

# Sun City Pianist Club shares high notes

**"T**he notes I handle no better than many pianists," Austrian pianist, Artur Schnabel, once said. "But the pauses between the notes — ah, that is where the art resides."

Not long ago, I convinced four pianists from the Sun City Piano Club to pause long enough between notes for an interview at the View Point Café.

"The piano has always been a method of expression for me," said Betty Peek, a winter resident who splits her time between Edwardsville, Ill., and Sun City. "I have cried at the piano and I have laughed at the piano. Emotionally, it's always been an outlet for me. And, I think that's probably been the thing that has kept me going."

Prior to attending college at Ball State University, Betty had never had a piano lesson.

"When I was growing up, the guy next door played the violin and he liked to play folk songs. So I played for him. He'd tell me what key he was going to play in and that gave me an idea of the three chords I knew. That's the kind of background I came from."

An effective background it was, as she earned a master's in piano from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. In addition to playing piano, Betty, who prefers classical music, plays the saxophone and viola. She's recently added a new instrument to her repertoire. Five years ago, her nephew, Charles Musgrave, director of the Sun City Concert Band, told her he needed someone to play the bass clarinet.

"So I learned to play it," she said, laughing, "and now I'm known as 'Aunt Betty' in the concert band."

Dale Elliott is another winter visitor in the group who spends half his time in Durango, Colo., when he's not in Sun City.

"I'm the oldest son of a

Presbyterian preacher from the Kansas Bible Belt," he said. "I like to exaggerate and tell people that I must have been 15 or 16 years old before I realized that 'Bringing in the Sheep' was not number one on 'Your Hit Parade.'"

Although his music was church-based starting out, Dale has a wide interest in music including ragtime and classical. A fan of Beethoven, Gershwin and Gottschalk, he also is a fan of a completely different breed of musicians.

"When up in Durango in the summer, I entertain at dude ranches," he said, smiling, "where there's a lot of Willie and Waylon, Merle Haggard and Kenny Rogers. I play a lot of country. I've been putting on happy hours at the nursing homes there for 18 years. And, I don't play for money. If you paid me, it wouldn't be nearly as much fun."

Dale considers the tactual experience of playing the piano to be therapeutic.

"I was a court stenographer and loved typing," he explained. "I love to do things with my hands. With certain composers, there's a feeling of this beautiful rhythm of your hands. So, for me, it's not only the music, but the physical part of it that I love."

Betty Banker, from North Dakota, and who now lives in Sun City, also enjoys classical music. She went to school at Bennington College in Vermont and had some training at the Eastman School of Music. She recalled an incident years ago that blossomed into a love for the music of Tchaikovsky.

"When I was a junior in college, my teacher said, 'Gee, if you keep playing like that, maybe you'll be able to play the Tchaikovsky Concerto for your senior project.' I never heard of it. I went back to the dorm and asked the girl across the hall if she had the Tchaikovsky Piano Concerto. She had the record and when she played it, I fell in love with it."

In addition to her love for classical music, Betty enjoys playing ragtime, jazz and show tunes. A former teacher, she has always been involved with music playing for choirs and judging music contests. And, though an

accomplished pianist, Betty thinks there's always room for improvement.

"When I do something that I feel good about, it's a tremendous accomplishment," she said. "But I'd say, mostly all my life, I've been a frustrated pianist. Maybe it's the frustration that keeps me going, thinking, that next time, I can do a little better. I think that's what's kept me going. I hope I can get better."

Jim Sackett of Sun City started playing the piano when he was 4 years old.

"I couldn't even reach the pedals," he said. "I could read music before I could read books."

Like the others, Jim, who is from Huntington Beach, Calif., has played piano most of his life. He's played in Dixieland jazz bands and small combos entertaining at dances, bar mitzvahs and service clubs all over Southern California.

Jim has spent many soul-stirring moments at the piano.

"Through your fingers, all sorts of emotions come out," he said. "I've shed tears; I've felt joy. And, when I'm despondent or feeling sad, I'll sit down at the piano and it all just comes out. Because it's touch-sensitive, you can come down very softly on the keys. Sometimes, I'll just blast that thing into next week."

For Jim, the club is "a real support group."

Betty Banker agreed. "Some of us play better than others, but the reception is about the same. If you don't play well, you probably get more support."

"If you've done your best," added Betty Peek, "that's the criteria. If you've done your best, then I'm willing to listen."

The Sun City Piano Club meets the third Friday of each month at the Sundial Auditorium from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

If you have a column idea, e-mail Rhkenneyjr@aol.com or write Rich at the Daily News-Sun, 10102 Santa Fe Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351.

OVER



**Rich  
Kenney Jr.**







Clayton Booker of 10833  
Oakmont He very kindly gave  
this to us for the celebration,  
someone put them in HIS mail-  
box - he doesn't know who-  
our benefit - <sup>25th</sup> Anniversary  
Bette

















## From A1

belt buckles, bola ties and wind chimes from the gems they find. The museum also displays artwork members have made from cut and polished stones.

"A lot of people in the club are interested in something that they can turn into semi-jewelry or bookends, or they can polish it up," said Wayne Woodworth, a retired petroleum geologist. "And then there's some like me that are out there looking at the scenery and collecting pretty rocks."

Once a month the Rockhounds take a field trip to Arizona mines or other rock-hunting locales such as Saddle Mountain west of Sun City.

"Even if we don't find anything, it's still a nice day," said Gerald Jensen, the club's president.

The group also gathers monthly for a show-and-tell picnic, during which they socialize, share their discoveries and try to identify the minerals.

"By belonging to this, they do learn some geology and also some mineralogy," Woodworth said. "A lot of it is social — like-minded people going on trips."

Cervoni said he can't imagine a more rewarding hobby than rockhounding.

"You don't know what you're going to get until you take it home, cut it and polish it," he said.

The museum is open to the public 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and Friday at the Sundial Recreation Center, 14801 N. 103rd Ave., at Boswell Boulevard. Hours are limited on Saturdays. For information, call 933-975.



John Horton packages some fool's gold for visitor Marisa Martin, 3, of Phoenix at the Sun City Rockhounds Mineral Museum at Sundial Recreation Center.



September 29, 2004

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

# Stitchers have sew much to give

By Matthew Roy

Independent Newspapers

Four of the 62 members of the Sundial Stitches met to sort through newly donated materials and work on projects Sept. 24 at Sundial Recreation Center, 14801 N. 103rd Ave.

The Stitches produce children's clothing, lap robes and other needed items that they donate to various Valley charities, including Surprise and Kingswood Elementary schools, Glendale Family Development Center and the Agua Fria Food and Clothing Bank.

When Mary Binder arrived at the club room in the morning, she brought four large grocery bags filled with donated fabric and sewing materials.

The Stitches rely heavily on a generous Sun City community to continue their mission and recently delivered more than 570 pieces to local charities as part of just one of their three annual deliveries. Now, the club is gearing up for the deliveries they will make during the holidays.

Membership is open to RCSC members and beginners are welcome.

"We don't have formal classes," said Mary Binder. "But we work together and help each other to learn new technique and skills."

The Sundial Stitches meet at Sundial Tuesday-Wednesday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Friday 9 a.m.-noon.

To join, make donations of fabric or supplies or for more information, call Mary at 972-2007 or Angie at 933-3113.



Independent News/Matthew Roy

**Top, from left, Mary Binder, Ruth Arnold, Martha Porter and Florence Lackovic are working hard to prepare for Sundial's Nov. 26-27 Crafts Fair. Proceeds from crafts sales help to purchase supplies and support their charities. Bottom, left, Martha Porter displays an example of the type of children's clothing Sundial Stitches produces. Bottom, right, Ruth Arnold measures twice and cuts once, giving the best of her skills to help those in need.**





# Seeing the world through stamps

**SUN CITY STAMP CLUB:** Members at Saturday's auction agree hobby's popularity waning

ERIN SELIGMAN  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Seeking the ultimate find or just a taste of history, philatelists perused the prized collections of members of the Sun City Stamp Club during a public viewing and auction Saturday.

From the long-lost 1-cent stamp to the recently released Millennium series, the collections revealed images of presidents and queens, landmarks and celebrities — offering a pictorial time line of the world.

"They all tell a story if you know what's behind them," said club member Gerald Goltz, whose collection includes 2-cent Canadian stamps dating back to the 1870s and another bearing the youthful image of Princess Elizabeth during the late 1930s.

Of the pastime practiced by generations, club member Loren Aston said, "I started collecting because my grandfather collected and my father collected and they passed on their collections to me."

Unfortunately, members of the Sun City Stamp Club agree the hobby's popularity is dwindling among today's youth.

"The younger people aren't collecting like they used to," said Sun Citian Bob Hager.



## Stamp-collecting terminology

**Black Jack:** The nickname for a very popular 2 cent black Andrew Jackson stamp, which was issued in various forms between 1863 and 1975.

**Bogus:** A completely fictitious, worthless "stamp" created only for sale to collectors.

**Exploded:** A stamp book is said to be exploded when it has been separated into its various components for show.

**Line Pairs:** Most coil stamps prior to 1891 feature a line of ink printed between two stamps at varying intervals.

**Secret Marks:** Many stamps have included tiny reference points in their designs to foil attempts at counterfeiting and to differentiate issues.

**Topicals:** Indicates a group of stamps with the same theme, such as space travel, birds or the millennium.

### Removing stamps from envelopes:

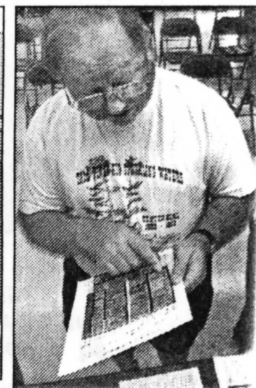
1. Tear or cut off the upper right-hand corner of the envelope.
2. Place it, stamp down, in a small pan of warm water. After a few minutes the stamp will sink to the bottom.
3. Wait a few more minutes for any remaining gum to dislodge from the stamp.
4. Lift the stamp out with tongs or tweezers. Prevent touching the stamp with your hands as the oils in one's skin can damage the stamp.
5. Place the stamp between two paper towels and put a heavy object, such as a book, on top. This will keep the stamp from curling as it dries. Leave the stamp there overnight.
6. If the stamp is a newer one with "invisible gum," dry it face down with nothing touching the back and flatten it later if necessary. Otherwise, it may stick to the paper towel when drying.

DAILY NEWS-SUN



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Aficionados examine stamps prior to Saturday's Sun City Stamp Club auction at Marinette Recreation Center.



STEVE CHERNEK  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Gerald Goltz studies Canadian stamps.

*over*

The reason for its lost allure may surround the rising cost of the envelope decoration — now temporarily stationed at 33 cents per stamp. The United States, noted Goltz, issues 200 new stamps a year.

But for those dedicated enthusiasts, the thrill circulates around that one rare find, such as a series produced in the early 1900s that was

mistakenly printed upside down, or stamps issued in honor of the 1936 Olympics that bear the Nazi swastika.

Those offered at Saturday's auction were valued from \$3 to \$50, although club President Bob Kasper recalls another auction where one rarity sold for a quarter of a million dollars. However, Doris Brooks, the club's vice president,

believes monetary gain is not the reason most philatelists engage in the hobby.

Instead, she said, the joy of stamp collection offers an innovative way to document historical events. "I think that's why people like them," she said.

*Erin Seligman can be reached at [eseligman@aztrib.com](mailto:eseligman@aztrib.com) or by calling 876-2532.*



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Auctioneer Lorne Aston sets out stamps for inspection prior to Saturday's Sun City Stamp Club auction at Marinette Recreation Center.



# Sun City Roller Skating Club is on a roll!

Sun Life

January 1993



**SKATE DANCING** is enjoyed by Dorothy Sherman and member Jim Klug. Sherman is the club's immediate past president.

To the background of music, a steady whirring of wheels fills the auditorium at Mountain View Recreation Center. Figures glide gracefully by, some by themselves, others two by two.

The Sun City Roller Skating Club is on a roll again.

Three times a week, some 25 to 30 members of the group (which has a total membership of 90 or so) glide and twirl on the highly polished tile floor surrounded by flags of all 50 states. Shoes are banned past a brown border that divides the area.

It's something many Sun Citians have in common with their grandchildren – a love of skating. But while the younger generation furiously races by on roller blades (formally known as in-line blades), the members of this organization stick to the traditional side-by-side wheeled skates. The other type, in fact, are strictly forbidden.

Many of the members are competent and graceful, a few are very good, and others are still learning. Some prefer to dance together, others to solo with their skills. It doesn't matter; everyone works at their own speed.

"Most (of the members) had skated when they were younger, some all their lives," said Dorothy Sherman, 1992 president. One member both roller skates and ice skates.

"It's good exercise and a nice social event. For once we're doing something that's good for us – and enjoying it."

Members, who range in age from 42 to 86, meet Mondays 10 a.m. to noon, Fridays 4 to 7 p.m., and Saturdays 1 to 4 p.m. On Fridays, the youngest member, Bill Temple, plays the organ for the skaters.

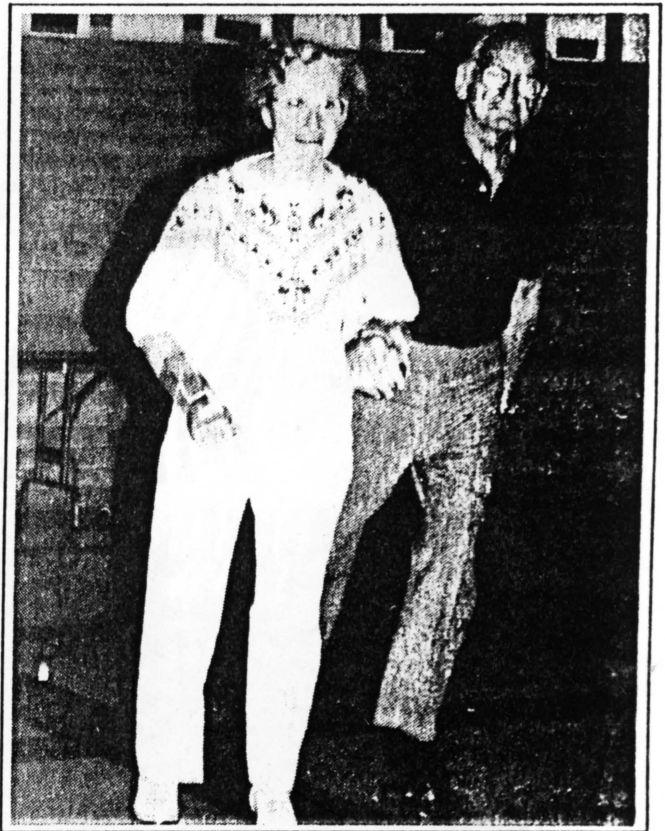
Members also get together for potlucks and holiday parties.

Dues are \$3 a year; under recreation center rules, only Sun Citians are eligible to join. For more information, call 974-0882.

(OVER)



**DRESSING THE PART** – Some members, like Olive Hosmer, prefer wearing skater's attire rather than "street clothes."



**SHOWN SKATING** together are John and Marie Sybenga.



# Rolling With the Changes

## Roller-skating club offers membership to roller bladers

BY JULIA DE SIMONE  
Independent Newspapers

Wheel of progress are turning for the Sun City Roller-skating Club.

The group recently amended its bylaws to accept in-line skaters in the club — after about 14 years of members turning their wheels — in an effort to bolster membership. The club's name will remain the same.

"I think we'll have more volume (in the club)," said Olive Hosmer, president. "So many walked out disappointed before with a long frown on their face."

Richard Bondon was the first in-line skater to roll into the club. There are approximately 70 members enrolled.

Membership fee is \$3 a year. Guests can attend for \$1.

Although the Sun City resident admitted that in-line skating is "usually a young person's hobby," it has become more popular with all age groups in Arizona.

"They're great for the outside paths," he said.

A four-year veteran of the sport, Mr. Bondon said it takes practice to in-line skate.

"If I can make one recommendation, learn on a wooden floor; it's more forgiving," he said.

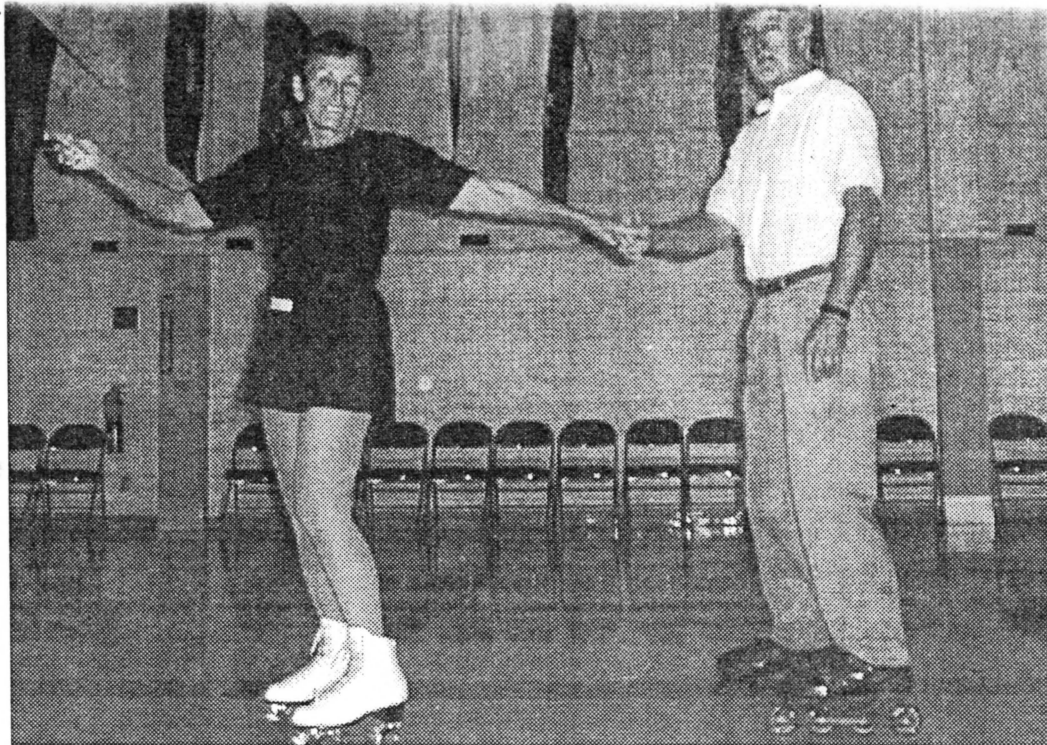


Photo by JULIA DE SIMONE/Independent Newspapers

## Alternate modes of transportation

The Sun City Roller-skating Club is opening its doors to some new wheels. The group recently accepted in-line skaters after 14 years of exclusively traditional rollerskating. President Olive Hosmer and Richard Bondon show off their wheels and blades, respectively.

However, not all members are turning in their roller-skates for in-line skating.

Ms. Hosman said she's been an avid skater since a child, winning badges for ice skating and pins for roller-skating.

"I used to skate until the first snowflake," she said. "I roller-skated when I was pregnant!"

Ms. Hosmer said a number of members enjoy the roller-skating club because of the health benefits and friendships established

"I'd rather be here skating than watching the ... tube," she said. "We burn a lot of calories skating, that's why we like it."

Helen and Melvin "Mel" Holzwarth of Sun City shared mutual feelings.

"We use to skate a long time ago and liked it," Mrs. Holzwarth said. "It's still fun."

She said one of the benefits is the exercise.

"It's good cardiovascular exercise, it's lowered my cholesterol," she said.

Another benefit is the friendships established.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Holzwarth couple skate, they also enjoy being among the other skaters in the club.

"We've met a lot of wonderful people," she said.

In addition, club officials also host parties on Halloween, Christmas and Valentine's Day.

Ms. Hosmer said she will continue skating "until I fall apart."

Members meet 10 a.m.-noon, Monday and 4-6 p.m., Friday at the Mountain View Recreation Center, 9749 N. 107th Ave., Sun City.

For additional information, call 972-2093.

# Skating the hours away

## Local roller skating club finds sport not only fun, but healthy

By **CHRIS RASMUSSEN**  
Independent Newspapers

There's a group of residents in Sun City who are touting the benefits of going around in circles.

Roller skating may be an old-time favorite as far as hobbies are concerned, but members of the Sun City Roller Skating Club are finding new ways to make it fresh and exciting.

"It's good exercise," said club President Jose "Joe" D. Martinez. "Good for your heart, your body and it keeps you young."

"If you skate religiously, two days a week, you are getting a good share of exercise," he said.

Members skate inside the Mountain View Auditorium and are often accompanied by an organist playing the perfect tunes for roller skating.

Participants usually skate in wide circles around the auditorium floor and in complete laps.

"It doesn't matter how fast or how slow you skate," club member Olive Hosmer said. "We welcome beginners as well as experts."

If skating in circles sounds boring, club members also pair up for skate dancing versions of the tango, waltz and conga.

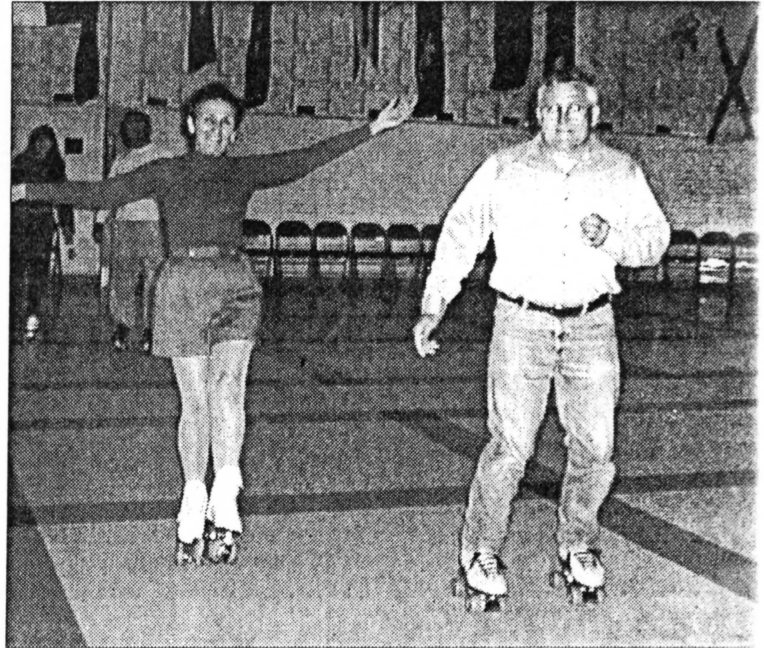
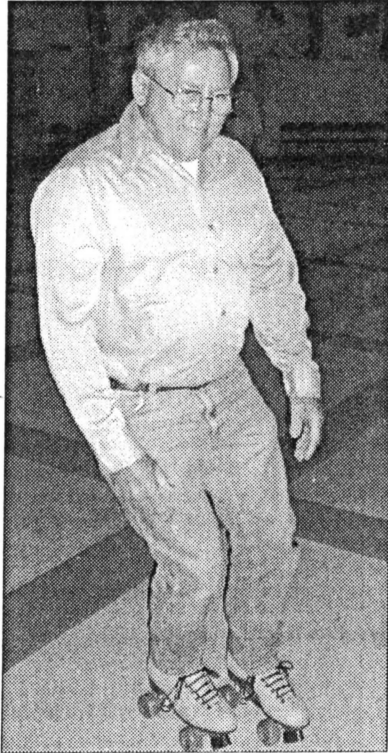
"Most skaters have something in common, so we become good friends," Mr. Martinez said of the club's social aspect. "It is a great way to make friends."

The club meets from 10 a.m. to noon every Monday and 4 to 6 p.m. every Friday inside the Mountain View Auditorium. During summer months the club will not meet on Fridays and will instead skate from 10 to 5 p.m. every Thursday at the same location.

Club dues are just \$3 annually and members must be Sun City residents.

Guests may join club members for a \$1 fee. Guests must be at least 18 years of age.

Mr. Martinez said he has been



Photos by CHRIS RASMUSSEN/Independent Newspapers  
Proving that roller skating can be a team sport, Olive Hosmer and Jose D. Martinez skate dance inside the Mountain View Auditorium. The pair belong to the Sun City Roller Skating club. At left, Mr. Glass takes his turn solo.

getting enjoyment out of skating for over 40 years.

"Skating has been a lifelong game for me," the club's president said. "I first began skating as a kid in the streets of Puerto Rico. When I joined the military and came to the United States, I got to skate in the nice indoor skating rinks."

In addition to traditional skates,

the club also now allows the increasingly popular in-line skates.

In-line skates are a single row of wheels, as opposed to two rows of wheels on roller skates, and are designed for rougher surfaces, including streets and sidewalks.

"Skating is so much fun," club member Dolly Makelke said. "I look forward to it every week. It's a

great way to get out of the house.

Members not only skate in the recreation center, they also go to Great Skate in Glendale to experience a real skating rink.

The club has about 65 members. "I skated as a child," Olive Hosmer said. "I still enjoy it. I like I am soaring in the clouds when I skate."

ROLLER SKATING



# Artistic Sun City club offers touch of glass

**MITCHELL VANTREASE**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Artzi Basin carefully soldered wire on his stained glass creation of a colorful peacock.

The Sun Citian wanted to hold the stained glass together so it wouldn't fall apart. It's the second one he's made in the last few months.

"This has been a great activity for me and very relaxing," he said. "I love to create things with stained glass because I can do whatever I want."

Every week, Basin has made a variety of projects, such as windows and earrings, with the Artistic Stained Glass Club at Bell Recreation Center. More than 200 members belong to the group.

Kay Wood, president of the club, said artistic stained glass can appeal to anyone.

## FYI

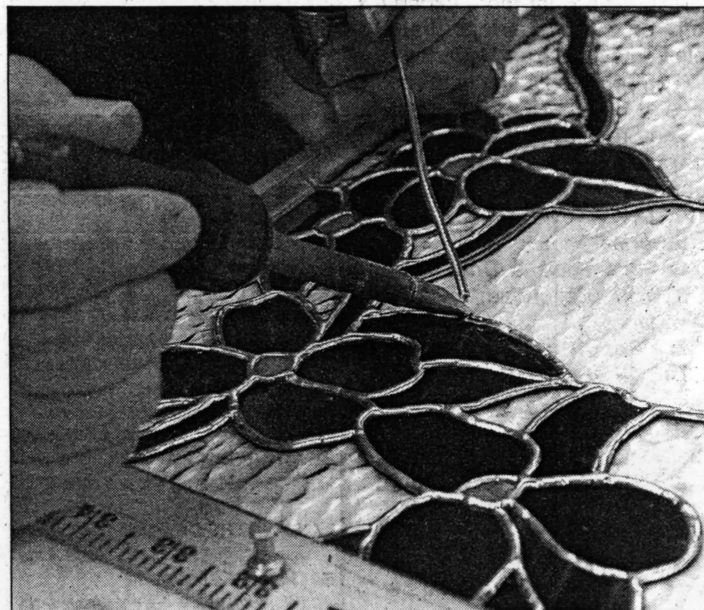
- **WHAT:** Artistic Stained Glass Club.
- **WHERE:** Bell Recreation Center, 16820 N. 99th Ave., Sun City.
- **WHEN:** 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday; 7 to 9 p.m. Sunday.
- **INFO:** 974-4756.

"It's cheap, very fun and not difficult at all," she said.

For \$5 a year, members have several benefits with club, which has a workshop at Bell Recreation Center open six days a week. People must take two weeks of courses to learn how to use the specific tools before they work on their own projects.

Even though stained glass has been associated with churches, Wood said it's used for everything from clocks to windows.

"It's just beautiful, and you can do anything you want," she said.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Bill Angle solders wire to hold the cut glass in place on the new art piece he's making at the Artistic Stained Glass Club at Bell Recreation Center Saturday.

Some members have made stained glass jewelry as well. They must pick a pattern and cut it according to the prints.

Wood said people doing stained glass creations have to go through several steps before completion. The edges must be smooth and soldered together. It is

then painted and put into a kiln for a fine finish before it's ready to take home.

"Depending on the design, it can be very challenging, but worth the time," she said.

In addition to the craftsmanship, Carol Lawry said she has enjoyed the fellowship among members in the workshop because everyone's helpful.

"I love the camaraderie because we're just like a second family," she said.

Basin said he's made stained glass for friends, family members and himself. He remembered making a red robin and dancing slippers for his granddaughter.

"I'm loving every last bit of this, and it keeps me from being stagnant," he said.

*Do you have a hobby you want to share? Mitchell Vantrease may be reached at 876-2526 or [mvantrease@aztrib.com](mailto:mvantrease@aztrib.com).*



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Kay Wood shows the clock she is making of stained glass at the Artistic Stained Glass Club. Wood is president of the club, which meets at Bell Recreation Center in Sun City.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Gene Funk uses a soldering iron to attach a wire to his glass wall hanging at the Artistic Stained Glass Club at Bell Recreation Center Saturday. The club attracts more than 200 participants.



SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT OCT. 31-NOV. 6, 2001

# STILL SHUFFLING ALONG

## Shuffleboard club's players adapts to new surroundings

By Jeremy Pearlman  
Independent Newspapers

The game goes on.

No longer playing at the location for which it is named, the Sundial Shuffleboard Club continues under the same moniker, while its games take place at the Bell Recreation Center.

The move from its longtime home to a new location went well, according to John Waldron, club president.

"Overall the transition was smooth," Mr. Waldron said. "We're moving on and our play here has resumed."

The Sundial Shuffleboard Club now shares courts with two other groups, the Bell Shuffleboard Club and the Handicapables.

Though the move might not have been initially well received by the club, Mr. Waldron has seen only a slight decline in club membership.

"We've got to move toward the future. What's done in the past is done," Mr. Waldron continued.

Estimating that the club has 130 members currently, Mr. Waldron expects membership to rise as more winter residents return to Sun City.

According to Jerry Swintek, president of the RCSC governing board, the decision to move the club was prompted by several factors.

"The board made the change to make the most-efficient use of our facilities," Mr. Swintek said. "We have to constantly look at assigned space."



Photo by JEREMY PEARLMAN/Independent Newspapers

Having been moved from Sundial Shuffleboard Courts, the Sundial Shuffleboard Club now shares the courts at the Bell Recreation Center. Playing at Bell is John Waldron, Sundial Shuffleboard Club president, and Mary Háfeman.

The space which once held the courts at Sundial Recreation Center, will house the Sundial Men's Club, whose average daily attendance from January

to May was higher than all three shuffleboard groups combined, according to Mr. Swintek.

Another factor for the change Mr. Swintek pointed to was the

large expense it would cost the RCSC to level Sundial's wooden shuffleboard courts warped by moisture from a nearby pool.

"The move was made before the snowbirds arrive, so there would be no disruption during mid-season," Mr. Swintek said.

Norm Splitgerber, vice president of the Sundial Shuffleboard Club, thinks sharing the courts at Bell is OK because it keeps the sport alive in the community.

"Getting away from those wooden, crooked courts is kind of a blessing," Mr. Splitgerber said. "We're doing as best as we can."

"There are very few complaints," Mr. Splitgerber continued.

The Bell Shuffleboard Club and the Handicapables have not had to change their schedules since the move.

Ed Constance, president of the Bell Shuffleboard Club, believes the sharing of the courts between the three groups has held up nicely.

"There was some criticism first and that is natural. People don't like to change easily," Mr. Constance said. "I would say that it is real good now. Everyone has accepted the change and it is working out fine."

A member of the Bell Shuffleboard Club and coordinator for the Handicapables, Mary Lou Diviney has not seen any problems in sharing the courts. "I'm sorry that they had to shut the courts at Sundial. It seems everything is working out at Bell."

# TRAVEL TRAILER CLUB of SUN CITY, Inc.

P.O. BOX 66  
SUN CITY, ARIZONA  
85372

January 24, 1984

Mr. & Mrs. William Mitchell  
11069 Edgewood Drive  
Sun City, AZ 85351

Dear Bill & Ona:

We have the pleasure of presenting to you this "Golden Card" that makes you both members for life in the Travel Trailer Club. You have rendered many outstanding services and untold hours to the improvement of our Club.

You joined our Club in 1973. In 1974, you volunteered to help on the Pancake Breakfast and have been serving in many capacities ever since. You have been a plumber, electrician, painter and builder for the Club besides serving on Committees and the Board of Directors -- a total of 10 years.

You have both served as Greeters and on the Dinner Committee. Ona deserves special recognition for answering the hundreds of telephone calls the President and Compound Manager receives.

You have been Compound Manager many times. In 1977 and 1978, you were Vice-President of the Club; and in 1979, you became our President. You may not want to be reminded of this; but it was during your Presidency that Del Webb Corporation discontinued subsidizing the Compound, and the yearly fee was installed. Your leadership brought us through this hectic period.

For the past two years, you have been on a special committee to negotiate the new compound. And again, you have demonstrated your effectiveness to our Club.

For these acts of unselfish giving, we commend you and trust you and Ona will continue to give of your talents for years to come.

Gratefully yours,

*Ethel Sanders*

Ethel Sanders, Chairwoman  
The Awards Committee of the  
Travel Trailer Club of Sun City, Inc.



Donated to Museum 3/2012  
See Custody Receipt

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We have the pleasure of presenting to you the following  
which was prepared for you in the year 1897, and which  
contains a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for that year.

You will find on page 1, 1897, a full and complete  
record of the work of the Board of Directors for that year  
and a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for the year 1898.

You will find on page 2, 1898, a full and complete  
record of the work of the Board of Directors for that year  
and a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for the year 1899.

You will find on page 3, 1899, a full and complete  
record of the work of the Board of Directors for that year  
and a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for the year 1900.

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and a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for the year 1901.

You will find on page 5, 1901, a full and complete  
record of the work of the Board of Directors for that year  
and a full and complete record of the work of the  
Board of Directors for the year 1902.

Sincerely yours,

John G. ...  
Chairman of the Board of Directors

# Organization for blind sets up local chapter

**ANNIE BOON**  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It's been Marvin Rochelle's five-year dream to open a West Valley chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Arizona.

Rochelle's dream has finally come true. A meeting at the Sun City Library Saturday marked the second gathering of the fledgling chapter, which joins a national and statewide network of chapters all connected by the same purpose — to assist blind or visually impaired people to become productive, independent citizens who participate fully in their community.

"Our main goal is to help blind people, those going blind and their families," said Rochelle, vice president of the West Valley chapter. A Phoenix resident, Rochelle, 80, is nearly legally blind. "We're here to benefit the people of the West Valley."

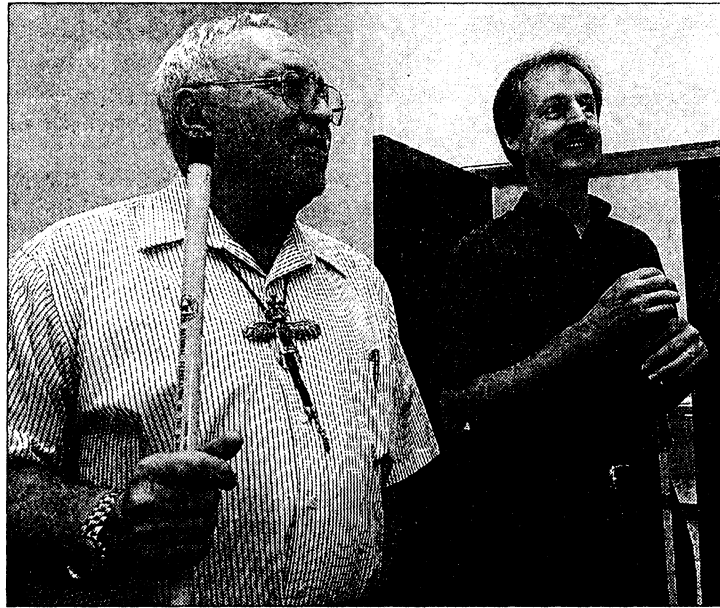
The NFB is the largest organization of the blind in the country. With 50,000 members, the organization has grown to include more than 10 percent of the nation's blind. The Federation is organized in every state and has local chapters in nearly every community in the nation.

Marc Schmidt of Phoenix, West Valley chapter president, said a need was recognized in the West Valley that this new chapter will address.

"We saw pretty clearly that there are a lot of people that are blind or going blind in the West Valley," Schmidt said. "This is the first time they have a chapter in their own community."

This month, representatives of the chapter toured Sun City's seven recreation centers to speak with residents about the organization and ask if they, or someone they know, could benefit from being a part of it.

"It seemed like everyone we



**JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN**

Marvin Rochelle, left, and Marc Schmidt, both of Phoenix, were part of a group that met Saturday at the Sun City Library to organize a West Valley chapter of the National Federation for the Blind.

## IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** National Federation of the Blind of Arizona, West Valley Chapter.
- **WHEN:** 9:30 a.m., every fourth Saturday of the month.
- **WHERE:** Sun City Library at Bell Recreation Center, 16828 N. 99th Ave., Sun City.
- **REGISTRATION:** \$3 annual fee.
- **INFO:** Call Marvin Rochelle at 872-5444.

talked to knew someone who was blind," said Schmidt, who hopes the chapter will grow once people hear more about how the NFB can help them or their loved ones.

Not only will members be part of a new fellowship, they also will learn about the latest technologies to benefit the blind, participate in Braille and cane walking tutorials, and will receive important literature and resources, Schmidt said.

Frederick Rockwell of Phoenix is president of the NFB of Arizona's senior division. Having a West Valley chapter, he said, will bring untapped

resources to thousands of seniors who are blind or facing blindness.

"We meet a lot of seniors who are going blind," Rockwell said. "We help them with independent living skills that will keep them out of assisted living."

Vicki Hodges, president of the Phoenix Chapter, said the West Valley chapter will be embraced by the Phoenix and other NFB chapters in the state and nationwide.

"We're here to be supportive," Hodges said. "This being our newest chapter, it's important to be supported and connected with state activities."

For an annual registration fee of \$3, anyone, sighted or blind, and regardless of age, can belong to the West Valley Chapter. The group will meet regularly at 9:30 a.m. on the fourth Saturday of the month at the Sun City Library in Bell Recreation Center on 99th Avenue south of Bell Road.

Annie Boon may be reached at 876-2532 or [aboone@aztrib.com](mailto:aboone@aztrib.com).



A political bulletin board reflects the various causes championed by the Sun Cities/West Valley National Organization for Women chapter, which celebrated its 25th anniversary Wednesday at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Surprise.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

# NOW marks 25th year in Sun Cities

## Boasts most active members in state

KATY O'GRADY  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

For 25 years, a group of Sun Citians has been fighting for people's rights. But even as members celebrate their many accomplishments, they admit they have a long way to go.

"Now it seems like we're going backwards in terms of Bush's agenda," said Shirley Patterson, a member of the Sun Cities/West Valley Chapter of the National Organization for Women, which celebrated its silver anniversary with a luncheon Tuesday.

Although NOW is concerned with many of President Bush's stances on reproductive rights, its members say they shouldn't be seen as a one-issue group.

"I think people who oppose women taking their rightful, equal place in the world tend to want to shine the spotlight on something that will make them look bad," said member Jackie Lindfors.

Aside from ensuring a woman's right to choose whether to have an abortion, NOW's other primary concerns range from protecting women from domestic abuse and ensuring proper education funding to supporting gay rights and preserving everyone's right to privacy.

The national NOW group was among 1,000 co-sponsors of the April 25 March for Women's Lives in Washington, D.C., that attracted an estimated 1.1 million people, including men and women of all ages, races and religions.

"It was so encouraging to see so many young people," said Ann Timmer, one of the six founding members and the first president of the local NOW chapter.

Lindfors said the impressive turnout compares to an estimated 870,000 people who attended the 1995 Million Man March on the Capitol Mall.

"It was solid people," Lindfors said. Even so, NOW members believe their effort received relatively little media coverage.

It made an impression, however. Members say the march's success convinced

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft to withdraw his order for hospitals and clinics to turn over health records of women who have received abortions.

"When the government stands between a woman and her doctor," Timmer said. "No good can come of it," finished her sister, Helen Perkins, who is also a local NOW member.

"Of course, Bush was at Camp David when the march happened," added Patterson.

Although they've been fighting their battle for 25 years, local NOW members said they must remain vigilant and encourage young women to educate themselves about the ongoing challenges to their rights. They point to the fact the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has never been ratified.

The amendment, composed of only about 50 words, says equal rights "shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex." Written in 1923 and sent to every Congressional session between then and 1972, the amendment wasn't ratified by enough states by the June 30, 1982 deadline.

The ERA was ratified by 35 states, only three short of the required 38. Arizona was one of those that did not ratify it.

The ERA was the primary topic of interest in 1979, when Timmer, Evelyn Phillips, Miriam Cafferty and three other women started holding meetings in the Sun Cities. By September 1980, they had attracted enough members to get an official NOW chapter charter.

When the ERA was defeated two years later, the

group started focusing on other issues, although the ERA has always remained one of NOW's causes.

Among her NOW efforts, Timmer recalled spending the night in a women's clinic that someone had threatened to bomb; using an ironing board as a prop to protest the defeat of an education bill; and standing along a Valley freeway holding a sign demanding fair insurance rates for women.

In the 1970s, NOW members worked to ensure displaced homemakers could find employment or job training when their husbands left them for new wives.

"When these women grew up, even if you went to college, you raised children," and were left without marketable job skills, said Lindfors.

See NOW, A5

DVER

# NOW: Members recount 25-year history

## From A1

"That was a difficult time for women," Timmer said.

In a couple instances, NOW members faced harassment from those unhappy with their views. Timmer recalled getting a phone call from an unknown man after she was interviewed on the radio about women's issues.

"The first question he asked was, 'Are you a lesbian?'" she said.

She also remembers a time when women had to be taught to stand up for themselves.

"Early on in our chapter

we had an assertiveness training class," she said, drawing laughter from Perkins and Lindfors. Clearly, these women aren't afraid to speak up anymore.

Member Lee Ormsbee said the Sun Cities/West Valley Chapter has the oldest members of all the state's chapters. "But we are really the most active," she said. "They all say it. The other chapters, they admit it."

Lindfors explained, "That's the biggest thing we try to focus on is action."

*Katy O'Grady may be reached at 876-2514 or kogrady@aztrib.com.*



MOLLIE J. HOPPE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Ann Timmer of Sun City West wears a crown of flowers she received at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Sun Cities/West Valley Chapter of the National Organization for Women. Timmer was one of the chapter's founders in 1979 and its first president when it received its charter in 1980.



# Quilters patch together memories

By DAVID MILLER  
Staff writer

Things have changed for quilters.

Where once elaborately decorated quilts had strictly utilitarian purposes, now they're works of art.

For Sun City's Elizabeth Brown, quilting offers a chance to socialize and to express her artistic leanings.

"You put something of yourself into it," said Brown. "That's why there aren't so many old-time quilts — because they were used every day. But they've become something special."

One hundred thirty-five Sun City women likely would agree. As members of the Creative Quilters Club, they'll soon get a chance to show their artistic wares, when the club hosts its biennial extravaganza.

Brown, coordinating the show for Friday and Saturday, Jan. 23 and 24, at Lakeview Recreation Center, can't say enough about the quilting process.

She enjoys the traditions of quilting, with groups huddled together and working on their projects.

She also loves the fact that as the pieces come together, they reveal something about the quilt's creator.

Plus, she's never bored. "There's always something new to learn," Brown said.

This is all in stark contrast to the days when quilts were a family necessity. One thing still holds from the quilting days of yore, however: the camaraderie.

"This is a very friendly bunch," she said of fellow club members. "They're amazing. ... We've gotten an awful lot of ladies through losing their husbands and having to move into nursing homes."

The Creative Quilters have a strong local history, though Brown said when the group first formed 6 ½



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Creative Quilters from left, Dorothy Arnold, Opal Warren, Shirley Fullerton and Jean Burgoon, prepare quilts for the group's annual show which will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 23 and 24 at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City.

years ago there were questions about whether they'd be able to bring in 25 members.

They needn't have worried. "There were 75 of us," she said. "It's one of those things that people have done for years," though they weren't necessarily aware of each other's interest.

Now they gather for regular sessions, usually for work on individual

projects. They did band together, however, to piece together a raffle quilt called "Trip Around The World."

And while most of the group's work will be up for display, not sale, the club plans to raise money from a tea shop and through \$1 donations.

The main thrust of the show, however, will be the group's elaborate

quilts on display and demonstrations every half-hour.

"That's the basis for wanting to join the club," said the coordinator. "People appreciate the work you put into it. It's very satisfying."

The Creative Quilters' show runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. For information, call the Recreation Centers of Sun City at 876-3000.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Of the

# THE ROCK HOUND SOCIETY



## OF SUN CITY ARIZONA

1963 to 2013 commemorative Book



## A message from our club President:

Dear Friends,

December 12, 2013

Exciting field trips and other activities have transformed thousands of ordinary citizens in to true Rock hounds and friends through this club. We hope Sun City residents will continue to join together for the next fifty years and that this book will give them a look at what came before. We anticipate that all who live in Sun City, and even the casual visitor to our Mineral Museum, will get a glimpse of the rich history experienced by members in The Rock Hound Society of Sun City, Arizona, from the information presented here.

Regardless of your reason for reading this, I join with all the membership, and the other officers of the club, in wishing you just one more field trip.

1st Vice President: Joe Chan  
2nd Vice President: Bill Kronenberg  
Secretary: Clair Lund  
Treasurer: Elizabeth Chan  
Membership: Betty Kalleser  
Rockdust Newsletter: Peter Jennings

Kindest Regards,

Linda Johnson, President  
Sun City Rock Hound Club

## Dedication

The Sun City Rock hounds created this booklet to thank our founders in 1963 and all who followed. We would not be here today without their foresight and indomitable persistence in maintaining a club. Hundreds of thousands of hours were graciously given by rock hounds to promote all aspects of the club activities during our 50 years. For that we profoundly thank you.

Front Cover Photo: Members of the Sun City Rockhound Club 1974, L to R:  
Essie May Hill, Gerald Hill, Lloyd Ainsworth, Jewell Ainsworth.

## The Origins of the Sun City Rockhounds

January 1960 is a well known date for many 'Suncitians' because that was the date that Del E. Webb Corporation started our new city in cotton fields on the outskirts of Phoenix. The houses grew up as fast as the cotton that they were replacing. A shopping center, recreation center, golf course and even a town hall were swiftly in place. Lines of people streamed down Grand Avenue to investigate the proposed community. Many of them bought houses or apartments which were then built to fill the contracts.



**People visiting Sun City model homes in the early 1960's. (photo: Sun City Historical Society)**

Sun City was actually built where the 'old ghost town' of Marinette had been. Marinette was abandoned sometime in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Beginning in 1960, the land was transformed into the thriving community of Sun City. Del Webb had many ideas and one way he promoted the concept of his new city was to run a competition to name it. Mr. & Mrs. E. A. Britton won a home in the "Name this Community" contest by Del Webb Company. The Brittons' Sun City Home was located at 12801 West Augusta on the golf course. Plan 1-A-R called the "Meadowgrove"; the house had 2 bedrooms and 1 bath.



In 1963, while Sun City was still in its infancy, its new inhabitants were forming clubs and societies to set up our 'active retirement city'. It would seem that the idea of our Rock hound club was planted during the lazy days of the summer of 1963, around the pool at the Community Center (now Oakmont).



**Sun City Community Center, (now Oakmont) 1960. (photo courtesy Sun City Historical Society)**

The original instigators were Claude Cherry, Carl Ball, and Clark Hall. That first group had just the right mix of skills and experience. Claude Cherry had experience as an attorney and chaired a large rockhound organization in California; Carl Ball was an Arizona rancher and knew the Arizona terrain and outdoor life; and Clark Hall was a leading figure in Sun City lapidary and was a founding member of the Sun City Lapidary Club.

The three men went on a few informal field trips out into the desert and mountain areas to see the potential for collecting rocks; one place they investigated was Ball's Ranch off Black Canyon Highway. Neither Ball nor Hall had ever been rock hounding before, but their enthusiasm encouraged the group to proceed. On October 14, 1963, they invited a small group of Sun City residents to a meeting in the Cherry home to see if there was enough interest to form a club. At that meeting were the original three and Frank Lane, Harry Van Nuys, L. C. Glendenning, and A. deLaNoy.

President: Claude Cherry,  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Frank Lane,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Harry Van Nuys,  
Secretary: L. C. Glendenning,  
Treasurer: A. deLaNoy,  
and Clark Hall completed the group as a non-voting member of the board.

Before November 1963 was over, the newly formed society had their first field trip planned and was about to be on their way to the Consolation Area near Wickenburg to look for rocks. Health and safety were high on the committee's priorities and the treasurer was instructed to buy a first aid kit before the trip. Therefore, the first

dues, at the princely sum of \$2.50 per year, were levied so that things such as a first aid kit could be purchased. We don't know how many went on that field trip. Our first bank balance was \$147.50 from 59 of the 62 members present at a meeting on November 11, 1963. Alas, our first tradition started as three of the members were delinquent in paying their dues right from day one!

A membership of 62 in November of 1963 was not bad considering the population of Sun City was just 2,000. From there the membership just kept on growing and by 1964 the membership had reached 101.

It didn't take them long to get things really organized. During the meeting on December 9, 1963, two items were proposed: the first was to have identification/name cards printed, this was passed; the second proposal was that the place and time of meetings and field trips be published. It was decided to publish the dates of meeting nights and field trips but not the place of the field trips.

The club seems to have run things pretty efficiently and had fiscal responsibility because during the first decades the club demonstrated an increasing membership and bank balance. The balance was so healthy that donations ranging from \$25 to \$200 were made to Sun City Inc. and also books were donated to the Sun City libraries. The club's aims continued and the membership grew.

The tradition of speakers at each meeting was initiated right from the start. The talks were on a wide range of subjects such as jewelry-making and silver craft as well as geologic subjects. During the meetings, some members presented individual displays of material collected on recent field trips.

The smallest attendance at a meeting of the 1964/1965 season was 51 members in March. The speaker at that March meeting was Floyd Getsinger, who was an author, photographer and mineralogist. We would like to think that the turnout didn't reflect on Mr Getsinger!

It was also in 1965 that they voted to approve a By-Laws change of Article III, Section 1 that membership be restricted to holders of current Sun City Community Association Membership cards, although guests could attend in accordance with the rules of the Sun City Community Association. The card names may have changed but the rules are still the same today.

The first club field trip to Burro Creek to collect agate and pastellite in the club's records was in October 1970 and the trip has been a favorite with the members ever since.



**Burro Creek Field Trip 1971**





**Burro Creek Field Trip 1971, (Photo from Sun City Rock Hound Club Archives).**

The January 1972 meeting had 140 members attending and also 34 visitors. An announcement was made that an instruction class for silver mounting would be started. Classes in all sorts of rock related subjects were still going strong in 1978, by which time the membership was almost 600.

Many times during the club's history the field trip chairman or other volunteer ran 'Introduction to Rock Hounding' meetings about once a month to teach the new members the basics. Often, attendance at such a meeting was required before registration for field trips was allowed. Yes, they registered to attend field trips at the club meeting. Do we have an interest in reinstating this?

In early years the club sourced and sold rock hounding equipment as well as books and magazines that were not available locally. We must remember that this was not only before the internet, eBay and Amazon, it was also before computers were available to the public.

Silent auctions were run at meetings where a member supplied rocks and other items and collected 85% of the advertised price; the club received 15% of the sale price.

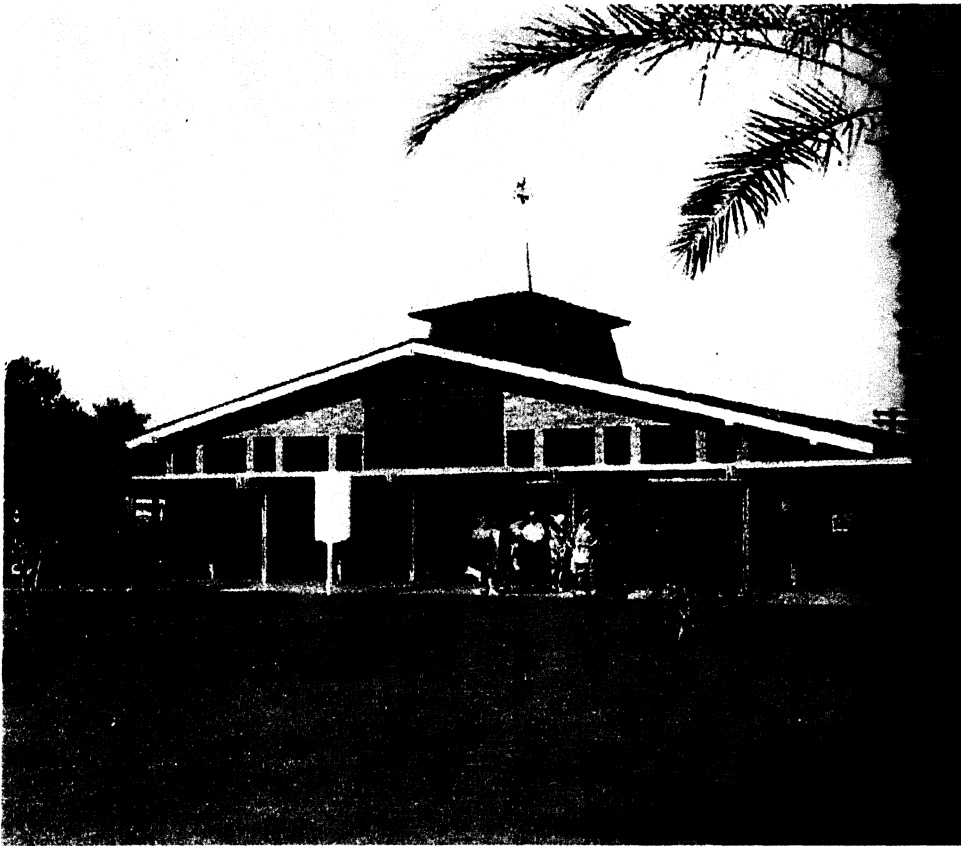
Many things have not changed; even back then the club was living up to the Sun City ethos of volunteers doing the necessary work to set up the activities for the benefit of the other members. The many jobs that 'just seem to get done' needed people to do them. After several requests for volunteers, committees formed to scout field trips, provide the refreshments, and organize the monthly 'Show and Tell'. The memos constantly urged the membership to wear their name tags; so perhaps we have the same difficulties in 2013 as they did back then!

There are other traditions that we carry on to this day; for instance, the membership donated slabs, rocks etc. to the club. As they became friends, the members just helped out other members with rock and mineral identification and understanding how to do things; these practices were just as important back then as they are today.

The guest speakers continued as a regular feature and the subject matter varied from 'Prospecting and Mining' through 'Spelunking of Caves', 'Gems and Precious Stones', 'The Geology of Central and Southern Arizona', 'History of Jerome', and 'Smelting and Assaying Copper' to pictures of 'A Trip to the Baja, California, and Mexico'.

During the January 1972 meeting it was suggested the club have a monthly bulletin named 'Rocks-Slabs-Dust'. No documents remain showing that title; through the years editors have used both 'Rock Dust' and 'Rockdust'.

1972 was a busy year because the club not only participated in the 'Merchants' Show' at Plaza del Sol, ran the same field trips twice with 20 – 25 cars each time, and also, March 27, 1972, put on the first Rock Hound Show. This took place at the Town Hall, which today is Fairway Recreation Center.



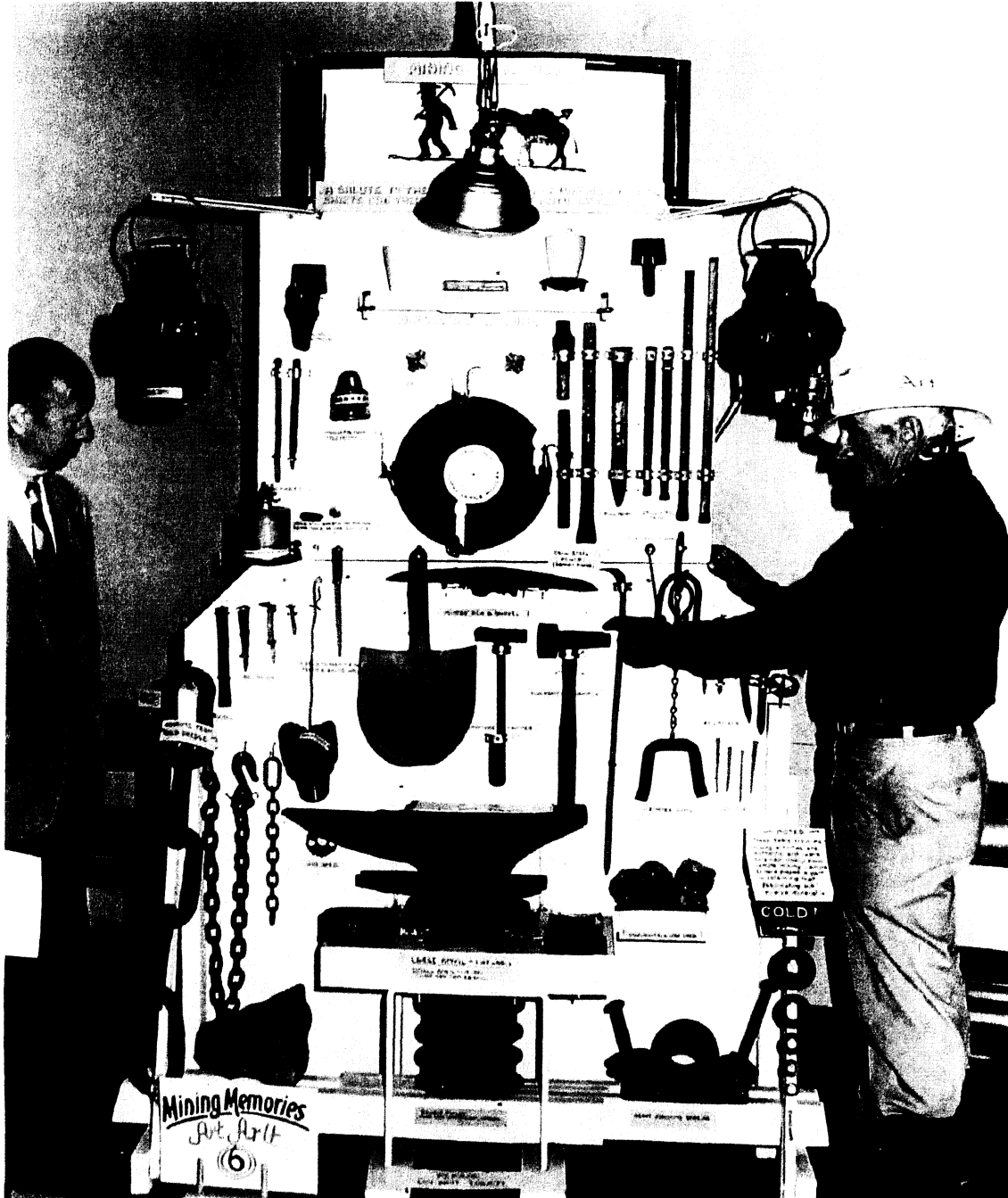
Sun City "Town Hall", Later Fairway Recreation Center. (Photo courtesy of 'Arizona Highways' magazine Nov. 1967)

1972 First Rock hound show. (Photo courtesy of Sun City Historical Society)



The Rock Hound Show, which ran for just four hours from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., attracted 1063 visitors. A quote from the Theme and Principles of Show: "Since the show would be designed to illustrate the activities of the Rockhound Club, lapidary exhibits would be incidental and restricted to items made from material actually collected during field trips." We do, of course, maintain that tradition of sharing our personal collections through showcase displays in the Mineral Museum at Sundial. Have you signed up to share yours?

The early shows also had things such as gold mining displays, reflecting the experience and hobbies of some of its members.



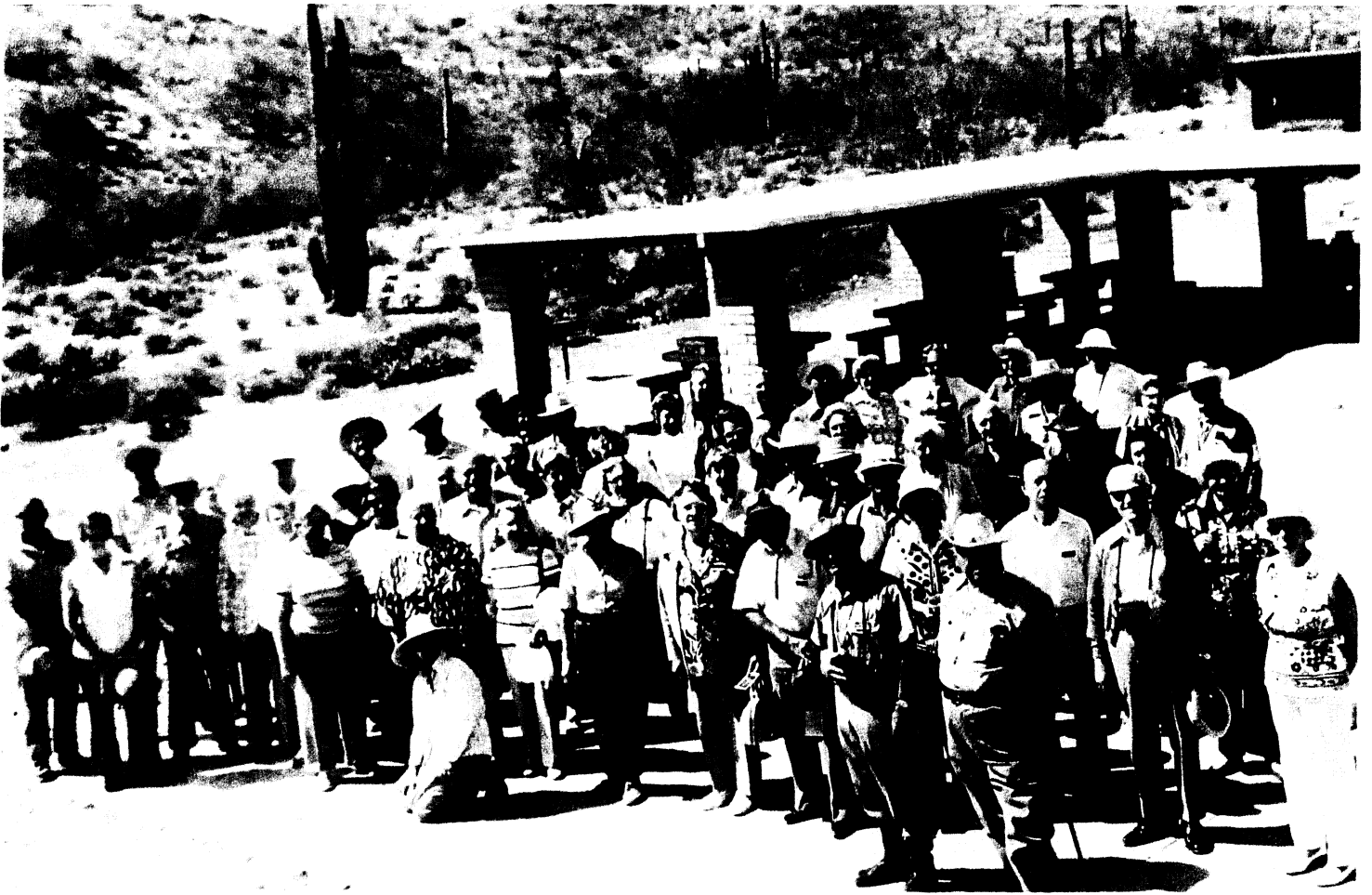
Mining tool display March 5, 1975 at the Fourth Annual Rock hound Club show.  
By Art Arlt, Retired Mining Engineer and member of the Sun City Rock hound club.



The 1972 meetings were getting over 200 attendees so they had to change from meeting in the clubrooms to meeting in the Town Hall auditorium. In June of the same year, Dr DeSautelles of the Smithsonian Institute, interrupted his journey to a show in Anaheim to address the Sun City Rock hound members.

Four home shows were set up that year to highlight peoples' personal collections. Some of us are looking forward to present members repeating this great idea!

The Rock Hound Show concept continued to grow and in 1973 a separate committee with its own chairman was established to organize and run the event. The demonstrations in the second annual show included sawing and grinding stones, faceting and silvercraft. This show was even busier than the first. More than 3,700 people attended and the researched write-ups noted 1,500 people were involved in staging the event. Lakeview, Oakmont, and Fairway Lapidary Clubs plus the Silvercraft Club joined the Rock hounds. Items from each club were for sale and a 'Silent Auction' was held.



1974 "Show and Tell" outing to White Tanks Park. (photo from Sun City Rock hound club archives)

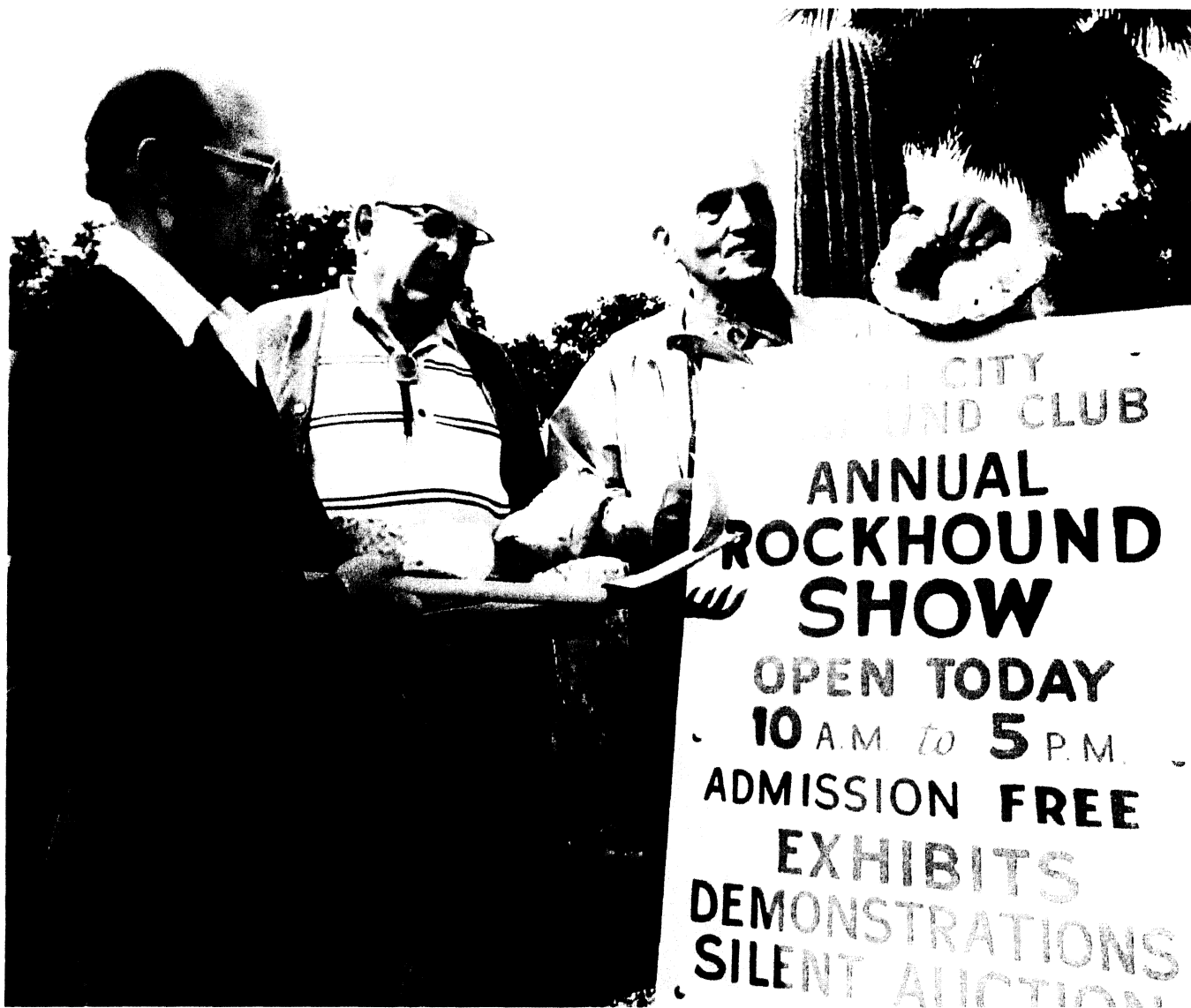
The early 'Show and Tell' activities were regarded more as social gatherings than as a meeting and the first one was held at the Fairway Center on December 27, 1973. The meeting was billed as running from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. and the theme was 'easy rock identification so that the members could get more enjoyment from their rock hounding in the coming year'. The members were asked to take along some of their 'holiday cookies' to be included in the refreshments. Some people may have gotten a slightly different impression because it was announced in the newspaper as a party.

Through the years, 'Show and Tells' were not confined to the rocks found on the last field trip or elsewhere; they often included the wide interests of the membership. It was not unusual to show the results of members' efforts in woodworking or needlecraft as well as lapidary and rocks.

All the way from 1973 through to 1975 the guest speakers continued to present the great variety of titles that had by now become the norm. The subjects ranged from lapidary skills and techniques, through geologic and rock hounding subjects and exotic rock hound holiday talks.

The titles themselves are worthy of note. One talk had the catchy title of 'Using Rocks to Make Functional Items Such as Lamps', another was 'A Rock hound Trip Through the South Pacific and Australia'. Compared to those, the other titles like 'Turquoise' and 'The Fascinating World of Minerals' could be regarded as a bit boring to anyone but a rock hound!

The editor of our 'Rock Dust' newsletter was also doing an excellent job. There are several references to Gerald L. Hill (our newsletter editor at the time) participating in the bulletin contests and receiving awards.



Above L to R: Rock hound Officers; Art Brownlie - Co-Chairman, Wayne Wilson - Show Chairman, Newton Burgoraw - Club Chairman. Erecting sign advertising the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Rock hound show in March of 1974.

Frank Jeckel was still calling for mineral specimens to be donated or loaned to the museum, and the call went out for volunteers with clerical skills, cabinet making skills to complete additional displays, and people with just willingness and enthusiasm.

By November 22, the museum had welcomed almost 700 guests from 35 states and 9 different countries. This was without counting the additional 630 visitors who were welcomed during the fair! By December the club had logged 585 specimens made up of 257 different minerals and fossils given by 52 different donors.

In spite of the warm glow of achievement, they weren't resting on their success. The next phase was already in the planning stage. The club pushed to get additional space identified as the meeting room adjoining the museum (now the fossils and field trip map room). The committee came up with an idea that could finance the improvements and expansion that was planned. The idea was a 'Buy a Share' scheme. The shares were \$10 each and could be bought through the treasurer, Bob Sutton. There is no notation in any of the scrapbooks that suggested you got anything for a 'Share'.

In 1991 the Recreation Centers of Sun City (RCSC) or their predecessors OK'd the expansion and donated \$1,800 to help finance the museum. This funding, plus the receipts from the 'Buy a Share' program, enabled the club to proceed with their expansion plans. With little delay, work started on another three cabinets to supplement the original five.

Having the long awaited museum did not diminish the clubs efforts with their annual 'Rock Hound Show' which continued at Mountain View Recreation Center. The 1991 show included lighted geode displays and the 'Wheel of Fortune'. Could it be the same wheel that we use today?

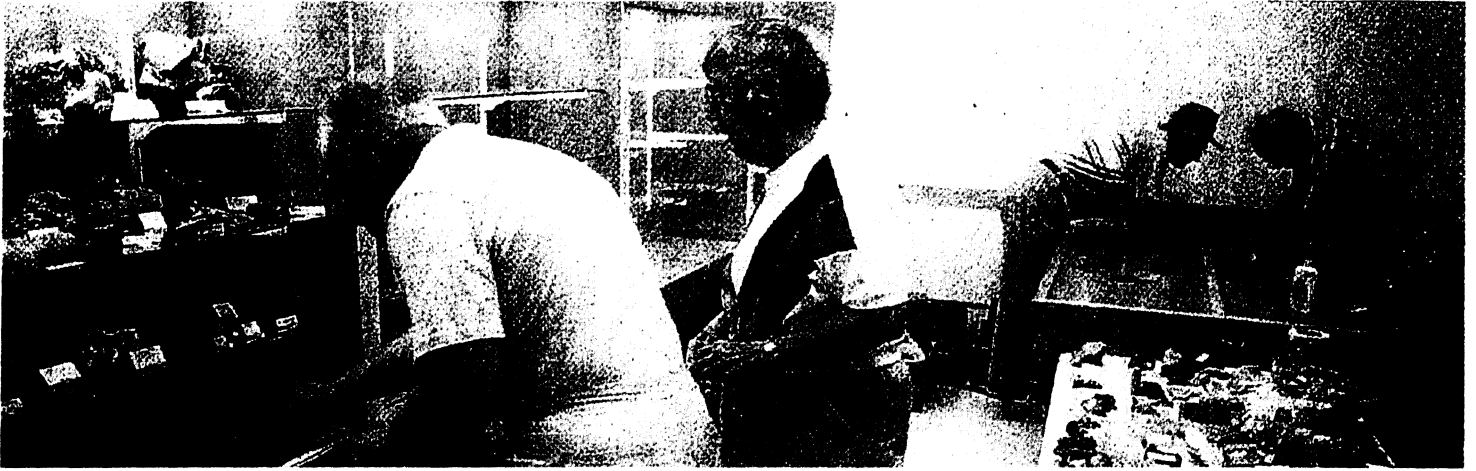
March 1991 was another landmark date for the club. Up until this time the club was known as 'The Rock Hound Society of Sun City, Arizona', but in March 1991, we officially became 'The Sun City Rockhound Club' when the club was finally chartered as a non-profit.

Frank Jeckel was not the only active 'mover and shaker' in the club. We know that because in January 1992 the Recreation Centers of Sun City requested that the members of the Rockhound Club select their 'Most outstanding member of 1991'. The Club President Lloyd Gau was chosen to accept the award.

The 'Annual Rock Hound Show' was organized again in 1992, and another 18 members were signed up at the show.

Throughout 1993 more improvements to the 'Mineral Museum' were made. In March, electricians and carpenters were busy in the museum and in April the field trip map with its push buttons was added. The job was overseen by Bob Peck, Walt Strane and Al Cervoni.





**1993 Ed Posser and Mary Randel loading specimens in the new cabinets, Jim Finley and Fred Curtis work on the new map at the Mineral Museum.**

A Dr. Elwell donated 375 pounds of jade; a very generous donation. Some was exhibited in the museum. Also, the November 1992 'Rock Dust' announced that there would be a 'Jade Sale' held on November 14 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the parking lot behind Mountain View Auditorium near the shed; that sale raised \$453 but there was a lot of jade left.

Many of us are familiar with the business called 'Rockazona' on the south side of Grand Avenue near the 101. Well, many years ago they used to put on rock shows, too. In 1994 the club took space at the 'Rockazona Show' in order to sell more of that jade and other slabs. They also started selling slabs and rocks at the monthly meetings.

No mention in the 'Rock Dust' said how the shed was obtained; could it be having such a huge donation forced the issue of giving the 'Rock Hound Club' rock storage space in 1992? The sale near the shed is another activity we continue each year. It is of interest that in the 2013 'Annual Shed Sale' a number of small and medium slabs of black jade were noted, all with identical tags: 'jade'. Oh, if only ALL of the rocks had such tags!

The club declared an 'Open House' week at the museum in October 1993 for three celebrations; first the opening of the new additions to the museum, second to recognize the third anniversary of the 'Mineral Museum', and, of course, the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the club itself!

The 'The Mineral Museum' collection continued to grow and by 1994 the museum had 1,468 specimens, artifacts, and fossils on display from 41 different countries, given by 125 different donors. But it didn't stop there. In memory of her father, Dr William S. Shields, Marcia Shields-Osmers donated an extensive collection of about 1,100 pieces of Mexican Agate cabochons and slabs. The collection was displayed in a new cabinet in the museum's main room.

The club has never been afraid to try out different ideas and instituted a system in 1994 of new members wearing a red ribbon so that other members could identify them and introduce themselves and make the newcomers welcome.

Sales were uppermost in some peoples mind that year because the club started to give the first choice purchase of excess museum material to members. The better quality specimens were offered for sale by bringing them along to the monthly meeting before they went on sale to the general public. The prices were not necessarily

cheap but they were mostly museum quality duplicates of what was already displayed in the museum.

In November of 1994, there was an 'Arts and Craft Show' where the club had a sales table and the museum expanded the desk area to create a better sales area. 1994 was notable for another reason too; it was the year that one of our current members, Mark Larson, was welcomed by the club. It may be time that he took that red ribbon off!

Everything seemed to run smoothly through the '1990's with the pattern of monthly meetings, 'Rock Dust' editions, the regular requests for museum monitors, field trips and the 'Show and Tell' meetings. Back in 1998 they were more adventurous with 'Show and Tells' than we are today. The fourth Thursday of the month (in season) the club would drive out to a near-by regional park like White Tanks Mountains and show the rest of the group something that you were proud of, or something that the person thought was pretty neat! The idea was that everyone would 'car pool' and take folding chairs, a beverage and a 'brown bag lunch' and tell the story about what you had brought to show. Attending a 'Show and Tell' was, and still is, a great way to get acquainted, enjoy the outdoors, and to hear/tell a few stories.

The 'Show and Tells' that we do today are still 'bring your own lunch' and engage in 'rock talk' but is usually held at one of the Lakeview gazebos. Probably this is a 'greener' 'Show and Tell' where we can help save the planet while still showing off lumps of it. The 'greener' system seems to have started in 2003 when, as a trial run, the club held the 'Show and Tell' at the Quail Run golf course gazebo after the 'powers that be' started requiring a \$25 fee for each ramada reserved in the regional parks.

On or slightly before 1999, 'Open House' events in the museum seem to have taken the place of the 'Annual Rock Hound Show'. The research doesn't record that any were held in the years before then. The museum continued to be very popular with the visitors to Sun City and the museum monitors were once again reassured that a knowledge of rocks was not necessary just the ability to welcome the visitors. The written script available today for the monitors hasn't changed very much and once you have carried out the task a couple of times it all seems amazingly easy.

In the year 2000, October's 'Rock Dust' newsletter had a two page article on the 10th anniversary of the 'Mineral Museum'. My, how time passes, that doesn't seem too long ago! In November of that same year Dr Steven Ruff, from ASU, was our speaker and the subject was 'Rock Hounding on Mars'. It seems quite fitting that in this, our 50<sup>th</sup> year that he was again our speaker and he gave us another of his updates on the geologic exploration of Mars.

One of our current members, Al Cervoni, was featured in an article in the 'Daily News Sun' in February 2001. It was really a piece about the 'Mineral Museum', but Al stole the show with a demonstration involving a laser pointer and a 'Herkimer Diamond'. The President at the time, Gerald Jensen, did get a mention, as did member Wayne Woodworth, but the reporter was really taken with the demonstration so Al got the best write-up. Al has been a real 'rock' for us in everything from setting up field trips to holder of the shed keys over the years. Also, he is the only member on the current roster who was in the club when he joined in 1984. So talk to Al to find out where his secret rock haunts are!

Gerry Jensen, has his name threaded through many 'Rock Dust' issues as President of the Rockhound Club: 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2005, as well as helping out in many tasks for our club. When asked what stories he had to tell, Gerry brought up the work of others such as Lloyd Gau who stepped up as President and other roles. He complimented Mary Randel, who participated in club activities and sponsored interesting "Show and Tell" experiences year after year.

Gerry lauded the Morenci overnight trips as a club favorite. Everyone stayed in the same motel and had a 'big

time' together. Also, at the field trips, members used to break for lunch at the same time and sit in a big circle as they ate; that added to the camaraderie. Additionally, he chuckled as he related the time Al Cervoni fell/sat on to a cactus and had to lay across a jeep to get the stickers pulled out before he could ride home.

In the years after the 'millennium' we find that the club's history blends quite nicely into our present club's habits, which is not really too surprising. From the 'Rock Dusts' and scrapbooks we know that the 'Shed Sale' continued to be an annual highlight and trips to the Rowley Mine were as popular as ever.

In November 2004 the club did put on a 'silent auction' for the first time in many years. It proved to be quite a success. So much so that it was decided to do it all over again and perhaps they might even make it a regular feature at the monthly meetings. As we know, that did not continue through to the present day.

2005 saw a two page 'Rock Dust' article on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mineral Museum and, in addition to the regular field trips, the club was a member of the Az Rockhound Coalition Group. The club sponsored/organized the May coalition outing and Chris Hidalgo took a group of 15 on a, non-club sponsored, trip to southern Arizona to hunt for blue opals. Today Chris is still a 'leading light' in Fairway Sterling and Stones'.

That just about brings us back to modern times in the club. As you can see, beginning from a small group of volunteers, we have had 50 years of quite glorious history within this group that provides a way to enjoy this wonderful state. We may have lost collecting areas to urban development and years of over publication of collecting sites, but thanks to the hard work and enthusiasm, the club continues to offer opportunities to safely enjoy the countryside, the comradeship and, of course, the rocks. Without our membership freely giving their time to support the activities, such as the 'Craft Fair', 'Shed Sale', field trips and monitoring in the museum, none of this would have been possible – in the past – in the present and – in the future.

We are thrilled that Joan and Charlie Allen, 1979; Louis and Marie Kazal, 1980; and Dorise Campbell, President, 1991, are our guests for the 50<sup>th</sup> celebration. We thank Perry McCown, President 2006, 2007, and his wife Sylvia for entertaining the celebrating rockhounds with Perry's original song, "The Thrill of Rockhound Air".

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## **Field Trip History**

Archives of the early years

<u>1963 November.</u>	<u>Consolation</u> , near Wickenburg
<u>1965 April.</u>	<u>Ajo</u> , 40 members drove 20 miles south of Ajo for Peanut-Obsidian
<u>1966 February.</u>	<u>Yarnell</u> , for prospecting

The following is an alphabetical list showing Field Trips in the early decades and the rock and minerals sought over time. These are the only ones recorded in the 'Rock Dust' newsletter and the scrap books.

Aguila Geode Beds, 2001, 2004, highway 60 south 5 miles, fork SE 7 miles cross wash: Apache tears, then 3.7 miles geodes, obsidian, chalcedony and crystal filled geode-like bubbles of limestone

Anderson Mine, 1974, 1975, 1983, agates, fossils, chalcedony, pastellite, petrified palm wood, (bright yellow material is Carnotite and is a uranium bearing mineral), yard rock

Andy Garrison's home on Shea Blvd. in Scottsdale, 1978, 1979, gold panning

Apache Junction, Old Tucson Road, 1981

Arizona Mineral Museum, 1993, 2001, (attended previously as Show and Tell Trip)



## Field Trips (con't)

Bagdad Copper Mine 1975, two trips needed, tour made by bus plus specimens from dump

Bagdad Cyprus Copper Mine, 1976, 1979, busses furnished to the site from Sun City by the Arizona Mining Association, 1993, tour-not collecting-by car, 1996, 2000

Bead Museum, Glendale, 2003

Between Bagdad and Hillside, 1980, 1984, 1986, 1993, 2001, 2003, carnelian, chalcedony, jasper, quartz crystals

Bisbee, 1976, tour of Copper Queen Mine, bus tour of Lavender Pit Mine, 1999, 2005 #7 turquoise belt Phelps-Dodge, the Mining Museum in Bisbee, AZ arranges every year in second week of October

Bouse, 2000, hematite, jasper, agate

Burro Creek, 1970, 1971, 1979, 1981, 1983-“bring large hammers”, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1994, 2003, 2005, agate, pastelite

Camp Verde, 1975, 1977, 1978, 1980, 2005, included Cordes Junction, 1985, 1987, 2005, tour, agate, aragonite, Gypsum pseudomorphs after glauberite, halite, kyanite, pure sodium chloride, selenite, thenardite

Calamity Wash, near Wickenburg, 1978, 1980, 1985, crazy quartz geodes, gold panning

Carefree Highway, 1983, petrified wood clearance sale of wood that had been brought from elsewhere

Carefree area, 2004, north to 7 Springs Road then turn off on FR 254, jasper, then to FR 41 and 24, onyx

Castle Hot Springs, walk 1 ½ miles to mine, 1975, 1978, 1980, 1985, biotite, calcite, crystals in vugs, feldspar, hematite, magnetite, manganese mine, mica, pyrolusite, quartz, red hematite, tourmaline crystals

Copper Basin Wash and Phelps-Dodge property, Morenci, 1984, 1992 azurite, chalcopyrite, copper nodules, gold, malachite, tour 1995, 1996, 1998, 1999, called Morenci Mine in 2005

Copper Canyon, near Camp Verde, 1983, Copper Canyon near Skull Valley, 1988, 1989 1991, malachite, azurite

Dago Springs, past Superior, Miami, and Inspiration, 107.4 miles, 1982, 1984, chicken track granite, olivine, sandstone, serpentine, worm burro agate,

Date Creek, north of Wickenburg, 1977, 1979, 1982, 1984, 1987, 1991, 1994, 2002, quartz crystals (if coated iron oxide may be cleaned with an overnight soaking in Oxalic Acid [Dupont #7 Radiator Cleaner])

Deming, New Mexico, 1991, 1995, agate, onyx, period bombs

Douglas, 1999, geodes

Duquesne, 1999, quartz crystals, calcite, garnet, pyrite, blue agate and silver ore

Fourth of July Butte, Chimney Beds, 1971, 1986, 2003, 2009, Fortification Agate, material to be collected is clam-shaped geodes occurring 4” or more below ground. Go to Arlington and pick up Agua Caliente road, collecting done about ¼ mile off the road.

Golden Eagle Mine, 1988, tour

Happy Harry Mine, 1986, old gold mine, azurite, bornite, malachite, ores of gold, silver, lead, zinc and cobalt bearing material, Hard Hats and signed release required, club researched acquiring head gear

Harqualhala Mine, near Salome, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1983-gold mine northwest of valley, chrysocolla, diopside

Haraqahala Mountains, 1998, 2000, 2002, white marble

Heading Ranch, 1979

Hewitt Canyon, near Whitlow Dam, 1980, 1981, 1988, 1989, banded marble, serpentine, rhyolite

Holbrook, 1991, 1993, petrified wood

Horseshoe Dam, past Carefree, 1971, 1972, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1981, 1984, 1986, 1992, 1994, agate, brecciated agate, chert, natrolite, agatized petrified palm-root, 1978 joint fieldtrip with Sundial Rock and Gem Club

Kennecott Copper Mines and Smelter at Hayden, 1970 tour 1972, 1979

Kofa Wildlife Refuge, 1998, pastelite, jasper

Lake Pleasant, 1979, 1987, 1988, 1995, 1998 calcite crystals, chalcedony, agate

Laughlin, 2002, Gem Show and Slots

Les Merydith Ranch, near Prescott, gold

Lynx Creek, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1991, gold panning

## Field Trips (con't)

Magma Mine, near San Manuel, 1994, limit 30 members, vanadinite, mimetite, wulfenite, smokey and clear quartz, amethystine, calcite, hematite, chalcocopyrite, pyrite, chrysocolla, willemite, galena, sphalerite, gold

Mayer, 1976, 1980, 2001, black onyx, honey onyx, onyx

Mining World, route 71 northwest of Wickenburg, 2004, tour

Mobile, southeast of Phoenix, 1971, 1988, 1989, 1990, green quartz which is also called Maricopa jade

Mule Shoe Ranch, near Hillside, 1986, agate, druzy quartz, dendritic jasper, opalite, red and brown carnelian

New River, 1976, 1978, 1981, 1983-Greer Ranch, 1987, green jasper with dendrites, green quartz, Maricopa jade, orbicular jasper, red jasper, quartz, 1976, Greer's Milky Ranch for petrified wood at 50 cents per pound, 1985, 1987

New Water Mine/Mountains, Brenda area, the "Porter Claim", 1992 \$2.00, 1993, 1994, geodes guaranteed, five varieties fee, owned by two sons of Club member Bill Porter, 1995, \$5.00

Nibtezyrna's Well, 1982, opalite

Painted Rock area west of Gila Bend, 1970

Patagonia, 1999, 2000, agate, pyrite, crustals

Payson area, including East Verde River and Kohl's Ranch, 1-3 days, 1972, 1976, rained out 1977, 1979, 1981, 1984, 1986, 2002, 2005 Rock and Mineral Show, "Arizona diamonds", chert, limestone, onyx, rhyolite, travertine, **and rocks listed below which show more specific locations mentioned in 1981 October trip: Kohl's Ranch=Christopher Creek zebra agate, rocolite, jasperized red brachiopod fossils, other fossils (1 mile west of Kohl's Ranch) Control Road 14 miles east of Payson- 1.6 miles from Kohl's Ranch: quartz crystals, agate and zebra agate, ricolite, pink and green marble, brain rock geodes. Control Road is 22 miles of good gravel road which continues to Highway 87 near Pine. Route 199, Houston-Mesa Road, east of route 87, 4 12 miles. Hunt for paisley marble, ricolite, agate, epidote, yard rocs, and petrified wood**

Petrified National Park, Museum and Information Center outside the park, 1985, petrified wood dig, \$ .50 per pound

Purple Passion Mine, bonus trip 2005, 1 free rock then \$1.00 per pound, fluorescent

Prescott National Forest, 1975, 1976, examine old gold mine prospects, gold panning

Quartzite, 1981, bus trip to Pow Wow, 1983, bus trip- 49 people, 1984, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1994, 2006

Quartzite, 1984, 1986, hematite, pyrophyllite, rutile quartz crystals, zunyite, rough collecting area, need boots not tennis shoes, also hiking staff

Queen Canyon, 1981

Queen Creek Mine, 1992

Red Rover Mine, near Seven Springs, 1974

Rockazona Show, 1984

Rowley Mine, (great petroglyphs at Painted Rock State Park, 1971, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1992, 2005, barite, cerussite, chrysocolla, hematite, lead, memenite, wulfenite, yard rocks

Roy Mine, 1972, chrysocolla, copper ores, malachite, native copper

Saddle Mountain, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1991, 1993, 2000, chalcedony, desert roses, fire agate

San Domingo Wash, 1983

Seven Springs, near Cave Creek, 1970, 1972, 1978, 1979, 1982, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1993, 1996, 2001epidote, onyx, red jasper, red/orange jasper, lacy jasper, rhyolite

Signal Road, off Highway 93, 1971

Spectrum and Prism Mines, 2005, \$10 fee, blue fluorite with barite, amethyst, wulfenite and galena,

Strawberry and Pine, 1989, fossils

Sun City, field trip within the boundaries, 1985

Superior or Apache Tear Caves and Boyce Thompson Desert Arboretum, 1976, 1979, 1981, 1984,apache tears (fee), pink rhyolite containing druzy quartz crystals and some tridyinite crystals, geodes

Stafford-Morenci, overnight, 1982, chalcedony, chalcedony with crystals, fire agate, jasper, moss agate

Table Mesa Road, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1987, banded jasper, rainbow rock

## Field Trips (con't)

Tiger Mine Gate in San Manuel on a Sunday, 1970, called Mammoth Mine, 1989

Tonto National Forest, 1974, Natrolite (elusive element) agate, crystals

Tucson Show, tour via bus, two days, 1987, 1988

Vulture Mine, near Wickenburg, 1970, 1980, 1980, 2000, 2005, perlite bed, geodes on Eagle Road, 10 miles

Wendon, marble site, 1986, 1987, 1990, marble

Wickieup, 1991, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2004, lizard rock (stone)

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## Former Club Presidents and Chairman

1963 Claude Cherry	1989 Ed Posser
1964 Claude Cherry	1990 Ed Posser
1965 Claude Cherry	1991 Dorise Campbell
1966 Claude Cherry	1992 Lloyd Gau
1967 Harry Van Euys	1993 Lloyd Gau
1968 Albert Houille	1994 Herb Bauss
1969 Albert Houille	1995 Lloyd Gau
1970 LaMont West	1996 Ed Mariner
1971 Kenneth O'Blenes	1997 Alice Rosenbluth
1972 Edwin Brooks	1998 Alice Rosenbluth
1973 Ferris Filley	1999 Alice Rosenbluth
1974 Ferris Filley	2000 Gerry Jensen
1975 Linden Berkheimer	2001 Gerry Jensen
1976 Elmer Bay	2002 Gerry Jensen
1977 Frank Jeckel	2003 Lloyd Gau
1978 Frank Jeckel	2004 Al Cervoni
1979 Wilma Laws	2005 Gerry Jensen
1980 Dan Mitchell	2006 Perry McCown
1981 Dick Meinert	2007 Perry McCown
1982 Newton Durboraw	2008 Lex Parova
1983 Genevieve Lewis	2009 Tom Cheveny
1984 Genevieve Lewis	2010 Floyd Segar
1985 Hadley Miller	2011 Floyd Segar
1986 Hadley Miller	2012 Linda Johnson
1987 Fred Curtis	2013 Linda Johnson
1988 Fred Curtis	



We appreciate the present members who  
were past Presidents:

Gerry Jensen  
Al Cervoni  
Floyd Segar  
Linda Johnson



### **1990 Mineral Museum opens at Sundial**

### **Epilogue**

*Let us recognize important facts, this story is not complete. Compiling the history of this 50 year old club is not an easy task. Many sources were used to find data, our sources include old newspaper articles, the club's scrapbooks, (which are mostly complete from the '70's through the '90's), the Sun City Historical Society's archives as well as long serving members with personal memories and photographs. If you find that we have 'made an error' please let us know. There are gaps in this history. Please come forward with anything, and we can make, it will make life easier when we do the 100 years edition.*

50<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Committee: Michael Blachut, Colin Morley, and Mary Brown-Martilik

And our thanks to Woodrow Skelding for gathering initial material for this document.

December 25, 2002

SUN CITY INDEPENDENT

# Grand slam against hunger

By **Diana Shaughnessy**  
Independent Newspapers

Members of the Roadrunners Bridge Club dealt others a good hand Dec. 18 when they donated 106 pounds of food to the Westside Food Bank.

The donation was given to Community Relations and Development Marketing Manager Jennifer Lyons-Yanko during the club's holiday luncheon and meeting. According to club president Marilyn Armstrong, members vote on special projects to help the less fortunate once or twice a year.

"One year we collected sweaters for immigrants," Ms. Armstrong said. "We have also given shoes to homeless people and collected cash for abused women and children."

This year club members decided to collect food items for the food bank.

"Food donations are especially welcome," explained Ms. Lyons-Yanko. "The need for food has increased by about 33 percent this year."

She cites job layoffs, falling stock market prices and lower tourism as possible



Photo by Diana Shaughnessy/Independent Newspapers

**Members of the Roadrunner Bridge Club present food items to a representative from the Westside Food Bank. From left, club Treasurer Inge McKenzie, President Marilyn Armstrong, food bank Community Relations Manager Jennifer Lyons-Yanko and club member Betty Caravaggio.**

contributing factors to the increased need for assistance.

"All of the food we collect

goes to the Emergency Food Program and other programs," she said.

The Roadrunner Bridge

Club, which currently boasts about 60 members, meets once a month to have lunch and play bridge.

# Rollerskaters earn dance step awards

By Betty Latty  
Gazette correspondent

Three members of the Sun City Roller Skating Club received bronze pins Thursday in recognition of their skills in performing dance steps. The pins are awarded under a competitive program sponsored by the Roller Skating Rink Operators Association.

Lois McGuinness, Olive Hosmer and Peggy Schnellinger were the Sun Citians who received pins, along with other skaters from the Glendale-Peoria area, at Great Skate, 10054 N. 43rd Ave.

If the skaters earn two more bronze pins, they can begin work on silver and gold pins. With each level of achievement, required dance steps and movements become more complicated, Hosmer said.

The Sun Citians take their lessons from Phil Scavo of Apache Junction twice weekly at Great Skate. They also skate regularly with the club members at Mountain View Recreation Center in Sun City. Scavo, who is both an instructor and a judge of skating and competition, is "an excellent teacher and thoroughly professional," said David Jacobson, president of the skating club. Jacobson recently has taken up skating, under Scavo's tutelage.

Scavo and his wife, Patricia, who also is a skating judge, are snowbirds, spending summers in Michigan. They are members of the Society of American Roller Skating Teaching Association.

More information about the Sun City Roller Skating Club is available from Jacobson at 933-04940 or Hosmer at 972-2093.



Mark Henle, *The Phoenix Gazette*

Lois McGuinness, Phil Scavo, Peggy Schnellinger and Olive Hosmer.



# Rosies telling riveting stories of work during World War II

Part 1 of 2

**T**hey traded in their aprons and rolling pins for overalls and riveting guns at a time when America needed them most. They made bomber noses in aircraft companies. They operated block signals at railroad crossings. They produced gasoline trailer tanks for the U.S. Army Corps. They filled the jobs formerly held by men so that more men could join U. S. fighting forces during World War II.

From the shipyards of Boston to the hardware assembly lines of Toledo, Ohio, they answered the call. From the tin smelters of Little Rock to the parachute-making plants of San Diego, they did their part. They were known as "Rosies," a legion of women who were personified by the icon, "Rosie the Riveter."

Happy Sargol, founder of the Rosie the Riveter Club of the Sun Cities, said it was actor Walter Pidgeon who discovered the original Rosie working as a riveter building airplanes in an aircraft factory in Michigan.

"She had lost her husband in the war and was raising two children," the Sun City

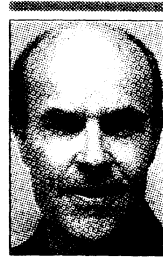
resident said. "He figured she was the typical woman who was working in war plants and took her picture. That's how the icon started. Later on, Norman Rockwell used her as a symbol for any woman who was participating in the war effort."

Happy is proud to have had a hand in forming the Sun Cities chapter of Rosies in 1999, and is "extremely proud" of the group's members.

"Although many of us worked in war plants," she said, "some didn't. They may have sewed uniforms or made flags — anything that pertained to the war effort. We helped fill the shoes of the men who were let go from their jobs because they were going into the service."

It was in a war plant near Chicago, that Happy entered the labor force.

"Just before I graduated from high school, the



**Rich Kenney Jr.**

government was sending people into the schools to tell us that we should set our lives aside until the war was over and help out with the war effort," she said. "So I went to work in a war plant that made nuts, bolts and screws for the Navy and Army or whoever needed them. My job was to prioritize which military branch needed them the fastest.

On the weekends, Happy worked with the USO.

"That was the fun part," she said. "When the soldiers came in we would dance with them, write letters, shop for them, or just talk with them. It was quite restrictive. We couldn't go out with them. We were always chaperoned."

Nebraska-born Elizabeth Blanton is another woman who lent her services to the war effort.

"I worked for Alcoa in the re-melt room where we made ingots that were eventually used as parts on airplanes," she said. "We had to be completely covered with long sleeves, long shirts and steel-toed shoes because the furnaces got up as high as 2,700 degrees."

Elizabeth regrets that she

**See ROSIES, A5**



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Members of the Rosie the Riveter Club of the Sun Cities are from left, back, Eileen Blackler of Sun City, Louise Horsman of Sun City West and Louise Asternino of Sun City and front, Bobbie Worthey of Sun City West and Lo Ray Tewalt and Happy Sargol, both of Sun City.

D.V.E.R

## From A1

couldn't work longer in the plant but, because of the job's dangerous nature, she felt pressure from loved ones, especially her husband, who was an airplane mechanic.

"My husband knew how dangerous it was, my brother had a fit and my father said, 'no, no, no!' It got to the point where I couldn't fight them any longer, so I had to quit. But before I left, I had made it all the way to pit boss."

After leaving, Elizabeth went to another plant where she rationed clothes, Kleenex and irons.

"I felt like I was doing my part," she said. "And they said they needed help."

Louise Asterino, who came to Sun City in 1988 from Ohio, joined the Rosie's club about four years ago.

"Looking back at my job, I earned 72 cents an hour," she said, "which was a high wage at that time."

She worked as a clerk at the United Steel Foundry in Springfield, Ohio, a plant that made parts for tanks.

"I replaced a man and worked in the wood pattern shop," she said. "I was the only woman with 12 men. I was known as the girl alone, I

guess. I remember I had to straighten out the men when they came back into the office with their raunchy jokes. After awhile, though, they knew their place and respected me."

When the war ended, Louise met her husband who had been a bombardier in the Army Air Corp. They were married for 55 years.

Another member of the club who made "high wages" during the war is Loray Tewalt, an Indiana native who came out to California to work for Douglas Aircraft.

"I made \$1.25 an hour," she said. "I was the third

woman hired on the night shift and did the dispensing of the riveting for the wing sections of SBD dive bombers for four years."

Like Louise, Loray enjoyed a marriage that lasted for more than a half century. Her husband was a navigator on B-17s and flew 32 missions.

"It was an exciting time," she said. "We were all happy to be helping."

*If you have a column idea, e-mail Rhkenneyjr@aol.com or write Rich at the Daily News-Sun, 10102 Santa Fe Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351.*

THE WESTER Thursday, October 21, 1999

## Rosie the Riveters unite in SCW

By Mo Longstreth

Rosie the Riveter is alive and well in the Sun Cities area. An organizational meeting for any woman that held a defense job during WWII was held at the home of Sue Klossen in Sun City recently with 22 "Rosies" in attendance. Happy Sargol, of the National organization, was the speaker.

The goal of the group is to preserve the story of women that performed, the fighting men's jobs during WWII. Next meeting is Dec. 7, 1 p.m., at 10523 W. Tropicanna Circle Sun City. For more info call Happy Sargol 623/933-0741 or Sue Klossen 623/972-8753.



Happy Sargol represents the National "Rosie the Riveter" Association in organizing the Sun Cities group which will be the first in Arizona. The National Headquarters is in Alabama.

Photo, Mo Longstreth

# Rockhound museum features glowing exhibit

By JEFF OWENS  
Staff writer

Turn the lights off in the Fluorescent Room of the Sun City Rockhounds' mineral museum inside Sundial Recreation Center, and something magical happens to the rather ordinary looking collection of rocks and minerals.

The darkness in the closet-sized room is broken by ghostly hues of green, orange, yellow and violet, not from lingering Halloween spirits, but emanating from the crystals of calcite, willemite, opal, and other minerals.

The naturally fluorescent stones are just some of the thousands of specimens on display at the museum,

which may well be one of Sun City's best-kept secrets.

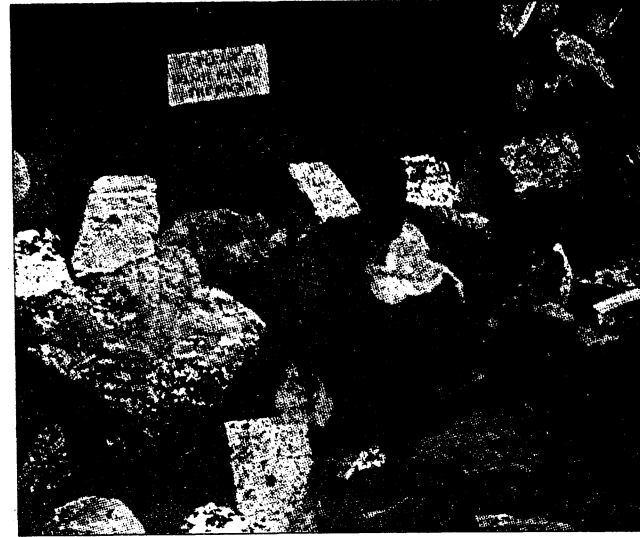
If it spent thousands or even millions of years stuck in the ground, there's probably an example of it on display in the museum.

The wood and glass cases contain a fortune in minerals, gemstones, fossils, metals and artifacts excavated everywhere from Sun City back yards to the ends of the Earth.

The guestbook contains entries just over the last two weeks by visitors from New Zealand, Germany, England and Holland.

"I hear all kinds of languages in here sometimes," said museum guide Ralph Palmer. "It's a world-class museum. This is not a few local chips of rock."

► See Museum exhibits, A5



Submitted photo

11-13-97

Minerals glow brightly under the ultraviolet fluorescent lighting of the Rockhound Club's special exhibit room at its museum.

## ◀ From A1

Indeed, there are some impressive chips off some old blocks from around the globe — malachite from Zaire, smokey quartz from Brazil and white quartz from Russia. There is an entire case of Mexican rocks and minerals, and archaeological artifacts from the ancient Mesoamerican Olmec culture dated at about 1,000 years old.

The club and the museum are much more recent developments, of course. The Rockhounds were chartered in 1965, and the museum is only six years old.

"We started out here with five cabinets and not a single rock," said club member Fred Curtis.

Since then, club members, Sun Citians and visitors have donated specimens that now number more than 2,000.

The museum holds hundreds of fossils, including dinosaur bones and several mouthfuls of shark teeth of all sizes. One case contains large skull bones from a titanotherium, a huge rhinoceros-like creature that lumbered across North American plains 50 million years ago.

Fred's wife, Virginia, said the huge mastadon tooth in one corner is "the ugliest thing in the museum."

The Sun City Rockhounds meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in the Mountain View Auditorium at the Sundial Recreation Center. The club goes on a field trip on the third Thursday of each month, and the museum is open daily from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., except Thursday and Sunday, and closing at 1 p.m. on Saturday.



SUN CITY PEDAL PUSHERS  
 INFORMATION BULLETIN 1988



OFFICERS

Cyclemaster	Alicia Maharty	977-9561
Associate Cyclemaster	Marie Klecker	974-5755
Secretary	Nellie Bollum	977-0790
Treasurer	Norman Woolary	974-6815

COMMITTEES

Programs	Les White, Chairman	974-5447
	LaRoy Zell	974-3187
	John Sybenga	972-9570
	Harold Stientjes	972-2524
Activities	Betty Deringer, Chairman	977-0069
	Willard & Florence Lickfeldt	933-7907
	Ken & Gladys Claxton	974-5910
	Matt & Dorothy Rhode	972-7228
Tours	Jack & June Bowie, Chairman	974-6472
	Carolyn Pitt	977-6747
Charities	Elsie Kiersnowski, Chairman	933-0550
	Helen Hall	974-4388
Music	Frieda Unger, Chairman	974-2166
	Madeline Fairlie	933-4970
Sunshine	Leona Overcash, Chairman	933-9208
	Elizabeth Anderson	977-6786
Luncheon Reservations	Katie Erwin, Chairman	933-7716
	Ruth Zupp	933-7457
Ladies Birthday Breakfast Reservations	Eleanor Lickfeldt, Chairman	933-7806
	Mary Hyden	972-8050
Historian	Betty Mecham	974-5091
Publicity	Carolyn Pitt	977-6747
Calling Committee	Helene Contryman	977-4465
	Leona Overcash	933-9208
	Carolyn Pitt	977-6747
Whistle Girl	Mary Kastanek	933-7880
Riding Schedule	Larry Baur, Chairman	972-1000
Luncheon Business Meetings	First Tuesday of each month	
Ladies Birthday Breakfast	Third Thursday of each month	

## RIDING SCHEDULE

<u>Month</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>6 Milers</u>		<u>8 Milers</u>
JAN.	9:00	Willard Lickfeldt Willard Lickfeldt	1st Half 2nd Half	Ken Claxton Ken Claxton
FEB.	9:00	Slim Moeller Slim Moeller	1st Half 2nd Half	Betty Mecham W. Puro
MAR.	8:30	Jack Bowie John Miller	1st Half 2nd Half	Norman Woolary Jackie Woolary
APRIL	8:00	Fred Rosenquist	1st Half 2nd Half	Eleanor Larkin Eleanor Larkin
MAY	7:30	Les White Les White	1st Half 2nd Half	Betty Deringer
JUNE	7:30	Charles Coleman Harold Knipe	1st Half 2nd Half	Carolyn Pitt Virginia Mach
JULY	7:00	Fred Rosenquist	1st Half 2nd Half	
AUG.	7:00	Harold Knipe Charles Coleman	1st Half 2nd Half	Earl Ayers
SEPT.	7:30	John Miller Jack Bowie	1st Half 2nd Half	
OCT.	8:00	Art Donnelly Art Donnelly	1st Half 2nd Half	De De Kramer De De Kramer
NOV.	8:30	Milton Durkee Milton Durkee	1st Half 2nd Half	
DEC.	9:00	Logan Buell Logan Buell	1st Half 2nd Half	Larry Baur Larry Baur
		Substitutes		
		Chet Connor Woody Jones		

SUN CITY PEDAL PUSHERS  
 ROSTER -- 1988

ADAMS, Bob & Dorothy	10310 Cumberland Dr.	977-7387
ANDERSON, Elizabeth	10520 Tropicana	977-6786
AYERS, Earl	10631 Snead Dr.	933-6494
BADEN, Otto & Helen	11013 Cumberland Dr.	933-8671
BALES, Fred & Doris	10904 Deanne Dr.	974-0565
BASTIAN, Mary	10931 Connecticut Ave.	933-6286
BAUR, Larry	10368 Clair Dr.	972-1000
BENDJOCK, Irma	9437 111th Ave.	933-3769
BIGGERSTAFF, Mary	9815 Blue Ridge Dr.	972-2270
BJORKMAN, Ralph & Nellie	10202 Peoria Ave.	933-4443
BLAIR, Harold & Edna	10916 Sun City Blvd.	977-7903
BOLLUM, Nellie	10731 Mountain View Road	977-0790
BONVOULOIR, Wilfred & Nancy	11039 West Caron Dr.	974-4235
BORN, Hilda	12815 N. 112th Ave. - Yngtn.	977-0023
BOWIE, Jack & June	9827 Palmer Dr.	974-6472
BRAHAM, Alice	10328 Salem Dr.	977-9467
BROWN, Glenn & Elizabeth	10602 Camden	972-2858
BUELL, Logan & Dorothy	10015 Lakeview Circle	974-6135
BUTLER, Rose	10865 Cherry Hills Dr.	933-1865
CHANCEY, Albert	9219 107th Ave.	933-8341
CHOATE, Lois	10420 Clair Dr.	977-1226
CLARKE, Esther	12424 St. Andrews Dr. W.	977-4043



CLAXTON, Kenneth & Gladys	9716 105th Ave.	974-5910
COLEMAN, Charles & June	9209 Balboa Dr.	972-8016
CONNOR, Chet & Helen	10266 El Dorado Dr.	974-3135
CONTRYMAN, Helene	10353 Peoria Ave.	977-4465
COOK, Bernice	10841 Fairway Ct. W.	972-7497
COOK, Jackie	10901 W. Coggins Dr.	977-8405
DAVIS, Ralph & Leolla	10735 Canterbury Dr.	977-4145
DERINGER, Betty	12250 St. Annes Dr.	977-0069
DEVNER, Charlotte	11814 Cherry Hills Dr. E.	974-5755
DHAININ, Felix & Florence	10732 Cheryl Dr.	974-8249
DICKSON, Audrey	10202 105th Dr.	933-5654
DONNELLY, Art & Jennie	13214 N. 108th Ave.	933-9154
DONNELLY, William & Katherine	10527 Salem Dr.	974-6196
DURKEE, Milt & Eileen	10608 Salem Dr.	974-3107
ERWIN, Wilburn & Katie	12023 103rd Ave.	933-7716
FAIRLIE, Madeline	10263 102nd Ave.	933-4970
FERGUSON, Geneva	1309 Wolf Tr. Las Cruces, New Mexico 88001	
FILLINGER, Frank & Doris	10536 Coggins Dr.	974-4236
FINKS, Robert & Virginia	10520 Snead Dr.	972-8309
GIOVANELLY, Evio	9908 Cedar Dr.	974-9815
GISLASON, Robert	10360 Clair Dr.	972-2324
GLASS, Marvel	10624 Oakmont Dr.	974-5013
GRAHAM, Gladys	10620 Coggins Dr.	974-8130



GRAY, Dolores	10010 Alabama Ave.	977-0349
HALL, Helen	10618 Coggins Dr.	974-4388
HAWKINS, Fred	10402 Salem Dr.	977-5991
HEBER, Maria	10211 Deanne Dr.	933-2175
HERZOG, Jim	10431 105th Ave.	977-6392
HOFMAIER, Lilas	9924 Cumberland Dr.	974-9917
HOLMES, Ray & Evelyn	10405 Kelso Dr.	933-2919
HYDEN, Mary	10327 Audrey Dr.	972-8050
JACOBSON, Marge	10351 Caron	977-8168
JOHNSON, Evelyn	The Carillons 10045 W. Oak Rd.	974-9424
JONES, Woody & Helen	11102 Kolina Lane	933-0706
KASTANEK, Mary	10038 Palmer Dr.	933-7880
KEENEY, Ira & Helen	521 2nd St. North Wahpeton, N. Dakota 58075	
KIERSNOWSKI, Elsie	10319 Deanne Dr.	933-0550
KILTS, Margaret	12415 N. 103rd Ave. Rm F58	977-0248
KIMBLE, Wilbur & Dorothy	10624 105th Ave.	974-5211
KLECKER, Marie	11814 Cherry Hills Dr. E.	974-5755
KNEIP, Marjorie	10002 Alabama Ave.	977-3743
KNIPE, Harold & Alice	10614 Cheryl Dr.	972-6260
KOKINIS, Nick	10524 W. Coggins Dr.	974-8406
KOOPMAN, James & Caroline	10641 Salem Dr.	972-8876
KRAMER, Edith	10825 Clair Dr.	972-4595
KRETCHMAR, Wanda	11608 107th Ave.	974-4522

KUBICK, Lydia	10306 Deanne Dr.	933-0755
LARKIN, Eleanor	10607 Hope Dr.	974-4109
LICKFELDT, Luther & Eleanor	10422 Corte Del Sol Oeste	933-7806
LICKFELDT, Willard & Florence	10344 Salem Dr.	933-7907
LIENAU, Mary	10308 Deanne Dr.	972-6013
LITTLE, Roy	10639 103rd Ave.	933-0629
LOY, Hazel	10633 111th Ave.	933-5464
MACH, Virginia	11409 109th Ave.	972-5004
MAHARTY, Clifford & Alicia	10322 Salem Dr.	977-9561
MARION, Fern	10329 Salem Dr.	933-7539
MARX, Rita Royer	9034 109th Ave.	972-0691
MATTHIESSEN, Gertrude	10448 Mountain View Rd.	933-7527
MAYER, Tillie	9939 Clair Dr.	974-2941
MECHAM, Voyl & Betty	10235 Camden Ave.	974-5091
MENICH, David & Lorraine	10401 Snead Dr.	974-3415
MIKELSON, Mike & Ellen	9942 Clair Dr.	977-6230
MILLER, Harold	11030 Mountain View Rd.	933-9688
MILLER, John & Marjorie	10867 Canterbury Dr.	974-9188
MILLS, Jean W.	10015 Royal Oak Rd. Apt. 126	933-4339
MOELLER, A. W. (A1) & Wilma	9736 Riviera Dr.	933-5380
MOORE, Helen	10841 Fairway Ct. W.	972-7497
MULLINS, Jim	10323 Peoria Ave.	977-1117
NELSON, Jim & Margaret Ann	10035 Riviera Dr.	974-3213
NELSON, Joan Marie	10801 Caron Dr.	977-5641

NEWMAN, Dorothy	10618 Oakmont Dr.	933-5261
NUTTING, Marvel-Dare	10202 105th Dr.	933-5654
OLMSTED, Ruth M.	10707 Mission Ln.	972-2376
OLSEN, Ray & Angie	10825 Fairway Ct. W.	977-5325
OVERCASH, Dwight & Leona	9918 Ironwood Dr.	933-9208
PARKER, Charlotte	9915 Royal Oak Rd., GH 1096	977-8194
PETERSON, Nora & Thea	10275 N. Snead Cir.	933-7953
PHILLIPS, Charles & Catherine	10507 Kelso Dr.	933-9775
PITT, Carolyn	10324 Clair Dr.	977-6747
POPE, Harold	10102 Clair Dr.	933-5947
POWELL, Pauline	11136 Oregon Ave. Yngtn.	933-7400
PURO, Wilho & Gertrude	10402 Balboa Dr.	977-8781
REIDY, Richard & Pat	10606 Hope Dr.	972-5009
RICE, Maggie	10102 Andover Ave.	933-6269
ROHDE, Matt	10401 N. Balboa Dr.	972-7228
ROSENBERG, Maxine	10378 Pinehurst Dr.	974-1543
ROSENQUIST, Fred & Jeanne	10710 Topaz Dr.	972-0397
ROYER, Mary Frances	10425 105th Dr.	977-1785
RYLAND, Carolyn	9815 Blue Ridge Dr.	972-2270
SANKS, Eleanor	11002 Deanne Dr.	933-2012
SCHAEUBLIN, Ida	10332 Deanne Dr.	933-5491
SCHIMMING, Beverly	10510 Oakmont Dr.	974-8956
SCHULER, Tom & Lucille	10522 W. Coggins Dr.	974-8063



SCHULTZ, Joy	12820 N. 113th Ave. Apt. 1, Yngtn.	972-2246
SCULL, Ken & Jean	10043 Palmer Dr.	933-1404
SMITH, Bob & Caryl	10751 Cheryl Dr.	972-7483
SMITH, Dian	12402 W. Cherry Hills Dr.	974-6703
SONDIE, Henry & Edna	10310 Clair Dr.	977-8645
SPURLOCK, Clyde & Celestia	10410 Audrey Dr.	933-7394
STIENTJES, Harold & Lois	10733 Clair Dr.	972-2524
STOFFEL, Peggy	530 Etchberry St. Romana, Co. 92065	
STONE, Bea	10701 N. 99th Ave. Peoria, Az. 85345	972-7344
STUTSMAN, Paul & Sara	10350 Salem Dr.	974-2484
SUNDELL, John & Betty	10246 S. Snead Cir.	977-1874
SUNDT, Edward & Ervina	10218 Kingswood Cir.	977-2063
SVOBODA, Anne	10038 Palmer Dr.	933-0706
SYBENGA, John & Marie	10426 Deanne Dr.	972-9570
TALIAFERRO, Ben	10816 Madison Dr.	933-4163
TESKE, Paul & Eva	10308 Clair Dr.	933-3286
UNGER, Frieda	11024 O'Neil Dr.	974-2166
URSCH, Grace	10101 Andover Ave.	933-5891
VERSTEEG, Joy	10806 Cheryl Dr.	977-4635
WAGGONER, Marie	10015 Royal Oak Rd. #270	933-8888
WALLING, Aura	12461 W. Augusta Dr.	974-8392
WALRAFF, Emil & Mabelle	9902 Riviera Dr.	933-3936



WALTZ, Gladys	10320 Mountain View Rd.	933-1059
WATSON, Orville & Leola	10848 Crosby Dr.	974-5202
WEDEL, Bette	10935 Peoria Ave.	933-2638
WELLER, Carl & Eileen	14007 Boswell Blvd.	974-6267
WHITE, Leslie & Betty	10402 Audrey	974-5447
WILLIAMS, Mary Lou	10333 W. Olive Ave., Peoria	933-2046
WINFREE, Tom & Norma	9734 Riviera Dr.	933-2464
WOOD, Merrill & Anne	10636 105th Ave.	977-3165
WOOLARY, Norman & Jackie	10849 Madison Dr.	974-6815
WRIGHT, Veryl & Freda	10276 El Dorado Dr.	974-8387
YALE, Margaret	10870 Clair Dr.	933-2809
ZELL, LaRoy & Violet	10625 102nd Dr.	974-3187
ZUPP, Ruth	10357 Peoria Ave.	933-7457

HONORARY MEMBERS:

Alison Leonard - Arlene Kubick

# PEDAL PUSHER BICYCLE CLUB

(EXERCISE, FUN and FELLOWSHIP)

Est. 1961

ONE HOUR BIKING MONDAY THRU FRIDAY  
FROM - SUN BOWL 107th AVENUE & CLAIR DRIVE

## STARTING TIMES

9 A.M.	December, January and February
8:30 A.M.	November and March
8 A.M.	October and April
7:30 A.M.	May and June
7 A.M.	July, August and September

ANNUAL DUES - \$3, plus 25 rides with group

Cyclomaster (President) John Sybenga 972-9570  
Membership: Milt Durkee 974-3107 Jim Herzog 977-6392



LGBT

# Sun City LGBT Club begins

## Group's first meeting draws 100 people

By Barb Wagers  
SPECIAL TO INDEPENDENT  
NEWSMEDIA

The first meeting of the LGBT Social Club of Sun City was conducted March 8 and organizers deemed it a huge success.

More than 100 people attended the meeting and everyone agreed they were amazed at the large turnout. The meeting was conducted at the Oakmont Recreation Center, 10725 W. Oakmont Drive.

The club was approved by the Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors earlier this year and since then the club's executive committee has been working to pull the club together. Two members of the RCSC board and three staff members attended the club's inaugural meeting. Among the club's first order of business was to seek approval for the rules and regulations by which the club is governed.



Sun City LGBT Social Club Secretary Joni Smith addresses more than 100 people at the first club meeting. [Submitted photo]

LGBT President Courtney Galura welcomed everyone and said she too could not believe the turnout for the first meeting. She talked about how the club began and about some of the club's plans for the future. She then introduced the members of the executive board including, Vice President Diana Graettinger, Secretary Joni Smith, Treasurer Charlotte Peters, Member-at-Large Barb Wagers and Bobi Pellegrino, legal advisor. Ms. Graettinger talked

about the club being a safe space for members.

"A club we can embrace and call our own," she said. "More will join, some will drop out, but as long as we remain a single voice we will be a touchstone for a new understanding here in Sun City."

Ms. Pellegrino talked about the importance of having an organized club and how there is strength in unity.

"With the grand turnout, the club is expected to be a

huge success," Ms. Pellegrino said.

The group was then walked through the rules and regulations. After more than one hour of discussion, the proposed changes suggested by the club's new members would be incorporated into the document and the changed version would be presented to members at their meeting in April.

**Editor's Note:** Ms. Wagers is a Sun City resident and member of the Sun City LGBT Social Club.

www.yourwestvalley.com | Sun City Independent | March 22, 2017





## Poms Perform at Royal Oaks

The Sun City Poms performing group entertained residents of the Royal Oaks Life Care Center on November 7. The Poms provided a 45 minute show, featuring jazz, tap and their signature acrobatic Pom Routine. Call 602-392-4242. [Submitted Photo]

VF SC Clubs (General)





## Sundial Men's Club – more than just fun and games

By Joelyn Higgins

No girls allowed! There may not be a sign on the door, but the Sundial Men's Club has been the "boys-only" haven for like-minded men in the community for many, many years.

Some members stop by to read the morning newspaper and enjoy a 10-cent cup of joe. Card games often start early (the club opens at 7 a.m.), whether it is Texas Hold 'Em, Omaha poker, gin rummy, pinochle or bridge. Some may elect instead to shoot a few games of pool.

However, it is not all fun and games. In true Sun City fashion, giving back to the community has always been a top priority of the Sundial Men's Club.

For Make A Difference Day a few years back, the Sundial Men's Club organized a community food drive that successfully collected over 11 tons of food along with \$3,000 in donations for the Valley View Community Food Bank. Thanks to the generous contributions by everyone in the community, the USA Today awarded the group a \$10,000 grant for this effort,

which was also donated to Valley View.

The Men's Club is also into bingo -- big-time. In fact, every Thursday evening from September to May, Sun City residents and their visitors (18 and older) stream into the Sundial Auditorium to take part in this long-standing tradition.

Bingo sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. and doors open at 5 p.m. The costs is only \$7 to play all 18 games.

The net proceeds from these weekly bingo games goes back to the communi

See Games — Page 4

### Games

Continued From Page 1

ty as well, to many local charities that members of the Men's Club either volunteer at or have firsthand knowledge of the charitable work they do throughout the area.

At the end of the last bingo season, the following donations were made to local charities, with the total exceeding \$21,000 -- \$1,000 to Sun City Community Assistance Network; \$1,000 to Sunshine Service of Sun City; \$1,000 to Sun City Meals on Wheels; \$1,000 to Banner Olive Branch Senior Center; \$2,000 to the Valley View Community Food Bank; and an additional \$1,200 to RCSC for a total of \$6,600 year-to-date.

Now that is what is called giving back.

VF SC Clubs (General) SC Spotlight Date?





Submitted Photo

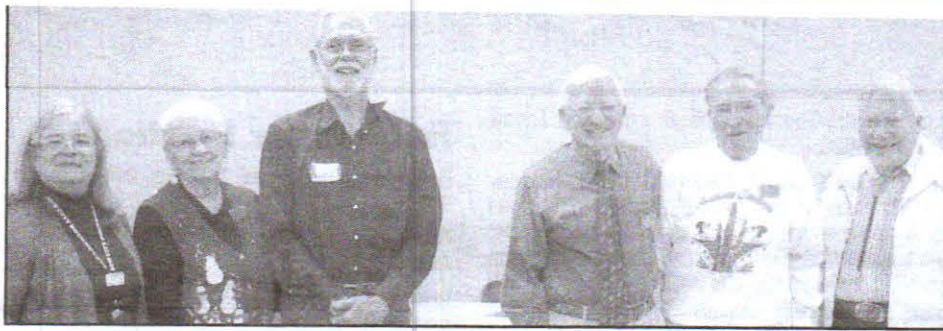
### Poms partake in Relay event

Fry's Sun City Poms took part in the Relay for Life of Sun City activities March 21 at Lakeview Methodist Church. The event was sponsored by the American Cancer Society to celebrate cancer survivors, remember those lost to the disease, and support cancer caregivers. The Poms led the caregivers and survivors "lap," delineated by luminarias bearing the names of those who did not survive their cancers. From left are Becky Cea, Ann Daniels, Lois Strong, Tommie Sebring, Ruth Pharris, and Sue Randall.



VF SC Clubs (General)  
 Independent April 15, 2015





Submitted Photo

From left are Linda Johnson, current president, Dorise Campbell, past president, Perry McCown, past president, Floyd Segar, past president, Al Cervoni, past president, Gerry Jensen, past-president.

# Sun City Rock Hound Club marks 50th anniversary

By Mike Blachut and Mary Brown  
Special to the Independent

Club Members, former members and past presidents of the Sun City Rock Hound Club attended a 50th anniversary celebration banquet and holiday dinner Dec. 12 at the Fairway Recreation Center.

Dorise Campbell became president in 1991, three months after the "The Rock Hound Society of Sun City Arizona" opened the doors of The Mineral Museum at Sundial Recreation Center. Having a museum was new to the club and Ms. Campbell kept the museum going through tireless effort. She presided over the club as it was chartered as a non-profit, with the name, "The Sun City Rockhound Club."

Gerry Jensen was elected president for four years— 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2005 — and he presided over a very active club. Mr. Jensen said, "The Morenci overnight field trips were a club favorite in those days. Everyone stayed in the same motel and had a big time together." Morenci is a copper mine located near Stafford; it is the largest copper mining operation in North America.

Al Cervoni, president in 2004, is the longest standing member of the Rockhound Club, having joined in 1984. As with so many Rockhounds, Mr. Cervoni has served the club in many capacities over the years including countless hours helping Dorise Campbell put the Mineral Museum together, he has served as a volunteer to this day.

Perry McCown was the president in 2006 and 2007. His wife, Sylvia, served as secretary of the club for years. The couple entertained attendees at this year's banquet by playing bluegrass musical instruments and singing an original tune written by Mr. McCown, "The Thrill of Rockhound Air."

Floyd Segar, president in 2010 and 2011, and his wife Alice, continue as active members of the club. Ms. Segar was the Rock Hound newsletter editor until last year.

Linda Johnson, president in 2012 and 2013, was re-elected as president for 2014. Ms. Johnson explained, "All Sun City recreation card holders are welcome to attend our meetings as a guest and to check out

the Rock Hound club Mineral Museum on the second level of Sundial Recreation Center. Joe Chan, outgoing vice president said, "This club is a good place to learn about Arizona geology by learning from experienced members."

A 50 year anniversary commemorative booklet was given to each member and honored guest in attendance at the banquet. The booklet gives an overview of the Rock Hound club's past 50 year history. The club was started in 1963 by 40 members, just three years after Sun City opened. In 1963 Sun City only had 7,000 homes, by 1976 the club had 600 members and went on field trips, "hounding" for rocks every month. Meetings always included speakers who educated members on topics of interest. Annual "rock" shows began in 1973; there was such interest back then that the Sun City rock shows became a very popular event with people coming from all over the state of Arizona.

The museum opened in 1990 and contains many valuable and unique gems and minerals from Arizona and all over the world. The entire collection in the museum was donated by former Rock Hound Club members and is on display for visitors to enjoy. The Sun City Rock Hound Club Museum is rated in the top 10 mineral museums in Arizona and includes a fluorescent mineral display. Fluorescent minerals are ones which have the property known as fluorescence. Ultra violet light causes a temporary color change of the mineral, which is spectacular when illuminated in a dark room.

The Rock Hound Club has monthly meetings which include a wide variety of speakers at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday each month at Fairway Recreation Center; visitors are welcome. Members and guests enjoy the field trips out into the hinterland of Arizona in their search for unique Arizona minerals and gems.

Mineral Museum regular hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. The group will be closed New Year's Day.

Call 623-972-1772 before stopping by to ensure volunteers are available.

SC Independent SAN 11, 2014  
VF SC Clubs (general)



# 10th anniversary Sun City Poms perform in heat to honor founder

By Betty Latty  
Gazette correspondent

Sunday's 10th anniversary performance of the Sun City Poms by Leslie in hundred-degree-plus temperatures seemed light-years away from their first freezing non-performance at a Sun City Saints softball game in 1979.

Then, the fledgling pom squad got a big chill while waiting to make their debut between a double-header at Sun City Stadium.

The temperatures kept dropping, and the Poms, in their scanty outfits, got even colder. Around midnight, everyone gave up and went home. The Poms returned the next night, introducing a dance group that would attract international attention.

Sunday's celebration at the Sun Bowl also was a salute to Poms' founder, director and mentor Corinne Leslie.

In the audience was Lee Nugent of Vancouver, B.C., a former Pom who flew down for the anniversary show.

Between Poms' specialities, Sun City's Lucy Hays offered songs from the '20s; there was music by the combo Ocotillo Seven; and baritone Gerry Spencer dedicated a version of "Because of You" to Leslie.

The music Sunday was highly superior to that which preceded those early ball games, said

Audrey Moore, one of the original Poms. "They had this scratchy, oldest record ever of Kate Smith singing 'The Star Spangled Banner,'" she said. "I complained so much about it they gave me the job of singing the national anthem before we performed."

The pom squad, which has had several name changes over the years, was created by Leslie and her husband, Ray, now deceased. They drew members from dance classes they taught in Sun City after retiring as professional dancers.

The troupe was sponsored for several years by the then-Del E. Webb Development Co. Its sponsor now is Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Arizona.

Two men are "unofficial" members of the Poms. Randall Biddle is sound systems manager and half of the banner-carrying team that precedes the women in parades. The other half is Art Tabbert, master of ceremonies and "Voice of the Poms." Art is married to one of the dancers, Lucile.

Biddle and Tabbert take in stride their travels cross-country with 18 women; on occasion they have found no separate dressing rooms available, so quarters are shared and the male Poms have become adept in snapping snaps and zipping zippers for their female colleagues.

Sunday's performance brought a lot of memories. "We have had



Gerri Parker, Gloria Trudeau, Natalie Alderson, June Mold and Vera Kraker get tips on toe pointing from Poms director Corinne Leslie.

funny times and disastrous ones," said director Leslie, who turns 87 in June. "I have made a few falls, but never broke a bone. And one girl slipped in a store and broke her ankle.

"Foolie (Harlan) is the funniest thing. Once we were performing at Lakes Club and Foolie discovered that, the night before, she brought home from another gig, the wrong boots. Size 9½, and both for the same foot. She did the show in them."

Harlan is famous for doing the splits, as is Leslie, actions that reportedly once evoked consternation from then-first lady Nancy Reagan.

Then there were a few times

when the prancing Poms' sequined chokers came unfastened and fell to the floor. To avoid possible accidents, the chokers now are fastened with a cord to the costume. They have loosened from throats a few times since, and the Poms have exited high-stepping with chokers dangling.

"I have learned a lot," Leslie said. "When we started, I expected the girls to be professionals, because I was. But they were not as experienced, and I came to know I was being too strict, and they were doing their best."

Evie Hartman studied dance with the Leslies before the Poms were created, as did Gene Sonnenleiter, who took dance

lessons from Corinne for five years before becoming a charter Pom.

Hartman recalled an early morning event at Phoenix Civic Plaza when she needed to make especially quick costume changes. "Their phone lines had gone down, although I didn't know it, and I tore into a room halfway in a change when I saw this young phone repairman under a table. I don't know who frightened whom the most."

In one of the Poms' recent appearances in Milwaukee's annual summer festival parades, "Two of the girls forgot their white boots, so they ran out and bought white knee-high stockings



1W-B Wed., May 10, 1989

The Phoenix Gazette

## ■ Poms

From Page A

and white sneakers and did the march," Hartman said. "We told Corinne later."

At 61, Patricia Vick is the baby of the Poms. She has been a member for just a year and a half.

"Vicky," while living in Minnesota some years ago, saw the Poms on TV and vowed to her husband that, if they ever got to Arizona, she would join the Poms. Five years ago the Vicks arrived in Sun City, and the would-be trouper contacted Leslie, who asked if she could dance. "Vicky" couldn't, so she took dance lessons five times a week — ballet, three kinds of tap and jazz — just in case.

The call came and the "baby" says she has never enjoyed anything as much as being a Pom. "It is unbelievable the feeling we have together. The camaraderie is something else."

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**"It is unbelievable the feeling we have together. The camaraderie is something else."**

— Patricia Vick

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The Poms probably are unanimous on their most memorable event — the 1985 trip to New York and performing at the banquet celebrating the President's Council on Physical Fitness, with Nancy Reagan as guest of honor.

"We were all over her, like bees," Nat Alderson said. "She never flinched. The Secret Service wanted her to leave, but she wouldn't, and stayed to have pictures made with us. It was a very cordial, warm, and wonderful

meeting with her."

The Poms — and especially Geri Parker — recall with great fondness their appearance at the Sundome with comedian Bob Hope. Hope sent out a call for a chaise lounge to use as a stage prop; Parker came to the rescue, with her own. There has been some feeling among the Poms that the chaise should be bronzed.

Humorist Erma Bombeck also has favorite person status with the Poms. Early on, she attended one of their local performances, engaged in repartee with Foofie, and even joined the dance line.

The Poms greeted Bombeck again late last month at a benefit performance for the American National Red Cross in the Cutter Aviation hangar at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport and loved it when Bombeck told them "I feel like I'm part of you."



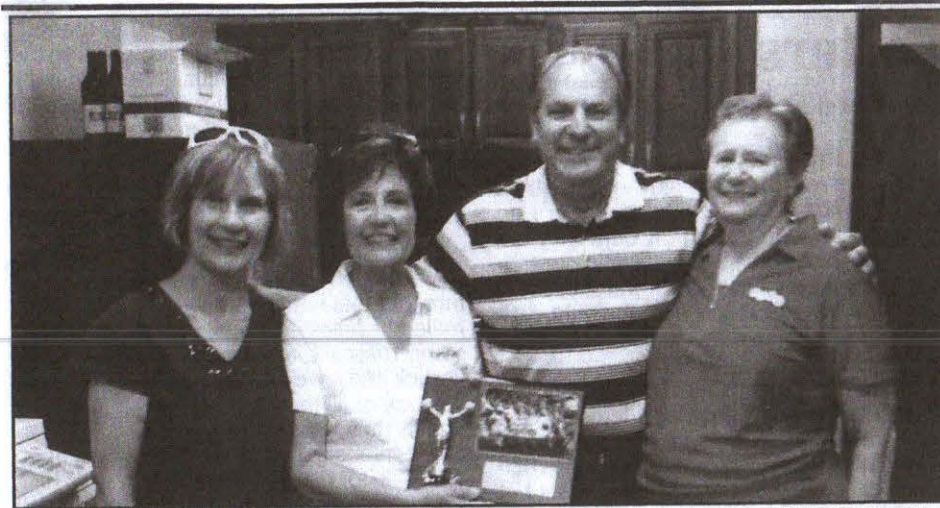


Members of the Sun City Poms do one of their show formations.

The Phoenix Gazette Wednesday, May 10, 1989

Tim Koors, *The Phoenix Gazette*





Submitted Photo

## **Poms say thanks**

**Fry's Sun City Poms, including members Nancy Walker, Sue Randall and Sharon Nichols, present a plaque of appreciation for sponsorship to Fry's CEO Jon Flora.**





Submitted Photo

## Poms prep for Super Bowl party

As a prelude to Super Bowl weekend, the Sun City Poms performed at Palos Verdes Assisted Living Facility in Peoria. The Poms spread their energy among the residents, leaving all ready to cheer during the New York Giants vs. New England Patriots game. In back, from left, are Elaina Scott, Sharon Nichols, Ruth Pharris, Tommie Sebring, and Sue Randall; in front are Lois Strong, Pat Weber, and Shirley Hoffmann.

## Sun City piano club offers new classes

### STAFF REPORT

Piano classes for beginners through advanced will again be offered by the Piano Club of Sun City, starting the week of Jan. 7 in the Piano Room of Sundial Recreation Center at 103rd Avenue and Boswell.

Classes beginning Jan. 7, 8 and 9 at various times are taught by Janet Abel and Christine Bern. These classes include Basic Piano 1 and 2, Fun with Electronic Keyboards, Chords on the Keys, Music Theory, Classical Music and Culture, with a new class in Voice beginning at 12:30 on Jan. 9.

Piano Stylist classes 101 and 102 (learning to improvise at the piano) will begin at 2 p.m. Jan. 10, taught

by Jim Sackett. He is adding a new four-hour class in Gospel Styles, beginning Jan. 17.

Most classes are one hour a week for eight weeks.

Classes are small and geared to the needs of students.

Keyboards may be rented.

Books and/or other materials are supplied for all classes.

The club's next monthly program will be at 9:30 a.m. Jan. 18 in the Sundial Rec Center auditorium.

Members and special guests play a variety of music, from classical to jazz and pop.

For information on any of the above or to register for classes, call 623-792-7266 or send an email to [music24piano@yahoo.com](mailto:music24piano@yahoo.com).





Received  
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*Pam Pans*

*1985*

SUN CITY  SUN CITY WEST, ARIZONA







# JANUARY

A BEAUTIFUL GROUP, A BEAUTIFUL VIEW, A BEAUTIFUL GOLF COURSE. Sun City West's Hillcrest Golf Course serves as a stunning backdrop to the Sun Cities Pom Poms. Organized in 1979 by Corinne and Ray Leslie, the Pom Poms range in age from 60 to 82. As Goodwill Ambassadors for the Sun Cities, the group displays the benefits of the communities' active adult lifestyle.

DECEMBER FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1						1	2
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	24	25	26	27	28		
30	31												

SUN.                      MON.                      TUES.                      WED.                      THURS.                      FRI.                      SAT.

		<b>1</b> New Year's Day	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> ○ Full Moon	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> ◐ Last Quarter	<b>14</b> ● New Moon	<b>15</b> Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> ◑ First Quarter	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		







# FEBRUARY

NO CRIME IN THE SUN CITIES! Charles Groover, one of 400 volunteers serving on the Sun City and Sun City West Poses, keeps the communities crime rate among the lowest in the nation. He's ready to "put the grab" on Foonie Harlan, 70 (left) and Geri Parker, 70.

JANUARY MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
27	28	29	30	31			24 <sub>31</sub>	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
		○ Full Moon				
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
		◐ Last Quarter		Valentine's Day		
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
	Presidents Day	● New Moon	Ash Wednesday			
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>		
			◐ First Quarter			







# MARCH

GOLF ANYONE? Corinne Leslie, 82 (left) and Terry Jones 67, have no trouble finding a course to play in the Sun Cities. Residents enjoy their most popular pastime on 16 courses throughout the communities. Happy St. Patrick's Day!

FEBRUARY APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1 2			1 2	3 4	5 6		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28			28	29	30				

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				○ Full Moon		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
			● Last Quarter			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
St. Patrick's Day			Spring begins	● New Moon		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday 31					● First Quarter	







# APRIL

PUTTIN' ON THE RITZ. It might not be Broadway but the waterfall at Sun City's Viewpoint Park is an attractive place to visit. Terry Jones, (left) retired from Pennsylvania, Dottie Peabody, 70 and Helen Sisko, 62 are a fashionable addition to the scenery.

MARCH

MAY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> ○ Good Friday ○ Full Moon	<b>6</b> Passover
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
Easter					● Last Quarter	
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> ● New Moon
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> ● First Quarter	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				







# MAY

EXERCISE! That's one way Lucile Tabbert, 60 (left) and Evie Hartman, 65, keep in shape. The 18-station fitness circuit at Sun City West's R.H. Johnson Recreation Center promotes flexibility and conditioning.

APRIL

JUNE

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

			1	2	3	4 ○ Full Moon
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 ● Last Quarter
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 New Moon	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day (Observed) First Quarter	28	29	30 Memorial Day	31	





12



# JUNE

THREE CHEERS FOR THE SUNDOME! (left to right) Alverta Diez Hettinger, 63, Lee Nugent, 62, and Millie Studnicka, 65, enjoy more than 100 shows a season at Sun City West's Sundome Center for the Performing Arts. As the largest single-level theatre in the country (7,169 seats), the beautiful fountain courtyard welcomes patrons to a variety of shows amid air-conditioned comfort.

MAY

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	5	6
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		28	29	30	31			

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

						1
2	3 Full Moon	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Last Quarter	11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18 New Moon	19	20	21 Summer begins	22
23/30	24	25 First Quarter	26	27	28	29







# JULY

A POOL'S THE PLACE — TO RELAX IN THE SUN CITIES. Alverta Diez Hettinger, (left), retired from Nebraska, and Dottie Peabody from Massachusetts, celebrate Independence Day at the Olympic size pool at R.H. Johnson Recreation Center in Sun City West. The \$14 million, 40-acre complex is the largest in the southwest.

JUNE

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<sup>23</sup> <sub>30</sub>	24	25	26	27	28	29	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUN.                      MON.                      TUES.                      WED.                      THURS.                      FRI.                      SAT.

	1	2 ○ Full Moon	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10 ◐ Last Quarter	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 ● New Moon	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 ◑ First Quarter	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 ○ Full Moon			







# AUGUST

GOLF CARTS GALORE! (left to right) Thelma Ward, 60, Millie Studnicka, retired from Illinois and June Mold, 64, adorn one of the Sun Cities' most popular modes of transportation — the golf cart. The magnificent scenery of Hillcrest Golf Course, home of the Senior PGA Tour Roundup, is a perfect complement to these lovely ladies.

JULY

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	29	30	31				29	30					

SUN.

MON.

TUES.

WED.

THURS.

FRI.

SAT.

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 ☾ Last Quarter	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 ● New Moon	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 ☽ First Quarter	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 ○ Full Moon	31







# SEPTEMBER

ROARIN' 20's STYLE. Natalie Alderson, 77, (left) and Genie Sonnenleiter, 73, model an elegant style as do the 17 homes in Del Webb's much visited Model Home Show. The homes, priced from the \$60's to nearly \$200,000 are designed with the features requested by senior adults.

AUGUST OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31		

SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT.

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Labor Day	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> ☾ Last Quarter
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> ● New Moon
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Rosh Hashanah	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> ☾ First Quarter
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Autumnal Equinox	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Yom Kippur	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> ○ Full Moon	<b>30</b>					







# OCTOBER

THESE AREN'T THE ALPS! (Left to right) Thelma Ward, retired from Alabama, Evie Hartman, retired from Pennsylvania, and June Mold, retired from Minnesota, strike a pose on the lawn of the Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital. With 355 beds, this full care hospital is just minutes from any location in the Sun Cities.

SEPTEMBER NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7							1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
29	30						24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT.

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7  Last Quarter	8	9	10	11	12 Columbus Day
13	14 Columbus Day (Observed)  New Moon	15	16	17	18	19
20  First Quarter	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28  Full Moon	29	30	31 Halloween		







# NOVEMBER

COLORFUL COSTUMES. (Left to right) Vera Kraker, 68, and Lucile Tabbert, retired from Missouri and Helen Sisko, retired from Michigan, created these beautiful costumes by hand in one of the recreation center's sewing rooms. Eight recreation centers provide residents with studios for lapidary, weaving silvercraft, ceramics, wood-working, and many more craft activities.

OCTOBER DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			29	30	31				

SUN. MON. TUES. WED. THURS. FRI. SAT.

					1	2
3	4	5 Election Day Last Quarter	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12 New Moon	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 First Quarter	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Full Moon	28 Thanksgiving	29	30





Mack

36

THE FIRE DISTRICT OF SUN CITY WEST



# DECEMBER

FEARLESS FIREFIGHTERS! (Left to right) Natalie Alderson, retired from New York, Genie Sonnenleiter, retired from Illinois and Vera Kraker, retired from Illinois, are ready to put out the fire. The Sun City West Fire District provides fire and paramedic protection to Sun City West's 11,000 residents.

# NOVEMBER JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
1	2	3	4	5 ☾ Last Quarter	6	7
8 Hanukkah	9	10	11	12 ● New Moon	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 ☾ First Quarter	20	21 Winter Begins
22	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27 ○ Full Moon	28
29	30	31				





# THE SUN CITIES

## CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SUCCESS!

When Del Webb's Sun City was born back in early 1960, 260 homes were sold the first weekend. In just 18 years, Sun City reached its goal of 46,000 active adults.

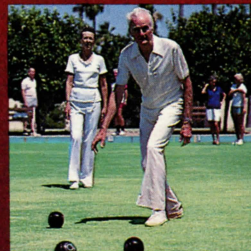
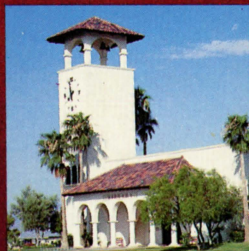
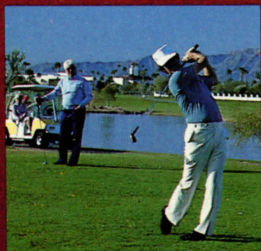
Today the Sun Cities lifestyle continues to attract new residents, its appeal stronger than ever. Founded in 1978 to carry on the successful Sun City tradition, Sun City West has already grown into a thriving community of 11,000—consistently outselling every other adult community in Arizona.

Sun City West has been imitated often but never matched. Not in amenities. Not in home selection. Not in success...

DEL WEBB'S  
**Sun City**

Del Webb's **SUN CITY WEST**  

FOR A FREE COLOR BROCHURE ABOUT SUN CITY WEST, WRITE: SUN CITY WEST SALES PAVILION, DEPT. 85C, 13323 MEEKER BLVD., SUN CITY WEST, ARIZONA 85375 ■ OR CALL: (602) 975-2270



DEL E. WEBB DEVELOPMENT CO., DEVELOPERS OF ARIZONA'S INCOMPARABLE "SUN CITIES"

A wholly owned subsidiary of Del E. Webb Corporation.



## **The Cities**

The energy and zest of the Sun Cities Pom Poms exemplify the senior adult lifestyle in Sun City and Sun City West, Arizona.

These two communities are products of a man's accurate interpretation of the needs of a major segment of the American population — a population no longer wishing to conform to the outdated idea that it's all downhill after 50.

In January of 1960, Del E. Webb, an Arizona Legend and one-time owner of the New York Yankees, opened a city for people aged 50 and over. This was to be active, nearly self-contained, and completely planned. And, oh, what a city!

The last 25 years, the Del E. Webb Development Co. (DEVCO) first transformed 8,900 acres of cotton fields just northwest of Phoenix, into a vibrant community of 46,000 active and very much alive senior adults — making Sun City the largest adult community in the United States. The success of Sun City has been largely due to its impressive array of lifestyle amenities which includes seven recreational complexes, eleven golf courses, eight major shopping centers, a full-care hospital and eight medical centers.

By 1978, with Sun City fully developed, DEVCO broke ground on a sister-community just two miles west. In just six years, Sun City West has grown into a community of more than 11,000 residents and boasts a \$70 million collection of amenities.

Sun City West is already the home of the \$14 million R. H. Johnson Recreation Center, five 18-hole golf courses, the 7,169-seat Sundome Center for the Performing Arts and two major shopping plazas, as well as a fire fighting facility and a fully-staffed emergency medical building.

## **The People**

The success that abounds in Sun City and Sun City West has been nurtured by the people who make the communities. The residents of these two communities are, quite simply, anxious and willing to get involved and to care.

As a result, over 400 civic organizations exist in Sun City and Sun City West, which offer a wide range of services. One example is the 500-member Sun City and Sun City West PRIDES, who keep the public roadways beautifully cleaned and landscaped.

Then there's Sunshine Services of Sun City and Lending Hands of Sun City West — organizations which collectively lend more than 32,000 items, from high chairs to rollaway beds, to residents each year — at no charge!

Sun City and Sun City West also have one of the lowest per capita crime rates in the country due to the efforts and visibility of the Posse — a totally volunteer organization of 400 trained by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office.

## **The Future**

Twenty-five years of success for the Sun Cities, built by one company is worth celebrating. The Del E. Webb Development Company chose to mark the occasion by creating a new concept in homes for Sun City West. The new 25th Anniversary "Silver Edition" model homes are striking, with a beautiful southwestern design.

DEVCO's future plans for lifestyle amenities are certain to match the quality and extravagance of their product line. Both the community and the homes are truly "Incomparable".

So today Del E. Webb's vision of the active adult lifestyle continues...



ON THE COVER: STAYING YOUNG IN THE SUN CITIES. (left to right) Corinne Leslie and Fooie Harlan, retired from California and Geri Parker, retired from Utah, exhibit the flexibility of their youth at Sun Citys' beautiful Viewpoint Lake, a popular boating, sailing and fishing spot.

All Photography by Ken Easley





STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

From left, Dale Elliott, Betty Peek and Betty Banker of the Sun City Piano Club enjoy the art of playing the piano.



# Sun Cities Passport Club

## Seasoned travelers offer tips, share experiences

By KAREN S. LEONARD  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — If you want to travel but wonder what a country is like you could go to a travel agency.

You could browse through tour books. Or you could join the Sun Cities Passport Club and learn from people who have been to the country what it is really like.

To qualify for membership you must be a resident of the Sun Cities and have a valid passport.

But you have to be patient because it may be a few years before you get in. The 24-year-old club has a maximum membership of 275 and there's always a waiting list.

Club secretary Ruth Bone said she waited more than three years before she could join in 1977.

The meetings consist of a cocktail hour, dinner and a program, which usually includes slides, lectures and/or videos of various countries.

"The program is a travelogue that lasts about an hour. It's usually on some exotic destination," says the club's new president Gil Dementis.

Meetings are the second Tuesday of every month October through May and are conducted in different restaurants throughout

the Valley. Most people in the Passport Club are avid travelers who have lots of stories to share about their adventures.

Dementis says he recalls someone in the club claiming he has been to 175 countries.

"I would guess that the average person has been to 20 or 30 countries," he says.

Dementis says he has been to at least 100.

"My travel claim to fame is I figure I've been through Heathrow Airport at least 500 times," Dementis says.

He lived in England and traveled about 40 weeks out of the year to such places as Paris and Amsterdam.

It took him longer to go through the customs line than it did to take the flights, he says.

"I spent I don't know how many hours in the immigration lines," Dementis says.

But the lines didn't stop him from traveling. And though visiting foreign countries may not be as easy as it was 20 years ago, avid travelers remain undaunted.

Bone says she has been to every country but India. This summer she is off to Iceland. But she says she suspects no country will ever top Antarctica.

"It's the trip to end all trips," she says. "There's no place in the world like it. It's

untouched by man. Everything is just like nature wanted it to be."

Anyway, comparing one country to another is something Bone tries not to do and suggests travelers avoid.

"When I travel, I try to see the country as it is, not as compared to us," Bone says.

She says she likes to experience the country's cultural differences.

New club member Ralph Yoder agrees. He says he has been to 60 countries and makes traveling a hobby.

When he was a professor, Yoder says, "I loved to give the real world to my students."

Yoder says his favorite countries to visit are those where the culture and customs have been maintained.

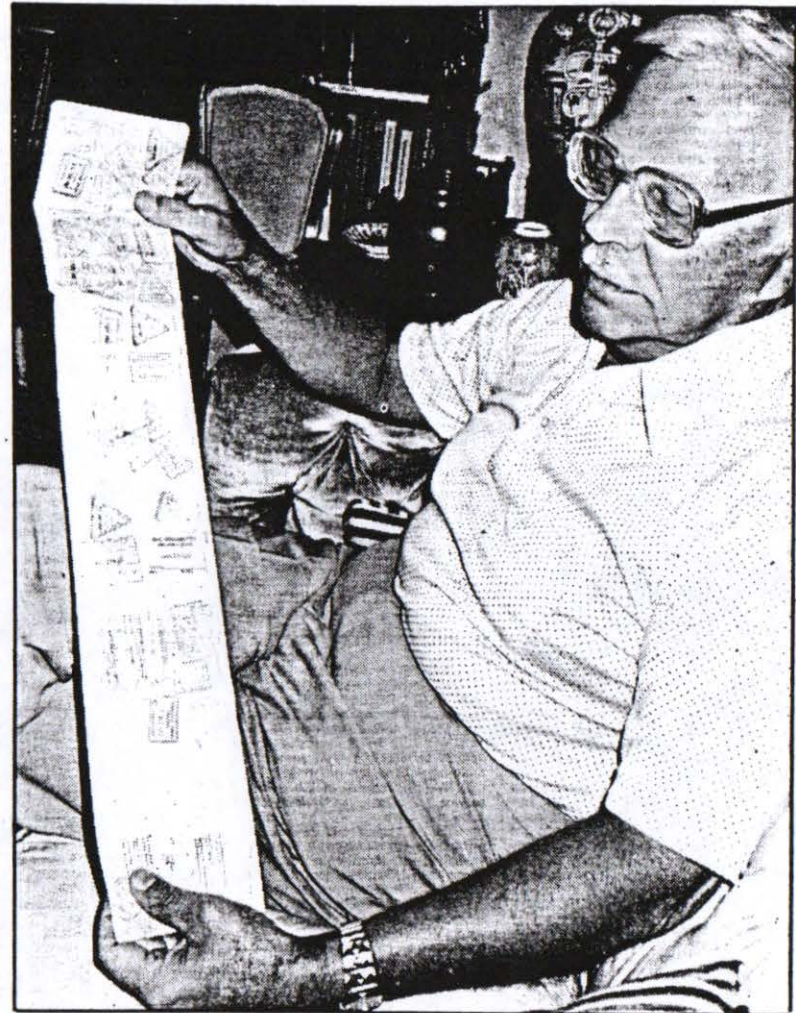
But he says, he also likes Hong Kong because of the shopping, atmosphere and activity.

Yoder has traveled since he was 14 years old when he went from New York to Texas on a train.

He caught the travel bug. And others say the addiction to traveling is one that they gladly take on.

"Anytime anybody finds a trip they want to go on, I'm ready to go," Bone says.

Information on the Passport Club: 584-6443.



News-Sun photo by Karen S. Leonard

**TRAVEL FEVER** — Gil Dementis, new president of the Sun Cities Passport Club, shows off his passport. He says he has been to at least 100 countries.

CLUBS (MISCELLANEOUS) 77 600, 20, 15





Photos by Diana Shaughnessy/Independent Newspapers

Sun City West Porcelain Club member Judy Anderson paints cedar waxwing birds on a vase.

# Porcelain art alive in the Sun Cities

By Diana Shaughnessy  
Independent Newspapers

Porcelain painting is an art still very much alive in the Sun Cities.

Popular in the 1900s, porcelain art is created every week by Sun City and Sun City West Recreation Centers chartered club artists.

But these artists are concerned about shrinking memberships in their clubs.

"I don't think very many young people do porcelain art any more," said Sun City club member Rose Knapp. "They don't have the time, or don't like porcelain painting because it isn't an instant art. It's very slow and detailed, with many steps before the final product. Young people seem to want instant gratification any more."

The Marinette Recreation Center club has about 75 members, while the Sun City West club, located at Beardsley Recreation Center, is down to 50 members.

"We had about 70 members 10 years ago," noted Jackie Mercer, the Sun City West club president.

Another club is located at Sun City's Fairway Recreation Center.

Porcelain art originated several thousand years ago in China, according to instructor Laila Rutherford.

"Marco Polo brought the art to Europe," said the Sun City teacher. "The word 'porcelain' comes from

'porcelana,' which refers to the interior of a seashell."

Once the art became popular with European ladies, it came to the United States in 1873 and was a turn-of-the-century art form here.

Porcelain is painted with a special dry-power paint. Pigments come from finely ground minerals and metals.

"The minerals are melted, then poured on to a marble slab," explained Ms. Rutherford. "Once dried, it is ground into the power we use for painting."

The dry-powder paint is mixed with oil to attain the proper consistency. Once a piece has been painted, it is fired at temperatures up to 2,500 degrees.

"A basic kit of about six pigments, brushes, palette and turpentine will run about \$50-\$60," said Ms. Mercer. "Then there is the cost of lessons and blank pieces of china."

Blank porcelain and china (the terms are used interchangeably) pieces start at \$1 and go up depending upon size, shape and intricacy. A small platter, for example, costs about \$9.

An artist can spend up to 20 hours painting six flowers on a small platter. Paints are applied in thin layers and kiln-fired between layers to fuse paint to the surface.

It can take several weeks to complete a work of porcelain

art.

Members of both clubs insist anyone can learn to create porcelain art.

"You don't have to be an artist, but you must have the desire to learn," said Ms. Rutherford. "A good teacher can provide the training."

Martha Blocker of the Sun City West club agreed.

"We have people who come in and say they could never learn to paint china," she said. "I've been painting for 40 years on and off, and I started copying patterns. Now I do most of my work free-hand."

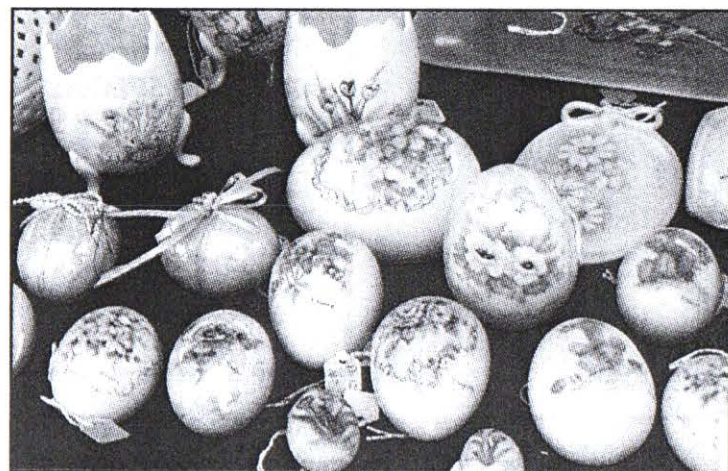
Porcelain art from the clubs is available for purchase. In Sun City, items may be purchased from the Marinette group 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday through Wednesday and on Friday.

In Sun City West, pieces may be purchased at the R.H. Johnson Village Store.

New members are welcome.

In Sun City, call 876-0740 for the Marinette Recreation Center Club.

In Sun City West, call club president Jackie Mercer, 546-4995, or treasurer Rose Knapp, 214-9175.



Painted porcelain eggs were popular items at an R.H. Johnson Recreation Center arts-and-crafts fair April 12.



February 12, 2003

SUN CITY WEST INDEPENDENT

# Red Hats multiply rapidly in Sun Cities

By **Diana Shaughnessy**  
Independent Newspapers

Red hats and purple dresses are popping up all over the Sun Cities, thanks to a phenomenon that goes by the name Red Hat Society.

Begun a mere two years ago as a joke between female friends, and based on a poem about growing old joyously, chapters of the Red Hat Society have grown exponentially across the area. The society's Web site lists 25 registered chapters in Sun City and 29 chapters in Sun City West

alone, sporting such names as the Purple Pension Spenders, Cool Pool Hatters, Dynamite Dolls and Kactus Kitties.

The main purpose of the group simply is to have fun.

"We see this group as an opportunity for those who have shouldered various responsibilities in the home and in the community their whole lives, to say good-bye to burdensome responsibilities," says information on the society's Web site. "This is a place to have fun and enjoy ourselves."

That Web site, [\[society.com\]\(http://www.redhat-society.com\), has lists of Red Hat Society chapters in different locations, a brief history of the group and a link to the Imperium, touted as the official Red Hat store. Of course, red hats may be purchased there.](http://www.redhat-</a></p></div>
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More than 220 Red Hat Society chapters are registered in Arizona and 7,000 worldwide. The average number of members per chapter is 20, which translates into more than 140,000 women walking around wearing red hats and

See **Hats** — Page 7



Photo by Diana Shaughnessy/Independent Newspapers  
**The Mad Hatters pose for a group photo at the Jan. 31 Area Get Together held at Union Hills Country Club.**

OVER



# Hats

Continued from Page 1

purple dresses, celebrating their age by making happy spectacles of themselves.

"We started our club last January (2002)," said Jan Phillips, Queen Mother of the Scarlett O'Hatters of the Desert in Sun City. "In February, we thought how fun it would be to have all the groups in the area get together. At that time, there were 10 chapters. By November, there were 45 chapters."

The Red Hat Society has spread across the country with incredible speed. Launched in 2001, the Red Hat Society is for women who have reached the age of 50.

Californian Sue Ellen Cooper is the founder. While visiting a friend in Tucson several years ago, Ms. Cooper impulsively purchased a bright red fedora at a thrift shop that she found to be both dashing and a bargain. Soon after her purchase, she came across the poem "Warning" by Jenny Joseph, which alludes to aging and deciding to do eccentric things, such as wearing purple "with a red hat which doesn't go and doesn't suit me."

The red fedora became a gift to her friend, Linda Murphy, along with a copy of the poem. The gift was so popular that Ms. Cooper gave the same gift, a red hat and copy of the poem, to more of her

friends.

One day it occurred to the ladies that they were inadvertently becoming a "Red Hat Society," and plans were made to go out to tea as such, in full regalia. The tea, with all the ladies wearing purple dresses and red hats, was a smashing success.

Ms. Cooper was elected Queen Mother of the group. Soon each lady in the group thought of others she wanted to include. Once the group swelled to 18 and no longer fit well around a tea table, other chapters began to form. The first group outside California was formed in Florida by a friend of a California Red Hatter who liked the idea

There are no rules when it comes to forming a Red Hat chapter, except that ladies must be 50 or older, and they must wear purple dresses and red hats when they meet.

"We want to make sure we are not seated in private dining areas when we go to restaurants," confided Mad Hatter Fran De Well of Sun City West. "We certainly don't want to be cut off from society."

Women who want to take part in the Red Hat Society but who are not yet 50 years old may join a club as a Red-Hat-In-Training. These ladies wear pink hats and lavender dresses.

There was red and purple as far as the eye could see when members of Red Hat Societies from all over the northwest Valley met Jan.



**Jackie Nehls of the Red Hot Peppers models her hat, which features teddy bears.**

31 at Union Hills Country Club, 9860 Lindgren Ave., Sun City, for their first Area Get Together.

Janie Rausch was one of the special guests at the event. Ms. Rausch, a northeast Phoenix resident, was the first Queen Mother in Arizona when she formed the Decadent Dames two years ago.

"I read an article about the Red Hat Society in a 'Romantic Homes' magazine," said Ms. Rausch. "I decided it was a great idea, so I called 11 of my friends and had them meet me for lunch on my birthday. I told them to wear purple and ask no questions. At the luncheon, I gave them all red hats and told them about the society. We formed, a newspaper article was done about us, and the phone hasn't stopped ringing ever since."

When asked whether the

Red Hat Society had any focus, Ms. Rausch laughed.

"I guess you could say our cause is, 'Cause we like to have fun," she said.

Gerry Zopf, Queen Mother of the Sun City West group the Mad Hatters, found out about the society from the first Sun City West chapter, the Red Rascals.

While the Mad Hatters have been around for well over a year, the Jolly Red Hatters, another Sun City West group, celebrates its anniversary in February.

"I have a good friend who was in a chapter, but it already was closed," said Queen Mother Arlene Guy. "But there were enough ladies who were interested in joining the society for us to form a new chapter."

The Jolly Red Hatters have marched in the Prescott parade, have monthly luncheons and go to movies.

"When people ask me about the group, I recommend they visit the Web site, to locate chapters or find out how to start new ones," she said.

The North West Phoenix Red Hot Peppers consists mostly of Sun City residents.

"Our group formed so quickly," said Queen Mother Bonnie Abbott. "My friend, Beverly Schmidt, and I decided to form our own chapter when we found others in our area were full. Twelve ladies came to the first meeting, and they had eight friends who also wanted to join, so we maxed out



**Queen Mothers Jan Phillips, left, and Janie Rausch pose in their purple and red finery. Ms. Phillips hosted the Jan. 31 Area Get Together at Union Hills Country Club. Ms. Rausch formed the first Red Hat Chapter in Arizona.**

quickly at 20 members."

The Red Hot Peppers have monthly luncheons, and last Christmas the group took a cruise on Lake Pleasant. Husbands were invited, but they had to wear black pants and red shirts to match their red-hatted wives.

Other Sun City West chapters in attendance at the Jan. 31 gathering included the Flaming Fedora Fems, Red Hat Mamas, Hot Firecrackers, Red Hat Cha

Cha's, Classy Red Hat Dings, Sonoran Desert Red Hat Society, Red Rascals, Designing Divas of Theatre West, Ladybugs on the Go, Power Surges and Las Sombreros Carmin.

Other Sun City chapters in attendance included the Royal Oak Red Hatters, Crafty Red Hatters, Red Ripe Plums, Over The Union Hills Senoras, Sassy Salsas, Vermillion Vamps, Red Hat Swingers, and Red Hat Flashes.





Photos by Nick de la Torre/The Arizona Republic

Jeanne Tarr of Sun City West joined with 400 members of the Red Hat Society for a luncheon with the society's founder, the Exalted Queen Mother Sue Ellen Cooper, last week in Sun City West.

# Red Hat Society all in fun

By Pat Whitney  
Special for The Republic

**A** bright red fedora for sale at a Tucson thrift store a few years ago has forever altered the lives of 300,000 women worldwide.

Sue Ellen Cooper's impulse purchase of the hat led to the formation of the Red Hat Society and a new sisterhood among women.

And gave new hope to a failing industry.

Today, Cooper of Fullerton, Calif., is the exalted Queen Mother of the Red Hat Society, with 17,383 chapters representing 20 countries from Eng-

land to Samoa.

Last week, 400 members representing the 51 Sun City West chapters held a convention at the Briarwood Country Club in Sun City West to celebrate their camaraderie and pay tribute to Cooper.

"Her highness" arrived in a decorated 1915 Model T, chauffeured by a driver wearing a top hat and tails, a gesture befitting her royal status by her Sun City West sisters.

See PURPLE Page 4

Society founder and "Queen Mother" Sue Ellen Cooper



Nick de la Torre/The Arizona Republic

Carolyn Storms of Sun City West made her own hat. She was one of 400 Sun City members on hand to hear founder Sue Ellen Cooper speak last week.

OVER



If anyone was blushing, no one could tell from the sea of red hats that covered the room.

According to Cooper, the social group's membership has exploded quite by accident.

"It started as a joke," she said. "A year or two after purchasing the 'dashing but cheap' hat in 1998, I read *Warning* by Jenny Joseph. I decided to give a red vintage hat along with a copy of the poem to my friend Linda Murphy for her birthday. She was so thrilled she gave the same gift to another friend, then another, then another. Then one day we all decided to go out to tea in full regalia, wearing purple and the red hats like the poem said."

When their group swelled to 18, Cooper encouraged other interested women to start their own chapters. That was in 2001.

What began as a result of a few women deciding to greet middle age with humor and verve has spread through word of mouth, media attention and the Internet, attracting nearly 300,000 women across the world to join their own chapters. Although between 85 and 90 percent are 50 or older, the society is not as much geared to the aging as it is to women in general, Cooper said. Ten to 15 percent are "pink hatters," women under 50.

And the Red Hat Society has evolved beyond the meaning behind the poem, she added.

"It's the nature of women to want to connect with people," she said. "The society offers women that chance. Wherever we go, we attract positive attention. Our goal is to make the public understand that we are not done and don't want to be an invisible segment of society. We are interested in new experiences, no matter what our ages."

Eighteen to 25 women usually make up a chapter, but one chapter in Atlanta has 550 women in one group, she said.

"We've worked, done fundraising and cared for families," Cooper said. "Now it's our time to play. The Red Hat Society gives us permission to have fun. Underneath the frivolity, we share a bond of affection, forged by common life experiences and a genuine enthusiasm for wherever life takes us next."

She said members start out like playmates. Then, they are more like sisters. Finally, they

## How to join the Society

If you are interested in joining the Red Hat Society, go to [www.redhatsociety.com](http://www.redhatsociety.com) and click on the alphabetical listing to find a chapter nearest you. Or, for \$35, start your own chapter and enjoy a chance to be self-proclaimed royalty as lifelong queen.

Purple Perks memberships are \$18, which enables members to use all password protected areas of the Web site, including the Queen Mother Board bulletin board and Red Hat Chat. Also, quarterly mailings come from Hatquarters with discounts on gift items.

Members meet once per month at restaurants, museums or other "fun spots."

Women unable to join a chapter can register as "Ruby's RedHat's Ramblers," a virtual chapter that offers an online community for interacting and an opportunity to purchase Red Hat Society perks membership.

## West Valley chapters

- Avondale, 1.
- El Mirage, 1.
- Glendale, 11.
- Goodyear, 4.
- Phoenix, 38.
- Peoria, 11.
- Sun City, 45.
- Sun City Grand, 1.
- Sun City West, 51.
- Sun Lakes, 35.
- Surprise, 52.
- Wickenburg, 3.

become a support group.

Each chapter has its own queen mother and unique name — like Red Hot Tomatoes, Crimson Chix, RedHat Pack w/Hat'titude, Phoenix Phoxes and Red Hat Divas. Red Hats are cropping up from Dewey to Queen Creek, with 788 chapters in Arizona. West Valley communities have 253 chapters — 96 chapters in the Sun Cities alone.

Cooper stumbled upon the idea of royalty and dress-up by accident. As was Ruby, the imaginary mascot of the society who represents the spirit of the little girl living inside all "mature" Red Hatters. No matter how old, members are promised a glimpse at her if able to possess a spirit of fun and frolic.

Feathers are especially significant, she said, because, like in the movie *Dumbo*, they symbolize permission.

"Packets to new members always include a feather," she said.

Lorna Pfeifer, 91, newest member of the Mad Hatters chapter, experienced her first meeting at the "The Party in Purple."

"Wearing my red hat makes me feel like I'm at a costume ball," she said, grinning.

Pfeifer's friend, Fran Pratt, 71, another Mad Hatter, encouraged her to join.

"The society is a great way to get older people out of the house and engaging socially," said Pratt, who does calligraphy with Pfeifer. "The number of Red Hats is empowering, but it's the camaraderie that's outstanding," she said.

Also attending the conference was Jean Goggin, 70, now of Atlanta, who organized the first Sun City West chapter of the Red Hat Society in May 2001. At the society's first national convention in Chicago, Goggin's three daughters, all "pink hatters" in their 30s and 40s, were there with her — a first for the event.

"The society does a lot of good for those women who don't get out much," Goggin said. "It keeps them connected. It's especially important in smaller, rural areas where they don't have the social outlets of the Sun Cities."

Every Friday, the exalted Queen Mother broadcasts her message via the society's Web site, relying on chapters from all over the world for suggestions on how to have fun. She is also releasing a book, *The Red Hat Society: Fun and Friendship After Fifty*, in April and launching a book-signing tour.

Cooper's fondest hope is that these societies will proliferate far and wide. The Red Hat Society has held two successful conventions — entire hotels filled with women who wear red hats and dress in purple. The first in Chicago in 2002 attracted 400 women. More than 2,000 attended the convention in Nashville last year. Dallas will host the 2004 convention, April 14-18, with a record number of women expected to attend.

Many women decorate their own hats — anything from straw to fedora, lush silks to crinolines. Last week's conference featured a Red Hat contest.

Today, a display case in Fullerton, Calif., houses a vintage red fedora, symbol of sisterhood and the kindred spirit that unites them.

Even if it is just for fun.

*"When I am an old woman I shall wear purple, With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me, And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves, And satin sandals, and say we've no money for butter ..."*

Excerpt of popular poem, *Warning*, by English poet Jenny Joseph, 1961



# Rose and garden club sets hobby abloom

By PAUL JUTZI  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — When Beryl Brandes moved to Sun City 19 years ago from Pennsylvania she expected to find cactuses, not roses.

"I never thought there would be roses in a desert, but when I got here I saw the most beautiful roses I'd ever seen," she said. "Rows and rows of them."

As vice president of the Sun City Rose and Garden Club, Brandes tries to get other people interested in roses and the club.

"I wish more people knew about the rose club. It's such a charming club, and we have people with vast amounts of knowledge about growing roses," she said.

There are about 225 club members now, but in 1970, during the club's peak, there were about 500 members, said Bob Tessier, a 10-year member and club officer.

"Other flowers come and go (in popularity), but you always have the rose," he said. "Roses have been around for thousands of years. We have proof of that from the inscriptions on old Egyptian coins."

What is it about the rose that its popularity endures?

"It has many colors, its perfume is strong and enticing and it is beautiful," said Leonard Malmanger, a 20-year club member.

Nearly everyone loves roses, said Beverly Durham, club president. She

has 15 rose plants that provide hundreds of roses that she gives away.

"I like to give my roses away because they are so special to me," Durham said. "Its something I've nurtured and taken care of, so it's like giving a part of yourself away."

"People realize and appreciate that. I give them to friends in the hospital and it always lifts them and makes me feel good, too."

Rose plants can express life, Durham said.

"Not everything about the rose is rosy," she said. "There are thorns, and that symbolizes adversity. But that adversity strengthens the whole plant, and overall it is beautiful."

Roses require specialized but not time-consuming care, and overall are

very hardy plants that do well in the Valley's climate, Tessier said. Regular watering and once-a-year pruning and fertilizing are the major components of rose care.

"Roses here do great in the winter but our summers can be hell on them. Don't worry about them, though, they'll make it through," he said.

Members of the rose and garden club tend the rose garden at the Sun Bowl, 107th Avenue and Clair Drive. That's how the club got started 26 years ago, Tessier said. A group of people wanted a rose garden there and they formed a club to grow and maintain it.

Many club members show their roses at the state and county fair and at other judged competitions.

"We who grow them strive for per-

fection," Tessier said. "Only one or two out of a thousand are acceptable for serious judging."

Sun City Rose and Garden club meets at 7 a.m. the second Monday of each month in the auditorium of Fairway Recreation Center on the northeast corner of Peoria and 107th avenues.

The first half-hour of each meeting is reserved for socializing, and guest speakers usually follow. This week's topic was preparing and wrapping roses for transport to shows.

The club is having its first major show since 1985 this fall at Mountain View Recreation Center, 9749 N. 107th Ave. More than 300 entries are expected from all over the state at the Nov. 21 event.

OVER





Rick D'Elia/Daily News-Sun  
Nancy Gilkeson of Sun City stops to smell the roses during a rose club meeting Monday.

# Everything's coming up roses

## Daily News-Sun staff

Sun City Rose and Garden Club members are eager to help other people's rose gardens blossom.

Planting and growing roses is relatively easy, said club members and experienced rose growers Bob Tessier and Leonard Malmanger, who supplied the following tips for growing roses.

■ Planting is best done in mid-January, when bare-root roses are available at stores and nurseries. A hole 1½ times the size of the plant's root ball should be dug and the plant placed into it.

■ A 50-50 mixture of soil and mulch should be packed around the root ball, and the mixture should be depressed toward the center of the plant so water collects near the stalk. The plant should be deep-watered once every two weeks.

■ Within a couple weeks of planting the rose should be sprouting leaves. When the first leaves appear it is time to fer-

tilize the plant with rose food, following instructions on the fertilizer container.

■ Continue deep-watering once every two weeks until summer, when weekly waterings are required. Mulch should be placed around the base of the plant to retain moisture and help keep the plant cool in summer.

■ In mid-December it is pruning time. Two-thirds of the total growth should be trimmed back. Although this may seem drastic to the first-time rose grower, it will result in the best spring growth, Tessier and Malmanger said.

■ When the first new leaves begin to appear after pruning, usually in mid-to late January, it is time to fertilize again and the cycle repeats.

■ Roses bloom best in spring and fall, they said. After a rose bud dies it should be trimmed from the plant.



Rick D'Elia/Daily News-Sun

Helen Meadows of Sun City and friend Margaret McCarthy from Seattle, Wash., admire some of the full-bloom roses entered for judging in the Sun City Rose and Garden Club.



# Psychedelic museum

## Black light turns on rocks in rec center

By Betty Latty  
Special to Community

Sun City

**T**ucked away on the upper level of the Sundial Recreation Center is a sparkling little gem of a museum.

The museum is a project of the Sun City Rockhound Club.

You would expect no less than a gem from this club's dedicated membership, which opened its mineral museum to the public two years ago and since has acquired an adjacent room for expansion.

Colorful Arizona minerals, including the bright blues and greens of copper-related azurite, malachite, and chrysocolla, are prominent in the collection, as is an assemblage of calcite crystals from all over the world.

Visitors who step into the museum's tiny Fluorescent Room to view minerals under black light often are stunned by the vital glow of psychedelic color — luminous reds, greens and blues — found on normally lackluster rocks.

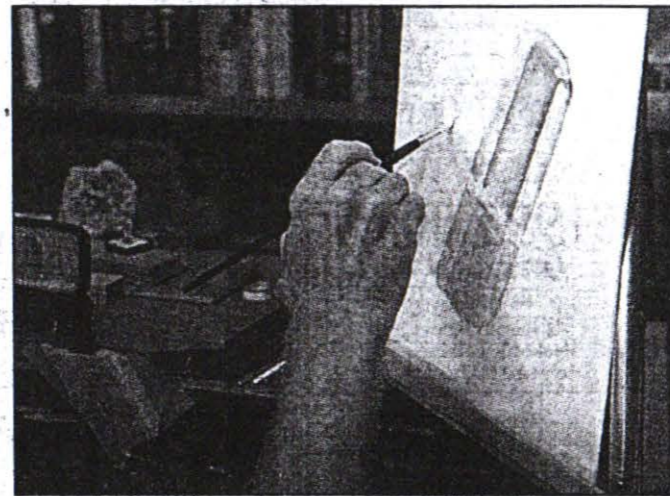
"A lot of people haven't seen anything like this," said Jinny Curtis, who monitors for the club once a week. "They ask us if we painted the colors on the rocks. We are very proud of that room."

Most of the specimens in the room come from the Franklin, N.J., area known to rockhounds as the "fluorescent mineral capital of the world," because its ore deposit yields so many

See ROCKS, Page 4



Tim Fitzgerald / Staff photographer



Community

**Above, artist Bill Porter looks through a set of magnifying glasses to see the detail of a crystal he is painting. At left, Porter transfers the image he sees onto a canvas as an enlargement of crystals.**

## Oil on canvas captures gem from scopes

By Betty Latty  
Special to Community

SUN CITY — Mention rockhounds, crystals, and Arizona to Bill Porter, and you get a broad smile and just one word: "Marvelous!"

Porter, a Zane Grey buff and rockhound-turned-artist, has found a way to share the excitement he feels when he views tiny crystal formations under a microscope: He translates his discoveries into oil paintings.

Porter, one of the area rockhounds who pursue mineral studies under magnification, or micromounts, has developed a technique to project his finds, enlarged 16 to 20 times, on to canvas, where he can paint his subjects to scale.

It was thinking about people who miss seeing such wonders that motivated him, said Porter, who has been an artist-hobbyist for 40 years.

"After I got so intrigued with the unusual formations I saw, I realized that a lot of people can't ever see these things, so I thought I would paint them," he said.

Now, instead of portraits and landscapes, his subjects are the brilliant oranges of wulfenite with fluorite crystals from the famed Red Cloud Mine in Yuma County, the lavenders of amethyst and the blue-greens of chrysocolla.

Other favorites are scepter crystals, so-called because they are rodlike, with narrow stems bearing added formations

See PORTER, Page 4



## ROCKS

From Page 1

luminescent minerals.

The club is ready to display about 500 additional rock, fossil and geode specimens in the Mineral Museum's expanded space, according to Lloyd Gau, president.

"Our whole museum is an all-volunteer effort," Gau said. "We've done it on donations of money and specimens. The club did all the planning, all the work, even built the display cases."

The mineral museum compares favorably with others across the nation, said Fred Curtis, who chairs the museum committee. "It is small, but we feel it is quite impressive, in terms of the quality of specimens and the way they are displayed," he said.

The museum deliberately is not overcrowded with cabinets, Curtis

added. "We want people to come in, spend 15 or 20 minutes, and not be overwhelmed."

The museum may be better known to winter visitors and international tourists than to residents in the greater Sun Cities area. "There still are a lot of (Sun City) people who don't know we are here," said Gau. "We'd like to get the word out. There is no admission charge, and we really do enjoy people coming in."

The public also may bring rock samples to the museum for help with identification, he said.

The guest book at the museum lists visitors from Scandinavia, England, Scotland, almost every province in Canada, and Japan. "We had one busload of school kids who signed their names both in

Japanese and in English," recalled Jinny Curtis.

"Once people see what we have, their enthusiasm is just amazing," she said. Some visitors have sent mineral donations to the museum after returning to their homes, she added.

The Mineral Museum of the Sun City Rockhound Club, 14801 N. 103rd Ave., Sun City, is open weekdays except Thursday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

During June, July, August and September, museum hours will be 9 a.m. to noon, Tuesday through Friday.

For membership information, contact Stan and Velma Hernandez, 933-8480.

## PORTER

From Page 1

at their tops, much like their namesake symbols of royalty.

The minuscule specimen from which he paints always accompanies the art, Porter said. "That guarantees the buyer gets one of a kind."

Porter, a vice president of the Sun City Rockhound Club, took some art training during his college years, but majored in physics, which he said helped him to

understand rock formations.

He arrived in Arizona six years ago from Ohio, where he served in Wittenburg University's administration for 25 years. "I was always into rocks," he said. "When the children were young, we used to go on hikes and look for fossils."

Porter decided to make his move after the second of his two sons followed his brother and sister to Arizona. "Dan ostensibly was com-

ing out to see Laura in Phoenix, but I could tell by the way he packed his car it wasn't going to be a short visit," joked their dad. Dan and brother Bill, who live in Morristown, now mine geodes near Quartzite.

Inquiries about the senior Porter's artwork may be sent to Not Just Rocks, P.O. Box 100, Morristown 85342.





Ed Posser and Mary Randel load new shelves with gems at the mineral museum in Sun City as Jim Finley (with hat) and Fred Curtis

work on a locator map of Arizona. All the museum display cases and amenities have been built by volunteers.

Peter Schwepker / Staff photographer



Linda Inglis of Sun City joined RVing Women because she doesn't like to travel alone.



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Monday, Jan. 31, 2000

Daily News-Sun : An edition of the East Valley Tribune

50¢

# 21st century wagon train

**ODYSSEY:** Women unite for cross-country RV sojourns

CLAUDIA SHERRILL  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It seemed regular enough. About 60 recreational vehicles parked in a roughly formed circle with a huge stone fire ring surrounded by piles of firewood, boxes of kindling and bags of paper.

A cursory glance around revealed nothing unusual. Some of the rigs had their awnings rolled down, others had rugs or mats on the ground to keep the dust outside, just about all of them had a couple of chairs and a folding table set up.

What was unusual about this RV rally was that it was all female, members of an all-woman organization, RVing Women. They had congregated for a weekend in the desert — Quartzsite 2000, a Millennium Experience was how it was billed. Here, in what some

would consider a desolate locale, surrounded by mountains, parked amid saguaros, sage and palo verde, they set up their sites. And they were ready to have fun.

There were recreational vehicles of all sizes and shapes, from pop-up tent campers to vans, Class B and C to the big rigs — the 5th wheel and Class A models, up to 40 feet in length. All owned and operated by women who enjoy the RV lifestyle and want to share the experience with like-minded women.

RVing Women is a non-profit

organization that began in 1991 with 495 members. Today it boasts 4,000 members worldwide. It is based in Apache Junction and is a division of the Association For the Advancement of RVing.

According to Charlotte Norby, RVW's national program director, the women who join the organization are not necessarily seasoned campers. They sometimes are total neophytes to the lifestyle. Whatever their camping

**See Women RVers, A5**

over



## From A1

experience, the club welcomes them — all they need is the desire to be a member.

The organization's mission statement lists its purpose as providing education, safety and training and a network of friendly support and information to women who are interested in RVing. The organization "welcomes all women and celebrates the diversity and talents of our members."

Ownership is not a requirement, some women rent RVs when they want to travel, some make arrangements to share rigs with other members.

Members come from all 50 states, Canada and overseas. Rigs at the rally bore license plates from Idaho, Nova Scotia, Nevada, Wisconsin, Washington, Ontario, Texas, Louisiana, California, Delaware and of course, Arizona.

One of the Arizona rigs belonged to Linda Inglis of Sun City. A new member, Inglis joined RVW four months ago because she was tired of traveling alone. The RV lifestyle just doesn't interest her husband, Dick, as much as it does Linda. Quartzsite was her first rally, but she planned to attend the next, in Las Vegas Saturday and Sunday, to learn more about RV maintenance.

Norby recalled one woman who "drove into a rally having just

bought her first RV. She was recently widowed and had never done anything like this before. She said to me, 'I just picked this thing up. I pumped my own gas, put a six-pack in the fridge, and here I am. Teach me what I need to know.'"

Norby laughed as she related the story, recalling how the woman and her rig were soon surrounded by other women, eager to help her learn all about the RV. By the end of the weekend rally she not only knew where the rig's hook-ups were, she also knew how to use them, from the electrical cord to the sewer connection.

"That's the greatest thing about RVW," Norby said. "Everybody is willing to help you out, teach you what they know, show you how to do things. It's a very supportive atmosphere for all of us."

The RVW rallies promise more than fun. Some are extended caravans, providing women the opportunity to travel farther — to Alaska or the Baja peninsula, for example — without worrying about being alone on the road. A lot of conversations centered around a 45-day caravan to the Yucatan Peninsula that was ending Jan. 25 in Texas.

"It's a wonderful opportunity (for a woman) to be with other women who like to do what she likes, but not be by herself," Inglis said.

Most get-togethers have a theme and some are focused solely on learning more about safe driving, maintenance, safety on the road and running a business from your RV. At the Quartzsite rally, learning sessions included Brake Safety, Solar Power and Staying Connected While on the Road.

The seminar presenters each set up in the middle of the circle of rigs and soon had an audience. These women were serious about learning, asking good questions and keeping the presenters on their toes. Many of the women had experience with solar panels and were happy to lend their expertise to that seminar. The Sunday session, about staying in touch on the road, was just as

informative. The presentation covered cell phones, data cables for laptop and desktop computers, wireless Internet service and long distance phone cards for cell phones. Almost everyone had a question or comment for the presenter.

All the learning aside, these women know how to have fun. A potluck dinner Friday night, barbecue Saturday and pancake breakfast Sunday morning guaranteed no one would leave hungry. And the nightly bonfires provided ample opportunity to get to know one another, compare notes on trips taken and planned and dust off the rusty vocal cords at the sing along. Even dropping by to look at a new rig or piece of equipment provided the

opportunity to make connections and new friends.

"Life doesn't stop if you're widowed or divorced. You can still do things you want and accomplish things," Inglis said. "The camaraderie is tremendous.

For information about RVing Women, call 480-983-4678 or 888-55RVING (toll free). The Web site is [www.rvingwomen.com](http://www.rvingwomen.com) and the e-mail address is [rvingwomen@juno.com](mailto:rvingwomen@juno.com).



# Scandinavian Club is strong to the Finnish

A funny thing happened to a small group of Swedes on their way to St. George's Restaurant in Sun City a little more than three decades ago. Planning to form a Swedish Club, they hoped for a reasonable turnout of about 30 people. However, more than 130 showed up, and they weren't all Swedes.



**Rich Kenney Jr.**

Norwegians, Finns, Danes and Icelandics wanted in on this new group and, in 1972, the Scandinavian Club of Sun City was born.

Wisconsinite Harold Peterson, whose roots are in Norway, was happy with the way the meeting turned out. Peterson, a retired pastor from Shepherd of the Desert Lutheran Church in Sun City, has been treasurer of the club for the past 10 years and was president in 1991.

"Our meetings are quite an event," he said of their sit-down dinners held at Palmbrook Country Club the second Saturday of each month.

"With more than 200 people attending, it's almost like a festival. And, we always sing the national anthems of the Scandinavian countries which is a challenge."

"Well, we try to sing them," said his wife, Margene, a Minnesota native with ties to Sweden and Denmark. "What's nice, too, is that we have flag centerpieces representing each of the countries at every table."

The lively get-togethers also feature speakers that key in on a specific area of interest relating to Scandinavia. Speakers have included Gloria Jackson of the Finnish Consul, whose topic was "The 1939 Winter War" and Howard Poch, who discussed the controversial Kensington rune stone. The stone, which was unearthed in Kensington, Minn. dates back to before the arrival of Christopher Columbus and indicates a Norwegian presence in this country.

Harold, too, is no stranger to the club's microphone and podium.

"I spoke a few months ago about folk tales of Norway, the history of folktaling" he said. "Many Norwegians settled in old Muskego, which is near Milwaukee and a number of them settled along the train lines in the Dakotas.

Many developed stories



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Harold and Margene Peterson hold a tray decorated with rosemary. The Peterson's are members of the Scandinavian Club which meets at Palmbrook Country Club the second Saturday of each month.

about 'coming over.' For example, there was Stener Lewton, who lived to be 107. He was a member of our church in Stoughton, Wis. and he told how he and a friend worked their way over as deck hands on a ship. While painting the main sails one day, his buddy was flipped off the ship during a squall and they just left him there in the sea."

Harold also addressed the significance of trunks.

"Trunks were highly prized," he said. "When Norwegians came over, they treasured their trunks because these contained all their belongings. As a result, some of the Norwegians began painting them in what is called rosemary, a type of art that is special for Norwegians. They painted the trunks so they could distinguish them from the others that were all stored down in the ship's hold."

As Margene showed me a piece of rosemary artwork characterized by swirling flowers and elegant scrolls, Harold talked about Per Lysne who is credited with bringing rosemary to the United States.

"He was a Norwegian who was hired to paint wagons in Stoughton, Wis. for the Mandt Wagon Company," he said. "They were excellent wagons - solid oak masterpieces. Later, he started his own business rosemary plates and bowls. The plates are all over the country and if you find one, they are invaluable."

In addition to monthly speakers, the club hosts special events such as the Santa Lucia Pageant that is usually held every December. It is believed that the Lucia celebration began as far back as 1665 in Stockholm.

"Each year, one woman is chosen from the group to be

the Santa Lucia who wears a long white robe with a red belt," Margene explained. "One year, I was the Santa Lucia. She wears a garland of candles in her hair. When she comes into the room, she and her attendants carry in saffron biscuits for everyone in the group. It's a tradition from Sweden often played by the oldest daughter in the family."

The Scandinavian Club is also very involved with TUB-FRIM, a humanitarian organization owned by the Norwegian Health Service. The organization collects used postage stamps, which are then packaged and resold to wholesalers and philatelists worldwide. Profits earned from these activities are used to provide financial aid for children in Norway who are mentally challenged.

When not involved with the Scandinavian Club, the Petersons keep busy with many activities. Harold preaches on Sundays at the Sunflower RV Resort. He also does narration for the Sun City Concert Band and the Chamber Orchestra.

Margene is a hand bell ringer for the Sun City Community Choir and has been a recreation volunteer at Good Shepherd Care Center in Peoria for many years. The two ring bells together in the choir at their church.

The couple also enjoys Saturday afternoons listening to Garrison Keillor bring to life characters like Florian and Myrtle Krebsbach in Lake Wobegon's Chatterbox Café during the Prairie Home Companion radio show. In many ways, Harold can relate to Keillor's tongue-in-cheek religious humor.

"I love that Pastor Ingqvist," he said. "Now, there's a Swedish name for you."



# Sun City club sews seeds of helpful local service



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Collette Hoop, left, and Virginia Wilke, members of the Lakeview Sew 'n' Sew Club, admire the children's clothing they and others in their club made to donate to the Airman's Attic at Luke Air Force Base.

## Sew 'n' Sew makes, donates clothes to Luke, Nadaburg

HAYLEY RINGLE  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Some members of the Sew 'n' Sew Club in Sun City spent their summer making children's clothes and uniforms for the less fortunate.

Two members of the club, Virginia Wilke and Colette Hoop, were in charge of a group of sewers who made children's outfits for the Luke Air Force Base's Airman's Attic. They will deliver the clothes on Tuesday.

The Airman's Attic is part of family services on the base and is available for active-duty servicemen and women in their first years in the military to pick up needed items for free, said Geno Piccoli, volunteer resource program manager for Luke Air Force Base.

"We have a layette program where (servicemen or women who are) E4 or below can pick up a gift package when they have a baby," Piccoli said.

The group made 69 two-piece

children's outfits, 16 infant outfits, five dresses, two nightgowns, three pants and 24 underpants from infant to size eight, Wilke said.

"We figured it was time to do something for them, since they do so much for our country," said Wilke, a member since 1981.

All the clothes are made out of donated fabric from the community.

"I sewed for my kids, grandkids and now I need another source," Hoop said. Five club members also sewed uniforms for the Nadaburg Elementary School for their back to school uniform program. The children received the uniforms the first week of school in August.

The club has donated homemade items for the school, at 32919 Center St. in Wittmann, for the past five years, but this year had a new mission: uniforms. This is the first year the Nadaburg students are wearing uniforms.

The women made 22 jumpers, 15 shorts, 14 blouses, 35 skorts and 2 slacks in navy, khaki, white and forest green.

"I enjoy it so much," said Hoop, who likes to sew for children. "It's like a hobby."

The club conferred with the school nurse, Christine Florendo, to make sure the uniforms complied with the school's policy.

The shorts and skirts have to be no less than three inches above the knee, and blouses and shirts had to have collars and sleeves. No tank tops or baggy pants are allowed.

"They've just been super," said Florendo about the Sew 'n' Sew Club. "They come to me and (ask), 'What do you need?'"

The school has 505 students, and 75 percent are on free and reduced lunches, Florendo said.

"Some would wear their parent's clothes to school," Florendo said. "They were so thrilled to get something new."

The Sew 'n' Sew Club is always looking for donated fabric and any type of sewing equipment, such as buttons, zippers and Velcro. To donate, call Wilke at 972-8058 or Hoop at 977-9698.





Photo by JULIA DE SIMONE/Independent Newspapers

## Sew 'N' Sew members donate to those in need

Sew 'N' Sew club chairman Jo Wayne Frank, left, and co-chairman Colette Hoop display just a few of the blankets, dresses, shirts and other items club members donate to an array of charities. The Sew 'N' Sew Club meets 9:30 a.m. every Thursday at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 Thunderbird Blvd., Sun City. Membership fee is \$3 per year and includes use of equipment. Call 972-8058.

# Sewing club doesn't just benefit members

By JULIA DE SIMONE  
Independent Newspapers

Since the Sew 'N' Sew Club formed 27 years ago in Sun City, members have been pulling some threads for the benefit of others.

"I love to sew and every stitch I figure is a stitch of love and compassion for everyone I do it for," said club chairman Jo Wayne Frank.

Virginia Wilke, publicity chairwoman, said material and supplies are donated from residents and businesses. Members then produce clothes for children, blankets for care centers and other items for various groups.

Ms. Frank said more than 18 care centers, schools and non-profit

organizations benefit from the donations.

In addition to helping others, the 130 registered Sew 'N' Sew members benefit from the club's Total Women programs. Club members learn skills ranging from maintaining their vehicles to living healthier lives. Ms. Wilke said the programs especially benefit widows in their late 80s and early 90s.

"There are a lot of widows that need the help, and there are a lot of scams," Ms. Wilke said. "We have the (sheriff's) posse come and make them alert."

Louise Asterino, club president, admitted she "probably would be lonesome" without the organization.

"I enjoy the people," said Ms.

Asterino, who has been a member since 1989.

Club members also hold a style show during the annual Recreation Center's Fun Fairs in the spring.

During this event, members stroll around the Lakeview Center Pool and display clothes they have sewn.

Although members do not sell

clothing items to the public, cloth basket holders, purses, steering wheel covers and more can be purchased from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every Thursday.

The Sew 'N' Sew Club meets 9:30 a.m. every Thursday at Lakeview Recreation Center, 10626 Thunderbird Blvd. Call 972-8058.





Submitted photo

### Dumped truck

The Friendship Caravan of the Israel Scouts performed at Temple Beth Shalom on July 22. More than 350 people attended the event.

## Sundial Shuffleboard Club may move or cease operation

By JULI NESSETT  
Independent Newspaper

Sundial Shuffleboard Club will soon be forced to shuffle off its courts permanently, as the result of a decision handed down by the Recreation Centers of Sun City's board of directors.

On July 3, the club was officially informed the courts will be closed between Sept. 8 and 15, according to club Vice President Norman Splitgerber.

"They promised us we will be there through the first week of September, but after that there are no guarantees," said Mr. Splitgerber.

The future of the club and its players will be decided during a meeting of its membership Sept. 4.

Mr. Splitgerber said the members will vote on whether to move the club to the outdoor courts at Lakeview Recreation Center or to the indoor courts at Bell Recreation Center.

But the transfer to either courts will depend on negotiations with the other centers' clubs.

According to Mr. Splitgerber, Sundial's President John Waldron is currently in the process of negotiating an agreement.

The Sundial Club has approximately 125 members, while Bell's club has about 190 members.

Mr. Splitgerber said the members of his club are quite upset about the closure.

"The general feeling is they are

very upset for the reason we are being kicked out," he explained. "The club has been here since the 1970s or so and now they are doing reorganization. So the courts will be taken out and the room will be given to the Men's Club."

Art Little, RCSC director, confirmed this.

"There is a probability the Men's Club will move there and the current Men's Club room may be used for yoga and mat exercise groups. An awful lot of people are asking for that," he said.

Mr. Little did say a motion on closure has not yet been presented

to the board but it is under consideration.

If the club decides to move to Lakeview courts, it will not be able to meet during the summer months as they currently do.

"These people have always played inside," said Mr. Splitgerber. "Many of our players are over 75 and shuffleboard outside is a seasonal sport. They are also not used to playing outside during the chill of the winter."

If the Bell courts are chosen, it will have to be decided what times each club will play since they both play at similar times on similar days.



# Skate Club rolls down memory lane

**L**ike many members of the Sun City Roller Skating Club, Olive Hosmer remembers her early days skating as a child.

"I've skated since I was 7 years old," the Michigan-born roller skater said. "My mother used to call me when I was outside in the middle of winter and say, 'Do you know it's snowing?' I'd say, so what? I want to skate."

No stranger to winning medals, Olive won her first when she was 10.

"I earned a bronze medal in athletics for the whole Detroit area," she said. "There were girls 18 years old with real long legs and here I am, 10 years old with very short legs and got a bronze."

When she moved to Sun City in 1981, Olive continued her medal-winning ways by earning five more honors for dance skating at Great Skate Arena in Glendale.

"That was one of my favorite memories," she said. "A real highlight."

In the summer, on any given Monday, from 10 a.m. to noon, one can find Olive and about a dozen or so of her roller-skating colleagues at the Mountain View Center in Sun City.

Pat Lindsey, a native of Independence, Mo., is one. Not having skated since she was 16, Pat was a little apprehensive about picking up where she left off as a teen.

"When I came out to Sun City last winter, I decided to see if I could skate again," she said. "I was 71 years old and it was a little bit scary at first. But I finally got enough confidence that I wasn't going to break every bone in my body and now I really enjoy it."

While Pat enjoys the exercise, and the people with whom she skates, skating brings back special memories of her father.

"When I was in grade school, I used to roller skate up the street to meet my dad when he got off the bus after work. That is one of my favorite memories."

If it weren't for a London instrument maker by the name of Joseph Merlin, Pat and Olive may not have such notable roller-skating experiences and memories. According to Mary Bellis in her piece



Submitted Photo

The Sun City Roller Skating Club meets Mondays at Mountain View. The group includes from left, Richard Bondon, Carol Jepson, Pat Lindsey, Jim Klug, Olive Hosmer, and Wally Roder. At the the organ is Phil Temple.

titled, "The Invention of the Wheel," Merlin was the first to publicly display roller skates in 1760.

He did so while attending a masquerade party wearing a pair of metal-wheeled boots. To impress the socialites at the affair, he made his dazzling entrance while playing a violin. However, since he had not yet perfected any stopping or turning controls, he helplessly glided across the floor, crashing into a mirror.

It wasn't until 1863, that New Yorker James Plimpton developed a "rocking skate," that enabled an individual to turn or skate backward.

Most grateful for that invention is Sun Citian Walter Roder, who started skating in Milwaukee, Wis., when he was 13.

"I had a couple of girls who liked to waltz with me on roller skates," he said. "That's what I really enjoyed about roller skating. That, and the exercise."

Walter and his wife waltzed together for years before several foot operations

made it impossible for her to continue to skate. She encouraged Walter to continue, however, when they moved to Sun City a few years ago.

Though he's had several skating partners, Walter said it's difficult to find someone who's willing to try the turns.

"I don't blame people for not wanting to learn to go backward or stick their necks out to take a chance," he said. "At our age, we're not going to mend like we did when we were teens. So I don't have a skating partner and, truthfully, I don't know if I want one now because I've been noticing, even today, my balance isn't what it used to be. I did love to waltz on skates, though."

Another skater is Jim Klug, who was born and raised in Pittsburgh. A loyal member of the club for 10 years, Jim moved to Sun City in 1977.

"It's just one of my activities," he said. "I've been skating since the Depression and it's an exercise that keeps me what I am — I'm in my 90th year."

Originally from New York City, Richard Bondon has lived in Arizona for 45 years. He joined the club when he moved to Sun City in 1997. Richard, however, is not a roller skater.



**Rich Kenney Jr.**

"I'm a Roller Blader," he explained. "They're similar to ice skates and it's just what I'm used to. I don't wear pads. I just skate nice and slow. Fortunately, these floors are more forgiving than the cement or asphalt."

Carol Jepson, secretary of the club, is another faithful Monday attendee at Mountain View.

"I'm from Elgin, Ill., and came to Sun City in 1996," she said. "As a child I used to skate until I just couldn't anymore. As a teenager, I skated in the rinks and did the waltzes. I loved it then and I love it now. I've been in the club for five years and look forward to it every week."

The club also features live music. If you come by to visit, you will most likely find Phil Temple behind the organ playing everything from patriotic songs to theme songs from movies such as "Dr. Zhivago."

"I've provided music for the club for 15 years," the native of Wyoming said. "Fellowship is the name of the game in anything and that's what I like about this club. And, from time to time, I even get to skate myself."

To learn more about the Sun City Roller Skating Club, call 623-875-1045.



# Time for them to fly

## Roller skaters find freedom in sport

By MAGGIE REED  
Staff writer

Imagine flying like a dove.

That's how Olive Hosmer, president of the Sun City Roller Skating Club, describes the feeling she gets when she's on roller skates.

"Everything feels fine when I'm out there. I feel like I am a dove flying in the air. Everything is so wonderful when I'm out there," Hosmer said.

Club members gather from 10 a.m. to noon Mondays and from 4 to 6 p.m. Fridays in the Mountain View Recreation Center auditorium.

They skate along and dance in pairs to music.

Most participants skated as kids and then let many years go by before they started again.

"I've loved roller skating since I was about 16 years old," said Clare Jeschke, club treasurer. "There were years where I wouldn't skate. I really love the music. It's organ music most of the time."

Kyla Grierson said she is learning to balance on skates since she began again.

"I've been skating for less than a year, other than when I was a kid," she said. "I came down to observe once and decided I'd like to join."

Hosmer joined after learning of the club's existence.

"I was just driving down the street one day and I saw the sign," Hosmer said. "I turned around, came back and joined up. I had been skating for umpteen thousands of years. I was used to skating in the streets," said the 17-year resident of Sun City.

Bettie Dodds is another former street skater.

"I still have cinders in my knee from when I didn't hop the alley fast enough when I was a kid," Dodds said. "That was back when you had the skates with a key."

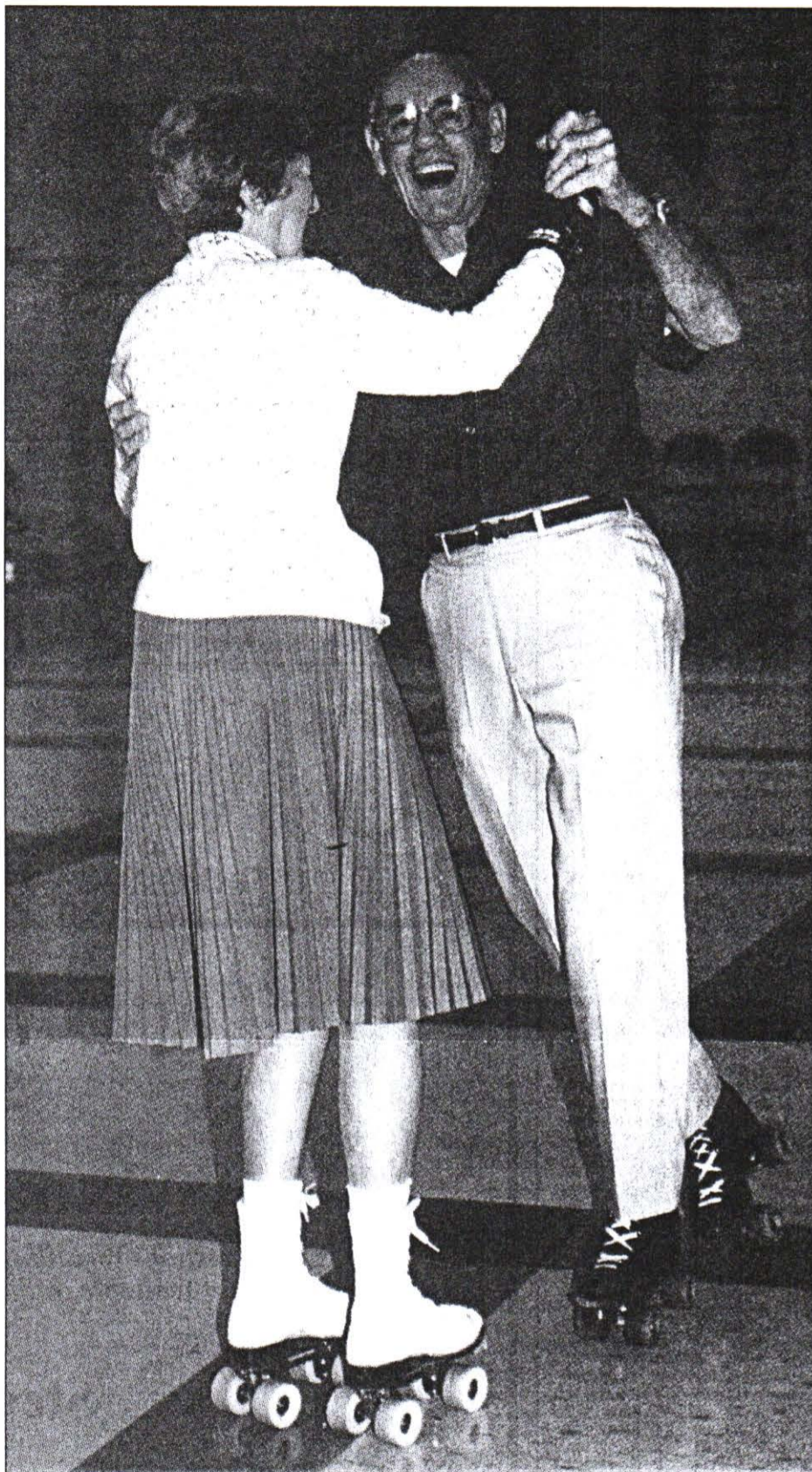
Mary Lou Hagen said she also hasn't skated since childhood.

"I only skated about three times when I was a kid and never got beyond hanging onto the wall. I joined here in September.

"Oh, my goodness, it is a scary feeling being back on skates but the gals give me a lot of hints," the 61-year-old said.

There is also the camaraderie among the 55 members, Hagen said.

"This is much different than just going out and exercising. The company is good. It is much more



By Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily-News Sun

Walter Roder leads Bettie Dodds around the Mountain View Auditorium floor. The two are members of the Sun City Roller Skating club.

fun than just going to the exercise room."

Along with the companionship, there is also the benefit of exercise.

"This is better than swimming," Dodds said. "The skates weigh about 3 1/2 pounds each and you are lifting them up. It is one of the best exercises I know to work up your body."

Hosmer said the workouts make a positive impact.

"When you go out there and skate for an hour or so, you know you've been skating. It is great exercise," she said.

Hosmer should know. She also

bowls five times a week and tap dances twice a week.

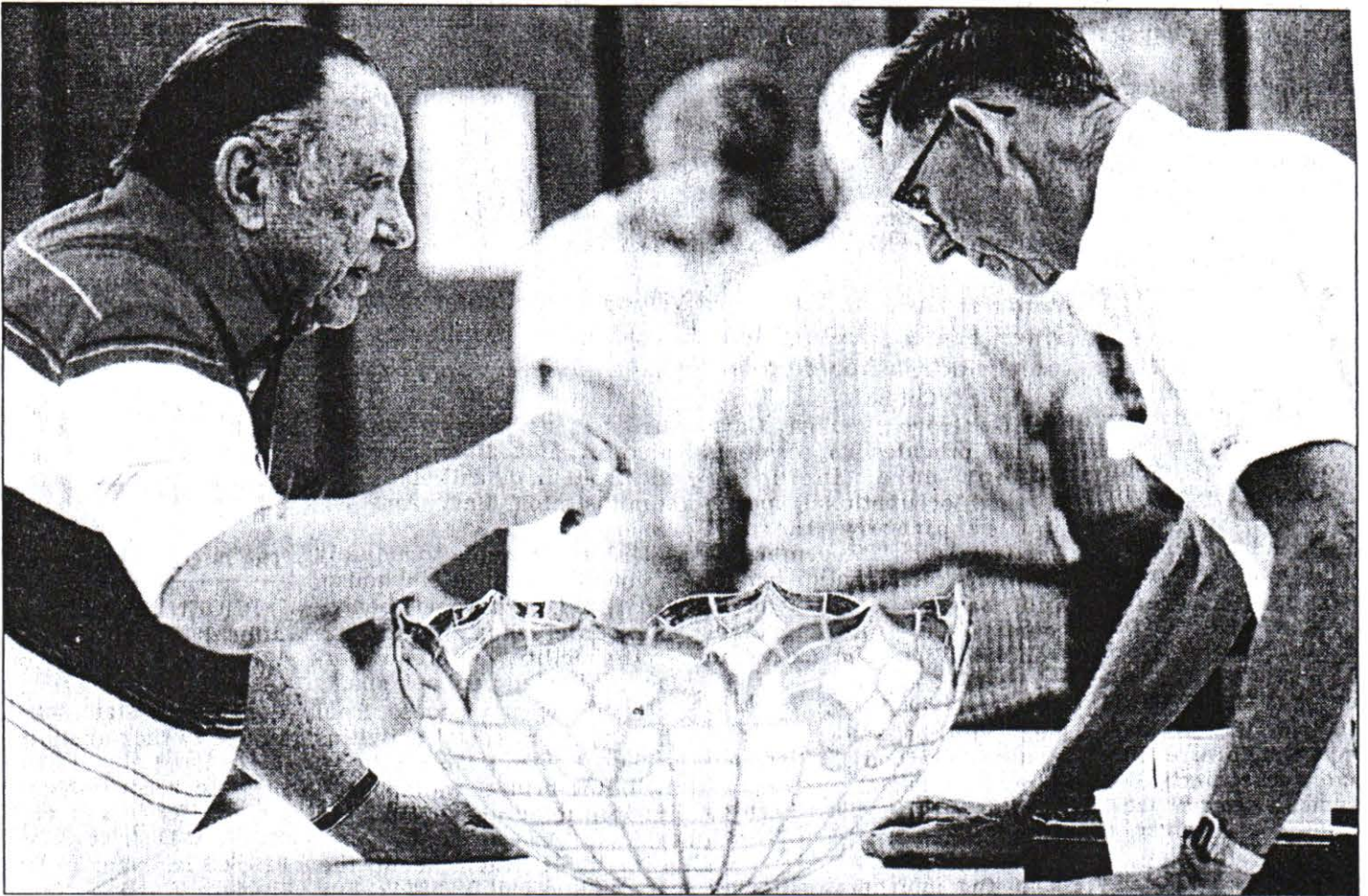
The club approved the use of in-line skates last year.

In-line skater Richard Bodin said he is still working on his form and on improving his skills.

"I like this because I can go outside and skate around parks and such with my daughter in San Diego," he said. "And I like it here because I don't have to worry about falling on the concrete because we have tile and there are no hills or curves."

For club information, call 972-2093.





Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Bill Kiel, left, of Peoria and Paul Gravatt, president of the Artistic Stained Glass Club at Bell Recreation Center, study an unfinished lamp shade at the club's anniversary party Thursday. The Sun City club invited stained glass crafters from Sun City West and Westbrook Village in Peoria.

## Members reflect group's success

By JEANNIE JOHNSON  
Staff writer

SUN CITY — Wanda DesBiens began her quest for a stained glass club in Sun City more than a decade ago.

Now, the club is celebrating its humble beginnings and boasts a membership of more than 250.

The idea grew in 1983, out of classes DesBiens was taking from the owner of a stained glass shop in the La Ronde Centre.

"A bunch of us looked at other clubs in Sun City that had space so we thought why don't we try and get a stained glass club," she said. "I went to the clubs office and the person in charge wasn't very enthusiastic about the idea. She was more interested in dance and card clubs. The general manager wasn't that interested either."

Coming up against this wall of resistance, DesBiens asked if she might be allowed to set up a table at one of the Fun Fairs to gauge residents' interest.

More than 150 people said they'd love to have a stained glass club, DesBiens said. At that time, Sun City West had opened a stained glass club with more than 100 members.

Using the signatures from interested Sun Citians and the precedent of Sun City West, DesBiens went

knocking on the door of the club's office once again. This time, the management agreed it would be a good idea and promised the new club space.

A room was found at Sundial. Unfortunately, the roof of the recreation center chose that time to crumble, DesBiens said. The club waited for more than a year to finally find its home in the Bell Recreation Center.

"The recreation centers gave us some seed money to start the club, and we went over to Sun City West to see how they had done it," she said. "Using the money given to us by the rec centers, we went out and purchased materials and people donated their time and talents to make all the tables and counters and everything."

In all, it took several years for DesBiens to get the stained glass club established; the group is officially celebrating its eighth anniversary this year.

Since its inception, the Artistic Stained Glass Club has produced many accomplished artists.

And the results of their efforts are so rewarding, DesBiens said.

"Stained glass is such a pretty art form," she said. "To me, the stained glass comes to life when light shines through it. Paintings are nice, but they just sit there. Stained glass has life."

STAINED GLASS



# Special people steal hearts

By GLENN B. SANBERG

SUN CITY — If you want a real treat some Monday or Friday morning, join a get-together of SCYSAC in the Fellowship Hall of Lakeview United Methodist Church.



You'll not only have a lot of fun but you will see a side of Sun City you may never have known existed.

SCYSAC (Sun City-Youngtown Special Activities Center) for the past seven or eight years has been quietly creating a joyous lifestyle for some 25 of our "special" people, many of them sons and daughters of residents.

I guarantee you will have a lot of laughs and a lump in your throat before the session is over. You may even hear a super-special rendition of "How Much is That Doggie in the Window? Arf! Arf!" by Kathy Madoni and Robert Langry, two of SCYSAC's special people and their star performers.

You might get to march around the room in sort of a musical-chairs game and get caught with a yarn ball when the music stops. You may have to sit down when

## RETIRED IN STYLE

Shirley Lickus wins the game from her wheelchair.

With Evelyn Green at the piano you might even learn the SCYSAC theme song or sit next to "J.R.," a friendly 16-year old and feel the genuine warmth of his friendship. He makes you feel you have known him all your life.

Later in the morning Evelyn will play a lively dance tune and the place will swing. The dancing makes up in enthusiasm what it may lack in ballroom technique.

Started some seven or eight years ago, SCYSAC became a project of the Civitan Club of the Sun Cities. It has been largely through their efforts that the get-together has become a prime social outlet for special people whose only ambition is to find a purpose in life beyond dependency.

Some startling results have emerged from these semi-weekly sessions. Personalities which have been submerged suddenly come to life in the pleasant environment of social acceptance.

Escorted by Civitan members and their wives, SCYSAC members have attended and participated in Special Olympics, gone to ball games, and taken exciting

trips to some of Arizona's scenic wonderlands.

You wouldn't know that shy Cindy Chapman was a Special Olympics swimming medal-winner unless someone told you. She came back from the games at Notre Dame University last summer with gold, silver and bronze medals around her neck.

She also won a ribbon, which would have been another gold medal had she not gotten confused and stopped one lap short of the prescribed distance in one of the races.

As a guest at the Civitan luncheon last week Cindy came off another big winner as she explained how she won all those medals and as an added feature modeled her swim suit.

SCYSAC is managed by a board of trustees consisting of members elected from parents of the participants and Civitan members. Participants pay nothing for special SCYSAC trips to places of interest. Recent tours have included the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas Special Olympics and the Wickenburg Museum.

Roy Natvig, president, and Civitan volunteers like Cecil Lyons,

Dave Chase and many others find continuing satisfaction in serving these special people week after week. Evelyn Green, a booster who livens up the morning at the piano, says she wouldn't miss the fun for anything.

Volunteers don't consider their participation a sacrificial labor of love; they experience genuine joy in the smiles of club members as they sing, dance, and play simple games. "It's a rich reward just to see them enjoying themselves," one of volunteers told me.

One cannot join in a SCYSAC pledge of allegiance to the flag or join in the singing of "My Country 'Tis of Thee" with them without something happening to your thumping heart.

To have a 16-year old boy lay his head on your shoulder in a father-son gesture, takes hold of you and is hard to forget. "J.R." lost his Daddy some time ago.

Let Sun City's critics rage. Without fanfare or publicity, another Sun City service club is filling a special need, seeking no credit, but quietly challenging the poison pen of the misinformed.

*Sanberg is vice president of the Sun Cities Area Historic Society.*



## SUN CITY ROSE AND GARDEN CLUB

*Charles A. Walter*  
 11068 Pleasant Valley Rd., May, 1983.  
 Sun City - 85351 -

The Sun City Rose and Garden Club was organized on March 27, 1961, under the leadership of Blaine Ferguson, with the assistance of Alma Long of the Phoenix Rose Society. Present at the first meeting, in addition to Alma Long were Nina and Blaine Ferguson, <sup>\*</sup>Marian and Ralph P. Tracy, Agnes T. Chambers and Minnie M. Dezur.

By the end of the first year, the new club had 36 members; by the end of the second year, 70. As the club developed through the years, the membership peaked at 600. The current membership is 412. New members result from resales of Sun City property.

The purpose of the club is to encourage interest in, and cultivation of, the rose and horticulture in general, and to dispense knowledge in the proper treatment of soil and plants used in landscaping in the Sun City area. The Club and members comply with the Sun City Recreation Center Rules and Regulations.

Regular meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at the Fairway Center Auditorium on the second Monday of each month, except July and August. The dues are \$2.00 per year, per person. A Recreation Card is required for eligibility.

The Club is affiliated with the American Rose Society, whose headquarters are at Shreveport, Louisiana. (Sun City is the largest branch of the American Rose Society in the United States.) The Club is also affiliated, and quite active, in the Arizona Rose Societies, which includes, in addition to Sun City, societies in Phoenix, Tucson, Mesa and Prescott. In December, 1982, Sun City hosted the Arizona Rose Societies annual rose show and banquet in Sun City. One-hundred-fifty attended, with top Southwest judges and rosarians present.

A newsletter, titled "Chit Chat" is issued monthly and is mailed to all members. Included are meeting dates, forthcoming speakers, activities and club high-lights, plus suggestions for rose and garden care.

*\* Ferguson, founder, became a "Rosarian" & an ARS Judge*



Henry Krautter was the originator and editor of the Chit Chat from January 1, 1971, to October, 1981. Dorothy Dent has been the editor from October, 1981, to the present.

From 1961 to 1983 there have been fourteen presidents, many serving a two-year term, including Blaine Ferguson, Mrs. Ralph P. Tracy, William McDonnal, Herbert Gillis, Henry Krautter, Arlin Elwinger, Arnold Bautz, Mrs. Charles Clark, Hillis Lory, Erwin W. Scheibe, Edward Extract, I. Newton Durboraw and Charles Walter.

The first Rose Show was held in 1969. The following have served as Rose Show Chairmen: Kenneth Marion, Henry Krautter, Leslie V. Stober, Dr. Robert Stamp, Erwin Scheibe and L.E. "Jack" Hunn.

#### CLUB ACTIVITY HIGH-LIGHTS

1. Annual Rose Show - 17th annual show in 1983.  
Nineteen American Rose Society accredited rose judges, judged the show. There were 90 exhibitors from the Valley and three from California. There were 530 entries, representing 800 to 1000 blooms. Fifteen hundred or more visitors viewed the show Saturday and Sunday.
2. Monthly Mini-Rose Show  
This show is conducted at each monthly meeting for the purpose of instructing members about exhibiting and caring for roses. In a year, approximately 500 roses are exhibited. For the past twelve years, Henry Krautter has been Mini-Rose Show Chairman. Mabel Krautter has been Co-chairman.
3. Community Project  
In January, 1982, the Sun City Rose and Garden Club assumed responsibility for caring for the roses at the Sun Bowl. In February, 1982, club members David Guyton and Charles Walter obtained 120 donated roses to replace old rose bushes planted when the Sun Bowl was built. Club members assisted in planting, pruning of the new bushes. In January, 1983, remaining 19 old rose bushes were removed and replaced.
4. Speakers - Demonstrations  
At each monthly meeting, outside speakers with expertize in horticulture, roses, citrus and gardening are obtained to help fulfill the club's purpose to members.
5. Pruning and Planting Demonstrations  
These demonstrations are held for members and Sun City residents at the Sun Bowl Rose Garden. They are conducted by Sun City rosarians.