ARTIST'S STATEMENT

It is our intention to honor all volunteers. These figures represent the highest values of our Community: strength of character, dignity, compassion and mindful responsibility to our own and future generations.

Connie Turner & Kay Smith

CLIP & SEND

Donations may be sent to:

Sun City Foundation / Statue Fund
10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351.

All donations are tax deductible
and will be acknowledged.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Amount: ☐ $10 ☐ $25 ☐ $50 ☐ $100 ☐ Other

Any financial support is appreciated.
Make checks payable to: Sun City Foundation / Statue Fund

Sun City Volunteers a Lifestyle of Giving



... to be honored by a life-size bronze statue



5-18-99

Donations sought for 40th anniversary

The 40th Anniversary Steering Committee and officials from the Sun City Foundation have announced that donations are being accepted to finance about 80 events scheduled to mark the community's 40th anniversary celebration next year.

Contributions are needed to cover the costs of educational and entertainment events such as life enrichment seminars, a golf cart parade, an ice cream and pizza party social, sports tournaments, dances and more.

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to the Sun City Foundation, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, 85351. Call 876-3000.





Sun City women want to sculpt homage to volunteers

Statue would be lasting tribute

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers



Sculptors Connie Turner, left, and Kay Smith will publicly unveil their maquette of a proposed statute to honor Sun City's volunteers.

Sun City has long prided itself on its status as a "City of Volunteers." Yet, there is no lasting tribute to the thousands of people who have donated countless hours to Sun City and neighboring communities — until now.

Sun Citians annually donate in excess of 1.3 million hours of their time, valued at an estimated $15 million, to make life better for area residents.

Two of those numerous volunteers — Connie Turner and Kay Smith — would like to erect a statue in honor of the community's volunteer spirit.

Kay has been sculpting for seven years and Connie has been working with clay for four years, though she has always exhibited an artistic flair, having painted her entire life.

The two members of the Clay Corner at Marinette Recreation Center would like to erect a life-size, bronze statute at Lakeview Recreation Center, corner of Del Webb and Thunderbird boulevards, paying homage to the community's volunteers.

> Anyone interested in contributing to the statute project, please fill out the coupon in the page 9 advertisement.

"This statue will honor all of the volunteers of the past forty years and those who will step up to the help in the future," said Ms. Turner. "It will pay tribute to the men and women who unselfishly donate millions of hours to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our wonderful community."

The idea for the statue came from attending a meeting of Sun City's 40th Anniversary Committee last fall.

We heard all the wonderful things they planned to do," Ms. Turner said. "We wanted to present something permanent. It would cap off the events of the year."

The two sculptors have agreed to donate their time and talents but the bronzing and installation of the statue will cost approximately $100,000.

A fund-raising effort begins Oct. 1 with an unveiling of the maquette (clay model) of the statute at the Marinette Recreation Center Social Hall.

The Clay Corner will be hosting the reception from 1 to 4 p.m.

The statute, entitled: "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifetime of Giving," has already received the blessing of the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors and the nonprofit Sun City Foundation, and as a result, contributions are tax deductible.

"Major donors ($1,000 or more) will have their names placed on a bronze plaque," explained Ms. Turner.

"When we have half the funds raised and commitments for the rest, it will go to the foundry — Arizona Bronze in Tempe," she continued.

The two ladies will apply the final half-inch layer of clay before the bronze coating is applied.

Donations may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351. All donations will be acknowledged.

In addition to the plaque denoting major contributors, tiles will be placed around the statue commemorating all volunteers.

Following next week's reception, the maquette will be on display at several public locations, including the 28th Annual Arts and Crafts Festival at the Sundial Recreation Center the two days following Thanksgiving.





The proposed monument, "Sun City Volunteers...A Lifestyle of Giving," pays tribute to the men and women who unselfishly donate millions of hours to insure the health, safety, and well-being of our wonderful Community.

We hope that volunteers everywhere will see themselves as partners in a rewarding and productive lifestyle and consider this a personal Thank You.

A maquette of the life-size bronze statue has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Recreation Centers of Sun City, and has been accepted by the Sun City Foundation, a 501© 3 organization, which promotes cultural and education projects in Sun City.

Anyone wishing to lend financial support to this worthy project may send their contributions to

SUN CITY FOUNDATION
Statue Fund
10626 Thunderbird Boulevard
Sun City, Arizona 85351

All donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged.

For further information call 623-977-8935

http://www.suncityaz-recreation.com/maquette.htm



Sun City Volunteer's - A Lifestyle of Giving

Our goal is to raise $100,000.

All donations are made to THE SUN CITY FOUNDATION/STATUE FUND. This is a 501(c)3 Organisation which makes contributions tax-exempt.

In addition, any person or group who sponsors an individual statue e.g. The Smock Lady, may take advantage of the offer made by Art and Design, which is a refund based on appreciation of Snell Johnson's work based on his reputation as an Internationally respected Artist. This is covered in a separate report and you may wish to have your Accountant look it over.

For your convenience, the cost of the composite statue has been divided as follows:

1. Posse figure.....$24,000.
2. Pride figure.....$25,000.
3. Smock Lady.....$20,000.
4. Student.....$20,000.
5. S.C.A.R. Dog.....$8,000.
6. Bench.....$5-7,000.(crafted by Bell Metal)

Expenses for an individual base, historical and donor plaques(bronze) have been figured approximately. A more elaborate setting, pedestal, etc. is not included in the price. Gardens or benches may be added later.

For a donation of $1000. a person or Business may have their name engraved on a bronze plaque at the site. This includes Memorials for deceased persons.

Any person or group who sponsors an individual statue, e.g. The Smock Lady, will have a separate plaque dedicating that piece as they so desire.

Any left-over funds will provide Heart Defibrillators to S.C. Rec. Centers

The Volunteers Statue Committee

Betty Jane Peters, *Chairman*
18412 N. Laurel Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 972-8396 • (623) 977-8935



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Validating volunteers

A public unveiling of the maquette of a proposed statute to honor Sun City's volunteers was held Oct. 1 at Marinette Recreation Center. Among those attending were, from left, Bev Davis, member of the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors; Marge Murphy, RCSC director; Betty Jane Peters, president of the Sun City Clay Club and one of the maquette's sculptors; Connie Turner, sculptor; Kay Smith, sculptor; and Dorothy Hertzel, RCSC director. The Clay Club is trying to raise $100,000 to erect the statue. Donations may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Feat of clay



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Kay Smith, left, Betty Jane Peters and Connie Turner, members of the Clay Corner at Marinette Recreation Center, made a marquette honoring Sun City volunteers. The artist fees have been donated, but the cost of bronzing and installation will likely exceed $100,000. Donations are welcome.

Members of the Clay Corner,
invite you to a reception at the

Marinette Social Hall
Marinette Recreation Center
99th and Union Hills Drive
Sun City, Arizona
Friday, October 1, 1999
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

For an unveiling of the maquette of a statue
honoring Sun City Volunteers

RSVP (623) 977-8935 (623) 933-6264







The Clay Corner
MARINETTE

December 27th, 1999

Dear Maryanne -

Hello again, - Our friend Kitty Ladro suggested I send you the enclosed advertisement in hopes we can get some publicity on the coming event. Kitty will be showing off the Maquette Statue, and selling tickets for door-prises at this CLAYFEST. (Which promises to be a lot of fun!) Hope you can find time to COME SEE -

On December 30th, at 10 A.M. a Large Thermometer will be Set=up on the corner of Thunderbird and DelWebb Blvd. to Kick-off the fund-raising for the "Lifestyle of Giving" Statue of Sun City Volunteers, which will be erected on that sight, LIFE-SIZE Bronze. If any of the photographers have a moment of time that day, and could take a picture, we'd be grateful!!

Thank you very much for your help!

Betty Jane Peters

Betty Jane Peters
623-972-8396

Maquette's on the move in Sun City

A maquette illustrating the "Lifestyle of Giving" Sun City volunteer statue is being displayed at key locations in the community.

To help gain interest and the money to fund a life-size bronze statue, the maquette is being exhibited today at Safeway Foods, Bell Camino Shopping Center, Bell Road and Del Webb Boulevard, and Monday through month's end at Wells Fargo Bank at Bell Road and 99th Avenue.

Next month, the maquette will be at Bank of America, Bell Road and Boswell Boulevard Jan. 4-14 and at the ClayFest at Marinette Recreation Center from noon to 4 p.m. Jan. 16.

12-4-99

Drive seeks funds for statue honoring Sun City volunteers

STAFF REPORT

The Sun City Foundation is accepting tax-deductible contributions toward the proposed statue "Sun City Volunteers — A Lifetime of Giving."

A project of the Clay Corner at the Marinette Recreation Center, the statue will be a larger-than-life bronze depiction of three adults, a child, a dog, a bench, art books, flowers and a bucket intended as a tribute to the spirit of voluntarism in Sun City.

Clay Corner President Betty Jane Peters called the statue a "tribute to the men and women who unselfishly donate millions of hours to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our wonderful community."

Donations may be made through the Sun City Foundation, a non-profit organization promoting cultural and educational projects in Sun City, at 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, Ariz. 85351.

Donations are tax-deductible and will be acknowledged. For further information, call Peters at 972-8396.





FEB 19-2000



Keeping track of progress

Reaching another milestone, a thermometer showing donation progress is erected at Lakeview Recreation Center. On hand for the event were, left to right, Marge Murphy, Recreation Centers of Sun City director; Betty Jane Peters, president of Clay Corner and sculptor and fellow sculptor Connie Turner.

SUN CITY VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DAY

VOLUNTEERS: COME AND BE RECOGNIZED!

The Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee is sponsoring a celebration to recognize the many hard-working and dedicated individuals in Sun City who serve their community so well as volunteers. There will be music, entertainment and a short program honoring the efforts of our volunteers.

WHEN: **FEBRUARY 14, 2000** (VALENTINE'S DAY)
10:00 am to 1:00 pm

WHERE: **SUN CITY BOWL**
(SUNDIAL AUDITORIUM IN CASE OF RAIN)

Come listen to The Sonoran Brass Quintet; and Charlene and Bobby Freeman (Arizona Diamondbacks Organist).

Come watch the Sun City Poms.

Come dance to The Rhythm Ramblers.

Come honor the Volunteers of Sun City with Master of Ceremonies, Jerry Svendsen of Sun Life Magazine.

Bring a picnic lunch and join friends in a happy celebration. Beverages and desserts will be provided.

Volunteers - Be sure to wear your nametag(s) or special clothing and receive a special memento pin from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Arizona.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

(For more information, please call (623) 974-1541)







2-2-2000

Volunteers to get valentine

STAFF REPORT

Sun City's corps of volunteers will be honored at a special event from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 14 at the Sun Bowl.

Everyone is asked to bring a lawn chair and box lunch. Dessert will be provided and a special award will be presented to the first 5,000 volunteers that walk through the door.

Volunteers are asked to wear their name tags or clothing that identifies the organization they support.

"Maq," the sculpture that depicts Sun City volunteers, will be on display at the Sun Bowl celebration.

TO OUR SPECIAL FEATURE GUEST

3-29-2000
Date

CLAY CORNER — Name of Business
BETTY JANE PETERS — Contact Person

Thank you for being willing to give an informative and entertaining presentation for our meeting. This will be an ideal opportunity to familiarize interested and influential women with your product or service.

The following is to confirm previous arrangements about your part of our program:

CLAY CORNER, MARINETTE RECREATION CENTER
Group Name

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2000 — Day/Date
(WE CAN MEET AROUND 8:20) 9 A.M — Time

SUN CITY CHRISTON WOMENS CLUB
UNION HILLS COUNTRY CLUB — Meeting Place
9860 LINDGREN AVE. — Address
(623) 977-5888 — Phone









Photo by JULIE RIDDLE/Independent Newspapers

Homage to volunteers

From left, Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith admire the maquette of a proposed sculpture honoring Sun City's volunteers. The design was created by Ms. Tuner and Ms. Smith. They hope to have the the life-size statue cast in bronze in time for a December unveiling.



Photo by JULIE RIDDLE/Independent Newspapers

It's a beauty

Connie Sumner stops to admire a clay maquette at a luncheon May 12. The piece will serve as a prototype for a life-size bronze statue honoring Sun City's volunteers, set to be unveiled in December at the corner of Del Webb and Thunderbird, near Lakeview Rec Center.







• Monday, July 10, 2000

Statue honoring volunteers in Sun City hits another snag

$76,000 STILL NEEDED:
Tax-deductible status of future donations in doubt

HAYLEY RINGLE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The Volunteers Statue Committee has come up against another roadblock, as the Sun City Foundation announced Thursday that until the statue has a club sponsorship, future donations cannot be guaranteed to be tax deductible.

Since Clay Corner at Marinette voted unanimously June 17 to disassociate from the statue, the club is no longer a sponsor, said Gretchen Little, president of Clay Corner. As a result, the bronze statue conceived to recognize Sun City volunteers has no sponsor.

"According to the articles of incorporation, in order for the (Sun City) Foundation to be able to accept tax-exempt [sic] donations for the statue, it has to be a RCSC (Recreation Centers of Sun City) project," wrote Beverly Davis, president of the foundation, in a letter to Betty Jane Peters, one of the artists who designed the statue. "Since there is no RCSC sponsor, the Foundation cannot continue to receive tax-exempt [sic] funds for the statue. The funds on hand will be held until an acceptable committee is organized."

Donations will still be accepted for the statue fund being held by the Sun City Foundation, but until a sponsor is found, it can't guarantee donations will be tax deductible, said Harold Boudrie, centers and foundation treasurer. The foundation will freeze the account, which means expenses will not be allowed to be taken out, he said.

The money currently in the fund — about $24,000 — will be safely held by the foundation and all previous donations still are considered tax deductible, Davis said. About $100,000 is needed for the completion of the statue, which will be cast in bronze by Art and Design, owned by sculptor Snell Johnson.

If and when the statue gains a sponsor, donations received between now and that time will be considered tax deductible. But until then, the foundation can not guarantee that, Davis said.

Since many Sun City residents are on vacation over the summer, Connie Turner, one of the artists who designed the statue, wrote in an ad thanking people who donated, "As of September 15 an all-sculptor group will carry on their good work in an expanded capacity."

Turner said she is confident the statue will have a sponsor by September with the newly formed Sculpture Club. She invites anyone who is interested in becoming a member and supporting the statue to call 977-8935.

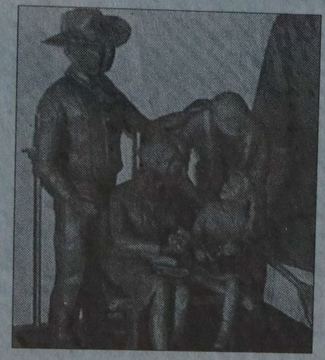
SEPTEMBER 20-26, 2000

Statue will pay tribute to volunteers

We're on our way!

Thanks to the Bell Metal Club, one of our dynamic new sponsors, the model for the statue honoring volunteers is now in the masterful hands of Snell Johnson at his private foundry, Art and Design, in Phoenix.

He has promised that a life-sized clay rendition of the Posse figure will be ready for display at an October fund-raising event to be held at the West Valley Art Museum.



When we meet our financial goals, he will proceed to enlarge, mold and cast the remaining figures in bronze for the unveiling on Saturday, Dec. 16. This is truly a fitting tribute to all volunteers and that includes Fran Park's 40th Anniversary Committee members who are already making this a memorable year.

Some have asked if we have a song about volunteers and the Sun City Historical Society has expressed interest in a time capsule to be buried near the monument. We will announce more about this soon. Now is your chance to get involved if you would like.

We thank all of you who have already sent contributions and remind others that there is still time to become part of this wonderful new landmark for the City of Volunteers.

Tax-deductible donations can be sent to: The Sun City Foundation/Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Betty Jane Peters
Sun City



Cafe Terrace Italian Bistro, Ave., Peoria.

Oct 4th 2000

Please don't confuse fund-raising efforts

Sun City anniversary, statue committees not affiliated

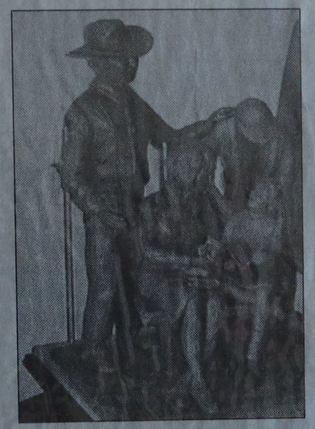
The Sun City Statue Committee has been generating a lot of publicity lately as it seeks to raise funds for its project.

We wish them well. However, we do want to inform the community that there is a difference between the Statue Committee and the Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee.

The anniversary committee is committed to raising $100,000 throughout this year to purchase vans to assist Sun Citians with their transportation needs within our community so that they may participate in recreation center, library and other community activities.

Many of our neighbors cannot drive and need that sort of assistance.

Our feeling is the needs of people take precedence over other



fund-raising events during this year of the 40th anniversary.

That was our aim last year and continues to be throughout this year. So far everyone has helped very generously by purchasing raffle tickets, hats, shirts and all sorts of memorabilia for this year's celebration.

All of our funds are being kept safely and separately by the Sun City Foundation for the van purchase.

The community can be assured that as we wind down the anniversary activities we are nearing the goal that we have set. We urge everyone to continue to help generate the funds to meet the needs of our neighbors.

We feel it is important that everyone understand the distinction between the two projects.

If you are making a contribution please be specific and indicate that it is for either the statue or the 40th Anniversary Committee.

THE SUN CITY 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Bronze age

The flags are flying, the walls are being painted, we're celebrating the 40th anniversary of Sun City. As you count off these wonderful events, please remember that bronze is forever.

The life-size statue honoring Sun City volunteers and featuring figures representing the Posse, PRIDES, hospital and library volunteers and SCAR pooch will be a permanent reminder to the world of the very essence of our community.

We call on all residents and organizations and businesses to send in their tax-exempt donations to the Sun City Foundation, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351. Contributions $1,000 and above will be inscribed on a bronze plaque.

When a bronze replica of the Liberty Bell was cast to commemorate the 20th anniversaty of Sun City, all residents brought coins and jewelry to be melted down and used. This is no longer possible with new casting techniques, but we know you will be as generous and foresighted as earlier

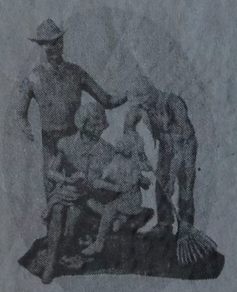


residents.

Think how proud you will be to have this statue installed during our anniversary year–12 months of exciting and innovative celebrations climaxed by a significant landmark honoring our best and brightest, the City of Volunteers.

CLAY CORNER
VOLUNTEERS/STATUE COMMITTEE

HELP HONOR SUN CITY VOLUNTEERS



Donations may be sent to:
Sun City Foundation,
10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.,
Sun City, AZ 85351.
All donations are tax deductible & will be acknowledged.

Contributors of $1000 & over will have their names engraved on a bronze plaque to be placed at Lakeview Center as part of the monument.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

AMOUNT: $10___ $25___ $50___ $100___ Other:_____

Any donation is appreciated. Make checks to: Sun City Foundation

CLIP & MAIL

THE COMMUNITY'S MODELS OF VOLUNTEERISM

Statue would pay tribute to Sun City's volunteers

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Connie Turner, left, and Kay Smith exhibit the model of the statue they would like to erect honoring Sun City volunteers.

The Bell Metal Club and Sun City Players have both submitted letters of interest to the Sun City Foundation to serve as sponsors for the proposed statue to honor Sun City's volunteers. They would replace the Marinette Clay Corner as official sponsors of the statue.

"We are hopeful they will be approved by the Sun City Foundation and we can continue with fund-raising," said Connie Turner, who has spearheaded the statue project along with fellow artist Kay Smith.

Both organizations have received endorsements of their sponsorship by their respective boards of directors, according to Ms. Turner.

Statue supporters had raised about $30,000 of a needed $100,000 when sponsorship was terminated by the Clay Corner and fund-raising was suspended.

"We are still on track and we still hope to have the statue put up by the end of the year," Ms. Turner.

"This will be the culmination of our 40th anniversary celebration," said Ms. Turner. "That was our goal all along."

The Recreation Centers of Sun City has agreed to allow the statue to be erected at Lakeview Recreation Center, corner of Del Webb and Thunderbird boulevards.

The idea for the statue germinated when Ms. Turner attended a 40th Anniversary Committee meeting last year and she reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment.

Sun Citians annually donate more than 1.3 million hours of their time, valued at an estimated $15 million, to make life better for area residents.

Ms. Turner and Ms. Smith have produced a marquette (miniature replica) of the statute — "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifetime of Giving."

Renowned sculptor Snell Johnson has agreed to cast the bronze, life-size statute at his private foundry in Cave Creek. Additionally, the Bell Metal Club will fabricate the bench for the statue, resulting in a savings of about $7,000.

Contributions may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Donations, since they are sent to the Foundation, are tax deductible.

Ms. Turner said the Foundation has expressed a concern about what would be done with any possible excess funds.

"What we have decided to do is donate excess funds to the Foundation to purchase automatic external defibrillators," Ms. Turner said. "Hopefully we can purchase enough to put one in each recreation center. They would help save lives."

Defibrillators would cost about $3,000 each, she noted.

> *"We are still on track and we still hope to have the statue put up by the end of the year.*
>
> **Connie Turner**
> Originator of Statue Idea

INDEPENDENT
August 30, 2000

Sept. 21, 2000

Letters

Volunteer statue soon to be reality

We're on our way! Thanks to the Bell Metal Club (one of our dynamic new sponsors) the model for the statue honoring volunteers is now in the masterful hands of Snell Johnson at his private foundry, Art and Design, in Phoenix.

He has promised that a life-sized clay rendition of the posse figure will be ready for display at a October fund-raising event to be held at the West Valley Art Museum.

When we meet our financial goals, he will proceed to enlarge, mold and cast the remaining figures in bronze on time for the unveiling on Saturday, Dec. 16. This is truly a fitting tribute to all volunteers and that includes Fran Park's 40th Anniversary Committee members, who are already making this a memorable year.

Some have asked if we have a song about volunteers, and the Sun City Historical Society has expressed interest in a time capsule to be buried near the monument. We will announce more about this soon. Now is your chance to get involved if you would like.

We thank all of you who have already sent contributions and remind others that there is still time to become part of this wonderful new Landmark for the City of Volunteers.

Tax-deductible donations are sent to: The Sun City Foundation/Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Betty Jane Peters
The Volunteer Statue Committee Chairman

NORTHWEST VALLEY LIFE

December 1999

CLAY CLUB SEEKS FUNDS FOR 'VOLUNTEERS' STATUE

A fund drive to cast and install a life-size bronze tribute to Sun City volunteers has been announced by the Clay Corner Club of Marinette Rec Center.

A 25-inch prototype of the statue, by Sun City artists Connie Turner and Kay Smith, is on a traveling exhibition in Sun City.

According to Betty Jane Peters, president of Clay Corner: "We have an opportunity to show our residents, and visitors, why Sun City is called the 'City of Volunteers.'"

The statue – to be erected at the corner of 107th and Thunderbird avenues, hopefully before next Dec. 31 – will depict the Posse, the PRIDES, a hospital volunteer, a student, a dog and flowers, each representing a segment of Sun City volunteer efforts.



TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS – Prototype of bronze statue to be erected in Sun City.

Even though the artists donated their time, it's expected that casting and installation costs may exceed $100,000. The Clay Corner requests donations be sent to Sun City Foundation, 10626 W. Thunderbird, Sun City, 85351 (checks marked FOR STATUE).

Major contributors ($1,000 or more) will have their name engraved on a bronze plaque near the statue.



Statue honors Sun City volunteers

The flags are flying, the walls are being painted, we're celebrating the 40th anniversary of Sun City. As you count off these wonderful events, please remember that "Bronze Is Forever." The life-size statue honoring Sun City volunteers and featuring figures representing the Posse, PRIDES, hospital and library volunteers and a Sun City Animal Rescue pooch will be a permanent reminder to the world of the very essence of our community.

We call on all residents and organizations and businesses to send in their tax-exempt donations to the Sun City Foundation 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd. Sun City, Az. 85351. Contributions of $1,000 and above will be inscribed on a bronze plaque.

When a bronze replica of the Liberty Bell was cast to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Sun City, all residents brought coins and jewelry to be melted down and used. This is no longer possible with new casting techniques, but we know you will be as generous and foresighted as earlier residents.

Think how proud you will be to have this statue installed during our anniversary year — 12 months of exciting and innovative celebrations climaxed by a significant landmark honoring our best and brightest —The City of Volunteers.

Statue Committee Volunteers

Here & Now

What's Hot and What's Happening in the Sun Cities



In praise of the Posse

Sun City Posse Commander Will Box stands with former commander Eileen Weber in front of the clay figure at the West Valley Art Museum. The statue will be a part of the Volunteers Statue that will be unveiled Dec. 16. The Sun City Foundation is still collecting tax-exempt donations for its $100,000 goal. So far $30,000 has been collected. Send donations to Sun City Foundation/Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.









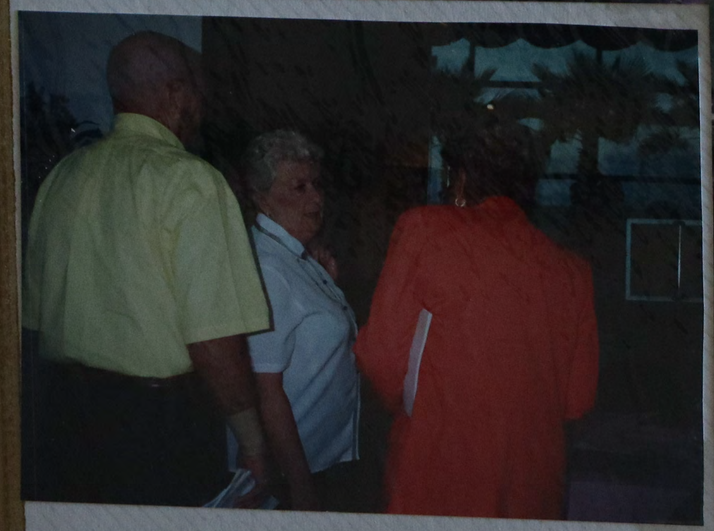




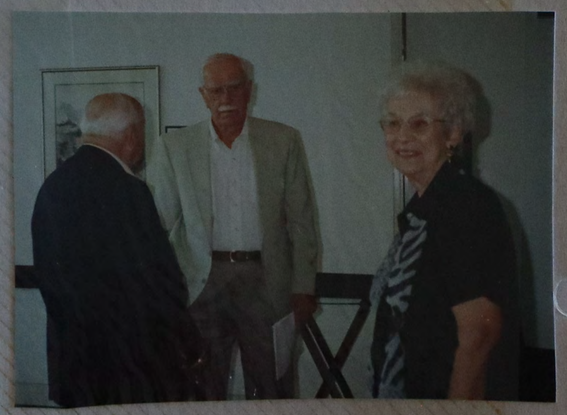












A LIFETIME OF GIVING

Statue honoring Sun City's volunteers unveiled

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Mr. and Mrs. Claus

Connie Turner, left, and Betty Jane Peters pose with a model of the statue they designed honoring Sun City volunteers. The statue's posse figure will be dedicated 1 p.m. Dec. 16.

In a fitting way to close out a milestone year for "the City of Volunteers," the first figure from the statute honoring the community's tireless volunteers will be unveiled at 1 p.m. Dec. 16.

The ceremony be held at Lakeview Recreation Center, at the corner of Thunderbird and Del Webb boulevards.

The bronze statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifetime of Giving," will feature representations of the Sun City Posse, the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer and a dog.

The 7-foot Posse figure, and the bench on which two other figures will eventually rest, will be the first items placed. The remainder of the figures will be placed in 2001, which has been designated as the international Year of the Volunteer.

There is no significance in the Posse figure being the first placed, according to Connie Turner, who has spearheaded the statue project with Betty Jane Peters.

"The Posse figure was just the first one finished," Ms. Turner said.

"We hope to have the entire statue in place by early February," she continued. "We will have another ceremony then.

"We wanted to get at least one piece in place as our commitment to honor the 40th anniversary year and we accomplished that," Ms. Turner added. "Next year is the international Year of the Volunteer and we hope to maybe get some national publicity for Sun City and the Sun City volunteers (through the dedication of the entire statue)."

The Dec. 16 ceremony will include an honor guard from Luke Air Force base, music performed by the Sun City Pops Band and speakers, including Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio and Bob Briscoe, president of the RCSC board of directors.

A reception will be held at the Posse Headquarters, 10861 Sunland Drive, following the ceremony.

Work has been nearly completed

See ■ STATUE, Page 11

■ STATUE

From Page 1

on the Posse figure. The figure was cast by renowned sculptor Snell Johnson at his Cave Creek studio. Additionally, the bench on which the woman and girl will sit is being fabricated of stainless steel by craftsmen from the Bell Metal Club.

The Posse figure is being paid for with donations collected by the Volunteers Statue Committee.

Sun City resident Margaret Ptolemy is sponsoring the student figure. An anonymous couple is funding the PRIDES figure and the dog replica has received funding.

"We still need a major donor to come forward and sponsor the smock lady," Ms. Turner said.

The woman represents the people who have donated numerous hours of their time, including seven million hours at Boswell Memorial Hospital 421,000 hours at the Bell and Fairway libraries.

The dog depicts the 3,000 pets placed in loving Sun City homes by Sun City Animal Rescue.

Committee fund-raising efforts have generated $74,000 of the needed $100,000, according to Betty Jane Peters, committee chairperson.

Contributions may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Donations, since they are sent to the Foundation, are tax deductible.

Contributions of $1,000 or more will earn the donor special recognition on a bronze plaque to be placed on the statue.

Should more funds be contributed than needed for the statue, the excess funds will be donated to the Sun City Foundation, which has decided to purchase automatic external defibrillators, which cost about $3,000 each.

The idea for the statue germinated when Ms. Turner attended a 40th Anniversary Committee meeting last year and she reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment.

"We have had a lot to overcome but we will make it," Ms. Turner said with determination.

> It's a wonderful opportunity to honor these volunteers. They give so much to our community. We just couldn't do it without them.
>
> **Connie Turner**
> Statue committee member



Photos by Tom Tingle/The Arizona Republic

Sculptor Snell Johnson works on *A Lifestyle of Living* at his studio Wednesday.

Recognition cast in bronze

Statues honor Sun City volunteers

By Kristin Koch
The Arizona Republic



A clay model reflects community spirit.

To many, retirement is considered a time to kick back and relax after years of toiling in the workplace. That just isn't so in Sun City, where residents contribute 1.3 million volunteer hours annually to keep their community in top order.

As part of the community's 40th anniversary celebration, it's only fitting that a lasting monument to honor these volunteers is being created. Work is under way on six life-size bronze statues to be completed by December.

Each statue reflects different spirits of volunteerism that fill the community. Featured are:

- The Sun City Posse, the volunteer police force, for its role in the protection and guardianship of the city.
- The Pride, or groundkeepers of the city, for their efforts at grooming and cleanliness.
- A Boswell Hospital volunteer, commonly called a smock lady, for helping at the hospital and the two libraries.
- The student, representing the area cities' future and the volunteers' many efforts in Valley schools.
- A bouquet of flowers, for the Sun City Rose and Garden Club, which maintains the rose garden by the Sun Bowl. The flower also represents the produce donated by the Sun City Agricultural Club to the Westside Food Bank in Surprise.
- And a dog, representing the 3,000 pets that have found a home in Sun City, thanks to Sun City Animal Rescue.

"It's a wonderful opportunity to honor these volunteers," said Connie Turner, a member of the statue committee. "They give so much to our community. We just couldn't do it without them."

Founded in 1960, Sun City has prided itself on its community efforts and created a reputation as a "city of volunteers."

"I think it is a good thing to honor and recognize" the volunteers, said Paul Schwartz, a resident of Sun City for nine years. "While it's good to retire, it's good to stay active."

Homeowners Association President Blaine Donaldson, a 10-year Sun City

See **STATUES** | Page 5

Snell Johnson
Art and Design

Snell Johnson, a native of Utah but presently of Phoenix, Arizona, is an internationally renowned sculptor with many of his limited edition sculptures purchased by collectors worldwide including President Reagan, Paul Harvey, Roy Rogers, George Foreman and Mike Tyson. His ability to "bring his artwork to life" with the same passion and excitement that he lives his life is what makes Snell Johnson's art dynamic.

Having completed more than 457 sculptures, 317 of which are heroic or colossal in size, he has become one of the most prolific artists of all time. His early career included display size artwork of sports figures and famous personalities. For the last 12 years, Snell's sculpting career has emphasized primarily heroic or colossal sized sculptures many of which, depict the beliefs and heritages of the Native American people. Corporations, personal collectors and public entities have commissioned custom designed artwork to accent and express their ideas and personalities. His recent sculpture monument completed for the MGM Grand Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada has brought him international acclaim. The new custom bronze MGM Grand lion graces the entrance of the facility and is 45ft tall, 50ft long and weighs approx. 100,000 lbs! This sculpture is the largest bronze art work in the western hemisphere.

Snell Johnson is considered one of the top sculptors in the world. His multifaceted art style encompasses all art forms from Greek mythology to Native American tradition and modern contemporary. This diversity has resulted from years of international experience and exposure.

His ability to capture the emotion and beauty of all animals, especially horses, has bestowed upon him the opportunity to create sculptures for many of the prestigious equestrian organizations including the annual awards for the Arabian Horse Association.

With his diversified background in business, marketing and art, Snell has become a valued consultant to architects and designers of resort complexes providing guidance in theme, design and art flow throughout the projects.

Welcome to the art world of Snell Johnson....an artist to remember.

21601 N. 9th Avenue • Phoenix, Arizona 85027-2821 • 800-722-2203 • 602-582-1332 • 602-582-1669 Fax

Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc.
"City of Volunteers"

September 6, 2000

Ms. Connie Turner
13709-E North 98th Avenue
Sun City, AZ 85351

Re: Volunteer Statue

Dear Ms. Turner:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter signed by you on behalf of Betty Jane Peters.

I realize that the Statue Committee has devoted many, many hours and most people in Sun City appreciate the effort. Personally, I like the idea.

The biggest problem seems to be people making statements that are not true or are misleading. I would like to clarify a couple of points:

Foremost, the RCSC Board has NEVER officially voted to approve the statue and the site where it can be placed. We did, unofficially, state that if the money was raised and the statue was cast in bronze, we would put it somewhere on Rec. Centers property. This decision will have to be by a Board vote when the time comes and I do not anticipate any problems.

I will ask the Board members at the first Study Session in September if they will approve putting the maquette in the Lakeview office. I'll let you know after the September 11th meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert J Briscoe

Robert J. Briscoe, President
RCSC Board of Directors

10626 Thunderbird Boulevard . Sun City, Arizona 85351 . (623) 876-3000
FAX Numbers: Gen. Mgr. (623) 876-8341 . Purchasing (623) 876-1573 . Membership/Clubs (623) 876-1574

Bronze Sculpture by Snell Johnson

Heroic and Colossal Sized Sculpture Installation Sites

Arizona	Gilbert, Private Collection
	Glendale, Javelina Springs Restaurant
	Maricopa, Harrah's Ak Chin Casino (Sculpture #1)
	Maricopa, Harrah's Ak Chin Casino (Sculpture #2)
	Mesa, Superstition Springs Mall
	Mesa, Golden Horizon Corporation
	Paradise Valley, Private Collection
	Phoenix, Biltmore Estates, Private Collection
	Phoenix, Encanto Park
	Phoenix, Harris's Restaurant
	San Carlos, San Carlos Casino
	Scottsdale, Paradise Valley Resort
	Scottsdale, Emerald Ranch
	Scottsdale, McDowell Mtn Ranch Estates
	Scottsdale, Westworld Equestrian Park
	Scottsdale, T.C. Thorenston Buffalo Ranch
California	City of Norwalk, Firestone & Hoxie Blvd
	City of Valencia, Newhall Land & Farm
	Palm Springs, Private Collection #1
	Palm Springs, Private Collection #2
	San Bernardino, San Manuel Casino (Sculpture #1)
	San Bernardino, San Manuel Casino (Sculpture #2)
	San Bernardino, San Manuel Casino (Sculpture #3)
	Westlake, Private Collection
Florida	Hollywood, Seminole Headquarters
Louisiana	Marksville, Grand Casino Avoyelles
Michigan	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #1)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #2)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #3)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #4)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #5)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #6)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #7)
	Rochester Hills, Christian Memorial Cultural Ctr. (Sculpture #8)
Minnesota	Morton, Jackpot Casino
Missouri	Kansas City, Service Corporation International

Bronze Sculpture by Snell Johnson

Heroic and Colossal Sized Sculpture Installation Sites

Nevada	Las Vegas, International Airport Las Vegas MGM Grand Casino (largest sculpture in the western hemisphere) Las Vegas, Paris Casino Las Vegas, Peccole Nevada (Sculpture #1) Las Vegas, Peccole Nevada (Sculpture #2) Las Vegas, Peccole Nevada (Sculpture #3) Las Vegas, Stratosphere Casino Las Vegas, The Reserve Casino
New Jersey	Atlantic City, Atlantic City Sheraton Convention Center Hotel
N. Dakota	Cannonball, Prairie Knights Casino
Pennsylvania	Elizabethtown, Elizabethtown College
Texas	Justin, Kensington Park Estates Brooksville, Saddlebrook Estates Dallas, Ponderosa Estates Dallas, Today Management Realty Denton, Polo Town Crossing El Paso, Speaking Rock Casino (Sculpture #1) El Paso, Speaking Rock Casino (Sculpture #2) El Paso, Tiqua Ysleta Pueblo Government Building Plano, Private Collection
Utah	Salt Lake City, Olympics 2002
Wisconsin	Madison, Shepards Care Home St. Croix, St. Croix Casino

International

South Africa Johannesburg, Caesar's Casino

Snell Johnson
Artist/Designer/Consultant

Summary

A native of Utah but presently from Scottsdale, Arizona. Prior to settling down in the Southwest, Snell traveled extensively and spent over 13 years studying the international cultures of Europe, Middle East and Scandinavia. This experience combined with the background gained through vast travels across the North American continent allow the ability to create art influenced by the cultures of the world. Love for art and design and a passion for the challenge of marketing and sales have created an unusual artist. One who uses critical path business techniques in the world of art to achieve artistic and financial success for clients.

The Artist...

- Completed 457 bronze sculptures and fountains, of which 317 are heroic or colossal in size
- Most prolific artist of his time in custom bronze sculptures.
- Has ability to do all styles of sculpture:
  - Contemporary
  - Fantasy
  - Detail
  - Greek Mythology
  - Western
  - Wildlife
  - Impressionism
  - Multi Materials
  - Indigenous Peoples
  - Political, Sports & Entertainment Figures
  - Industry Leaders

The Timing...

- Can sculpt a life size man or animal and deliver in 4 weeks
- Able to meet fast track schedules for the design, creation and production of art work and fountains.

The Designer...

- Specializing in entertainment facilities
- Consultation to architects
- Designer of monuments to fit design
- Interprets tribal ideas into features
- Designed Cultural Theater "Story Room"
- Designs water and fountain centerpiece features

Value Of Fine Art

The sculpture works of art commissioned by the clients of Snell Johnson Art and Design are made of bronze and not synthetic materials. They therefore last for eternity and appreciate in value annually with a minimum of upkeep.

From a business standpoint, these "centerpieces" or "project focal points" serve as major tourism or customer attractions drawing thousands of people to their site. Therefore, their presence contributes significantly to the financial success of the business, person or entity that made the prudent investment in this bronze art.

An excellent example of this is the sculpture located at the entrance to Rawhide Western Town Theme Park in Scottsdale, created by Snell Johnson, it is the second most photographed work of art or tourism attraction in the state of Arizona only surpassed by that of the Grand Canyon.

15 forum is

Snell Johnson
Art and Design
21601 N. 9th Avenue • Phoenix, Arizona 85027-2821
800-722-2203 • 602-582-1332 • 602-582-1669 Fax

STATUE | Volunteers honored

From Page 1

resident, credits the volunteers with creating a sense of community.

"I think that the biggest benefit from the volunteerism in Sun City is the enhancement of the lifestyle," he said. "Our community is much more closely knit than other communities of our size because of the volunteers."

Residents contribute an average of $15 million in volunteer hours each year, something Turner said needed to be recognized.

"It seemed to me we needed something permanent not only to honor the volunteers but to mark the 40th anniversary," said Turner, who had the idea for the sculptures about two years ago.

Turner, Kay Smith and Committee Chairwoman Betty Jane Peters, all sculptors, created a model of the bronze work and presented it to the recreation board and Sun City Foundation for consideration. The project was approved in 1998, and the committee has been at work since to raise funds for the sculpture.

The initial project will be completed by Snell Johnson of Art and Design in Phoenix, but the three committee members will assist with detail work. It's undetermined where the sculpture will be placed in Sun City, but it will be at one of the recreation centers.

The statue should catch the eye of the 15,000-plus tourists who visit the retirement community each year. Turner envisions a site where visitors will snap photos next to the life-size figures. In addition, the monument will have historical plaques detailing the history of the volunteers.

Those who benefit from the Sun Citians' efforts couldn't be more appreciative.

"They are the eyes and ears for us," Deputy Ron Greth of the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office said in describing the aid the Sun City Posse provides. "We would be lost without them."

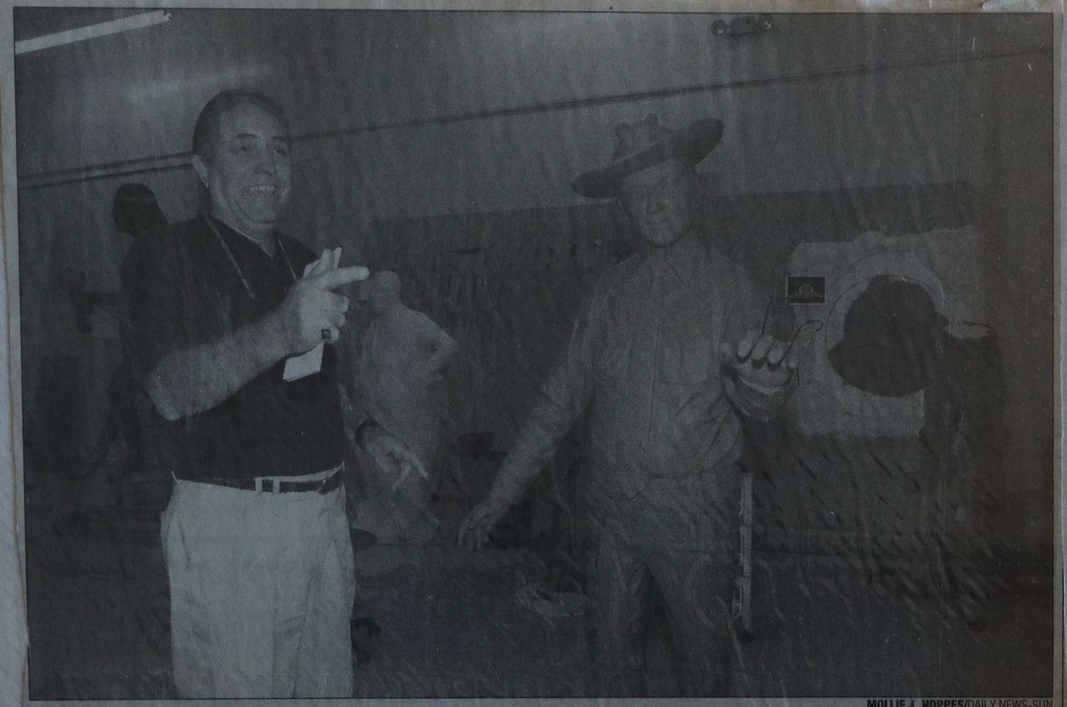
Sun City Posse Commander Will Box said his 170-person volunteer posse responds to calls varying from 911 emergencies to vehicle distress calls. Each posse member works at least three to five six-hour shifts a month.

The 3,000-plus hospital volunteers serve at Boswell Memorial Hospital in almost every aspect of the hospital. They attend to families that are waiting for loved ones during surgery. Volunteers also assist in the anesthesia recovery unit and in the outpatient suite and fully staff the surgery family/endoscopy waiting rooms. Their duties "make life nicer for the patients," said Rita Borden, 22-year director of surgical services at Boswell.

"We appreciate those volunteers so much for their generosity and for the time they donate to us," she said. "It is a special group of people who live in Sun City. They support the work of the hospital not only with their time but with their donations."







MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun Citian Roger Yadro stands next to the sculpture of a Sun City Posse member that will be part of the volunteer monument at artist Snell Johnson's Phoenix studio.

Club members tour Phoenix artist's operation

VOLUNTEER STATUE:
Monument to honor Sun Citians' contributions is being produced in Snell Johnson's foundry

A time capsule will be buried at the unveiling of the volunteer statue with plans to open it in 100 years. The Sun Cities Area Historical Society is asking for suggestions for items to put in the capsule. Call 974-2568 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, or write the society at 10801 Oakmont Drive, Sun City, AZ 85353, with attention to Phyllis Street.

HAYLEY RINGLE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Members of the Sun City Bell Metal Club and the Volunteer Statue Committee oohed and aahed as they took a tour Tuesday of the Phoenix foundry operated by Snell Johnson, the artist who will create the piece honoring Sun City's volunteers.

The Bell Metal Club and the Sun City Players Community Theatre are the new official sponsors of the volunteer statue that Johnson will create. The work is to be completed by the end of the year. The metal club is making the bench two of the statues will sit on.

Johnson took the group of about 20 Sun Citians through his studio, describing how his works are created.

"It was spellbinding to listen to him," said Catherine Wall of Sun City. "It's just beyond everyone's imagination."

One of Johnson's most notable pieces during 12 years of bronze work is the 70-foot tall MGM Grand lion in front of the MGM Grand Las Vegas casino, completed in February 1998.

"It was the biggest thing ever done in the modern world," said Johnson, who said 25 artisans worked 16-hour days for seven months to create the 100,000-pound lion. "The molds on the lion covered 6,000 square feet."

Chester Bryniarski, a member of the Bell Metal Club who attended the tour, said Johnson's work is wonderful after admiring the massive 13-foot tall horse monuments poised in the middle of the large studio.

"It's unbelievable he went from a farm boy to this," Bryniarski said. "The amount of work he produced in 12 years is remarkable."

Johnson is also working on a sculpture for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City.

"I'm very fortunate to do something that I love," said Johnson, who was raised on a Ute Indian Reservation in Northeast Utah. "The thing I love most is meeting the different people I work with and portraying what they want."

The volunteer statue will have a sculpture of a Posse member, a Prides member, a smock lady, a student, flowers and a dog, representing all the volunteers in the Sun City area and the work they do.

The 7-foot Sun City Posse statue is at the clay stage and will be unveiled Oct. 23 at a luncheon fund-raiser at the West Valley Art Museum; it will be available for public viewing that week. The rest of the statues will be carved over the next couple of weeks, Johnson said.

About $24,000 has been donated so far, and $100,000 needs to be collected to finish the statues.

Tax-exempt donations specified for the statue are being accepted through the Sun City Foundation at 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, Ariz., 85351.







November 22, 2000

STATUE COMES TO LIFE

Placement of first figure set for December 16

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc. board of directors voted 7-0 last week to endorse the location for the proposed life-size statue honoring Sun City's volunteer spirit.

The bronze statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifetime of Giving," featuring representations of the Sun City Posse, the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer and a dog, will be erected at Lakeview Recreation Center, at the corner of Thunderbird and Del Webb boulevards.

With the site approved, plans are proceeding for installation and a public unveiling of the Posse portion of the statue on Dec. 16. The reminder of the statue will be placed in 2001, which has been designated as the Year of the Volunteers nationwide.

The ceremony, planned for 1 p.m., will include an honor guard from Luke Air Force base, music performed by the Sun City Pops Band and speakers. A reception will be held at the Posse Headquarters, 10861 Sunland Drive, following the ceremony,

The posse figure is presently being cast by renowned sculptor Snell Johnson at his Cave Creek studio and the bench on which the woman and girl will sit is being fabricated of stainless steel by craftsmen from the Bell Metal Club. Both pieces will be placed during the Dec. 16 ceremony.

The posse figure is being paid for with donations collected by the Volunteers Statue Committee.

Sun City resident Margaret Ptolemy is sponsoring the student figure and an anonymous couple is funding the PRIDES figure.

Funding is still needed for the volunteer figure and the dog.



Submitted photo
Connie Turner, left, and Kay Smith work on the Posse figure for the statue honoring Sun City volunteers.

The woman represents the people who have donated numerous hours of their time, including seven million hours at Boswell Memorial Hospital 421,000 hours at the Bell and Fairway libraries.

The dog depicts the 3,000 pets placed in loving Sun City homes by Sun City Animal Rescue.

Committee fund-raising efforts have generated ~~$74,000~~ 90,000 of the needed $100,000, according to Betty Jane Peters, committee chairperson.

Contributions may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Donations, since they are sent to the Foundation, are tax deductible.

Contributions of $1,000 or more will earn the donor special recognition on a bronze plaque to be placed on the statue.

Should more funds be contributed than needed for the statue, the excess funds will be donated to the Sun City Foundation, which has decided to purchase automatic external defibrillators, which cost about $3,000 each.

The idea for the statue germinated when Connie Turner attended a 40th Anniversary Committee meeting last year and she reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment.

BOARDTALK

Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc., 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., 623-876-3000 December 2000

Volunteer Statue to be dedicated on December 16

As Sun City's 40th Anniversary celebration draws to a close, the Volunteer Statue honoring all Sun City volunteers will be dedicated on Saturday, Dec. 16 at 1:00 p.m.

The RCSC Board of Directors has approved placement of the statue at the south entrance (off Thunderbird) at Lakeview Center. A time capsule at the statue site.

Everyone is invited to join in celebrating this momentous occasion.

No man knows his real possibilities, the truly great things he can accomplish, until he makes up his mind to *Go-To-It* in earnest!

Sun City

PHASE ONE: First stage of art work unveiled Dec. 16 outside Lakeview Recreation Center

JOHN SOKOLICH
DAILY NEWS-SUN

For their selfless dedication to Sun City, community volunteers will be immortalized next month.

Volunteers, widely recognized as the foundation of Sun City, will be honored Dec. 16 when the first stage of a volunteers statue is unveiled at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.

The statue is titled, "Sun City Volunteers: a Lifestyle of Giving," and is dedicated to all current, past and future volunteers in the community.

Tempe mayor suggests new East Valley stadium site

BARRETT MARSON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tempe wants the new Arizona Cardinals stadium built on Salt River Project land in the northern part of the city.

The land, roughly the southeast corner of Priest Drive and Washington Street north of the Salt River, provides easy access from Loop 202, a central location and available land from one owner. Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano, who will suggest the site to the Tourism and Stadium Authority today, said Monday the site offers great opportunities for a minimal cost.

"It offers a lot of possibilities," Giuliano said. "Our responsibility is to offer as many viable alternative sites as possible so that we can retain the business of professional and collegiate football in site," said Grogan, who stressed he has not seen details of the site.

That development has already sprouted around the land, including office buildings for major corporations, gives the site a boost.

"That means there is parking, there is people and it will also be a good draw for other amenities because they won't be relying simply on the multi-purpose facility," Grogan said.

The new Tempe proposal will be weighed against the joint Mesa-Tempe site and a West Valley location offered by developer John F. Long. Phoenix will reportedly offer a downtown site.

Giuliano said preliminary estimates put a $40 million price tag for site preparation, about one-

A dog
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VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Those who recently ignored you will knock at your door. Emphasis on family relationships, art, music, diplomacy. You get edge on competition; you'll win big.

Sep. 5th
Betty Joe Birthday



Sun City Volunteer's - A Lifestyle of Givi



Maricopa County Sheriff's Office
Enforcement Support Division
100 West Washington Street
Suite 1900
Phoenix, Arizona 85003

Dear Sheriff Joe Arpaio,

The Seven Foot Bronze Statue, of the "Sun City Posse" will be unveiled on December 16th, at 1 P.M.

It will be located at the enterance to the Lakeview Recreation Center, at 10626 West Thunderbird Blvd. in Sun City.

This day will be proclaimed as "Sun City Posse Day." We expect to have the "color guard" from Luke Airforce attend the ceremony, and perhaps a :fly-over" from Luke pilots.

To add to this festivities, we would be honored to have you attend, and speak at thisdedication and unveiling of this Newest attraction to Sun City.

We, the artists of this monument, had hoped to have the entire Four figures finished by Dec. but due to problems at the foundry, the other three figures will not be completed until early next year. However, the POSSE figure will be ready for the exciting event.

I am one of the artists, and also have been a Posse Member for the last 15 years. Please let us know of your intentions. We eagerly look forward to seeing you on Saturday, the 16th of December, at 1 p.m.

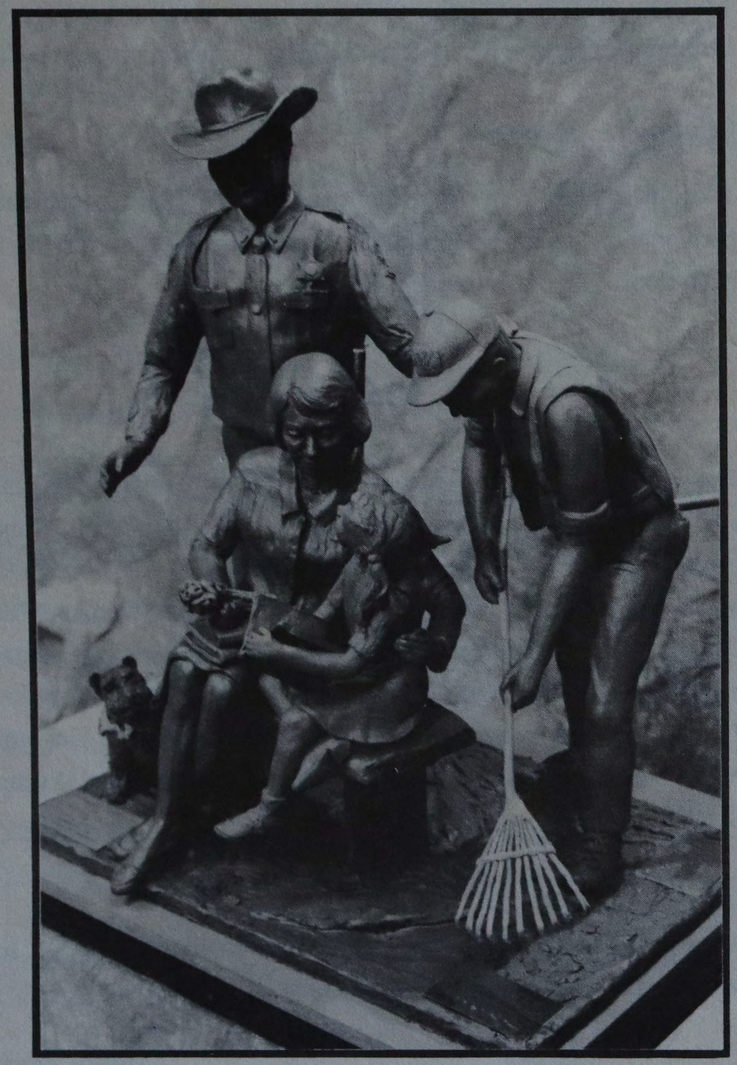
Sincerely,

Betty Jane Peters
Chairperson

The Volunteers Statue Committee

Betty Jane Peters, *Chairman*
18412 N. Laurel Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 972-8396 • (623) 977-8935

Sun City Volunteers
a Lifestyle of Giving



40th Anniversary Year of Sun City
Saturday, December 16th, 2000

THE VOLUNTEER STATUE COMMITTEE

Official Sponsors are The Bell Metal Club
and The Sun City Players, Community Theater

Betty Jane Peters, Chairman
Connie Perrin Turner, Art Director
Kay Smith, Art Consultant
Gil Haake
Tree and Frank Wilkus
Maronee and Curt Ulman
Kitty and Roger Yadro
Pat and Colonel Dilmore
Henry Smith
Gordon Peters
Sterling Murphy
Jack McManamon
Bert Groenewold
Katie Wall
Marian and Don Carlsen
Sonia Abrams

We wish to thank our guests and all those who have contributed so generously to make this dream a reality.



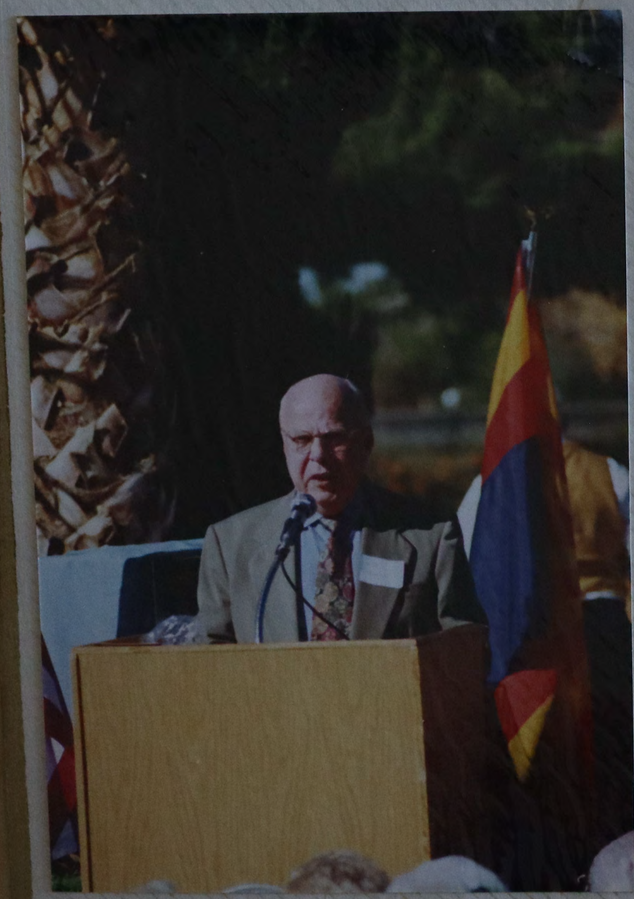


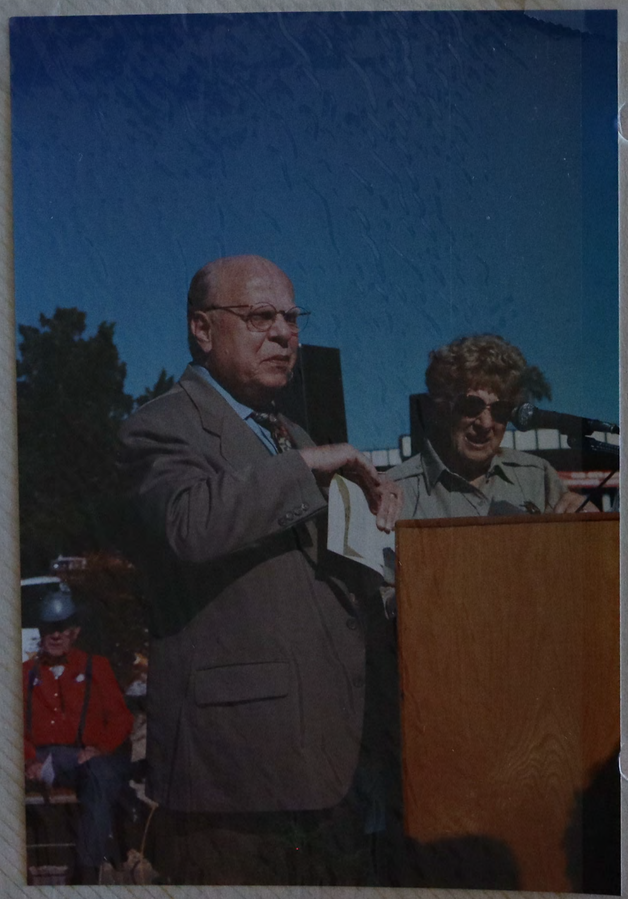


Setting up the Bronze Posse












VOLUNTEERS - SATURDAY 1 PM.



































































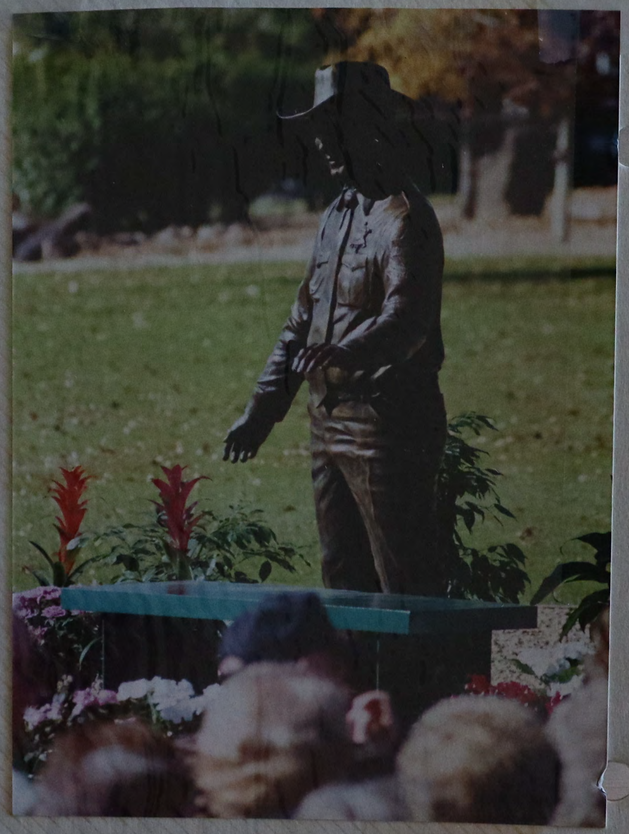






















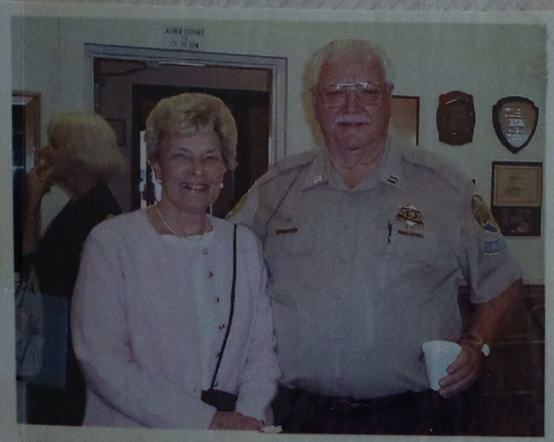






POSSE 10-14

SHERIFF'S POSSE OF SUN CITY JANUARY 2001



The dedication of the bronze statue commemorating the 27 years of the Sun City Posse, was a very moving and inspiring experience. We had a great turn out of Posse people and everyone enjoyed the party afterward.

Have a wonderful 2001—with lots of happiness and most important, good health for you and yours.

Captain Will Box



POSSE 10-14

SHERIFF'S POSSE OF SUN CITY JANUARY 2001



The dedication of the bronze statue commemorating the 27 years of the Sun City Posse, was a very moving and inspiring experience. We had a great turn out of Posse people and everyone enjoyed the party afterward.

Have a wonderful 2001—with lots of happiness and most important, good health for you and yours.

Captain Will Box

Vol. 44 No. 126, 2 Sections 28 Pages

Monday, Dec. 18, 2000



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN



With the statue of the Posse member in place, Ed Pierce, left, Merri Lay, center, Jessica Ramirez and Mandy the dog depict the other pieces of the monument dedicated to Sun City's volunteers. From left in the photo at right are Kay Smith, Connie Perrin Turner and Betty Jane Peters, who were honored Saturday for their commitment to the statue project.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Roger and Kitty Yadro unveil the first statue in a monument saluting Sun City's volunteers. The ceremony Saturday at Lakeview Recreation Center was dedicated to the Sun City Posse.

Etched in bronze

Statue captures spirit of voluntarism in Sun City

PATRICK O'GRADY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Leroy Gilbrech was in no hurry to see the statue honoring the Sheriff's Posse of Sun City Saturday in front of the Lakeview Recreation Center.

There was no hurry for something that he, after all, catches glimpses of every time he walks past a mirror.

"They did a real good job," said Gilbrech, a posse member who was the prime model for the statue, one of five to be displayed eventually at the site.

About 200 people gathered in the recreation center's driveway as the community debuted its first piece of public art, one that honors all the volunteers who spend time helping others.

"We just felt this had to be done for Sun City," said Betty Jane Peters, chairwoman of the Volunteer Statue Committee responsible for the project.

The project, sponsored by the Bell Metal Club and the Sun City Players Community Theater, was commissioned to Valley artist Snell Johnson, whose more than 500 sculptures adorn various places around the world, including the largest bronze sculpture ever made in modern times at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.

Johnson said he became involved in the project at the urging of Peters, Connie Perrin Turner and Kay Smith, all of whom served on the committee and worked toward bringing the statue to the community.

"With these beautiful ladies over here, we've done a wonderful job," he said.



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

The $100,000 artwork features five separate sculptures around a bench created by the Bell Metal Club. The Posse statue is the first in place, with others honoring the Sun City PRIDES and volunteers who work with children and animals expected to be brought to the site by the end of January, Johnson said.

Gil Haake, a committee member and master of ceremonies for the unveiling, said the artwork's price was affordable, particulary with Johnson doing the work.

"That is a big-time bargain for someone of his stature," he said.

Although the committee would have liked to have the entire artwork finished by the end of Sun City's year-long 40th anniversary celebration, the initial fund-raising for the work did not take off and pushed back the project. Members are glad the first piece is in place, and the rest will be installed during the International Year of the Volunteer.

"We're just elated," Peters said. "We've worked so hard to get this through."

The statue's placement on the edge of the center's property overlooking Thunderbird Boulevard will serve as a reminder to all in the community as to the importance of volunteer work in Sun City, said Bob Briscoe, Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors president.

"In the future, when you drive down Thunderbird Boulevard, all of you should be proud of the amount of time you put in (to volunteering)," he said.

Briscoe said when he first moved to the

See Posse sculpture, A5



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Dutch Schultz sings his Sun City Posse song as the statue dedicated to Sun City's volunteers is dedicated Saturday.

Posse sculpture 1st to take place of honor

From A1

community in 1988, he didn't believe a community could exist without the essentials — government, a police force and public works.

"As I lived here, I began to see that it does work, and it works very well," he said.

The Posse was an important volunteer component to be recognized for all they do for the community above and beyond keeping it safe from crime, Briscoe said.

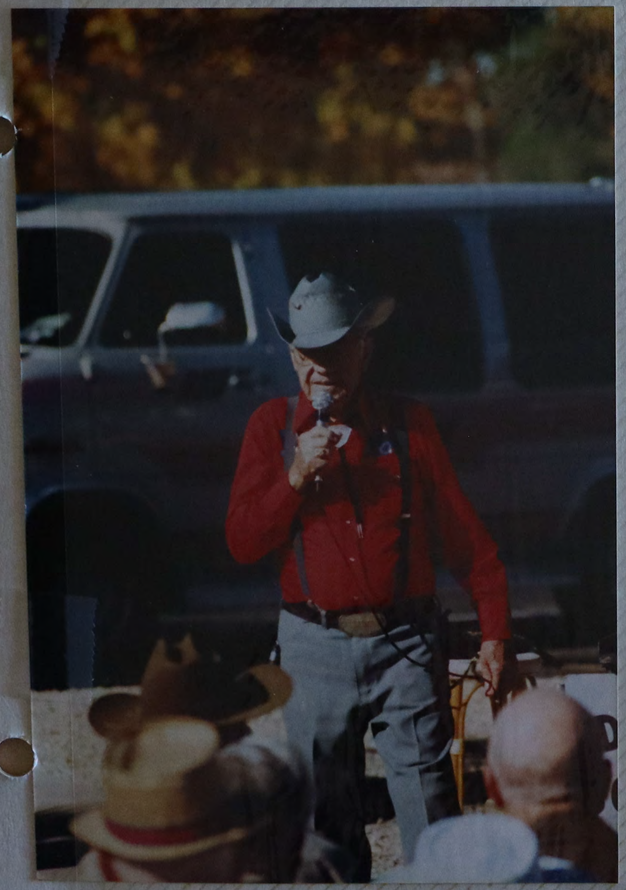
"Not only do they deter crime by being on the street, patrolling in the alleys, but they also help people," he said.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio also lauded the Posse for its work and volunteer service.

"This shows that if you work together, you can get a lot done," he said.

As for Gilbrech, who thanked the artist for his work on the project, he has plans for the statue.

"Every time I go by it, I'm going to say, 'Hi,'" he said.







Photos by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Taking part in the Dec. 16 posse figure dedication ceremony at Lakeview Recreation Center were, from left, front row, Connie Turner, Betty jane Peters and Kay Smith, the ladies who spearheaded the statue project; back row, Snell Johnson, sculptor; Jack McManamon, respresenting the Bel Metal Club, which fabricated the bench; Lyle Johnson, sculptor who cast the bronze statue; Gil Haake, ceremony emcee and committee member.

A DREAM COMES TRUE

Placing of posse figure is first step

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers

Dreams normally occur at night, but the dream of three Sun City women was realized under sun-drenched, azure skies Dec. 16.

As hundreds of people looked on, the cornerstone of the statue honoring the community's volunteers was unveiled at Lakeview Recreation Center, at the corner of Thunderbird and Del Webb boulevards.

The figure representing the Sun City Posse was unveiled to the delight of the sizable crowd.

The bronze statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," will eventually feature representations of the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer and a dog, in addition to the posse figure.

The 7-foot posse figure, and the bench on which two other figures will eventually rest, were the items placed during the Dec. 16 ceremony. The remaining figures are expected to be placed in early 2001, which has been designated as the international Year of the Volunteer.

See ■ DREAM, Page 3



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Hundreds of people turned out Dec. 16 to witness the unveiling of the posse figure of the statue honoring Sun City's volunteers.

DREAM

From Page 1

The bench was fabricated by the members of the Bell Metal Club.

"This statue is very important to Sun City," said Bob Briscoe, president of the RCSC board of directors.

"When I moved here in 1988, I was impressed with the cleanliness and neatness of the community," he continued. "It was due to the hard work of volunteers. It is a system that works very well."

Mr. Briscoe said the statue gives Sun City residents a sense of pride. "This statue represents 40 years of retired people volunteering," he said.

"Take pride in what we have done to make this a wonderful place to live," Mr. Briscoe remarked.

He urged more people to volunteer and continue the tradition of volunteerism in the community.

The reality of the statue grew from a vision by Connie Turner. While attending a Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee meeting last year, she reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment.

She teamed with Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters to bring the project to fruition.

"This has been almost a spiritual experience," Ms. Turner said. "We have had many things to overcome but it was meant to be. It was well worth it."

The statute was cast in Montana by Lyle Johnson, brother of renowned sculptor Snell Johnson, who was originally scheduled to cast the statue but became ill.

"He was wonderful," Ms. Turner said of Lyle Johnson. "He drove through a blizzard to get here from Montana."

Mr. Johnson is also casting the statue's remaining three figures, according to Ms. Turner. "They should be finished in January."

> *"This has been almost a spiritual experience. We have had many things to overcome but it was meant to be. It was well worth it.*
>
> **Connie Turner**
> Stautue Commitee member

Mr. Johnson said he was honored to participate in the project.

"My staff and I took on the dream of this group," he said.

"The most important things in life are love and helping others," Mr. Johnson continued.

"I loved getting involved with this project," he added. "Our goal was to convey the message of volunteerism."

Another celebration will be held once the other figures are placed. Meanwhile, fund-raising continues.

The posse figure was paid for with donations collected by the Volunteers Statue Committee.

Sun City resident Margaret Ptolemy is sponsoring the student figure, which represents the young people helped by Sun Citians who volunteer their time teaching in schools.

An anonymous couple is funding the PRIDES figure and the dog replica has received funding from Gil Haake and Don Hutchens.

"We still need a major donor to come forward and sponsor the smock lady," Ms. Turner said.

The woman represents the people who have donated numerous hours of their time, including seven million hours at Boswell Memorial Hospital and 421,000 hours at the Bell and Fairway libraries.

The dog depicts the 3,000 pets placed in loving Sun City homes by Sun City Animal Rescue.

Committee fund-raising efforts have generated $74,000 of the needed $100,000, according to Betty Jane Peters, committee chairperson.

Contributions may be sent to: Sun City Foundation, Statue Fund, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

Donations, since they are sent to the Foundation, are tax deductible.

Contributions of $1,000 or more will earn the donor special recognition on a bronze plaque to be placed on the statue.

Should more funds be contributed than needed for the statue, the excess funds will be donated to the Sun City Foundation, which has decided to purchase automatic external defibrillators, which cost about $3,000 each.

"We appreciate everyone who has supported us generously," Ms. Turner said.

In dedication the posse figure, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio noted posse members donated 65,000 hours of service last year. "Think what we saved," the sheriff commented.

While praised was heaped upon the community's volunteers during the ceremony, special recognition was reserved for the three women who spearheaded the project.

"These are three steel magnolias," observed Mr. Haake, who served as the ceremony's emcee.























3-16-2001 - Sun News

Additions round out 'Volunteer' grouping

LIFE-SIZED BRONZES: Four figures to be unveiled at Saturday ceremony join 'Posseman'

STAFF REPORT

Buildings don't make a community, people do.

And several Sun Citians, by giving their time to benefit others, have made Sun City a community known for its voluntarism.

To honor four Sun City organizations that have been instrumental in the area, the Volunteers Statue Committee will unveil four life-size bronze statues at 1 p.m. Saturday at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 Thunderbird Blvd. The public is invited.

Connie Turner, art director for the event, said the four statues are named "The PRIDE," "The Student," "Sparky" for Sun Cities Area Rescue, and "The Smock Lady." A nearly life-size statue of a posse member was unveiled in December, and the four new statues will be added to that display.

Turner said "The PRIDE" will be unveiled by its sponsors, Curt and Maronee Ulman, while "Sparky" will be unveiled by sponsors Gil Haake and Don Hutchings.

"The Student," in honor of Margaret Ptolemy's grandchildren, will be unveiled along with "The Smock Lady," which represents all of the volunteers who have worked at Sun Health Boswell Memorial Hospital and the Sun City Library.

Turner said the committee has been working on the project for nearly two years.

Jerry Swintek, president of the Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc., will be master of ceremonies, and local groups will provide music for the event.

The Rev. Franklin Bartel of St. Elizabeth Seton Church will give the invocation.

Betty Jane Peters, chairwoman of the Volunteers Statue Committee, said the statues will be a reminder of the hard work volunteers put into making the community what it is today.

"It will be a beautiful landmark that will be a remembrance of the volunteers," she said.

Turner said the statues cost about $100,000. They will be informally installed at 1 p.m. Friday prior to Saturday's unveiling.

- 3-15-2001

Committee unveils finished sculpture

The Volunteers Statue Committee of Sun City will host a program unveiling the rest of the figures in the sculpture at 1 p.m. Saturday at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.

Titled "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," the statues join the figures of a posse member and "Smock Lady" previously installed at the site. The new statues are of "The Pride," "The Student" and "Sparky" — the Sun Cities Animal Rescue dog. A time capsule to be opened in 2060 will be buried during the ceremony. The community is invited.

Sun City Volunteers

a Lifestyle of Giving



You are invited to attend the

UNVEILING OF THE COMPLETED LIFE SIZE BRONZE MONUMENT

On Saturday, March 17th at 1 P.M.

Located at Lakeview Recreation Center

Thunderbird Ave. enterance, near Del Webb Blvd.

Reception and Refreshments on Lakeview Patio

will follow the ceremony

Sponsors are: Bell Metal Club and Sun City Community Players

Statue's final four figures to be unveiled March 17

Bronze statue pays tribute to volunteers

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers

More than two years of work will reach fruition when the remaining four life-size figures of the bronze statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," will be dedicated during a 1 p.m. ceremony March 17 at Lakeview Recreation Center.

The final four figures will join the Sun City Posse figure and metal bench that were dedicated Dec. 16 before a large, enthusiastic crowd.

The statue features representations of the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer and a dog, in addition to the already placed posse.

The statue is a tribute to the numerous Sun City volunteers who donate so much of their time to the betterment of the community.

Sun Citians annually donate in excess of 1.3 million hours of their time, valued at an estimated $15 million, to make life better for area residents.



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Front row, from left, Connie Turner, Betty Jane Peters and Kay Smith were the driving forces behind the volunteer tribute statue that will have its final four figures unveiled March 17.

Although the project has been a labor of love for the three women spearheading it, "It will be a great relief to be finished," confessed Betty Jane Peters, who has worked closely with Connie Turner and Kay Smith to bring the statue to reality.

"We have worked on this for more than two years," said Mrs. Peters.

The three women had to overcome several obstacles, including having to raise a substantial amount of money and finding a new sponsor.

The original sponsoring organization, the Clay Corner at Marinette, withdrew its endorsement of the project amid controversy, but the undaunted trio secured new sponsorships from the Bell Metal Club and Sun City Community Players.

Despite the setbacks, Mrs. Peters said the project has been worth the effort.

"This will be a wonderful new landmark for Sun City," she said. "Everyone who sees it, says it is wonderful."

The idea for the statue sprang from Mrs. Turner, who while attending a Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee meeting, reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment, and decided a statue would be fitting tribute to volunteers.

Once the idea was formulated, Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Smith set out to produce a maquette, a miniature model, of the statue and raise $100,000.

The maquette was displayed at recreation centers, the library and banks throughout Sun City, generating interest in the statue.

The original maquette will be bronzed, according to Mrs. Peters. "We are not sure where it be put in display. We have had several offers but we have not yet decided where to put it."

Some major contributions, donations from residents and a donation of the bench by the Bell Metal Club, who fabricated it, made the statue a reality.

"We raised nearly $100,000," Mrs. Peters said.

Names of donors of $1,000 or more will be placed on plaques. Placement of the plaques is still in the planning stage.

The statue's figures were cast in Big Timber, Mont., by Lyle Johnson, brother of renowned sculptor Snell Johnson, who was originally scheduled to cast the statue but became ill. Lyle was assisted by his son, Curg.

Taking part in the March 17 dedication will be: Curt and Maronee Ulman, unveiling the PRIDES figure, which they sponsored; Don E. Hutchings and Gilbert M. Haake, unveiling "Sparky" the dog, sponsored by SCAR; Margaret Ptolomy, unveiling the student figure she is sponsoring.

The posse and smock lady figures were funded through community contributions.

The student figure represents the young people helped by Sun Citians who volunteer their time teaching in schools.

The PRIDES figure is a tribute to the countless hours donated by the organization's members to keeping Sun City's streets and sidewalks clean.

The dog depicts the 3,000 pets placed in loving Sun City homes by Sun City Animal Rescue.

The woman represents the people who have donated numerous hours of their time, including seven million hours at Boswell Memorial Hospital and 421,000 hours at the Bell and Fairway libraries.

In addition to the statue dedication, a time capsule will be placed by Bob Briscoe and Jim Hawks, representing the Historical Society. No decision has been made as to where the time capsule will be placed.

Jerry Swintek, RCSC board president, will serve as emcee.

The Sonoran Brass band will perform prior to the dedication.

The Rev. Franklin L. Bartell of St. Elizabeth Seton Church will deliver the Invocation and Byron Healy will represent the West Valley Art Museum board of directors.

Guest speaker will be Daniel Maynard, Hon Kachina 2001 chairman.

A reception will be held following the dedication ceremony on the Lakeview Recreation Center patio.

Sun City Volunteers
a Lifestyle of Giving



The International Year of the Volunteer
Saturday, March 17, 2001

THE VOLUNTEER STATUE COMMITTEE

Betty Jane Peters, Chairman
Connie Perrin Turner, Art Director
Kay Smith, Art Consultant

Gil Haake
Tree and Frank Wilkus
Maronee and Curt Ulman
Kitty and Roger Yadro
Colonel and Pat Dilmore
Jack McManamon
Marian and Don Carlsen

Henry Smith
Sterling Murphy
Katie Wall
Sonia Abrams
Gordon Peters
Bert Groenewold
Rosellen Doherty

We wish to thank our guests and all those who have contributed so generously to make this dream a reality.

A special Thank you to the men at the Bell Metal Club and to Snell and Mary Johnson, for believing in us.

2-22-2001

BRONZE AGE

Final statue figures to be dedicated March 17

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers

The remaining four life-size figures of the bronze statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," will be dedicated during a 1 p.m. ceremony March 17 at Lakeview Recreation Center.

The final four figures will join the Sun City Posse figure and metal bench that were dedicated Dec. 16 before a large, enthusiastic crowd.

"We will be so happy when it is done," said Connie Turner, one of three women who has spearheaded the project. "It will be a wonderful landmark for Sun City."

The idea of the statue sprang from the mind of Mrs. Turner, who while attending a Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee meeting, reflected upon how much time Sun City residents donate for the community's betterment, and decided a statue would be fitting tribute to volunteers.

She teamed with Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters to bring the project to fruition.

The three women set out to raise $100,000 to pay for the statue. Some major contributions, donations from residents and a donation of the bench by the Bell Metal Club, who fabricated it, made the statue a reality.

"Thanks to the community's generosity, we are able to pay for everything. and we are doing the plaques right now," Mrs. Turner said. Names of donors of $1,000 or more will be placed on plaques. Placement of the plaques is still in the planning stage.

The statue's figures were cast in Big Timber, Mont., by Lyle Johnson, brother of renowned sculptor Snell Johnson, who was originally scheduled to cast the statue but became ill. Lyle was assisted by his son, Curg.

Taking part in the March 17 dedication will be: Curt and Maronee Ulman, unveiling the PRIDES figure, which they sponsored; Don Hutchings and Gil Haake, unveiling "Sparky" the dog, sponsored by SCAR; Margaret Ptolomy, unveiling the student figure she is sponsoring.

The posse and smock lady figures were funded through community contributions.

In addition to the statue dedication, a time capsule will be placed by Bob Briscoe and Jim Weekes. Jerry Swintek, RCSC board president, will serve as emcee. No decision has been made as to where the time capsule will be placed.

Guest speaker will be Dan Maynard of Hon Kachina.

A reception will be held following the dedication ceremony on the Lakeview Recreation Center patio.



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

From left front row, Connie Turner, Betty Jane Peters and Kay Smith have sprearheaded the effort to erect a statue honoring Sun City's volunteers,

Kinds words appreciated

Thank you most sincerely to all who have taken their time to write cards and letters to us, expressing their appreciation for our efforts in sculpting and obtaining funds to enable the bronze statues of the "Volunteers of Sun City," to become a reality.

Thank you also to those who helped us bring this project to a conclusion.

Never underestimate the powers of determined women.

CONNIE TURNER
KAY SMITH
BETTY JANE PETERS
SUN CITY

VOLUNTEER TRIBUTE UNVEILED



TRIBUTE TO all Sun City volunteers – a collection of bronze figures representing *A Lifestyle of Giving* – was dedicated March 17 at the Lakeview Rec Center. In completing the series, Sun City sculptors Connie Perrin Turner and Kay Smith worked as apprentices with internationally-known sculptor Snell Johnson, who died the evening of the dedication. Betty Jane Peters molded the dog.



GET READY

Connie Turner places plaques in their temporary places while workers install the remaining four statues honoring volunteers at Lakeview Recreation Center Friday. The unofficial unveiling is 1 p.m. Saturday.

March 17, 2001

STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN





Copy



Sun City Volunteer's - A Lifestyle of Giving

For info,
contact Connie Turner
977-8935

February 23, 2001

Jerry Swintek, Pres. R.C.S.C.
Re: Dedication of bronze statue, Saturday, March 17th, 1:00p.m.

Dear Jerry,
This is information you may need as Emcee of the ceremony.
I'll bring you a copy of the program as soon as it's available.

Guest speakers:

Daniel Maynard (Dan) is the 2001 Chairman of Hon Kachina. This is a group which honors outstanding volunteers in the Valley . This is their 25th year. They are affiliated with LUKE'S Men. I'm sure you know much more about this prestigious group. Byron Healy is currently 1st Vice President of the Board of the West Valley Art Museum. He is a past President of HOA and past President of Sun Héalth Foundation, and member of the Sun City Ambassadors, etc.

Jim Hawks from the Sun Cities Historical Society will assist Bob Briscoe in placing the time capsule after the statues are unveiled.

Curt and Maronee Ulman sponsored the PRIDE. Margaret Ptolemy sponsored the STUDENT. Don Hutchings and Gil Haake sponsored the S.C.A.R. dog, "SPARKY". They will all unveil the statues.
The POSSE and The SMOCK LADY were sponsored by community donations.

The Volunteers Statue Committee

Betty Jane Peters, *Chairman*
18412 N. Laurel Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 972-8396 • (623) 977-8935





















We Have Taken The Spirit Of Our Community;
Molded It With Clay; Cast It In Bronze And
Returned It To You So That You May
Contemplate Your Selfless Work And Know
That In Giving You Receive

A Heartfelt Thank You to all those whose
generous contributions made it possible

The Artists and members of the Volunteer Statue Committee

Artwork enhances buildings, parks

Sun City

While there are no new projects planned for Sun City, a bronze life-size statue in front of the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., honors volunteers who have donated millions of hours in community service.

According to Paul Herrmann, Sun City Visitors Center executive director, the statue was privately funded and designed by Sun City artists.

The artist's fees were donated to the cost of the statue. Private donations and bequests also funded the project.

"In excess of $100,000 was raised for the statue," Mr. Herrmann said.

According to Mr. Herrmann, the statue has been in place since 2000 and features five figures dedicated to volunteerism:

- Posse - depicts volunteers who have donated more than 65,000 hours in 1999.
- PRIDES- this group has donated 1,575,000 hours since 1950 to keep Sun City clean.
- Smock Lady- represents Boswell Hospital and library volunteers.
- Student - honors volunteers who have spent hours at area schools.
- Flowers - represents flowers and produce donated by the Westside Food Bank and the Agricultural Club to feed hungry families.
- Dog - represents pets who have found homes since 1985.











Daily News-Sun • Wednesday, May 2, 2001

Thanks to 'Volunteers' supporters

Thank you most sincerely to all who have taken their time to write cards and letters to us, expressing their appreciation for our efforts in sculpting and obtaining the funds to enable the bronze statues of the "Volunteers of Sun City" memorial to become a reality. Thank you, also, to those who helped us bring this project to a conclusion.

Never underestimate the powers of determined women.

Connie Turner
Kay Smith
Betty Jane Peters
Sun City

Final statue figures dedicated

More than two years of work reaps reward

By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers
From left, Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith pose with the statue following the March 17 dedication of the final four figures.

More than two years of toil for three Sun City women was rewarded March 17 when the final four life-size figures of the "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," statue were dedicated at the Thunderbird Boulevard entrance to the Lakeview Recreation Center.

The bronze statue, an homage to volunteerism in Sun City, was the idea of Connie Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters, who shepherded their labor of love to completion.

Although titled "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," it could easily have been tagged "From Frustration to Fruition," Don Hutchings astutely observed.

"So many people put obstacles in their way but they overcame them," he said.

The idea for the statue was conceived more than two years ago by Ms. Turner while attending a meeting of the Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee.

The statue is an homage to the numerous Sun City volunteers who donate so much of their time to the betterment of the community. It features representations of the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer, the Sun City Posse and a dog. The women and child are seated on a bench fabricated by the Bell Metal Club.



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers
Jim Hawks, left, of the Sun City Historical Society and Bob Briscoe, RCSC director, lower the time capsule into its home for the next 59 years.

The student represents the youngsters who have been tutored by Sun Citians. The smock lady is a symbol of the Sun Health Auxiliary and the dog is representative of the hundreds of dogs who have been placed in new homes through the Sun Cities Animal Rescue.

Sun Citians annually donate in excess of 1.3 million hours of their time, valued at an estimated $15 million, to make life better for area residents.

The three women had to overcome several obstacles, including having to raise a substantial amount of money and finding a new sponsor.

The original sponsoring organization, the Clay Corner at Marinette withdrew its endorse-

MARCH 28-APRIL 3, 2001

ment of the project amid controversy, but the undaunted trio secured new sponsorships from the Sun City Community Players and Bell Metal Club, which fabricated the statue's bench.

"They have volunteered their lives for the last two years for this statue," said Jerry Swintek, president of the RCSC board of directors.

"The three ladies raised roughly $100,000 to bring the statue to fruition."

The statue's figures were cast in Big Timber, Mont., by Lyle Johnson, brother of renowned sculptor Snell Johnson, who was originally scheduled to cast the statue but became ill. Lyle was assisted by his son, Curg.

In a sad note, Snell Johnson, who cast the large lion head above the entrance to MGM Grand Hotel/Casino in Las Vegas, died a few hours after the March 17 dedi-[illegible]tion.

"A lot of people think we just raised the money," said Ms. Turner. "They don't realize we did the model with Snell's help.

"It was an absolute joy. It was an honor to work with Snell, who took us on as apprentices. It turned out fantastic," she continued.

"This memorial would not have been possible without the work of Snell Johnson," added Ms. Turner, who, although she relished the experience, is relieved the project is over.

Taking part in the March 17 were: Curt and Maronee Ulman, unveiling the PRIDES figure, which they sponsored; Don Hutchings and Gil Haake, sponsors of "Sparky" the dog; Margaret Ptolomy, unveiling the student figure she sponsored.

The posse and smock lady figures were funded through community contributions.



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

Several hundred people gathered March 17 to witness the dedication of the final four figures on the statue honoring Sun City's volunteers.

Byron Healy, representing the West Valley Art Museum board of directors, told the large crowd gathered under a sun-drenched sky, "Sun City needed bonding to grow and bonding means volunteers.

"Everything that has happened over the years in Sun City is related to volunteerism," he added.

Keynote speaker Dan Maynard, 2001 chairman, Hon Kachina, thanked Sun Citians for being such an inspiration.

"Those who volunteer get more out of it than the recipient. Everyone benefits from volunteerism," he said.

"It is truly humbling to realize how many volunteer hours are donated in Sun City. There is a great satisfaction you get out of volunteering."

Mr. Maynard observed it is fitting the statute be placed in such a highly visible location. "Motorists will be reminded on a daily basis of the volunteer spirit," he said.

In conjunction with the statue dedication, a time capsule was placed alongside the statue. It will be opened in 2060, the 100th anniversary of Sun City.

The capsule, constructed of stainless steel and PVC pipe, contains written documents photographs, recordings and three-dimensional items depicting life in Sun City.

Items selected for encasement in the capsule are intended to provide "a visual and mental concept of what Sun City consist of," explained Jim Hawks, a member of the Sun City Historical Society.

Mr. Hawks placed the capsule in its casement with an assist from Bob Briscoe, RCSC director. The duo invited the audience to attend capsule's unearthing in 50 years.









Photos by Jeremy Pearlman/Independent Newspapers

Kay Smith, Betty Jane Peters and Connie Turner, from left, check the new wall that has been added behind the Sun City "Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving" statue.

Finishing touch applied to Sun City volunteers' statue

Wall contains plaques

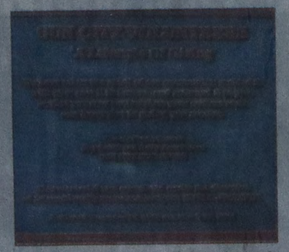
By MIKE RUSSO
Independent Newspapers

Nearly a year after the "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," statue was dedicated at the Thunderbird Boulevard entrance to the Lakeview Recreation Center, the final touches have been put into place.

A five-foot high wall was recently placed behind the life-size bronze statue that salutes the volunteer efforts of Sun Citians.

The new wall contains historical plaques, as well as plaques bearing the names of prominent donors and sponsors of the statue project, according to Connie Turner, one of the three women whose idea and hard work resulted in the bronze tribute.

Ms. Turner was joined by friends Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters in coming up with the idea, spearheading the fund-raising effort and shepherding their labor of love to completion.



A new plaque identifying the artwork has been placed at the statue paying tribute to Sun City's volunteers.

The idea for the statue was conceived about three years ago by Ms. Turner while attending a meeting of the Sun City 40th Anniversary Committee.

The statue is an homage to the numerous Sun City volunteers who donate so much of their time to the betterment of the community. It features representations of the PRIDES, a student, a female volunteer, the Sun City Posse and a dog. The women and child are seated on a bench fabricated by the Bell Metal Club.

The student represents the youngsters who have been tutored by Sun Citians. The smock lady is a symbol of the Sun Health Auxiliary and the dog is representative of the hundreds of dogs who have been placed in new homes through the Sun Cities Animal Rescue.

The statute figures were cast in Big Timber, Mont., by Lyle Johnson, brother of renowned sculptor Snell Johnson, who was originally scheduled to cast the statue but became ill. Lyle was assisted by his son, Curg.

The wall was constructed with funds leftover following the completion of the statue. Approximately $100,000 was raised for the statue project, according to Mrs. Turner.

"Erecting the wall was always part of the plan," Ms. Turner explained.

Public response to the statue has been very positive, Ms. Turner remarked.

"People have been very pleased with the statue," she said. "Sun City now has its icon in place which honors what Sun City is all about (voluntarism).

"The statue has enhanced the community," she continued. "It was a wonderful project."

The statute placement in Sun City has apparently enhanced its value.

"We paid $86,000 for the statue," Ms. Turner said. "It was appraised a couple of months ago for $205,000. That was only six months after the statue was put up." That appraisal was for the five life-size figures only, and does not include the bench, wall or plaques.

Not content to rest on their laurels, the three ladies are now trying to get the Recreation Centers to do some landscaping behind the statue and wall.

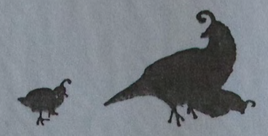
"That would enhance the statue that much more," Mrs. Turner said.

See ■ WALL, Page 5

JAN. 16-22, 2002

From the desk of

Connie Turner
13709-E 98th Avenue
Sun City, AZ 85351
1-602-977-8935



May 11, 01

Dear Jerry,
Enclosed is a copy of a bid for a wall and benches to be built behind the Volunteers statue...Just to give us all an idea of cost, etc.

We will gladly donate any left-over funds for the wall and display of the Maquette (which should be arriving soon!).

We would appreciate it if you can expedite the completion of our project which is now 2½ years in progress. I don't want to worry you, but five people and the dog associated with the Volunteers Statue have already died.....and I certainly would like to see it finished soon.

We appreciate your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Connie

c.c.: BJP, KS,E.F.



Photo by MIKE RUSSO/Independent Newspapers

The statue, "Sun City Volunteers: A Lifestyle of Giving," has added a patriotic aspect with the young girl now proudly waving an American flag.



Photo by Mike Russo/Independent Newspapers

Former Phoenix City Councilman Sal DeCiccio came to Sun City April 9 to announce his candidacy for secretary of state.



Even the statues are showing their patriotism.

Snell Johnson's 'large' legacy

By John Stanley
The Arizona Republic

A LIFE REMEMBERED

The secret of sculptor Snell Johnson's success was simple.

"I'm 90 percent work and 10 percent talent," he said in a 1992 interview with *The Arizona Republic*.

His modesty aside, Johnson was one of Arizona's most successful and prolific artists in the 1990s. Not bad for a man who turned to art in desperation. He lost everything, including his freedom, in a dispute with the Securities and Exchange Commission two decades ago.

Snellen Maurice Johnson, celebrated sculptor of monumental bronzes, died Saturday of brain cancer. He was 62. Known for his larger than life-size sculpture, he had lived in the Valley since 1987.

His best-known work is the gigantic lion at MGM Grand Casino in Las Vegas. Cast in parts and assembled at the site, the lion is nearly 50 feet high and weighs 50 tons.

Arizona is dotted with Johnson's work: the horses at WestWorld of Scottsdale and Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort; cowboys and horses at Rawhide; and a warrior on horseback at Apache Gold, a casino east of Globe.

Johnson also created a work titled "Desert Oasis," a 51-foot-tall sculpture of a giant eagle perched atop a colossal saguaro cactus. Located outside Harrah's Ak-Chin casino southwest of Phoenix, it is said to be the largest bronze sculpture in the Western Hemisphere.

"Snell was one of the best-selling artists I can think of," said Steve Murray, a sculptor at Arizona Bronze in Tempe, who worked with Johnson. "He was a great mentor and a great teacher, and I learned a lot from him."

Born near the small, northeastern Utah town of Myton, Johnson grew up working on the family farm. Often, he said in 1992, he worked eight hours after school and "bucked hay" for 18 hours a day in the summer.



Snell Johnson

In 1959, just short of earning a business degree at Brigham Young University, Johnson went on a Mormon mission to Australia. Afterward he sold cookware door to door, then life insurance. He married and started a family.

In 1967, he formed a company to develop satellite-communication links for merchant ships. He and his partner spent the next decade seeking investors, trying to turn NAVSAT into a reality. In the late 1970s, SEC investigated their fund-raising.

"I was indicted in 1979 and charged with aiding and abetting a securities fraud my partner had allegedly committed," Johnson said in 1992. "While fighting the charges and awaiting trial, I lost everything I owned and had to find some way to make a living."

Desperate, he turned to art. Because he couldn't find a sculptor who could deliver the pieces he wanted, he decided to do it himself.

He sculpted and sold dozens of works, but his newfound career was interrupted by a 25-year prison term for securities, wire and mail fraud in 1982.

After his parole in 1987, Johnson came to the Valley and re-launched his career. With characteristic energy and hard work, he built a foundry and sold millions of dollars' worth of sculpture.

In 1988, he married again.

Johnson is survived by his wife, Mary; sons Snell Jr., Scott and Shawn; daughters Sheri, Staci, Shantell and Shaylene; and stepchildren Michael and Kimberly; and 12 grandchildren. Services were held Wednesday.

A Life Remembered celebrates the lives of interesting people in Arizona who have recently passed away. To suggest someone, call John Stanley at (602) 444-4414 or e-mail remembered@arizonarepublic.com.



Suzanne Starr/The Arizona Republic

Snell Johnson, known for creating large sculpture, described himself as "90 percent work and 10 percent talent."

Volunteer statue unveiled Saturday

SNELL JOHNSON:
Scottsdale sculptor dies the same day his last work debuts

JOHN SOKOLICH
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Two years of planning and sculpting spearheaded by 40 years of volunteering came to light Saturday as the final version of the Sun City Volunteer Statue was unveiled at Lakeview Recreation Center, the same day the project's sculptor died.

The statue — done by Scottsdale artist Snell Johnson — is composed of a posse member, a P.R.I.D.E.S. members, a smock lady, a child and a dog.

The project will be the last completed by Johnson, who died Saturday night after battling cancer.

Johnson, who began sculpting only 12 years ago, was hearalded for his sculptures large and small, most notable among them was the lion gracing the entrance to the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas. Johnson produced more than 500 works during his career.

More than 50 people attended the ceremony marking the completion of the bronze statue, as 40 years of community voluntarism was recognized.

"You can build houses, but you can't build a community," said Byron Healy, vice president of the West Valley Art Museum said. "And this community is thriving because of volunteers. Everything that has happened in Sun City for the past 30 years id due to volunteers."

Connie Turner, art director for the event, said the four statues unveiled Saturday are named "The PRIDE," "The Student," "Sparky" for Sun Cities Area Rescue, and "The Smock Lady." A nearly life-sized statue of a posse member was unveiled in December.

The Smock Lady, Turner said, represents the 3,000 current volunteers at Boswell Hospital, and the more than 420,000 hours volunteered in the past 10 years by helpers at community libraries.

The PRIDES, a group that has donated countless hours to keep the community well-groomed, is represented in its own portion of the statue, while the flowers she carries represent the work of the Agricultural Club and the Westside Food Bank in helping curb hunger in the community.

The final figure, the dog, represents 3,000 pets that have found loving homes since 1985, courtesy of Sun City Animal Rescue.

"It is our intention to honor all volunteers," Turner said in the artists' statement for the statue. "These figures represent the highest value of our community: strength of character, dignity, compassion and mindful responsibility to our own and future generations."

The idea for the statue came to Turner when she attended a 40th Anniversary Committee meeting last year and thought about all the hours volunteers donate to the community.

Though many community officials have expressed concern that the number of community volunteers are dwindling lately, at the unveiling Saturday, Healy said he didn't believe it.

"The volunteer base has grown beyond the boundaries of Sun City and into the entire West Valley," he said. "As time goes on, others will join the efforts, but there needs to be an active recruitment of volunteers."

Jerry Swintek, president of the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors, said bringing the statue into the community is just one more way volunteers have helped shaped the community.

"This was an unbelievable effort," he said. "And today will be a day we will all remember."

The designers of the statue were Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters, and the three were recognized for their time and dedication Saturday.

Topping off the event was a presentation by Jim Hawks and Bob Briscoe, who worked to fill a time capsule which is set to be dug up in 2060.

Inside, the capsule is filled with documents, newsletters and tax statements, Hawks said. Most of the enclosed items are documents, but several small crafts made by various clubs were also added.

"Opening the capsule will coincide with Sun City's 100th anniversary," Hawks said. "We were looking for things that would give a visual and mental composite of Sun City. And everyone is invited back to see it opened in 2060."

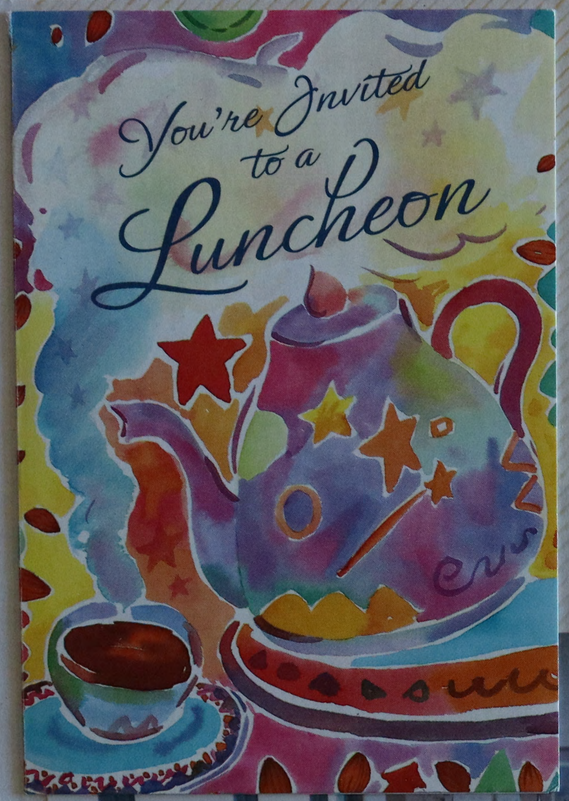




Snellen Maurice Johnson,

world famous sculptor of heroic size bronze monuments died at the age of 62 years on March 17, 2001. Mr. Johnson was born in Myton, UT and later moved to Scottsdale, AZ. During his 15 year career in sculpting he became the most prolific artist of his time with the creation of over 500 life size or larger bronze sculptures. In 1997 he went down in history for creating the largest bronze sculpture monument in the Western Hemisphere. The "Grand Lion" at the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, NV is 45 ft. tall and 50 ft. wide and weighs 100,000 lbs. His versatility in art style allowed him the freedom to create and astounded the world with his gracious works. Scottsdale, AZ is adorned with his monuments at the entrances of Westworld Equestrian Park, The Western Town of Rawhide and the Paradise Valley Resort. His love of life and his passion to live it to the fullest created a man never to be forgotten by all who knew him. In his early twenties he served his church as a missionary to Australia and was revered for his mastery of the gospel and his commitment to the church. After returning from his mission he attended BYU and later married and raised 7 children. And at his death, was the beloved stepfather of 2 and grandfather of 12. He was preceded in death by a brother and sister. He is survived by his wife Mary, sons, Snell Jr., Scott and Shawn and daughters Sheri, Staci, Shantell and Shaylene and stepchildren Michael and Kimberly. Memorial viewing will be Tuesday, March 20th 5pm - 8pm at Messinger Pinnacle Peak Mortuary, 8555 E. Pinnacle Peak Rd., Scottsdale, AZ 85255. Funeral services will be held on March 21st with viewing at 10am and funeral service at 11am at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 38001 N. Basin Road, Cave Creek, AZ 85331. (N on Scottsdale Rd., W. on Cave Creek Hwy & S. on Skyline Drive)

"I am the
resurrection
and the life..."
JOHN 11:25





Daily News-Sun • Monday, Dec. 17, 2001

The value of the community statue known as **"Sun City Volunteers, a Lifestyle of Giving"** has more than doubled since it was dedicated outside Lakeview Recreation Center near 103rd Avenue and Thunderbird Boulevard in March 2001.

A report filed with the **Sun City Foundation** shows the statue, originally created for about $86,000, was appraised at $205,000 as of last month, according to **Sue Cartmell** with Expertise in Art of Scottsdale.

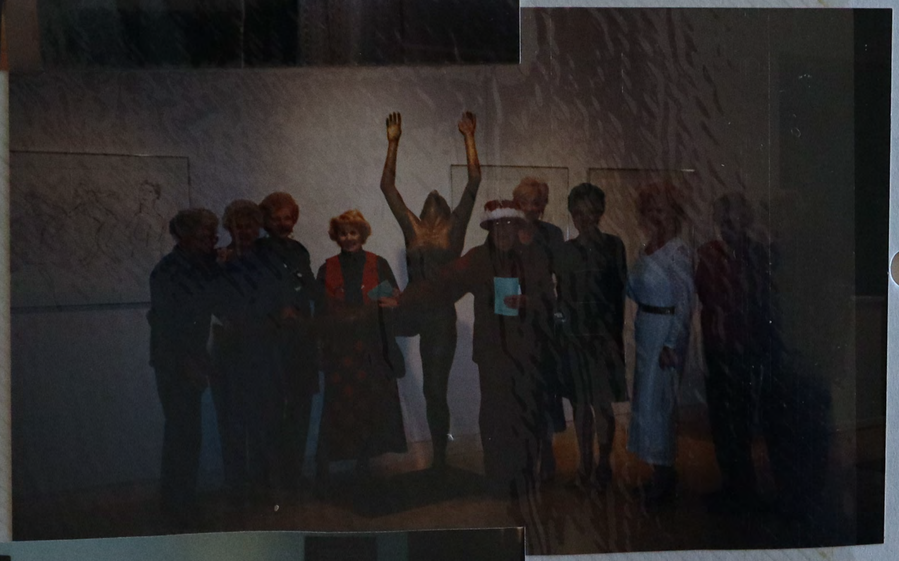
In addition to the statue, a Southwest-style wall holding historical, memorial and honor plaques is now in place at the site. The original maquette, which is the small model for the statue, is being installed permanently at the **West Valley Art Museum** this month.

The volunteers statue — which features a Sun City Sheriff's Posse member, a PRIDES member, the "Smock Lady," a student and a dog, was created by internationally renowned sculptor **Snell Johnson**, who died the day it was dedicated. Johnson's other sculptures include the 70-foot tall lion at the entrance of the MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas, the largest bronze sculpture created in modern times.

The Sun City Posse member statue was unveiled in December 2000, and followed later by the rest of the featured figures.

Sun Citians and local artists **Connie Turner**, **Kay Smith** and **Betty Jane Peters** did clay work for the statue and spearheaded the project, the idea for which came out of a **40th Anniversary Committee** meeting. The **Bell Metal Club** and **Sun City Players Community Theater** sponsored the project.







DOG GONE

Car veers into statue at Lakeview Rec Center

ANNIE KARSTENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN





MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN
A motorist veered into the "Sun City Volunteers: a Lifestyle of Giving" statue, damaging Sparky, the dog, part of the sculpture representing the PRIDES.

Sun City lost one of its own March 16 when a driver lost control of his car and it nearly flattened the beloved resident. The victim: "Sparky," the bronze dog, and a favorite mascot in the commemorative statue titled, "Sun City Volunteers: a Lifestyle of Giving," dedicated to all current, past and future volunteers in the community.

The driver of the car that hit the statue, which stands at Lakeview Recreation Center at 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., has not been named, but reported to the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors that his brakes went out on his new car.

Norm Dickson, board vice president, has had to assure residents that the statue wasn't vandalized. The driver's insurance company has been contacted to begin funding the repairs.

"A member was pulling out of the parking lot and onto Thunderbird Blvd. and reported that his brakes went out, so rather than pulling into Thunderbird traffic, he veered right and ran into the statue," Dickson said. "It's an important statue, it's just unfortunate. The PRIDE's arm is broken and the dog is dead."

Sparky will make a comeback, however, as the bronze dog is being repaired by Arizona Bronze, according to the dog's designer, Betty Jane Peters. The arm of the bronze PRIDES volunteer will also be repaired soon. The rest of the statue, including a Posse member, the "Student," the "Smock Lady" and a bench, wasn't damaged.

Peters is the president of the Marinette Clay Corner, a member of the Sun City Clay Club and a volunteer with the Sun City Posse. She had heard the rumors of vandalism, but was relieved to know the repairs were already under way.

"You have no idea how many people have called me. Everybody came up to me and said, 'What's happened to your dog?' or 'Is your dog OK? We miss it.' " Peters said. "A couple of the Posse members were at the dispatch when the news that the statue had been hit, and they were just devastated."

The clay clubs had spent a year raising the $100,000 needed to construct the statue. It was finished three years ago and unveiled for the 40th anniversary of Sun City, the same day the artist who'd sculpted most of the statue, Snell Johnson of Scottsdale, passed away after battling cancer. The statue was designed by Connie Turner, Kay Smith and Peters.

The Smock Lady represents the thousands of volunteers at Boswell Memorial Hospital, and the hundreds of thousands of hours volunteered by helpers at community libraries, Turner said. The bench was designed and welded together out of stainless steel by Bell Metal Club members. The PRIDES, a group that has donated countless hours to keep the community well-groomed, is represented in its own portion of the statue, while the flowers represent the work of the Agricultural Club and the Westside Food Bank in helping curb hunger in the community. Sparky represents 3,000 pets that have found homes since 1985, courtesy of Sun Cities Animal Rescue.

"Don't worry, the puppy will back," Peters said.



Sun City Volunteer's - A Lifestyle of Giving

February 20th, 2001

Dear President Jerry Swintek, and Members of the Board of Directors,

It is with great satisfaction that we have achieved our goal and the Life-Size Bronze Sculptures will be unveiled on March 17th, at 1 P.M. The Monument will stand at the enterance to Lakeview Recreation Center, on Thunderbird Boulevard.

On this date, following the unveiling, a Time Capsule will also be burried. This is to be opened in 60 years.

Our speakers will be Mr. Daniel Maynard, this years chairman of the 25th Anniversary Celebration for the Hon Kachina Awards, which are given to volunteers by the Luke Men. and Mr. Byron Healy, Vice President of the West Valley Art Museum, and past president of the Home Owners Assoc. We feel honored to have these noted gentlemen.

We look forward to having you join us for this historical day in Sun City.

Sincerely

Betty Jane Peters

The Volunteers Statue Committee

Betty Jane Peters, *Chairman*
18412 N. Laurel Drive, Sun City, AZ 85373
(623) 972-8396 • (623) 977-8935

At A Glance

PRIDE statue back in place

A copper statue of a PRIDE member working and his dog are fixed and back in their spot at the Lakeview Center on Thunderbird Boulevard. PRIDE is a volunteer group dedicated to keeping the community clean.

"The statue is all back together," said Norm Dickson of the Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors. "We've put PRIDE back in Sun City."

The statue was damaged a couple of months ago when a car accidentally ran over the dog and broke the arm off of the volunteer worker, Mr. Dickson said.

"We sent the dog and PRIDE member to Prescott for repairs," he said. "It was hard to get someone who got the ability to repair the copper and have it look good."

RCSC members raised the money to put up the statue about four years ago, he said.

Facts on statue

The pride and dog statues are made of bronze, not copper (Sun Cities Independent, June 16, 2004). The rec member quoted saying funds to put up this statue was raised through members of the center is entirely false. The funds were raised by the three women who sculpted the statue.



"Volunteer" Statues Damaged

On March 16 one of RCSC's members had an unfortunate encounter with the statues that grace the Thunderbird main entrance to Lakeview Center.

No one was injured, but the "PRIDES" figure and "Sparky" the dog were damaged when the resident's vehicle came to a stop. The statues were erected in December, 2000 as a tribute to volunteerism in Sun City.

The damaged statues were removed by RCSC personnel and are being repaired by Skurja Art Casting in Prescott, a company that specializes in casting bronze sculptures. They will be returned to their original positions after the repairs have been completed.

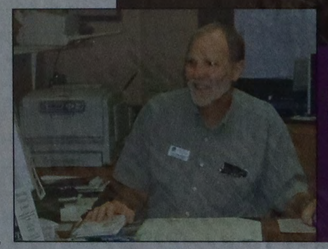
Sun City sculptors Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith were the original artists for the statues which were cast by Snell Johnson.

4-2004

Sun City Visitors Center

...It's So Much More





Paul Herrmann



The Visitors Center is more than its name implies. It still promotes the vibrant community of Sun City to visitors with both national print advertising and its extensive web page (www.suncityaz.org). But most recently it's also become a community organization informing and educating residents.

Many Sun City residents don't understand that Sun City is really *not* a a city, that the Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. (RCSC) is *not* a governmental body, they do *not* pay recreation fees, and the Home Owners Association (HOA) does *not* receive monies from the RCSC, etc. The Visitor's Center is hoping to clarify many of the misunderstandings that have perpetuated throughout the years.

The Center *is* promoting education and fun right in Sun City by presenting a Health & Safety Expo on September 19th, sponsored by Humana, and planning a Sports Expo for February of '06.

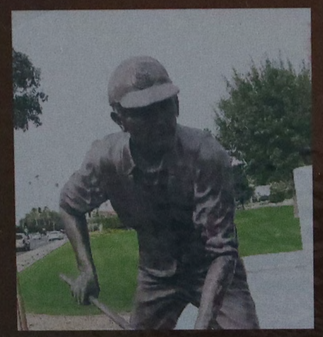
The influx of new residents is bringing new interests and ideas to our community. The Visitor's Center office and web page will be used to share these new ideas and to gather names of others with similar interests. It can then help charter a club with the RCSC or get an area club going.

Encouraging a renewed resident/business partnership within our community is another of the Center's goals. A Partnership Program has already posted shopping centers, Recreation Centers, golf course, restaurant and church information on the web page. Anyone visiting the site can find phone numbers, hours of operation, and business locations on various maps. And shopping in Sun City has many advantages, including a lower sales tax and a savings of both time and gasoline.

Stop in at the Bell Recreation Center or jump on the internet highway for a visit and find out how much more this active and ever growing resource has to offer, you'll be glad you did!



"SPARKY"



THE PRIDES

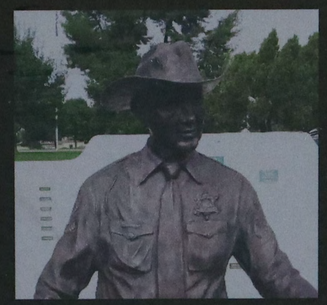


THE SMOCK LADY



THE STUDENT





EILEEN WEBER
Commander of Posse, 1996
and her husband, JOHN WEBER

THE SUN CITY POSSE

IN LOVING MEMORY OF GORDON
by his wife, Betty Jane Peters

Special Volunteer Issue

Celebrating Sun City's Volunteer Spirit

Our community of Sun City is known to many as "The City of Volunteers." This slogan was coined in 1993 by Sun Citian George Hartman, but the volunteer spirit has always existed here. Sun City is truly a "city of volunteers," full of residents who are ready and willing to offer their time and talents to better their community and that of others. This special issue of *SunViews* is devoted to celebrating Sun City's volunteer spirit and encouraging all Sun Citians to serve their community by volunteering.

See pages 8 and 9 for information about several Sun City and area organizations that need volunteers!

Volunteering has been a part of Sun City since its inception in 1960. Since Sun City has always been an unincorporated part of Maricopa County, many of the responsibilities for taking care of the community fell to the residents themselves. Sun City residents stepped up and volunteered to provide what the community needed. The Sun City Posse and Sun City PRIDES, for example, were created by Sun Citians to provide the essential services of police and beautification and upkeep of the community. Many other organizations followed, and most are still in existence today and continue to serve Sun City with the help of today's volunteers.



The sculpture "A Lifestyle of Giving," located outside the Lakeview Recreation Center, celebrates Sun City's volunteers.



ARTICLE:

On March 17th to celebrate their 5th Birthday, balloons will be attached to the Sun City Volunteer Statues, (A Lifestyle of Giving) located at Lakeview Recreation Center. Many newcomers to Sun City view the statues, but do not know the story of their creation. Seven years ago, when plans for the Big 40th Anniversary wonderful fun events were being made, Three lady sculptures, living in Sun City felt the need for something permanent to honor the "City of Volunteers". A small model was created, (which can be seen at the Visitor Center) A noted sculpture Snell Johnson, (who did the Huge Lion at the entrance to MGM in Las Vegas) and owned a Bronze Foundry , felt the idea of the Statues, which captured the Spirit of Volunteers was a worthwhile project, consented to do the bronzing. The ladies, not only worked on the sculptures, but raised over $100,000 to complete the project. The Bell Metal club made and donated the bench. The wall, plaque reads "We have taken the spirit of our community, molded it with clay, cast it in Bronze, and returned it to you, " The three ladies, still active in Sun City are Connie Perrin Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters.

A birthday full of giving



PETE PALLAGI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

The sculptors of the Sun City volunteer statue, entitled "A Lifestyle of Giving," at the entrance of Lakeview Recreation Center celebrated its fifth birthday Friday. Original sculptors, from left, Connie Perrin Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters, decorated the statue with birthday balloons.



Submitted to the Independent

Statues' celebration

Balloons are attached to the Sun City Volunteer Statues "A Lifestyle of Giving" March 17 to celebrate their fifth birthday at Lakeview Recreation Center. Pictured, the three sculptors, Sun Citians Connie Perrin Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters, pose with their handiwork.

Volunteer Sculpture "A Lifestyle of Giving" Celebrates Fifth Birthday

On March 17 balloons will be attached to the Sun City sculptures "A Lifestyle of Giving," located at Lakeview Recreation Center, to celebrate the fifth birthday of this unique work of art that celebrates Sun City's volunteer spirit. Many newcomers to Sun City view the sculpture, but do not know the story of its creation. Seven years ago, when Sun City's fortieth anniversary was being planned, three lady sculptors living in Sun City felt the need for something permanent to honor the "City of Volunteers." A small model was created, which can currently be seen at the Visitor Center. Noted sculptor Snell Johnson, who owned a bronze foundry and created the lion sculpture at the entrance to MGM in Las Vegas, felt the idea of the statues, which captured the Spirit of Volunteers was a worthwhile project and consented to do the bronzing. The ladies not only worked on the sculptures but also raised over $100,000 to complete the project. The Bell Metal Club made and donated the bench. The wall plaque reads, "We have taken the spirit of our community, molded it with clay, cast it in bronze, and returned it to you." The three ladies, still active in Sun City, are Connie Perrin Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters.

Dog statue missing from Lakeview center

ANNIE BOON
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sparky, Sun City's top dog, has been stolen from his post at the entrance of Lakeview Recreation Center.

The little bronze dog statue was last seen Thursday afternoon, said Betty Jane Peters, the artist who created Sparky. He was part of a statue dedicated to Sun City's volunteers, titled "A Lifestyle of Giving," that sits off Thunderbird and Del Webb boulevards.

"I'm just so upset. We're all broken up about it. Everyone just loved that little dog," Peters said. "Let's hope someone has the heart to bring him back to his home."

Sun City clay clubs spent a year raising $100,000 to construct the statue. It was finished five years ago and unveiled for the 40th anniversary of Sun City, the same day the artist who'd sculpted most of the statue, Snell Johnson of Scottsdale, died after battling cancer.

Nothing else is missing from the statue, which includes a PRIDES member, a Sun City Sheriff's Posse member, the Student, and the Smock Lady. The statue was designed by Connie Turner, Kay Smith and Peters.

Sun Citians Don Hutchings and Gilbert Haake paid a total of $20,000 to sponsor Sparky in honor of the 3,000 pets that have found homes since 1985, courtesy of Sun Cities Animal Rescue. Both sponsors have since died, Peters said, making Sparky a memorial to the men.

Sparky took about one year to complete. The 2-by-2-foot statue was designed to resemble a schnauzer once owned by Hutchings and Gilbert. Sparky was repaired after an accident in March 2004 when a driver lost control of his car, nearly flattening the dog and causing damage to the PRIDES statue.

Peters said it will be nearly impossible to create another Sparky. The studio where he was produced has closed, and it will be a challenge to replicate him elsewhere, she said. If he isn't returned soon, Peters said she will likely start plans for Sparky No. 2.

The Maricopa County Sheriff's Office has been notified of the theft, and the Recreation Centers of Sun City is working with its insurance company to determine if Sparky was covered by an insurance policy, said Jim Wellman, RCSC senior manager of centers operations.

The Smock Lady represents thousands of volunteers at Sun Health Boswell Hospital, and the hundreds of thousands of hours volunteered at community libraries. The bench was designed and welded out of stainless steel by Bell Metal Club members.

The PRIDES, a group that volunteers to keep the community well groomed, is represented in its own portion of the statue, while the flowers represent the work of the Agricultural Club and St. Mary's/Westside Food Bank Alliance, who help curb hunger in the community.

Annie Boon may be reached at 876-2532 or aboon@aztrib.com.



ANNIE BOON/DAILY NEWS-SUN
Sculptor Betty Jane Peters of Sun City looks at the place where Sparky, a small bronze dog sculpture, stood at Lakeview Recreation Center before it was reported missing Thursday.



WHERE DID SPARKY GO? Oh where, oh where, has that little bronze dog gone, Oh where oh where can he be? Sparky by name sat with the statues of the volunteers in front of the Lakeview recreation center. If he followed you home, please bring him back to the empty space with the memorial statues. Thank you very much.

Help Foundation Replace "Sparky"

The original Sparky (created to represent over 4,000 pets who have found homes through the Sun City Animal Rescue) was part of a group of bronze sculptures placed at the entrance to Lakeview Recreation Center on Thunderbird Blvd. The sculptures celebrate Sun City's volunteer history, with pieces representing the PRIDES and the Sun City Posse, a Smock Lady (representing volunteers at hospitals, libraries and schools) and a student. The sculptures were dedicated in March 2001 and were created by Kay Smith, Connie Turner and Betty Jane Peters, all Sun City residents. The cost of over $100,000 to place the sculptures was also raised by the same three ladies.

Sparky has been missing for almost 2 years; these three ladies felt it was time to place his twin where the original was sitting. They have completed the model and it is ready to take to the bronze foundry. However, additional funds of about $2,500 are needed, as the insurance was not enough to cover the replacement.

Any club or individual contributions will be 501(c)3 tax deductible and may be sent to the Sun City Foundation, Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 West Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351. Please mark contributions "for Sparky." Please help replace Sparky.



Sun City sculptors Betty Jane Peters (left) and Kay Smith (right) pose with Sparky II in the making.

Volunteers statue represents SCAR pets

Regarding the article, "Artists put final touch on replacement pooch," perhaps peopole should know that "Sparky" was part of the Volunteers Statue at Lakeview Recreation Center. He represented more than 4,000 pets who have found homes through the Sun City Animal Rescue (SCAR).

Other bronze figures represent: The Posse, the PRIDES, the Smock Lady (hospital and library), and the student (our children: our future).

If you would like to have Sparky 2 cast in bronze, please send a donation (of any size, all tax deductible) to:

SPARKY 2
The Sun City Foundation
10626 Thunderbird Blvd.
Sun City, AZ 85351

Connie Turner
Sun City



February 6, 2008

Letters

Empty spot leaves lump in throat

I, for one, feel a lump in my throat as I drive past the "City of Volunteers" memorial and see the empty spot where our little "Scottie" once sat.

I am happy to read that the replacement for "Scottie" is nearly completed, according to recent news articles. The artists are again contributing their efforts freely. If Sun City had to pay for the cast bronze and their skills, I estimate the cost would be in the thousands of dollars.

It has been about two years since the original dog was stolen from the "City of Volunteers" memorial at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd. We did not protect him then. I bet the thieves will be batting each other to see who gets there first when the replacement is installed. And as the recession continues, thievery will increase. Perhaps the entire memorial may be taken.

The present location is not ideal for viewing or protection. Since the entire memorial is at risk, why can't it be removed to a more secure location, such as near the monument of Del Webb at Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave.? Or, at the very least, the individual statues need to be mounted more securely and/or protected by a barrier.

An ounce of prevention and forethought may save our new "Scottie" before it is too late.

Bill Mahler
Sun City

12-12-2007

SUN CITIES IN

Letters

Dog statue moves to next stage

This is an update on the replacement of Sparky II, the bronze dog to be placed with the "Statues of the Volunteers" at Lakeview Recreation Center in Sun City.

The clay model is at the foundry in Prescott and is expected to be completed in about four months.

The Sundial Men's Club have generously donated the money needed to complete the project. So, once again, the dog will sit in his place with the other bronze statues.

We want to thank the Independent, most sincerely, for the article on the project they published.

Betty Jane Peters
Sun City











MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Betty Jane Peters, left, Kay Smith and Connie Turner work on the missing Sparky's twin. They need to raise donations through the Sun City Community Fund to pay for the casting and bronzing of the statue.

Artists put final touchés on replacement pooch

MITCHELL VANTREASE
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sparky the dog's "twin brother" soon will take his place outside the Lakeview Recreation Center in Sun City.

For the last year, Sun Citians have been curious as to when a pooch would replace the sculpture stolen from among the other bronze statues.

Betty Jane Peters, Kay Smith and Connie Turner are close to completing the piece.

"It won't be him exactly but his twin," Peters said of the schnauzer look alike.

For a week, the trio has been working on the replacement. The group said they're raising funds through the Sun City Foundation to foot the bill for the work.

"(Sparky) was admired by everyone in our community," Smith said. "He and the other statues are a signature here."

Turner said more than $3,000 is needed to finish Sparky, who will be sent to Prescott in two weeks to be bronzed and molded.

"We got to put the hair on his body and do a little more shaping, then he'll be finished and back out there," she said.

Sparky was originally sculpted by

See BRONZE, A5

FROM A1

Peters, Smith and Turner for Sun City's 40th anniversary. Along with a group of others, the women wanted to leave a keepsake of the

Turner said Sparky was added because a Sun City resident donated $13,000 for a statue in honor of his dog, making the cost of the statues approximately $100,000.

Last year, Sparky was hit by a car and damaged but repaired before he was stolen from Lakeview's front entrance.

Peters said there is a "fool-proof"

October 17, 2007

Sparky's 'twin' ready to be bronzed

Statue represents pets who found homes

By Rusty Bradshaw
Independent Newspapers

Sparky could be back at the Lakeview Recreation Center in a few months – not the original, but his "twin."

Sun City residents Connie Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters completed a clay model of the new Sparky, a statue of a dog. They hope to send the model to a foundry in Prescott to be cast than bronzed soon.

The sculpture will replace the original, which was stolen about years ago, according to Ms. Peters. Sparky was one of several sculptures in front of the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., and represented more than 4,000 pets who found homes through Sun City Animal Rescue, Ms. Peters explained.

"The original Sparky was placed with the 'Statues of Volunteers,'" Ms. Peters said.

Other sculptures, all bronze, represent the Prides, the Sun City Posse, a "smock lady" (hospital, library, schools) and a student. None of the other sculptures were taken when Sparky was stolen.



Submitted photo

Connie Turner, left, and Kay Smith pose with their model of Sparky, the "twin" of the statue that was stolen from in front of the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd.

"It was never determined who took him," Ms. Peters said.

The three women, the driving force behind the placement of all the sculptures at the Lakeview center, worked for three weeks to complete the model of the new Sparky, Ms. Peters noted. They did all the work at Ms. Smith's home.

However, the timing of when the sculpture can be completed is up to generous donors.

"The insurance did not cover the whole cost of the loss," Ms. Peters said.

The woman need about $2,500 to complete the $6,000 project. They are seeking donations from residents.

"Donations marked for Sparky will be a 301C tax deductible contribution," Ms. Peters said.

Send marked donations to the Sun City Foundation, Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City, AZ 85351.

This is not their first fundraising effort for the Lakeview statues. The three women raised more than $100,000 for the original placement of the sculptures. The statues, including the original Sparky, were dedicated in March 2001.

Ms. Turner, Ms. Smith and Ms. Peters did the sculpting for all the statues.

"We felt it was time to replace his 'twin' where he had been sitting," Ms. Peters said.

They constructed the model to replicate the original as closely as possible, she added.

"We will send the model to the foundry when the rec center (officials) give the OK," Ms. Peters said.

Once at the foundry, it could take two months to complete the bronze, Ms. Peters estimated.

Post your opinions in the Public Issues Forum at www.newszap.com. Lead News Editor Rusty Bradshaw can be reached at 623-972-6101 or rbradshaw@newszap.com.

The original Sparky (to represent over 4,000 pets who have found homes through the Sun City Animal Rescue) was placed with the STATUES OF VOLUNTEERS - The BRONZE SCULPTURES, locateed on Thunderbird Avenue, at the enterance to Lakeview Recreation Center. These statues represent the Prides, The Sun City Posse, a Smock Lady, (Hospital,Library, Schools) and a Student. They were dedicated on March 2001, sculptured by Kay Smith, Connie Turner and Betty Jane Peters, all live in Sun City.The cost of over $100,000 to place them there was also raised by the same three ladies.

Sparky has been missing for almost 2 years, The Three Ladies felt it was time to place his twin where the original was sitting. They have completed the model, and it is ready to take to the Bronze Foundry. However, additional funds of about $2,500 are needed , as the insurance was not enough to cover it.

Any Club, or individual contributions sent to the Sun City Foundation , (Lakeview Recreation) at 10626 West Thunderbird Blvd. Sun City, Az. 85351 -MARKED for SPARKY will be a 301C Tax deductable contribution. Please help replace Sparky.

What will be remembered?

Dear Mr. Bill Pearson, your article ("50th celebration winding down," Sun City Independent, Nov. 17, 2010) was very interesting.

However, I am still wondering why the 50th anniversary committee has not taken it upon itself to do something that will be remembered after the year is over and the confetti is swept away.

I have written a couple of letters this past year asking that the Del Webb statue and the statues of the volunteers be sandblasted and made to look like new again. They are badly in need of cleaning. This would be a wonderful remembrance of the accomplishments of the 50th anniversary committee.

Betty Jane Peters
Sun City



Volunteers

Continued From Page 19

Although the Metal Club and the Sun City Players were the official sponsors, the contributions of many community clubs, churches and businesses helped to reach the $100,000 goal. The final four statues were presented at a March 17, 2001, ceremony.

The plaque commemorating the statues states, "We have taken the spirit of our community, molded it with clay, cast it in bronze and returned it to you so that you may contemplate your selfless work and know that in giving you receive."

Ms. Peters moved to Sun City in 1985 from Rochester, Minn. She and her husband, Gordon, had two sons. They have two grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Ms. Peters worked 15 years for the Milwaukee Journal. Her Sun City volunteerism includes more than 20 years serving with the Sun City Posse, as well as being president of the Marinette Recreation Center Clay Club six times.

Ms. Turner, widowed, left Omaha, Neb., behind in 1988 to settle in Sun City. She had four children and is the grandmother of one grandson. One of her sons is currently serving in Iraq and she contributes hundreds of chocolate chip cookies for his troops. Although a registered nurse by profession, she has spent all of her life involved in the arts, as well as being a published author.

Ms. Smith moved from Estes Park, Colo., to Sun City in 1989. She and her husband, Henry, had been snowbirds to the community for a number of years before retiring and purchasing a home in Sun City. They have two sons and a daughter. They are grandparents of four grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Ms. Smith was raised on a farm in western Colorado and from her earliest years showed her artistic talent by making her own clay and creating horse head statues. While raising her family she kept her talents on hold, but upon reaching Sun City she found the Marinette Clay Club and reignited her artistic side. Both she and Ms. Turner attended the Scottsdale Artist School to hone their creative skills.

Based upon the accomplishments of these three ladies, it appears they "paid it forward" long before the catch phrase was invented — or perhaps the phrase was named after them.

Editor's Note: Ms. Holley and Mr. Bradshaw are real estate associates with Ken Meade Realty.

[illegible] and Ms. Smith met to discuss what contribution they were going to make to this event. Although the events being discussed for the year-long celebration would be fun-filled and interesting, their common concern was what kind of long-lasting tribute would be left to stand after the event "confetti was swept away?"

Ms. Turner stepped up to answer that question by creating and presenting a maquette (clay prototype) of an iconic memorial focusing on community volunteerism. The concept depicted five statues representing the Sun City Posse, volunteer guardians/helpers of the community; the Sun City PRIDES, volunteers who maintain the high standards of community cleanliness; the Smock Lady, volunteers at Boswell Hospital and two Sun City libraries; a student, denoting the future as well as volunteerism in nearby schools; and "Sparky" the dog, accounting for thousands of pets who found homes courtesy of Sun City Animal Rescue.

Also depicted were flowers that signified the work and produce donated by the Sun [illegible] a major tribute to their community, as well as tackling the task of raising the funds to make it happen.

Inspired by them he agreed to help by allowing them to make the figures in his private studio where he would then complete the casting process.

With donations coming in, a place to work and the guidance of Mr. Johnson, the artists began the labor intensive project of creating the life-size figures. The plan was first to build the armature for the figures using the lost-wax technique; then apply the clay and have the pieces cast in bronze. They soon realized their ambitious goal of unveiling the completed set of sculptures at the closing of the 40th Anniversary celebration could not be reached. However, on Dec. 16, 2000, they were able to dedicate the site and present the first bronze statue — the Posse figure — along with a bench created and donated by the Bell Recreation Center Metal Club for use with the future statues.

See **Volunteers — Page 20**

What will be remembered?

Dear Mr. Bill Pearson, your article ("50th celebration winding down," Sun City Independent, Nov. 17, 2010) was very interesting.

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Betty Jane Peters
Sun City

Northwest Valley Chamber of Commerce Focus Magazine 2007



3 Sun City Volunteers 'pay it forward'

By Marilyn Holley and Darrell Bradshaw

A new catch phrase buzzing around right now is one that recognizes a person's good deed, but then allows that person to acknowledge the good deed of another. The phrase is "paying it forward."

Although this article recognizes three volunteers for their efforts after the fact, their gift to the community is an ever-lasting "pay it forward" tribute to Sun City volunteers.

At the south entrance of the Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd., life-size bronze statues stately pay homage to the countless volunteers — past, present and future — who willingly give their time and talents to preserve the way of life in Sun City. These pieces of art stand because of the dedicated efforts of three ladies who defied the odds and the naysayers to pursue their contribution to the community.

These residents — the Sun City version of the Three Musketeers — are Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith.

In 1999, after attending a public meeting regarding the Sun City 40th Anniversary celebration set for the year 2000, Ms. Peters, Ms. Turner and Ms. Smith met to discuss what contribution they were going to make to this event. Although the events being discussed for the year-long celebration would be fun-filled and interesting, their common concern was what kind of long-lasting tribute would be left to stand after the event "confetti was swept away?"

Ms. Turner stepped up to answer that question by creating and presenting a maquette (clay prototype) of an iconic memorial focusing on community volunteerism. The concept depicted five statues representing the Sun City Posse, volunteer guardians/helpers of the community; the Sun City PRIDES, volunteers who maintain the high standards of community cleanliness; the Smock Lady, volunteers at Boswell Hospital and two Sun City libraries; a student, denoting the future as well as volunteerism in nearby schools; and "Sparky" the dog, accounting for thousands of pets who found homes courtesy of Sun City Animal Rescue.

Also depicted were flowers that signified the work and produce donated by the Sun City Agricultural Club, which supplied food to needy families. The sculpture, titled "Sun City Volunteers...A Lifestyle of Giving," pays tribute to the men and women who unselfishly donate millions of hours to insure the health, safety and well-being of the Sun City community.

Although these three artists were willing to donate their time and creative talents towards this project, they now faced the seemingly overwhelming task of collecting $100,000 needed to cast the life-size figures in bronze. With prototype in hand, Ms. Peters, Ms. Turner and Ms. Smith began their mission. Wherever there was a party, club meeting, luncheon or gathering they found a way to introduce the sculpture and ask for donations.

During the donation drive their friends, Kitty and Roger Ladro, introduced the artists to the world-renowned sculptor Snell Johnson. He was the owner of the Art and Design Foundry in Phoenix and had recently finished the huge golden lion sculpture for the MGM Grand Casino in Las Vegas, Nev. He was fascinated by the idea that these three artistic ladies were volunteering their time and talent to create a major tribute to their community, as well as tackling the task of raising the funds to make it happen.

Inspired by them he agreed to help by allowing them to make the figures in his private studio where he would then complete the casting process.

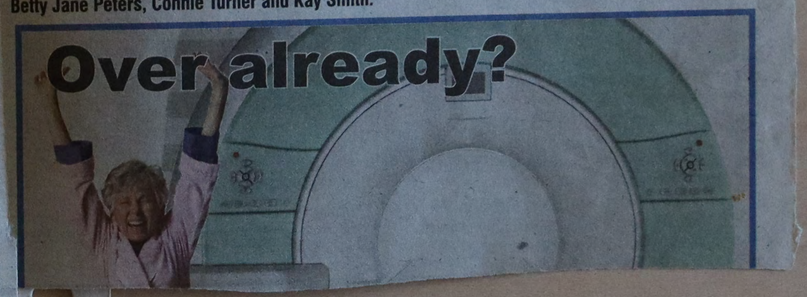
With donations coming in, a place to work and the guidance of Mr. Johnson, the artists began the labor intensive project of creating the life-size figures. The plan was first to build the armature for the figures using the lost-wax technique; then apply the clay and have the pieces cast in bronze. They soon realized their ambitious goal of unveiling the completed set of sculptures at the closing of the 40th Anniversary celebration could not be reached. However, on Dec. 16, 2000, they were able to dedicate the site and present the first bronze statue — the Posse figure — along with a bench created and donated by the Bell Recreation Center Metal Club for use with the future statues.

See **Volunteers** — Page 20



Submitted Photo

Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith.



Sun City volunteers recognized for timeless contribution

MARILYN HOLLEY
AND DARRELL BRADSHAW
SPECIAL TO THE DAILY NEWS-SUN



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Betty Jane Peters, left, Connie Turner and Kay Smith are the artistic talents behind the life-sized bronze statues at Lakeview Recreation Center. They created the statues to honor volunteers as part of the Sun City 40th anniversary celebration.

At the south entrance of the Lakeview Recreation Center, life-sized bronze statues pay homage to the countless volunteers, past, present and future, who give their time and talents to preserve the way of life in Sun City.

These pieces of art stand because of the dedicated efforts of three women, the Sun City version of the Three Musketeers: Betty Jane Peters, Connie Turner and Kay Smith.

Peters moved to Sun City in 1985 from Rochester, Minn. She and her husband, Gordon, have two sons, two grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Peters worked 15 years for the Milwaukee Journal. Her Sun City voluntarism includes more than 20 years with the Sun City Posse, as well as serving six times as president of the Clay Corner at Marinette.

Turner, widowed, left Omaha, Neb., in 1988 to settle in Sun City. She has four children and one grandson. One of her sons is serving in Iraq, and she contributes hundreds of chocolate chip cookies for his comrades. Although a registered nurse by profession, she has spent her life involved in the arts as well as being a published author.

Smith moved from Estes Park, Colo., to Sun City in 1989. She and her husband, Henry, were Snowbirds for a number of years before retiring and purchasing a home in Sun City. They have two sons, a daughter, four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Smith was raised on a farm in western Colorado and from her earliest years showed her artistic talent by making her own clay and creating horse-head statues. While raising her family, she put her talents on hold, but rediscovered her artistic side when she joined the Clay Corner at Marinette in Sun City. She and Turner attended

stand after the event "confetti was swept away."

Turner stepped up to answer that question by creating a clay prototype of a memorial focusing on community voluntarism. The concept depicted five statues representing the Sun City Posse, Sun City PRIDES, volunteers at Boswell Hospital and two Sun City libraries, a student denoting the future and voluntarism in nearby schools, and "Sparky" the Dog, accounting for thousands of pets who found homes courtesy of Sun Cities Animal Rescue. Also depicted were flowers that signified the work of the Sun City Agricultural Club, which supplied food to families in need.

The sculpture, titled "Sun City Volunteers ... A Lifestyle of Giving," pays tribute to the men and women who donate millions of hours to ensure the health, safety and well-being of the Sun City community.

Although the three artists were willing to donate their time and creative talents toward the project, they faced the task of collecting $100,000 to cast the life-sized figures in bronze. To accomplish this task, they found a way to in-

tistic women were volunteering their time and talent to create a major tribute to their community as well as tackling the task of raising the funds to make it happen. He agreed to help by allowing them to make the figures in his private studio, where he would complete the casting process.

With donations coming in, a place to work and the guidance of Johnson, the artists began creating the figures. The plan was to build the armature for the figures using the lost-wax technique, then apply the clay and have the pieces cast in bronze. They soon realized their goal of unveiling the completed set of sculptures at the closing of the 40th anniversary celebration could not be reached. However, on Dec. 16, 2000, they dedicated the site and presented the first bronze statue, the Posse figure, along with a bench created and donated by the Bell Recreation Center Metal Club.

Although the Bell Recreation Center Metal Club and the Sun City Players were the official sponsors, the contributions of many community clubs, churches and businesses helped to reach the $100,000

32 - Point
FREE
Starting at $29.95*
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Scheduled Maintenance



Posing with their 40th Anniversary sculpture, "A Lifestyle of Giving" dedicated to Sun City's Volunteers, past, present and future, are sculptresses, from left, Kay Smith, Connie Perrin Turner and Betty Jane Peters. This photo was taken on the 6th Anniversary of the installation. Today Connie says the pieces need to be spruced up to be looking good again. She hopes someone will raise $1200-$1500 to have them sandblasted so they will look their best to those passing by the Lakeview Center at Thunderbird Road and Del Webb Boulevard.

Honoring Sun City Volunteers

Bronze statue salutes community's philanthropic spirit

By P. Atwood Fenner

Bronzes, the dream of 'three steel magnolias' honor volunteers

Sculptors were Connie Perrin Turner, Kay Smith and Betty Jane Peters.

In the spring, many organizations honor their legions of volunteers with a breakfast, luncheon or dinner.

But the City of Volunteers has already honored its selfless workers in a more permanent and artistic fashion. And volunteers may drive buy it often and consider themselves immortalized in bronze every time they pass the "statue" - in reality four people, a bench, a bouquet of flowers, some books and a dog - located on the lawn to the left of the Lakeview Center main entrance on Thunderbird Road. It is titled "A Lifestyle of Giving" and is dedicated to all current, past and future volunteers in the community.

Connie Perrin Turner sculpted the first larger than life statue of the Sun City Posse Figure (representing 59,000 volunteer hours in 1998). It and a bench crafted by the Bell Metal Club were erected at the end of Sun City's 40th anniversary year on Dec. 16, 2000. The others – a P.R.I.D.E. and a Student, both sculpted by Kay Smith, a Smocked Lady by Connie, and a dog named Sparky by Betty Jane Peters as well as a bouquet and the books – were installed March 17, 2001 during The International Year of the Volunteer.



Sparky, the bronze representing the thousands of pets who have found homes due to the efforts of the Sun City Animal Rescue (SCAR), was installed in 2001 as part of the 40th Anniversary celebration. He was so popular, he was "appropriated" by parties unknown (as Mark Twain would have said) and had to be replaced in 2008 by the sculptresses, affectionately dubbed the "three steel magnolias."

The P.R.I.D.E.S. had donated 1,175,000 hours since 1950; the Smocked Lady represents 3,000 volunteers and 6,500 million hours donated since 1970 at Boswell Hospital and the books the 420,000 hours in 10 years by helpers at two private libraries in Sun City. The Student represents the future and volunteers who gave time and expertise at area schools. Sparky, sits in for 3,000 pets who had found homes since 1985 through Sun City Animal Rescue

CAR). The bouquet honors the Sun City Rose and arden and the Sun City Agricultural Clubs for their nerous activities in the community.

It was the climax of a dream for the three sculp- rs - Connie, Kay and Betty - dubbed the "three steel agnolias" for their hundreds of hours spent on this nbitious project. And in an ironic twist, March 17 as the day Snell Johnson, who was to have cast the gures at Bronze Works in Big Timber, Montana, died. he casting was done instead by his brother Lyle due Snell's illness.

The idea of the statue sprang from a vision by Con- ie while at a S.C. 40th Anniversary Committee meet- ng. She teamed with Kay and Betty Jane to complete he project commemorating 40 years of volunteering. They raised the $100,000 in cash and sponsorships with the help of a Volunteer Statue Committee of 19 haired by Betty Jane with Connie as Art Director and Kay as Consultant.

The P.R.I.D.E was sponsored by Curt and Maronee Ulman, the Student by Margaret C. Ptolemy, and Sparky by Don E. Hutchings and Gilbert M. Haake, who named the piece after a beloved pet. Community donations, collected by the Sun City Foundation, paid for The Posse Figure and the Smocked Lady. (Sparky had to be replaced after he disappeared in 2005, and the three sculptors went to work and raised $2,500 to complete their new Scotty in 2008.) At the sixth anniversary of the statue the ladies festooned their creations with balloons.

Speaking at the Posse Figure installation in 2001 attended by hundreds of people, Connie said, "This has been almost a spiritual experience. We have had many things to overcome, but it was meant to be. It was well worth it."



Artist Connie Perrin Turner puts the finishing touches on the Posse Figure before sending it to be cast in bronze in 2000. It is the first of four human figures, one animal, and a bench to be installed as "A Lifestyle of Giving," later that year and in early 2001 as part of Sun City's 40th Anniversary. Connie also sculpted the Smocked Lady and had the original idea for the project to honor all volunteers.

SCW raising money for mural to honor those who donate talents

Sun City West is preparing to honor its hundreds of volunteers with a mural. But first they must raise the money to do it

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West is collecting donations for the creation of a 10 by 20- foot wall mural recognizing its volunteers. It will be painted on the east side of the Lapidary Club room across from the Member Services office at the R.H. Johnson Center, and is scheduled for completion by summertime.

The design features two rounded archways inscribed" Sun City West Volunteers" and " Heart of our Community" with "Thank You" in a small connecting arch above and between them. The arches frame a stylized scene of palm trees, fountain in a pool, planted fields, tall pointed shrubs, trees and a sunburst. It was designed by members of the Sun West Art Club and is expected to cost about $7,000. (Photo above right.)

The artwork honors the time contributed by individuals to the Recreation Centers' facilities: the Library, Village Store and chartered clubs, as well as all the community's groups including PORA, The Posse, P.R.I.D.E.S., Community Fund, Foundation, the churches, Meals on Wheels and Banner Del Webb Medical Center.



"We want to honor all individuals, including those who simply do good works on their own, helping their neighbors grocery shop, or getting them to doctors' appointments," said Jack Steiner, RCSCW public relations chairman. He added, "This is in addition to honoring those volunteer-based organizations for all that they do."

Steiner's committee plans is raising money for the mural through donations by individuals or organizations. Members also will be available at regularly scheduled events. A canister for donations is in the Member Services Office, and donations will be accepted at governing board workshops and board meetings.

Dear Betty Jane,

This one deserves my gold pen!! The Sun was a big R+, due to all your hard work.

Also thank you so much for giving so much of your time and efforts for another year of being president of the Clay Club.

You went out still being "on top" !! and may I add with style as usual.

Thes

You did it!

As ever, Roger & Kitty

3/31

Dear Betty Jane,

Congratulations! We know it wasn't easy, but you did a great job. We'll think of you and all the Volunteers of Sun City each time we pass the statue.

Pat + Colonel

Betty Jane,

What a wonderful contribution to our community! The statue is very impressive & signifies so much dedication and hard work. I'm sure none of us can comprehend the amount of tenacity – among other things – it took to get that done!

Congratulations & thank you.

Friends & Neighbors
Curt & Mary Beth Williams

hOOray!

THANK YOU



THIS SIDE TO SHEETS


Hooray!
Dear Betty Jane,
Thanks for letting us interview you.
It was a pleasure to meet you!
Sincerely,
Marilyn Holley
THIS SIDE TO SHEETS