at the Little Red Schoolhouse is simply too restrictive. Handley estimated the building contains about 2,500 square feet, including the basement. "We are very, very cramped," Handley said. "We have, actually, three 10- by 20-foot lockers, storage space, and we're about to run out of that. . . . I'm almost out of space stacking stuff." Larkin said it is important to learn about one's roots, and the museum helps residents do that. "We get to a point when we say, 'I'm sorry I didn't ask all those important questions of our mothers, fathers, our grandparents.' I think it's important that people know how Scottsdale was formed," Larkin said.

George "Doc" Cavalliere Scottsdale's eldest native, died September 21, at his Reata Pass home. He was Scottsdale's eldest native-born resident, who served on its first City Council, operated the pioneer family's blacksmith shop for 50 years, and ran the Reata Pass Steakhouse and Greasewood Flat tavern for two decades. He would have turned 93 on Sept. 27. Because of his ill health, his companion, Joyce Eller, held an early birthday celebration in August at the time a book about the family, "100 Years of the Cavallieres," came off the press. The lone survivor of the eight Cavalliere children was born in 1916 at a home adjacent to the present Cavalliere Blacksmith Shop and Ornamental Ironworks on Brown Avenue and Second Street in Old Town Scottsdale. "This is the end of an era," said Scottsdale native JoAnn Mowry Handley. "When Scottsdale was a small town, he did so much for the townspeople."

Cavalliere was remembered as a caring, generous person who helped the out-of-work by giving them jobs. "If someone needed money, they could always go to Doc," recalled his niece, Jan Ketchum Stover of Sacramento. "Doc was always there for us." He was one of the town's first councilmen, replacing farmer Bill Miller who served one month. For the next 10 years, from 1951 to 1961, he helped run the city, serving when then-Mayor Malcolm White and council members received no salary.

Cavalliere served in Italy during World War II. In his spare time there, he was taught how to make delicate ornamental roses and intricate lattice work. With farm equipment repair dwindling, the blacksmith shop became known for its ornamental ironworks. He crafted metal pieces for actress Amanda Blake, diplomat Clare Booth Luce, and architect Frank Lloyd Wright. His biggest job was creating the spiral staircase, window grills, massive gates and rails for the Walter McCune Mansion.

The entrepreneurial spirit bit Cavalliere at a young age. When only 7, he shined shoes at the local barber shop, cleaned the spittoon at Johnny Rose's Pool Hall and worked at Sterling's Drug Store (now Saba's Western Store), where he was given the nickname "Doc." At 16, he left home to become a cowboy on the Arizona strip. Satisfying that dream, he returned home, finished high school and joined the family business as a smithy with his father, George S. "Cavie" Cavalliere. His interest in preserving the cowboy way of life is evident at Reata Pass, where his collection of tools, spurs and handcuffs fill the inside walls. Outside, windmills, mining carts and rail tracks spread around the desert acreage. "There's no such thing as a piece of junk," the 2008 Scottsdale History Hall of Fame recipient said shortly before his death. Cavalliere was interned at Paradise Memorial Gardens, 9300 E. Shea Blvd.

News from the Arizona Office of Tourism **(AZOT)**

Maricopa Area Welcomes New Bed and Breakfast Nestled in the Haley Hills, surrounded by majestic Saguaro cacti, countless native desert plants and wildlife, is the newly-opened Coyote Trail Bed and Breakfast. The bed and breakfast has five bedrooms along with many amenities and services. "I have stayed at several bed and breakfasts and always liked the atmosphere, so I thought I would bring one to the Maricopa

area," said the location's owner Mary Jane Lopez. "This area is so beautiful, and I just wanted to share it," For more information, visit www.coyotetrailbedandbreakfast.com.

Scottsdale Updates....

Sky Song Farmer's Market The SkySong Evening Farmers' Market made its debut on October 22, 2009, under SkySong's iconic shade structure. The market features more than two dozen farmers, agriculturalists, food caterers and food retailers. It will be the first retail-oriented event on the property since the days of the old Los Arcos Mall, which closed in 1999. The market is free to the public and will be held Thursday afternoons and evenings throughout the fall from 3 to 7 p.m. The events also will include entertainment and musical performances. For regular updates and schedules for the SkySong Evening Farmers' Market, visit www.skysongcenter.com. SkySong, located on the southeast corner of Scottsdale and McDowell roads, is a mixed-use development designed to be a vigorous, 21st century center for innovation, commercialization, entrepreneurship and business development. A second farmers' market will begin serving Downtown Scottsdale on Oct. 31. The Old Town Farmers Market will take place Saturdays from 8:30 to 1 p.m. on the southwest corner of First Street and Brown Avenue. Call the Downtown Office at (480) 312-7750 for more information.

Airport News.....

Sky Harbor tackles auto pollution Phoenix is targeting a major source of greenhouse gases, and one of Phoenix's biggest greenhouse-gas producers is taking huge steps to go green. Sky Harbor International Airport is part of a citywide push to cut pollution, as Phoenix faces criticism from federal air-quality authorities and a self-imposed plan to reduce greenhouse gases. The city is converting its airport-based vehicles to alternate fuels. Soon, officials will require all taxis that pick up at city airports to use alternative fuels. The city is building a \$1.1 billion automated train that aims to take thousands of cars off the streets near Sky Harbor, the ninth-busiest airport in the nation.

In one sense, the plan is a drop in the bucket because it won't touch the airport's biggest source of pollution: the planes themselves. Up to 90 percent of greenhouse-gas emissions at Sky Harbor are out of airport officials' control. That's the portion of pollution caused by jet engines, according to industry experts. So, officials at Sky Harbor and the city's other airports will work to decrease the carbon footprint they can control: airport operations on the ground. In that sense, the airport's goal looks significant. Of all Phoenix operations, ground traffic at the city's three airports - Sky Harbor, Phoenix Goodyear and Phoenix Deer Valley - produces 15 percent of the city's greenhouse gases, the second-biggest source of pollution after the city's water-treatment plants.

Those emissions include only city activities, such as an employee driving a fleet car to the airport, not private activities, such as a resident dropping off a friend or parking in an airport garage. The city's push doesn't apply to airlines' operations, but some carriers are making air-friendly changes, too. The anti-pollution push under way at all three city airports predates Mayor Phil Gordon's March announcement that he planned to cut carbon emissions citywide. But Gordon's push has spotlighted Phoenix's environmental programs and added political momentum. In October, Phoenix releases its final climate-action plan. The goal is to cut carbon emissions to 5 percent less than the amount city operations produced in 2005, the last year in which complete data were taken. Then, total emissions measured 618,500 metric tons. For the three city airports, the 2005 level was 92,775 metric tons.

"As global warming has come to the forefront of global and national attention, the city's participation in solving the problem is also growing," said Philip McNeely of Phoenix's Office of Environmental Programs. Although the city can't control what the airlines do, it's important that the airports do their part to combat global warming, city officials say. Reducing greenhouse gases is the main goal. "In many ways, it also makes good business sense," McNeely said, because reducing energy use saves money, too.

Phoenix's plan to cut airport pollution includes several projects:

- Construction crews are building an automated train that will take passengers to Sky Harbor terminals, the rental-car facility and light rail. The first phase will open in 2013, and the final phase will be complete in 2020. The project could take as many as 20,000 cars off the road, about 20 percent of the traffic circling Sky Harbor, airport officials say.

• Sky Harbor has adopted new alternative-fuel rules for taxis that have permits to pick up passengers at the airport. When new taxi contracts go into effect, which is expected next year, those taxis must use one of several alternative fuels that meet city emissions standards: compressed natural gas; liquid propane gas or LPG; or E85 ethanol fuel. Those rules, however, don't apply to taxis that drop off passengers at the airport.

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• The airports are working to comply with a state mandate that requires that 75 percent of the city's 383-vehicle fleet and 108 buses use alternative fuels.

So far, 256 of the airport's operational vehicles use clean-burning or alternative fuels, or are hybrid vehicles. All 108 buses run on compressed natural gas. The remaining vehicles were not available from the manufacturer using alternative or cleaner-burning fuels, airport officials say. Since the 1990s, Phoenix has invested more than \$33 million for infrastructure and vehicles in its citywide efforts to reduce vehicle emissions through the use of alternative and clean fuels in city fleet cars.

Airlines operating at Sky Harbor are moving to cut their emissions on the ground, too. Southwest Airlines and US Airways, Sky Harbor's major carriers, say they have taken steps to decrease emissions at Sky Harbor. Both say their planes taxi on the airfield on a single engine, instead of two, which saves fuel. Also, when a US Airways airplane arrives at a Sky Harbor gate, it uses airport electricity to run its systems, instead of using more jet fuel, said Valerie Wunder, spokeswoman for the Tempe-based airline. Both airlines are also replacing diesel-powered ground-support vehicles with electric versions. That includes belt loaders, which help get luggage on and off airplanes, and pushback tractors that tow airplanes.

Phoenix was the first place where Southwest introduced electric-powered ground-support vehicles such as tugs and baggage carts, said Paul Flanigan, Southwest spokesman. More than 50 pieces of equipment at Sky Harbor have been converted, so far, he added. The airline also sends diesel equipment from other airports to Phoenix to be retrofitted, the spokesman added. "Phoenix," Flanigan said, "is ahead of the curve from a green standpoint for us."

Air quality is a huge priority in the Valley. The region is under federal scrutiny for having too much ozone - a colorless, odorless chemical that causes health problems - and dust in the air. Exhaust from petroleum-powered machines, including cars and aircraft, are big contributors to air pollution, elevated ozone levels and global warming. Sky Harbor isn't the only airport looking at greenhouse gases. Many airport managers, particularly in traditionally environmentally conscious cities in the West, are trying to curb emissions on the ground, said Jessica Steinhilber of the industry group Airports Council International-North America. There are several motivations, the expert said. Many green policies, such as using energy-efficient lighting, deliver significant cost savings. Also, aviation leaders believe that some kind of federal emissions regulation is inevitable, and some local governments are adopting tougher emissions rules. The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed a greenhouse-gas reporting rule that will require large industries to report their emissions, but city officials predict that Sky Harbor operations will not be impacted by that rule. The green-airport trend also reflects a shift in public priorities, Steinhilber said. "Airports, if you think about it, are really just an extension of their community," said Steinhilber, senior director of environmental affairs for ACI-NA. "They are the public face of aviation, so they have that real sense of responsibility toward their community and doing the right thing."

Dottie reports that finally, it appears that most of us, regardless of our skills, are spending a lot of time at Sky Harbor Airport. Linda Dural (480-632-1280) is our airport liaison and will respond to problems you encounter. We are working on gaining a seat at the table as the airport makes changes. At the present time, we believe they are totally unaware of the number of people (say \$\$) we are able to move efficiently in and out of the airport. Closing crosswalks, moving charter locations, closing information desks are a few of the problems noted this month. Please call Linda with your thoughts, so we can address them when we meet with airport personnel. We were told by a driver that the busses no longer pick up at Operations. Linda was told that is not true, and we may still use that pickup point for airport bus service.

Sedona News From Laura Vandergrift

Homes in Sedona are selling even in a slow economy. Prices have dropped from earlier highs making some homes very affordable. Following are the latest statistics you might find useful.

Residential Home Prices:

Median Price: \$607,500

Median List/Sold Price: \$429,000/\$406,000

Luxury Home Prices

Median Price: \$1,595,000

Median List/Sold Price: \$1,875,000/\$1,600,000

Condominiums
Median Price: \$279,700
Median List/Sold Price: \$319,450/\$298,500

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Oak Creek Bridge Girders in Place Girders for the third span of the Phase 1 Bridge were successfully placed on October 12. Work continues on the Phase 1 bridge deck and Tlaquepaque abutment with little traffic impact.

Robert Shields is Back Robert Shields is like the cat with nine lives. Nothing keeps him down. After having Shields & Yarnell, multiple stores in Sedona, 50 employees, QVC sales, the Trickster restaurant and a jazz radio station, to name a few of his endeavors, he has come back like the Phoenix rising. Beginning next February he will begin 22 one-man shows in theaters. His one-man show beginning in Phoenix will include playing a guitar, writing songs, using mime and masks, storytelling, impersonations, standup, and demonstrations of his high-speed abstract painting. He has a new store in the Hyatt Pinion Point shops called "Robert Shields Creations." What else! His store is located next to Starbucks, which, yes, is open again. He will be working in metal, ceramics, and illustrations, and will actually be working in the store. Look for the "new" Robert Shields the next time you are in Sedona. (Excerpted from Kudos Magazine)

Dome Homes Everyone asks about the dome house we see coming into Sedona on 179. Sedona holds a Dome Home Tour every year and this year is no exception. By the time you receive this newsletter, the home tour will be over. However, keep checking next year if you want to tour one of these homes. It is usually held toward the end of October. Go to www.monolithic.com for updates next year and for more info on these homes. Some trivia for you on dome homes: They meet Federal Emergency Management Agency Standards for near-absolute protection from tornadoes and hurricanes. They can cost at least 50 percent less to heat and cool than traditional structures the same size. Dome homes are also considered very green. They require 50 to 75 percent less material to cover the same space as a square conventional house. The round design conserves natural resources and it is energy efficient. Because it is a concrete structure, the interior temperature remains constant. And the insulation is placed on the outside of the structure so they are immune to temperature swings making them more energy efficient. (Excerpted from Kudos Magazine)

Education

Certification dates for this coming season January 2, 2010 and May 1, 2010. The AGA Certification Committee wants to increase the number of its AGA Certified Guides again this year! We encourage any AGA member to step up to the plate and become a 'Certified Guide' by taking the test. YOU could become an "ambassador" for the AGA - and Arizona - with the knowledge you gain. Also, many DMC's will ask if you are a "certified" guide and you will then be able to answer YES!

Contact Chairperson, Sharon Waldie (480.704.9868), and she'll be happy to give you the study information and start you on your way to becoming a Certified Guide with the Arizona Guides Association. If you think you are about ready to pass the test, but would like a bit of additional help or someone to critique what you have learned, call Joan Day (480 614-5348).

Here's a sample Certification Test Question : Which one of Arizona's Native American Reservations extends into Mexico?

Items of interest.....

One hundred years ago cheap power gave Phoenix a jolt. Until Oct. 1, 1909, the city of 11,000 relied on gas lanterns and electricity from small wood- and gas-burning power plants. But on that day, the homes and businesses in Phoenix received their first cheap, free-flowing electricity from the Theodore Roosevelt Dam. The power boosted development at a time when Tucson and Clifton-Morenci both had larger populations than Phoenix, and Bisbee wasn't far behind. But buoyed with abundant electricity and water from the dam, Phoenix became the biggest city in the state by 1920, and grew to the fifth-largest city in the nation early in the 21st century.

The U.S. Reclamation Service, which ran the dam before Salt River Project took over, found cheap electricity was a side benefit. "It really solidified Phoenix as the capital of Arizona," said Doug Kupel, a historian with the city's legal department. "All the activity in Arizona - mining, agriculture, banking - Phoenix was at the center of that." The move also was important in SRP's expansion from a water-users association into an electric utility that collected \$2.2 billion last year in energy sales, about 154 times as much as it earned

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from water sales. On the day the dam's generators began sending power to Phoenix, they had a capacity of about 3 megawatts. That is about enough power for 750 homes today.

The Reclamation Service warned parents to keep their children off the new towers and power lines that stretched more than 60 miles from the dam to the Valley. The electricity was used for street lights, which were replacing gas lanterns that blew out in a stiff breeze, as well as business signs and home electric appliances. It was two years before the water impoundment was finished and three before Arizona achieved statehood, and much of the state's commerce took place outside Phoenix. A diversion canal kept the Salt River from the dam's construction site, and small generators on the canal had been generating electricity that dam workers used to mix concrete. Officials figured they could sell the excess energy to help pay off the federal loan for the dam, which was important because Valley farmers had pledged their land as collateral for the project.

At first, the Roosevelt Dam's power was sold wholesale to the Phoenix utility that eventually became Arizona Public Service, after a series of mergers. Electricity demand grew rapidly across the state and kicked off a boom that saw more hydropower plants built on the canals and also near Camp Verde. After taking over the dam in 1917, SRP built three more hydropower plants on the river downstream from Roosevelt, and later, gas-fired power plants. "They go build a series of dams in the 1920s on the Salt River - Mormon Flat, Horse Mesa and Stewart Mountain," Kupel said. "Those dams are not for irrigation, per se. Those are cash-register dams to make money through the sale of power."

SRP still stores water and generates power from the dams below Roosevelt. SRP began selling electricity directly to households and businesses in 1928, dividing the region with Central Arizona Light and Power Co., one of several Phoenix companies that preceded APS, based on where their respective facilities were located. That division resulted in the SRP and APS territory patchwork of today. APS now serves most of the downtown areas in Phoenix, Glendale, Tempe and other Valley cities, and SRP serves most of the Valley between those downtown centers. APS also has territory stretching from Yuma to Flagstaff and beyond that it acquired from other utilities.

"CALAPCO was already in the urban areas," said James LeBar, a senior historical analyst for SRP. "SRP had infrastructure going out to rural wells (for groundwater pumping). They were not competing at the time. They agreed it was in their best interest to set aside territory for each company." SRP, being run by farmers, served the rural customers before the federal government began a rural electrification program, SRP senior historical analyst Shelly Dudley said. "We are willing to string power lines to farmers so they can have electric refrigerators, washing machines and stoves," she said. "We quickly end up moving into the 20th century."

Electricity sales helped SRP and its members who pledged their land pay off the dam and other federal projects in 1955. SRP has grown its electrical capacity among its dams, coal- and gas-fired plants, alternative energy, and stake in Palo Verde Nuclear Generating Station, to 5,708 megawatts today, and it gets another 2,300 megawatts from other utilities. SRP power sales continue to subsidize the private water business, covering the losses the water company accrues each year. In fiscal 2008, the company's electric utility contributed \$47 million to the water business.

Desert Botanical Gardens After a summer of construction, the Galvin Parkway is now open to through traffic. The City of Phoenix has constructed a traffic circle where Galvin meets the Garden's drive, creating a safe intersection for our guests. Please note that speed along Galvin Parkway has been reduced and drivers entering the roundabout should yield the right-of-way to drivers already in the roundabout. The new roundabout is quite a site!

Did you know that Dale Chihuly forgot to pack the Desert Towers when he left back in June? Shhh! Don't say a word, he may not miss them. Seriously, the sculpture was created specifically for the Garden and will remain through May 31, 2010. And yes, the sculpture was originally called Icicle Towers, but once installed, The Desert Wildflower Towers, and then Dale himself named it Desert Towers on his visit. We love the artist's life!

Garden admission is free the second Tuesday of every month, from 1 - 8p.m. Entry into the seasonal butterfly exhibit Mariposa Monarca is also free from 1 - 5 p.m. Please note that parking is limited.

Arizona's presence on the world technology stage has slipped, as export demand for high-tech products made here has fallen, a new report released today suggests. The state fell to seventh from sixth place for the value of its high-tech foreign exports in 2008 out of all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, according to TechAmerica Foundation's "Trade in the Cyberstates 2009" report. Despite the decline, Arizona still ranks high for certain tech exports, including semiconductors and industrial electronics.

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Manufacturers in Arizona exported \$8.1 billion in high-tech products in 2008, down from \$8.7 billion in 2007, according to TechAmerica. TechAmerica focuses on eight product categories, including semiconductors, consumer electronics, computers and peripheral equipment and photonics. The high-tech sector with the largest presence in Arizona is semiconductor manufacturing. The state ranked fourth with \$4 billion in semiconductor exports last year.

Arizona ranked high in other high-tech export sectors:

- Fifth in industrial electronics, such as radar, navigational instruments and surveying equipment, valued at \$1.4 billion.
- Seventh in communications equipment, including satellites and space-launch vehicles, with \$934 million in exports.

The report does not separate aerospace and defense, huge manufacturing sectors in Arizona. Those products are included in the other categories.

Residents of Cave Creek and Carefree established the Desert Foothills Scenic Drive in 1963, which at the time was a 13-mile stretch that also included a section in Phoenix. Friends of Scenic Drive formed in 1993 to protect a 6-mile section of the original drive in Scottsdale along Scottsdale Road north. Fund-raising cookouts started in 1996, when neighbors and community activists, along with the help of the late Scottsdale Mayor Herb Drinkwater, worked to block the opening of a gas station at Scottsdale and Dynamite roads. They protested, wanting to preserve mesquite and paloverde thickets, tall saguaros and clutches of cholla that surrounded the newly finished stretch of Scottsdale Road. Outback Steakhouse catered that first party, and MacDonald's Ranch hosted it then, too.

Dying Aspens Northern Arizona's aspen trees are dying in ever increasing numbers, tearing holes in the blankets of color that spread across the high country each autumn. The tree deaths have mystified scientists, though the list of suspected causes is long: drought, disease, insect infestations, wildfire suppression and even the grazing habits of elk.

In some lower-elevation forests near Flagstaff and in the Kaibab National Forest, the death rate of aspen trees has neared 95 percent, and fewer appear to be regenerating, or sending up replacement trees. At risk is both the health of the forests, where aspens play a role in everything from wildfire habitat to recovery from fire, and the tourist dollars that help high-country businesses bridge the gap between the summer and winter visitor seasons.

"They add diversity to our landscape and to ecosystems," said Katy Ireland, a graduate student working on aspen research at Ecological Research Institute at Northern Arizona University.

Did You Know!

- The Heard Museum displays only 15 percent to 20 percent of its 40,000-piece permanent collection at a time.
- Arizona has been designated as the 14th safest city in the United States by Forbes Magazine.
- Sadly, due to the decline in the local rattlesnake population, the Cowboy Café' in uptown Sedona has substituted python for its signature appetite.

GET OUTSIDE ~ Close to the Valley ~ no excuses!!

Black Canyon Trail: *This trail retains much of the Old West appeal. Used for decades as both a livestock trail and stagecoach route, the path follows an abandoned road that ran between*

Phoenix and Prescott. The trail traverses desert terrain with big sky vistas peppered with remnants of the area's colorful history, including a rusty bathtub stowed absurdly beneath a palo verde tree. Information at Bureau of Land Management and Maricopa County, 623.580.5500.

The Arizona Coach Talker

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Websites to visit

The Route 66 Microsite which offers maps, essays, photos, history of landmarks and a resource list with links to fan sites, museums, tourist bureaus, official documents and more:

www.nps.gov/history/nr/travel/route66

Do you know what the Merci Train is? Check out: www.therailroadpark.com/merci and <http://www.phoenixmag.com/lifestyle/history/200908/merci-train/>

Have you visited the Jewel of the Creek Preserve? For information on visiting and events: www.dftt.org

Before there was light rail, for six decades there were trolleys on Central Avenue, as early as 1893 and as late as 1948. Visit the Phoenix Trolley Museum to learn more: www.phoenixtrolley.com

Craving some fall color in the mountains?

<http://www.phoenixmag.com/travel/great-escapes/200910/jewels-over-jerome/>

Certification Test Sample Question Answer: Answer: Tohono O'Odham Reservation