



# Beaver Creek Preservation and Historical Society

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



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[www.beavercreekhistor.com](http://www.beavercreekhistor.com)

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## ROCK SCHOOL NEWS

We're happy to be able to have the Rock School open to the public every Saturday and for special occasions. Since March it has been 80+ hours. Folks enjoy looking at yearbooks and other memorabilia. We are always organizing the information we do have and creating displays. Currently our hours are 10 a.m.-1 p.m. every Saturday. If you have photos or other information about Beaver Creek School, please let us know.

The Raffle was a success, raising \$500.00 toward the Rock School renovation project. Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and supported our efforts.

Beaver Creek Community information booklets are still available for \$2.00 each. All proceeds go towards the Rock School renovation project. They can be found at Candy's Creekside Cottage, Crickets, at the Rock School or by calling 567-4648. They're great to have as a reference and to give to family and guests. Check it out!  
***THE ROCK SCHOOL WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M. EVERY SATURDAY. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO VISIT AND ENJOY THE EXHIBITS AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION.***

## The "Star Attraction", Clark telescope



On September 21, 2017, BCPHS hosted a program at Beaver Creek School featuring Beaver Creek's own "science guy", Ralph Nye. Ralph gave an awe-inspiring program regarding the rebuilding of the 120-year-old Clark telescope at Lowell Observatory in

Flagstaff. Ralph's detailed descriptions and pictures gave the audience of more than sixty people a glimpse into the world of an engineer accepting a very challenging project rebuilding the 11,000 pound telescope built in the late 1890's. Besides learning about this special telescope, the audience also gained a new-found admiration for the tenacious, patient, talented and resourceful Ralph and his team. Ralph is rightfully proud of the finished product and it's obvious that he loved telling the story. We loved hearing it.

***Thank you, Ralph!***

## A McGuireville Memory By Rosemary Reay

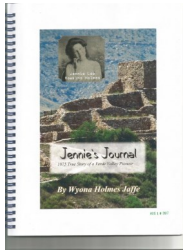
My husband, Newton, and I moved from Flagstaff to the Verde Valley in the Fall of 1967 with 5 of our 6 children (one was married!) We settled in a small yellow house south of McGuireville, enrolled one daughter in Camp Verde High, a son and daughter in Beaver Creek School. One morning, while waiting for the bus from Beaver Creek. I noticed a quaint little building across from the service station. The sign said: Granny's Store. It was owned by Midge Pigman and carried just about anything a person could need to put on a nutritious meal. Being self-employed in construction, at times our clients had to wait for a "draw" before they could pay us. It was then Midge came to our rescue and allowed us to charge a few groceries. Be assured, she was always first on the list when pay-day arrived!

### Backwood's Barometer

- There occurs heaviest rainfall 3-5 days after the new, full moon.
- Beware of severe winters when leaves on the trees remain in December.
- Deep snows expected when high off the ground hornets nests abound.

## JENNIE'S JOURNAL

By Wyona Jaffe



BCPHS member, Wyona Jaffe, is publishing a historical biography of her grandmother, Jennie Lee Hawkins, who was born in the Verde Valley. The title is "*Jennie's Journal: 1875 True Story of a Verde Valley Pioneer.*" Jennie's grandparents and her own parents immigrated from Missouri starting in 1875, and the book is documenting this historic journey of pioneer families who settled the Verde Valley. Wyona has spent many years gathering information for her book and is proud to present it to the public with a printing sometime in the near future. The purchase price will be \$19.95 and she will begin taking orders anytime. You can email her at [azwildflower7@aol.com](mailto:azwildflower7@aol.com) to reserve your copy. Part of the proceeds from the book will be donated to Beaver Creek Preservation and Historical Society.

### A Good Time Was Had By All!



Our Happy Birthday celebration was fun and educational! Don and Chris Godard portraying Lt. and Martha Summerhayes in the book, Vanished Arizona, entertained and educated all

who came to help us celebrate our 5th birthday on September 8th. We're looking forward to many more years of learning and historical adventures to share with everyone. Thank you all for your generous and continued support of our efforts.

### **BCPHS Board Members**

#### Language & Sentiment of Flowers

Bachelor's Button: Hope, blessedness	
Blue Bell: Constancy	
Buttercup: Riches	
Carnation: Pure and deep love	
Columbine: Anxious and trembling	
Daffodil: Unrequited love	
Garden Daisy: I Share Your Feelings	
Marigold: Sacred affection	
Rosebud: Confession of love	Tulip: Declaration of Love
Sunflower: False riches	Violet: Faithfulness
Sweet Pea: a Meeting	Zinnia: I mourn your absence

## ORAL HISTORY

By Judy McBride



It was an honor for me to meet Edward Bergman at the Rock School on July 27th. Edward was introduced to me by a mutual friend in Prescott and, of course, I invited him to visit the Rock School and reminisce. Edward was 10 years old when he attended Beaver Creek during the 1937-38 schoolyear. His teacher was Mr. McArthur and the class consisted of 5th-8th graders. Edward has fond memories of his teacher and still has a small wooden wastepaper basket he made under the guidance of Mr. McArthur. Edward shared that his teacher was also the bus driver and the route was from the school to McGuireville and back. Somehow it surprised me that he drove an actual yellow school bus. He didn't remember a wood stove but remembers not being cold while at school. He thinks the ceiling is the same and remembers having electricity but not recalling what kind of lighting was used. I was happy to be able to show him the original 1937 school register which listed Edward and his classmates. Edward's mother, Agnes Bergman, taught grades 1-4 during that same year. As we walked back from the rock school to the front of the campus, he recalled a major arroyo that would often flood since it was the main drainage area off of the high hill on the southwest side. Only in recent years has that flooding issue been corrected.

Edward attended NAU for undergraduate and graduate degrees. He knew Dean Despain because of vocational education classes in the summer. His best friend is Walt Shafer, Frank Shafer's brother, so he knows Verna. He worked for Yavapai College in Prescott and was instrumental in acquiring the first classroom buildings on the Clarkdale campus.

It was a great "walk down memory lane" with someone who attended Beaver Creek School 80 years ago!

#### Advice on Bathing

Upon rising, take a complete bath. Not more than a quart of water is necessary. No sponge is required. Rainwater is preferred. Use the hands, the same as you do upon the face. Use plenty of soap and wash quickly so as not to take a chill.