



# Cornville Historical Society

## E-MAIL NEWS

P.O. Box 1200, Cornville, AZ 86325

Issue No. 4

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The mission of the Cornville Historical Society is to gather, preserve and share information about the history of rural life within the Cornville postal area from 1860 to the present.

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*CHS Officers Jan Starkey, Linda Allen Kappel & Sharon Morehouse check out the Boardroom.*

***Society Now Has a Boardroom:*** The Society has reached a milestone-- with the help of business member Dale Spude, owner of Red Rock Masonry. In response to a call for space to store records and supplies and a place to hold meetings, Dale offered a room at his Thistle & Thorn Plaza, 10990 E. Cornville Road. An agreement was reached on May 1; and the Board began moving files and other materials into Suite F right away. The room is climate-controlled, includes a restroom and offers parking. It is important to note that the space is NOT a museum. It is simply a meeting room and a secure place to store records and supplies all in one place. Board members and their invitees will use the space for meetings and work activities. It will not be open to the public.

***A Wish List:*** The Board held its first meeting at the Boardroom on May 14; and a work session was held May 28 to put everything in order. Now, there is a need for some conference room chairs and a bookcase (with 12" deep shelves for storing 3-ring binders); and an exterior sign. If you have items to donate or know someone who might make us a sign, contact Sharon Morehouse at 634-8927 or [stevesharmor@msn.com](mailto:stevesharmor@msn.com).

***April Yard Sale a Success:*** On April 24 & 25, the Society held a fundraiser yard sale at the home of George Dana, 1425 Koch Ranch Road in Cornville. Board members and spouses pitched in to help; and several Society members and friends donated items. A big **THANKS** goes to George Dana for all his support and to everyone who donated items and volunteered their time to make the sale a great success!

***Work Sessions Ahead:*** The Board of Directors has continued its work to organize records and file news clippings, photos and reference materials. File boxes, binders, and archival quality supplies materials have been purchased; and the group has made a good start. Future work sessions are planned. Contact any Board member if you would be interested in taking the lead or helping with research, photo & record projects, event planning, oral histories, site inventories or other activities. We want YOU to get involved!

**Page Springs Road Re-Nominated for Scenic/Historic Status.** On April 20, the Yavapai County Board of Supervisors approved a new Scenic/Historic Road Program for Yavapai County. The program establishes criteria for nomination and procedures for approval of scenic/historic routes within the county. On May 18, the Cornville Community Association revised and resubmitted its request for designation of Page Springs Road (the five miles from SR 89A to Stewart Hill) as a Yavapai County Scenic/Historic Route. Stay tuned for the outcome! The Cornville Historical Society is on record in support of the nomination.

**Judy Abood Joins Board of Directors:** Judy Abood, a resident of Cornville for the past 14 years, has been appointed as the newest member of the Society's Board of Directors, to fill one of two vacancies. Judy and her husband Fred live in Oak Creek Valley and are very interested in area history. In the past, while living in Sedona, Judy served as a docent for the Sedona Historical Society and is an active volunteer with church and charity groups. Welcome Judy!

**Board Assignments for 2009-2010:** For the new year, Board members have accepted work responsibilities according to individual interests and skills as follows: Linda Allen Kappel--President & Oral History; Sharon Morehouse--Vice President, Membership & Space Management; Jan Starkey--Secretary & Treasurer; Judy Miller--Communications (Publicity & Publications); Patricia Taffora--Development (Fundraising Projects); Cheryl Chamberlain--Meeting Arrangements & Hospitality. Other leadership responsibilities will be assigned according to need. Also, there is still one vacancy on the Board of Directors. Please contact any Board member to express your interest!

**Oral History Update:** Oral history policy and procedures have been developed; forms have been prepared; and the process is underway. Linda Allen Kappel attended an excellent workshop on oral history in April, to help us improve. Jan Starkey also attended a workshop on preservation of historical documents and photos. There is much to learn; and we welcome the help of anyone who would like to get involved.

Our strategy is to obtain oral histories from long-term Cornville residents, particularly descendants of original homesteaders. Currently, we are concentrating on the first eighteen homesteaders--those who settled before the turn of the century--were: *Abraham Kiewe (1880); William Munds, Benjamin F. Copple, Samuel C. Dickinson & Robert H. Jack (1885); William D. Powell (1888); James T. Munds (1889); Elijah Lay, James W. Anderson & Andrew Jackson (1891); William G. Dickison & James W. Muse (1896); Ann Allen, James Kelley, Lon Mason, Charles Dickinson, William Lane & John D. Lay (1899).* We would particularly like to know if any of these settlers have descendants still living in the Cornville or Verde Valley area. If you know, please let us know! Contact Linda Allen Kappel at 634-4698 or [losttango@sedona.net](mailto:losttango@sedona.net).

**Charter Members Wanted:** The first 120 members to join the Cornville Historical Society are considered Charter Members, in honor of Cornville's 120<sup>th</sup> birthday, which was celebrated in 2005, the year of the Society's incorporation. So far, 93 charter members have been recorded. Please help us reach our goal of 120 charter members in 2009! Annual dues are \$15 for individuals; \$25 for families; and \$50 for businesses/organizations. Those who have lived in Cornville for 50 years or eligible for free honorary memberships. Benefits include a newsletter, informational meetings, fundraiser and work projects! Contact Sharon Morehouse at 634-8927 or [stevesharmor@msn.com](mailto:stevesharmor@msn.com).

**WANTED: Cornville Dance Hall Photos & Stories:** The Society often hears tales of the old days when folks came from all around to Cornville to dance on Saturday night. If you have a photo or story to tell from the "Cornville Dance Hall", we'd like to hear from you! We may compile the material for a display or publication. Please help by contacting Patricia Taffora at 646-0157.

**Cornville Historical Society 2009-10 Board of Directors:** Linda Allen Kappel, *President*, 634-4698; Sharon Morehouse, *Vice-President*, 634-8927; Jan Starkey, *Secretary-Treasurer*, 649-9271; Judy Abood, 649-0247; Cheryl Chamberlain, 639-0865; Betsy Cook, 634-1396; Judy Miller, 649-1916; and Patricia Taffora, 646-0157.