



*Newsletter of the Arizona Guides Association*

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*April Adams, Editor*

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**The next AGA meeting will be held the Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 1:30pm.**

Save the date. Did you know the concept of food banking began in Phoenix? That Make-A-Wish was founded here? Learn more about the giving side of Phoenix and meet Monica Faultner, recently featured in "The Arizona Republic", who weaves mats for the homeless from plastic bags. Join us at the next AGA Meeting for our "Focus on Charity". We'll meet at the Mt. Claret Retreat Center (on 54th Street, just north of Camelback) at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015.

Please RSVP to Robin Lindsey at robin@salesconnection.net letting her know if you plan to attend and if you can lend a table cloth for a 60" round table. Details to follow.

**Review of the AGA meeting, November 5th at Sky Harbor Airport.**

We were given insight to all the changes that will be occurring immediately and in the future. Phoenix Airport is America's friendliest airport, #1 domestic city that flies into Phx is Denver, #1 international city flying into Phoenix is Calgary, and we are the 6<sup>th</sup> largest city and 12<sup>th</sup> largest metropolitan area

Terminal 3 modernization--As they remodel it there will be better check points, stores and restaurants and the sky train will go to T3 soon. Terminal-2 will remain open until 2020. Airlines pay the same fees for space whether they are in T2 or T4, most airlines will be moved to T3

In Terminal 4--there is a walking path called Fit for Phoenix about 1 mile and there are brochures. Some of the restaurants opening are Wild Flower, Smash Burger, America's Tacos, Joes BBQ, and Lola's Waffle and Chicken For Super bowl the Copperhead lot will be for charter busses.

Next year sometime meet and greet staff will need to be certified with the airport for name badges. There will be a background check made and a fee of about \$39.00

**Sky Train** by Judy Hedding

On April 8, 2013 the PHX Sky Train welcomed the public on board for the first time. The first phase of the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport automated transit system is only a five minute trip from end to end (less than 2 miles), but it represents a major step forward in servicing the millions of people who use Sky Harbor Airport each year. PHX Sky Train operates 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. There is no charge to ride PHX Sky Train. No local tax dollars were used to fund this project, estimated to cost about \$1.58 billion when it is completed.

**First phase, completed.**

The PHX Sky Train terminal is a shiny, new facility at 44th Street and Washington. There is an elevated track for the electric-powered train PHX Sky Train, allowing it to travel between Terminal 4, East Economy Parking and 44th Street/Washington, where it connects passengers to the METRO Light Rail system.

**Second phase, completed.**

As of December 8, 2015 PHX Sky Train continues from Terminal 4 to Terminal 3, an additional 7/10th of a mile. A station at Terminal 2 is not planned. As a matter of fact, Terminal 2 will be eliminated in the future.

**Final phase, possibly 2020.**

PHX Sky Train will be extended an additional 2.5 miles to provide transportation to the Rental Car Center. Facts:

1. The US Green Building Council has recognized this project by awarding it Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification.
2. Trains will be either two or three cars in length, each one holding a maximum of 53 passengers. The PHX Sky Train travels back and forth; it doesn't loop.
3. There is no Wi-Fi at any of the PHX Sky Train Stations.



4. There are few seats in the train cars. The ones that are there should be relinquished for those who need them the most. No one should be on the train for more than a few minutes, so standing up should not be a problem for most.
5. You can't move from one car to the next while the train is in motion, like you might on an actual railroad or on some subway systems. Once you are in a PHX Sky Train car, that's where you'll stay!
6. It goes faster than you might expect! On the straightaway the train will travel at 38 mph, which seems rather speedy when you are, suspended several stories above the ground! The speed does vary and is automatically controlled. The average speed on the train is 23 mph.
7. When you get on the train, hold on. There are curves and dips.
8. If you traveled with Fido and Fluffy, you can bring them on the PHX Sky Train. There is a pet park at the 44th Street Sky Train facility, just outside the northwest doors on Level 1. There is also a pet park between the East Economy garages.

## **The Super Bowl**

The Super Bowl will take place on February 1, 2015, at the University of Phoenix Stadium, home to the Arizona Cardinals. For the latest information, visit [azsuperbowl.com](http://azsuperbowl.com) and follow #SBCentral and #SB49 on social media. We all have lots of questions about the big game. Will the Arizona Cardinals make it to the Super Bowl for a home field advantage? What commercial will everyone be talking about around the water cooler in the days following? Will Katy Perry lip-sync, or worse yet, have a wardrobe malfunction? How crazy will traffic be throughout the Valley?

## **Radisson Fort McDowell Resort has been rebranded as the We-Ko-Pa Resort.**

We-Ko-Pa in the Yavapai language means Four Peaks. "A Native American name shows our independence and gives us better positioning in the hotel industry" said Craig Benell, Acting General Manager. "We-Ko-Pa resonates deeply within our community as these peaks in the scenic mountains along the Verde River have spiritually been a part of us since time immemorial and are part of our Tribal seal".

## **FT. McDowell Friday Night Franks Family Fun Friday!**

Friday nights will sizzle once again at Fort McDowell Adventures, thanks to the ever-popular Friday Night Franks that will resume October 3. Held on the first Friday of every month through May 1, 2015, this old-fashioned wiener roast allows guests to cook their own brats, hotdogs, S'more and marshmallows over an open fire in a unique venue nestled in the beautiful Sonoran Desert. Live music, horse wagon rides, cowboy games, movies under the stars hay rides and Yavapai stories round out this one-of-a-kind Southwestern experience. Admission is free. Menu items for purchase include hot dogs, Bratwurst, burgers, ribs, brisket, chicken sandwiches, chili, cowboy beans, potato chips, S'mores, popcorn and marshmallows. Mixed drinks, wine, imported/domestic beers, soda, juice and bottled water are available. Anyone looking for a fun way to spend Friday evening? Friday Night Franks is as ideally suited for families and date nights as it is for birthday parties, group outings and other special events. Food \$8 to \$11, Beverages \$2 to \$8 For more information, call (480) 816-6465. To make reservations for groups of 10 or more, please call us at this number.

<http://www.fortmcdowelladventures.com/about-our-venues/friday-night-franks/>

**Become a Certified Guide.** Testing dates for certification. Please contact Janice Dunnahoo for more information

January 10, 2015 and May 9, 2015

## **Ahwatukee by Clay Thompson, Arizona Republic**

In 1921, Der. W.V.B. Ames built a big house on 2,000 acres of land he owned south of South Mountain. He named the house Casa De Suenos, which means House of Dreams. Ames lived only three months after the house was completed. Upon his death of his wife, the property was willed to St. Luke's Hospital.



In 1935, Helen Brinton of Dixon, IL, purchased the property and renamed it “Ahwatukee”, said to be the Crow translation for House of Dreams. As it turned out, Brinton probably used the Crow words “awe chuuke” which means “on the other side of the hill.” After Brinton died in 1961, the property was sold to developers. It changed hands several times and finally was developed by the Presley Development Co. It was annexed by the city of Phoenix in bits and pieces beginning in 1982. The house that Ames built was torn down in 1979. Parts of it were used to build the Our Lady of Guadalupe church.

### **Arizona Trivia**

1. Who named the Grand Canyon?
2. What is the total area of the Grand Canyon National Park?
3. What is the name of the trading post on the east entrance to the Grand Canyon
4. When was the trading post established?
5. What tribe owns the land the trading post is located on?
6. What river runs through the Grand Canyon? How long is it?
7. What dam is located closest to the heart of the Grand Canyon which now virtually eliminates the annual floods that use to careen through the Grand Canyon?
8. How deep is the GC on the south rim at the Grand Canyon Village?
9. How many miles is the Grand Canyon from Phoenix?
10. What is the average rainfall on the South rim?

**Thank you** to Annette Swetish and Judy Hedding for submitting articles for our newsletter and

Answers to the Trivia John Wesley Powell in 1869, 1904 sq. mi., 1916, Navajo, Colorado River, 1450 miles, Glen Canyon Dam, 4,500 feet, 226 miles, 16 inches.