The newsletter for supporters of Old Trails Museum/Winslow Historical Society

WHS Annual Meeting on November 6

The Winslow Historical Society will host its 2016 Annual Meeting on Sunday, November 6, from 2 to 4 pm at the Winslow Visitors Center/Hubbell Building, 523 West Second Street.

The free event will begin at 2 pm with a reception and performance by the Better-Than-Nothings, when Greg and Casey will perform an acoustic mix of pop, rock, country, and blues classics.

The Winslow Historical Society Annual Meeting will began at about 2:45 and include the election of new Board members and brief reports on museum activities over the past year.

While there, attendees can join or renew their memberships for 2017; buy the Old Trail Museum’s 2017 historical calendar, America’s Main Street: US Route 66 in Winslow (story below); and take a ticket for a chance to win a terrific door prize donated by the OTM Store, La Posada Hotel, and several board members.

Please join us for the Winslow Historical Society’s annual celebration of our membership, which is a reflection of the Old Trails Museum’s community support and the backbone of our grassroots fundraising efforts. With you, we have a future; without you, we’re history!

2017 Historical Calendar on Route 66

OTM’s 2017 historical calendar will debut at the Annual Meeting! America’s Main Street: US Route 66 in Winslow features a majority of images that have not previously been published in an OTM book or calendar.

US Route 66 was dubbed “the Main Street of America” because it linked rural communities to larger urban centers, enhancing small-town economies in the process. Passing through downtown on Second and Third Streets, Winslow’s section of Route 66 has never been just for tourists. The calendar highlights the businesses, services, and people along Winslow’s stretch of America’s Main Street.

The calendar is a fundraiser for the museum thanks to our generous advertisers, and at $10, it makes a great holiday gift! You can purchase it at OTM, La Posada Hotel, Arizona 66 Trading Company, On the Corner Gifts, The Scoop Advertising, the Winslow Chamber of Commerce, and Winslow Dental.

OTM will be open from 10 am to 3 pm every day through Christmas Eve, except Sundays, Mondays, and Thanksgiving weekend. Your OTM Store purchases are sales-tax-free, support the museum, and keep your shopping dollars local!
The 2016 High-Desert Fly-In took place at the Winslow-Lindbergh Regional Airport on Saturday, July 30, from 7 am to 12 noon. Admission was free, and over 300 attendees enjoyed airplanes, history, music, dancing, food, and more!

To kick off this year’s event, the High Desert Fly-In Committee hosted the 2016 Fly Back in Time Gala in the airport’s historic hangar on Friday, July 29, the evening before the Fly-In. Doors opened at 6:30 pm, when 150 attendees enjoyed a catered buffet dinner to the nostalgic sounds of the Big Band Connection from Flagstaff.

Since the early 1990s, some of Northern Arizona’s most outstanding musicians have performed in this exciting big band, entertaining audiences with swing and jazz classics made famous by band leaders such as Count Basie, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Harry James, and Glenn Miller. Many gala attendees came dressed in vintage clothing and danced to the band after dinner.

The next morning, the Winslow Rotary Club hosted a pancake breakfast. Attendees were allowed on the tarmac to view the visiting aircraft, which included small private and historic planes as well as medical transport aircraft owned by Guardian Air and Aerocare.

The Just Cruis’n Car Club also hosted a “Show-and-Shine” of vintage automobiles, including the 1940 Seagraves fire truck owned by the Winslow Historical Society.

Inside the historic hangar, the Flying Fun Kids Area included a Glider-Making Workshop and an interactive World Travel Map. Youngsters also enjoyed free airplane rides provided by Wiseman Aviation.

The Flying Through History Area included two exhibits: The Old Trails Museum’s Flying through History: The Winslow-Lindbergh Regional Airport and The Swamp Ghost and World War II.

Historian Erik Berg also talked with attendees about his artifacts and writings on aviation in the Southwest from Arizona Highways and Arizona Goes to War: The Home Front and the Front Lines during World War II (see page 3).

Pilots received complimentary gift bags and discounted gas, as well as a free seminar by Fred Gibbs of the FAA on the WINGS Safety Program and current events affecting aviation.

Attendees also bid on wonderful items donated by local individuals and businesses in the High Desert Fly-In Silent Auction – thanks to David Andreasen for the help! Fly-In polo shirts are still on sale at OTM and the airport. The latter also has 2016 historical airport calendars for $5.

Go to the High Desert Fly-In website for the latest details on the 2017 event, and find us on Facebook. We hope to see you again next year!
History Highlights Roundup

The Old Trails Museum offered its 2016 Spring, Summer, and Fall History Highlights at the Winslow Visitors Center/Hubbell Building in partnership with the Winslow Chamber of Commerce. The free programs were made possible in part by Arizona Humanities, and OTM thanks the Winslow Harvey Girls for acting as greeters.

Dr. John S. Westerlund presented Arizona’s War Town: Flagstaff, Navajo Ordnance Depot, and World War II to thirty-five attendees on May 14. Drawn from his book of the same name, his talk explored Flagstaff’s wartime story and the results of military expansion on economic, social, and community development in Arizona.

In conjunction with the 2016 High Desert Fly-In, historian Erik Berg presented The Eagle and the Archaeologists: The Lindbergh’s 1929 Aerial Survey of Southwest Prehistoric Sites to seventeen attendees on July 29. Featuring many rarely-seen images, Berg’s talk described how aviator Charles A. Lindbergh agreed to conduct the first extensive aerial survey of prehistoric sites in the Southwest.

During the summer of 1929, he and his new bride, Anne Morrow, captured nearly two hundred iconic aerial images of famous Four Corners landmarks such as Meteor Crater, the Grand Canyon, and Canyon de Chelly. During the Q&A, Berg also discussed the exhibit on view through May 2017 at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe, Oblique Views: Archaeology, Photography, and Time, which features modern reshoots alongside Lindbergh’s historic images.

In conjunction with the 2016 Material Girls Quilt Guild Show, author and filmmaker Pamela Knight Stevenson presented Written in Thread: Arizona Women’s History Preserved in Their Quilts on September 29 to twenty-six attendees, many of whom are members of the guild. The talk traced the history of Arizona through women who recorded pieces of their lives in their needlework.

Stevenson presented on Mexican quilters of the 1860s through Hopi quilters of the 1990s. Written in Thread also featured quilts discovered by the Arizona Quilt Project, which documents the history of quilts made in Arizona before 1940. Stevenson co-created the book, Grand Endeavors: Vintage Arizona Quilts and their Makers, and the documentary, Arizona Quilts: Pieces of Time, both of which document the project.

First Antique Appraisal Fair a Success

OTM and Friends of the Winslow Public Library hosted the first-ever Winslow Antiques Appraisal Fair on June 18 at the Winslow Visitors Center/Hubbell Building. Attendance was limited to forty people, and every slot was filled!

Sean Morton of Morton Appraisals in Scottsdale brought his expertise up north and appraised many fascinating and diverse historical items brought in by local and regional residents. Mr. Morton is a licensed appraiser and regularly appears on Channel Eight’s Arizona Collectibles, Thursday nights at 7:30 pm.

The fair was presented as a service to the community – the event was not a fundraiser and the appraisal charge was only to cover costs. Given the positive feedback from attendees, we hope to bring Mr. Morton back next year!
Supporter Spotlight

The Board of the Winslow Historical Society threw our wonderful OTM volunteers a great 2016 Thank-You Party on June 20! We had an excellent turnout of forty-three Board members, volunteers, and Winslow Harvey Girls, who enjoyed a delicious barbecue dinner by caterer Janeille Buckley.

Board member Tess Kenna and her son, Lawrence Kenna, hosted the party at their historic home, which was originally Winslow’s LDS Church. They conducted home tours and awarded prizes to winners of a post-tour trivia quiz.

Linda McHood, wife of WHS Treasurer Gordon McHood, once again made delicious homemade jellies as favors for all the volunteers. You are all invited to volunteer with OTM and join the fun!

OTM welcomed Winslow native Megan Lymer over the summer, who spent time over her break from biology studies at Arizona State University to work at OTM as a volunteer intern.

Megan entered items from the OTM Research Library into our collections database, which OTM hopes to debut online sometime next year. It was a pleasure to have Megan at the museum, and we thank her for her hard work!

From the Museum Floor

This past spring, OTM was lucky enough to get visits from Jefferson School first-and second-grade students!

Ms. Baldwin, Ms. Ballesteros, Ms. Bengson, Ms. Bratt, Ms. Fulton, Ms. Gonzales, and Ms. Reid transported their classes and provided a scavenger hunt that engaged the students with historical objects at the museum.

When they were done with their hunts, students visited with OTM mascot Rafa and posed for group pictures. OTM thanks everyone for coming, and we invite you to visit us again with your parents – Rafa misses you!

The Women On The Mother Road is a new oral history project and web site developed by our friend, Katrina Parks of Assertion Films. She’s creating a public history record of diverse women’s experiences along US Route 66 over several decades.

OTM is a contributor to the project, providing Katrina with information on women from Winslow. Go to www.route66women.com to see profiles of Tammy Kretsedemas, Luz Degadillo Moore, Rosemary Natseway, Linda SooHoo, and Suzie Ping Woo.

Also in the spring, OTM successfully applied for an Arizona Historical Society grant. The museum received $600 toward the purchase a flat file module, which holds oversized paper items in OTM’s new Paper Collections Area.

And finally, the OTM Museum Store is featuring two new Images of America titles by two friends of the museum: Cameron Trading Post by Carolyn O’Bagy Davis and Meteor Crater by Winslow native Neal F. Davis.
Thoughts from the Director

Another fall, another OTM historical calendar is published! A tradition established by founding director Janice Griffith, the calendar is a wonderful example of community support and collective effort.

The “community support” comes from our generous advertisers, who’s sponsorships allow the calendar to be OTM’s annual fundraiser, as well as from our dedicated vendors around town.

The “collective effort” comes from the fact that every calendar and exhibit that I’ve produced has benefitted greatly from the work of others, and this year’s calendar is no exception. My thanks to:

• Every former OTM Director, for doing so much research and writing that I’m able to build on;
• Janice Henling, for all the oral history she’s done over the years and shared so freely with me;
• David Andreasen, for tirelessly reorganizing the OTM Archives, making images much easier to find;
• Curtis Hardy, for proof-reading this calendar and sharing his vast historical knowledge with OTM.

The “Welcome to Winslow” sign in 1951: Barbara Aragon, Chief Joe Sekakuku, Phyllis Sirrine, Mayor Floyd Whipple

The cover of the 2017 Historical Calendar

With you, we have a future; without you, we’re history!
Support the Old Trails Museum

The Old Trails Museum is owned and operated by the Winslow Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation.

OTM is funded primarily by the City of Winslow, with additional support from memberships, donations, and sales. We welcome donations of cash as well as of equipment, supplies, and services.

Become a member to enjoy Old Trails Journal, invitations to special member events, and 10% off in the OTM Store on Navajo and Hopi arts and crafts, regional history books, and our annual Winslow historical calendars.

Please join us in our efforts to keep the Old Trails Museum thriving. With you, we have a future; without you, we’re history!

Visit the Old Trails Museum

The Old Trails Museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 am to 3 pm. Admission is free. Photography, group tours, and research appointments are welcome.

OTM is located in the heart of Winslow’s historic downtown business district and across the street from the Standin’ on the Corner Park. There is free parking downtown, and our exhibits are wheelchair accessible.

Housed in the 1921 First National Bank building, OTM has retained the original marble-faced counters, mosaic tile floor, and vault, which provide a historic backdrop for the museum’s exhibits and collections.

Our Mission: Founded in 1997, the Winslow Historical Society receives, preserves, and interprets information and artifacts representing the history and cultures of the Winslow area, in order to engage and enlighten all visitors to the Old Trails Museum’s exhibits and programs.

Visit the Old Trails Museum

OTM is also online on Facebook and at the Arizona Memory Project.