



# Beaver Creek Preservation and Historical Society

*Working to gather, preserve and share the history of the  
Beaver Creek area*



P.O. Box 5402, Lake Montezuma, AZ 86342

April, 2017

## ROCK SCHOOL NEWS

### Hurray! National Register Plaque Dedicated



On March 10, 2017, BCPHS members, community members, former faculty and staff, students, and Tom Thurman, Yavapai County

Supervisor, gathered around and watched the unveiling of the plaque for the National Register of Historic Places mounted on the outside rock wall near the front door of the 1932 rock school building. Betty Hart and Audrey Erb did the honors. Betty is on the BCPHS and Beaver Creek School Boards and Audrey is a BCPHS member and the primary person responsible for writing and submitting the application.

Official word was received last fall that the 1932 rock school building was given the honor on September 20, 2016. The rock school was built after the former schoolhouse experienced not one but two fires. The rock school construction cost the ranchers and farmers in the school district \$2000.00. In order to raise money to pay back the loan, dances were held. The wonderful wood floor made a perfect dance floor. Men were charged \$1.00 and ladies were admitted free. The rock school was the only permanent structure on campus until 1972 when the metal classroom buildings were added. Only three other schools in Yavapai County are on the National Register: Mayer Red Brick School, Peoples Valley School and Clemenceau Public School in Cottonwood. In the Beaver Creek area the BC Ranger Station, Back Ranch Historic District- Montezuma Well Unit, and Sacred Mountain also appear on the register.



***THE ROCK SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. ON APRIL 8, 15<sup>TH</sup>, AND 22<sup>ND</sup>. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO VISIT AND ENJOY THE EXHIBITS AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION.***

### Local Artist Paints the Rock School

Verna Shafer, Lake Montezuma resident and artist, painted this wonderful picture of the rock school and donated it to BCPHS. Notice that she has eleven (11) children in the picture. A minimum number of children enrolled was required before schools could be "official" and receive local and state funding. Verna's five grandchildren, Jimmy and Vicki Womack's children, graduated from Beaver Creek. The painting is now proudly displayed at the rock school.



Verna recently donated another painting, a fall scene, to be raffled by BCPHS to raise funds to support the rock school projects. BCPHS appreciates Verna's generosity and willingness to share her talents for a good cause.

***Thank you, Verna!***



2016 BCPHS Board members taking their role seriously. Photo by Candy Hammond, owner of Pistols and Petticoats Photos at her Creekside Cottage. Thanks, Candy!

## Sedona Sky Academy Tour

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Rod Adams, Director of Sedona Sky, did a fine job sharing historic information and explaining the programs and activities of the Academy. Nineteen members of BCPHS and the community took advantage of this opportunity to see the impressive campus and facilities. A big THANK YOU to Betty Hart for coordinating this event and to all who attended.



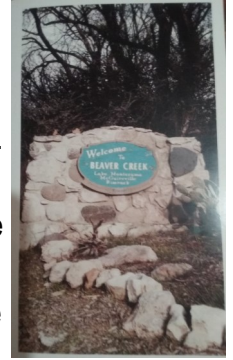
A big THANK YOU to Betty Hart for coordinating this event and to all who attended.

## Pioneer Project—Oral History Committee

The PIONEER PROJECT COMMITTEE recently purchased a video camera for use while conducting oral history Interviews. It has proved to have a good audio recorder and BCPHS has been using it to also tape our monthly meeting presentations. We will store these DVD's at the Rock School for future resource material. Judy McBride recently interviewed Margaret Duncan Graves whose family bought the Culpepper Ranch in McGuireville. We will store these on the computer and make DVD's for our Pioneer History Files. If anyone knows of a pioneer family member we should interview, please put a note in our BCPHS box at the Adult Center or contact a committee member. Our Committee members are Judy McBride, Ruthann Kroese, Wyona Jaffe and Darla Melcher. Don't forget to donate any old historical photos or information about the Beaver Creek area in our box.

## Community Information Booklets

These booklets are for sale as an on-going fundraiser for the Rock School projects. Committee members will be selling them at local events for \$2.00 each. This would make great little gifts for visitors, guests, and as a reference to have handy in your home. With a few days advance notice, large quantities for special occasions can be printed. For more information, call 567-4648. Rock School committee members are Judy McBride, Darla Melcher, Audrey Erb, and Edward Borowski.



## Then and Now By Wyona Jaffee

	<b>1996</b>	<b>2017</b>
MRM Building	Dr. Garrison, GP	Dr. Carter, Dentist
Drug Stores	OSCO	CVS
Beaver Creek Golf Course	Golf and Restaurant	In Escrow
Lake Montezuma Women's Civic Club	Met at Ranch House	Meets at Frace Lutheran Church
Restaurants	Ranch House G. T. Cliffords Crickets	Nikki's Grill Robbie's Pizza El Patio Crickets
Stores	Bashas The Country Store Rimrock Mercantile	Bashas Family Dollar Dollar General B.C. Gasmart Rimrock Resale
Fire Department	Montezuma/Rimrock Fire District Old Building Kent Courtney, Chief	Copper Canyon Fire and Medical Authority (combined with CVFD) New Building Terry Keller, Chief

**!!Help!! Your assistance is needed** in acquiring historically meaningful items for the future 'museum'. We are looking for photos, papers, stories, memorabilia, etc. specific to the Beaver Creek Area. Items that would tell the story of the development of : Businesses, Churches, Periodicals, Housing development, Golf Course, etc. If you have any such items, please drop off at BC Adult center in an envelope marked: "Historical Society".