

# talking sun



Newsletter of the Smoki Museum of American Indian Art and Culture • November/December, 2005 • Volume 9, No.6

## Christmas Around the Kiva *Indian Art "Mini-market" Features Five Artists*

Our staff of amazing elves has been working overtime this year. They've been preparing for Christmas Around the Kiva, coming up this December 3 & 4. The event will feature five Indian artists displaying their hand-crafted artwork, a Hopi Indian flutist, a sale in the Museum gift shop, and Christmas treats and refreshments.

The featured artists for this special event vary in talent and background. Scheduled to participate are Navajo painter, Virgil Nez; Santo Domingo artists, Sammy and Mavis Garcia; Hopi carver and flutist, Wallace Hyeoma; and Navajo weaver, Nanaba Aragon. Hyeoma will provide soothing Indian flute music throughout the weekend. Each artist will display, sell and demonstrate their unique craft and creations. See Artist Profiles box to the right.

A delicious Christmas spread of foods will be available. Hot apple cider, hors d'oeuvres, and Christmas treats make this event a warm holiday experience.

The Museum gift shop will have a special Christmas sale of 10% off all purchases for the general public during this weekend only (Museum members receive a 20% discount). The Trading Post features genuine hand-crafted Indian jewelry, carvings, paintings, weavings, ceramics and much more. Unique gift cards and games and toys for children are also available. Admission to this event is free.

### Christmas Around the Kiva Schedule

**Friday, December 2, 4:00 p.m.**

Members' Preview opens up the Trading Post sale to our members for a first glance at all the new treats for the weekend. Hot cider and holiday refreshments will be served. Live music.

**Saturday/Sunday, December 3/4, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Christmas Around the Kiva features five Indian artists, a sale in the Trading Post and holiday refreshments. Live flute music.

### Christmas Around the Kiva *Artist Profiles*

#### **Virgil Nez**

Virgil Nez was born in Pinon on the Navajo Reservation. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Illustration and Painting from Northern Arizona. Since 1992, he has won awards and been featured in Indian art markets throughout the Southwest, including the Santa Fe Indian Market, Museum of Northern Arizona, and the Pueblo Grande Museum Indian Market.

Nez's unique style of watercolor, pastel, oil, and acrylic is contemporary. More about Nez and photos of his work are available on his website at [www.navajoart.bizland.com](http://www.navajoart.bizland.com).

#### **Sammy & Mavis Garcia**

Sammy Garcia was born in the Santo Domingo Pueblo Indian Reservation in New Mexico. He learned his craft of silversmithing as a young man from his father. He cuts, shapes and polishes his own turquoise stones to create bola ties, pendants, bracelets and earrings. His wife, Mavis, is from the Goshute Indian Reservation in Nevada. She works with glass beads and hand-rolls turquoise heshi.

They have both presented at various Indian art markets throughout the Southwest, including the Eiteljorg Indian Market, Santa Fe Indian Market, Colorado Indian Market & Western Showcase, and Indian Art Northwest.

#### **Wallace Hyeoma**

A Hopi artist and educator, Wallace Hyeoma was born and raised in Shungopovi village on Second Mesa on the Hopi Reservation. He carves traditional-style katsina dolls and paints designs on gourd pins, river rocks and sandstone slabs in addition to doing musical performances with his flutes.

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# director's corner

Some four years ago, as I was first stepping into the role of Museum Director here, I published a Director's Corner article which made a sort of New Year's Resolution for the Museum. I indicated the need for more interactive exhibits and a stronger connection and collaboration with Native American tribes in the Southwest.

I'm proud of our staff, volunteers and our Board of Trustees because those resolutions have been met and we continue to make them our focus. That says a lot about this community of people who work so hard for common purpose.

Despite the fact that I'm two months early, I'd like to unveil my New Year's Resolutions and Hopes for the Museum in 2006. I hope by this time next year we can look back and say that these things have been accomplished. Given the dedication of the crew we have here, I feel strongly that that will be the case.

- The Museum publishes a comprehensive Strategic Plan with ambitious vision. The document is a result of close working relationships between the Native American community, our members, our volunteers, and the community at large.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Native American Arts Festival (May 13-14, for those of you who are counting) features exciting new artists and performers, and is led down the path to success by an Indian Artist Advisory Board.
- After successful completion of the AAM Museum Assessment Program, the Museum finds itself in position, for the first time in its history, to apply for Accreditation.
- A project is underway that turns the Museum's grounds into a well-designed educational Native Gardens exhibit, which focuses on foliage native to this area and its uses by indigenous cultures.
- The Museum continues to be a focal point in our community for learning, discussing and gaining greater insight into the native peoples of the Southwest.
- Our overall resources, by which I primarily mean funding and volunteers, have increased enough to handle these and other projects which keep the Museum active and exciting for the community and visitors to our area.

**L. John Tannous**  
**Director**



## Our Mission

The mission of the Smoki Museum is to instill an understanding and respect for indigenous cultures of the Southwest.

## Contact

www.smokimuseum.org  
info@smokimuseum.org • (928) 445-1230  
147 North Arizona St., Prescott, AZ 86301  
Regular hours: 10am-4pm Mon-Sat  
1pm-4pm Sunday (Open Year Round)

## Board of Trustees

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Goodie Berquist  
Joanne Cavett  
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Donald Nelson, Hopi  
Rosanda Suetopka Thayer, Hopi

## Memberships

Student \$15  
Individual \$20  
Family \$25

More membership levels and additional information available by calling the Museum during regular hours or going to the website: [www.smokimuseum.org](http://www.smokimuseum.org)

# smoki museum calendar of coming events

*Two Special Exhibits Throughout November/December*

*And Then They Danced: Cross-Cultural Perspectives on the Smoki People*

## **& The Puzzle of Ancient Prescott: Pieces from Coyote Ruin**

Exhibitions remain open in the Museum during regular hours:

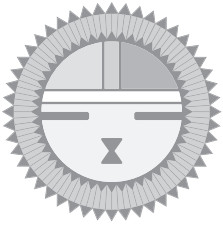
Monday thru Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. & Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 3	6:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Saturday, November 12	6:00 p.m.	<b>4th Annual Wine Tasting Fund Raiser:</b> our brightest party of the year! For tickets, CALL (928) 445-1230 <i>See article on back page.</i>
Tuesday, November 15	4:00 p.m.	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Hassayampa Inn
Thursday, November 24	Museum Closed	Happy Thanksgiving
Thursday, December 1	6:00 p.m.	Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, December 2	4:00 p.m.	<b>Member's Preview:</b> A members-only preview of the Trading Post SALE. Giving you the chance to pick up the best new items of the weekend before the public has a look! Refreshments served. <i>See article on front page.</i>
Saturday / Sunday, December 3 & 4		<b>Christmas Around the Kiva:</b> Indian art "mini-market" features five distinct Indian guest artists, a 20% member's discount in the Trading Post and holiday refreshments. <i>See article on front page.</i>
December	All Month	The Museum Trading Post remains open daily for your holiday shopping needs!
Sunday, December 25	Museum Closed	Merry Christmas!
Sunday, January 1	Museum Closed	Happy New Year!
Monday, January 2- Sunday, January 15	Museum Closed	Museum annual cleaning and repairs. Re-opens full time, seven days a week beginning Monday, January 16.



The 2006 Calendar of Events will be mailed to all Museum members in January.

Be sure to sign up for our e-mail notification list, too! E-mail us at [info@smokimuseum.org](mailto:info@smokimuseum.org) today to add your e-mail to the list!



## Curtis Works in December

By Elynn F. Colaianni

Westward expansion of Anglo civilization had a devastating and irrevocable effect on the lives and cultures of the North American Indians. As Native peoples were driven off their land and away from their homes, their customs, beliefs and lifestyles were carried off with them in the form of crafts, songs, stories, ceremonies and dances. Little testimony of the American Indian's diverse life ways was ever produced by Indian historians. This forced migration threatened the stability of an entire race.

In 1900, recognizing this threat, Edward Sheriff Curtis, a Seattle-based portrait photographer, commenced a staggeringly ambitious project to formally document the North American Indian. Curtis traveled the North American West from the Rio Grande to the Arctic Circle for a period of over thirty years, photographing, recording and documenting the modes of life of more than eighty Indian tribes.

The artist lived among the tribes of the desert, the plains and the mountains slowly gaining their confidence through repeat visits. He commonly traveled by horse-drawn wagon or packhorse, an arduous task considering the view camera, glass-plate negatives and bottles of chemicals the photographer required in order to continue his work. Written



Edward Sheriff Curtis, 1888

accounts, photographic images and audio recordings were the methods utilized by Curtis to produce the ethnographic research that resulted in twenty volumes of text, over 40,000 photographs and 10,000 wax cylinders of songs. However, Curtis' dedication did not come without great personal sacrifice. Family instability, ailing physical health and financial crisis jeopardized the completion of the

project. Fortunately, with support from President Theodore Roosevelt and funding from financier J.P. Morgan, Curtis was able to accomplish his monumental undertaking. The result of Curtis' work and intense travels was his twenty-volume work titled, *The North American Indian*.

This December the Museum will feature a re-installation of select works by Curtis. The Smoki Museum's collection of forty-nine Curtis photogravures will be rotated through a permanent exhibit on the artist. Be sure to visit the galleries soon to learn more about this renowned artist.

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### Artist Profiles from page 1

Hyeoma regularly gives presentations to touring groups that visit the Hopi Reservation and was a guest artist at the Smoki Museum in 2003.

### Nanaba Aragon

Nanaba Aragon was taught to weave by her mother while she was very young. Sitting beside her mother, she learned skill, patience, and spirituality involved in the Navajo way of life. She also learned weaving songs, blessing way songs, stories, and the meaning of Navajo Beauty Way, all before learning her first English word.

Her specialties include weaving, sand painting, sewing, making dolls, jewelry, and story telling. She has over 25 years experience in teaching and demonstrating throughout the country, including at the Arizona Commission of the Arts, Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonials in Gallup, New Mexico, Santa Fe Indian Market, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Heard Museum, Phoenix.

She has received many awards for her work. She was asked to design a Christmas ornament for the White House in 2001. She was a featured demonstrator at the Navajo Pavilion, Salt Lake City Olympics in 2002. Her awards for weaving are too numerous to detail here, but they include museums across the entire United States.



## trading post report

Hope to see you at Christmas Around the Kiva!

**Janet Shaw, Trading Post Manager**

It is September as I write this and I am having a difficult time projecting my mind to the end of the year and thinking November/December newsletter.

It shouldn't be difficult to project ahead; the Trading Post Team and I are already preparing for Christmas Around the Kiva. With the smell of hot cider in the air mixed with the sounds of Native American flute music, it is a relaxing evening we all look forward to. It is the Museum's gift to you.

For me the best and busiest part of Christmas Around the Kiva is the Trading Post sale. **All members get an additional discount – for a total of 20% off - everything in the Trading Post.**

In order to prepare for this special evening, **the museum will close its door at 3:00 on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.** We will then reopen promptly at 4:00. Our old-time



members know to take advantage of this event to get the best selection. Many items are one of a kind and many handmade items are available in limited quantities. We will, however, extend our 20% off to members and a 10% off to non-members on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

In a few weeks we will be attending the IACA (Indian Arts & Crafts Association) show to search for the unusual. Between now and Christmas we will be continually stocking our shelves with Navajo folk art, Mata Ortiz, baskets, artwork as well as Navajo, Hopi, Santo Domingo, Zuni jewelry and other surprises.

If you haven't had a chance to see our new exhibit, *And Then They Danced: Cross-Cultural Reflections on the Smoki People*, this would be a good time. We will also have available for sale the new reissue, in new format, the publication, *The Smoki People*, written by Bruce D. Fee and John E. (Danny) Freeman.

### **A JOURNEY TO MATA ORTIZ, MEXICO March 24-27, 2006**

The Smoki Museum, in collaboration with Nature Treks & Passages, offers a four-day cultural tour of the Mata Ortiz/Casas Grandes Region.

The tour travels to Mata Ortiz – a rural Northern Mexico town that is also a busy, successful village of very talented potters. See how the pottery is made and experience the home-spun hospitality of the town.

An extra feature of the trip is a visit to the Amerind Foundation in Dragoon, a private anthropological and archaeological Museum and Research Center dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Native American cultures.

The price of this 4-day, 3-night trip is \$949 based on double occupancy (add \$100 for single occupancy). This includes van transportation from Prescott, guides, meals, entrance fees, tips, insurance and

accommodations. A US passport valid beyond March 6 is required.

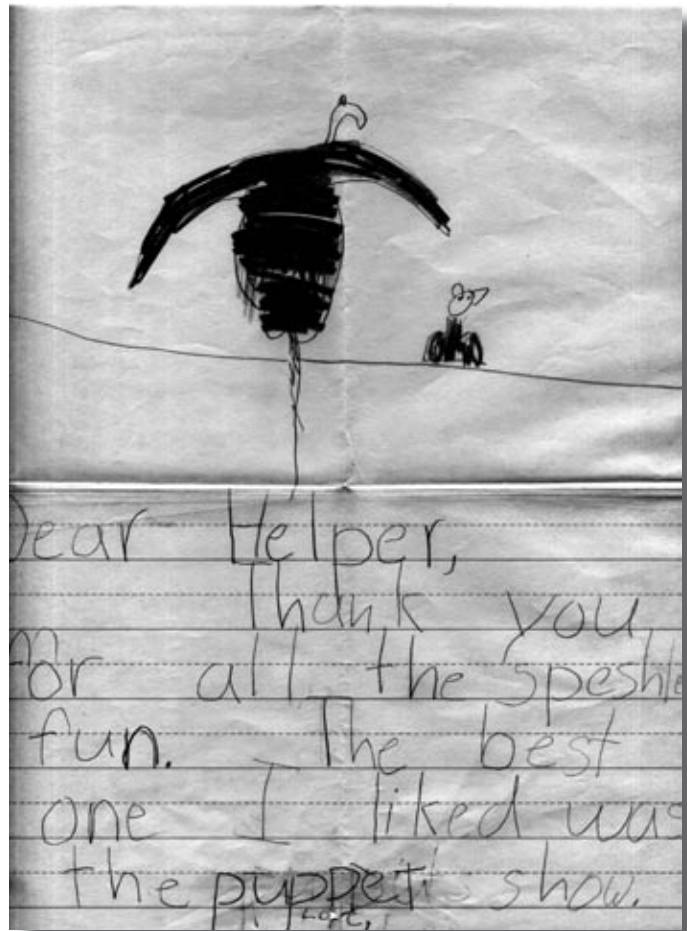
Our tour guide, Rochelle Gerratt, leads Natural History tours for Sierra Club International Outings and her own company, Nature Treks and Passages. She has over 15 years experience leading environmentally oriented trips in 8 US states and 5 countries.

To register for this tour, contact Rochelle Gerratt at [info@naturetreks.net](mailto:info@naturetreks.net) or call (520) 696-2002 for a registration packet. A deposit of \$150 per person is required to reserve a spot on the trip. Full payment of the tour fee is due by December 23. If you have any questions, please call (520) 696-2002.

Refunds are made according to the following schedule. Cancellations in writing made more than 90 days before departure will forfeit \$150. Cancellations made 70 to 90 days before departure will forfeit 50% of the trip price. There is no refund for trips cancelled less than 70 days before departure.



Museum Docents put on puppet shows at Del Rio elementary school this past Spring.



## Volunteer Profile: Ginger Johnson

By Lynn Bischoff

Even though Ginger holds a BA and an MA in English Literature, she chose instead to explore other interests following college. This led to a 27 year career in property management and the resort business, 14 years of which were working for the Keystone Resort in Colorado. In 1988 Ginger retired from Keystone and moved to Prescott, providing her the time to pursue other interests. Arizona's Archeological Society soon caught her attention, beckoning her to become more involved with her lifelong love of antiquity and The Great Outdoors. Today, three local prehistoric Indian sites and several out-of-area sites owe their preservation and protection to Ginger because of her dedicated commitment to Arizona's Site Steward Program.

Ginger's involvement and contributions to the Museum began in 1991. Beginning by teaching a class on Prescott's prehistory to the current docents, she followed this up by writing booklets on

Prescott's Prehistory, Kate Cory, and Baskets, all still in use today. Then in 2000 Ginger became the museum's co-librarian.

Over the years Ginger has worn many hats in the Museum: she's a docent, a volunteer on the visitor services desk, a trainer of docents, a former member of the Board of Directors, and a librarian who has witnessed an amazing transformation of our library, much of which is a direct result of her untiring effort and dedication to the museum.

Just as remarkable as Ginger's life has been so far is the fact that she has recently undergone hip replacement surgery which was preceded by major heart surgery earlier this year. And, not surprisingly, she looks forward to returning to her prehistoric sites when her hip has totally healed and, who knows, maybe even traveling East to do some more research on Kate Cory.

What a woman! The Smoki Museum is indebted to her wealth of experience.



# volunteers and support



## Volunteers of the Month: August & September



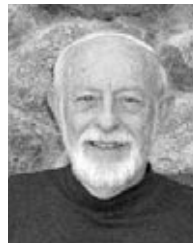
**Our Visitor Services Volunteer** of the Month for August is **Eleanor Pugh**. During her many years of volunteer service, Eleanor has been one of the undisputed leaders of our Museum, both an official and unofficial role. Over those years, she's trained just about every volunteer and staff member who has worked at the Smoki. She currently serves as the coordinator of the Mentor program, and is the Secretary of the new Volunteer Advisory Council.



**Our Visitor Services Volunteer** of the Month for September is **Peggy Clement**. Peggy's always helping out wherever she can. Each year she's an important part of our Docent training sessions, helping to coordinate and monitor the classes. Peggy also serves at the Visitor Services desk and helps prepare for every Volunteer Meeting. Lately, she's taken on the role of shopping for supplies and refreshments for our volunteers.



**Our Behind the Scenes Volunteer** of the Month for August is **Bill Orban**. Bill's hands-on work with the Coyote Ruin exhibit and the smashing new jewelry display has been top-notch. He brings a level of high-quality finish work to the Museum that truly sets the bar higher. Bill is always offering assistance and ideas for Museum programs. Of late, he has been working hard on the upcoming exhibition, *And Then They Danced*.



**Our Behind the Scenes Volunteer** of the Month for September is **Ron Ricklefs**. Ron has just recently joined our team and brings with him a wealth of experience that is invaluable to Museum staff. He's become the resident expert with our collections management database software, regularly updating this important program. Ron also digitizes old photos for use in exhibits and other Museum projects.

### Volunteer Opportunities Section

#### Library

The Joanne Cline Research Library is looking for energetic volunteers to help organize, catalog and manage our research collection and growing archives.

#### Volunteer Coordinator

We are seeking an out-going volunteer to help coordinate volunteer activities, schedules and data.

#### Trading Post Team

Assist with our gift shop, making displays, assisting buyers, and helping customers. See the latest Native creations!

#### Grants Team

The Team is looking for an Administrative Assistant to help with filing, schedules and record keeping.

#### Visitor Services

Welcome & orient visitors, 3-hour shift. Training available!

*And many more opportunities exist! To inquire about these opportunities or others, please call JT Tannous at (928) 445-1230.*

## Smoki Support

#### Visitor Services

- Anne Angus
- Gary Baumert
- Nancy Berquist
- Kay Buffington
- Regina Butt
- Beth Card
- Ray Carlson
- Peggy Clement
- Denise Excell
- Linda Farrer
- Cindy Gresser
- Betty Guyer
- Gayle Heron
- Bob Hughes
- Bob Johnson

- Mary Keegan
- Carol Keskimaki
- Charlie Krauskopf
- Joan Krauskopf
- Mitch Mackey
- Carolyn Mason
- Milbeth Mauer
- Lani McDonald
- Joan Mead
- Mary Ann Orban
- Jody Orr
- Joan Peterson
- Dave & Gwen Polhemus
- Phil Preble
- Nancy Puckette
- Neil Schortinghuis

- Marion Schrum
  - Alice Sehnert
  - Janet Shaw
  - Nancy Snow
  - Sara Werner
  - Sue Wilson
  - Vic Zinda
- Behind the Scenes**
- Nanabah Aragon
  - Goodie Berquist
  - Lynn Bischoff
  - Joanne Cavett
  - Andy Christensen
  - Jim Christopher
  - Michael Cohee

- Dick Harrison
- Genny Ingram
- Ginger Johnson
- Rebecca Leatherwood
- Mary McNay
- Gerry Newbanks
- Don Ogden
- Jeff Ogg
- Bill Orban
- Dave Palmer
- Eleanor Pugh
- Ron Ricklefs
- Tom Robbins
- Barbara Robinson
- Kent Robinson
- John Rollo

- Charlie Scardino
  - Bob Seng
  - Rosanda Suetopka-Thayer
  - Jim Swenson
  - Wally & Joan Warren
  - Bette & Phil Winkelstern
  - Linda Young
- New Volunteers**
- Genny Ingram
  - Gerry Newbanks
  - Nancy Snow



## The Brightest Party of the Year 4th Annual Wine Tasting Fund Raiser

Unlike any other wine tasting event you've attended, the Smoki Museum's annual Wine Tasting fund raiser sets the bar higher. This year's party will feature a full four-course dinner. Each course will be served alongside some fantastic samplings of the very best wine Arizona has to offer. Colibri Vineyards will again provide some of their popular wines, as will other Arizona winemakers.

The Hassayampa Inn will again be the elegant backdrop for the Wine Tasting on Saturday, November 12, at 6pm. We have limited seating

this year in order to better provide a satisfying experience to our guests, so be sure to get your tickets fast!

Our featured performer will be Navajo flutist, Michael Goodluck, who made a very strong impression with audiences at our Native American Arts Festival in May. A silent auction will feature Indian art, collectibles and local treats and treasures.

Tickets for the event are ON SALE NOW in the Museum Trading Post. Check our website for further updates and ticket prices. Tickets can be also be purchased by calling (928) 445-1230.



American Indian Art and Culture  
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[www.smokimuseum.org](http://www.smokimuseum.org)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED