

The Arizona Coach Talker

Newsletter of the Arizona Guides Association

Volume 23, Issue 4

March, 2010

History of Arizona Women in Politics

Our March meeting is being hosted by the Madison Event Center, a new venue in downtown Phoenix. The event center is available for a broad range of events. Visit their website at www.madisoneventcenter.com for a photo gallery of previous events at their facility. Of course, attending the March meeting will better acquaint you with this new event facility!

Our speaker will be Arizona author, Heidi J. Osselaer, a faculty associate in the Department of History at Arizona State University, will talk about Arizona Women in Politics. She has written a new book, 'WINNING THEIR PLACE: Arizona Women in Politics, 1883-1950'. Arizona women enjoyed an unusual level of success in early state politics at a time when few women ran for office in other states. Their personal experiences, growing up under harsh conditions, living in tents or log cabins, hauling water or navigating rivers, prepared them for the rough world of male politics. Their lives were not simply defined by domestic responsibilities, church, women's clubs, or civic activities. They worked outside of the home, raised families, and introduced legislation that touched the lives of all citizens. Although they faced many obstacles, these female politicians, like Frances Willard Munds, Isabella Greenway, Nellie Trent Bush, Lorna Lockwood, and Ana Frohmiller, also broke through barriers to allow the women who followed them--women like Sandra Day O'Connor and Janet Napolitano--to reach unprecedented heights.

This will be an informative presentation, and members are encouraged to invite the general public to attend, as well. Please read the attached biography to learn more about our speaker, Heidi J. Osselaer.

"History of Arizona Women in Politics"

When: Monday, March 1, 2010

Where: Madison Event Center, 441 W. Madison, Phoenix (Located at 5th Ave & Madison)
Parking is on the southwest corner of 4th Ave & Madison. (602.258.1189)

Time: 5:00 P.M. Board Meeting
6:00 P.M. Hospitality
6:30 P.M. Program will feature Arizona author, Heidi J. Osselaer, a faculty associate in the Department of History at Arizona State University. (See attached biography.)
A general meeting will follow.

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

AGA President Notes.....

It sure feels good to see all of you back at the airport or on the job elsewhere. Besides the hit to the checkbook, I've really missed seeing everyone. I hope you all are working as much as you wish.

We have a great meeting coming up on March 1. The meeting will be downtown, and it is a central location easily accessible for everyone. Since it is Women's History month (but you guys are invited, too), our speaker will be Professor Heidi Osselaer. She is an award winning writer, a lecturer for the Arizona Humanities Council, and the author of her first book, Winning Their Place: Arizona Women in Politics, 1883-1950. In addition, she teaches at Arizona State University and serves on the Scholars' Committee of the Arizona Women's Heritage Trail. She is a delightful speaker, so you won't want to miss this fun meeting. Remember to bring your checkbook if you want a signed copy of her book!! See you on March 1st!

Dottie Helgeson, President, AGA

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

Heard's new director first with Native American roots Letitia Chambers stands in the courtyard of the original entrance to the Heard Museum and looks around. This place is a cherished memory and source of pride from her childhood. Chambers is the Heard's new director and the first of American Indian descent. She is also the second woman director, after founder Maie Bartlett Heard. Chambers is excited about her new job, her new home in Paradise Valley and the prospect of strengthening and broadening the 81-year-old institution. Already Chambers has started a strategic planning process, reviewing financial statements, exhibit schedules, collections and gathering input and insight from people who "know and love" the institution. She's asking everyone, the museum's 80 staff members, 600 volunteers, visitors, and state's tribal members to share their ideas. She has already made some determinations that, the museum, which has an annual budget of close to \$5.8 million, has needs.

She believes the Heard needs to raise an endowment, and set aside reserves for the maintenance of the facility. "We don't have a lot of money to buy art; most of our money goes to education and mounting exhibits." Chambers, a fan of contemporary American Indian art, said another goal is to add to the museum's collection. "We need to continue to add from today's artists, as well as look to collectors who have collections who want to share and display them, donate to us. It's a fabulous gift."

Chambers comes to Phoenix via New Mexico where she served on the board of the Institute of American Indian Arts and Culture, which includes a college and a contemporary Indian art museum in Santa Fe. She also led the agency responsible for oversight of all public colleges, universities and community colleges in the state. Chambers said she wants to reach out to and collaborate with the tribes of the Southwest, museums and educational institutions throughout the country. She'd like to do some traveling exhibits to other museums. The first possible traveling exhibit the museum will share is "Remembering Our Indian School Days: The Boarding School Experience." The display explores the federal policy of removing Native American children from their homes across the country in an attempt to "civilize" them, and has been on view for several years.

Chambers plans to do a few road trips around the state, much like she did when she was a child with her parents and two brothers, to visit the communities whose art, history and culture the Heard protects and represents. "The Heard has an important, continuing role to provide the history of the arts and cultures of the peoples of the Southwest and Americas," Chambers said. "It's important that we treasure the cultures of the past, but educate (visitors) about the vibrancy of the living cultures. It's important for the young Indian children who come here, it's a source of pride."

An engineering marvel takes shape near Hoover Dam Less than a mile downstream from one of the nation's best-known engineering marvels, the Hoover Dam, a second is taking shape. A soaring 1,900-foot span across the gorge created by the Colorado River on the Arizona-Nevada border should be completed this fall, eliminating much of a sometimes hour long bottleneck as traffic creeps over the dam on the key route between Phoenix and Las Vegas. When it is scheduled to open in November, motorists will cross the longest bridge of its kind in the western hemisphere, with towering concrete columns that rise above a twin rib arch beneath them.

Construction began on the \$240 million project nearly five years ago and has caught the eyes of many who have driven over the dam for decades. Visitors to the dam will be able to see the bridge, but the sheer height of the bridge - 900 feet above the river - won't allow motorists traveling across the span to see the dam. A walkway on the north side of the bridge will give pedestrians a view of both. Access to the dam also will change with the opening of the bridge. Tourists no longer will be able to get to it from the Arizona side, instead having to cross the bridge and backtrack. A checkpoint put in place the afternoon of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks will remain on the Nevada side. The new bridge won't have any such checkpoints, and semi-truck drivers who once had to reroute through Laughlin, Nev., a 30-mile detour, will be able to drive over it.

The projected opening had been late 2007, but work was suspended at least twice when two 280-foot-tall steel construction cranes collapsed amid high winds in 2006 and a worker died in 2008. Nevada's workplace safety agency investigated the death but determined it was an accident and the contractor, a joint venture of Obayashi Corporation and PSM Construction USA, Inc., wasn't cited. Arizona's job safety agency has cited the contractor about a dozen times since August 2008 for what the agency's state director Darin Perkins said were minor issues - not inspecting cranes daily before use, lack of handrails or handrails being at the wrong height, for example.

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Project director Ken Hirschmugl and project manager Dave Zanetell of the Federal Highway Administration said safety has remained a top priority for workers. More than 1 million work hours have been logged. Before the project began, there was a substantial effort to educate potential contractors so they wouldn't blindly bid on it. Some of the highlights include the concrete arches that jut out from the canyon walls. Unable to support them from the bottom up, contractors had to hold it in place with cables from above. When they came together late last year, they were within three-eighths of an inch.

El Chorro to reopen under new ownership After an astonishing 72-year run, the last 57 under the direction of Joe and Evie Miller, El Chorro restaurant closed last May. But new ownership brought it back to life on Feb. 18. The venerable restaurant, designated an "American Classic" by the James Beard Foundation, is now in the hands of Jacquie Dorrance, Valley philanthropist and founder of the Red Book, a directory of non-profit organizations and fund-raising events. The restaurant has been spruced up with 21st-century touches, including a 1,600-degree mesquite broiler, a new sound system and Wi-Fi. But the Old Arizona ambience and superb patio views of Mummy and Camelback mountains remain. So does part of the old menu, including the famous complimentary sticky buns and relish tray. The kitchen is now under the direction of Charles Kassels, who worked at the Boulders and Westin Kierland before his last post at the AAA-four diamond Old House Restaurant in Santa Fe.

At dinner you'll find the classic flash-fried Australian lobster tail (\$36, small) and jumbo shrimp cocktail (\$20), as well as grilled quail (\$15) and crab cakes (\$14). Main dishes, which still come with soup or salad, include grilled rack of lamb (\$44), porterhouse pork chop (\$29), Scottish salmon in saffron butter (\$28) and trout amandine (\$26). Alas, the chateaubriand for two, shrimp de Jonghe, liver and onions and shad roe live on only in memory. But you can still get the beef Stroganoff (\$21) as a Wednesday lunch special. Among the other lunch options are steak and onion soup (\$6), shrimp Louie (\$23), a turkey Reuben sandwich (\$14) and grilled hanger steak (\$21). There's a weekend brunch, too, featuring eggs Benedict (\$19, also available at lunch), salmon Nicoise (\$16), crème brulee French toast (\$16) and stacked chicken enchiladas with red or green chile (\$18).

Details: El Chorro Lodge, 5550 E. Lincoln Drive, Paradise Valley. 480-948-5170, elchorrolodge.com. Hours: Lunch and dinner, 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Fridays. Brunch and dinner, 9 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturdays; 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Sundays.

Tribal leaders open to more development Construction of the Arizona Diamondbacks' new spring-training facility just east of Scottsdale is a sign that the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community is competing for new commercial enterprises and entertainment venues, the tribal president told a group of economic developers recently. "I think it's important that we take this step," Diane Enos said during an interview before her speech to the American Association for Economic Development in Phoenix. "We need to demonstrate our capability to participate in today's entertainment industry."

In the speech, Enos said that the community remains cautious about partnerships with outside entities. Most important, she said, is making sure development decisions on reservation land are made in the best interests of community residents. "We are taking things one step at a time," Enos said in her speech. Work is under way on a 13-field baseball-training complex that will be shared by the Diamondbacks and the Colorado Rockies starting in 2011. The facility on the reservation just west of Loop 101 will include an 11,000-seat stadium. Enos said tribal leaders will continue to pursue development efforts along the Loop 101 to boost employment opportunities for residents and generate revenue for the community.

Colangelo vows new life for Wigwam Jerry Colangelo once hauled a bull onto a flat car and paraded it down Chicago's Michigan Avenue while tossing out tickets for the newly launched NBA Bulls. That was 1966. Four decades later, the sports mogul told a crowd of West Valley business and political leaders that he plans to put that same marketing spirit into his newest venture - the Wigwam Golf Resort & Spa. Colangelo and JDM Partners recently hosted their first gala as owners of the Litchfield Park landmark. After an uncertain year, JDM Partners purchased the 331-room resort several months ago in U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Colangelo praised the 80-year-old Wigwam's place in Arizona history, saying, "It's been a little sleepy for a while and we want to bring it back to life."

JDM Partners, which include Mel Shultz and David Eaton, envision the West Valley's only resort as the hospitality hub for sports. The region is home to nine Major League Baseball teams for spring training. There are tennis tournaments in Surprise, NASCAR races in Avondale, and hockey and football in Glendale. USA Basketball, which trains young players and Olympians, plans to relocate its headquarters to Glendale in

2011. Colangelo is chairman of the USA Basketball board. The Chicago White Sox, which train at nearby Camelback Ranch Glendale, have confirmed that the team will stay at the Wigwam each spring.

Colangelo is in talks with other baseball and sports groups. He has a long connection with sports in the Valley and beyond. He arrived in Phoenix in 1968 with the expansion NBA team, the Suns. Thirty years later, he helped establish the Arizona Diamondbacks.

This is JDM Partners' first foray into the hospitality industry, which has suffered during the recession as business groups scale back conferences at the Valley's luxury resorts. Colangelo said every group he's involved in will hold meetings in the Valley and, specifically, the Wigwam.

"It's a wonderful change for this property," said Greg Miller, vice president and managing director for Destination Hotels & Resorts, which operates the Wigwam. The new ownership gives an anchor of stability, with owners rooted in the community and eager to restore the resort to its former grandeur, Miller said. And it doesn't hurt to have Colangelo, one of the country's most influential sports executives. Marty Shultz, a West Valley resident and vice president of government affairs with Pinnacle West Capital Corp., called the new ownership group a boon. "There are so many great amenities on the west side and some are virtually unknown, even though many have been in business for years," Shultz said. "What happens when a highly visible person like Jerry and his ownership partners tells a group that they care, that gives us a lot to be proud of." And, he hopes, that interest in the West Valley will encourage more investment.

Transportation giant Jerry Moyes, who built Phoenix-based Swift Transportation, said the stable ownership makes him more inclined to hold his company's business meetings at the resort. "I'm sure the Wigwam will be a huge success like it was in its prime," he said. Sharolyn Hohman, president and chief executive of the Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce, said she never doubted someone would step up to buy the Wigwam. JDM Partners purchased the property, along with two Biltmore golf courses, for about \$45 million in December. Kabuto Arizona Properties, which filed the resort into Chapter 11 bankruptcy, purchased the property for \$70 million in 1990.

Colangelo outlined some of the renovations expected to unfold this year at the Wigwam Golf Resort & Spa. The Wigwam will have a sports slant, catering to teams training in the West Valley, but Colangelo said the resort will remain an amenity for area residents. Changes include: 1) The current golf club, which will likely be demolished in part or entirely to create more modern facilities. JDM Partners is weighing the need for the resort's three 18-hole golf courses, noting that one might be better used as a training course or golf school. 2) Creating more outdoor dining near the pool to take advantage of Arizona's climate. 3) Reorganizing the entryways to create a lobby that is cozier and more inviting. 4) From the time guests exit Interstate 10, until they pull onto Wigwam Boulevard in Litchfield Park, Colangelo wants more signs. "It's a beacon, people need to know where it is." 5) Consider developing some of the resort's 450 acres down the road, if there is demand for housing or condos. Colangelo also said the large parking lot at the front of the property that greets visitors is unappealing.

Arizona gets eight nods for James Beard Awards The preliminary nominations are out for this year's James Beard Awards, the restaurant industry's version of the Academy Awards. Eight Valley restaurateurs, restaurants and chefs are on the lists. There are three locals on the Best Chef - Southwest ballot. Two are repeat nominees: Kevin Binkley of Binkley's in Cave Creek and Beau MacMillan of Elements at Sanctuary on Camelback Mountain in Paradise Valley. Neither made it to the finals last year. The newcomer is Silvana Salcido Esparza of Barrio Café in Phoenix.

Arizona has won nine Best Chef - Southwest awards since 1990, when the James Beard Awards started. The winners are Vincent Guerithault for Vincent on Camelback in Phoenix, Christopher Gross of the remodeled Christopher's in Phoenix, Janos Wilder of Janos in Tucson, Alex Stratta of the now-closed Mary Elaine's at the Phoenician in Phoenix, Robert McGrath of the Roaring Fork in Scottsdale, RoxSand Scocos of the now-closed RoxSand's in Phoenix, Chris Bianco of Pizzeria Bianco in Phoenix, Bradford Thompson of Mary Elaine's and Nobuo Fukuda of the now-closed Sea Saw in Scottsdale.

Once again, Tucson's Janos Wilder got a place on the prestigious Outstanding Chef list. Vincent Guerithault, who was on that list last year, is now an Outstanding Restaurant nominee. Phoenix's St. Francis got a spot on the Best New Restaurant list. (Noca was on it last year, and didn't get through to the finals.) Tarbell's, meanwhile, received recognition for Outstanding Wine Service, and Sam Fox is again nominated for Outstanding Restaurateur.

The nominees are culled from 21,000 entries by a panel of 400 judges. The preliminary ballots contain 20 entries in each category, which will be trimmed to five finalists. They will be announced March 22. The awards ceremony takes place in New York on May 3.

News from the Arizona Office of Tourism (AZOT)

Interactive Exhibit Celebrates Baseball History in Arizona Ty Cobb once soothed his old spring training aches and pains at the Buckhorn Baths mineral spas in Mesa. Willie Mays was the first to hit a homer at Phoenix Municipal Stadium. And Mickey Mantle and Joe DiMaggio played one season of spring training baseball together in Arizona. These are just some of the moments that make up the rich history of Cactus League baseball in Arizona and a few of the tales waiting to be told in the upcoming exhibit, Play Ball: The Cactus League Experience.

Scheduled to open Feb. 26, 2010, the exhibit will move into newly-renovated museum space at the Arizona Museum for Youth. Arizona's original spa at Buckhorn Baths used for player conditioning in the 1950s and the popular Wii baseball game, will take center stage. There also will be touch-screen kiosks for added historical content and decades old photos, baseball art and interactive activities including "design your own pennant" and "make your own trading card."

Youth will enjoy the 3-D stadium puzzles available for hands-on interaction, while adults can take in more audio visual elements with historical film montages, including Cubs legendary broadcaster Harey Carey and footage of spring training from the early 1950s. Also new is an installation describing the story of how former Arizona Governor Rose Mofford saved baseball for the state. This display will educate visitors on a momentous move that made baseball history and changed the Cactus League forever. All together, Play Ball! helps celebrate the long and colorful history of professional baseball in Arizona from the sports barnstorming days before statehood, researched to be as early as 1909, to the inauguration of the Cactus League in 1947 and up to present day. For complete exhibition information visit, www.PlayBallExperience.com.

Scottsdale Updates....

City Project's Receive National Attention The city's newest branch library, Appaloosa, graces the cover of the February 2010 cover of Metal Architecture magazine. The building's metal skin-20,000 square feet - changes colors depending on your point of view. The mirage effect is created through the first commercial use of an iridescent coating on the metal cladding. The coating is composed of mica chips in a clear base, creating colors by light interferences patterns.

For more information, visit www.metalarchitecture.com.

In addition, Architectural Record featured the Soleri Bridge in a recent edition. Italian architect Paolo Soleri, famous for Arcosanti, the urban lab built north of the Valley, designed the 100-foot-long pedestrian bridge to be built in Downtown Scottsdale. The bridge will cross a canal, connecting stores and condos on the north to shops and restaurants to the south. For more information, visit <http://archrecord.construction.com>.

100th Anniversary of the Dedication of the Little Red Schoolhouse The annual commemoration of Scottsdale founder Army Chaplain Winfield Scott's birthday brings special meaning this year as residents also celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of the Little Red Schoolhouse. The program will be at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, in front of the Little Red Schoolhouse - now known as the Scottsdale Historical Museum - on Scottsdale Civic Center Mall, just east of Brown Avenue. The original dedication a century ago was one of the last public acts Winfield Scott attended before he passed away later in 1910. The free event features noted local historians and refreshments. For more information, contact City of Scottsdale's Don Hadder at (480) 312-2352.

Cross Cultural Communication Film Series Present's "Crossing Arizona", March 2 & 4. With Americans on all sides of the immigration issue and Congress embroiled in a policy battle over how to move forward, this film tells the story of how we got to where we are today. The free program will be at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 2, at Civic Center Library, 3839 N. Drinkwater Blvd., and noon Thursday, March 4, at Mustang Library, 10101 N. 90th St. "Crossing Arizona" examines the crisis through the eyes of those directly affected by it: frustrated ranchers, humanitarian groups, political activists, farmers and Minutemen, an armed citizen patrol group taking border security into their own hands. It reveals the surprising political stances people take when immigration and border policy fails everyone.

To register or for more information, go to www.scottsdalelibrary.org, or call (480) 312-7323 (READ) or the Office of Diversity and Dialogue at (480) 312-7772.

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Giant's Spring Training Gears Up The San Francisco Giants open its home schedule at Scottsdale Stadium at 1:05 p.m. March 4 against the Milwaukee Brewers. The stadium is at 7408 E. Osborn Road, a half-mile east of Scottsdale Road. For more information on spring training and the Giants, visit: <http://www.springtrainingonline.com/teams/san-francisco-giants-3.htm>

Airport News.....

Free airport Wi-Fi takes off You don't have to be that old, or even a frequent traveler, to remember when it was rare to find an airport equipped with wireless Internet access. Free access was rarer still. But then a few small and mid-sized early adopters, including airports in Colorado Springs and Long Beach, Calif., began following the lead of Lexington, Ky.'s Blue Grass Airport, which began offering free Wi-Fi (way) back in 2001. Slowly but surely, free airport Wi-Fi began to take off. Today it's unusual to find a U.S. airport without at least one wireless Internet provider. And there is a steadily increasing number of large and hub airports, including Phoenix, Denver, Pittsburgh, Seattle and Orlando, where the Wi-Fi is free.

Southwest plans fleet-wide Wi-Fi Southwest will equip its entire fleet with Wi-Fi, the carrier announced this month. The carrier says via its corporate blog that it will begin installing Wi-Fi on its aircraft this spring and hopes to have its entire fleet of about 540 jets outfitted with the service "by early 2012." The Chicago Tribune notes Southwest's decision to Wi-Fi fleet wide comes after "dabbling with the concept for two years." Still, The Dallas Morning News' Airline Biz blog notes "a 2012 completion will leave Southwest toward the rear of U.S. airlines that are installing Wi-Fi capabilities on their aircraft. Among major carriers, low-fare competitor AirTran Airways finished installing of Aircell's Gogo technology on its entire fleet in mid 2009, for example."

As for pricing, how will Southwest's Wi-Fi stack up to its rivals? "We don't have an answer to that quite yet," Dave Ridley, Southwest's senior vice president for marketing and revenue management, says on the company's blog. "We're still testing a variety of price points on the four aircraft that currently have wi-fi. We'll have a decision on price in the second quarter of 2010."

Getting the price right is especially important for Southwest, which built its reputation on low fares and the concept that it doesn't nickel-and-dime customers. And while Southwest primarily operates short- to medium-length flights, survey data show that passenger interest in Web service is greatest on longer trips. Southwest is partnering with California-based Row 44 to provide the service. The Los Angeles Times calls the deal "a tremendous boost for the small, 25-employee firm, which had been in a testing phase with Southwest since last year. Row 44, named after the last row on a DC-10 commercial jet, uses a network of telecommunications satellites belonging to Hughes Network Systems." The Dallas Morning News notes Row 44's "larger rival, Aircell LLC, uses ground-based transmitters on its Gogo system, which is being used by such carriers as American Airlines Inc. and Delta Air Lines Inc."

Passengers give Sky Harbor high marks Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and Tucson International Airport got high marks in a national airport customer satisfaction survey. Among large airports, Phoenix was No. 5 in the J.D. Power and Associates 2010 North America Airport Satisfaction Study, which was released Thursday. The study uses a 1,000-point scale to measure passenger opinion about six key areas: airport accessibility, baggage claim, check-in and the baggage check process, terminal facilities, security check, food and retail services. Phoenix scored 699 points. The top-ranked large airport, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County, scored 705. Airports need to focus on getting travelers in and out of terminals more effectively, said a J.D. Power and Associates travel expert.

"As much as Internet access may be a fun diversion or enable productivity for passengers, getting passengers in and out of the airport easily and efficiently is of utmost importance," said Stuart Greif, vice president and general manager of the global hospitality and travel practice at J.D. Power and Associates. "Airports can best facilitate passenger progress and improve satisfaction by focusing on key elements such as the clarity of airport signage, facilitating quick and accurate delivery of baggage and partnering with the TSA to reduce security check wait times." The large airports that took the second, third and fourth slots were Denver International, Minneapolis/St. Paul International and Orlando International airports. In the survey, "large" airports serve more than 30 million passengers annually. The average large airport score was 665.

Among small airports, ones that serve less than 10 million passengers each year, Tucson was No. 3, with 755 points. Indianapolis International was No. 1 among small airports, followed by Southwest Florida International. The average small airport score was 683. For more information, go to jdpower.com.

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Airline Fees Increase American Airlines, the world's second-biggest carrier, will stop letting most passengers stand by for a different flight on their day of travel without paying a fee. The free standby option will remain for higher-level members of its frequent-flier program, first- and business-class travelers, those paying military fares and some coach passengers. All customers will be able to pay a \$50 fee for a guaranteed same-day flight change if space is available for a switch. That charge has been in place since 2005. Previously, any passenger was eligible for standby without charge. The fee is effective for tickets bought on or after Feb. 22.

US Airways is raising baggage fees for travelers who check their luggage online. The higher online fees match those set in recent days by Delta, Continental, and United. US Airways said it will charge \$23 to check the first bag online, and \$32 to check the second. The fees to check bags at the airport are unchanged at \$25 for the first and \$35 for the second. The increase takes effect for tickets purchased Monday for travel beginning Feb. 1. American Airlines is still charging \$20 each way for a first bag, and \$30 for the second. Most of the big carriers added baggage fees in 2008. Southwest Airlines passengers can check two bags for free, and JetBlue passengers can check one for free.

Delta Air Lines Inc. is raising its fees to check your first bag on a domestic flight by \$8 and the second bag by \$7. It will continue to cost you even more if you don't pay the fees in advance on the airline's Web site. The new fees are for travel beginning Tuesday on tickets purchased on or after Jan. 5. Tickets purchased before then, regardless of when the travel begins, are subject to the current fees - \$15 for the first bag and \$25 for the second. Elite frequent fliers and certain other customers, including active military personnel on deployment, are exempt from the fees.


Sedona News From Laura Vandergrift

Poco Diablo Resort will no longer be a Radisson property at the end on February, according to Amy Johnson, Corporate Sales Manager.

For Guides and DMC's Red Rock Crossing/Crescent Moon Ranch is not allowing motor coaches in the park effective January 1, 2010. You can still take buses up to Airport Mesa. If the volunteer is there, you can have him arrange for a receipt to be sent to whoever is doing the tour. They would like \$10 per bus donation, but now at least you can get a receipt if the volunteer is on duty.

New Book Release Arizona's Little Hollywood and Northern Arizona's Forgotten Film History 1923 – 1973. This book has been in the making for 7 years and was written by Sedona Monthly's creative director, Joe McNeill. Joe has accurately documented Sedona's film legacy for the first time ever. You will read the real facts about Sedona's movie making. For instance, according to McNeill's research, Zane Grey was not in Oak Creek Canyon when he wrote Call of the Canyon. His diaries still exist and indicate in was in Catalina California. Then he finished it in Oregon and Colorado. He has 40 pages of notes and bibliography. A lot of these stories have not been published before and should prove exciting reading for everyone. Pre-release copies are available this month exclusively at www.arizonaslittlehollywood.com. The book will go on sale at retail stores and Amazon.com in May.

Items of interest.....

Composting operations on the Salt River They may look like ordinary piles of dirt, but to farmer Ken Singh they are his inventory, a valuable commodity of compost. Singh turns landscaping waste and other organic matter into a rich compost that fertilizes his farm and everything from the lawn at Gammage Auditorium to organic gardens and golf- course fairways. Singh Farms, on 20 acres leased from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, has a growing reputation as a hub of sustainable, organic farming. Chefs rave about the produce that Ken and Lee Singh grow, and landscapers and gardeners are amazed at the results they get with the farm's compost.  It's high praise for a small farm tucked along Loop 101 just east of Scottsdale. In just six years, the Singhs have transformed a barren desert patch into a thriving oasis that

has lined up business with ASU, Whole Foods, Nordstrom and the Desert Botanical Garden. Even the Phoenix Zoo wanted Singh to compost its elephant dung. He declined. "There's a lot of it," he joked. "I didn't want to mess with it."

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Singh, 57, said he wants his farm to remain small and manageable. The son of an Indian immigrant who grew up farming in the West Valley, Singh is humble about his success. He declined to be photographed for the Arizona Republic story, insisting that the focus should be on the importance of organic farming in improving human health. "If you really think about it, the discussion should be about sustainability," he said.

For its part in making its operations more sustainable, ASU has been sending landscaping waste to Singh Farms for about 18 months. Singh composts it in his piles over about six months and sends it back to the university as fertilizer. About a half-million pounds of waste has been diverted from landfills, saving the university about \$20,000 in dumping fees. ASU has found other advantages from the compost, including healthier soil that absorbs more rainwater and uses less irrigation.

After seeing ASU's success, Tempe is exploring options for composting its landscape waste at Singh Farms or at its own facility, said John Osgood, a deputy public works manager. He estimates that the city could save \$300,000 in landfill charges annually by composting about 12,600 tons of green waste. Tempe could then use the compost at its parks and give it to community gardeners. Several other area organizations are involved in similar sustainable programs with Singh Farms. In December, the Nordstrom department store started sending organic waste to Singh Farms and will use the compost to fertilize its landscaping at Scottsdale Fashion Square. The Seattle-based retailer is also looking at using herbs and spices from Singh Farms at its Café Marketplace. Whole Foods sends overripe produce and green waste from its five Valley stores to Singh Farms for composting. To complete the cycle, it is working out the logistics of selling bags of compost or having larger loads delivered to customers who want it for their gardens. Desert Botanical Gardens has been using compost from Singh Farms from more than two years and is starting to send its clippings and green waste there for composting.

Education

Certification dates remaining for this coming season 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 : To which compass direction does a Barrel Cactus usually lean?

April Education Trip Larry Dyb says the committee is working on an April education trip focusing on Arizona's growing wine industry. There should be a lot of interest in this one!! Stay tuned for details on the date and time, etc. See the websites to visit section in this newsletter for a link to Arizona wineries and information on the industries amazing growth in our state.

News from the Grand Canyon.....

Grand Canyon's rarest plant sentry milk-vetch (*Astragalus cremnophylax* var. *cremnophylax*), grows at only three locations on the South Rim. This tiny member of the pea family with minute pale purple flowers favors very specific habitats at the canyon's edge. It grows in openings of the pinyon-juniper woodland, in shallow soil pockets atop the highly porous Kaibab Limestone. Listed as endangered in 1990, sentry milk-vetch is at risk of extinction because the plant exists in just three populations in very small numbers.

Did You Know!

- The state's first wind farm, Dry Lake Wind Power Project, which sends power to Salt River Project customers in the Valley when the wind blows on the turbines, is between Holbrook and Snowflake.
- In a steady wind, the turbines can generate enough power for more than 15,000 homes.
- The 'farm' has 30 wind turbines standing more than 400 feet tall, catching every breeze of 7 mph or greater and turning it into pollution-free electricity.
- Even though engineers exhaustively research the most efficient windy spots to place turbines, energy from the turbines is subject to Mother Nature and not always available.
- The Dry Lake farm sits on private, state and BLM land. The blm has 37 applications to use 720,000 acres of public land in Arizona for solar-power plants.

Remembering China Alley

During the 1870s, the residents of the 10-year-old settlement of Phoenix might have been better acquainted with Chinese New Year. When the new railroad tied the knot between Phoenix and other points in the Arizona Territory and beyond, it also spurred the growth of an exotic culture in the rough-around-the-edges town. A Chinatown at First and Adams streets had burgeoned, courtesy of the railroad, to include about 109 people - a good 4 percent of Phoenix's total population at the time.

Resourceful and hardworking, the Chinese were persistently pushed out of the mainstream jobs because of their propensity to work for half the going wages. They were forced from their original neighborhood at First and Adams when city leaders planned to raze it for a street railroad in the mid-1890s. But the Chinese persevered, and merely moved to the southeast corner of First and Madison streets (now US Airways Center), where a distinctive C-shaped building stood. The building was filled with restaurants, a temple and residents, and it stood at the center of the neighborhood.

While Chung Fy cooked steaks in his old oven, and Sings American Kitchen on Central and Mandarin Cafe on Adams whipped up American meals for Phoenicians, city newspaper editors ranted about the Chinese monopoly on restaurants and laundry shops, and insisted that their white readers should start their own such businesses.

Old-timers like Roscoe G. Willson, in his 1949 Arizona Republic column Arizona Days and Ways, endearingly remembered Chinamen "blowing spray from their mouths as they ironed our shirts and handed us out our bundles marked with the chicken-track identification." And the Phoenix Herald harangued about how this "unsightly" and "unhealthy" neighborhood was "a public nuisance." Nevertheless, the Chinese hung in there, prospering in their businesses.

Admittedly, the Chinese did have some curious customs. They wore pajama-like clothes, shaved their foreheads and grew braids called queues that dangled down their backs, and practiced rituals that accommodated the dead. Some Chinamen caused Anglo eyebrows to raise when they peddled their homebrewed elixir called Heung May Sear Jow - a wide-mouth jar full of Chinese medicinal herbs, several live rattlesnakes and homebrewed rice wine. And their indulgence of smoking opium caused a sensation. "There's an urban myth that there were opium dens and tunnels under every city in which the Chinese lived," wrote historian Melissa Keane in *The Chinese in Arizona: 1870-1950*, "but that hasn't been borne out by archaeological digs performed to date. A few limited artifacts found in a subterranean latrine in the old Chinese section in Phoenix suggests opium use, but no tunnels were found."

China Alley thrived until the 1930s, and then fizzled out. Maybe the all-male population (according to census records) simply died off, or the families (suspected by historians) integrated into the Valley's neighborhoods. In the late 1960s, the city razed China Alley's trademark C-shaped building to clear space for a new fire station. All the other buildings were eventually razed, too, except for the Sun Mercantile Building.

North Mountain Preserve Take an easy hike or stroll in the North Mountain Preserve. There is a trailhead at 32nd Street and Lincoln Drive with a trail that is relatively flat and easy and one at the dead-end of 40th Street, south of Shea Boulevard, that has some nice, flat trails. Anyone can do these!!

The Arizona Coach Talker

AGA Newsletter

P.O. Box 45302

Phoenix, AZ 85064-5302

History of Arizona Women in Politics

www.arizonaguides.org

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Websites to visit

Sedona's Movie History ... <http://www.sedonamonthly.com/gonehollywood/index.html>

See how the heavy January rains damaged the Boyce Thompson Arboretum ...

www.picasaweb.google.com/boycethompsonarboretum.

Check out BLM's solar program ... www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/energy/solar.html

Enjoy Native American artists and foods

<http://www.pavilionsindianmarket.com/site/welcome.html>

Learn more about Arizona's wine growing industry <http://www.arizonawine.org/>

Certification Test Sample Question Answer: Answer: South.