

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

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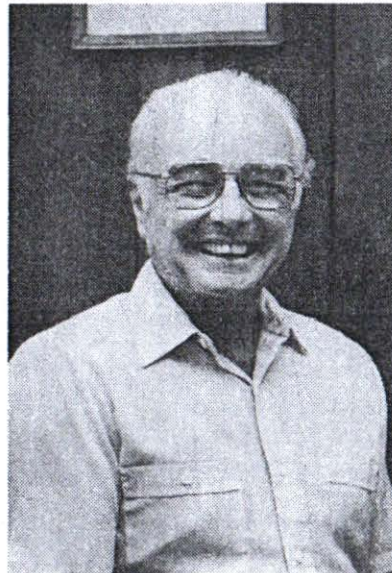
# Learning to love makes volunteer award winner

By PEG KEITH  
Sun Cities Independent

*1253A*  
Sun City West resident Bob Knox was going ahead with plans for a weekend of swimming at Daytona Beach toward the end of October, even though he'd been tapped to receive an award for volunteer work.

Awards are fine, he says, although, personally, he shies away from the limelight. And the Oct. 22 date was set, there *was* time for the holiday ... the Florida trip was a go.

A go, that is, until he learned just how prestigious the recognition is considered to be, and that the awards program is built around the "12 Who Care," the



BOB KNOX

1988 Hon Kachina Award honorees.

Mr. Knox and his wife, Grace, postponed the swimming excursion and revised their agenda.

"12 Who Care" is an annual recognition event, sponsored by The Luke's Men of St. Luke's Medical and Behavioral Health Centers and KPNX-TV 12. Its purpose is to recognize volunteer efforts and programs across the state, not only to applaud deserving recipients, but to bring greater recognition and attention to volunteerism and community involvement.

Community involvement is something Mr. Knox understands. Born in Kaukauna, Wis.,

he went into the U.S. Naval Academy when he was 18, and has been 'on the run' ever since, from the east coast to the west.

All that volunteering didn't begin in January, 1988.

It began in earnest in California, during his second marriage; when he and Grace had been married for three years. "This woman was 50," he says. "I thought she was out of her mind. She wanted a baby."

It was foster-parenting she was considering.

His own kids were grown, and he took little delight at the thought of starting over again. But there was that first child.

*See AWARD, page five*

Sun Cities Independent - 10.5.1988



# • AWARD

*From page one*

During its half-year of life it had endured multiple broken bones; legs and collar bone, apparently from being slammed against a wall. There were the accompanying stories of heroin addiction involving the child-mother and her boy friend -- the child-mother stayed with her man.

The Knoxes had that child for a year, and then there was a hearing.

"At the hearing," Mr. Knox says, "I asked the judge: Who represents the child?" To my amazement, the social worker on the case represented both the child and the mother."

The upshot of the hearing was the child went into foster care for another year, and was adopted at the age of two, with the mother's cooperation, and help from the original foster parents.

Then, there was another child, the second little boy, who arrived at the Knox home for foster care. Six weeks old, born to an alcoholic mother on drugs.

"We had him until he was 2, and got him adopted."

Being a foster parent was a learning experience for Bob Knox. Experience Number One: you move a child three times, you teach that child not to love.

Number Two: bureaucratic wheels grind very slowly, and the volume of work presupposes that much of the social workers' record-keeping and record-sorting will not get done.

Number Three: that social workers move around a great

deal, and, as cases change hands, the records are duplicated, or lost and become even more difficult to analyze.

Number Four: federal law says that to get federal money, you must do everything you can to reunite the families. So the child goes into foster care, and the parents go into psychological counseling, and they're tutored on homemaking skills, how to put food in the refrigerator and how to avoid having rats and roaches in the house, and society has done everything it can do --

And everyone knows there's a good possibility that the child-mother will go off and leave her kids with no food; that the undisciplined father may very well slam the child against the wall again --

And again.

And there are the crisis centers, and the trials and the errors. (See Lesson Number One.)

And the child goes to school, plays the clown or retreats into his own world, starts skipping school, becomes delinquent, builds the rap sheet. At 18 the record is wiped out, and then goes big time --

The child-turned-adult goes to prison where he or she really learns about crime.

And the cycle continues.

Mr. Knox says in his opinion the best thing to do is to get the child out of the home and get it adopted by the age of 2

As a volunteer in California, Mr. Knox began writing the social studies of the children for the

court. He's an engineer, a detail man. Combing records for necessary information to build the history was a tedious, but not a dull assignment. He needed identification, birth records, social security, information on mother and father and extended family, patterns of sexual, physical, drug abuse, pregnancies -- the cycles continue.

"And it's not unusual to see the child attempting to parent the parents," Mr. Knox says.

"Motherhood -- parenting -- is not a natural function," he continues. "These people are raising their children the way they were raised."

He's a hard-nosed guy, he says. But the tight jaw and suggestion of a tear in one eye speak volumes, on their own.

"It's just extremely important for someone who is interested in the child to push the case through," he declares.

The Knoxes moved to Arizona, and his interest in shepherding child adoption cases through the system came right along with them.

He became a volunteer with the Arizona Department of Economic Security/Administration for Children, Youth and Families, writing social studies for abused or abandoned children, setting in motion the adoption process.

Mr. Knox made himself available in other ways. He made time in his schedule for people in nursing homes, handicapped, friendless, lonely.

About eight years ago he started singing with the Sunshine Serenaders. A corny, marginal kind of group, he says, some of them were qualified to sing in a bath tub, but they put on costumes and took their act to rest homes. The group grew to 15, "really, quite professional."

So professional that visitors to rest homes remarked on the programs, and the requests to perform spread to clubs and country clubs. "We were such hams," he added.

It became almost too slick, too polished. He lost track of the original purpose.

So, he formed a new alliance with the Music Makers, two guys, two gals. They sing to taped music, several times a week, for solitary folks, old and young, elderly, frail, handicapped, people who get out rarely, and don't see too much that makes them laugh.

"We love it," Mr. Knox says. He does more than sing. There are hugs, and friendships, and messages, and compassion.

A hard-nosed guy? Not this retired Navy commander. "These visits, these friendships have been a tremendously rewarding experience," he says.

"I would so much like to convey to other people: to rattle around the rest homes a little; pick and choose, cautiously ... someone you want to keep as a friend. Don't look away from people who are 'different.' Don't shrink from death. We should help each other face it."

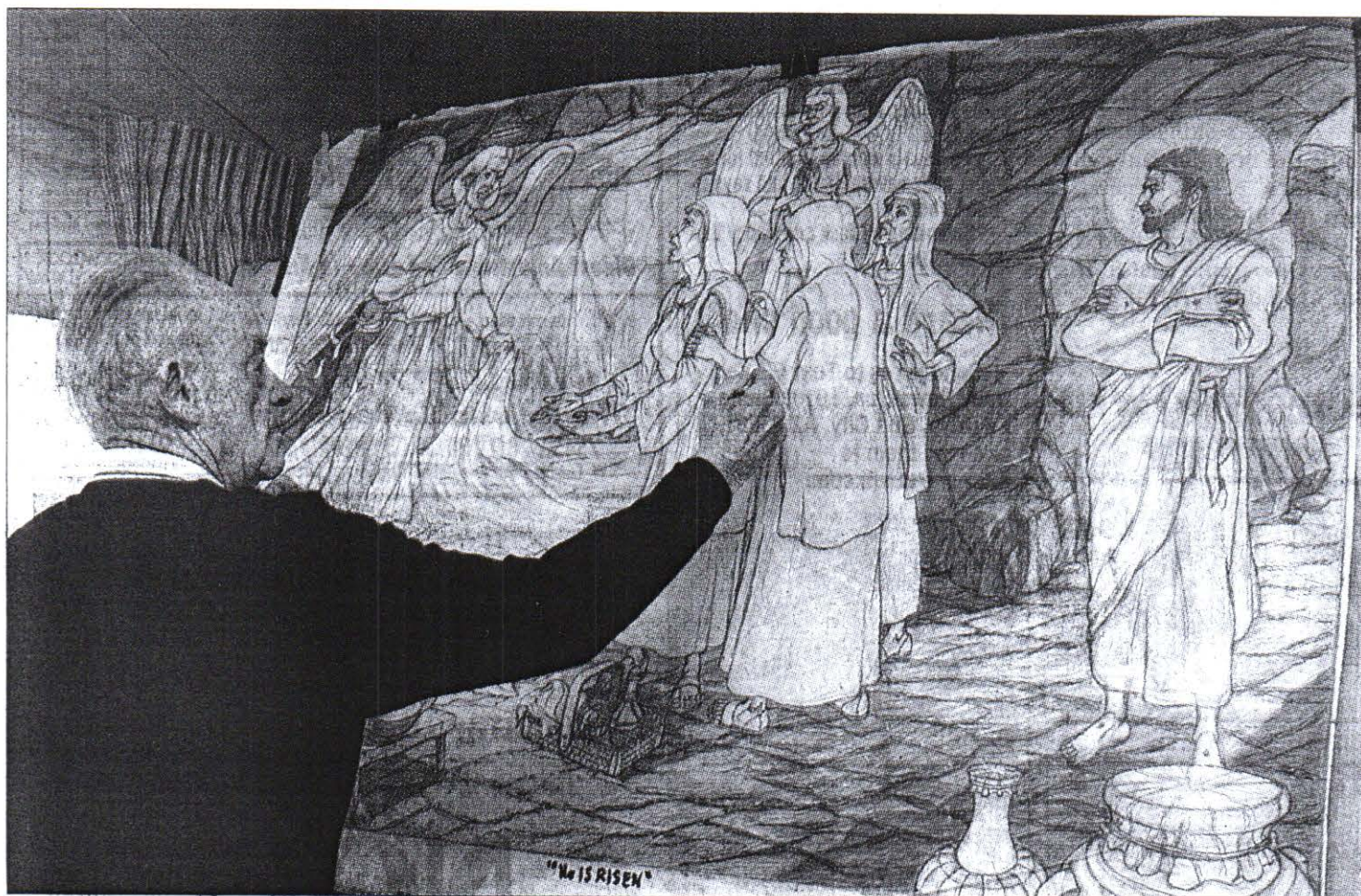
Bob Knox gives his wife, Grace, credit for anything he

might have accomplished, as a volunteer. "She taught me how to love," he says. "Shortly after we started going together, I had a religious experience. I became aware that God is Love. I had taught Sunday School, even was a lay preacher, but there it was. At 50 years old, it dawned on me what First Corinthians Chapter 13 is all about."

The 1988 "12 Who Care" Hon Kachina Award Dinner will be Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Camelback Inn, in Paradise Valley. Black tie. It will be telecast at 7 p.m.



## 'Call to Freedom'



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Ingram of Sun City works on a painting titled "He Is Risen." Ingram and his wife donated \$1 million in art and artifacts to Oklahoma Christian University.

## Sun City artist donates \$1M in art

KATY O'GRADY  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Concerned about the direction America was heading in, Sam Ingram put pencil to paper and brush to canvas more than a decade ago.

Today, the fruits of his labors, "America's Call to Freedom," are heading to Oklahoma Christian University, courtesy of the artist, so thousands more can view his message.

"America's Call to Freedom" is an exhibit of 235 paintings and about 400

accompanying artifacts that relate a story tying America's freedoms to the cradle of civilization.

The exhibit is valued at more than \$1 million, but that's a conservative estimate. Many of the artifacts are priceless, and Ingram also is giving the university the copyrights to his donated works.

"I have a 16th century Bible — it's a pre-St. James version — that I've given to them," Ingram said. Other items include a Bible that traveled on wagon trains in

the early 1800s, a Civil War diary and pistols used in the battle of the Alamo.

Ingram said appraisers in eight different specialties, from weapons and Indian artifacts to books and dishes, took part in valuing the donation.

Each item was collected to go along with the paintings and a book Ingram wrote, also titled "America's Call to Freedom," which together trace America's history from the birthplace of Judeo-Christian ideas to the 20th-century United States.

Paintings span from creation of the universe to the birth of Christ, from settlement of the West to the signing of the Constitution.

"It started as 'America's Call to Freedom.' I was increasingly concerned over the direction our nation was taking morally, politically, economically," Ingram said. "The principles set forth in freedom are based on the Bible.

"It took me 10 years to develop the exhibit and write

**See FREEDOM, A5**



# FREEDOM: University creates permanent home for Sun City artist's exhibit



JOY LAMBERT/SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Ingram crates his "America's Call to Freedom" exhibit headed out today to Oklahoma.

## From A1

the book," said Ingram, who, as a Naval aviator for 32 years, honed his craft, painting whenever he could.

The exhibit first opened in September 1995 at the West Valley Art Museum, known at the time as the Sun Cities Museum of Art, where it stayed until January 1996.

"We had over 8,000 school children attend it," he said.

Ingram's collection then toured the nation, including Washington, D.C., Kansas, Texas, Phoenix and California.

Along the way, the exhibit picked up accolades from former President Gerald Ford, Charlton Heston, Warren Buffet, Dr. James Kennedy, Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, Sen. John McCain and Dr. Norvel Young, chancellor emeritus of Pepperdine University in California.

In a letter to Ingram, Ford wrote, "Betty and I were delighted to hear from you. We were very pleased to receive your magnificent book, 'America's Call to Freedom.' It is a most impressive display of your artistic talent."

Young originally wanted to house the exhibit at Pepperdine, but the school did not have room. But Oklahoma Christian, which like Pepperdine is affiliated with the Church of Christ, was able to accommodate it. Ingram is a Baptist.

"We are just thrilled to be receiving his art, his collection, because it is so consistent with this institution's mission and purpose," said Dr. Mike O'Neal, president of Oklahoma Christian University. "We're just so grateful for the talent God has given him and the wisdom in the themes of his paintings. That's why it's going to fit in so well here."

Jim Stafford, the university's associate director of public relations, said Oklahoma Christian is creating a Center for Freedom Studies and already operates an American Citizenship Center.

"This art complements it really well," he said. "To really see the scope of the art is really astounding. Oklahoma Christian is a great place for this."

O'Neal said he's never seen a collection of this magnitude incorporate themes such as freedom and liberty in a Bible-based philosophy.

Ingram has been busy packing

the paintings and artifacts for the last couple months. In all, 102 crates will be shipped to the university.

"These are big sons of guns; it's going to take a whole moving van to do it, because a lot of them can't be put on top of each other," he said.

Ingram's wife, Mary, said she's happy about the donation: "I think it's great."

Ingram said of his wife: "I couldn't have done it without her. She did all the proofreading and typing for my book."

Of the Sun City couple, O'Neal said: "We're so grateful for people who have such generous spirits like Mary and Sam."

The university is refurbishing a three-story building called Enterprise Square to house the Center for Freedom Studies and "America's Call to Freedom."

"It takes about 1,200 running feet to exhibit it," Ingram said.

O'Neal said it will take about a year to raise funds and another year to complete the building renovation.

"In the meantime, we will be showing some of the major pieces in some of the other buildings we have here," he said.





JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Ingram's "No Room at the Inn" is part of his "America's Call to Freedom" exhibit being donated to Oklahoma Christian University.



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Ingram of Sun City is donating \$1 million in artwork and artifacts associated with his "Call to Freedom" exhibit to Oklahoma Christian University. He's crating some Civil War memorabilia for shipment today.



## Bill Ihlenfeldt, local author of 'It Could be Verse,' dies

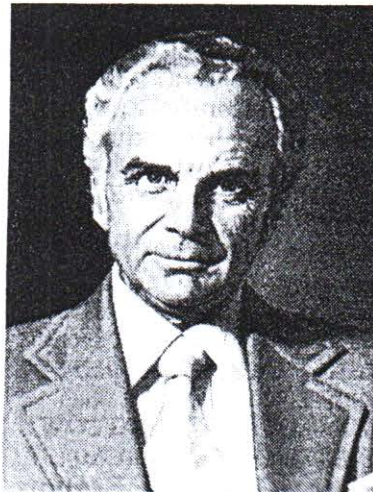
Bill Ihlenfeldt, 67, a resident of Sun City West and author of the popular column, "It Could be Verse," died of a heart attack July 25, while vacationing in Missouri.

A resident of the Sun Cities since 1978, Mr. Ihlenfeldt's humorous poems have been published in local and national publications, including *Reader's Digest* and the *Wall Street Journal*.

"It Could Be Verse" has appeared weekly in the *Sun Cities Independent* for the past eight years.

In 1983, Mr. Ihlenfeldt published a collection of his humorous poems in a book, appropriately called, "It Could Be Verse." He had been working on a sequel to the book at the time of his death.

Born in Detroit, Mich., he grew up on a farm before



embarking on a career in the restaurant business.

Mr. Ihlenfeldt is survived by his wife, Barbara; son, Larry; stepson, Terry Treadwell; one grandchild, two sisters and a brother, Donald, who also lives in Sun City West.

### Last Writes

His wit and humor were always there  
To amuse Sun Citians and ruffle their hair.  
But Bill Ihlenfeldt answered St. Peter's call,  
Neighbors and friends will miss him, each and all.



# Residents receive philanthropy award

The Rev. and Mrs. J. Davis Illingworth of Sun City received the 2003 Sun Health Foundation Spirit of Philanthropy Award during ceremonies conducted by the Arizona Chapter, Association of Fundraising Professionals.

"This is greatly deserved recognition for all the Illingworths have done for Sun Health Foundation and the patients who benefit through their gifts of time, talents and treasures," said Sun Health Foundation Board of Trustees President Stephen S. Mather. "In fact, since the day they moved to Sun City, the entire community has benefited from their presence in so many ways."

The Illingworth motto of: "People don't really care how much you know. People want to know how much you really care," is exemplified by their involvement with the Sun Health Foundation.

The reverend and Mrs. Illingworth moved to Sun City in 1972, where he served as founding pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Illingworth was equally active, singing in the choir and was an integral part of the women's group and entertained as the "First Lady" at major church functions. By the time he retired 10 years later, the congregation had grown to 2,000 members.

Rev. Illingworth has served on the Sun Health Foundation Board of Trustees since 1991



Mr and Mrs Rev. J. Davis

and is an active member of the Annual Giving and Donor Relations Committee. In this role, he visits with hospitalized donors or calls them to thank them for recent gifts.

He served as president of the Sun Health Foundation from 1997 to 1998.

During Rev. Illingworth's tenure, Sun Health Residence for Alzheimer's Care and Sun Health Hospice Residence were opened, both of which are important services that meet growing community needs.

Rev. Illingworth, along with his friend, Roe Walker, founded Royal Oaks in 1983, and he became the retirement center's first chaplain. The Illingworths later moved to Royal Oaks, where he has served as president of the Board of Trustees and president of the capital improvement fund.

"Count your blessings, and make your blessings count," is what Rev. Illingworth strives to impart to others.

Sun City Independent Nov. 19, 2003 p. 9



## The Rev. Davis Illingworth

**Vita:** Graduated from Wittenberg University, Springfield, Ohio, retired, minister.

**Hometown:** Johnstown, Ohio

**Marital status:** Married.



**Self-portrait:** I'm a caring person.

**Motto:** Live with love.

**Greatest Feat:** Establishing a church and making it go. I couldn't have done it without the help of others.

**Fantasy:** At this point I'm not fantasizing. I'm grateful God allowed me to do all I did.

**Inspiration:** My wife and best friend Jeanne. She's a great minister's wife.

**Key to Longevity:** Keeping active and serving the needs of other people.

**Last Words:** Amen.

# Pastor finds willing flock in Sun Cities

By MICHAEL P. HEGARTY  
Daily News-Sun staff

**T**he number of religious congregations might not be as strong as it was when the Rev. Davis Illingworth started his Faith Presbyterian Church from scratch more than 20 years ago, but he still considers the Sun Cities the "religious capital of the world."

"I don't know anywhere else where people have been as faithful and generous to the churches as this community," he said.

Illingworth should know. He moved here in 1972 to begin his own church when "the community was growing and the people were adventuresome."

His project began with just a "bare piece of land on Del Webb Boulevard," and a lot of phone calls and desire. Soon he had a following of 89 charter members, which grew to more than 2,000 members when he retired from the church 10 years later.

But he said he couldn't have done it without help from the community.

"They come to church, support the church, work for the church," Illingworth said. "The people here have the time and the talent. And in most cases, the resources to help."

In the other half-dozen states he has ministered, getting both was a problem. When he arrived in Sun City, the people were willing to work from Day One.

"I was impressed the community supported (the start of the church) in such a fine way," he said.

He had to test his congregation early. Because there were no facilities on the property, the church members had to travel all over town, going from other church halls to restaurants to theaters.

But the people never gave up. They served the church because of its role in those days.

"(1972) was a meaningful time in the life of the church," Illingworth said. "Churches made a deep impression on the community as a whole."

The times have changed, though. When he first moved to Sun City, 70 percent of the people were interested in joining the church. Now that figure is closer to 40 percent or 50 percent, he said.

Illingworth did not know why the interest in the churches has decreased other than time having aged the founders of the church. When he arrived in Sun City, he was 55 years old, but others were in their 60s and older. And that was over two decades ago.

"It's a different world now," he said.

One difference Illingworth has seen is the change in the intent of Thanksgiving.

"It's losing some of its emphasis. It's getting to be a day for other things than to give thanks," he said. "It's become Turkey Day or Football Day or Shopping Day, not Thanksgiving Day."

Thursday, Illingworth will be the guest speaker at the 11th Annual Community Wide Interfaith Thanksgiving Day Service at 10:30 a.m. at the Sundome Center for Performing Arts, Sun City West. He said the service is geared toward the true meaning of the holiday that is "strictly American and on the basis we give thanks."

He will be honored along with 15 other founding pastors, rabbis and ministers who helped establish the religious communities in the Sun Cities.

The theme for the non-denomination service is "Thankful for our Forefathers of the Faith."

Illingworth hopes people will use Thursday to give thanks, just as he is always thanking those who helped him over the years.

"People don't care how much you know, but people like to know you really care. I want people to know I really care about them," he said. "I couldn't have made it without the good people who gave so much of themselves."





Over 225 drawings by Sun City artist Sam Ingram will be permanently displayed at Oklahoma Christian University. Mr. Ingram last month donated his collection — valued at over \$1 million — to the university.

## University is beneficiary of SC man's benignant bequeath

By **Bret McKeand**  
Independent Newspapers

Sun City resident Sam Ingram's various careers and vocations have taken him to every corner of the globe, but thanks to a recent donation to a Oklahoma university he may be forever known for his artistic talents.

Mr. Ingram served his nation during four military conflicts. He has flown aircraft at the speed of sound. He has served on the Joint Chiefs of Staffs and has worked with NASA's manned space program.

His list of friends has included several presidents and he was even commissioned in 1952 to design the official program for the inauguration of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Thanks to a recent partnership between the Sun City resident and Oklahoma Christian

University, history may recall Mr. Ingram as a great artist.

Mr. Ingram last month donated over \$1 million worth of his artwork to the university. The paintings — 235 in all — as well as a large collection of historical artifacts, will be permanently displayed in a building located at the Oklahoma City school.

The paintings chronicle the nation's history and how the Judeo-Christian influence impacted that history. The works — mostly done in pencil, oil, acrylic or watercolor — reflect such moments as the signing of the Constitution, exploration of the West, the Civil War and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Prominent figures in the nation's history, as well as moments from the Bible, also are included. Approximately 400 historical artifacts — most personally collected by Mr.

Ingram — have also been donated and accompany the story told by the paintings in the collection, titled "America's Call to Freedom."

"They were interested in just about everything," says Mr. Ingram. "Everything except my guns and those paintings that included nudity. After all, they are a religious school and were

OVER



# Donation

Continued From Page B1

a bit reluctant to display those," he says with a smile.

Mr. Ingram's career and background is as diverse as the subjects featured in his collection of art. He spent 32 years with the Navy and also worked at various stages in his life as an illustrator, cartoonist, photographer, marketing executive and vice president of a shipping company.

He was raised in Texas, where as he says, he "developed an early fondness for western and Indian lore." He went to schools in Texas and Mexico before beginning a career as a Naval aviator. After three decades of service, he retired as a Navy captain.

But art was always his avocation, his passion. His works have been exhibited at museums throughout the country and a number of his paintings are now in private collections.

When he and his wife, Mary, moved to Sun City in 1978, the two immersed themselves in a number of community art projects and theater groups. But as his collection grew, so did the challenge of finding a permanent site to house and display what would eventually become "America's Call to Freedom."

The exhibit initially opened in 1995 at the West Valley Art Museum. The collection has since visited sites in Washington, D.C., Kansas, Texas and California.

A number of galleries and museums had expressed interest in permanently housing the collection, but its sheer size prohibited most facilities from storing and exhibiting the works properly.

Because the collection tells a story that is best appreciated when beginning with the first piece and then following with subsequent works, Mr. Ingram has been reluctant to bequeath the entire collection to a facility

only able to display a small portion at any given time.

"A lot of places wanted the collection, but no single place could really give it the space needed to present it properly," says Mr. Ingram.

Each work is accompanied by a narrative penned by Mr. Ingram. The art is meant to entertain, astound and amaze viewers, but the accompanying storyline is designed to educate the viewer.

"The story is told in both painting, drawings and large panels," says Mr. Ingram. "It is like a walk-through book. Historical artifacts are presented along the way."

A few years ago Mr. Ingram became friends with Mike O'Neal, then working with Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. Mr. O'Neal expressed great interest in Mr. Ingram's collection and worked to find a home for the collection at Pepperdine.

When Mr. O'Neal was hired as president of OCU, he contin-

ued his friendship with Mr. Ingram and eventually the two agreed on the partnership between OCU and Mr. Ingram.

OCU plans to refurbish an existing three-story building on its campus to permanently display Mr. Ingram's collection. School officials expect the renovation to be complete in about one year.

In addition to the exhibit, Mr. Ingram paid for the publishing of a book — also titled, "America's Call to Freedom" — that reproduces 190 of the paintings included in the exhibit. All proceeds from the book's initial publication were donated to the West Valley Art Museum.

Mr. Ingram's donation also gives OCU exclusive rights to publish books about the exhibit and reproduce limited prints of Mr. Ingram's paintings.



# Sun City man gives university art, collections



Michael Ging/The Arizona Republic

Sam Ingram, 81, works on a painting in his Sun City home. He donated more than \$1 million worth of his art and collections, including paintings, drawings, rugs and guns, to Oklahoma Christian University.

## Artist donates life's work

By Samuel Trommler Jr.  
The Arizona Republic

Oklahoma Christian University received a million-dollar gift from a Sun City resident last month.

Local artist Sam Ingram, 81, spent three months carefully packing 104 crates, then on Dec. 17, watched as a moving truck hauled most of his life's work to the school in Oklahoma City.

"It is a wonderful gift," said Jim Stafford, the university's associate director of public relations. "The sheer volume is amazing."

Paintings, drawings, sketches, rugs,

guns and maps, Ingram sent it all. At an appraised value of more than \$1 million, the 225 works of art and roughly 400 accompanying historical artifacts represent more than 50 years of painting and collecting.

Ingram's art, a blend of pencil, pen and pastel sketches, oils, acrylics and watercolors, chronicles American history from a Judeo-Christian perspective. It was a perfect fit for the conservative university.

Each relic Ingram sent to the university is in some way tied to his paintings. Revolutionary war maps, Navajo rugs, pistols from the Alamo and the

Civil War, and a sixteenth-century Bible are but a few of the artifacts Ingram forwarded to the university.

"It will really help us in telling the story of our country, our roots and our Christian heritage," Stafford said of the collection, which will be used as an educational tool for various colleges within the university. The school plans to display the collection in the newly created Center for Freedom Studies.

Art captivated Ingram as a child. Born into a family of artists, including a sister who illustrated for *Vogue* mag-

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# DONATION

## + Artist gives collection

From Page 1

azine, Ingram started drawing even before he could write.

When he was 8, a Houston newspaper published one of his comic strips. At 14, Ingram began establishing a commercial art career that would last for decades.

But Ingram says the true inspiration for much of his art came from his 32 years of service as a naval aviator. Ingram spent time browsing through art museums and hoarding historical artifacts during leaves while he was stationed in Europe and Asia.

Ingram's many accomplishments make choosing a culmination point for his artistic career no easy task.

In 1952, he was commissioned to compose and illustrate the official program for the inauguration of President Eisenhower.

In 1980, he illustrated a book on the history of tools for the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

In 1995, the Sun Cities Art Museum featured nearly 300 of his works at an unprecedented one-man exhibition.

After Sun City, the exhibit crossed the country from San Diego to Washington, D.C.

Most of Ingram's art landed in his living room when his traveling exhibit ended in 1998. The three-bedroom home Ingram has shared with his wife, Mary, since they moved to Sun City in 1978 was hardly habitable before Ingram shipped away his paintings.

"We were living in a corner of the kitchen for awhile," Ingram said.

Stafford said the university received the crates several weeks ago and had several people assigned to cataloguing the hundreds of items.

"The administrators are anxious to get his pieces on display in the offices and around campus," Stafford said. "The whole campus is excited to have this gift."

"How one man put together this whole collection is amazing."

Some of the art will go on rotating display within the next few weeks until the university finishes refurbishing a three-story building that will permanently house the collection.

In a letter to the Ingrams, OCU President Mike O'Neal said, "This will be a magnificent legacy to this institution, and one which we hope to share with a significantly wider audience over the years."



# Egyptian art fascinates, challenges local artist

Sun Citian is one of 15 artists in nation invited to submit original works for 'Egyptian Echoes'

By KATHLEEN WINSTEAD  
Sun Cities Independent

Sun City resident Samuel Ingram is one of 15 artists from across the nation whose work will appear in "Egyptian Echoes," an exhibit opening this week at the Sun Cities Art Museum.

"He was chosen because I had seen some Egyptian illustrations he had done for the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry," says Yolanda Muhammad, Sun Cities Art Museum curator.

"He illustrated a full-color book for the museum on the history of tools. I knew that he had researched the (Egyptian) culture."

Having spent a short time in Egypt in the 1950s, Mr. Ingram had some knowledge of Egyptian art before he began working on "Rameses, Let My People Go," one of the paintings featured in the exhibit.

"I spent three months in Egypt in the first United Nations Truce Team," he says. "I spent a lot of time in the museums there visiting

the pyramids and other ancient ruins."

Mr. Ingram did three months of research before beginning work on the piece.

"I wanted to come up with an idea that tied modern man with ancient Egypt. I felt that the story of Moses (was appropriate). To do this I wanted to combine some of the art techniques of the ancient Egyptians with the way that we illustrate a story today.

"I composed a picture (in) which the frame also embodies part of the

story of the picture, the frame being a story in hieroglyphics. To do this I had to research the method by which the Egyptians told a story in hieroglyphics, including names of specific people — Nefertari and Rameses II."

The story is told in hieroglyphics on the frame, Mr. Ingram says.

"Then I illustrated it in the modern method. However, I combined in the main centerpiece the Egyptian technique and modern technique in terms of perspective."

Mr. Ingram says Egyptians had little knowledge of perspective. The Egyptians did not depict distance in paintings or drawings by

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Sam Ingram puts the finishing touches on "Hear Ye O Israel."

## INGRAM

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making objects appear smaller, he says.

"In my painting, most objects have no relationship in size to each other," Mr. Ingram says.

The statue of Horus and the fire on the right side of the painting would, in reality, be huge when compared with the image of Nefertari, Rameses and Moses.

The statue is also on a different plane to the other figures. And the figures of Nefertari and Rameses are on a different plane to Moses.

The painting is laden with gold, Mr. Ingram says.

"There (is) \$1,600 worth of gold in this," he says. "The hieroglyphics are raised and painted on a background of 18-carat gold. The falcon wings and sunburst, representing the god Ra, are cut out and painted in 18-carat gold leaf.

"The frame (was) made in France. It's 24-carat gold. The painting in the center is acrylic. The hieroglyphics are oil. The necklace of the Pharaoh and Nefertari's headdress also is painted in 18-carat gold."

He began the 4-foot-long, 7-foot-wide painting by drawing it on a piece of paper.

"I first drew it actual size. I drew

it first, then I traced it on to my canvas and wood backgrounds. The basic background of this is 2-inch-thick mahogany. The painting is raised about 1 1/2 inches off the background."

The painting that complements "Rameses, Let My People Go," is called "Hear Ye O Israel" and depicts Moses with the Ten Commandments.

"The tablets that Moses is holding show man's relationship with God. One tablet has man's relationship with man. The other (represents) man's relationship with God."

"When Moses came down from Mt. Sinai the Hebrew people were worshipping a golden calf. Some historians say the calf could have been a near design of the Hebrew people. The Hebrews had been the main artisans for the Egyptians, being their slaves. When you look at a lot of Egyptian art you are looking at a lot of the art of the Hebrew people."

Mr. Ingram, who has lived in Sun City since 1978, started painting at an early age. At 14, he was doing commercial art for oil, furniture and brewing companies and designing stage scenery.







The Phoenix Gazette

**SUN CITY** — Looking at one of Sam Ingram's paintings is like watching a magic show. You never know what you are going to see next.

At first glance you may spot an old cowboy napping in a barn, but as your eyes begin to rove, the picture comes to life. Kittens pop out from behind bales of hay, birds tug at a piece of rope, and an old hound dog yawns with a toothy grin.

Come back an hour or so later and you will notice bits and bridles hanging on the barn walls and a half-eaten apple with a jackknife poking out of it — things you would swear weren't there before.

This is a quality of all Ingram's works. He prides himself not only on being an artist, but an entertainer as well.

"I love it when people tell me they see something in one of my paintings that they didn't see before. I hide things. You can keep looking and the more you look, the more you see," Ingram told a recent visitor to his studio on Amber Trail Drive.

The spark of surprise and a fastidious preoccupation with detail are the only threads binding Ingram's works together. He enjoys changing his techniques constantly so that all his pictures are as different as the individuals who look at them.

His work ranges from humorous portrayals of weather-beaten cowpokes painted in oils to solemn character studies of Indian chiefs sketched in pencil to abstract landscapes done in sheer watercolors.

"I go through phases. I cannot seem to do the same style consistently. Sometimes I am very detailed. Other times I do very free watercolors. I also do a lot of lithographs and impressionistic paintings. I fit the medium and the style to the subject," he said.

Ingram developed the techniques used to create these styles while studying art as a boy in Texas and later in Mexico with such artists as Diego Rivera, Jose Orozco and Carlos Meridia.

"Under Diego and Orozco I learned how to mix colors from natural pigments. I also learned how to look into history and see the emotion of it. Mexican painters are very emotional," he said.

Another of Ingram's trademarks is his focus on composition. He designs all of his works geometrically according to precise mathematical equations, a technique used by such masters as Michelangelo and Leonard da Vinci.

For his subject material he relies

on inspiration and memory of scenes that struck his fancy months or even years earlier.

One of his more recent works depicts a Mexican marketplace. At one end of the marketplace is a boy seated at an easel painting while a dog romps through his art supplies.

"This happened when I was a kid in Mexico studying. I just thought back about it," he said.

When it comes to painting historical scenes, the artist diligently researches the subject.

He recently completed two paintings depicting battles of the Alamo on which he has been working for years. But before his brush hit the canvas, he hit the books, reading eight volumes of history to make sure his portrayals were as accurate as possible. He also contacted the University of Texas history department to get additional details of the battle.

"Many of the paintings of the Alamo done in the past are not correct. They show the wrong uniforms and the wrong guns," he said.

But those painters probably did not have access to the collection of vintage weapons that Ingram does. He has been gathering them as a hobby and now has nearly as many firearms as he does paintings.

These and a variety of Indian artifacts will be displayed with 135 of Ingram's most recent paintings in what he says will be one of the largest one-man art shows to be held in Arizona.

The show will be held in Shemer Art Center and Museum, 5005 E. Camelback in Phoenix, from April 7 to May 16. The opening evening reception will feature entertainment and refreshments from 7-9 p.m.

The museum's hours are from 2-9 p.m. Tuesdays, 2-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Thursdays and from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

Ingram guarantees that the show will have something for everyone.

"I paint to please my audience. Home folks want a picture telling them a story. Some people call this illustration.

"More sophisticated people want something more abstract. This show will have something for every type of taste," he said.

Prior to coming to Sun City in 1978, Ingram was a Naval aviator for 32 years and also worked with NASA as a special assistant to the director of the manned Apollo space program.

When he left the service, he worked as a commercial artist. His

projects included writing and illustrating the 1952 program magazine for the inauguration of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

His works have been displayed in

Kansas City, the Arts Club in Washington, D.C., and Sun City.

More information about the show is available by calling 262-4996 or 262-7660.

OVER



A western character drawn by Ingram.

**Look again:**

Surprise, detail mark artist's work

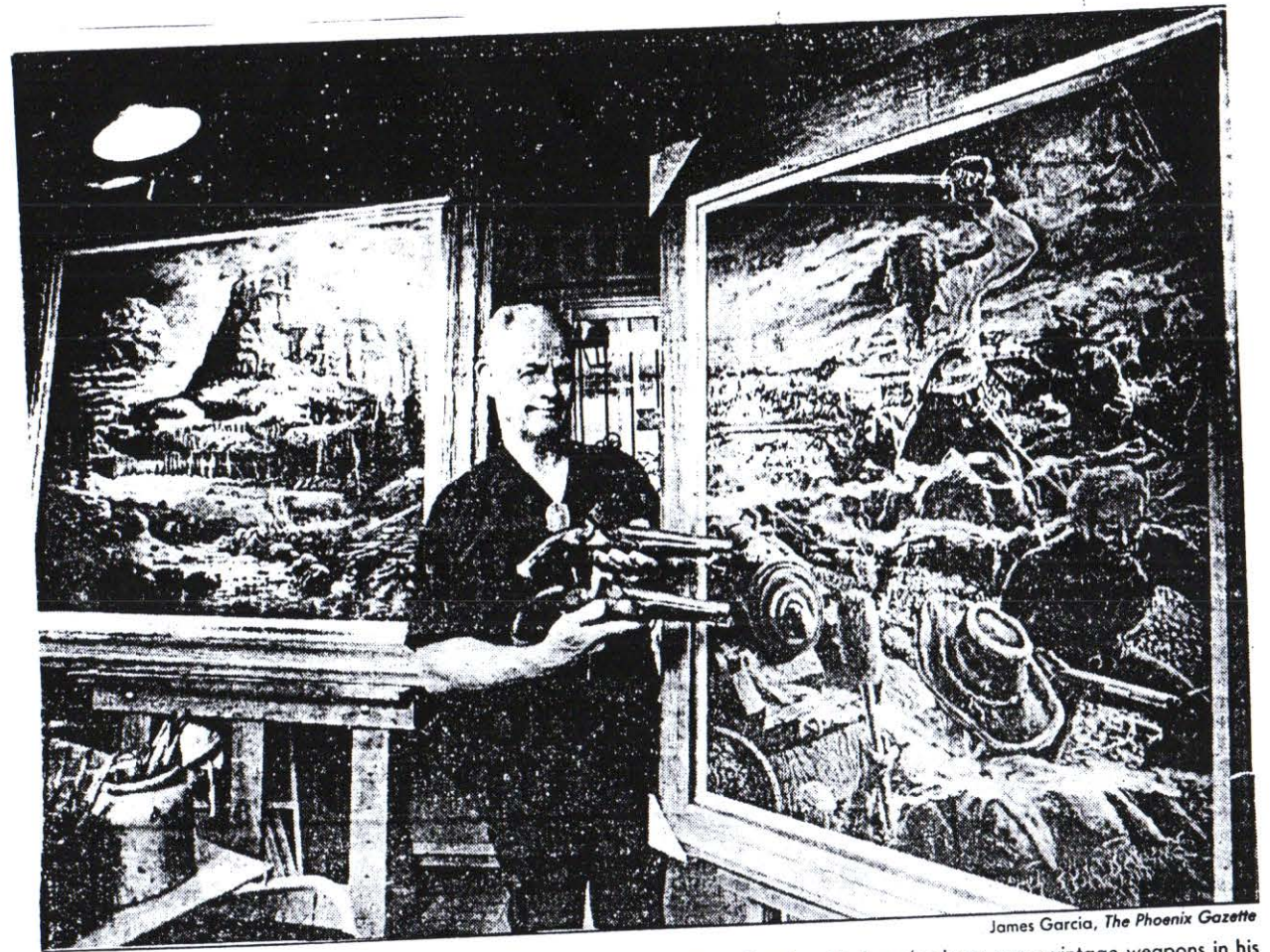


"I go through phases. I cannot seem to do the same style consistently. Sometimes I am very detailed. Other times I do very free watercolors."

— Sam Ingram



One of Ingram's works to be shown in the exhibit.



James Garcia, *The Phoenix Gazette*

Sam Ingram with pieces from his gun collection and some of the works to be exhibited at the Shemer Art Center and Museum

starting Tuesday. He has nearly as many vintage weapons in his possession as he has paintings.



# SC artist paints with great detail, deliberation

By DOUG DOLLEMORE  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Warriors are supposed to be battle-weary veterans who talk about brushes with death.

But Sam Ingram isn't like that. In his long naval career, he saw plenty of ugliness and death. But the only brushes he cares about are the ones he uses to paint.

Ingram, 67, has sketched and painted for more than 60 years, including 32 years as a Navy pilot. He has painted several recruiting posters and dozens of battle scenes.

"During a mission I'd see a dive bomber streak in towards a target, or flying back to a carrier I'd see a beautiful sunset. I'd remember those things and paint them when I had some free time," Ingram says.

"Just because a person has seen the cruel aspects of our world doesn't mean that person doesn't have softer feelings."

And Ingram does have a softer side. Since he retired from the Navy and moved to Sun City in 1979, he has produced more than 120 images of life in the Southwest. Those works are on exhibit through May 16 at the Shemer Museum, 5005 E. Camelback Road, in Phoenix. The images range from Aztec housewives to Zoques women of Chiapas, and from the battle of the Alamo to the bowls of Urapan.

It is the fourth one-artist show in two years in which Ingram has been featured. In 1985, he had shows in Kansas City, Washington and Phoenix.

"Sam's art has many of the same qualities that were typical of Thomas Hart Benton. He's a realist who puts a lot of detail into his works," says Jack McCarthy, a Kansas City art collector who organized Ingram's exhibit there.

"He tries to put in details that many modern artists would overlook. When he draws a horse on a prairie, you can see individual strands of hair on that horse's back.

"He creates a sort of a (Norman) Rockwell look that is very appealing to most people."

But Ingram doesn't consider himself that good. "I paint, I draw, but I wouldn't consider myself an artist," Ingram says. "I don't like to single myself out as an artist simply because this is something that anybody who practices and develops the muscular coordination could do."

Ingram was raised in a family of artists. His grandmother, mother and sister were all talented artists.

When he was 8, he created a cartoon monkey, which was printed in a Houston newspaper. At 14, he was producing commercial art for furniture, oil and beer companies. In high school, he earned an art scholarship to study at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts.

In 1938, he enrolled at North Texas State University. He continued to study art, eventually earning a scholarship to study in Mexico. There, he studied with Diego Rivera and Jose Orozco.

"He (Rivera) taught me how to take an everyday type of subject and make it into something that would interest the general public," Ingram says. "I learned how to take a subject and make it dramatic."

The Mexican artists also taught him to grind color pigments, paint frescos and to use egg tempera techniques.

His work was more abstract and less detailed during that period.

"I've become more consistent in my work. I'm more patient. That's evident in my detail work," Ingram says. "I couldn't stand to do detail in my youth. I was young and vigorous and felt like I had better things to do with my time."

In 1940, he joined the Navy and became a pilot. He also painted illustrations for naval publications and for recruiting posters.

When the United States entered World War II, Ingram served in the Pacific. He fought in most of the major battles from Guadalcanal to Okinawa. And when he wasn't in battle, he was sketching them.

Ironically, at least one of his sketches was destroyed in battle. He had just finished a watercolor and laid it out to dry on a carrier walkway. Suddenly, the ship, which was cruising near Okinawa, was attacked by Kamikazes.

"We shot a plane down and it crashed close enough to the ship that water splashed up and ruined my painting," Ingram says.

After the war, he served in Europe. He visited museums and studied the works by master artists, including Vincent Van Gogh, Francisco Goya, Rembrandt and Michelangelo.

When Ingram served in China and Korea, he developed an interest in Oriental art.

In 1952, he designed, wrote and illustrated the official program for the inauguration of President Dwight Eisenhower.

In 1966, Ingram was injured when his plane crashed during a carrier landing off the coast of Vietnam. He retired in 1979.

"I think the military helped me develop the discipline you need to work on a painting," he says. "Nothing I do is by accident. My paintings are planned and executed very coolly. It's a very deliberate and calculated process."

INGRAM, SAM



Each stroke, he says, has a purpose.

"My aim is to entertain the viewer. I'm not trying to say anything deep that people can't find or understand," Ingram says. "I try to make people feel at home. I try to make them chuckle and say, 'Yeah, I remember a moment like that.'"

But other artists are critical of his work, Ingram says.

"I would say few of my peers appreciate my art. They say it's too complicated. But most people who come to art galleries are intrigued by detail," Ingram says. "I paint for people, not for other artists."

In fact, he believes most modern artists paint too simply. Their paintings lack an essential

quality, he says. They lack character.

"I can paint as simply as anyone, but that painting won't have character," Ingram says. "A life is complex. The lines on a person's face, the expressions he uses are important details that tell the story of that person's life. If you make a painting so simple that it doesn't have those details, then, to me, it doesn't have character."

But Ingram's paintings do have character, says McCarthy.

"Sometimes he'll see somebody on the street or in a restaurant, and a few months later, you'll see that same person jumping out of one of his drawings like it was a photograph," McCarthy says. "It's amazing."

Many of the faces Ingram sees end up being depicted in unusual ways. A Mesa doctor, for example, becomes a cowboy in a Ingram drawing. A man in sitting on a park bench becomes a monk. A man Ingram met on a bus becomes a Mississippi Riverboat gambler named "Poker Faced Parker."

"I collect these type of characters and put them in a file. Then when I need them for a painting, their images are there," Ingram says. "I imagine them being in a situation in the past or imagine what these people would have done years ago."

Ingram is constantly looking to new faces to fill his canvases. That's because he goes through his file quickly. He paints every day. He produces dozens of paintings, watercolors and drawings each year. He sells from 20 to 25 of those annually at prices ranging from \$300 to more than \$20,000.

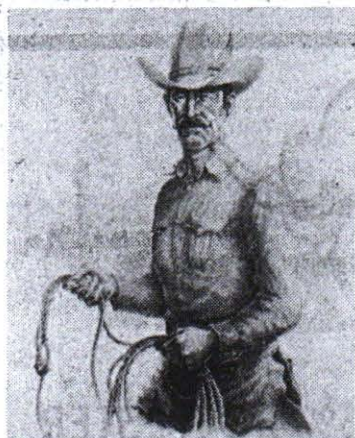
"Painting is work. It's labor," Ingram says. "My pleasure comes when I paint that last stroke and step back and look at it. Then I start another."





# ONE MAN SHOW!

## SAMUEL P. INGRAM



### ABOUT THE ARTIST:

- In addition to 32 years as U.S. naval aviator, Samuel Ingram enjoyed other careers as commercial artist, political cartoonist, photographer, novelist, and advertising executive.

- He wrote and designed the official program for Dwight D. Eisenhower's 1952 Presidential Inauguration.

- He was commissioned by the Wilkie Foundation of Chicago to research and illustrate a full-color book on the History of Tools from the cave man to today. The book was specially produced for the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry.

- His paintings have been exhibited in several major U.S. cities and this year will be shown in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Kansas City, Baltimore, and Houston.

### ABOUT THE SHOW:

The four-day, admission-free exhibit to dedicate Menke Social and Reception Hall is scheduled 10 am to 5 pm, Thursday through Saturday (April 25-27) and 1:30 to 5 pm, Sunday (April 28). The elaborate display includes more than 90 paintings in three categories: Western, Mexican and Others.

- Viewers will see the artist's use of a number of mediums including oil, acrylic, pastel, pen and ink, watercolor and pencil.

- In addition to the artist's paintings will be his collection of rare and valuable western artifacts, including antique guns, boots, saddles, Indian headdresses, cowboy hats, and Navajo blankets.

The Menke Reception and Social hall, located at 10307 W. Coggins Drive in Sun City, is made available to area community groups by Menke Funeral Home.



979-6451

A10 NEWS-SUN THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1985

OVER

INGRAM, Samuel P.



## LIFE ENRICHMENT--REACH FOR IT! The Man and His Art--Fascinating!

by Jerry Svendsen

George Menke has decided to officially dedicate his Menke Social and Reception Hall by sponsoring a One Man Art Show featuring 95 paintings of Artist Samuel P. Ingram. The public exhibit is scheduled Thursday through Sunday (April 25-28); 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the first three days, and 1:30 on Sunday. The Show will be well worth your time. In helping George promote the exhibit, I've become acquainted with multi-talented Sam. His art work, like the artist himself, just springs to life. One doesn't just see a cowboy, a cat, an eagle or an Indian. Those splashes of color and detail and the expression of his characters evoke definite feelings. You smile, you wince, you do a double-take. His paintings are fun, they are sensitive, they are bright. They tell us much about the author.



Jerry Svendsen

Sam's career as a U.S. Naval Aviator spanned four conflicts. I'm certain he found excitement in flying and had his brushes with death. Excitement and brushes. That continues to be Sam's way of life. He's a man of action. It shows in the way he moves and in his paintings. His careers have been as diverse as his art.

The former commercial artist, political cartoonist, photographer, novelist, and advertising executive shifts easily from one medium to another--oil, acrylic, pastel, pen and ink, watercolor, and pencil.

Among his avocations Sam has accumulated a vast collection of rare and valuable Western artifacts that he blends into the art exhibit. The man has poured energy and creativity into display preparations. In art that depicts cowboys, horses and cattle, also will be shown the genuine articles that we see in the paintings--guns, hats, saddles, chaps, spurs, and branding irons. Where there are Indian scenes, there, too, are Navajo blankets, moccasins, and pre-1900 Indian war dance feathers.

There is a long history and/or a true story behind each collected item--the Pueblo basket, the Kiowa tom-tom made from a hollowed out log, a rifle actually used by a Sioux Indian in the Battle of the Little Big Horn, and antique Navajo jewelry fashioned from Spanish silver coins. Viewers will see two Maria and Julian black pottery originals from Ildefonso Pueblo in New Mexico and fine pottery of Hopi Indian Patricia Honi.

And all who attend may participate in a drawing. The winner will have the opportunity to select from two of the artist's limited edition prints, "Aztec Woman and Child", in litho pencil, or his acrylic of "The Old Rock'n Chair's Got 'Em".

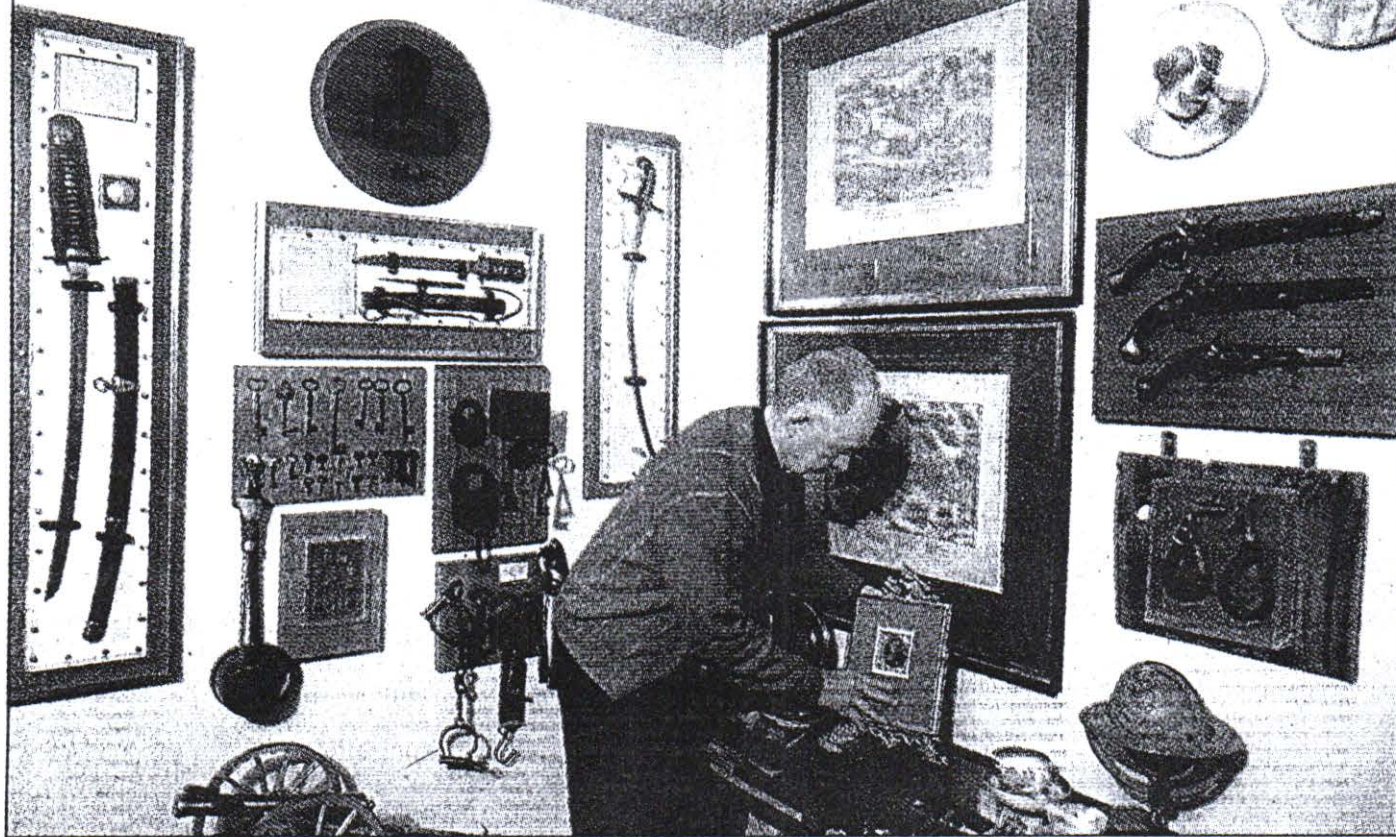
I hope you will take the time to experience this display first hand. Like the man himself, his exhibit is absolutely fascinating.

Send correspondence to Jerry Svendsen, Sun Cities Life Magazine, 9192 W. Cactus, Suite C, Peoria, AZ 85345.

*Menke Funeral Home*

12420 N. 103rd Ave., Sun City 979-6451



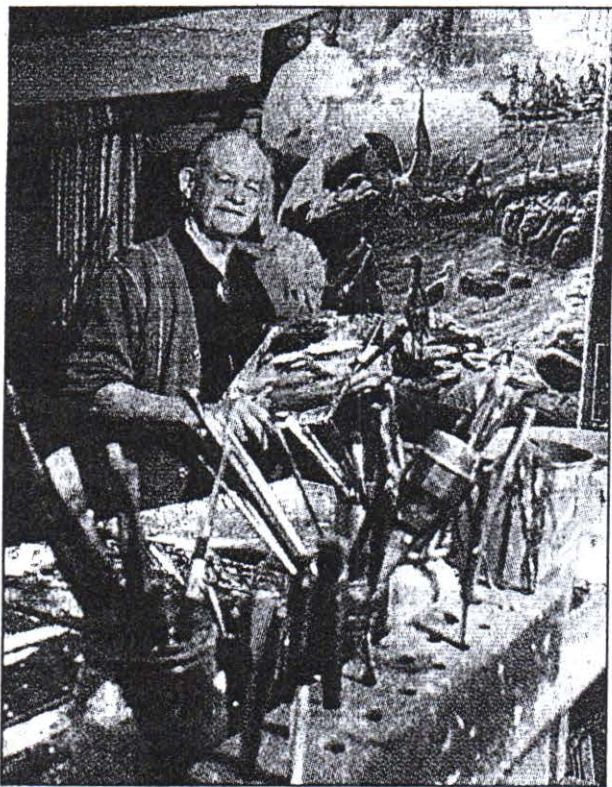


Sam Ingram has collected works of art from all over the world, including some of these old weapons.

Collecting runs in the family; his mother was an antiques dealer in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Mark Henle / Staff photographer

# Treasure trove



Sam Ingram is also a painter, working both in charcoal and oils.

## Art of art collecting shows itself in museum display

By Julia Jones  
Staff writer

### Sun Cities

If there's an art to collecting, Sam Ingram could write the catalog.

The several etchings he contributed to the "Art of Sun Cities Collectors" show at the Sun Cities Art Museum, which opened Thursday, scarcely made a dent in the eclectic array of treasures in his Sun City home.

There's a reason behind every item in his trove, says Ingram, who'll turn 70 in February, and some items are the stuff legends are made of.

This is the Sun Cities Museum's second showing of art from private collections, says Karen Reinhold, director, and they've learned that stories behind acquisitions are always fascinating.

"We have a melting pot here of people who have traveled so much and who have accumulated so many wonderful things that we weren't surprised to be able to get both old masters and some modern work," she said. "Some of these things have great worth, and we feel fortunate that they've held onto them and that the owners have volunteered these things for the show."

Some are of such value that museum officials considered curbs on publicity, but then reconsidered.

"We relented, because it's possible that people will never have another opportunity to see some of these things," Reinhold says, but anonymity was granted if the owners wished, in order to protect their treasures.

See COLLECTOR, Page 2

OVER



# COLLECTOR

From Page 1

In addition to 45 paintings, etchings and drawings, she says, the exhibit mounted in the museum's Jensen Wing includes sculpture, bronzes, ceramics and even a collection of fine teapots.

Brokerage houses and banks that service the area, as well as civic groups of the Sun Cities, have planned receptions and parties at the museum, Reinhold said, extending the show's exposure.

Ingram himself is an artist, and his charcoal portraits and vivid oils that usually depict scenes and characters of the West are filled with details as authentic as the things that fill his home, where Rembrandt etchings are displayed cheek by jowl with pre-Columbian pottery unearthed by a friend on his Caribbean coffee plantation along with relics from the Alamo.

He comes from a collecting family, he says. While his father ran cattle in east Texas in the early part of the century, his mother dealt in antiques from a base in Corpus Christi.

At North Texas State University in Denton in the late '30s, the 18-year-old Ingram won a scholarship to study art in Mexico.

It was during the time that great Mexican artists like José Orozco, Carlos Merida and Diego Rivera were in full production, Ingram says, and although the scholarship didn't permit him to study directly with Rivera, "a few of us were privileged to view him painting, working on murals or going along on field trips. On one trip to an Indian market, he did a watercolor and later gave it to me. It was in an ornate, 350-year-old gold frame," Ingram recalls, still marveling at the glorious gift to a young man who had become a tag-along in the artist's entourage.

That watercolor is among those Ingram loaned to the Sun Cities Museum for the show.

His Rembrandt etchings came by way of another bit of serendipity, he says.

During his 35-year career as a naval aviator, Lt. Cmdr. Sam Ingram was stationed in Germany, just after World War II.

"I had made a trip to Paris," he recalls, "and had heard from people in the cultural and business affairs at the embassy how depressed the fashion and perfume business was. I was associated with the Army exchange system or the PX, and you know, some of the exchanges were as big as department stores, and we had some 200 of them scattered all over Europe. I could see the close relationship between the couture and perfume industries, and that the whole industry was on its back, so to speak."

Ingram already had worked on the fringes of the fashion industry, drawing fashion illustrations for advertisements, and his sister worked as a designer.

"I talked to the colonel in charge of the exchange system, and he agreed that the acquisition of these perfumes would be a great help to the whole industry," Ingram says, "so I wrote up a proposal that maybe we could sponsor a fashion show, with specialty acts between the presentations from each fashion house, so that it would draw both men and women as entertainment."

With the colonel's approval and the manager of the exchange system in tow, Ingram headed for a fashion house with a familiar name: Elsa Schiaparelli, a designer known for her "shocking" pink frocks and a namesake perfume.

"The minute I started talking about putting her perfume in our exchanges, and offered her a carton of cigarettes, her eyes lit up and we became instant friends," Ingram said.

The designer called her friends in the business, from Chanel to Nina Ricci. Ingram started designing sets, a craft he'd polished as a civilian in little theater productions, and soon found himself in charge of some 20 slinky French models and more than \$1 million in clothes and furs.

"It was a headache," he said, mildly.

The first show in Berlin was such a success that Ingram's commanding officer immediately moved to expand throughout Europe, extending invitations to buyers for American retailers who were already on the continent, and then to the rest back in New York.

The second show, in Munich, West Germany, was even bigger, covered for the *Stars and Stripes* in photos and articles, and Ingram found himself touring the rest of Europe as an advance man, searching out auditoriums that had survived the war, in which to stage more shows.

"We sold about \$60 million in fashion and perfumes in six months," he said, displaying as evidence yellowed clippings in a stack of scrapbooks.

By way of thanks, Schiaparelli invited Ingram to any number of parties and entertainments, including one memorable private art auction, he said.

"These were famous old paintings by artists like Monet and Cezanne, offered by important families of noble ancestry who were economically forced to sell," he said. The guest list was select, too.

After browsing through the main offerings, all beyond his own budget, Ingram discovered lesser works by the same artists in a side room; inquiring as to their availability, he was told that none of the assembled buyers would be interested in them.

"This was early 1947," he said. Times were hard.

"So I made an offer on some things by Durer, Goya, three Rembrandts and three etchings by Heinrich Aldegrever, six biblical prints from the 14th century plus a series of old maps. I said I'd pay in American dollars, and I'd throw in 30 or 40 food packages and lots of cigarettes, all stuff I could buy on base."

He walked off with the lot.

Some of these, too, are on display in the Sun Cities show.

Although the show opened Thursday, the opening reception for members and their guests is planned for 5 to 7:30 p.m. Monday.

The show at the museum, 17425 N. 115th Ave., will continue through Feb. 10.

Information: 972-0635.



# Artist makes people stop, look and listen

By DIANA TOLLEFSON  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — "The Alluring Romance of the American West and Mexico," an exhibit by Samuel Ingram, opens on Nov. 26 in the Sun Cities Art Museum.

In addition to his artwork, the exhibit will include a magnificent collection of artifacts, including firearms, Pre-Columbian pottery and fossils, which he has collected from all over the world.

Ingram has had a varied and highly diverse career, which includes more than 32 years of U.S. Naval service as an aviator spanning four major conflicts: World War II, China, Korea, and Vietnam.

His other careers have included photography, commercial artist-illustrator, political cartoonist, novelist, advertising and marketing executive, corporate vice president and NASA consultant.

Reared in southwest Texas, Ingram gives his grandparents credit for teaching him to be self-reliant, patriotic and creative. He was born into a family of artists and started painting at a very early age. By 14 he was doing commercial art for oil companies, furniture and brewing companies and designing

theatrical stage settings. In his teens Ingram won several art scholarships.

While in college at North Texas State University, he went to Mexico where he studied under the renowned Diego Rivera and Jose Orozco. He became involved with archeological excavations in Mexico, and this background has lead Ingram to find his own style which is boldly realistic.

"I have little interest in competitive art shows, where the so-called best are selected," Ingram said. "I am enthusiastically in favor of art shows which feature art for the pure pleasure of viewing its magic as performed by a fellow human being who has the imagination and inner urge to express himself for the pleasure of others."

He loves to discuss the various ways to observe art.

"One is to look how the subject is portrayed, whether realistic or abstract. Another is the skill of communication and interpretation," Ingram said. "Still another is the skill in applying the given medium. Personally, I find the most profound pictorial messages are hidden in detail and in well-organized complexity."

"To get the full excitement and joy from viewing art, I al-

ways try to look at a picture with an open mind . . . no prejudged thoughts. I also try very hard not to judge or evaluate . . . just let the artist's expression talk to me."

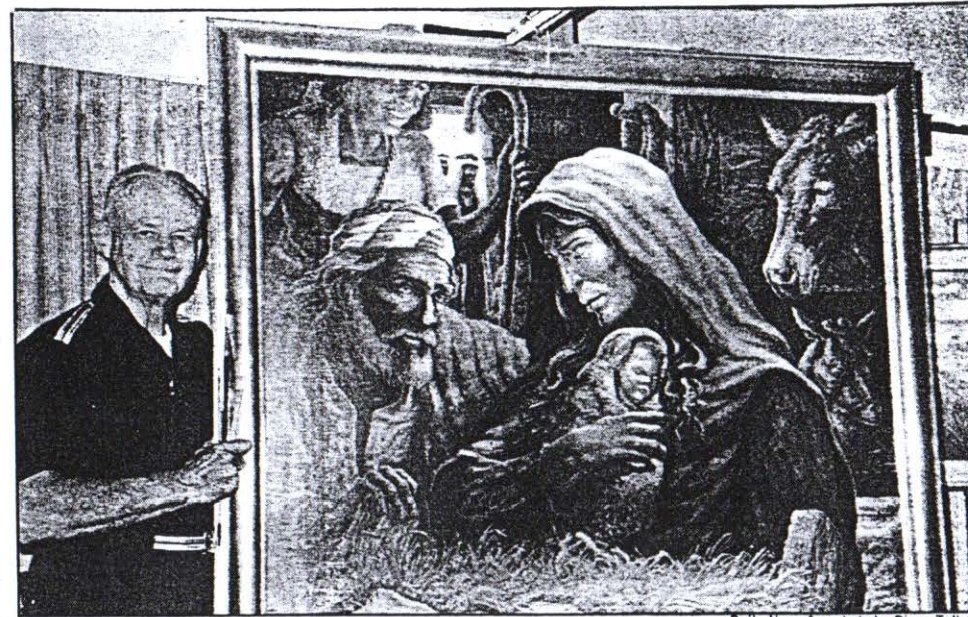
The Ingram exhibit invites the viewer to stop, look and listen to the great variety of works carefully arranged in the three galleries. There are paintings of majestic land and seascapes, portraits of provocative people from Mexico, the Orient and the South Pacific.

The most impressive of his paintings for this holiday season is in a place of prominence at the entrance to the show. Inside the main doors in the Hoover Foyer is a magnificent "No Room at the Inn," which Ingram considers his masterpiece.

"I don't believe that Virgin Mary was a pale, fragile woman as so many artists show her. My Madonna is strong and tanned by the desert sun," he said. "I try to create an integrated geometric composition which will command the attention of the viewer and lead his eyes where I want them to go."

Ingram said this must be done subtly by means of line, contrast, texture, balance and progressive and receding color.

"Second, I want to capture a



Daily News-Sun photo by Diana Tollefson

**NO ROOM AT THE INN** — Sun City artist Sam Ingram displays his acrylic painting of the Holy Family in the manger. It is part of

an exhibit, which opens on Nov. 26 in the Hoover Foyer of the Sun Cities Art Museum.

viewer's attention for a good period of time, I do this with detail and good draftsmanship," he said. "From my viewpoint, life and all nature are complex, and in any scene there are countless things going on . . . some quite obvious and others rather hidden. If you look at a grass lawn . . . you may see only a bird on it hunting a worm, but if you look closer, you may see hundreds of ants carrying food to their colony, a honeybee getting nectar from a clover bud, a frog under a bush, and so on. I

personally make my pictures "busy" because that is the way I see life.

Ingram is a storyteller who enjoys illustrating an interesting situation whether with man or animal, all are dramatic or humorous. His land and seascapes are majestic, as in "Ahh . . . Wilderness" showing horse, rider and pack pony completely overwhelmed by the grandeur of the western mountains.

In order that the viewer can truly understand and therefore appreciate his works, Ingram

has prepared explanations which will be by each of the paintings that need interpretation. The total exhibit is an education to those willing to spend the time at the museum.

The Sun Cities Art Museum is at 17425 N. 115th Ave. north of Bell Road. It is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays, and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Admission is free.

A reception for Ingram is from 1 to 4 p.m. on Nov. 26.

Information: 972-0635.

Wed. 11-8-89 DAILY NEWS Sun. P.C-1



# Sun City artist creates from experience

## Eventful life colors palette

CHUCK HEEMAN  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Ingram's journey, both through his life and his art, has been a long, eventful trip through some of the most fascinating periods in American history.

Ingram has enjoyed a highly diverse career path, gaining experiences from which he draws when creating his art. He served as a naval pilot in three wars, and was stationed on both the World War II version of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise and on its nuclear-powered replacement during the Vietnam War.

Even while spending 32 years as a naval aviator, Ingram managed to produce art that has become known throughout the world. His paintings hang in the U.S. Naval Museum in Washington, D.C., and his show "America's Call To Freedom" opened Surprise's West Valley Art Museum in 1995.

Beginning Nov. 5, Ingram will help another local art gallery, El Dorado, celebrate its enlarged exhibit area with a show titled "America the Beautiful." More than 20 landscapes, many never before exhibited, will be on display through Jan. 11.

"The El Dorado has doubled the size of its exhibit space," Ingram said. "And the emphasis is on seniors who love

art. So many of the museums around here are focused on the up-and-coming artists, and a lot of the people who live in this area just can't relate that kind of art. Not that the art is bad but there isn't a lot of places seniors can go to see traditional paintings and art."

Ingram's other careers include time as an illustrator, political cartoonist, photographer, novelist, advertising and marketing executive for some of America's largest corporations and as a consultant to NASA for the manned space program.

His artistic side began with the influence of his family, as he grew up at his father's ranch near Corpus Christi, Texas.

"My grandmother and my father painted," Ingram said. "My sister, Marie Holton, was an art editor with Vogue magazine in the '30s, and she was a huge influence on me."

By age 14, Ingram was actively producing commercial art for oil, furniture and brewing companies, and designing stage scenery.

In his early teens, Ingram won several art scholarships, studying under Dr. Cora Stafford, another major influence, at North Texas Teacher's College (now the University of North Texas) in Denton. While at North Texas, he earned a two-year apprentice scholarship to study in Mexico with legendary artists like Diego Rivera, Jose Orozco and Carlos Merdia. Ingram's paintings of Mexico have been exhibited in Dallas, Houston, San Diego, Chicago, San Francisco and New York, and many of those creations are now in private collections.

During his naval career, Ingram continued to paint, again drawing on the his surroundings. His war paintings and photographs have been exhibited at war museums throughout the world.

Sam and Mary Ingram retired to Sun City in 1978, where Sam has spent the past few years creating scenes from the western and north-west parts of the continent, with landscapes painted after months of exhaustive research.

"I have a landscape called 'A Trail of Courage, Hardship and Tears' that shows the forced migration of the Mormons as they were driven out of the Midwest," Ingram said. "On that trip, the group lost 56 people to the freezing weather. My painting shows the cart drive, that's what they called it,



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Artist Sam Ingram sits before his easel in his Sun City studio.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sam Ingram's "A Trail of Courage, Hardship and Tears" illustrates the Mormons' tragic flight from the Midwest to Utah.

(OVER)



through southern Wyoming.

"I wanted to make sure everything I put in that painting was accurate, from the land itself to the clothing and carts they drove and the horses they used."

Not only does Ingram research the background of each painting he creates, he has studied with and about some of the masters of art history to learn how the masters used geometric planning to create art that would endure through time.

"Very few artists today understand how important geometric planning is," Ingram said. "They balance color and shapes, but it's the geometry of a painting that keeps people coming back to see it again and again."

"All of my paintings have a geometric flow that takes guides you to a point when you first look, then takes you around the painting until you return to the beginning."

One guiding force in Ingram's recent work is his political stance.

"I began exploring historical paintings because I am concerned about the direction our country is taking," Ingram said. "I believe we are getting away from the principles on which our Constitution was founded, and I am a big believer that we should follow our Constitution to the letter."

Ingram's next series of paintings will illustrate his views, with stories that relate to how the Constitution was created using numerous references to Judeo-Christianity.

"I have done many, many months of research on this subject before painting anything," Ingram said. "The ties between our Constitution and religion are there for everyone to see."

In January, Ingram will display 18 of his paintings on the subject at Lakeview Methodist Church.

For now, Ingram is happy to be a part of the El Dorado expansion.

"The El Dorado is exactly the kind of place I want my art seen," Ingram said. "Many museums seem to downgrade realistic or illustrative art, and it is becoming hard to find exhibits that the general public or older generations can appreciate. The El Dorado provides that, and I'm happy to be a part of it."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Sam Ingram, left, holds the original drawing used to create his latest painting "Outing for Mama Bear and Cubs," above. The painting will be on display along with "Gathering of the Mallard Clan," below, and 19 more of his works beginning Nov. 5 at El Dorado retirement center in Cun City.



SUBMITTED PHOTO





# Women pilot plots own course

## Contemporary of Earhart wings her way

By Vera Petrovic  
Staff Writer

Flying and travel have been, for 60 years now, co-mingled in the life of a true cosmopolitan woman, Sun City resident Elizabeth Inwood.

She was born in Seattle, raised in southern California, lived in Maryland, traveled four times around the world and was a Sun City pioneer.

A contemporary of Amelia Earhart, Mrs. Inwood was a charter member of the 99 Club, an international organization of licensed women pilots.

As a young girl, she became interested in flying, after she first went for a ride over Los Angeles.

"The old-time pilots used to fly people to different places, charging them \$5 for five minutes. I was only 12 then, but determined to embark on a flying career," she said.

Mrs. Inwood learned to fly in O-X-5. She was the first woman to receive a private pilot's license at the Standard Flying School in Los Angeles.

The school was a part of Standard Air Lines, a forerunner of TWA.

"In order to get my license, I had to learn how to stunt fly, do wingovers and bring a plane out

of a spin. Such acrobatics were always considered extremely dangerous.

"People thought we were really brave, but it wasn't that hard. It was much fun, even though we had limited instruments in those days," she said.

On one occasion, she recalled, while flying upside down, she lost a wrist watch, a birthday present from her father.

"My name was engraved on the watch. Since I cherished it very much, I was upset about losing it. However, two years later, a woman called to tell me that her husband had found it, while surveying the area, presently L.A. airport."

She said they saw her name in the paper, after she competed in a cross-country race.

Mrs. Inwood participated in many powder puff derbies and raced in the transcontinental and closed course pilot races.

She flew open cockpit planes across the states and over the ocean, taught flying and flew commercially for a time. She and her husband, also a pilot, owned a number of different small planes and were involved in every type of aviation.

"It was an exciting experience. Luckily, I never had to make a forced landing, nor take a parachute jump," Mrs. Inwood said.

Flying was her main hobby for 40 years. But, in 1961, when she moved to Sun City, she realized she had many other interests as well.

"Everybody was new in Sun City, then a very personal place and charming little town. People were interested in learning about Arizona, so I decided to start planning trips. I was very active in girl-scouting, so a bit of experience helped," she said.

Word got around, fast, she recalled, since everybody knew everybody. She first organized

caravans and trips to Wickenburg and dude ranches, and then to other Arizona attractions.

"People were not aware of many beautiful places in the Valley and in the state. I made up itineraries and escorted tours for individuals and different Sun City churches and clubs," she said.

Continued on Page 3



This picture, a favorite of Elizabeth Inwood, shows her and Amelia Earhart and other women who belonged to the "99 Club" of first women pilots. The picture is autographed by the famous pilot.



When her husband became president of the Sun City Home Owners Association, Mrs. Inwood joined Collins-Clare Travel, then one of 15 travel agencies in Phoenix.

She and her sister bought the company several years later, and soon they took off on a four-month world tour.

"I was very interested in finding out what makes other nations tick, how they live and what their customs are," Mrs. Inwood said.

She soon started escorting tours to Africa, South America and the Orient. She also served as a local guide for groups from Australia, New Zealand and Europe.

Mrs. Inwood still works full time as a tour escort for the same agency, now owned by her daughter.

She recently came back from China, where she spent two weeks studying the tourist conditions in the country.

"I had to become acquainted with the procedures there, before I organize the tour to China. I learned so many interesting facts about the people and life there. For example people there do not own cars," she said.

This month Mrs. Inwood will take a group of Sun Citians on a "Love Boat Tour" to the Mexican Riviera.

When she is not guiding domestic or international tours, Mrs. Inwood engages in activities of local clubs and speaks at the meetings of different Sun City organizations.

She belongs to the Soroptimists, Business and Professional Women, Ski and Passport Clubs, and O-X-5 Aviation Pioneers.

Her energies are endless and so is her enthusiasm.

"As long as I live and my health holds, I'll be doing things I'm interested in," she said.

At 72, she considers herself probably the healthiest person in Sun City," since she doesn't even have a doctor.

"Among the things I'd like to do in the future, I think I'd like most to fly a glider and visit Russia," Mrs. Inwood said.





## ELIZABETH INWOOD

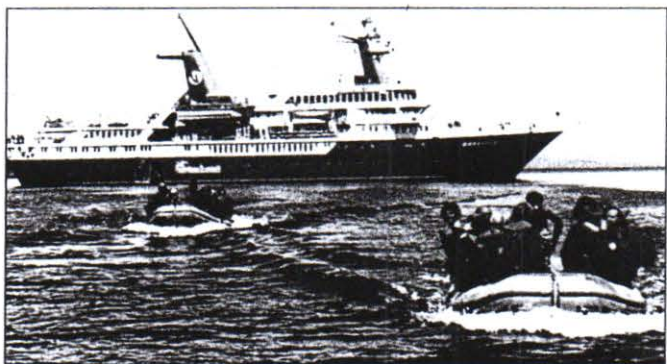
She flew in races with Amelia Earhart, received flying commendations from Orville Wright, and has circled the globe at least a dozen times. Elizabeth Inwood, 80, is an amazing person.

Petite, vivacious Elizabeth is as active today as she was nearly 60 years ago when she qualified for her pilot's license—making her one of the first 10 women pilots in the country. Daredevil flying in open cockpit planes has given way to more conventional air travel. Today she escorts group tours to strange and exotic lands, savoring the sights and sounds of unfamiliar cultures.

"There's so much to see in this world of ours," she declares. "New Zealand, for instance, is almost like two separate countries. The north leans toward being tropical, while the south tends to be cold and icy. And Morocco! Highways, hotels, modern shops—and a friendliness that I had not expected at all."

Though a seasoned traveler, Elizabeth never tires of the opportunity to strike out on yet another new horizon, as she did four years ago when she and friend Jane Shimer ("one of the few people in Sun City who has traveled to more out-of-the-way places than I have") trekked the polar icecaps of Antarctica. Arriv-

*Continued on page 54*



ELIZABETH'S ADVENTURES include rafting to shore from the cruise ship "World Discoverer."

ing by way of the Falkland Islands, which Elizabeth says are "covered with penguins," their ship visited several of the scientific stations situated hundreds of miles apart.

"Here we are at the South Pole, and I run into a young scientist whose wife and small child live in Sedona," she recounts. "When he told me it takes three months for one of his letters to reach them, I suggested he write one that night and I'd mail it for him as soon as I got back to Sun City. Which I did. You can imagine his wife's joy upon getting it."

Elizabeth's spunky and caring nature has made her a favorite with many Sun Cities' globe-trotters booking tours through Collins-Clare Travel agency. "I became a travel agent in 1965 after my husband, Louis, died," she explains. "A short while later, I bought an agency a friend had put up for sale."

Three years after purchasing the agency, Elizabeth turned the business over to her daughter and son-in-law. She stayed on as a fulltime employee, working primarily as tour director.

"Nowadays, I do a great number of short runs, anywhere from three nights to three weeks," she says. "Occasionally, I also do longer trips, some as tour director and others for my own pleasure and enjoyment."

Some of the latter have included touring the canal-ways of Holland at tulip time on a barge, and more recently, white water rafting along Cataract Canyon.

"That float trip was one of the best vacations I've ever had," relates the plucky octogenarian. "At one point, we were all holding on to the lines and straps of the raft for dear life. Each rapid was more awesome than the last. On day four, a six-passenger Cessna returned us to civilization."

One would think Elizabeth might dislike living out of a suitcase, as she does four to five months a year. Not so. "I use the same advice I dispense to fellow travelers," she says. "Pack light, coordinate clothes in one color scheme, and save room for packages to bring home."

When not on the road, this charter member of the Sun Cities Passport Club works daily at Collins-Clare's Phoenix office—writing tickets, consulting, typing, etc. Yet her travel plans never cease. Just returned from Scandinavia, she is due to set off for Hong Kong later this month; a jaunt to Kashmir is in the works for 1988.

With eyes that have seen over 120 countries, some many times, Elizabeth is hard pressed to name one country the most beautiful, or one culture the most intriguing. "Around the world by sea and air, once I thought I'd seen it all. Now I realize my sightseeing has only been a drop in the bucket to all that this wonderful world has to offer."

The thrill of anticipation lighting her eyes, Elizabeth declares, "My exploring days are far from over." **EL**



# NEWS-SUN

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## Louis Inwood: A Tribute

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The death of Louis Inwood, one of Sun City's outstanding civic leaders, prompted this tribute, written by W. Phillips Campbell, president of the Sun City Home Owners association. Campbell's following expression echoes the sentiments of legions of Sun Citizens who knew Mr. Inwood and felt the impact of his work in their daily lives.)

Louis Inwood was an exceptionally energetic man. In 1962 he was chairman of the Sun City Town Hall Activities board. In 1963 he was president of the Sun City Home Owners association. He has served in 1964 as a member of the Town Hall board of directors. It was due largely to his efforts that the Monday night movies at Town Hall were started. It was Mr. and Mrs. Inwood who started the N.E.D.A. trips, by bus and plane, to so many beautiful spots in Arizona and even Mexico and the Hawaiian Islands. He also served on numerous committees in Sun City.

Louie Inwood's background, (and he was "Louie" to hundreds of us who knew him), gave strong promise that he would contribute much to Sun City. He was executive assistant to the president of Trans-World-Airlines. He was director of aviation for the city of Philadelphia. For three years he had his own business as a transportation consultant specializing in aviation. It is small wonder that his ~~seemingly endless~~ energy carried over into the years of his retirement.

Those of us who have had the privilege of working closely with Louie and being among his friends will cherish the memories of a man who worked unceasingly for Sun City. Louie belonged to our community — it was an inseparable part of him — and he of it. We did not always agree with him, nor he with us. But he always listened, even when he disagreed, and he kept an open mind despite the fact that when he believed in something he argued in its favor with a vigor that, among others of open mind, earned him the utmost respect. He did not wilt in discussion. He was strong, and that is one of the measures of the man. I have heard him negotiate in behalf of Sun City and Sun City people with men in business and in government, and I know of no other person among us who argued our case so well and with so much force. We — all of us — have so much cause to be grateful that he was among us.

He was an endless source of ideas — they bubbled from him like water tumbling down the rapids of a mountain stream. Ideas of all kinds; many excellent, many good, a few not-so-good. But he was big enough to discard those which others convinced him were not-so-good. And when it took some of us days or months to recognize the merit of others he did not complain, but held firm in his beliefs until he had convinced us.

Louis Inwood spent hours without number in the interests of our community. You had to work with him to know the measure of his devotion to Sun City — or you had to be his friend. In any case, you ended up admiring him, knowing that he was someone unusual, realizing that he had given far more generously of his talents and the amazing vitality of his retirement years than is the inclination of most of us.

In a current magazine there is a commentary on a religious and philosophic acceptance of the transition from life to eternal rest. Rabindrinath Tagore is there quoted as dust of the earth in unnumbered blades of grass and breaks into tumultuous waves of leaves and flowers. It is the same life that is rocked in the ocean-cradle of birth and death, saying, "It is the same life that shoots in joy through the in ebb and flow. Because I love this life, I know that I shall love death as well." So, through the beneficence of Almighty God, may it be for Louie.

W. Phillips Campbell

INWOOD, LOUIS



# Former aviatrix still rides high

By KAREN S. LEONARD  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Elizabeth Inwood has spent a lifetime with her head in the clouds.

No, she's not a doper or pill-popper. She's a travel agent and former pilot.

She flew in the days of Amelia Earhart.

In fact, Inwood Inwood and Earhart were flying pals and she scoffs at speculation that Earhart and her navigator, Fred Noonan, were captured by the Japanese.

After Earhart and Noonan disappeared over the Pacific in 1937, rumors spread that the pair were on a secret mission to photograph Japanese military bases on Saipan. According to the rumors, the Japanese shot their plane down and captured them.

When the island was captured during World War II, natives said they remembered seeing a white man and woman under Japanese guard. The descriptions matched Earhart and Noonan. Natives said the man was beheaded and the woman died of dysentery.

But Inwood doesn't believe that story.

"I have no belief that she did anything except go down into the ocean. They said the Japanese held her as a prisoner but I never believed it. I think they didn't have enough gas. I think they ran out of fuel. There's no reason to think otherwise. She had an inadequate navigator. The navigator, in my opinion, had to have missed something," Inwood says.

As female pilots, both Earhart and Inwood made flying history: Earhart as the first woman to fly a transatlantic flight; Inwood as the first female to get a license from the Standard Flying School in Los Angeles, requiring 10 hours of solo flight time.

The women also were members of the 99s, an international organization of 99 licensed women pilots. Earhart was the

## Impressions

School in Los Angeles. The Cycloplane looked like a glider and was flown solo.

She quit flying in 1941, but because of her travel business she has remained airborne.

In 1963, she and her sister bought Collins-Clare Travel in Phoenix. Now, Inwood's daughter and her husband own the business and the Sun Citian works as a travel agent and public relations person for the agency.

"I deal with people and I get along with people," she says.

Long-time friend Kay Carlson agrees with Inwood and says, "I don't think she has a cantankerous bone in her body."

That opinion is also shared by the Rev. Arthur Bourbon who says Inwood is sincerely interested in the people she escorts. He recalls one trip Inwood escorted on which a woman died. Inwood brought the woman's luggage back and hand-delivered it to the deceased's family.

But she didn't become a people lover overnight. It has taken years of involvement with people in various organizations.

In the late 50s and early 60s Inwood worked with the Girl Scouts of America, acting as vice president of the Philadelphia Girl Scouts Council with 3,000 members.

"I could sell more Girl Scout cookies than anybody else because I had access to the (community business) managers," she boasts.

Her husband was director of the airports in Philadelphia.

She also worked as director of several playgrounds in California while attending the University of Santa Monica.

However, Inwood says, "I think some of the things I do now are more interesting."

The most fun thing I've done lately was I went down the Colorado (River) on a float (raft) — for five days," she says.

"She has boundless energy," Carlson says. "I think she would wither up if she didn't have all these things to do."

yearly trips to Ireland and the Orient.

"I never saw so many penquins in my whole life, just millions of them," she says, placing pictures of the birds on a table.

But while Inwood enjoys being a passenger on airline trips, she would love to get back into the cockpit.

"I think it would be fun to learn to fly again. I would love to fly again as a student. I'm sure I'm too old — maybe not. But I would love to fly again,"

she says. "Flying now is so different. We flew by what we called the seat of our pants. We had a compass, a turn-and-bank instrument and we had an altimeter. Those were the only three things we had for telling us where we were going, how high we were and what was the rate of speed."

Today's technology, the 80-year-old says, would give her a different perspective on something she loved.

"Flying now is so different. We flew by what we called the seat of our pants. We had a compass, a turn-and-bank instrument and we had an altimeter. Those were the only three things we had for telling us where we were going, how high we were and what was the rate of speed."

## Emphasis



1930's pilot—Elizabeth Inwood, of Sun City, belonged to the 99s, an international group of 99 licensed women pilots. Inwood took her first flight in 1929 in Santa Monica, Calif. (Photo courtesy Mrs. Inwood)

INWOOD, ELIZABETH



By LAURIE HURD-MOORE  
Sun Cities Independent

**D**ressed in full-hip cut jodhpur riding breeches and ankle-high boots, a brown leather jacket and eye-hugging goggles, the image of Elizabeth Inwood would have made a bold statement for women in the early 1920s.

A true pioneer when it comes to the world of aviation, she began piloting biplanes across the United States at a time when many women did not drive automobiles.

Today this Sun City pioneer is content with riding in the passenger section of modern commercial airplanes. But in her youth, living in Santa Monica, Calif., she couldn't wait to take over the controls of her own airplane.

"My father took me up in a plane after I complained about

See PIONEER, Page 9



Elizabeth Inwood, above, is a surviving member of the Ninety-Nines, a group of female aviators whose most famous member was Amelia Earhart, right.

## Pioneer of the sky

Sun City resident one of  
nation's first female pilots





## ■ PIONEER

From Page 1

having to help my mother do the dishes. I was about 11 or 12. That was about a thousand years ago," Mrs. Inwood explains.

Mrs. Inwood, "eighty-something" years old now, was taught how to pilot airplanes in 1921 and became one of the first 100 women in the nation to earn a pilot's license.

"I learned first on a training plane. Then I learned to fly on a heavier airplane, an O-X Eagle Rock.

"This plane was an oldie. It's a biplane with two wings on each side," she says.

A pilot's license was not the only thing Mrs. Inwood gained from the California flying school — she also met fellow student Louis Inwood, who would one day become her husband.

"My husband and I learned to fly at the same school and we learned from Jack Frye.

"Jack Frye was the first president and owner of TWA (Trans World Airlines) and he owned our school," she explains.

Billionaire Howard Hughes would eventually buy TWA in the late 1930s and build it into a world-class airline before being forced to

### Aviation firsts

- First licensed woman pilot -- Baroness Raymonde de la Roche of France, March 8, 1910.
- First U.S. woman pilot -- Harriet Quimby, a magazine writer. She received license No. 37 in 1911.
- First woman's cross-channel flight -- Harriet Quimby, who flew over Dover, England, across the English Channel and landed at Havelot, France in a Bleriot monoplane, April 16, 1912.
- First woman's transatlantic solo -- Amelia Earhart flying a Pratt & Whitney Wasp-powered Lockheed Vega. Earhart flew the plane from Harbor Grace, Newfoundland to Ireland in approximately 15 hours, May 21 and 22, 1932.
- First woman air pilot -- Ruth Rowland Nichols. She was employed by New York-New England Airways, 1932.
- First woman pilot of a U.S. major scheduled airline -- Emily H. Warner. She was employed by Frontier Airlines as a second officer on a Boeing 737, Jan. 29, 1973.

sell the company.

All the students at Mr. Frye's school, including Mrs. Inwood, had to wear slacks or breeches to operate the airplane controls, which were located between the legs.

"You used your right foot to control the right wing and the left foot controlled the left wing.

"You put both feet down if you were stopping."

Once a pilot and owner of a

airplane in 1929, the young pilot joined an organization called the Ninety-Nines, which was comprised of the first 99 licensed women pilots in the United States. Trail-blazer Amelia Earhart was its first president.

Mrs. Inwood describes Ms. Earhart as a nice person and a well-qualified pilot.

"She was very nice and very competent. She was quite a bit

taller than I was, maybe 5 inches taller, and slim. She was the kind of a person that was sure of herself, which she needed to be," says Mrs. Inwood.

It was at this time, the 1930s, when many airplane companies hired women to demonstrate and promote their commercial products. The sales gimmick proved profitable and it gave women a chance to fly.

The Sun City pioneer says while Ms. Earhart was more skilled as a pilot than herself, she managed to avoid any serious accident during her flying career.

She says her biggest misfortunes with airplanes involved flat tires and rough landings.

"I never was scared," she says.

Mrs. Inwood never flew across the ocean because in those days, such a feat was considered impossible.

And, despite her respect for Ms. Earhart, the Sun Citian thinks the famed pilot failed in her mission to cross the ocean and simply crashed in the water.

"I never thought Amelia Earhart got picked up by somebody. I think she went down in the ocean.

"While I met her several times and I thought she was very charming, I think she was stupid to try and go across the ocean. She had more faith in the airplane than I did I guess," says Mrs. Inwood.

"I like to be able to have some terra firma under me when I'm up in the air."

Mrs. Inwood's flying days would end when she reached the age of 35 when she turned her attention to more important matters: raising her two children.

She and her husband, Louis, retired to Sun City when the community was first being built. Mr. Inwood, now deceased, was the

first president of the Sun City Home Owners Association in 1963.

Mrs. Inwood now resides just outside of Sun City, at Desert Amethyst in Peoria.

Asked if she misses the time in her life when she piloted her own plane, she says, "No, because I use airlines entirely now. I have no desire to pilot anymore.

"It's really a different skill now and there are many airplanes flying around now.

"I lived a full life. Piloting then was fun and it was interesting."



Monday, May 12, 1997

## DOERS PROFILE

5/12/97

Martha  
Iriana

**Hometown:** Sun City

**Family:** Husband, Delbert; three children; five grandchildren

**Motto:** "Smile. You don't know how that's going to affect somebody. It doesn't cost you a cent to smile."

**Inspiration:** "It makes me feel good to do for others."

**Hobby:** Knitting

## Close-knit group is force behind Friendly Service

By RUTHANN HOGUE  
Staff writer

**M**artha Iriana turns out hand-knitted baby sweaters and caps nearly as often as Vanna White turns vowels on "Wheel of Fortune."

For the Sun City resident, combining her favorite evening activities, watching television and knitting, is therapeutic.

"It's really good therapy for me," Iriana said. "If I get all nerved up, I just sit and knit and I relax."

As a member of the Friendly Service of United Church of Sun City, Iriana is dedicated to creating washable sweaters and caps for layettes which are donated to the Salvation Army. Last year, she knitted 26 sets. This year, she has already knitted 17. Her goal is to complete 40 by December.

Iriana and her husband, Delbert, joined United Church in 1985, a year after moving to Arizona from New Hampshire. She joined the Friendly Service, he became an usher.

Friendly Service is an organization of women which creates lap robes for the elderly in care centers, clothes for school children that are distributed by the Dysart Community Center and the Salvation Army and infant layettes also distributed by the Salvation Army.

More than 20 women from the church group contribute items to infant layettes. Each set contains a block quilt, sheets, kimonos, booties and a sweater and cap set. Sometimes, layettes include diapers, too.

Iriana has been knitting for 50 years. She is self-taught, although she picked up a few pointers on knitting along the way from her mother-in-law, and later from her oldest daughter. When her children were small she knitted coat suits and leggings to keep them warm.

These days, in between creating sets for the Friendly Service for the past three years, Iriana occasionally knits clothes for her grown children and their children. Her oldest daughter, however, knits and crochets for her own children, so Iriana doesn't need to.

Iriana likes to picture the children who will wear the clothes she makes as she stitches strands of colorful yarn together.

"I think of these little Mexicans," she said. "We do have a lot of people who need help." Iriana prefers to work with bright colors such as yellow and red although many of her peers use mostly pastels. Instead of using the yarn provided by her church group she carefully selects washable yarn so that the families who receive the infant sets will have an easier time caring for them.

About a dozen women of the Friendly Service meet weekly at the church to work on items for charity. Nearly as many women, such as Iriana, do their crafting at home and drop their items off at the church.

Iriana credited her higher volume this year to trouble with cataracts which made it more difficult for her to see well enough to read. She replaced her reading time with extra hours knitting.

"I know the stitches and I can just sit there and knit," Iriana said, who has made so many sets that she no longer uses a pattern.

In addition to Friendly Service, Iriana devotes much of her time to the circles of the Women's Fellowship at United Church. The 75-year-old volunteer is chairman of one of four circles. Hers meets on the first Thursday of each month for Bible study, devotionals and more. This is her fourth year as chairman.

Iriana also serves on the Fellowship Board as second vice president and coordinator of circles. And she is mission board secretary.

"I'll tell ya, if you can't find something you like and you don't get to know people, it's your own fault," Iriana said.

IRIANA, Martha



Dorothy "Dot" Irving

# SHE'S NO. 1

## SC woman tops national rankings

**D**ot Irving wears pumps and an impish grin as she bounds into the table tennis room at Bell Recreation Center.

Irving smiles a lot, especially when the subject turns to table tennis.

You see, Irving is more than just good at table tennis.

At 80, the Sun City resident is the top-ranked woman over 70 in the country. In fact, she's so good she's even ranked 12th among men over 80 in the nation.

"I don't know what people must think when they see a Dorothy ranked among men," she said. "I look at it and laugh."

Irving has earned her lofty status by playing well in tournaments throughout the state as well as at nationals in Las Vegas.

Irving and fellow Sun City Nancy Baffaro recently played in a Phoenix tournament.

Among their victims were two men in their 40's who nearly laughed out loud when they saw their opponents.

"They thought they were going to have an easy time of it against these two old women," Baffaro said. "By the time we beat them, their heads were hanging down."

"They didn't even shake our hands after the match. They just shook their heads and walked away."

Irving has surprised more than a few opponents since

she began playing the sport more than 40 years ago.

Her husband, Don, introduced her to a game he had played for years in the family basement.

"He was very good and he has been the biggest influence on my game," Irving said.

As her skills improved, Irving decided to join her husband at the tournaments he participated in throughout their native Michigan.

Her first tournament match pitted her against the reigning state women's champion.

Instead of being intimidated, Irving took the first game from the champ before eventually losing the match.

Suddenly, Irving's game took off and she hasn't looked back since.

Irving attributed her success to quick feet and an ability to quickly assess her opponent's strengths and weaknesses.

"I will admit I like to play mind games out there," Irving said. "If you see a weakness, you take advantage of it."

Eugene Wilson of Sun City West has had frequent opportunities to watch and play against Irving.

"She wins most of her matches with her strong defense," Wilson said. "She has an uncanny ability to read serves, which might be top spin, side spin, reverse

spin and the many variations of each.

"She has good footwork and can cover a lot of ground, which is amazing for a woman of her age."

Irving also catches opponents off guard with her appearance.

Standing 5 feet tall, Irving is easy to overlook.

That's not why she wears pumps.

"I used to always wear pumps for my job and after I retired I discovered I had

back pain if I didn't wear them," the retired secretary said. "So now I wear them everywhere, even when I go for a walk."

The table tennis court is about the only place she doesn't get a lift out of her shoes.

She always switches to sneakers.

But when it comes to table tennis, Irving doesn't need pumps to stand tall.

Rich Bolas is the sports editor of the Daily News-Sun. He can be reached at 876-2523 or via e-mail at [rbolas@aztrib.com](mailto:rbolas@aztrib.com).



**RICH BOLAS**

From B1

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See SC woman, B2

IRVING, DOROTHY

OVER

IRVING, DOROTHY





MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Dot Irving displays the skills which have made her the top-ranked over-70 women's table tennis player in the country. The Sun City woman is so good that she's even ranked No. 12 among men.



# Un-can-ny works of art

## RECYCLABLE MATERIALS:

Aluminum can creations attract attention

KATY O'GRADY  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Carol and John Jacobs are storing a golf car, motorhome, John Deere tractor, a Caterpillar and a tractor-trailer combination behind their Sun City home.

Their neighbors on Cameo Drive, with homes backing up to Palmbrook Golf Course, don't seem to mind. Many of them actually bring their friends and family by to fawn over the brightly-painted vehicles, which John Jacobs created using nothing but aluminum cans, some glue and a few bits of material he found around the house.

"I don't golf so it's something to do," he said of



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

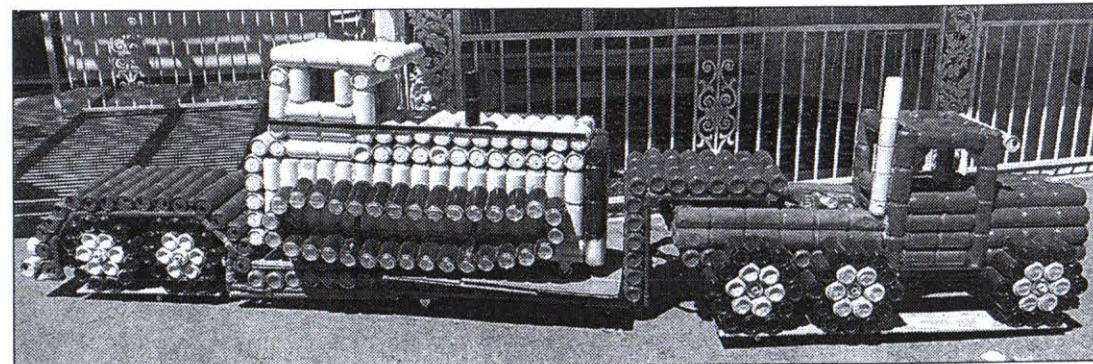
John Jacobs poses with one of his new creations, a tractor made of aluminum cans.

his new hobby. "It just comes easy to me."

Carol Jacobs said John used to farm, and they have owned motorhomes, so he didn't need anything other than mental pictures to create his pieces.

"I've had motorhomes. I've had trucks. I drove Cats," he said.

Almost 1,300 cans went into making the vehicles, each of which is several feet long but light enough for one person to lift. Golfers on



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

A bulldozer rides on a lowboy trailer pulled by a truck, and all are fashioned from aluminum cans by John Jacobs of Sun City.

Palmbrook often stop by to inquire about the unique vehicles, and John is happy to explain his work.

"A lot of people want to know if they're for sale, then they want me to make them one," he said. "I won't do that."

"It's just a hobby, a unique hobby," Carol Jacobs said. "He's 81. I think it's great he has this kind of hobby."

John Jacobs' daughter, who owns a resale shop in Albuquerque, said she'd like to have one or two of the vehicles to place in front of her store as a curiosity to attract more foot traffic.

Not only are the vehicles

themselves unique, but the detailing comes from some unexpected sources as well. The golf car's steering wheel is the top of a plastic yogurt container, and a shiny metal emblem on the front of the car came off the pull-string for a ceiling fan.

"He doesn't buy anything," Carol Jacobs said.

"Anything that's laying around we can use," he said.

John Jacobs' hobby started with an aluminum-can Christmas tree a couple years ago, but it picked up speed in the last couple of months. His vehicles have all been constructed since Christmas.

Some days, he said, he would work from "5 o'clock in the morning till 10 o'clock at night."

The motorhome and tractor-trailer both took about 80 hours, the Caterpillar and John Deere about 35, and the golf car about 25 hours to complete.

For now, he'll concentrate on the Christmas tree again, unless something strikes his fancy in the meantime.

"I don't know — I may run into something else I may want to make," he said.

"I'll be building that tree again," he added. "I'm starting to save cans now."



JACOBS, JOHN

# Sun City resident creates vehicle art

By Diana Shaughnessy  
Independent Newspapers

John Jacobs may be retired, but he certainly does not sit still.

Last Christmas, Mr. Jacobs created a Christmas tree with ornaments, all made from aluminum cans. And that was just the beginning of his creative streak.

His can creations have continued, and now several, colorful "vehicles" decorate his back yard.

"I just started making them," he laughed. "There was no pattern. They just came out of my head."

Mr. Jacobs' can vehicles include a John Deere tractor, a golf cart, a diesel truck and trailer, a Caterpillar and a mobile home.

Experience in trucking, farming and driving motor homes inspired his choices.

"I don't know what I'll do with them," he said. "I've had offers but don't want to sell them. My daughter, Nancy Andersen, in Albuquerque

said she wants to put them in front of her furniture store to attract attention."

The Jacobs' back yard faces hole 15 at Palm Brook Golf Course. Carol Jacobs said sometimes golfers stop to look at the unique art work.

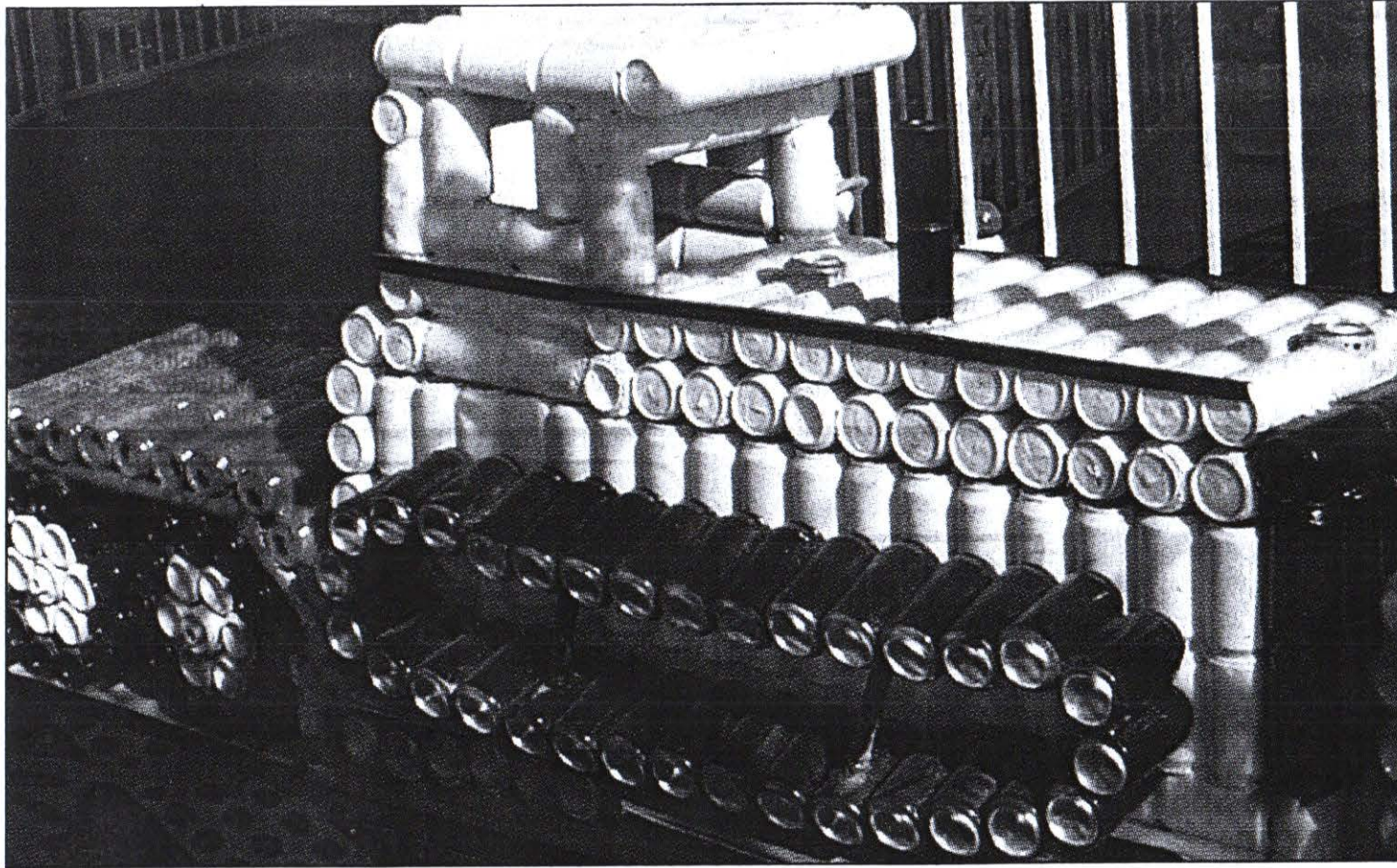
The Jacobs moved to Sun City from Nebraska in 1998, retiring from owning night-clubs and farming.

Since their move to Arizona, Mr. Jacobs has remodeled six houses before settling in their current residence on Cameo Drive.

"I hope this is the last one too," Mrs. Jacobs said.

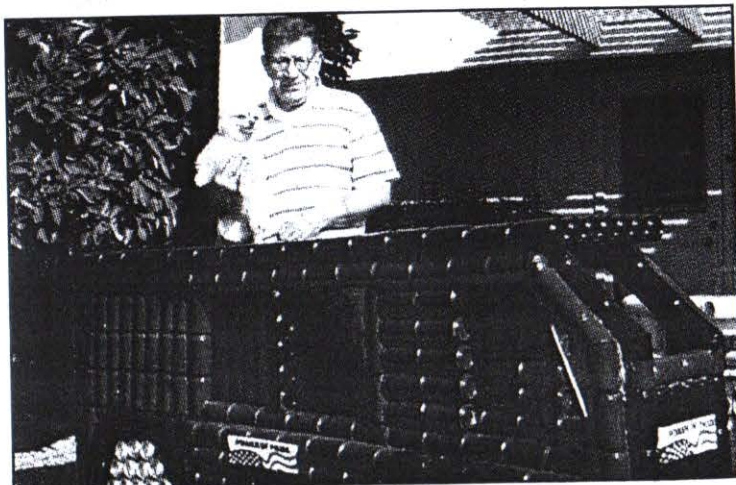
Mr. Jacobs uses a product called Liquid Nails to hold his creations together. It took 80 hours to build his motor home, but his favorite creation is the tractor-trailer with the Caterpillar sitting on the trailer.

The cans were donated by American Legion Post 62, Peoria, of which he is a member. Mr. Jacobs served in the U.S. Coast Guard during World War II.



Photos by Diana Shaughnessy/Independent Newspapers

John Jacobs and Squaky pose with some of the vehicles created out of aluminum cans.





# Local man helped clean water from the Potomac to the Pacific

By KAREN S. LEONARD  
News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Gene Jensen doesn't take a glass of clean tap water for granted. He knows better than most the complicated processes that many states, countries and the federal government must go through to insure uncontaminated water.

"You take it for granted as long as you turn on the tap and you have reasonably good quality water coming out of it all the time," he says. "People get a little upset if it tastes bad or if it smells bad or if it costs too much."

"But they really get upset if they turn it on and nothing comes out of it (the tap) or if they have a requirement that you can only use 40 or 50 gallons a day. That's noticable," he says.

With years of experience in public health and wastewater management behind him, Jensen can give you lessons in the art of compromise and diplomacy. He knows how difficult it is to get factions to agree on how to carry out a plan, even if that plan is as essential to life as water.

Jensen is a retired engineer who went to work for the U.S. Public Health Service after serving in the Army Air Corps, in which he flew 35 combat missions in Europe during World War II.

His service days taught him how to make decisions quickly and not to get upset about situations that aren't life threatening.

After the Army, Jensen got his degree in environmental engineering.

"Through accident I ended up with one of the first degrees in environmental engineering in the country. ... Nobody knew there was such a thing at that time so I ended up with something strange that was a mixture of civic engineering, organic chemistry and microbiology," he says.

As an environmental engineer, Jensen says, he was put in charge of writing the first bilateral trade agreement between the United States, Japan, the shellfish industry and Canada.

"It was a real interesting exercise in diplomacy, or something like that," Jensen says.

All the factions involved had vetoing power, he says, so it took him two years to find out what everybody would agree on to ensure the quality of the water where the shellfish were.

"I wrote a trade agreement that really consisted of the harmonization of sanitary regulations for shellfish produced in Japan and the United States," Jensen says.

"We got a nice look at what happens when you drop atomic bombs in a big city," he says, referring to the two bombs the United States dropped on Japan during World War II.

Toxins, both man-made and those that occur naturally, accumulate in seafood, Jensen says.

And there also was a problem with a chemical processing plant in Japan discharging chemical waste heavy with mercury into the water where the shellfish were being harvested from.

Mercury doesn't kill you, he says, but it destroys the brain.

## Impressions

"Oysters and clams were not all that much fun but the people who grew and harvested them were a lot of fun. They were very nice people. It turned out to be a very interesting job and there was a lot of visibility in it.

Later, as director of the first national study of coastal zone management, Jensen says, he got even more visibility and experience with helping state officials to compromise.

"There were all of these various players. And trying to get all these people together and participate constructively in a project at that time was a very interesting challenge," he says.

But it was a challenge Jensen had the ability to meet head on, says Arve Dahl, who also worked during the 1950s as an engineer for the U.S. Public Health Service.

"He's a good, solid engineer and able to quickly evaluate a problem, and what are the issues involved that need to be dealt with. And he had the technical background to know what could be a possible solution and he could explain it," Dahl says.

Helen Hopkins agrees. Her husband, Omar, gave Jensen his first job in the U.S. Public Health Service and she has remained friends with him ever since.

She says Jensen has a genuine concern for making the world a better place to which to live.

As a U.S. Public Health Service employee, Jensen was at one time responsible for inspecting the companies that supplied food to transportation industries — the airlines, railroads and cruise ships.

He describes a dairy in California as abominable and a restaurant in Georgia as incredibly dirty. But he managed to talk both the owners into cleaning up the places.

"In the kind of jobs I had, totally disagreeing with some-

body wasn't really a profitable position to be in. It was genuinely better to find some kind of a mutually acceptable position. Much of it was an art of compromise," he says.

And his job of trying to get the Potomac River cleaned up proved how well he could work with people and get them to agree on a program.

"The job I had really was to coordinate a program for three states and the federal government and then come up with a plan for correcting pollution problems on the Potomac," he says.

The problem mainly existed, he says, because too small of a sewage treatment plant was built at the end of the river.

"I don't think I got it cleaned up but I got a lot of visibility out of the job,"

Jensen says he earned a presidential appointment as the interstate commissioner for his work on the Potomac River.

"So, I've had a lot of very interesting jobs, I think. Up until the time we (he and his wife) retired I don't think I really had a day that I wasn't excited about going to work. You just never could tell what was going to happen next," Jensen says.

But when working with water, he says, it was beneficial to remember there are a few things you can count on.

"There are some things that are very similar. Like, water always runs downhill. It's easy to forget that because sometimes you can't see it. And water always evaporates if it's out in the open and salt water is always heavier than fresh water. Those things are the same basic principles no matter where you are."



# Local author provides travelers with savings tips

Whether your destination is U.S. or abroad, seasoned traveler offers ideas on saving money

By KATHLEEN WINSTEAD  
Sun Cities Independent

One dream shared by many Sun Citians, particularly upon retirement, is packing up their troubles and traveling to as many exotic and unusual locales as possible.

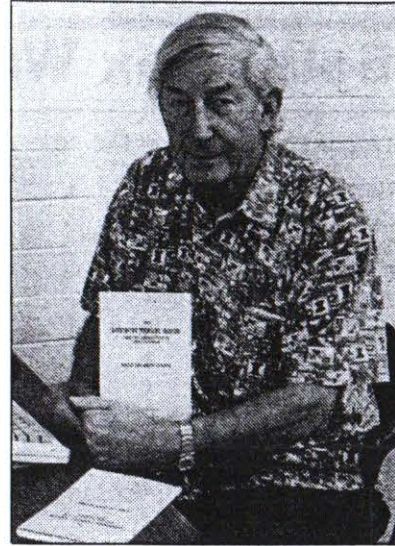
One Sun City resident, Lee Jenkins, who has authored a book titled "The Savings Travel Guide for the United States and Canada" has realized such a dream by spending more than 50 years traveling throughout the world.

Mr. Jenkins' book offers more than 150 ways to travel inexpensively and includes tips on trip preparation, a packing checklist and advice to follow while on a trip.

In addition, Mr. Jenkins points out little known destinations and interesting activities, as well as how to combine travel by air, train and automobile.

Mr. Jenkins says he wrote the book to "serve" others.

"Travel can be very expensive," he says. "I travel well wherever I



Lee Jenkins with his newest book, "The Savings Travel Guide for the United States and Canada."

go. When I travel I like to have good service, I like to have a place where they do my laundry and they expect to take care of you. I expect to be in a central location.

"You have to get certain things in your mind. The things that I mention (in the book) are important and they tend to expand the

idea of the state."

Mr. Jenkins has visited 49 states, Europe, and Central and South America, among others. But the one country he has not yet seen is Australia.

"I've been asked to go twice," Mr. Jenkins says, "but I haven't gone yet. I suppose that I don't want to go until I have quite a bit of time."

He began traveling in 1937.

"In 1937, I was sent from Oregon to pick up a bus at Lima, Ohio, and deliver it to the west coast ... ." I had enough time (so) I went through California and I went to Arizona and Colorado. The road that we took from St. Louis to Lima was made of brick."

Being in the service also fueled his wanderlust, he says.

"I was an Air Force officer and I was a liaison officer for the British and American service," Mr. Jenkins says. "That got me more or less off on the travel."

Mr. Jenkins says he has had problems with illness in some countries.

"I had trouble (with illness) in Mexico City. I got sick one time in Salvador. The first time I went down to Mexico I ordered steak and that made me sick. I have been in and out of there without being ill. You don't eat any salad."

Mr. Jenkins, who says his next travel book may focus on Mexico and Central America or South America, plans to visit Oregon in the near future.

"I'm devoted to travel," he says. "Travel built around history and geography is good and then you have to do some reading about people who have gone on before."

"The Savings Travel Guide for the United States and Canada" is available in Sun City at Beacon Books or by writing to Mr. Lee Jenkins at 11045-105th Ave., Sun City, 85351.

Cost is \$12.95.



**Florence Jerousek** will be presented with the Minnie Harlow Humanitarian Award Wednesday for her contributions to the community. She is active in transportation and communication issues, as well as finding solutions to the isolation some seniors feel.



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

## Council recognizes woman for her community service

By **TINA SCHADE**  
Staff writer

Florence Jerousek's concern for others has taken her all over the state. She has seen the inside of hogans on Arizona's American Indian reservations, an honor only a few anglos will experience, and has worked in the state's capital.

In Sun City, she has served on a half a dozen service agency boards, including Sunshine Service and the Community Fund, and was employed as a social worker at Valley View Hospital for 12 years.

And at the next Northwest Valley Regional Community Council meeting, the Sun City resident will be honored for her community contributions.

She will be presented with the Minnie Harlow Humanitarian Award at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Sun City Country Club.

"To be able to reach out and touch

somebody is always nice. You feel like you're doing something," she said.

Doing something for others was a part of her own upbringing. It's a philosophy she instilled in her children, as well.

It was so important to Jerousek to help others that she resigned from a career working for a senator to pursue a masters degree in social work. She started college when she was 54 years old.

"Age is a state of mind. I believe that no matter what their age, people can change," she said.

Since her graduation from Arizona State University more than 10 years ago, Jerousek has been involved in addressing some of Sun Cities most baffling problems, including transportation, communication and isolation.

She is working with her committee at St. Clement's of Rome Church to establish better transportation ser-

vices for the area elderly.

Jerousek works with the Meals on Wheels program, which provides hot lunches to the homebound and had a hand in founding the Olive Branch Senior Center, which allows seniors the opportunity to socialize.

"If you're old, poor and lonely, Sun City is a good place to live," she said.

Another problem seniors of this generation face is that they don't ask for help until they absolutely need it and then they're not always sure where to go, she said.

"They could call a hospital, senior center or our information and referral service. The help is there, if people would just use it," Jerousek said.

She plans to continue her crusade to help Sun Citians for as long as she can.

"I don't know what's next for me. (I'll help) wherever there's a need, as long as I'm mentally alert and physically able," she said.

Jerousek, Florence



# Vet puts into words part of life as teen POW

AMANDA MYERS  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Joseph Quitman Johnson grew up in Memphis, Tenn., and, like many Americans in the early 1940s, was engulfed by poverty from the Great Depression.

His mother made dresses in a factory for \$10 a week and struggled to feed him and his two younger siblings. So at 14, Johnson told an Army recruiter he was 18 and left to join the Army.

"My family didn't know anything. I up and left one day and contacted them when I got to the Philippines, when I knew they couldn't do anything about it," said Johnson, who now lives in Sun City West.

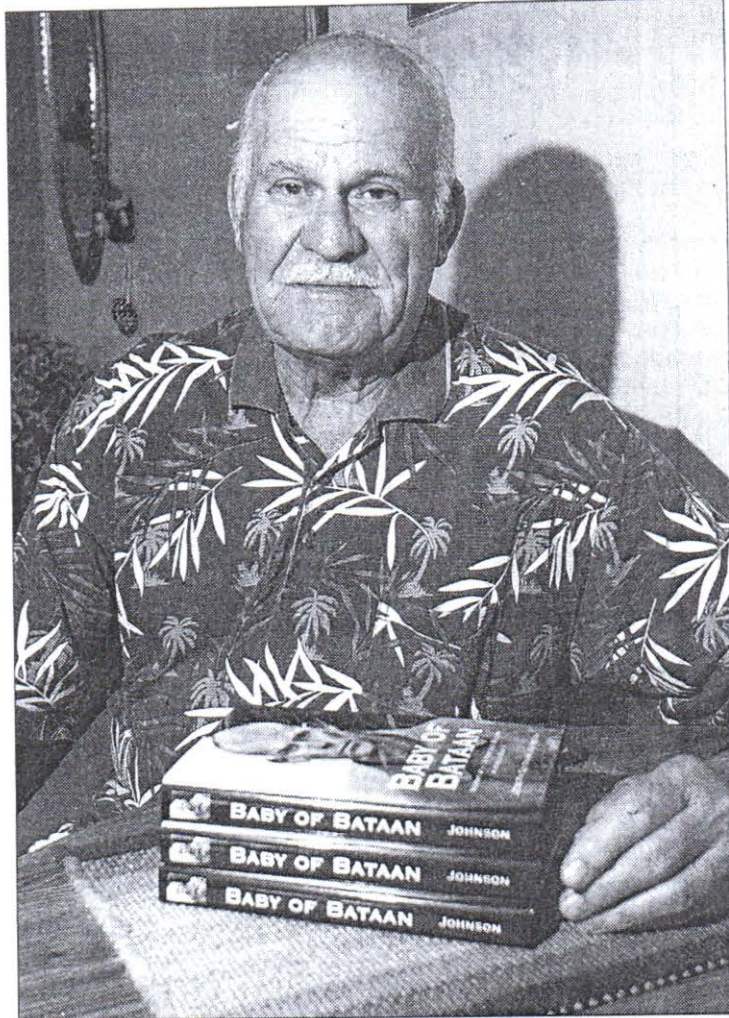
Now, 64 years later, Johnson has penned 307 pages of his history, describing the five years he spent at war, four of which he spent as a prisoner of war.

"This book is just my life from 14 to 19. The war just happened to get in my

way," said Johnson, who will be an honored guest May 29 at the dedication of the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Now in its second printing, Johnson's book, "Baby of Bataan," is being praised by veterans and non-veterans alike. In it, Johnson recounts his time as a gunner and bugler in the Philippines, then defending Bataan against

See BOOK, A5



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

World War II veteran Joseph Johnson joined the Army at age 14. He was captured by the Japanese and survived three years as a prisoner of war. He wrote about his experiences in his book "Baby of Bataan" below.

OVER

VF

JOHNSON, JOSEPH

PERSONALITIES



# MAGGIE JACOBSON, Pic



*Maggie on board ship in the Sea of Cortez in November 2004.*

**Margaret "Maggie" Jacobson, a long-time Paradise Valley Resident, died February 4, 2011 at age 93.**

Born Margaret Christine Burke, in 1917, in St. Paul, Minnesota, Maggie started life as an orphan when her mother died in childbirth and her father abandoned the family. At the age of 8, Maggie visited Jamestown, North Dakota, where she met her sister, Kay, for the very first time. Together the girls were raised by their maiden aunt, Dorothy Nelson, who was only 18 years old. Maggie moved to Phoenix in 1934. Her cousin, Kathleen "Vonnie" Nash and her husband Kenneth, ran the elegant Phoenix Country Club and thought that Maggie should "Come West".

Arriving in Phoenix, Maggie was the talk of the town. She was a great dancer, had a bubbling personality, a model-like figure and was sharp as a tack. As Queen of the very first Fiesta Parade, in 1937, her popularity soared and she became one of the more sought after young ladies in town.



*Maggie as the Goddess of the Sun in the first*



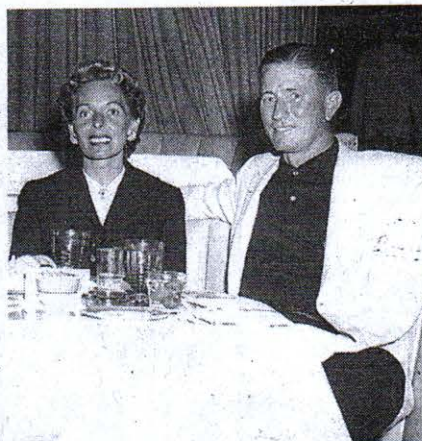
# Engineering Phoenix Beauty

Working at the Chamber of Commerce, Maggie remembered Phoenix when its population was only 58,000. She loved the West and took up the cause personally, by becoming American Airlines official Calendar Girl to help bring Easterners to The Valley of the Sun. In fact, as a result of this successful promotion, Burke Smith (brother of the Head of American Airlines) began a romance with Maggie which almost led to marriage in 1937. Even at 93 she marveled at the growth of the Valley she loved. And while she hated the traffic, she always said, "You can't stop progress!"

In 1938 and with Barry Goldwater as Best Man, Maggie married Harry Rosenzweig of the prestigious Rosenzweig Jewelry Family. Together, they were the center of the Phoenix young social set, which included current and future political leaders like the Goldwaters, Mardians, Driggs and Rhodes, to name a few. Also from the business arena were the Melczers, Diamonds, Korricks and Jack Durant, whose steak house is still a regular haunt of Phoenicians.

Shortly after marrying Harry, the wild and wooly days of Pre-War Phoenix began to take hold. In fact, Maggie was playing ping pong in Bob and Sally Goldwater's basement when on December 7, 1941, Maggie heard those famous words of FDR announcing that America was now at war with Imperial Japan. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Maggie often said, "The war years were different...we didn't know if we would be alive or dead in six months...so we lived for the moment." The moment also included serving as a red-cross nurse taking care of wounded WWII Veterans returning to Phoenix.

After 17 years of marriage, Maggie and Harry decided to part ways. She soon married the highly successful and brash Executive VP of the Del E. Webb Construction Company, one L.C. "Jake" Jacobson. Her life with Jacobson was a far cry from the life she had lived previously. Prior to Jake, Maggie usually slept until 10 a.m. and partied until the wee hours. Jake on the contrary, was up at 5 a.m., and at his desk shortly thereafter, running the Del E. Webb Corporation. Soon after they were married, Jake told Maggie, "I'll stay up with you as late as you want at night, so long as you get up with me in the morning." It wasn't long until Maggie too, was early to bed and early to rise.



**Maggie and Jake Jacobson having dinner at the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas in 1958.**

Her life with Jacobson was equally fascinating. As the premier developer of the South west, Jacobson built many of the country's great edifices and institutions...Sun City, Mountain Shadows, Anaheim Stadium, The Sahara, The Mint and The Thunderbird hotels, The Beverly Hilton, and Air Force Bases including Luke and Williams Field. Maggie attended every opening with glamour and style. When Del Webb bought the New York Yankees with Dan Topping in 1952, Maggie was at every major World Series where Yankee Pinstripes were "King". She and Jake attended Don Larson's 1956 World Series "perfect game"—still considered the most memorable sports achievement of all time.

The little orphan from St. Paul, Minnesota entertained the captains of industry (at one or more of her seven homes) and loved to plan and cook all of the meals! Be it Henry Crown (owner and builder of the Empire State Building), Conrad Hilton (Founder, Hilton Hotels), Clint Murchison (owner of the Dallas Cowboys), Lew Wasserman (Universal Studios Head) and countless others. She and Jake also spent time with some of Jake's old roping buddies, including John Wayne, Roy Rogers and Jim Paul. But Maggie never changed who she really was. She said, "I'm home spun". She loved gin rummy and bridge and going to "cook out" with her old friends more than anything. She was a good golfer and excellent card player and participated in the same poker game with some of the City's other female card sharks (in the ladies room of Phoenix Country Club) for over 40 years.

In later years, her joy was to spend time with her sons, daughters and grandchildren. She was proud of each and every one and participated in many of their activities. Maggie believed in hard work and frugality. She started all of her grandchildren out on saving one quarter a day for their future. She wanted them to know the value of a dollar. Then once she was satisfied that they had the right foundation, she was generous to a fault, wanting them to enjoy some of the things she never had as a youngster.

Maggie was a quiet philanthropist endowing the Jacobson Blood Center at Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, CA and bequeathing their beautiful wine cellar to the University of California Davis. She also supported St. Vincent de Paul, The Salvation Army and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

"Maggie was the end of an Era", said her son Harry Rosenzweig Jr. of Phoenix. "She was strong--the type of woman who could have come to the West in a covered wagon. She talked to everybody and anybody—we all loved her, and we will miss her."

Maggie is survived by her three children, Amy Jo and John Gottfurcht, Burke and Kathy Rosenzweig, Harry and Debi Rosenzweig; five grandchildren, Kris Slattery, Jack Hardy, Katie, Sara and Matt Rosenzweig. Four great grandchildren, Alexis and Lauren Hardy and Jack and Will Slattery. Maggie was pre-deceased by her husband Jake, sister Kay and daughters Carol, Christine and Diane.

There will be a Celebration of Life on Friday, Feb 18, 2011 from 4-7 pm at Paradise Valley Country Club. The Family requests that in lieu of flowers, please send any gifts to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 East Flower, Phoenix, Arizona 85014.



By Seth Scott  
The Arizona Republic

Jake Jacobson was a dreamer.

As a young boy, he fantasized of being cowboy hero Tom Mix and rode his burro through the miniature ranch he built in his Tucson backyard.

His motto, from the musical *South Pacific*, was "You gotta have a dream, if you don't have a dream, you'll never have a dream come true."

Whether it was creating his vision for the Valley, performing in the rodeo, building the Sahara Hotel in Las Vegas, fishing for steelhead in the Snake River, or entertaining guests at one of his several homes, the former president of the Del E. Webb Corp. was able to make his dreams come true.

L.C. "Jake" Jacobson, a longtime Paradise Valley resident, died Dec. 23 of heart failure. He was 88.

Born in 1912 in Garden City, Kan., Jacobson and his family moved to Tucson a year later. His mother ran a boarding house for tuberculosis patients and his father worked as a contractor. An industrious child, Jacobson typed his own newspaper, *The Gopher's Squeak*, which he sold around town for 3 cents a copy.



L.C. "Jake" Jacobson

# JACOBSON built an extraordinary life

Jacobson got his start in the construction industry at an early age when he went to different job sites to translate for his deaf father.

In 1930, Jacobson married Rosemary Sawyer, with whom he would have three children, Kay, Ronnie, and JayKee. Eight years later Jacobson found himself unemployed and unable to find work with a family to support. He had work waiting for him in Los Angeles, so Jacobson borrowed \$10 and a tank of gas from a friend and began his journey west.

Jacobson stopped in Phoenix trying to get a week's worth of work under his belt with the Del Webb Co., which was working on an addition to the state Capitol.

Instead of waiting in the two-block-long line at the construction site, Jacobson marched into Webb's corporate offices and met with Del Webb himself, who offered him a job as a timekeeper for \$25 a week.

Jacobson worked for Webb as a job superintendent, an estimator and then in 1945, became a partner and general manager of the company. When the company was incorporated a year later, Jacobson became executive vice president. He and Webb had become great friends, and the pair co-owned the company until it went public in 1961, when he also became the company's president.

During Jacobson's tenure with the Webb Corp., it completed projects such as Christ-Town Mall, the Beverly Hills

Hilton and Anaheim Stadium. During World War II, the Webb Corp. built Williams, Luke and Amarillo Air Force Bases, El Toro Marine Base, Fort Huachuca, and the Florence POW Camp.

Jacobson's most notable mark on the Valley came when a friend of Jacobson's asked him what he could do with 12,000 acres of land in the Northwest Valley. Jacobson suggested his company use the land for a retirement community, and Del Webb eventually built Sun City.

In 1954, Jacobson had the task of working with gangster Benny "Bugsy" Siegel when the Webb Co. was awarded the contract to build the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas.

The two got along well, but when Jacobson first asked Siegel to sign paperwork, he refused. Siegel abhorred written agreements and asked Jacobson, "Don't you trust me?" Jacobson, who was regarded for his fairness and honesty, eventually earned Siegel's trust and got him to sign a contract.

While with the Webb Corp., Jacobson and friend Al Winter ventured into a private project together, building the Sahara and Mint Hotels in Las Vegas.

Responsible for finding wines for the Sahara's collection, Jacobson traveled to Europe to find the very best. He also started his personal wine cellar - one that grew to more than 8,000 bottles. Jacobson later merged the hotels with the Webb Corp., marking the first time a major corporation invested in a casino.

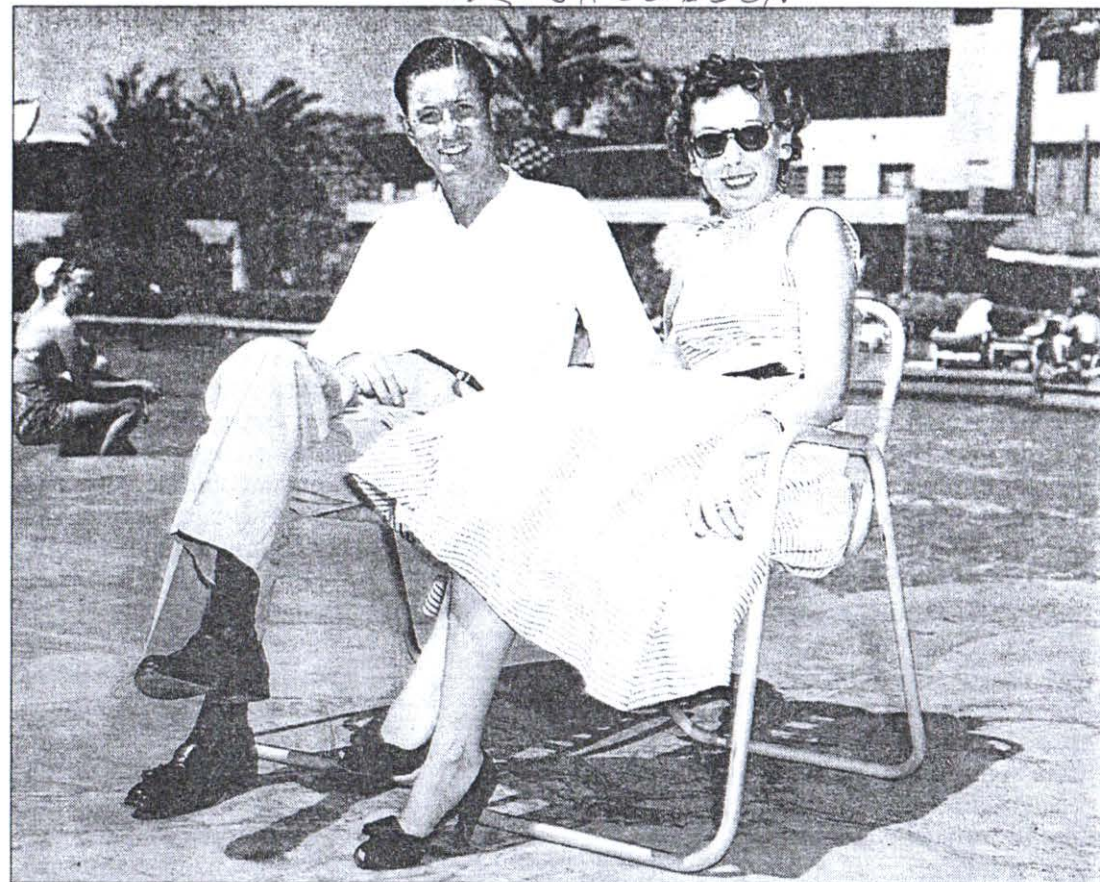


Photo courtesy of the Jacobson family

L.C. "Jake" Jacobson and his bride-to-be, Margaret, sit outside the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas. Jacobson and the Webb Co. built the Flamingo for gangster Bugsy Siegel.

After he and wife Rosemary divorced, Jacobson courted Margaret Burke Rosenzweig for a year and a half before the two married in 1955. They had two children, Amy Jo and Christine, who became the youngest shareholders in the Webb Co. when it went public.

Jacobson retired in 1965 to spend more time hunting and fishing.

He spent time at his Portland, Ore., home in the fall to

hunt duck, and loved to fish for bass in Lake Mead and Lake Havasu, as well as fish for trout in Red Fern Rapids, British Columbia.

An ardent philanthropist, Jacobson was active in the Boys Club of Arizona, at one time serving as the organization's president. Jacobson, with the help of the Webb Corp., built three boys clubs and created the Sahara-Fari to financially support the organization. The former Dale

Carnegie instructor also endowed the Jacobson Blood Clinic at the Scripps Clinic in La Jolla, Calif. and donated his wine collection to the University of California-Davis.

Jacobson is survived by his wife, Margaret; four children, Kay Gerold, Ronnie Jacobson, JayKee Jacobson, and Amy Jo Gottfurcht; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Daughter Christine died in 1974.



# R.H. Johnson recalls days with Del E. Webb

Feb. 4 and 5, 1995

## Ex-CEO at home on ranch

By DEBBIE L. SKLAR  
Daily News-Sun staff

MORRISTOWN — Dressed in a pair of casual black slacks and a striped golf shirt, a far cry from his former corporate business attire, Robert Howard Johnson bends at the waist to pluck a ripe-green spinach leaf.

"There are a lot of things to do around here on the ranch," said Johnson, sitting on the porch of his ranch house. "I like it here. It's quiet. I don't think I could ever live in downtown Phoenix — so much commotion."

R.H. Johnson, who has a street and a recreation complex named after him in the hub of Sun City West, has been retired from the Del Webb Corp. since 1981. He is considered by many in the community to be a major force in the development of the world-renowned retirement community.

Today the 78-year-old former Webb chief executive officer lives on a sprawling 47,000-acre ranch in Morristown, approximately 25 miles northwest of Sun City West.

He spends his days there tending to his carrots, spinach, cabbage, garlic and lettuce, riding his tractor around in the desert and looking after a few head of cattle. Some days he visits his office in Wickenburg where he directs the Del E. Webb Foundation. The foundation, a private corporation, provides grants for medical research.

See R.H. Johnson, A5



Rick D'Elia/Daily News-Sun

R.H. Johnson, former chief executive officer for Del Webb Corp. and a close personal friend of Del E. Webb, picks spinach from the garden at his ranch in Morristown.

OVER

Johnson, R.H.

JOHNSON, R. H.



—From A1

Johnson isn't alone on the ranch. His partners in the cattle business are Allen and Marjorie Klinefelter. Marjorie was Johnson's secretary when he worked for Webb. She is a director and secretary for the foundation.

"I own the ranch and we own the cattle," said Johnson. "Allen does all the cuttin', nuttin' and earmarking, and so on and so forth. I keep the corrals clean.

"Anything that you see, and as far as you can see within the perimeters of the ranch is mine," he said, pointing to a large mountain in the distance. "That over there is Red Picach Mountain and over there is White Picach Mountain."

Johnson said he has lived on the ranch full-time since 1994, but acquired the property in 1983. He and his wife Mazie lived in California before moving to the ranch last summer. Johnson still maintains a home in Palm Springs.

It takes little coaxing to get Johnson to reminisce about his 48 years with Webb.

He took a night job with the company in 1935, working his way through business college, then took a position with the Arizona Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. He later was hired as a

timekeeper for Webb, earning \$75 a month.

He became president of the company in 1967, chief operating officer in 1973 and chairman of the board the following year.

"I basically rode in on a Harley in 1935 and left with a Del Webb pin with seven diamonds after 48 years," he said.

If an employee was with the company for 10 years, he or she received a pin. And for every five years of employment, Webb gave employees a diamond to add to the pin.

"I worked for the company for 48 years," he said holding the small black and white pin. "I wasn't glad to be out of it. In fact, I was pretty ticked off. I wanted to work there for 50 years so I could get another diamond."

Johnson remembered his first big job meant going north to Flagstaff to build the Taylor Hall Dormitory on the college campus. Webb jumped on the opportunity to get government contracts because they provided a little margin of security, a bit of room for expansion, even risk-taking, Johnson said.

By 1937, Webb had opened a "branch office" in Los Angeles. A bid came in to build the Abraham Lincoln High School there.

"Los Angeles had a very damp summer that year," said Johnson, who drove an old "Model-A" truck to the Los Angeles construction office. The school job was not very profitable, he recalled.

"In those days you had to remove all the signs of rusting from the construction materials. When we were finished blasting off the rust, some of the girders had to be replaced. So we didn't make much on that, but the Arizona capitol job was profitable and it pulled us through."

Johnson and Webb were not only colleagues, but friends outside of the office.

"They were like father and son. I think Mr. Johnson was the son that Mr. Webb never had," said Marjorie Klinefelter, director and secretary at the Del E. Webb Foundation. "In the 45 years that I've known Bob, I've never heard him refer to Del Webb in any other way besides Mr. Webb. He had great respect for him and it still continues."

When asked why Johnson still uses a formal title for his former employer, Johnson said he feels more comfortable that way.

"That's how I was introduced to him and that's the way that I was raised," said Johnson. "To me, he will always be Mr. Webb. ...

"I miss him a lot, but I think we all do."



# Feisty centenarian's never bored

## Loves to travel, wants to see glaciers

By TINA SCHADE  
Staff writer

Lillian Johnson of Sun City West recently celebrated her 100th birthday and credits clean living and an independent spirit to her longevity and happiness. She was born in Chicago on July 21, 1897, and can remember learning to "drive" a horse and being chased around the stockyards of the city during a fire.

"The firemen kept saying get out of there and I told them no, because I wanted to stay," Johnson said.

At 19, she married William, her husband of 34 years.

He worked on the railroad and also ran the elevators in one of Chicago's high rises.

She remembers how they used to talk about the famous people he encountered, including Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

"My husband knew a lot of famous people," she said.

After her husband died of lung cancer, Johnson took a job working as a government inspector and worked her way up from soldier's uniforms to inspecting 90 pound shells and shipping containers.

"I was into everything," she said.

Johnson sold fur coats for eight years and also owned a Christmas tree farm in Indiana for 30 years.

"There isn't anything I won't try," she said.

In her lifetime, Johnson has traveled to Venezuela, Las Vegas, Hawaii and most recently, "on the Love Boat to Mexico."

Her next destination is the last frontier.

"I want to go to Alaska and see all

the glaciers," she said.

Johnson not only has travel, but literary aspirations. She is in the planning process of composing her life's memoirs.

"I'm still going to write a book so don't be surprised if you hear I have a book out," Johnson said.

One of the chapters of her book might include the construction of Sun City West. After visiting Arizona 18 years ago, Johnson enjoyed the weather so much, she went back to Chicago and sold her house.

"I thought I had shoveled all the snow I wanted to, so I tied a red ribbon around my shovel and handed it to the people who bought my house," she said.

When she first moved to Sun City West, Johnson was one of the only people in her neighborhood. Today, she has neighbors on all four sides and eats lunch with them monthly.

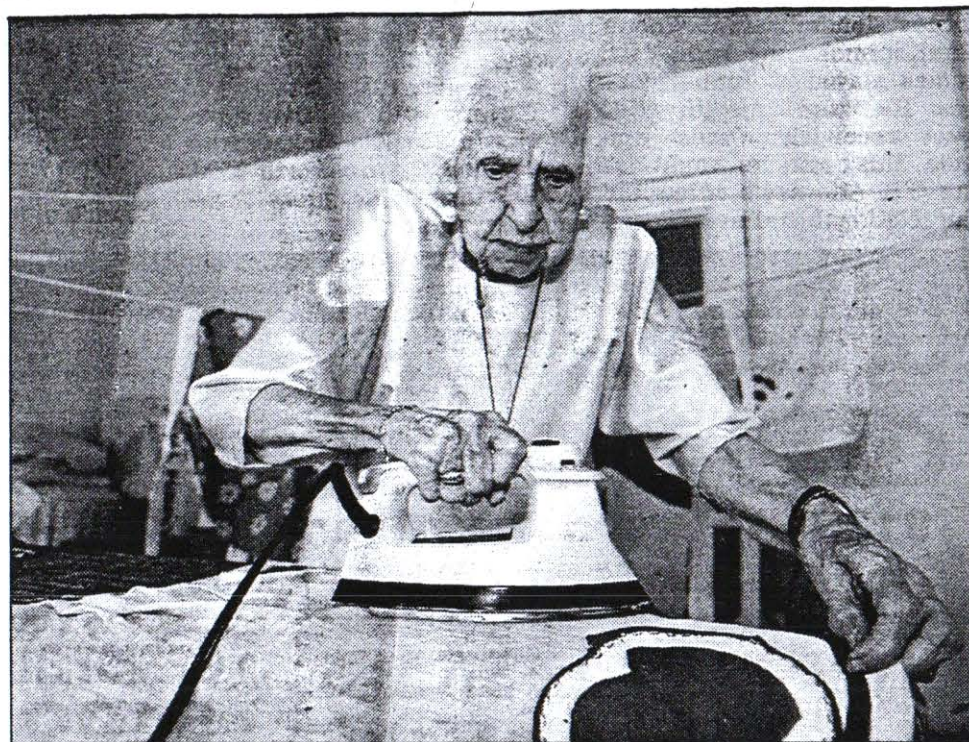
The Golden Girls, as members call themselves, is a group of about a half a dozen women who have lunch with Lillian.

"I just call them up on the phone and say 'Come on girls, it's time to go,'" she said.

When she's not visiting with friends and neighbors, she spends time with her family.

She has two children, five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren, many of whom celebrated Johnson's 100th birthday with a surprise party in July.

Family members created a collage, organized a dinner at the community center in Sun City West and made her "Queen for a Day" by giving her a fake tiara and red satin and white fur cape, which she will proudly



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Lillian Johnson of Sun City West still irons her own clothes at the age of 100. She was thrilled when her Chicago nephews sent her 100 roses to celebrate her special day.

model upon request.

Johnson still has the remnants of the celebration, including a "Congratulations" sign and gift bags on her bed and rose petals from her 100 red roses in a bowl. She also has a congratulatory letter from the president and first lady.

Although she has many visitors and a large family, Johnson likes her alone time.

"I'll tell you the truth, I like living alone better than having anybody to live with, because I don't like being told what to do," Johnson said.

Johnson still does a majority of things for herself, but does have

someone come in three times a week to help with the "heavy work."

"She does my vacuuming and my washing. She does my kitchen and keeps the bathroom clean, but I do everything else. I like to iron, so I tell her to leave some stuff for me," said Johnson, whose been known to iron clothes in her garage.

Her secret?

"Keeping busy, keeping a clean mind and keeping out of trouble," Johnson said.

Johnson also eats a piece of candy every day and has an occasional glass of Mogen David blackberry wine.



# Best of the West

## Ceremony honors NW Valley standouts

By BRUCE ELLISON  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

R.H. Johnson, the man most people think of as a street, Thursday night was honored by the West Maricopa Coalition of Governments (Westmarc) with its chairman's award, recognizing his long years of service to the Northwest Valley.

Robert H. Johnson joined Del Webb Corp. in 1935 as a 19-year-old time keeper, and rose to become chairman and chief executive officer of the now-\$1 billion company. A resident of Wickenburg, but a frequent visitor to the Sun Cities, he heads the Del E. Webb Foundation, a non-profit group that carries on charitable work begun by Mr. Webb. Most of its grants are in the field of health and medical research.

Johnson was one of only three individuals cited specifically during the awards ceremony at The Wigwam in Litchfield Park. Most other awards, in five categories, went to organizations.

U.S. Rep. Bob Stump was keynote speaker at the sixth annual awards dinner.

First place awards went to the McCall Museum of Space Art (attractions, destinations and tourism category); the city of Goodyear for its general plan (communities); the regional Cisco Networking Academy at Estrella Mountain Community College, a similar program in the Peoria Unified School District, and a Teacher Mentoring program, all tied for first place in the education category.

Dorothy Huntsman won first place in the leadership category; the Eldervention program took first in the service to communities category; and the 1998 Peoria Chess exhibition and tournament was named tops in the sports, art and entertainment category.



Submitted photo

Sun Health's Community Education and Wellness Centers, featuring adult exercise as pictured above, won honorable mention in the education category of Westmarc's Best of the West awards Thursday.

Sun Health, based in Sun City, picked up an honorable mention for its Child Development Center, a kind of glorified day-care center on the grounds of Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in Sun City.

Sun Health also took honorable mention in the education category for its Community Education and Wellness Centers, an honor it shared with the Sun Cities Chamber Music Society and its in-school music programs.

The Sun City West Variety Show, a showcase of local talent that raises funds for the Del E. Webb Memorial Hospital, took an honorable mention in sports, arts and entertainment.

Other prize winners were: the Glendale Glitters Holiday Light Extravaganza and the Wickenburg Tourism Authority; the Southwest Skill Center and the Pebble Creek resort community; Betty Ryan-DellaCorte, founder of Faith House abused shelter in Glendale; the Maryvale UNITE Neighborhood Association and the Peoria Police Department's Citizen's Police Academy; the Sun City West Variety Show, the Maryvale Baseball Park, Luke Day-1998 and the Cordova Gardens Median Enhancement Project.

Westmarc's chairman is Ivan Johnson of Cox Communications, the cable company; president Diane McCarthy served as mistress of ceremonies.

Johnson, Robert H



# Del Webb ex-CEO honored

## Robert Johnson wins top Westmarc award

By Jeffry Nelson  
The Arizona Republic

As former president and CEO of Del Webb Corp. and head of the Del E. Webb Foundation, Robert Johnson has been honored many times, many ways.

His former employer bestowed its greatest honor on Johnson in 1978, naming a main thoroughfare — R.H. Johnson Boulevard — in Sun City West after him.

Last week, he received the highest honor given by Westmarc, a non-profit organization devoted to promoting the West Valley and its interests.

Johnson, a Wickenburg resident, was presented with Westmarc's prestigious Chairman's Award.

This award "really is special," said Johnson, 82, at Westmarc's "Best of the West" awards dinner Thursday at the Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park.

In addition to his role in developing Sun City and Sun City West, Johnson's ongoing work as president of the Del E. Webb Foundation was recognized. The non-profit private foundation has provided grants totaling \$7.1 million, mostly for health and medical research.

"Mr. Johnson has distinguished himself as a businessman who placed an everlasting stamp on western Maricopa County's landscape," said Diane McCarthy, president of Westmarc.

Johnson was one of 22 winners honored by Westmarc at its sixth annual awards banquet. The categories this year were: Attractions, Destinations and Tourism; Building Communities; Education; Leadership; Service to Communities; and Sports, Art and Entertainment.

The planned McCall Museum of Art was given top honors in the Attractions, Destinations and Tourism category. The museum, to be built next to Sunrise Mountain High School, 21200 N. 83rd Ave., Peoria, will feature the artwork of NASA space artist Robert McCall.

The museum will sit next to the planned Challenger Learning Center of Arizona, a facility that will take children and adults on simulated space missions.

In the Building Communities category,

— Please see DEL WEBB, Page 12

# Del Webb ex-president wins award

— DEL WEBB, from Page 1

Westmarc recognized Goodyear for involving the community during an update of the city's general plan.

Goodyear formed a 29-member committee that included school district representatives, farmers, business leaders and residents to produce a plan that outlines how the city will grow. Goodyear's plan also ensures that farmland and natural desert areas are preserved.

The Cisco Networking Academies at Estrella Mountain Community College and Centennial High School in the Peoria Unified School District both received first-place awards in the Education category. The academies train students in setting up and maintaining computer networking systems built by Cisco Systems Inc.

The Teacher Mentor Program at Glendale Union High School, which provides mentoring and guidance for new teachers in the district, was also recognized with a first-place award in the Education category.

Dorothy Huntsman, 87, received the first-place award in the Leadership category.

Huntsman started the Buckeye Valley Literacy Council 21 years ago when she discovered that many people living in the Buckeye area were unable to speak English. Through a network of volunteer tutors, the council has taught English to Hispanic, Korean, German, Vietnamese, Thai, Chinese and Japanese students.

Eldervention, a western Maricopa County project promoting suicide prevention among seniors, was the judges' pick in the Service to Communities category.

In the Sports, Art and Entertainment category, Peoria was honored for its statewide high school chess tournament, which featured world champion chess player Garry Kasparov.

Judges were Art DeCabooter, president of Scottsdale Community College; George Dean, executive director of the Phoenix Urban League; Susan Clouse-Dolbert, executive director of the Arizona State University Alumni Association; Jim Henness, president of the Agri-Business Council; Sara Moya, former council member in Paradise Valley; and Bill Shover, former director of public affairs for The Arizona Republic.



## THE WEEK IN REVIEW

### Weekend edition

■ R.H. Johnson, the man most people think of as a street, Thursday night was honored by the West Maricopa Coalition of Governments (Westmarc) with its chairman's award, recognizing his long years of service to the Northwest Valley.

Robert H. Johnson joined Del Webb Corp. in 1935 as a 19-year-old time keeper, and rose to become chairman and chief executive officer of the now-\$1 billion company. A resident of Wickenburg, but a frequent visitor to the Sun Cities, he heads the Del E. Webb Foundation, a non-profit group that carries on charitable work begun by Mr. Webb.

Johnson, Robert



## DOERS PROFILE

Lois  
Jones



**Hometown:** Cleveland, Ohio

**Family:** Two children, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

**Philosophy:** If it ain't fun, I won't do it.

**Key to longevity:** Crossed fingers. I really never give it a thought, but a glass of red wine is nice in the evening.

## Many sing praises of Lois Jones' community work

By TINA SCHADE  
Staff writer

If she has a chance to make people's lives better, Lois Jones will take it.

There's evidence everywhere.

Her service to the community is well-documented. But folks may not know she has a whale of a voice.

As the story goes, Jones was cruising the Caribbean last Christmas Eve when her companion became ill. While she waited for word of her friend in the ship's emergency unit, she launched into song with the ship's Salvation Army band to cheer those whose stomachs were doing flip-flops when the ship hit a few waves.

On land, folks sing praises of Jones.

First, there's her membership in OASIS, a community service organization sponsored by Valley businesses which connects older adults with each other, as well as school age children.

Through the program, the 81-year-old has tutored second- and third-graders at Chaparral Elementary School once a week for the last nine years. Jones said she teaches the children how to improve their reading skills and is there to boost their self-esteem, as well.

"Some of them could really read fine, they just need someone to talk to, so you feel like you're grandparenting," Jones said.

She also has the opportunity to participate in some of the activities offered to volunteering seniors through OASIS, including nutrition seminars and dance classes.

But Jones prefers to spend her time teaching English as a Second Language classes at the Dysart Community Center.

Jones has been tutoring the same person for the last five years and said her student's newly acquired language ability helped move her from a job in the fields to a job in retail.

The great-grandmother has also moved into a job in retail. Sort of. About four months ago, Jones began volunteering at the 4 Paws Bargain Boutique in Youngtown. But Jones' involvement with the store was more fluke than foresight.

Monday, Jan. 26, 1998 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

She said she initially went to the store to buy a few books, when a fellow lawnbowler and thrift store volunteer who was manning the register said she needed to run an errand to a neighboring store. The former bookkeeper then found herself in charge of the store's money and liked it so much, she's gone back twice a week ever since.

"On my first day at the store, it cost me \$16.50 to work. I just kept buying books, but I don't buy so much anymore," she said.

Besides the great bargains on books, something else keeps Jones going back — her love for animals. The store cares for stray cats and places animals in either foster or permanent homes.

If adopted, all pets receive vaccinations and get spayed or neutered, she said.

Jones' volunteer record is a lengthy one.

Upon arriving in Sun City, she volunteered in an assisted living community, where she fed people and pushed residents around in their wheelchairs. But hip surgery forced her out of that responsibility.

"After that, it was a matter of who's pushing who," she said.

She said sometimes people have the misconception that working in a place like a nursing home or assisted living community could get depressing.

"I don't think we all go into it looking for hardship, but a chuckle. Not consciously, but at least you didn't make their day worse," Jones said.

Jones was also once a storybook lady for Dillard's during the holidays. Being a storybook lady involved dressing up in elaborate costumes, depending upon that year's theme and taking the children around the store while parents shopped for the children's Christmas gifts.

"I am just a little old lady who goes where the kids are," she said.

Jones, Lois



OCT. 24-30, 2001

## Name to Know

Stanley Jones helps take care of 127 trees on Sante Fe Drive from 103rd Avenue to New River.

At times, the Sun City resident will scrape the trees and then apply a fresh coat of white paint on them to protect the tender bark against blisters caused from the powerful rays of the sun.



Other times, he will make sure the water bubbler for each tree is properly working and the drainage ditch is clear of debris.

The current president of the Sun City PRIDES, Mr. Jones volunteers his time to keep the community clean and beautiful.

Volunteering is something Mr. Jones greatly enjoys.

"Sun City is known as the City of Volunteers," Mr. Jones said. "Really and truly, it is a great blessing to be a volunteer. You know you're doing something to keep Sun City beautiful or you're volunteering to help somebody that needs help, there is a great blessing to that."

Introduced to the PRIDES by friends when he and his wife Margaret moved to Sun City for the first time in the 1980s, Mr. Jones was also the president of the group from 1991 to 1992.

Moving to Washington in 1995, Mr. and Mrs. Jones returned to Sun City in April 2000.

Since returning to the community, Mr. Jones resumed his volunteer efforts with the PRIDES, something he has taken part in for 11 years. Mr. Jones is also a member of the Phoenix chapter of a telegraph club.



Joneson, AL

VF - PERSONALITIES

As Republic Dec. 5, 1984



Roy Cosway/Republic

Al Joneson says most of his poems are humorous in nature because "I refuse to worry about anything. I was convinced many years ago that worry doesn't do any good."

F - PERSONALITIES G-2



By THELMA HEATWOLE  
Special for The Republic N.W.B.

**S**UN CITY WEST —  
Al Joneson has written so many poems since moving here in 1979 that he recently put 160 light verses in a book titled *Terse Verse — Just for Fun*.

"I composed a lot while I was riding a bicycle," Joneson said.

"The idea would come into my head. I would think about it, work out the lines and by the time I got back home, the poem was ready."

One such poem is *Beyond Reproach*:

*Her actions every now  
and then*

*Maybe should be parried;  
But never question your  
wife's judgment.*

*Look at whom she married.*

Joneson, 67, a retired teacher, said he also has been a minister, song evangelist and expeditor for an airplane company.

"I've followed these various careers to try them out

and help decide what I want to do with the rest of my life," he said.

"Finally, in 1979, I found it — active retirement."

Poetry then became a serious pursuit.

"Through the years, I wrote a poem now and then, generally for special occasions, but I didn't save them," he said.

Joneson said he took a course in creative writing at Rio Salado Community College Area West in Sun City. That spurred his writing to the extent that he eventually produced the book, he said.

"I figure there are enough people writing serious poetry," he said.

"My poems are, with few exceptions, of the light, humorous type."

*Wizard is an example:  
He stepped into the elevator,*

*As bright as he could be.  
The button for 8 was out  
of order,*

*So he punched 5 and 3.*  
Another example is *Easy*:

## Friends' comments, bumper stickers inspire lighthearted volume of poetry

*Of all the simple things to do,*

*This one tops the heap:  
Snoring is so simple you can*

*Do it in your sleep.*

Joneson said he also has jokes and quips he started collecting in the 1930s that inspire ideas.

Sometimes, he said, what someone says prompts a poem, or he may encounter a funny incident. Once, a bumper sticker on a golf cart launched a poem, he said.

Another time, he said, an idea occurred to him after he got in bed about 2:30 a.m.

"I got up and wrote the idea down and went back to sleep," he said. "The next morning I put it together."

Joneson, who holds a master's degree from the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, taught school in Minnesota, Kansas and

Oklahoma from 1959 to 1979.

He also was a member of the faculty at Mankato State University in Mankato, Minn., where his principal assignments were teaching mathematics for elementary-school teachers.

Joneson belongs to and has held offices in the Sun City and Arizona State Poetry Societies, the Sun City Lions Club and the First Christian Church in Sun City.

In addition, he said he gives programs on request, at no charge, although he will accept an honorarium to help with expenses.

"I have two reasons for giving programs," he said. "I like to help people have a good time and to let people know about the book."

Once when it was announced at a meeting that the program involved poetry, a spectator said, "Oh,

no. Do we have to sit through this?"

"It turned out," Joneson said, "that he was laughing all the way through and said he enjoyed the program very much."

Joneson said his wife, Velma, a secretary, serves as his literary critic.

His book sells for \$3.75 and is available in Sun City at the Resident Galleries and Boswell Memorial Hospital gift shop. It also is available at the Amric Book Store in Peoria's Arrowhead Mall and at the Baptist Book Store in Phoenix.

Joneson said most of his poems have the humorous theme because "I refuse to worry about anything."

"I was convinced many years ago that worry doesn't do any good. That doesn't mean I don't think and plan. Basically, I see the lighter side of things."

Joneson then quipped a short unnamed poem:

*When aching feet reduce  
my speed.*

*I'm glad I'm not a centipede.*



# Exhibit honors father's memory

## Artist's work hangs in Sundome

By GINGER SCOTT-EIDEN  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It took Alfred Kabica six years before he found a suitable home for his 70-foot painting.

On Aug. 25, 1980, the Sun Citian and Del Webb executives celebrated when his mural, "From Evolution Through Progress to Where?", was mounted above the main portals of the Sundome.

Now, almost 20 years later, family and friends gathered in the Sun Cities Area Historical Society to celebrate the many other works of the German-born artist. His art will be on display at the historical society, 10801 Oakmont Drive in Sun City, through Friday, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., and Jan. 2 and 9, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Kabica began his mural in 1970 and finished it in 1974. It took him 150 tubes of oil paint, 100 brushes, a couple of gallons of linseed oil and more than 10 canvases to complete. The painting showed the world in the past, present and Kabica's interpretation of the future.

"I painted this picture because I was praying and hoping," Kabica told the Daily News-Sun in 1980, "because if people do not take care of nature and put something back they'll just ruin themselves."

And these were lessons that Kabica's children and grandchildren have remembered and carried on.

"My grandfather was a traveler and he loved nature," said Ken Nix, Kabica's grandson from Illinois. "The amount of time he took educating us about the land around us was remarkable. I have all of these memories that dovetail with what he tried to teach us. I look at these paintings and I feel very close to him."

Kabica had not always wanted to be an artist, he told the Daily News-Sun in a past interview.

"I didn't want to work..." he said. "My father was a slave — all he did was work, work, work."

When he was 15, his mother sent him to art school in a nearby town in Germany. Kabica's studies at the art

school gave him skills that enabled him to obtain a job with Swift & Co. in Chicago when he came to the United States at 23. But he never gave up painting.

Grace Nix Havlik, Kabica's daughter, said she remembers that the family's home was full of her father's

paintings when she was a little girl. She said she would beg her father to have an art show, but he never wanted to organize one.

Havlik, who serves on the Sun Cities Historical Society board, kept most of the artwork, and decided to honor her father's memory by hosting this exhibit.

"I thought it would be a great idea to show my dad's pieces while my family was down here for the holidays," she said, "since his grandsons are the ones that were most influenced by him."





Lisa Goettsche/Daily News-Sun

Grace Nix Havlik, daughter of artist Alfred Fred Kabica, studies one of her favorite pieces. Kabica painted a portrait of the family's home in Chicago in the early 1960s, and then his wife (Havlik's mother) copied the work in tapestry. Kabica, who retired to Sun City in 1965, is known locally for the 75-foot mural "From Evolution Through Progress to Where?" on display in the Sundome in Sun City West.





Republic photo by Thelma Heatwole

Alfred Kabica of Sun City painted a mural that goes on and on — for 75 feet

# Giant mural depicts history of earth

*Sun City artist says 4-year effort carries warning to mankind*

By THELMA HEATWOLE

SUN CITY — Artist Alfred Kabica, working in his outdoor studio during the past four years, painted a 10-panel mural depicting the development of the planet earth and its civilization.

He knows of no building in Sun City with an interior wall large enough to display the 75-foot long panoramic mural. But it will be up for public view today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the open court of the United Church of Sun City, 107th Avenue and Sun City Boulevard.

Kabica, 70, says the mural is the culmination of research of recent history and a lifetime of observation. He is concerned about pollution and threat of nuclear war and wants the mural to serve as a warning to mankind. The panels range from portrayal of the struggle of creation to the atomic war and resulting destruction of civilization.

"Let us preserve what nature has provided before it vanishes entirely," Kabica warns. "Think of the inventions since the 1930s. What will it be like on earth 200 years from now?"

"We are living on a mixed-up earth," he continued. "People in India worship the cow, yet in the U. S. we can go to the moon. Africans are starving but billions of dollars are spent for destruction. When will the people of the world ever get together?"

Kabica said more love and compassion among mankind is a paramount need.

The Sun Citian, a native of Germany, said as a youth he read dime novels about "The Lost Mohicans." He was 23 when he came to the U. S. after World War I to help the "last frontier people."

"I only knew three words in the English language," he recalled.

"They were nevertheless, whatsoever and notwithstanding."

Well, notwithstanding, Kabica took special studies to learn English, landing a job with Swift Co. as accountant and, with his knowledge of five languages, also worked in translation and communication. Along the way he continued his studies in art. He and his wife, Della, moved here nine years ago.

"Age," he said, "is no limit to creative ability. Some people, however, bury their ideas instead of bringing them to the fore."

Kabica hopes his painting will show 100 years from now that there were persons who worried about the world in 1974. For the present, he said, he hopes his art story will make people stop and think.

A Lutheran, Kabica says his mural is not a religious picture, but one for all races and creeds.





Republic photo by Thelma Heatwole

Alfred Kabica of Sun City painted a mural that goes on and on — for 75 feet

## REPUBLIC Giant mural depicts history of earth

APR 28 1974

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SUN CITY — Artist Alfred Kabica, working in his outdoor studio during the past four years, painted a 10-panel mural depicting the development of the planet earth and its civilization.

He knows of no building in Sun City with an interior wall large enough to display the 75-foot long panoramic mural. But it will be up for public view today from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the open court of the United Church of Sun City, 107th Avenue and Sun City Boulevard.

Kabica, 70, says the mural is the culmination of research of recent history and a lifetime of observation. He is concerned about pollution and threat of nuclear war and wants the mural to serve as a warning to mankind. The panels range from portrayal of the struggle of creation to the atomic war and resulting destruction of civilization.

"Let us preserve what nature has provided before it vanishes entirely," Kabica warns. "Think of the inventions since the 1930s. What will it be like on earth 200 years from now?"

"We are living on a mixed-up earth," he continued. "People in India worship the cow, yet in the U. S. we can go to the moon. Africans are starving but billions of dollars are spent for destruction. When will the people of the world ever get together?"

Kabica said more love and compassion among mankind is a paramount need.

The Sun Citian, a native of Germany, said as a youth he read dime novels about "The Lost Mohicans." He was 23 when he came to the U. S. after World War I to help the "last frontier people."

"I only knew three words in the English language," he recalled.

"They were nevertheless, whatsoever and notwithstanding."

Well, notwithstanding, Kabica took special studies to learn English, landing a job with Swift Co. as accountant and, with his knowledge of five languages, also worked in translation and communication. Along the way he continued his studies in art. He and his wife, Della, moved here nine years ago.

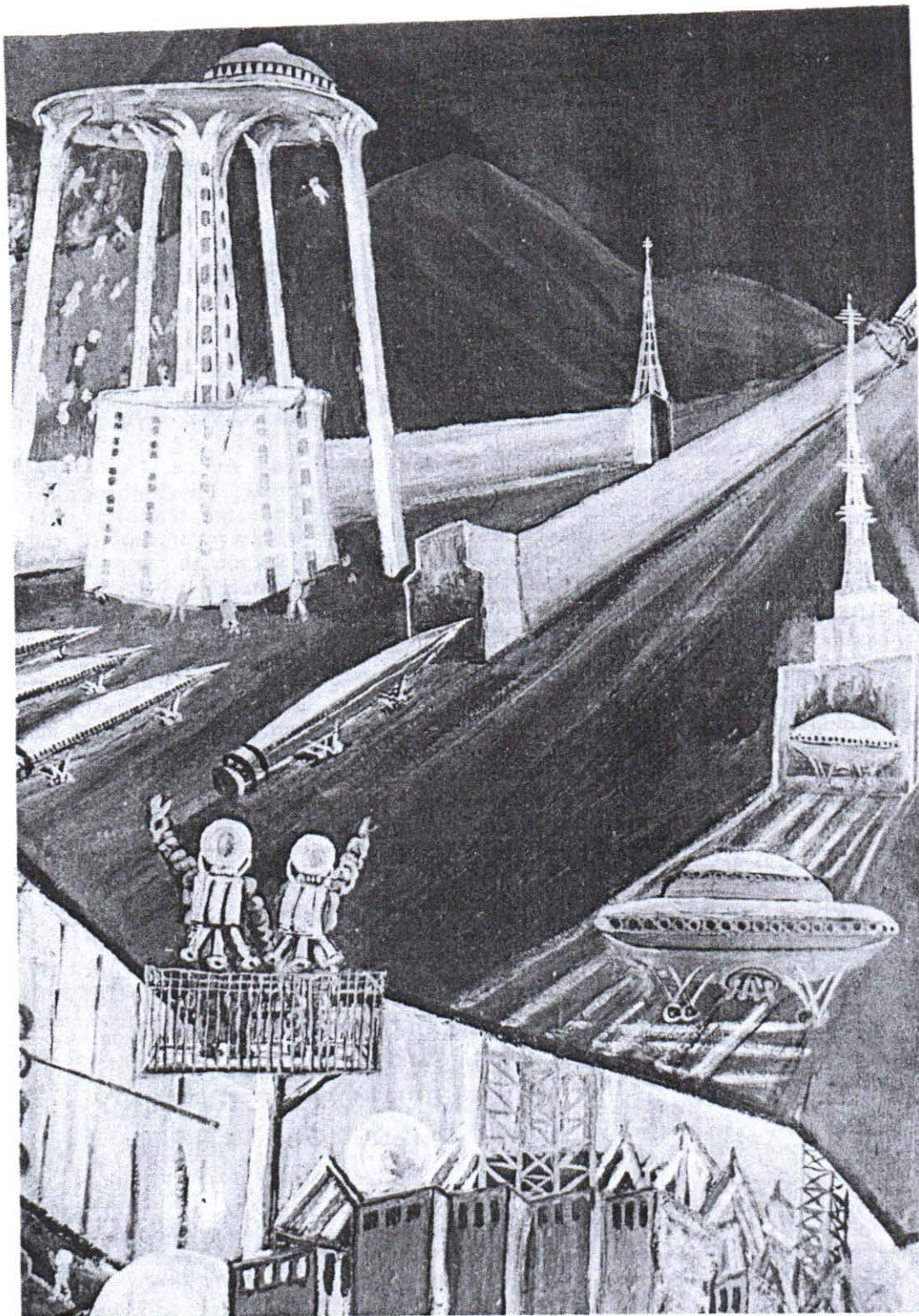
"Age," he said, "is no limit to creative ability. Some people, however, bury their ideas instead of bringing them to the fore."

Kabica hopes his painting will show 100 years from now that there were persons who worried about the world in 1974. For the present, he said, he hopes his art story will make people stop and think.

A Lutheran, Kabica says his mural is not a religious picture, but one for all races and creeds.

KABICA, ALFRED





## New beginning

Sun Citian A.R. Kabica, in huge mural painting, has depicted earth's beginning, end. In this final segment, new beginning is pictured following atomic explosion, retreat to cave living, escape from planet. Nature has taken over, cleansed atmosphere, and readied earth for new inhabitants. For story, more pictures, see 1B.

(News-Sun Photo)  
Apr/ 23. 1978



**FRED KABICA**

# Mural depicts planetary birth, death

By SUE VAN WYNGAARDEN  
 Staff Writer

A. R. "Fred" Kabica believes that art is "an expression of latent talent inherent in most people whether it be in writing poetry, dancing, painting, or just plain artful living.

"Art," he says, "is not just smearing paint any which way or portraying existing things, but painting life's experiences, thoughts, and feelings."

All of his life, Kabica had wanted an outside studio where he could paint ideas and feelings. He also had experienced a desire to paint, in living color, the end of the world—man's ultimate fall.

FINALLY his dream has come true.

After four years of devoted work in his outdoor, home studio, 150 tubes of oil paint, 100 brushes, and a couple gallons of linseed oil, his masterpiece is completed.

His 75-foot canvas entitled "From Evolution thru Progress to Where?" will be unveiled at 10 a.m. Sunday in the open court of the United Church of Sun City.

The master mural consists of 10 panels, each depicting a stage in the development of the earth and its inhabitants from "the titanic struggle of the creation of the universe to the atomic war and the resulting destruction of civilization."

KABICA hopes his picture will serve as a warning for this generation and future generations to preserve what nature has provided.

"We are taking from the world, depleting our sources, and not giving anything back," he says.

"People should look into the future," he continues. "It has taken millions of years to develop civilization and just a few hundred years to destroy it."

The artwork represents a lifetime of study of developments. "It's an accumulation of thoughts and ideas," he says.

KABICA believes man himself is determining his end and his destiny depends

upon the speed of his own destruction.

"But it (the mural) has a lot of kindness in it, too," his wife asserts. "The glorious sun-up after the period of the dark ages," in the seventh panel, represents "the great progress in all sciences and the unexcelled arts."

The world is not all bad, but Kabica feels the two most important elements that humans will fail thoroughly to achieve are love and compassion.

"THERE is so much beautiful expression and feeling in people," he says, "if you look for it." People are an inspiration to Kabica, and he believes inspiration in life is vital.

Mrs. Kabica says the canvas project has been "a good let out of his frustrations. It has made him a nicer man to live with."

"I had to get it out of my system," he adds.

BORN in Germany, Kabica is a man who is well versed in the art of talking. He migrated to Chicago to "make some bacon," and eventually became an accountant and communicator-translator for Swift and Co.

With a foundation of five different languages, excluding English, the German started night school one October. By Christmastime he could sing carols verbatim, "although I didn't know what I was singing," he said, smiling, and broke into a chorus of "We Three Kings."

Eight months later, in June, Kabica was graduated from night school with a high school diploma and a partial mastery of the English language.

IT WAS in Chicago he met his wife, Della. Although she lived in Germany 22 years, Mrs. Kabica was born in Chicago. "I married her by mistake," he chuckles. "I thought she was a German.

The couple moved to Sun City nine years ago for a change in climate when Kabica's doctor gave him two years to live. "I have been improving all along,"

he says. "I feel better now than 15 years ago."

They plan to visit East Germany this summer, and their daughter, who is a principal in Chicago, will accompany them.

"I AM the only one from my whole clan here," he says. "We want to introduce her to all her relatives." On their six week tour, the family will travel down the Rhine and visit the historical starting grounds of Lutheranism.

In the meantime, Kabica is in the process of finding a home for his huge mural, "either in Sun City, Arizona, in the U.S.A., or Europe," he says. "This picture has been filmed in an unfinished stage and has been shown on TV in Europe."

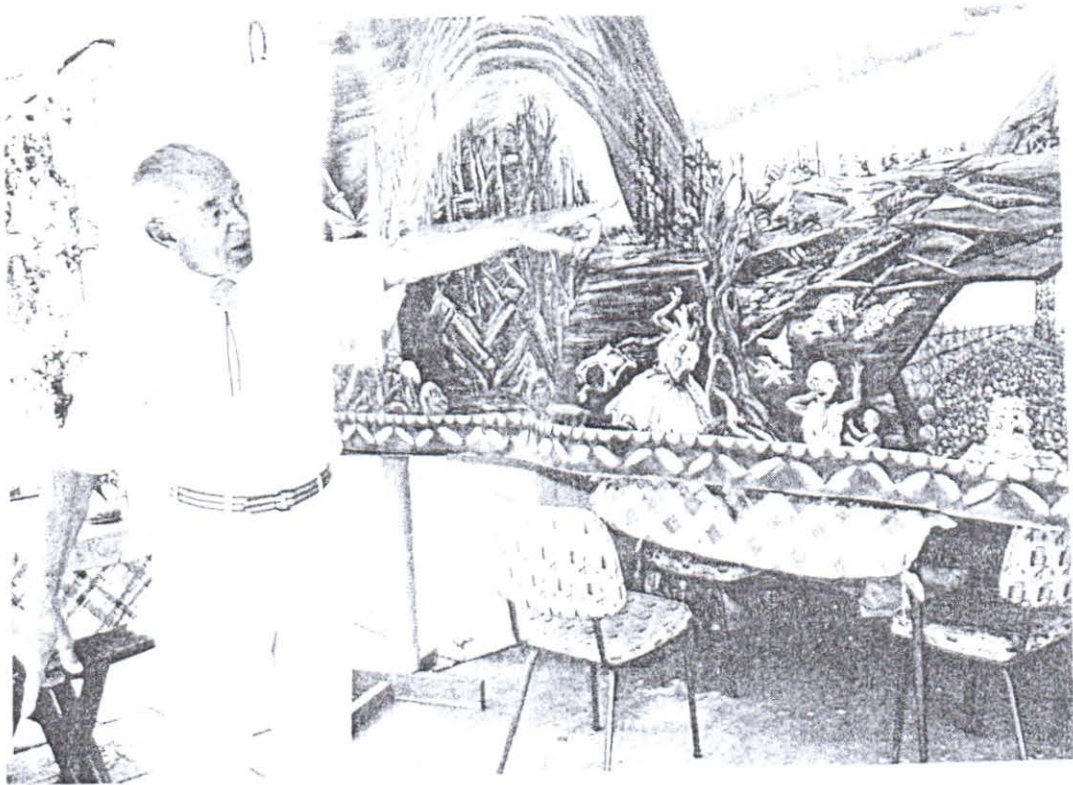
He paints "only when I feel like it and for the fun of it," designs posters for local organizations, and often holds lectures "on art for living."

He also has built a fountain on the family premises at 11054 Elk Ave. in memory of their son, Capt. R. A. Kabica, whose plane was shot down during the war.

"I paint in thanks to God for giving me all these extra years of life and enjoyment of nature in the paradise of Sun City," he says.

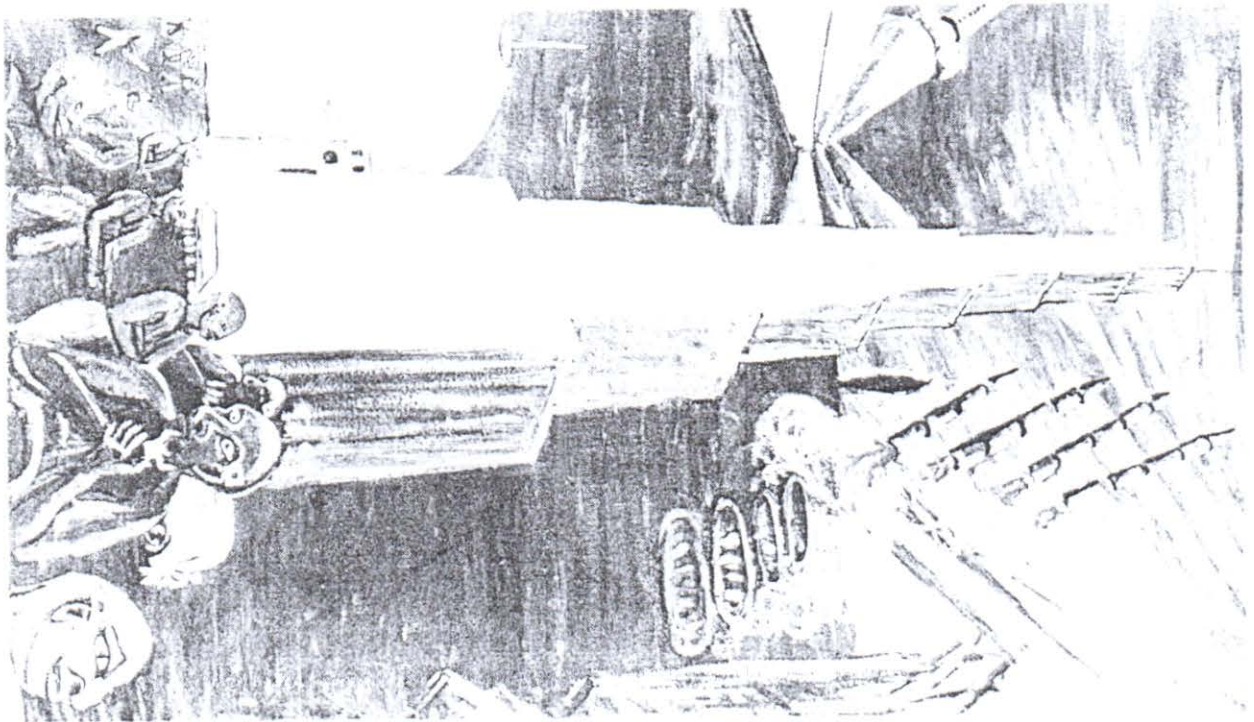
OVER





German born Fred Kabica discusses final sections of his canvas masterpiece, "From Evolution thru Progress to Where?" After four years of painting, mural will be displayed Sunday in open court of United Church. (News-Sun Photos)

Omega represent last letter of Greek alphabet; this scene details creation of superhumans and semi-robots who roam earth before atomic war that destroys most of humanity.



Last hope of deteriorated civilization, mutilated and terror-stricken people cry out after atomic war. In this ninth panel, Kabica exemplifies pollution of atmosphere and flight of remaining people into caves.



# SUN CITY ARTIST LIVES ON THROUGH HIS WORKS

By CHRIS RASMUSSEN  
Independent Newspapers

Alfred Kabica came to Sun City in 1965 with a paintbrush in one hand and a rainbow of colors in the other.

Marked by a concern for nature, his paintings brought a unique artistic perspective to the Sun City art world.

Although he died nearly a decade ago, his works refuse to fade away.

Known primarily for the 75-foot mural in the lobby of the Sundome, the former teletyp-

ist left his artistic signature on anything to which he could apply a pen or brush.

"From a young age, my dad was very concerned for the environment," said his daughter, Grace Nix Havlik, a second generation Sun Citian.

"He was not as easy to live with as other dads," she said. "He had all these concerns and anxieties that he released on canvas."

Mr. Kabica's concern for nature is most evident in the Sundome mural, a depiction of

See ■ ARTIST Page 2



Although Alfred Kabica's great-grandchildren weren't even born when he passed away, they are still able to see a very important side of their great-grandfather. (From left) Daniel, Cassi, David Nix and grandmother Grace Havlik, Lauren Sheena and Matt Nix attended a ceremony at the Sun City Historical Society last week.

Photo by  
CHRIS RASMUSSEN  
Independent Newspapers

the earth's evolution through several scenes: from Adam and Eve to the industrial revolution, and up until the time man must go into space because he has made the earth uninhabitable.

The mural took four years to complete and was unveiled during the Sundome's dedication in 1980.

"Originally dad had spoken with the rec centers about putting it in the Bell Center, but it didn't work out," she remembered.

Mr. Kabica died shortly after the Sundome's dedication.

"At least he lived long enough to see his mural dedicated," she said.

His most famous painting was not his only. He also expressed himself through a number of other paintings and sculptures.

Many of his works are now being seen for the first time in an exhibit at the Sun Cities Historical Society throughout the month of January.

"Several works from the art

Migrant farm workers toiling in the fields is the subject one of Alfred Kabica's better known paintings.



museum and ASU were interested in his paintings," Mrs. Havlik said after art experts visited the exhibit.

One of his most intriguing paintings is that of Arizona migrant workers picking cauliflower in the shadow of the White Tank Mountains.

"He loved trees and sky," she said. "Landscapes were by far his specialty."

Mr. Kabica also had a love for

brush strokes.

He didn't limit himself to only landscape paintings, he is also responsible for a multitude of area signs utilizing his calligraphy skills.

In 1966 he was asked to design a poster-sized Christmas greeting card for the Town Hall Center, now the Fairway Recreation Center.

"Word got around that dad did these types of things so they would call on him for their signs," Mrs.



# SCTA leader retires

By JACQUE PAPPAS  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — After volunteering nearly 16 years as a guardian of local residents' pocketbooks, Murray Karsten has resigned from the Sun City Taxpayers Association board of directors.

Always outspoken and colorful, Karsten prided himself in keeping fellow board members informed of legislation brewing at the Capitol that possibly would affect residents in Sun City.

"It was always my hope to help the citizens so they were not subjected to unwarranted taxes and unjustifiable rate increases. It's always been important for me to keep the cost of living down in Sun City so people can live in the style they earned and retire in dignity," Karsten said.

Karsten, 78, was honored for his years of service on the board of direc-



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Murray Karsten has retired from the Sun City Taxpayers Association board of directors after serving nearly 16 years as president, first vice president, second vice president and director.

tors at the Taxpayers' annual meeting Thursday morning.

He said he has resigned from the board because of personal and health reasons.

"I've enjoyed every minute of it," Karsten said. "The bulldog (SCTA mascot) signifies the fact that the members are dedicated to be the See Watchdog calls, A5

## Watchdog calls it quits

—From A1

watchdogs of Sun City's pocketbook."

Karsten has served as president, first vice president and second vice president of the Taxpayers.

When Karsten first ran for election on the 15-member volunteer board in 1976, there were 4,500 members. Now 22,800 Sun Citizens are members.

"The Taxpayers have always been involved in something,"

Karsten said.

The accomplishments he is most proud of include a \$12,000 media campaign in 1987 opposing the construction of a Rio Salado Project in Phoenix, opposing the county Val Trans mass transportation system proposal in 1989 and helping Ken Larkin spearhead the SCTA's challenge of the so-called Sun City School tax.

The Taxpayers succeeded in getting more than \$10 million in

refunds for property owners on the school tax issue and helped defeat both propositions.

Karsten retired as regional superintendent of operations for C & O (Chessie) Railway, where he started working as a track laborer.

Shortly after moving to Sun City from Detroit in 1966 with his wife, Naomi, he also became active in local Republican clubs and was appointed to several state and county GOP posts.

KARSTEN, MURRAY



e 2—September 11-17, 1985—THE SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

## Sun Citizen Profile

### Murray Karsten Sun City Taxpayers Association

Murray Karsten has been a member of the board of directors of the Sun City Taxpayers Association for eight years. A former president of the organization, Karsten presently serves as the first vice president.

NAME: Murray Karsten

RESIDENCE: Sun City.

FORMER HOMETOWN: Detroit, Mich.

BIRTHPLACE: Zeeland, Mich.

WHEN MOVED TO SUN CITY: 1975.

WHY MOVED TO SUN CITY: Liked the cleanliness and reasonable cost of purchasing a home. Was struck by the "wide sweeping streets and swaying palm trees."

FORMER OCCUPATION: Employed for 38 years by the Chessie System in Michigan. Retired as the regional supervisor in charge of all rail operations between Chicago and Buffalo, via Michigan.

EDUCATION: Attended night school and took correspondence courses through the University of Michigan.

FAMILY: Wife, Naomi; daughter, Sharon (San Jose, Calif.) and two grandchildren, Cynthia and Denise.

CHURCH: American Lutheran Church.

CLUB MEMBERSHIPS: Former president of Sun City Republican Club; member and former president of Sun City Toastmasters Club; five-year member of the Maricopa County Highway Advisory Board. Was an alternate Republican delegate to 1980 national convention in Michigan.

FAVORITE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY: Becoming involved in community affairs and political issues.

FAVORITE HOBBY: Writing.

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT: Likes to visit places he has never been. He and his wife have visited every state in the country except for Maine, which they plan to visit next year.

FAVORITE SPOT IN SUN CITY: Likes to visit local restaurants.

WHERE I LIKE TO TAKE VISITORS: Grand Canyon.

FAVORITE QUOTES: "To thine own self be true; thou canst be false to no man."

FUTURE GOALS: "As a member of the Taxpayers Association, I want to continue serving as the watchdog over Sun City's pocketbook and keep close watch over rate requests and unreasonable tax increases."



MURRAY KARSTEN

KARSTEN,  
MURRAY



*Sun Cities Independent Dec. 5-11, 1990 P.3*

## Former railway executive dedicates efforts to protecting and preserving local lifestyle

**Name:** Murray W. Karsten.  
**Former Occupation:** C & O Railway executive.

**Age:** 76.

**Marital status:** Married, one daughter, two grandchildren.

**Political position:** Conservative Republican philosophy.

**Memberships, Sun Cities activities:** Vice president, Sun City Taxpayers Association; former chairman, Maricopa Highway Commission; past president, Sun City Republican Club; president, Toastmasters International; American Lutheran Church; lifetime member of the American Association of Railroad Superintendents; precinct committeeman; deputy registrar; community affairs.

**Interests, hobbies:** Gardening, home maintenance, University of Michigan/Michigan State Football, railroad lore, delving into the history of man.

**How long have you lived in Sun City?** 15 years.

**What attracted you to Sun City?** Lifestyle; wide streets, tall palm trees, cleanliness and neatness.

**Where did you live before?** Detroit, Saginaw, Grand Rapids, Michigan. I moved to Sun City from Detroit.

**What is your favorite spot in Sun City?** Sun Bowl.

**Least favorite spot:** None.

**What would you like to see changed in town?** More intensive concern to prevent its lifestyle from erosion through unnecessary taxation and unwarranted utility

Sun Citian

### Profile

Portraits of our residents

rate increases.

**Personal hero:** General George Patton.

**Favorite music/singer:** Mood music; Perry Como.

**Favorite weekend getaway:** Grand Canyon.

**Favorite local restaurant:** LeRhonc.

**What do you like to do to escape?** Observe Mother Nature in all its beauty and awesome splendor, and reflect upon man's insignificance.

**What inspires you?** Music by the masters; marching bands and speeches born of patriotism.

**What is the craziest thing you've ever done?** Hunting moose on horseback in a blinding snow storm in the Canadian Northwest Territory, and losing my way.

**If you were stranded on a desert island and could only have three items with you, what would they be?** Necessities of life; dictionary/encyclopedia; writing material.

**What career would you choose if you were starting over?** If existing conditions were now as then, railroading would again be my choice.

**If your high school classmates could see you now, they would say ...** Who knows? Perhaps, "Not



Murray Karsten

bad, for a farm boy."

**Personal accomplishments:**

- Recipient of an award by Associated Bankers of America in testifying as a witness before the IRS/Treasury Department in opposition to their proposal to tax interest on short-term notes before maturity, which helped to defeat that measure.

- Delegated a responsibility of a special train of President Harry S. Truman "Give 'Em Hell" whistle-stop between Chicago and Detroit.

- Testified against a proposal before a Senate subcommittee that would have delayed trains entering or leaving the United States through Canada. The proposal was defeated.

- Retired in 1975, as regional superintendent of operations of the Chessie Railway, where I started as a track man.

KARSTEN, MURRAY



# 'The Unfolding Story'

## History buff offers insight on Constitution

By Betty Latty  
Special to Community

Sun City

**H**ow did mosquitoes influence the framing of the U.S. Constitution?

And why were the founding fathers steamed over their own efforts?

History buff Joe Keenan has the answers: "These men worked all summer — remember, there were no air conditioners in 1787 — and if windows were closed, it got very hot. But open windows brought in hot, humid air and an onslaught of mosquitoes."

The northerners wore worsted suits, which didn't help matters, Keenan said. "The southerners at least knew how to dress in the heat," he added.

"Sure, they all had fights over what they were doing, but they were gentlemanly about it."

Students today know very little about the Constitution and consider it a dry subject, Keenan said, because schools give it such short shrift and relegate its study to brief sessions in history or political science classes.

"Even the law schools minimize its study; lawyers are well in their chosen fields, but they couldn't tell you how an amendment came about," he said.

Keenan, who taught history and literature at De Paul University in Chicago for 30 years while also serving as director of the university's bookstores, took matters in hand and wrote a book, "The Constitution of the United States — the Unfolding Story."

Its second edition is available in paperback. In the book, he said, "I have many big legal cases simplified, so that even an eighth-grader can understand

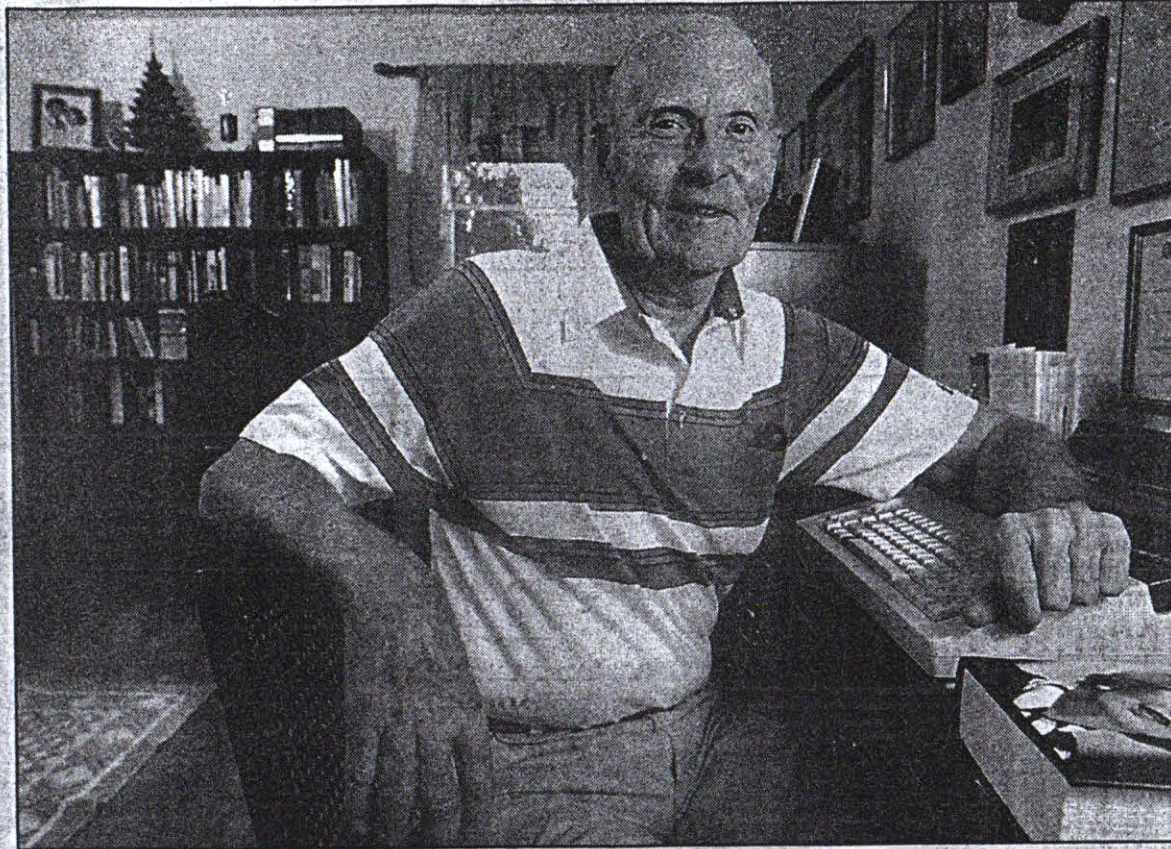
them. I can teach anybody all 27 amendments in nothing flat."

Keenan, who often lectures on a variety of topics at ASU's Center for Lifetime Learning in Sun City, will conduct an eight-week course, "The Romance of the Constitution," from Monday through March 14.

One of his most popular lectures is "Memory," he said. Keenan believes that he is very forgetful, and says, "It's better for people to learn from someone who can't remember things."

His other pet subjects are "Presidents and First Ladies," "Famous American Women" and "Muckrakers."

During his tenure at the university, he made some enduring friendships. "One was Cliff Hillegass, whose 'Cliff's Notes' have been used by students



Dana Leonard / Staff photographer

Author and retired history Professor Joe Keenan sits at his typewriter at home in Sun City. He will teach an eight-week course, "The Romance of the Constitution," at the ASU Center for Lifetime Learning in Sun City beginning Monday.

### Profile

**Name:** Joe Keenan.

**Age:** 76.

**Residence:** Sun City, 11 years.

**Birthplace:** Belvedere, Ill.

**Education:** Master's, DePaul University, Chicago.

**Career:** Director of bookstores and professor, DePaul, 30 years.

**Author:** "The Constitution of the United States — the Unfolding Story" (paperback, \$15.95, available at Wal-

denbooks.)

**Teaches:** The Romance of the Constitution at ASU's Center for Lifelong Learning, Sun City, Monday through March 14.

**Family:** Wife, "Kitty" (June) "and nine kids — four girls and five of the other kind."

**Hobbies:** Reading, table tennis, golf, swimming, aerobics, Chicago Cubs.

everywhere, and Ray Meyer the great basketball coach, now retired, is another," he said.

When the Keenans left Illinois for Arizona, the professor gave away all his

books, which proved to be a mistake. "After we got settled here, I began to get antsy," he confided. "I started rebuilding a library, and happily, now we're overflowing."



Keenan, Joe

# Sun City resident gives his best shot to teaching the Constitution

**S**o you think the U.S. Constitution is too dull and dry to perk up your interest?

Meet Joe Keenan, a fan of the Constitution in much the same way Dick Vitale is a fan of college basketball — highly enthusiastic, although hardly as overbearing and loud.

Keenan, a former professor of history and literature at DePaul University, moved to Sun City in 1982. He has taught a variety of history courses at the retirement community's Center for Lifetime Learning and also at branches of



HERB  
WHITNEY

Rio Salado Community College, including Perryville prison and Luke Air Force Base.

His classes carry such intriguing titles as "My Fellow Americans" (about presidential campaigns), "History a la Carte" (about unusual events in America's past) and "Presidents and First Ladies" (about White House intrigue).

"Eleanor Roosevelt is my favorite first lady because she was so human and natural," Keenan said. "She would wait in line with the crowd, she wouldn't pull rank."

"At conventions down South she would sit in the middle aisle when whites were on one side and blacks on the other."

While at DePaul, Keenan wrote a 182-page book called *The Constitution of the United States: An Unfolding Story*, which has been used in high school and college classes throughout the country.

The book, which I picked up at the Glendale Library, offers a simplified explanation of the Constitution, along with some obscure historical tidbits.

"It isn't the greatest history book in the world, but it is the best brief history of the Constitution," said Keenan, who is in the process of updating the work.

The book includes Keenan's insights, many humorous, into the meaning of the Constitution for present-day Americans.

Pointing out that the minimum age for a U.S. senator is 30, compared with only 25 for a representative, he writes:

"The founders believed that the Senate required a more mature person than the House."

About the Second Amendment, which preserves a citizen's right to keep and bear arms, he writes:

"This amendment is a highly controversial one in a country that may be

the murder capital of the world. The day before (I wrote these lines), machine guns were advertised during the radio broadcast of a Chicago Bears football game."

About Article IV, which compels individual states to grant "full faith and credit" to each other in such matters as public acts and judicial proceedings, he writes:

"Imagine the chaos that would follow if the marriages, divorces and contracts executed in Georgia were not recognized in Utah or Maine!"

The book details some famous Supreme Court decisions, including the appeal of an Arizona criminal conviction that forever changed the method of police investigations.

The incident involved Ernesto Miranda, 23, who confessed to the kidnapping and raping of a woman in Phoenix in 1963.

The Supreme Court overturned the conviction because the mentally troubled Miranda had not been informed of his Fifth Amendment rights, including the right to remain silent and confer with counsel.

"Now every law officer in the country carries a Miranda card and takes pains to read the accused his or her rights," Keenan said.

Miranda was released from jail and later was stabbed to death in Phoenix by an illegal alien.

His famous name lives on, however.

"They caught the man a few days later, and the very first thing the police did was read him his Miranda rights," Keenan said.

*Herb Whitney writes about the west Valley. He can be reached at 780-7129.*



MAY 2-8, 2001

## A Name to Know

Sun City resident **Gert Keipper** has been a volunteer at Bell Library for the last 14 years and although her efforts help people, her reasons for doing it are more self-serving.

"I think volunteering is for me. It's what it does for me. I've always felt that I've got a lot more out of volunteering than the organization I volunteer for," said Ms. Keipper.

Ms. Keipper, who has a master's degree in education from the University of



Wisconsin — Milwaukee, also volunteered for over seven years at the Laubach Literacy Class in El Mirage, helping adults to learn English.

She said the greatest joy derived from volunteering at the library is the people she meets.

"You meet a lot of people, make friends and spread out your interests a little bit more," she said.

When Ms. Keipper is not volunteering, she finds herself doing a variety of different things. She is a member of the Philanthropy and Education Organization, the Spin-offs and the Widows Friendship Club.

She also is a big football fan. As a former longtime Wisconsin resident, Ms. Keipper still has Green Bay Packers season tickets.



# Softball star finds success as roll player

RICH BOLAS  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

2/28/01

Hall of fame inductions have become routine for Ray Keller.

The 67-year-old will turn a triple play with his induction into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame during ceremonies on March 3 in The Lakes Club.

**'I've been playing organized softball since I was 16 years old, but I didn't really get into bowling until I moved to Sun City in 1987.'**

**Ray Keller**

Keller averages between 193 and 201 in four bowling leagues this season after setting a personal high with a 202 average last year.

Keller and four others — Dale Gleesing, Bert Hamilton, Dick McGlynn and John Nugent — make up the bowling hall of fame's Class of 2001. All qualified for the hall based on superior performance, which requires a male bowler to carry a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years.

The Wisconsin native attributed his bowling success to improvements in bowling equipment as well as more time spent on the lanes.

"The equipment that we use today makes it a different game," Keller said. "When I first moved here in the 1980s, I was using a plastic bowling ball and my average was around 180, 185."

"With today's reactive balls, my average is around 200."

The new bowling balls typically give bowlers more control and carry more pins upon impact.

See SC man, C2

# FAST-PITCH BOWLER

Keller owns four howling balls and frequently uses two during the course of league play.

"I make adjustments once I see how the lanes are oiled and how my ball is reacting," said Keller, who bowls in four leagues — Sun City Classic, Monday Night Senior Men and Bell Scratch in Sun City as well as another league at Mission Lanes in Phoenix.

Keller still finds time for his first sporting love, participating twice a week in the Sun Cities Senior Softball League.

"Ray's knees don't let him do what he used to do on the softball field, but he's still a very good player," said Jack Behling, Keller's softball teammate. "As a manager he knows what he's doing and he always seems to draft the right players and knows what to do with them."

Keller is a player-coach for Florencia Pizza, which plays in the National League, the top level of competition in the two-league Sun Cities Senior Softball League.

Keller is right-handed bowler and infielder, but bats from the left side in softball.

Keller displayed some of that softball prowess during a 19-12 win over Grandview Terrace at Sun Bowl Field Tuesday.

Keller had a bloop single to right to drive in two runs in the sixth inning and followed that with a line-drive double to left for two more RBI to seal the win in the seventh.

Those are the same softball skills which helped Keller lead his team to the Wisconsin fast-pitch tournament title in 1968.

Keller pitched on that championship team and his accomplishments led to his selection as sportsman of the year in Madison, Wis.

More than 30 years later, Keller's bowling accomplishments are receiving the same kind of recognition.

"I'm accurate as a bowler and I'm usually pretty good picking up spares," said Keller, whose personal best is a 279 game.

"I don't have too many highs or lows. I won't roll a 269 and follow that with a 170. I'm more likely to have a 190 and a 210."

Third in a series of profiles on the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame's Class of 2001.

OVER





JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Ray Keller has plenty of skills on the softball diamond and the bowling lanes.



# Ray of sunshine

## Wisconsin to honor Sun City man

By ANN T. DALEY  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — At one time, Ray Keller believed he could walk away from softball.

To do so, the fast-pitch hurler bought a resort in northern Wisconsin and left the bustling softball scene of Madison. But even retreating to the country could not keep Keller from his favorite sport.

"The first gentleman I met up there played slow-pitch softball and invited me to play in a tournament in Michigan," said Keller, who has never missed a season in 43 years.

"I used to say you'd never find me playing slow-pitch, but here I am."

Since moving to Arizona in 1985, Keller has graced area fields playing with the Del Webb Amazing 55s in the Sun Cities Senior Softball League.

### Senior softball

Back home, memories of Keller's illustrious career remain alive and have earned his selection into the Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame. Keller will be inducted Oct. 3 in Madison.

"It's something I worked for all these years," said Keller, who has struck out more than 7,000 batters and pitched more than 20 no-hitters.

"I guess I'm getting paid back for my work. My name was known well throughout the state of Wisconsin for softball."

The honor is one of many Keller has accumulated through the years. In 1968, he was named Madison's Sportsman of the Year after playing on championship teams at city, regional and state levels. He captured

the Madison City Championship by pitching a no-hitter in front of a crowd of 4,200.

Keller commanded attention by pitching teams to 12 Amateur Softball Association championships in 23 tournament appearances. He owns 10 Most Valuable Player awards in state ASA action and five MVP awards in regional ASA tournaments.

He also pitched teams to 15 ASA Midwest Regional championships and made five appearances in World International Softball Congress tournaments.

Keller began his amateur softball career at 16, after playing one year of American Legion baseball. He had no doubts about wanting to pitch.

"I wanted to be some place where the action was," he said. "I practiced,

See Wisconsin to, C7

## Wisconsin to honor SC man

— From C1

and practiced and practiced."

Upon moving to Arizona, Keller expanded his horizons by serving at shortstop and outfielder with the Amazing 55s.

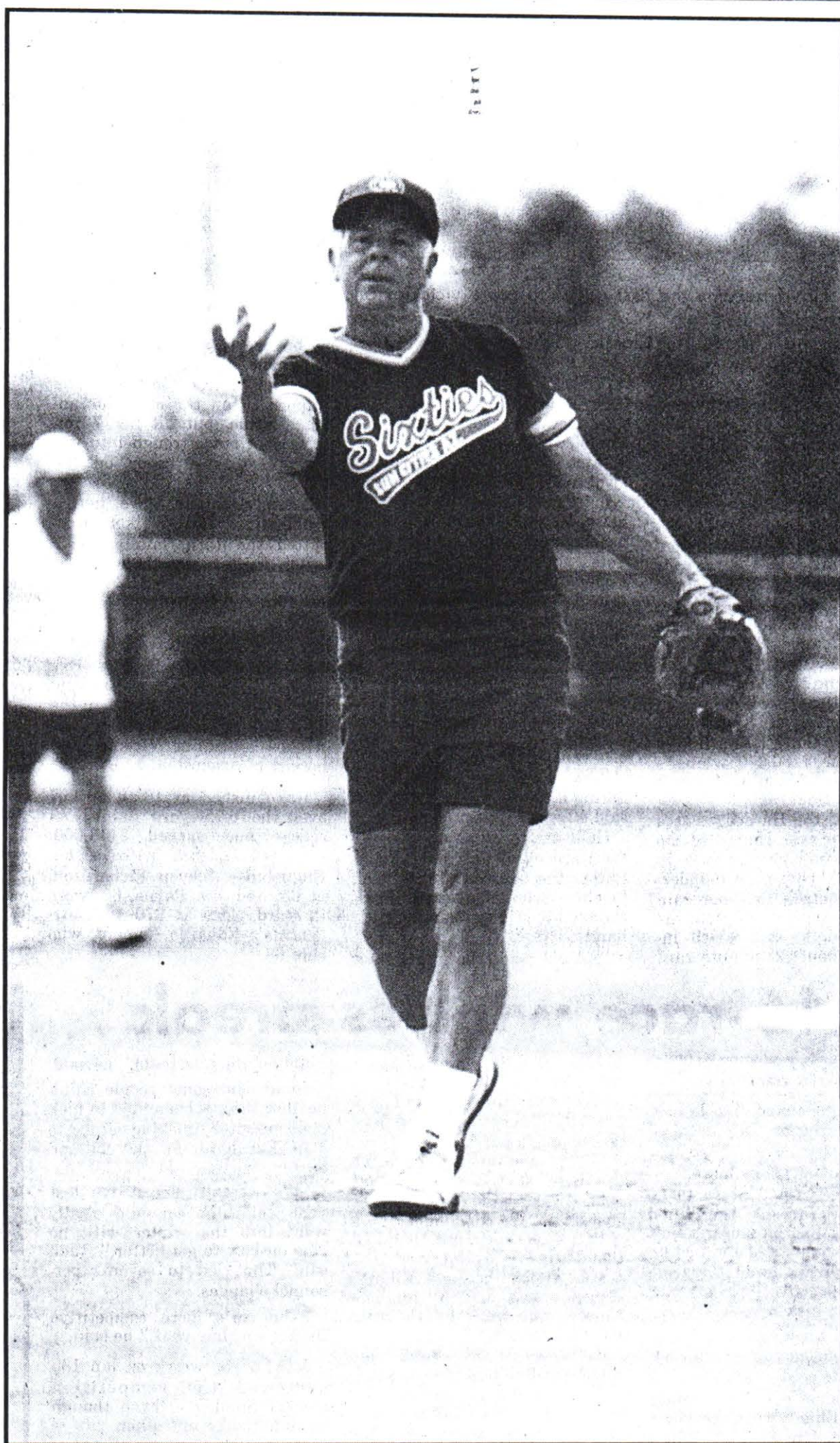
When he's not suiting up with the Amazing 55s, Keller enters tournaments with the senior Arizona Gold Miners and the California Sunkist Seniors of San Diego.

"I go to all the tournaments I can," said Keller, who departs today for a tournament in Las Vegas.

KELLER, RAY



Sun Citian Ray Keller will be inducted into the Wisconsin Amateur Softball Association Hall of Fame on Oct. 3. Keller, a pitcher in the Sun Cities Senior Softball League, struck out more than 7,000 batters and hurled more than 20 no-hitters during his amateur career in Wisconsin.



Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun



# PRETTY PICTURES IN GLASS

## Sun City resident pursues career in stained glass design

By **Diana Shaughnessy**  
Independent Newspapers

It's not hard to spot Suzan Kelly's home in Sun City.

Framed stained-glass windows adorn the clear glass ones of her home. If you miss that, you cannot miss the back window of her pick-up truck.

"I was learning stained-glass design and thought, why not put one in the rear window of my truck," she said. Sure enough, Ms. Kelly now drives her teal truck with its matching stained-glass window. She even put a sign on the back of her truck letting people know it is real stained glass.

Ms. Kelly, a Sun City resident for the past 2 1/2 years, began working with stained glass when she lived in Yarnell, Ariz., a small town north of Wickenburg. Prior to her move, Ms. Kelly was a mechanical graphics production artist in Dallas for 20 years, and lived for a brief time in Virginia.

"I moved to Yarnell to be near my parents," she said.

When her father passed away, Ms. Kelly suggested her mother move back to her hometown in Indiana and sell the Yarnell house. When the house sale fell through, Ms. Kelly moved in and continued her graphic art work.

"I specialize in drawing site and floor plans for upscale apartment developers," she explained. "Most of it is done now by computer, but I still do

it by hand, making it camera ready."

Her stained glass interest took flight when she used to visit Sherm's Stained Glass Shop in Yarnell.

"I think all people love the beautiful colors you see in stained glass," Ms. Kelly said. "I thought it would be too hard for me to learn, but found I had a knack for creating pictures in stained glass."

Her first piece, made with six or seven pieces, is a far cry from the intricate designs in her more recent work. A large collection of free-standing glass artwork adorns her home. Items ranging from small night lights to entire doors have started on her drawing board.

"I have had three commissioned pieces so far," she said proudly. "Two pieces are in one home, and the third is in another."

The two pieces include a large door with purple, red and yellow patterns, and an arched window featuring a collection of roses in the center. The other commission was a set of two matched windows that give privacy to the resident.

Prices for Ms. Kelly's work are dependent upon size, complexity and colors used.

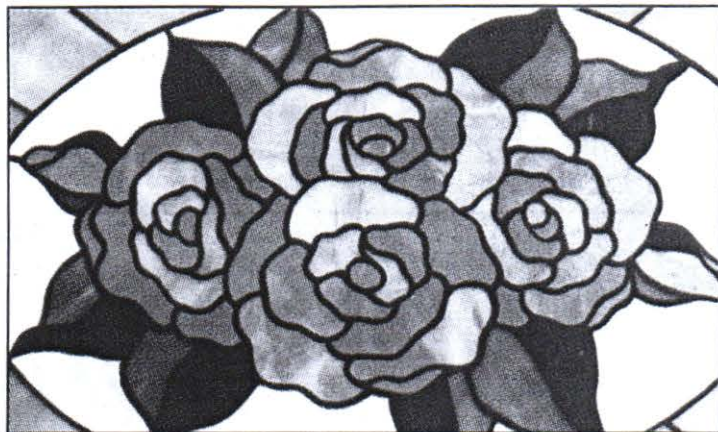
"When I do a proposal for a commission, I figure up the cost of glass along with the fee," she said. "Pieces can range from \$85 to \$150 per square foot."

People interested in seeing Ms. Kelly's work or commis-



Photos by Diana Shaughnessy/Independent Newspapers

**Stained glass artist Suzan Kelly holds one of her recent creations. More of her work can be seen at the Artistic Stained Glass Club display located in Bell Center, Hutton Drive and 99th Avenue.**



**This rose design is the center pattern in a large privately commissioned piece that extends over a doorway.**

sioning a piece may call her at 583-6819. They may also visit the Artistic Stained Glass Club at Bell Recreation Center in Sun City.

"I am a member of the

Artistic Stained Glass Club and the Woodworking Club," she said. "I have been able to learn how to frame my own pieces. People in both clubs have been very helpful."



February 19, 2003

### A Name to Know

In the past two years, Sun City resident **Carol Kempton** has saved two children from getting lost in the system.

Ms. Kempton, a trained volunteer with the Maricopa County Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program, is appointed by judges as an advocate for children in foster care. CASA volunteers also work to ensure that each child is placed in a safe, loving home in a timely fashion.



CASA volunteers work on one case at a time.

Shortly after Ms. Kempton was first assigned her current case, a 9-year-old girl, she made sure the child received needed counseling and medical attention. She also takes the girl on outings, not only to have fun, but to build a trusting, caring relationship.

Before she worked with the CASA program, Ms. Kempton was a volunteer coordinator at a homeless shelter. There she witnessed first-hand the results of abuse and neglect suffered by children. She decided she wanted to do more to make a difference in a child's life.



December 18, 2002

## ■ A Name to Know

**Francis Kenkel** is not the type of person seeking accolades nor publicity for his volunteer and charitable endeavors.

Humble and hard working, Mr. Kenkel does what he does solely for enjoyment's sake.

Volunteering with Westside Food Bank twice weekly, Mr. Kenkel does whatever work needs to be done.

When he's not at the food bank, Mr. Kenkel will most likely be building countless wooden toys for needy children or creating wooden crafts to benefit his church.

"I worked all my life, I'm not used to taking it easy," Mr. Kenkel said. "I'm just living the kind of life I like to lead."

Having spent the majority of his life working 16 to 18 hours a day on his Iowa farm prior to retiring, Mr. Kenkel is most comfortable when busy.

In addition to his woodworking and time with the food bank, Mr. Kenkel serves mass multiple times a week at his church.





# Senior Olympics medalist started swim lessons at 57

“  
I compete for the fun of it. (But) I'm happy to say that I do have a lot (of medals).”

**Dorothy Kimmel**  
Senior Olympics swimmer

By Rebecca I. Allen  
The Arizona Republic

When Dorothy Kimmel moved to Sun City from Buffalo, N.Y., in 1978, she was 57 years old and could barely swim.

“I wasn't afraid of the water,” she said. “I could keep afloat.”

She took swimming lessons from coach Lee Star, a top-rated swimmer on the Arizona Master's Swim Team, and proved to be a quick study. So quick that in 1980 she began competing in the Senior Olympics.

Sunday, in the first round of competition in the Arizona Sen-

ior Olympics, Kimmel continued that tradition, winning golds in the 50- and 100-yard butterfly and silver in the 50-yard free-style. Although those qualify her to compete in the 2003 Senior Olympic Nationals in Virginia, Kimmel won't be not going. She would rather spend her traveling time visiting her family on the East Coast.

“I compete for the fun of it,” the 81-year-old retired surgical nurse said. She demures when it comes to talking about the number of medals she's collected in

the 20-plus years she's been competing. “I'm happy to say that I do have a lot.”

She swims at least an hour every morning, working to improve her skills. This year, she took two seconds off her time in both butterfly events, finishing the 50-yard in 2 minutes, 3 seconds and the 100-yard in 5 minutes, 14 seconds.

Her swimming group includes Sun City residents Darrell Baker, Sumie Anderson, Diane Lewis, Sharon Evans, Dottie Winniford and Estelle Shuer, and they all won medals in Sunday's competition.

“Our coach (John Jorgensen) thought we all did very well,” Kimmel said.

Kimmel has four children, 10 grandchildren and two great-grandsons, some of whom she has taught to swim.

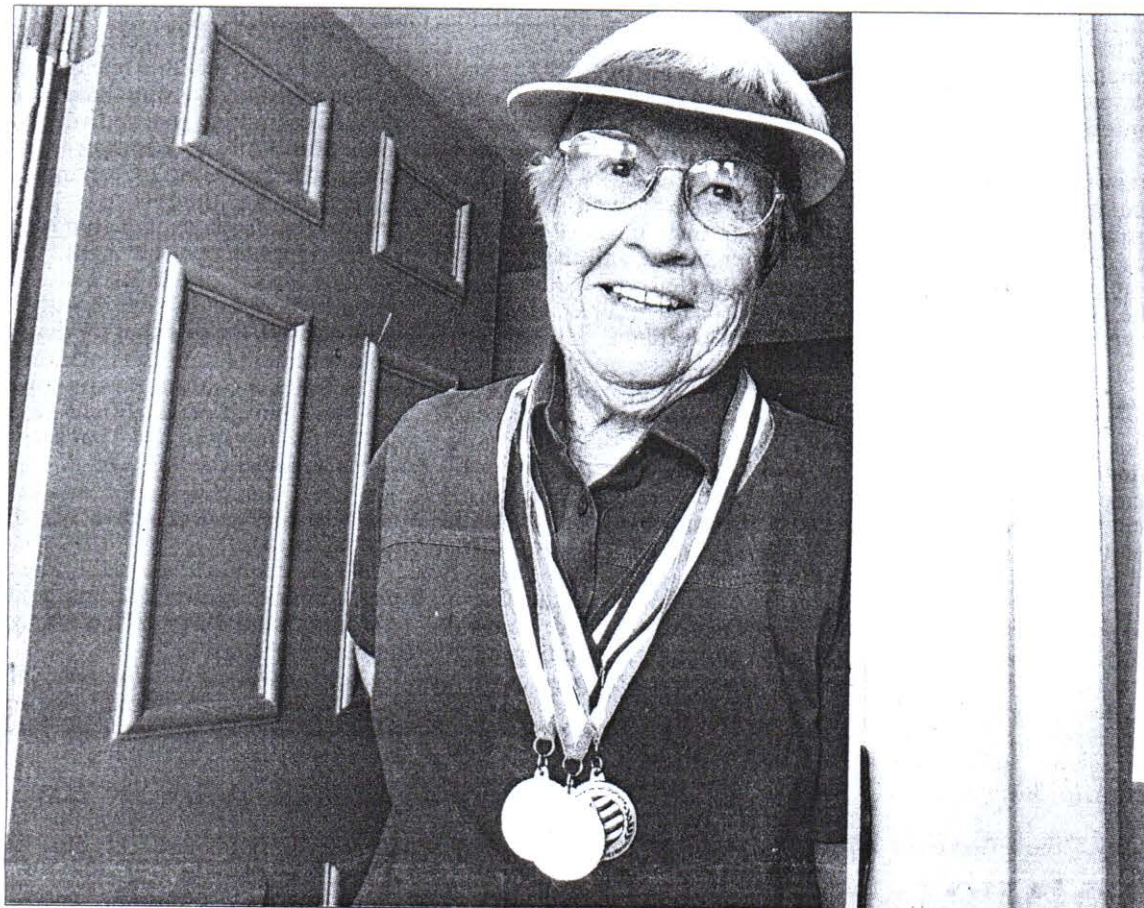
She now plans to retire from competing.

“I've had my day,” she said. “Time to let the younger ones come in.”

She still plans to swim every day, as she has for so many years.

“I'd miss it terribly,” she said.

## At 81, she wins 2 golds, a silver in state meet



Michael Ging/The Arizona Republic

Senior Olympics medalist Dorothy Kimmel, 81, didn't learn to swim until she moved to Sun City in her late 50s. Two years later, she entered competition in the Senior Olympics.



## A bass on wheels

# Sun City man fiddles with energy crunch

By THELMA HEATWOLE

SUN CITY — Clinton Kimpel does not believe the energy crisis is just around the corner.

It's here, he says.

And, Kimpel, 65, is doing something about saving fuel.

He hauls his towering string bass around town on a converted golf-bag carrier behind his Honda Express motorbike.

People do a double take when they see Kimpel and the black-encased, 6-foot bass cruising down the avenue.

It may be a one-of-a-kind conveyance.

"I'm conserving gasoline by using my Honda with its three-cubic-inch engine instead of our station wagon with its 350-cubic-inch engine," he said.

Kimpel said the large instrument will not fit in a regular car. The station wagon gets about 10 miles per gallon on short, city trips. The Honda, he said, gets about 110 miles per gallon.

"When gasoline got to the point where they were limiting us on quantity and signs 'sorry, no gas' were going up, I decided it was time to do something," he said.

A retired engineer for the U. S. Steel Co., Kimpel made the ball coupling that joins the motorbike and the trailer.

Kimpel admits it's hot driving the Honda and would be more comfortable in the air-conditioned station wagon. But, he is serious about the energy problem.

"I believe our energy crunch is very real and that the immediate solution is for us all to do all we can right now to conserve our fuel," he said.

Speed is limited to 15 mph with the bass trailer and already Kimpel is faced with getting new tires for the trailer. But, that doesn't deter him. Around home he uses a golf cart as a second car for short trips.

He said there are periods when he and his wife use the station wagon only when they are dressed for church.

Kimpel plays his bass with groups at Sun City activities and entertains patients at nursing homes.

"I play bass as a hobby on an amateur basis," he said.

Asked what kind of music the groups play, Kimpel said:

"We play the songs that date back to the time when Fanny was a girl's name."

A3 Republic Aug. 12, 1979

OVER

KIMPEL, CLINTON





Clinton Kimpel's bass towers behind his motorbike.

Republic photo by Thelma Heathole



## DOERS PROFILE

***Allen & Joyce Kissinger***

**Family:** 2 children, 1 grandchild

**Philosophy:** "Be good and do right by others. Be honest and say what you mean."

**Key to longevity:** "Staying busy and active."

## The Kissingers leave mark on Sun City

By TINA SCHADE  
Staff writer

**N**ope. They're not related to Henry Kissinger, the statesman who is remembered almost as much for his voice as for his diplomacy.

But Allen and Joyce Kissinger have made an impression on the world, or at least in Sun City, in their own right as volunteers.

Since the couple moved from Pittsburgh to Arizona in 1977, they have donated at least four hours of their time every week to different charities and organizations.

For their first 10 years in Sun City, the Kissingers volunteered at Walter O. Boswell Memorial Hospital in patient care and physical therapy, but needing a change, they switched to the Boswell Thrift Store.

In the thrift store Joyce works as a sorter, checking donated items, such as kitchenware and clothes to see if they're sellable and Allen works as the cashier.

"It helps the hospital ... and it's better to be giving than taking," Allen said.

The Kissingers were two of a number of volunteers that helped raise almost \$60,000 for the store last year. Money raised goes to the purchase of hospital equipment.

Monday, June 8, 1998 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

When not volunteering at the thrift store, the Kissingers have other interests.

Allen is a life-long clarinet player and saxophonist for Tommy Thompson's 10-piece band. He spends two days a week rehearsing and one night a week performing tunes from the big band era and performs in venues all over the Valley.

His knack for playing, however, almost destroyed and saved his life.

After years of playing in clubs and inhaling second-hand smoke, Allen developed lung cancer and underwent surgery to have three malignant tumors removed.

But the wind power he developed after years of playing kept his lungs strong and he recovered quickly.

Joyce also has a talent of her own and has been kicking up her heels for six years with the Sun City Line Dancers.

She is one of the nine members of an offshoot group known as the Sun City Liners who dance for free in local nursing homes.

Joyce also spends much time in practice before heading out to perform.

"It's very satisfying. We play their kind of music and they tap their feet," she said.

The couple also enjoy other hobbies such as bowling at Lakeview and Bell recreation centers and traveling. One of their more recent excursions was taking a French canal tour on a barge, which took them through France's wine country.

Another joy in the couple's life is their cats, Thunder and Lightning, which they picked up from a pet store on a stormy night nearly seven years ago.

Allen likes reading and Joyce enjoys playing bingo.

To nominate a Doer, call Tina Schade at the Daily News-Sun, 876-2514.

KISSINGER, ALLEN & JOYCE



# Plantation manager recalls good years

By DOUG DOLLEMORE  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Before the rubber met the road, it met Michael Komaromi.

Komaromi managed two rubber plantations in the Philippines for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., beginning in 1949.

"I didn't know one damn thing about rubber trees. That's what I told them when they asked me to go out there," Komaromi said. "I said, 'Good lord, I'm a city kid. I don't know anything about horticulture.'

"They said, 'That's OK, there are people who will take care of the trees, we just need you to manage the place.'"

Komaromi did manage the place for more than 25 years and along the way learned quite a bit about horticulture and the Philippines.

Komaromi, 72, grew up in Akron, Ohio, and attended the University of Akron. During World War II, he worked in a factory that manufactured flap hinges for airplane wings. After the war, he went to work for Goodyear. He joined the company's management training program and worked in all phases of the operation.

"I made tires, I worked in shipping and research and development. I did it all," Komaromi said.

In 1949, he, his wife, Jean, and their two sons arrived on Mindanao, one of the southernmost islands in the Philippines.

"The plantations had been written off as war losses, so they needed people to help develop them again," Komaromi said.

Komaromi was assistant manager of a 2,500-acre rubber plantation for four years, then he was promoted to manager. Later, he also assumed responsibility for another 5,000-acre plantation nearby.

"It was very much a cultural shock," said Tim Ensminger of Glendale, whose father, Don, was Komaromi's assistant from 1964 to 1969. "You arrive on Mindanao and then you have a



Daily News-Sun photo by Doug Dollemore

**MICHAEL KOMAROMI —**  
Managed rubber plantation in the Philippines.

four- or five-hour drive along bumpy dirt roads past villages where children have bloated bellies from malnutrition. Then you get finally get to the plantation. You're just in a different world."

Tapping began at 5:30 every morning. Each tapper was responsible for 250 to 400 trees each day. The worker would use a knife to carefully cut into a sixteenth-of-an-inch layer of bark.

"You had to be very careful not to cut too deeply into the tree because you could scar it and that would interfere with the flow of sap," Komaromi said. "It like scratching your skin. That doesn't hurt you. But if somebody stabs you, you're going to get a scar."

The latex sap, which protects the tree from disease, flowed into bucket attached to the tree.

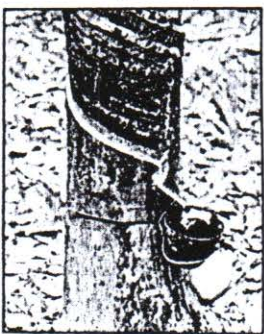
After a couple of hours, the tappers gathered the sap and brought to a collection center. There, they poured the sap into a measuring device and their day's total was recorded. The tappers were paid based on how much sap they collected.

The sap then was taken to a processing center on the plantation where it was coagulated, rolled, dried and prepared for shipment.

Each plantation employed about 450 people.

"It was a very labor-intensive industry," Komaromi said.

The plantations were divided into four sections. Workers rotated between the section so trees were tapped every fourth



Submitted photo

**SAP —** Latex sap flows out of a tree at a plantation in the Philippines. The sap is used to make rubber.

day.

It takes about five years for a tree to grow big enough to be tapped, Komaromi said. A rubber tree is usually productive for about 25 years.

In the early 1970s, a insurrection led by Muslims seeking independence from President Ferdinand Marcos' corrupt regime in Manila erupted on Mindanao.

"He (Marcos) came into the presidency as a real do-gooder. And much of what he did was good," Komaromi said. "But there is truth to the saying 'Total power corrupts.' That sums up the whole situation over there. He just got too powerful."

Komaromi and his wife kept packed bags in their bedroom so they could flee into the jungle if insurgents attacked their home.

The insurgents never did. Instead, Komaromi's life was threatened in 1976 by a man who had once been the plantation's outstanding tapper of the year.

The man had been drafted into the local militia fighting the insurgents so he hadn't been working. In addition to salary, the plantation provided its employees a rice ration at a reduced cost. But when the man showed up to collect his ration an overzealous payroll clerk refused to give him his ration because he had no money, Komaromi said.

"He had been out on patrol for several days so he didn't have any money to pay for his rice," Komaromi said. "Normally in those situations, we let them have their rice anyway and the clerk knew it."

Several hours later, the employee, who was now drunk, returned with a rifle and began firing shots in the air.

"I told him somebody was going to get hurt if he kept doing that and he was going to go to jail," Komaromi said. "I told him to come around to the front of my office and we'd talk about it."

Then Komaromi turned to walk away. That's when the man fired.

"The first one hit me in the shoulder and spun me around," Komaromi said. "The second hit me in the forearm. Then he grabbed the clerk and blew his head off."

The man fled into the jungle. Later, he surrendered and was sent to prison.

"I blame the clerk more for what happened than I do the employee," Komaromi said. "That clerk was just showing off his muscle, his power."

Komaromi spent two months in a Manila hospital and then returned to the United States for therapy. He returned to the plantation for a few months before retiring in 1977.

"It was a nice life," Komaromi said. "Even in light of what happened to me, if I were 30 years old I'd do it all again. Yes, it was a good life."



Submitted photo

**PALS —** Michael Komaromi puts his arms around a man who was the most productive tapper in 1974.

KOMAROMI, Michael



# Food bank work fulfills volunteer

*'You meet so many incredible people'*

By Ryan Konig  
The Arizona Republic

**SURPRISE** — Vi Koshar and her husband moved to the Valley about 10 years ago to retire. But she now spends more time as a volunteer with the Westside Food Bank than most people spend working for pay.

"I just enjoy it, and you meet so many incredible people," Koshar said, "and that's not hard to do when you are working with an organization with more than 3,000 volunteers."

Koshar, 70, can't imagine a better life than one that includes volunteer work. She began volunteering in her home state of Minnesota more than 40 years ago and has found no reason to stop.

"I guess I am the kind of person who would rather fix a problem than complain about it, and that, very often, means volunteering," she explained.

Back in the 1950s, Koshar was unhappy with the quality of art education at her daughter's school, so she volunteered to help teach art. That meant going back to school herself to learn more about art and talking to corporate executives to donate art materials for the students.

That work led to her involvement with the White Bear Arts Council in Minnesota, which was in its formative stages. She quickly became a voice for the group, organizing and promoting art shows and demonstrations.

Her work there showed her the power that volunteers can have. The arts council today has its own

building and is a focal point for the arts community in Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Shortly after moving to the Valley in 1988, Koshar became a voice for the Westside Food Bank, volunteering 40 or more hours a week to the cause.

"The need for getting the word out is extremely important," Koshar said. "People are willing to help. They just need to know that the help is needed, and they need to know how they can help."

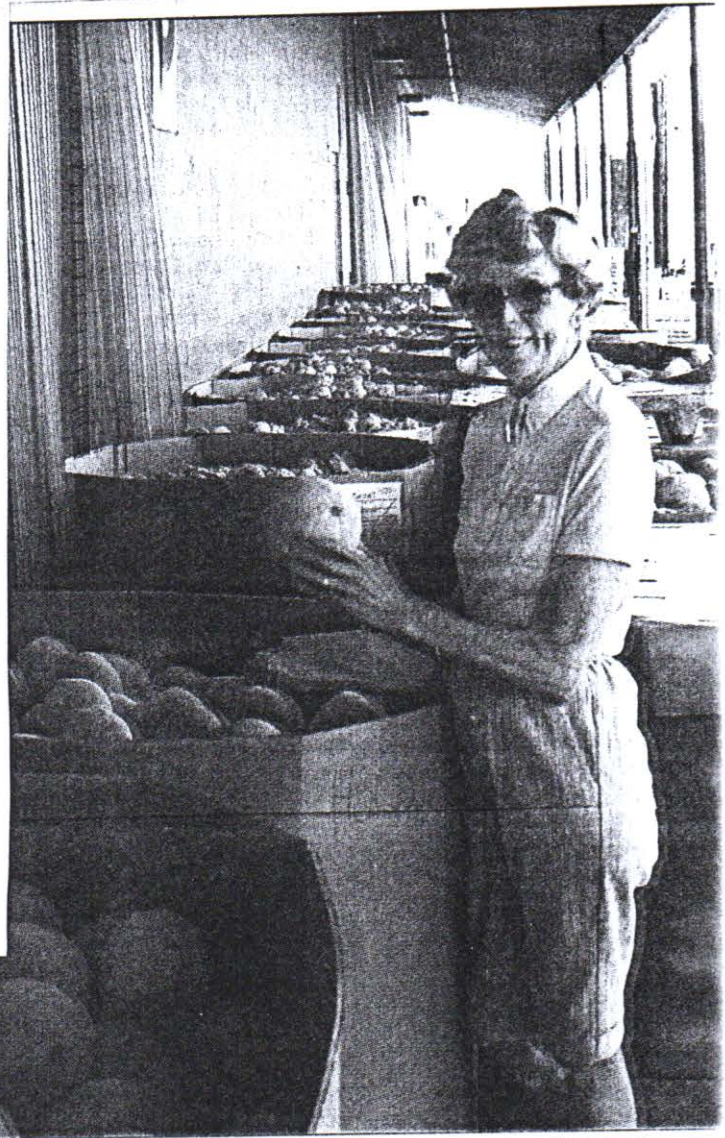
As an example, she said food bank volunteers picked and collected about 2 million pounds of fresh produce this year.

"As encouraging as that may sound, there is probably another million pounds of produce that went to waste because we didn't have enough volunteers to get to it in time," she said. "That's why promoting what we do is so important."

Koshar's future is in plain view when she gushes about the food bank volunteers who are in their 90s. She plans to keep working.

Anyone interested in finding out more about volunteering, or about donating food, can call the Westside Food Bank at (602) 242-3663.

Do you know someone remarkable who you would like to share with Community readers? Send your suggestion to West Valley Community — Just Folks, 22600 N. 19th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85027 or [nw.news@pni.com](mailto:nw.news@pni.com) via e-mail. Ryan Konig can be reached at (602) 444-7123 or at [ryan.konig@pni.com](mailto:ryan.konig@pni.com) via e-mail.



Ryan Konig/The Arizona Republic

Vi Koshar, on the job at Westside Food Bank, volunteers because "I am kind of person who would rather fix a problem than complain about it."



May 7, 2003

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

## ■ A Name to Know

**Johnnie Kroll** has been going to bingo games at the Sundial Men's Club for 30 years, and he's never won anything.

But then, he's never played a card.

Mr. Kroll, 91, has been calling bingo names at the Oakmont Men's Club since 1973, the same year he helped form the Sundial Men's Club.

"I just like to be with people,"

said Mr. Kroll. "I

have never played bingo in my life, and I'm going to be calling it for the rest of my life."



All the money raised, Mr. Kroll noted with pride, is donated to Sun City charities.

Mr. Kroll has volunteered in Sun City in a variety of other capacities over the years, helping to launch other bingo programs, taking tickets at the Sundome and acting as a tour guide, among them.

KROLL, JOHNNIE

VI

PERSONALITIES





JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Hal Adams, left, president of Sundial Men's Club, presents Johnnie Kroll, 91, a plaque thanking him for 30 years of service. Kroll started various bingo programs around Sun City and has called the games for the Oakmont Men's Club for three decades.

## Bingo caller earns honor

HAYLEY RINGLE  
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Johnnie Kroll is a big part of bingo in Sun City.

The 91-year-old started the bingo program 30 years ago for the Sundial Men's Club and has called bingo games for just as long. He has also called the bingo games for the Oakmont Men's Club for 30 years and helped set up their bingo program.

"What I like about calling bingo is I'm satisfying a lot of people," said Kroll, a resident of Sun City since 1971. "I have a lot of fun seeing them win."

Kroll received a plaque from the Sundial Men's Club Thursday for the club's appreciation of his three decades calling bingo.

He also helped start the bingo programs at Palmbrook Country Club, Lakes Club and St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church.

As a bingo caller, he has to announce what game is being played, call a number every 13 seconds until someone yells "Bingo!" and then verify the winning numbers on the board.

"Bingo is an out for people," Kroll said. "Many are too old to play golf and so they play bingo and look forward to playing it every week."

After thousands of games calling bingo, he has no intention of stopping.

"As long as I enjoy calling bingo I'm going to continue calling," Kroll said. "I get a charge out of calling bingo."

There are 18 games a night and usually between 400 and 500 people fill the auditorium at the Sundial Recreation Center every Thursday night to play bingo for about two to three hours.

Kroll's signature calls say "nyen" instead of "nine," because "it's just the way my vocabulary comes out," he said.

If Kroll is calling the second half of a bingo night he will end with the same closing statement, "Take it easy on the waaay home," drawing out the "way." It's a tradition for everyone in the audience to repeat the words along with him, he said.

Besides bingo, he volunteered everywhere around Sun City with his wife, Connie. The couple were married 58 years before she died in 1996.

The two were tour directors for Sun City Travel, and traveled to Don Laughlin's Casino once a month for 25 years. He also volunteered for hospice, was one of the original ushers at St. Clement of Rome Catholic Church for 25 years, is active with the Sun City Elks and is a charter member of the Lakes Club.

Jim Kennedy of Sun City, the bingo manager for the Sundial Men's Club, has known Kroll for three years and praised his many volunteering jobs.

"He's just a remarkable person," Kennedy said. "He's done volunteer work for every part of Sun City."

Kroll was the chief usher and his wife was the chief ticket taker at the Sundome when it first opened. The two volunteered for two years at the Sundome, and worked the first show with Lawrence Welk in 1980.

He was the emcee for Del Webb's Chuckwagons, giving visitors who were staying in the vacation apartments tours of Sun City, showing them everything Sun City had to offer. Kroll also broadcast the games for the Sun City Saints baseball team.

"I've had a good life," said Kroll, who has three sons and four grandsons. "I've enjoyed my retirement, my wife and I."

Kroll retired after 40 years with Chrysler. He was in charge of the pension and insurance department. He was born outside of Pittsburgh and spent most of his life in Detroit until he moved to Sun City.



# Just for fun

## Legally-blind bowler still competes at 71

By JONATHAN DALTON  
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Dorothy Krug likely will not win any bowling trophies or patches. But for Krug, who is legally blind, the game is still a lot of fun.

"I like bowling because it's an individual sport," said Krug, 71. "You only compete against yourself, and that's all I ever do — compete against myself."

Krug, a native of Morton, Ill., started bowling in high school and continued after graduation. But when her eyesight started to fail in the mid-1950s, Krug stopped playing the game.

"I just started doing other things," Krug said.

Krug's hiatus lasted until 1976. In 1974, she moved to Sun City from St. Louis after visiting

### Local bowling

relatives throughout the Phoenix area. And when the Bell Lanes opened two years later, Krug started bowling again.

"It was easy to get to, and they had the electronic machines that kept score for you and showed you which pins you had left," Krug said.

"I just picked it up again. I guess it's like falling off a bike — you never forget how."

Krug has bowled through the years, and now bowls with the Handicapables as well as in the Summer Fun League.

Krug said she can see only the edges of the alleys themselves, trusting her partners to tell her which pins remain after each ball. She recently completed a 442 series in the Summer Fun League.

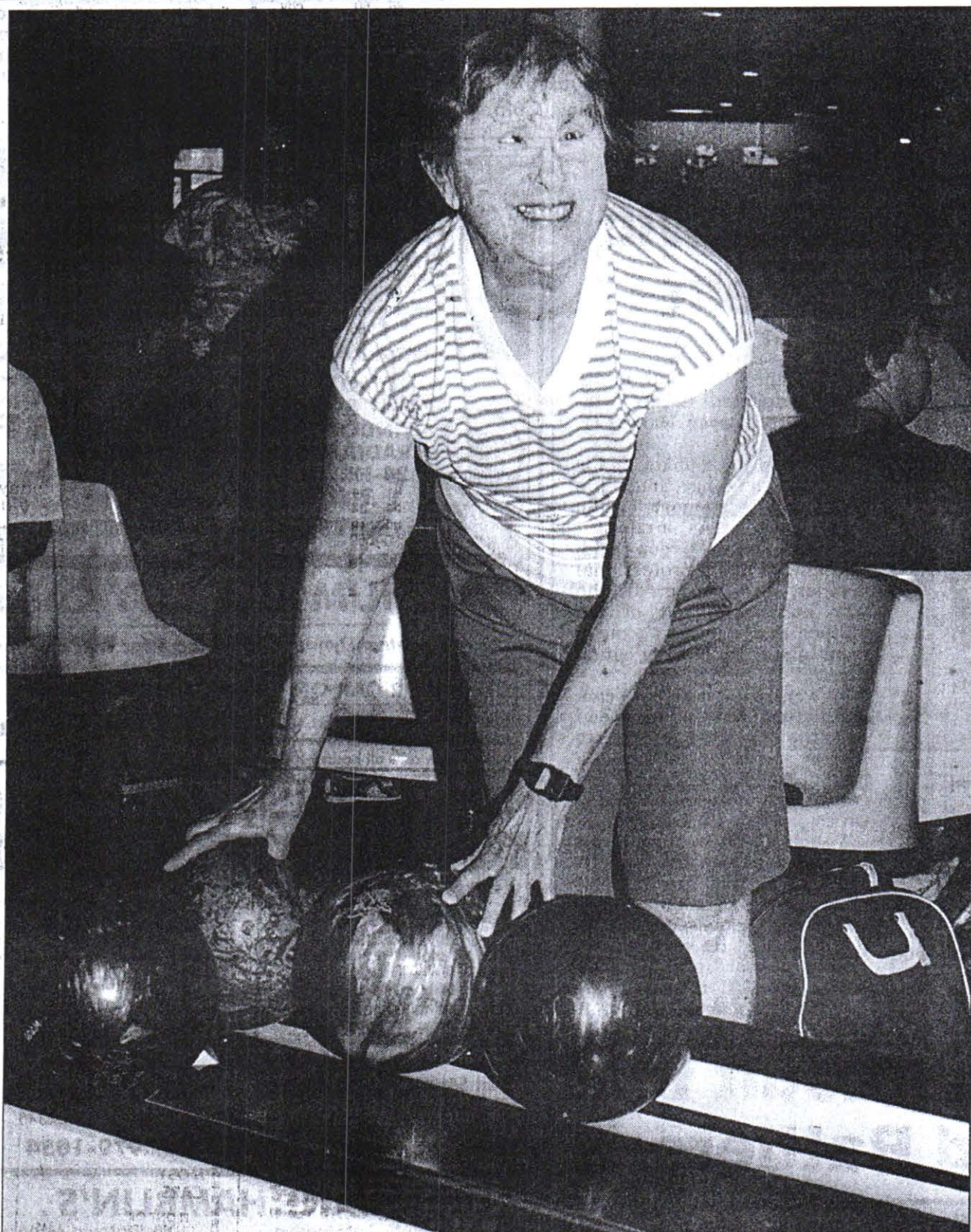
"It's a lot of fun, because no one's worried about how they do," Krug said of the summer league. "No one's out to break any records or win any badges."

Bowling is just one of several sports Krug enjoys. Four times a week she can be found at Sundial, swimming a mile. Other times she'll be out on a tandem bicycle with friends.

"It doesn't matter how old you are as long as you can still enjoy living," Krug said.

KRUG, DOROTHY





Mollie J. Hoppes/Daily News-Sun

Dorothy Krug, 71, is legally blind, but still competes in the Handicapables and Summer Fun bowling leagues. The Sun City resident can see only the edges of the alleys and trusts her partners to tell her which pins remain standing after each ball.





## FREDERICK PAUL KUENTZ

Fred was born in Alameda, California, September 14, 1920, where he lived until 1942 when he enlisted in the Army Air Corps, later transferring to the Combat Engineers. He left the service in 1946 as a Lieutenant.

In 1943, Fred married Charlotte Kick in Alameda, California. They have one son, Frederick Stanton Kuentz.

Fred began a 37 year association with the Del E. Webb Construction Company in 1949 as director of electrical design and cost control. Moving to Phoenix, Arizona

in 1951, he was involved with the construction of several industrial and electronics plants. As the corporation expanded, he gained experience in development and management of shopping centers, office buildings, medical centers, apartments, utilities, and a variety of other commercial enterprises including the Diamond Match Plant in Red Bluff, California, the Kansas City Athletics Ball Park in Kansas City, MO, the Kulima Hotel on Oahu, Hawaii, and Chris-Town Center in Phoenix. He also was involved with Sun City Arizona in various capacities since its inception.

Fred served as Vice President of Del E. Webb Corporation's Property Management and International Divisions and became Senior Vice President of Corporate Operations in 1965.

He subsequently was appointed Executive Vice President and was in charge of the Development Group from 1967 until 1983, and was responsible for the construction of Oakbrook, a total planned community near Chicago, Rosenzweig Center in Phoenix, and the Prudential Plaza in Denver.

In 1983, he was appointed President of Del E. Webb Development Company and was responsible for the continuing growth of Sun City West. He served as Chairman of the Board and C.E.O. of DEVCO until his retirement in 1986.

Fred felt very honored when, after his retirement, the residents of Sun City West requested that the new facility there be named the Fred Kuentz Recreation Center.

He served as director on many boards including: Boy Scouts of America, The Phoenix Zoo, Mountain Shadows Country Club, Urban Land Institute, Sun Health Corporation, and Sundome Performing Arts Association.

Fred was Chairman of the Board of MechTronics of Arizona Inc. from 1979 through 1995, and was also responsible for the oversight of the construction of a new MechTronics facility.

Del Webb called Fred "a great negotiator" Mike DeMuro says of Fred, "He taught me what friendship means." Other associates often spoke of his leadership and his ability to work with others "to get the job done."

He will be remembered by his many friends and family members for his great sense of humor, integrity, loyalty, and his great love for his family, including his four out of state sisters-in-law, their families, and his extended "adopted family" in El Salvador to whom he is known as "Grandpa."

Fred died at home October 29, 2001.

Survivors include his wife Charlotte, son Fred, brother Harold, sister Lorraine and her husband Warren Brentlinger and their families.

Memorial contributions in Fred's name may be made to the Boy Scouts of America, Back to School Clothing Drive, 5060 W. Bethany Home Road, Glendale, AZ, 85301, or the Phoenix Zoo, 45 N. Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, AZ, 85008.