

# TIME LINES



## New Displays Highlight Rough Riders and the Cotton Industry

When the Tempe History Museum underwent major renovations in 2009-2010, an important ingredient for the new exhibit space was to have the flexibility to change and update displays. Recently, the opportunity arose for the museum to change portions of the *Building Our Community* section to tell a little-known story of the Tempe men who volunteered to join Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Rider regiment during the war with Spain in 1898. In 2011, volunteers re-discovered a set of uniforms in the museum's collection that almost certainly belonged to one of Tempe's Rough Riders. Incidentally, the museum also had a section of wall saved from Tempe's Laird & Dines Drug Store on which were written the names of Tempe men who served in that conflict in 1898 and the war in the Philippines in 1899.

When the museum began to implement changes to its main exhibit hall in 2012, it made sense to tell the story of Tempe's Rough Riders. While displaying the portion of wall itself is not yet feasible (it is extremely heavy), a high quality image of the wall is now on exhibit with a figure wearing the Rough Rider uniform. To help convey the sense of the young soldier as he prepared to fight the Spanish Army in Cuba, the museum borrowed a Krag Carbine (a short cavalry rifle) from the Arizona Historical Society. The Tempe Rough Rider is holding onto his carbine and ready to charge up San Juan Hill. (They actually charged on foot, not on horseback.)

It was also the perfect time to highlight another nearly forgotten facet of Tempe history, the great cotton boom of the 1910s. Pima long-staple cotton became the basis for a massive agricultural industry in the Salt River Valley after Roosevelt Dam was built. The sudden rise of cotton farming resulted from the needs of the American tire industry (cotton was used to strengthen the

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Rough Rider display featuring a uniform and the photograph of a wall segment inscribed with the names of the Tempeans who served in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection.

## Exhibits

### Changing Gallery

#### *From House Calls to Hospitals*

Even though Arizona was remote in the late 19th century, local doctors followed advances in medical practice. Discover how Tempe doctors went beyond health care to make significant contributions to Tempe and Arizona. The exhibit spans from Tempe's early beginnings until the opening of its first hospital. Through August 13, 2013.

### Community Room

#### *Ebb and Flow: Changing Views of the Salt River*

This photography exhibit visually explores Tempe's relationship with the Salt River over the past 130 years. March 5 to August 4, 2013.



Music on the Menu, a free concert held on Saturday, November 17 featured musicians from the **Arizona School for the Arts Music Program** and the **Herberger String Quartet**.



**Colin O'Donohoe** and his son **Miles** played drums from Nigeria during the **Pangean Orchestra's** free *Concert for Peace* on Friday, November 11. The Pangean Orchestra features musicians from all over the world.

The **Bad Cactus Brass Band** played Dixieland and Christmas favorites during the free holiday event, *A Night at the North Pole* on Friday, December 7. Visitors also wandered between the museum and the Edna Vihel Center, enjoying holiday crafts, photos with Santa, hot chocolate and cookies, and Lego displays provided by the **Cactus Brick Lego Club**.



This year, *TEDxTempe* featured food trucks for an intermission break. TED is a worldwide movement devoted to spreading brilliant ideas from three worlds: Technology, Entertainment and Design. This year's event on Thursday, November 8 was the third time that *TEDxTempe* has taken place at the museum.

## 2012 Donors

Thanks to the donors who enriched the artifact collection in 2012 and broadened the museum's ability to tell the stories of Tempe.

**Margie Arthen, Virginia Berg, Jack Buktenica, Rudy Campbell, Dennis Chandler, Keith Deering, Warren Egmond, Tony Garrido, Dick George, Richard Mayer, Montis La Casa Vieja, Harry Mitchell, Dorothy Moomaw, Ernie Nickels, Jewel Reynolds, Betty Rundle, Sam, Tom Sands, Donald Squire, Tom Summers, David Vitagliano, Eduarda Yates**



1937 tachometer from the generator at the SRP Crosscut Steam Plant in Tempe. Donated by Donald Squire.

## A Green Revolution Comes to Tempe

Tempe is one of the lucky few to play host to *Green Revolution*, a green-themed exhibition from the Smithsonian Institution. This version is based on an exhibition originally created by the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry and is made available by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service. It will be on display at the Tempe Center for the Arts (TCA). The free public opening reception will be at the TCA gallery on January 18 from 7 to 9 pm.

The TCA exhibition is a collaborative project that involves many city facilities, including the Tempe History Museum. The museum will partner with the TCA in teaching community members about "going green" in Arizona. From January 19 to May 25, 2013 you will be able to play a fun board game called *Footprint and Fumes* in the main exhibit hall to learn some ways to spark your own green revolution. The *Ebb and Flow* exhibit that will be on display in the Community Room (see page 1) is also inspired by the green theme. "LOUD II" on March 16, 2013 (see calendar, page 4) will feature "green" arts and crafts and lessons on sustaining our world.

For more Green Revolution events visit:  
[www.tempe.gov/TCAGreen](http://www.tempe.gov/TCAGreen).

## Welcome Nikki Gusz, Advisory Board Member

Nikki Gusz has lived in Tempe for two and half years. She was born in Hawaii and grew up in Kentucky and Ohio. She received a Bachelor's degree in American Studies from Cornell University and a Master's degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies from Arizona State University. Nikki moved to Arizona through a program called Teach for America, which provided her with the privilege of teaching low income students history, civics and geography. She also interned in college in the Office of the Curator at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, DC. Nikki now works as a Special Assistant to the Dean in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University.

In describing her interest in serving on the museum's Advisory Board, Nikki states, "Through my roles at Arizona State University and in community events like *TEDxTempe*, I have had the pleasure to be part of teams producing events hosted at the Tempe History Museum. I believe it is one of the gems in our community in that it is accessible



Nikki Gusz, new Advisory Board member.

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## Tree of Lights Provides a Bright Future

The *Larry Campbell Tree of Lights* is an important source of monetary support for the museum's oral history program which captures the memories of Tempe residents from all walks of life. Over \$700 were raised through the sale of ornaments and lights, ensuring a bright future for this program.

Over 70 of the donors, honorees, and family members of individuals being remembered attended a special reception at the museum on December 9 and received their ornaments.

Members of the **Corona Del Sol Orchestra**, directed by **Alex Dudley**, and the **Marcos de Niza Chamber Singers**, directed by **Darin Shryock**, performed at the reception. Thanks to Walmart, Starbucks and Honeymoon Sweets for providing food and beverages for the event.

The museum staff would like to thank all of the donors who supported the *Tree of Lights* and the oral history program this year. A special thank you goes out to the Tempe Historical Society for continuing this unique holiday tradition.

## JANUARY

## PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM

***Songwriting Deconstructed: An Evening with the Teneia Sanders Ensemble*****Saturday, January 5, 7 pm**

This free concert features one of the Valley's best singer/songwriters showcasing her songwriting and band arranging process. Go behind the scenes and see how a song goes from idea to lyrics, to melody, to band arrangement.

## Tempe Historical Society LUNCH TALK

***Outrageous Arizonans and the Outrageous Things Arizonans Said and Did!*****Wednesday, January 9, 11:30 am**

**Bob Boze Bell** will blow your mind about a few truly outrageous characters in our state's past. You'll encounter some of Arizona History's "Who's Who" among these characters as well as individuals you've never heard of.

## THIRD THURSDAY at the MUSEUM

***Imagine the Future: Where the Heck are those Flying Cars?******The New American University: Investing in Solutions and Future Leaders*****Thursday, January 17, 7 pm**

Join the Museum for a free cup of coffee and learn what presenters from many disciplines think Tempe will be like in the future. January's presenter is **Dr. Christine K. Wilkinson**, Senior Vice President and Secretary of the University and President of the ASU Alumni Association. Hear what she thinks about ASU's future role in solving community problems and producing leaders to implement those solutions.

## FEBRUARY

## PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM

***A Concert Celebrating Black History Month*****Saturday, February 9, 6 pm**

Celebrate the contributions of the local African American community with the museum's **African American Advisory Committee**.

The event will feature:

- Art from **Artists of the Black Community** and local high schools
- "I Have a Dream" **Martin Luther King** speech performed by **Elmer Green**
- African American Spirituals
- **Tuskegee Airmen** presentation
- Jazz tunes from local legends.

## Tempe Historical Society LUNCH TALK

***A Legend Dismantled: The True Story of the 'Apache Leap' Legend—A 'Leap' That Never Took Place*****Wednesday, February 13, 11:30 am**

The story of hundreds of Apaches being forced by the U.S. Cavalry to jump off a cliff near Superior has become a legend. **Stephen Germick** will describe the "leap," the various origins of the legend, and the various versions of the legend as they have been told over the years. He will reveal the true story of a "leap" that never happened.

## THIRD THURSDAY at the MUSEUM

***Imagine the Future: Where the Heck are those Flying Cars?******The Future of Mill Avenue*****Thursday, February 21, 7 pm**

Join the museum for a free cup of coffee and learn what presenters from many disciplines think Tempe will be like in the future. **Nancy Hormann** of the Downtown Tempe Community will discuss the future of Mill Avenue.

## PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM

***Chamber Music Week at the Museum******Composition Competition: Winner's Concert*****Saturday, February 23, 7 pm**

This free concert features classical music for everyone, with original compositions for chamber ensembles by the two winners of last year's AZ Centennial-themed Composition Competition, **Elizabeth Kennedy Bayer** and **Tom Peterson**. This event is co-produced by Classical Revolution PHX.

## PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM

***Chamber Music Week at the Museum******Corona del Sol Chamber Music Concert*****Thursday, February 28, 7 pm**

This free concert features musicians from the nearby Tempe High School. Enjoy an informal recital and bring your questions for a Q&A session with the musicians and teachers after the show.

## MARCH

## PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM

***Just Dance: An Evening with the Tetra String Quartet*****Friday, March 1, 7 pm**

This free concert features one of the Valley's up and coming string quartets. **Tetra** will play dance music from the classical and swing eras, fiddle, polka, Brazilian, tango, and even **Lady Gaga** tunes. Prepare to participate: feeling rhythms and learning dance moves. The performance is appropriate for all ages (young children, adults, and senior citizens).



## Rough Riders/Cotton (continued from page 1)

walls of tires) and from the demands of the military when the United States entered World War I.

A twelve-foot-long cotton picker's sack is the centerpiece of the display. These sacks could hold upwards of 100 pounds of cotton and were dragged behind the worker as they picked the crop. It just so happened that the Mesa Historical Museum collection contained a cotton-reinforced tire from that era. The tire, along with a cotton-weighing scale and some historic photos of the cotton industry in Tempe, complete the display. Thus another unique facet of Tempe history has been brought to life.

Stay tuned for other new displays in the main exhibit gallery!



Cotton display featuring a cotton picking bag that is twelve feet long and an early twentieth century tire with a cotton fiber core.

*Time Lines* is a quarterly newsletter for museum supporters and volunteers.

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Comments, suggestions?  
Call 480-350-5100

**Tempe History Museum Hours**  
Tuesdays - Saturdays, 10 am - 5 pm  
Sundays, 1 - 5 pm  
Closed Mondays and major holidays

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## Quarterly Calendar (continued from page 4)

**Tempe Historical Society LUNCH TALK**  
***How Arizona Got Its Shape and Borders: The Politics and Fascinating Facts that Determined the Boundaries of Our State***  
**Wednesday, March 13, 11:30 am**  
**Dr. Malcomb Comeaux** traces the history, politics, historical events, and intrigue behind the establishment of the changing borders of the land included within present-day Arizona.

**PERFORMANCES at the MUSEUM**  
**Classical Revolution PHX presents**  
***LOUD II: An Outdoor Celebration of Brassy Bands and Fine Food***  
**Saturday, March 16, 2-6 pm**  
Hear some LOUD brass bands, eat some culinary delights coming out of the side of a truck, enjoy some green arts and crafts and learn about sustaining our world.

**THIRD THURSDAY at the MUSEUM**  
***Imagine the Future: Where the Heck are those Flying Cars?***  
***Water Resources and Urban Planning***  
**Thursday, March 21, 7 pm**  
Join the museum for a free cup of coffee and learn what presenters from many disciplines think Tempe will be

like in the future. **Grady Gammage, Jr.**, a senior fellow at ASU's Morrison Institute, will speak about urban growth and development, quality of life, and local economic issues. Learn the relationship between lifestyle choices and water management.

## Advisory Board Member (continued from page 3)

and open to all." Nikki states that the unique offerings of the museum, in conjunction with her personal passions, compelled her to serve on the Advisory Board.

Nikki's goal is to serve the community and museum in the manner in which her perspective, knowledge and skills can promote the development of the Tempe History Museum in the most positive direction possible. Often acting as a connector, collaborator and idea generator in previous roles, she looks to continue this work and more "to support organizational and community aspirations involving the Tempe History Museum."

In her spare time, Nikki enjoys exploring cultural spots throughout the great state of Arizona, including National Parks, culinary indulgences, arts, sporting events - and of course, the Tempe History Museum!