



Creating a future that includes the cultural traditions, historic places, working landscapes, and natural treasures of the Santa Cruz Valley!

The Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization dedicated to connecting people to the cultural, historic, and natural treasures of the Santa Cruz Valley through education, preservation and promotion of its unique resources. The Heritage Alliance is the local, grassroots organization that will manage the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area.



www.santacruzheritage.org

Santa Cruz Meanderings:

A bi-annual newsletter from the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance

Volume 2, Issue 1

April 2008

Date Set for Heritage Foods Workshop

The Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance presents *Tastes of the Santa Cruz Valley*, a heritage foods workshop scheduled for Saturday May 3rd at the Desert Diamond Casino. Join us for a day of savoring traditional regional foods.

Among our esteemed presenters are Dr. Jim Griffith, who will enlighten us about the history of the very foods we are eating for lunch, and Dr. Gary Nabhan who will share his work in regional food branding with Canyon Country Fresh.

Jesús Garcia from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum will share a taste of history in his discussion about the Kino Heritage Fruit Trees project and how



Native Americans used a metate to grind corn and other food.

Carolyn Reyes from the San Xavier Coop Farm will discuss some of the traditional Tohono O'Odham crops that have been grown for thousands of years, and how the San Xavier Coop Farm is growing and reintroducing these crops to families throughout the Tohono O'Odham Nation and the Santa Cruz Valley.

To kick off the session on finding and using local heritage foods, world-renowned chef Janos Wilder from Janos Restaurant and J Bar will discuss how he incorporates local foods into his unique menu.

Roxanne McElmell, co-organizer of the farmers' markets in Oro Valley and at St. Philip's Plaza in Tucson, will highlight the numerous farmers' markets available to consumers throughout the Santa Cruz Valley, and discuss the role of farmers' markets in the concept of Food for Community.

Barbara Rose will share her stories and techniques for harvesting food in the wild. Barbara has spent 23 years studying, harvesting, preparing and teaching about native foods and herbs with the Permaculture Drylands Institute, the Sonoran Herbal Institute, and the Dancing Rocks Community, where she lives.

Immediately following the workshop will be a two hour heritage foods exhibition. Workshop participants and the general public can sample and purchase heritage foods and learn about food-related projects from local non-profits.

Who: Local food producers, restaurants, grocers, food banks, non-profits, and the general public!

What: Tastes of the Santa Cruz Valley, a heritage foods workshop.

Where: Desert Diamond Casino, banquet rooms.

When: Sat. May 3, 2008
9am – 3pm Workshop, pre-registration is required.

3pm – 5pm Exhibition - heritage foods exhibits, samples, and sales, open to the public, registration is not required.

Cost: \$25.00 - registration required by April 23, 2008.



Quince tree in Sonora, Mexico.

they are growing trees that are descendants of quince, pomegranate and fig trees introduced to the Santa Cruz Valley by Padre Eusebio Kino in the 17th century.

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A Message from the President and Chairman of the Board of Directors

The question comes up often. Why is there both a President and a Chairman of the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance's Board of Directors? In a large sense, it is because our vision is a first for southern Arizona.

For the first time, it unites two counties, seven municipalities, two Native American tribes, and many nonprofit groups, civic organizations, businesses, farmers, ranchers, and other individual stakeholders in a common effort to create a future that includes the historic, cultural, and natural treasures that make the Santa Cruz Valley unique.

A key principle of this common vision is the concept of *voluntary preservation* of the heritage assets of our region. Other important principles include *security of property rights*, strengthening a sense of place through *heritage education*, and *local management*.

The latter principle is based on broad and equitable representation of jurisdictions, interest groups, and cultures within our region, and it is embodied in the diverse and rotating makeup of our volunteer Board of Directors.

More specifically, the answer is that the group of volunteers leading the way has also strived to

maintain balanced geographical representation of stakeholders in Pima and Santa Cruz counties. This balance was present in the participants of the initial working group meetings at Tubac Presidio State Historic Park in 2003, in the composition of the Board of Directors for the nonprofit Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance, created in 2004 and now meeting monthly in Green Valley, and even in the structure of the Board Officers.

And that is why we have team leadership, with a President from Santa Cruz County, and a Chairman from Pima County.

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Visit our website to learn more about Spanish missions and presidios, such as the Tumacácori and San Xavier del Bac missions. The *Spanish and Mexican Frontier* is just one of the ten distinctive stories of the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area.



Meet the Board! Featured member from our Board of Directors

Our featured member of the Board of Directors is Marty McCune. Marty is the Chair of our Board Development Committee.

Marty has spent more than 25 years working in historic preservation and cultural resource management in local government. She recently retired from the City of Tucson, where she served from 1996 to 2008 as the City's first Historic Preservation Officer, and developed a comprehensive cultural resource management program.

In 2001, Marty received Arizona's highest preservation honor when she was awarded the Grand Award – Arizona Heritage Preservation Honor Award.

Now retired, Marty and

her husband, Jerry Kyle, are promoting their new venture -- Skylark Consulting, which focuses on services in cultural resource management, historic preservation, museum exhibit and interpretive plan development, archival collection processing and management.

Marty has been involved in the development of the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area for several years. She is impressed with the grassroots nature of the effort and sees its importance for economic development and promotion of heritage tourism in the area. Several of the key projects she implemented in Tucson, such as the Tucson Origins Heritage Park and the Presidio San Agustín del

Tucson, will be cornerstone projects for the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area.

"The amazing diversity of our cultural and natural resources in this region need to be celebrated and the Heritage Area is a great way to accomplish that," says Marty.



Share Your Local Preservation Success Stories

As we are reminded daily of the problems and struggles we face in our community, our country and the world, here at the Heritage Alliance we like to focus on the positive by highlighting the numerous local preservation success stories that have been accomplished by the amazing people in our very own community.

Although we face many obstacles here in the Santa Cruz Valley, such as disappearing cultural resources and historic sites related to unprecedented growth rates, we also have an abundance of success stories that remind us of the diverse and plentiful efforts to preserve and promote our western heritage.

Through our website and our bi-annual newsletter, we share your stories about local preservation efforts related to the ten distinctive themes of the proposed Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area.

Past success stories have featured the reconstruction of the Presidio San Agustín del Tucson, which helps to educate the community about the Spanish and Mexican Frontier in the Santa Cruz Valley.

The Presidio is open to the public free of charge Wednesday-Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Marana Heritage Riverpark and Farm success story celebrates the agricultural traditions on the Santa Cruz Valley, which date back 4,000 years! The 10-acre farm is a



project of the Community Food Bank and the Town of Marana, which strives to provide healthy, locally-grown food to the community, and honors the agricultural heritage of the many people who have farmed the Marana area over the centuries.

We invite you to share your preservation success story with us, so we can share it with our mem-

bers and supporters via our website and newsletter.

Local preservation success stories should be tied to one of the following ten themes of the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area:

1. Sky Islands and Desert Seas
2. Streams in the Desert
3. Bird Habitats and Migration Routes
4. Native American Lifeways
5. Desert Farming
6. Ranching Traditions
7. Spanish and Mexican Frontier
8. Mining Booms
9. U.S. Military Posts on the Mexico Border
10. U.S.-Mexico Border Culture

Visit www.santacruzheritage.org to learn more about these ten themes, which are also referred to as Heritage Experiences.

Please share your article or story idea by contacting Vanessa Bechtol at vanessa@santacruzheritage.org or (520) 429-1394.

Message from President and Chairman: continued from page 2.

To maintain this balance well into the future, we invite participation on our Board of Directors by any stakeholder group or representative from a geographic area that may not currently feel represented on our Board. The rotating nature of our Board allows for constant influx of new voices, new ideas, and new representation.

Please visit our website www.santacruzheritage.org to see our current list of Board members and their respective affiliations.

On behalf of the rest of the Board of Directors, we thank you for sharing our vision of a common future of voluntary heritage preservation, education, and promotion in the two counties that share the Santa Cruz Valley!

Paula Schaper, Board President and Santa Cruz County resident.
paula@santacruzheritage.org

Jonathan Mabry, Board Chairman and Pima County resident.
jonathan@santacruzheritage.org

* Paula Schaper is owner of West-WordVision in Patagonia. Jonathan Mabry is the Historic Preservation Officer for the City of Tucson.

Legislative Update: Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area Act of 2007

In October 2007 the U.S. House of Representatives approved the omnibus bill H.R. 1483, which includes the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area Act. Although the legislation moved through the House in a timely manner, it has not progressed in the Senate because neither Senator Kyl nor Senator McCain have taken a position on the legislation.

Now, more than ever, we need your help in getting the Santa Cruz Valley designated as a National Heritage Area. Please call our Senators and ask them to support the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area legislation.

Senator Jon Kyl (202) 224-4521
Senator John McCain (202) 224-2235

In your phone calls and letters to our Senators, highlight the significant economic benefits of designating the region as a National Heritage Area.

Designating a Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area can help the tourism industry continue to significantly contribute to Arizona's economic development.

According to the Metropolitan Tucson Convention and Visitors Bureau, tourism has a \$2.3 billion economic impact on Tucson annually and provides 40,000 tourism-related jobs. Surveys indicate that the unique culture and nature related activities that visitors to Tucson experience is far above the national norm.

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Heritage foods workshop: continued from front page.

The \$25 registration fee covers materials for the workshop, a copy of the heritage foods directory when published, and a special lunch featuring heritage foods, provided by Agave Restaurant.

The workshop is hosted by the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance. For more information email us at

heritagefood@santacruzheritage.org
or call (520) 429-1394, or visit
[www.santacruzheritage.org/foods/
workshop](http://www.santacruzheritage.org/foods/workshop) to see the draft workshop
agenda and partial list of vendors and
exhibitors for the food exhibition.

Please use the registration form below to sign-up for this special day of savoring local heritage foods!



White tepary beans.

Complete registration form and mail with payment to: Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance, P.O. Box 3445 Tucson, AZ 85722.

Name(s):

Address: _____

Phone:* _____ **Email:*** _____

*Please provide a phone number or email address in case there are any changes to location or date of workshop.

I'd also like to become a member of the Heritage

Total amount enclosed: _____ Make checks payable to Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance

Total amount enclosed: _____ Please make checks payable to Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance.

Check here if you need a vegetarian lunch: Yes

I am a (please check all that apply):

Farmer _____ Rancher _____ Other producer _____ Chef _____ Restaurant owner _____ Food bank _____
Food-related nonprofit _____ Grocer _____ Interested citizen _____ Other (describe) _____

Environmental Education Abundant in Santa Cruz County

By Cynthia Shoemaker

Generations of people have been coming to live in the upper Santa Cruz River Valley. The original inhabitants, Native Americans, were drawn to the location because of its life giving resource, water. More recent populations have been attracted by its unique beauty, history, and cultural diversity.

As the population continues to grow, both its water and natural beauty are being threatened. Protecting these resources is becoming an increasingly important issue in the diverse communities this region encompasses. One important way to ensure the stewardship of its resources is through environmental education. Recognizing this, community members and institutions have created an unmatched range of opportunities for an area of its size.

Tumacácori National Historical Park (TNHP), located in the heart of Santa Cruz County, is the site of several education programs. In addition to the historical and cultural displays, the park works in partnership with the Friends of the Santa Cruz River (FOSCR) and the Santa Cruz River, Its People and Environment (SCRIPE) program. Over the years thousands of students have participated in activities focused around the river. Included are hands-on river field trips incorporating water science, bird watching, and natural history. The park also hosts Junior Ranger Day.

Professional development and curricula for teachers and field trips lead by water scientists and historians such as Phil Halpenny and Don Garate are offered for adults at TNHP. These programs not only study Arizona



Students from Mary Welty School conduct water tests at Tumacácori National Historical Park during a river education day sponsored by SCRIBE and organized by Park Ranger Roy Simpson.

but also examine the community's relationship with Mexico. Recognized for their excellence, these activities have drawn teachers, university professors and students, park docents, State water professionals, as well as the general public. River walks are also offered to the public on weekends during the winter and spring.

Sonoita Creek State Natural Area, located in Patagonia is unique and its geography rare. Within a small area exist seven distinctively different vegetation zones, ranging from Semi-Desert Grasslands to Riparian Deciduous Forest. This park provides a diverse choice of programs

including birding and natural history boat tours on Patagonia Lake, bird walks, and hikes, including one to Coal Mine Spring where the endangered Gila Topminnow is found.

Healthy Water, an environmental education field trip, is offered to students in the 3rd - 6th grades. The focus of the Healthy Water program, which is supported by the Friends of Sonoita Creek, is water quality, wildlife habitat, and protection.

Another environmental education opportunity located in the Sonoita Creek watershed is The Nature Conservancy's Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve. It is the site of one of the first initiatives to create community based programs to promote understanding and support for conservation in southern Arizona.

Visitors here can learn about the rare Fremont cottonwood-Goosetong willow riparian forest that the Pre-

Continued on page 6

Become a Member Today!

Your support is needed to help us carry out our vision of creating a future that includes the cultural traditions, historic places and natural treasures of the Santa Cruz Valley!

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your tax deductible donation and become a member of the Heritage Alliance today.

Legislative Update: continued from page 4.

Santa Cruz County's annual average unemployment rate of 7.8% is well above the national average of 4.9%. If the Santa Cruz Valley NHA is designated and achieves the success of other Heritage Areas, we should expect the number of tourism-related jobs to double, thereby improving the unemployment rate in Santa Cruz County.

For additional contact information for our Senators or quick facts about the Heritage Area designation, please visit our website www.santacruzheritage.org/takeaction.



**National Heritage
Area designations
help preserve
distinctive local
traditions and
cultural landscapes
that integrate
regions and make
them unique.**



Environmental Education: continued from page 5.

serve protects and the many species of birds which call it home. There are tours at the Preserve every Saturday. It also provides a venue for environmental education programs arranged for students.

A newcomer on the scene of environmental education is the Santa Fe Ranch, located in Nogales. Operating as a private family foundation, its mission is to advance issues in education, agricultural research, and environmental conservation using the 3,500-acre ranch as the primary location for activities.

A pilot program has begun with Santa Cruz School District 28 for K-8 students incorporating outdoor educational activities. In addition, the ranch is also available for independent studies and programs relat-

ing to agriculture and environmental education. Plans include a nature trail as well as river and land conservation programs for adults.

These are just some of the many environmental education programs taking



place in this, the smallest county in Arizona. It does not include the many projects implemented by local educators independently or with support from people such as Diane Austin and her cadre of graduate students of the University of Arizona's Bureau for Applied Research in Anthro-

pology. These projects include trash cleanup, school yard habitats, gardens, revegetation, and cooperation and sharing between students and educators on both sides of the border.

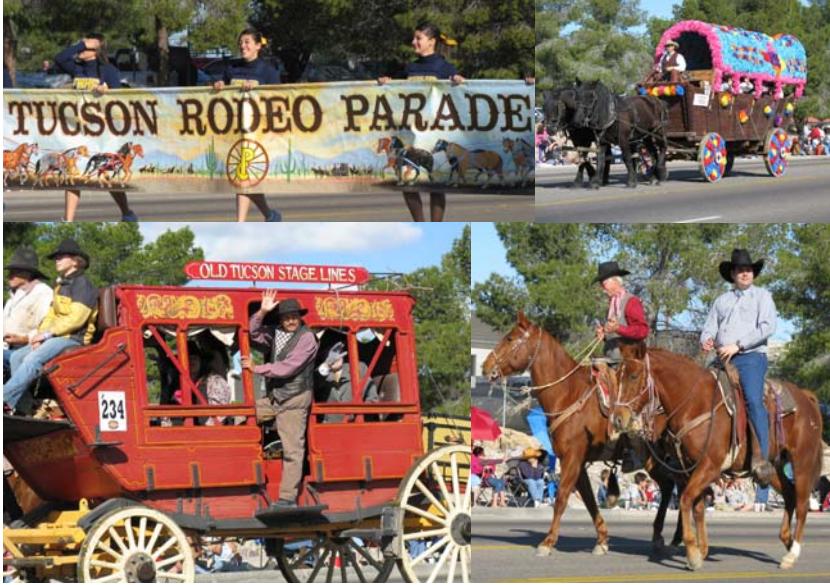
For more information about environmental education programs, contact: Cynthia Shoemaker, SCRIBE cshoe@mindspring.com 520-327-9740

Roy Simpson, TNHP
roy_simpson@nps.gov
520-398-2341

Jennifer Parks, Sonoita Creek State Natural Area
jparks@azstateparks.gov
520-287-2791

John A. Sedgwick
Santa Fe Ranch
johnasedgwick@surfglobal.net
520-287-7051

Scenes from the 2008 Tucson Rodeo Parade!



Clockwise from left: students carry the Tucson Rodeo Parade banner; Crosstown Traders; Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords; Councilman Rodney Glassman (right) and friend; Old Tucson Stage Lines.

Heritage Lodging and Heritage Attractions

In January we launched our Heritage Business membership program as a way to highlight local businesses that promote the rich cultural and natural heritage of the Santa Cruz Valley. Join us in welcoming our newest Heritage Business members by visiting these heritage lodgings and heritage attractions throughout the region.

Heritage Lodging Flying V Ranch

Nestled in Ventana Canyon and surrounded by the Santa Catalina Mountains is the historic Flying V Ranch. The Flying V is the oldest continuously operated guest ranch in the Tucson area and maintains six cottages with kitchenettes. Learn more about the Flying V Ranch at www.flyingvranchtucson.com

Tubac Country Inn

Situated in the heart of Tubac and just steps from the Santa Cruz River, the Tubac Country Inn offers five spacious guest rooms. Whether your interest is arts, history, adventure or just rest and relaxation, the Inn will help you plan your getaway. Visit www.tubaccountryinn.com for more information.

Heritage Attractions & Outings Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum

The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is a world-renowned zoo, natural history museum and botanical garden, all in one place. Their mission is to "inspire people to live in harmony with the natural world by fostering love, appreciation, and understanding of the Sonoran Desert." Visit www.desertmuseum.org.

Western National Parks Association

Founded in 1938, Western National Parks Association promotes preservation of the national park system and its resources by creating greater public appreciation through education, interpretation, and research. They operate bookstores at 65 National Park Service sites throughout the western United States, and also maintain an online store. Visit www.wnpa.org to learn more.

Are you a "heritage" business? Visit the Members page on our new website www.santacruzheritage.org to learn how our Heritage Business Membership offers local businesses an opportunity to promote their heritage business while also supporting local efforts to promote the rich heritage of the Santa Cruz Valley.

Que Pasa? Calendar of Heritage Events

Throughout the year there are numerous heritage-based events occurring in the Santa Cruz Valley. From annual festivals, to lecture series, to religious ceremonies, visit our Heritage Events web page to find out what's happening www.santacruzheritage.org/events.

Here are a few upcoming heritage events where you can learn about the history, culture, and natural resources of the region.

Tumacácori Centennial Lecture Series

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Tumacácori National Historical Park by President Theodore Roosevelt on September 15, 1908, a full year of events are planned to take place throughout 2008, including a monthly Centennial Lecture Series. As part of the lecture series, Jesus

Garcia will present "Tasting History: The Kino Heritage Fruit Trees Project" on May 16. For more information call the park at 520-398-2341 or visit www.nps.gov/tuma.

La Frontera Tucson International Mariachi Conference

April 23 - 26, 2008. The La Frontera Tucson International Mariachi Conference is a week-long event showcasing the greats of mariachi and baile folklorico.



Santa Cruz County Horse Races

The 93rd running of the Sonoita Horse Races will be at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds located at 3142 South Highway 83 (1/4 mile

south of intersection 82 & 83) in Sonoita. The races will be held on April 26-27 and May 3-4.

Fiesta de las Aves

The eighth annual Fiesta de las Aves ("Festival of the Birds") International Migration Celebration is April 27 - May 3. The festival will include a variety of activities for birders and other wildlife enthusiasts.

Preservation on the Line

The 6th Annual Statewide Historic Preservation Partnership Conference will take place in Rio Rico on June 12-14, 2008. The Heritage Alliance is hosting a session titled National Heritage Areas: Celebrating Heritage and Empowering Communities. To register for the conference or see the full conference program, visit www.azpreservation.com.



Santa Cruz Valley HERITAGE ALLIANCE

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520.429.1394 or email
info@santacruzheritage.org

Sundays are for Dreamers, benefit concert at La Misión

You are cordially invited to join the Heritage Alliance at La Misión de San Miguel in Patagonia for the *Sundays are for Dreamers* concert series.

This special Cinco de Mayo celebration is a great way to support the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance and learn about our rich cultural heritage, while also enjoying good food and music.

What: Sundays are for Dreamers, Cinco de Mayo Celebration to benefit the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance.

When: Sun. May 4, 2008, noon - 5p.m.

Where: La Misión de San Miguel, 335 McKeown, Patagonia.

Cost: \$10 cover.

Starting at 1:00p.m. the Last Call Girls, a fabulous Tucson band featuring "rockabilly, squawkabilly, and hillbilly

dance" music, will provide the entertainment as we celebrate Cinco de Mayo a day early.

In addition to their full bar, La Misión de San Miguel will have an educational tequila tasting, delicious margaritas, and a special Mexican menu of carne asada and other treats.

A portion of the revenue from the tequila tasting will be donated to the Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance, so please gather your friends and family and join us in Patagonia for great food, great tequila, and great music!

For directions or additional information about the *Sundays are for Dreamers* concert series, visit La Misión's website at www.lamisionpatagonia.com.