

Pinal

NUGGET

July 2016

Volume 9 Number 9

FREE

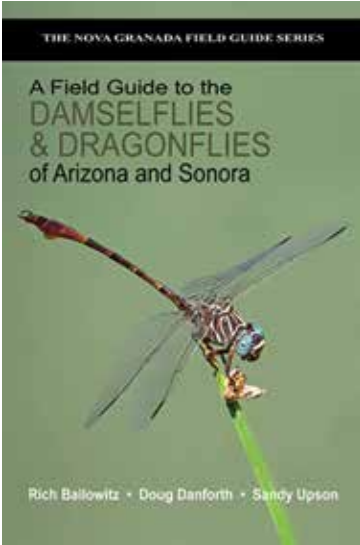
Photo by John Hernandez

recycled artistry of
Sharon Holnback,
pages 4-5

**SUPERIOR'S
MAGMA
HOTEL**

pages 6-9

A community publication of Copperarea.com



EXCEPTIONAL FIELD GUIDE

The new Field Guide to Damselflies & Dragonflies is available at the Arboretum in Superior.

BTA volunteers pen guide to dragonflies, damselflies

With 459 pages, 621 photos, 93 line drawings and 167 “species-by-species distribution maps”, the newest field guide in the gift shop at Boyce Thompson Arboretum is the definitive resource to Arizona odonata (dragonflies of Sonora, too).

Quite literally from A-Z (that’s Anisoptera to Zygoptera), the thorough book is lavishly illustrated with closeups that reveal subtle field marks and explains characteristics, distribution, and genera and species numbers. Authors Rich Bailowitz, Doug Danforth and Sandy Upson provide general information about habits and habitats of all species, noteworthy and singular behaviors, plus selected information about history and biology.

A guided walk on Aug. 6 is a chance to see Blue Dashers, Mexican Amberwings and other poetically-named insect predators as they patrol and hunt over the waters of Ayer Lake. What makes the Arboretum rank high for odonate viewing?

“The Arboretum is located near the northern limit of the subtropical influence of the Sonoran Desert,” says Bailowitz. “Two species which have been seen at the park that reflect this location are the Black Setwing and the Straw-colored Sylph. They are both common in northwestern Mexico and

are near the northern limits of their distributions at the Arboretum. One other species which may well turn up here is the Claw-tipped Bluet. It, too, is a derivative of the subtropics and has recently been found at Oak Flat, several miles to the east of BTA. You all need to keep your eyes peeled!”

Bring your camera because our guides safely net a few dragonflies for visitors to view and photograph close-up, before releasing the insects unharmed. The walk begins at 8:30 a.m. and is included with daily admission.

The Arboretum is located at milepost #223 on U.S. Hwy. 60 near the historic copper mining town of Superior, about one hour’s drive due east of Phoenix on the Superstition Freeway. Arriving from Tucson? Take Oracle Road North to Highway 79, continue through and past the town of Florence to the junction where Highway 79 meets Highway 60, then turn right and drive another 12 miles East on Highway 60 to our front gate.

Adult Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for ages 5 to 12; children under age five are admitted free.

NUGGET

Covering the Copper Corridor Communities of Globe, Miami, Superior, Kearny, Hayden, Winkelman, Dudleyville, Aravaipa, Mammoth, San Manuel, Oracle, SaddleBrooke and Catalina.

James Carnes.....Publisher
 Jennifer Carnes..... Managing Editor
 Michael Carnes.....General Manager
 Mila Besich-Lira.....Advertising Director
 John Hernandez.....Reporter
 Vicki Clark.....Reporter

Email:

Submissions & Letters: jenniferc@MinerSunBasin.com Advertising & Questions: michaelc@MinerSunBasin.com

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Published the fourth week of each month. Business office is located at 139 8th Ave, P.O. Box 60, San Manuel, AZ 85631. Subscription rates paid in advance: \$9.00 per year or \$5.00 for 6 months U.S. Change of address should be sent to the publishers at P.O. Box 60, San Manuel, AZ 85631.

Member: Arizona Newspaper Association.

Telephone

San Manuel Office: (520) 385-2266
San Manuel Office Fax (520) 385-4666
Kearny Office: (520) 363-5554
Kearny Office Fax (520) 363-9663

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— Anne Murray

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Friday, July 22, 2016 - Gregory Wolfe - Rod Stewart Tribute - 7:30pm. Produced by TAD Management. Gregory Wolfe has been singing from a very early age, but it wasn't until his late 20's when he realized that he looked and sounded just like Rod Stewart. Since then his show has gone from strength to strength and he has since taken his act world wide, from Singapore to South Carolina, from Bangkok to Berlin. Gregory's entertained them all over the globe! This incredible evening packed with the hits of Rod Stewart will live in your memory for a very long time. \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



Wednesday, July 27, 2016 - Turn The Page - Tribute to Bob Seger - 7:30pm. Produced by TAD Management. Turn The Page is an incredible recreation of the Live Bob Seger Experience performed by The Sam Morrison Band. Every effort has been made to make sure that each song is performed exactly as you remember it and that it is delivered with all the passion and excitement you would expect in a Bob Seger show. \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



Saturday, July 30, 2016 - Nick Gallardo In Concert - 7:30pm. Produced by Khris Dodge Entertainment. Take a musical journey with Nick Gallardo as he shares his nuanced vocal stylings, deft instrumental skills, and uncanny humor. He'll also provide a few surprises along the way. \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



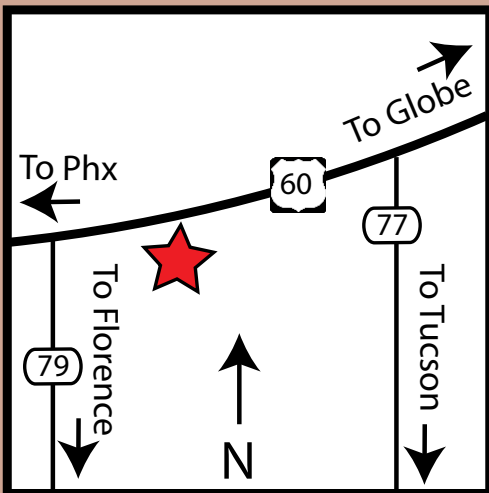
Friday, August 5, 2016 - Born To Run in the USA - Bruce Springsteen Tribute - 7:30pm. Produced by Khris Dodge Entertainment. Eric Brown and the 'L' Street Band pays homage to Springsteen's early rise from New Jersey working class hero to international superstar. Hear *Dancing in the Dark*, *Born in the USA*, *Hungry Heart*, *Born to Run*, fan-favorite *Rosalita* and many more! \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



Friday, August 19, 2016 - Those British Girls - 7:30pm. Produced by TAD Management. THOSE BRITISH GIRLS is a hit-filled concert that takes you on a journey through the music of the UK's Ready Steady Female Star Vocalists of the 1960's through to the chart-topping and record-breaking Superstars of today! Each of the top four recording labels had their own female Superstars, including: Petula Clark, Shirley Bassey, Dusty Springfield, The Spice Girls, Annie Lennox, Amy Winehouse, and of course, Adele. \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



Saturday, September 9, 2016 - The Sedaka Legacy - 7:30pm. Produced by TAD Management. Terry Davies and his remarkable band, THE SEDAKA LEGACY is a memorable hit-filled tribute to the timeless music of Neil Sedaka, one of America's finest songwriters! \$30 in advance, \$35 door.



DIRECTIONS

The Boyce Thompson Arboretum is located on U.S. Hwy. 60 just west of the Town of Superior.

Find us at
[Facebook.com/PinalNugget](https://www.facebook.com/PinalNugget)



I really want to make the art park a destination.



Historic ranch in Oracle serves as backdrop for Sharon Holnback's art

BY JOHN HERNANDEZ
PINAL NUGGET

Sharon Holnback is a multimedia artist and the owner of the Triangle L Ranch in Oracle. The historic ranch dates back to the 1880s and is now operated as a bed & breakfast. It is also a haven for artists and the home of the Triangle L Ranch Land, a high desert art in nature park. The park includes the Desert Sculpture Path, Barn Gallery and a gift shop.

Sharon is the creator of Glow, a two-day nighttime art experience featuring illuminated art, food, fun, music, and entertainment. It was the premiere illuminated art experience in Arizona.

Sharon is an accomplished artist. She has been a freelance commercial photographer and artist. She incorporates photography, glass, metalwork and painting into her artwork. Her art has been exhibited locally and in Tucson, Phoenix, California, New York, and as far away as Korea, Ireland and

Japan.

Sharon, along with 12 other artists, created the Desert Sculpture Path at the Triangle L Ranch. This path is a nature/art walk that includes sculptures, installations, and interactive works among the native plants, rock outcroppings and washes. During Glow, it features illuminated art additions and lighting for the regularly featured sculptures. The High Desert Art in Nature Park is open to the public on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and during events or by

appointment.

The Triangle L Ranch is a place where history, nature and art blend to create a unique and friendly atmosphere. The ranch is a great place for weddings, family reunions, concerts, works shops and events. Events held at the ranch include concerts featuring musicians such as Kevin Pakulis and Hadji Banjovi and the Infinite Mercies. Art workshops are held here and the ranch hosts a number of local artists for the annual Oracle Studio Arts Tour.

The Triangle L Ranch gift

shop offers items made by local artists including some of Sharon's glass work. The Adobe Barn Gallery features some of Sharon's inventive vignette art as well as works from local and visiting artists. Sharon uses many recycled items in her artwork including old bottles, rusted metal, old wood and broken glass. A piece of art on the nature path includes a hood from an old Chevy automobile. It has been turned into a shrine. Sharon's metal fabricating work includes metal garden art and sculptures.

Sharon participated in a Tucson Museum of Art show this year and a craft show at the Mercado in Tucson. She currently has some of her garden stakes for sale at the University of Arizona Art Museum gift shop. She has plants fused in glass bottles on display at the Biosphere Café. The plants are all grown at the Biosphere. Sharon wants to use the Art Barn for a workshop for experimental lighting and hopes to have the

light works installed by the fall. The ranch is gearing up the park for more art work. They hope to have on going exhibitions.

“I really want to make the art park a destination,” she said.

If you would like to see some of Sharon’s work or stay at the Triangle L Ranch Bed & Breakfast contact Sharon at (520) 623-6732 or email: info@trianglel ranch.com. Visit the website at www.trianglel ranch.com.

↓ REPURPOSED

Much of Sharon Holnback’s art started life as something entirely different. The candle sun catcher once was several glass bottles, now melted and sculpted.





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Early days of the Magma Hotel

BY JOHN HERNANDEZ
PINAL NUGGET

The Magma Hotel in Superior, Arizona was built in 1912 or 1913. John M. McPherson, sometimes spelled MacPherson, is given credit for building it, but it may be that he did not become involved with the hotel until after 1915. Jack Davey was the architect and builder for the building. He was with the firm of Davey & Hausner, brick contractors and builders in Phoenix. Frank Ennis was listed as the first owner in 1914.

In 1916 an adobe structure was added. A two-story red brick building was constructed in 1923. It was known as MacPherson's Hotel Magma. This is also the building that Jack Davey was involved with. Davey & Hausner provided brick construction for the Monroe School in Phoenix, and the girl's dormitory and the industrial arts building for the Tempe Normal

School, now known as Arizona State University.

J.M. McPherson was a realtor, developer, entrepreneur and mining speculator. He worked and lived in Globe before moving to Superior. Newspaper articles and ads of the times show that he was the Assistant Manager Miner's Consolidated Mercantile in Globe in 1905. In 1906 he

was listed as the Secretary of the Globe & Pinto Mining Company and was President of King Trail Development Company in 1908. From 1908 – 1910 he worked for Consolidated Realty Company, Globe Realty and Alex Simpson & Company. Alex Simpson & Company was located at 230 N. Broad Street. His wife was the Treasurer of the Superior Branch of the Central

Arizona Chapter of the Red Cross during World War I. She was also appointed as a member of the Pinal County Child Welfare Board in 1921.

The Magma Hotel was a stop and departure point for the Phoenix – Ray – Superior Stage Line which offered a round trip to Phoenix for \$12. It housed “the only exclusive barbershop in Superior” and the Magma Café. The hotel and café hosted mining executives, U.S. statesmen and travelers. An ad in the Arizona Republic in 1919 shows that An Gee was selling two “big paying” restaurants in Superior: the American Kitchen on Main Street and Magma Café.

In 1920, O.C. Wing was listed as the proprietor of the Magma Café. According to Lucy Wing, owner of the Jade Grill restaurant in Superior, O.C. Wing was not related to her as far as she knows. Her family did not come to

Superior until the 1930s. Her family did own the Magma Hotel at one time in the 1960s or 70s.

On May 30, 1914 the Arizona Republic reported, “What might have been a serious fire occurred at the Magma Hotel owned by Frank Ennis, but owing to the energetic work of Walter Easton and other fellow citizens it did not do such great amount of damage.” The fire began on a tent adjoining the hotel and had caught the frame work of a window of the hotel on fire. The damage was estimated at \$500.

The Magma Hotel was one of the first businesses to own a Delco Light system. According to the Arizona Republic, “Delco Light is a complete electric light plant, easy and inexpensive to operate, which enables schools, churches, stores and ranches to have all the conveniences afforded by electricity in the city.” In 1917,

the light plant made up of a gas run generator and multiple batteries sold for \$385 for the 47 light capacity and \$465 for the 62 light capacity.

In October 1921, it was reported that three men had been killed and two men had been seriously injured in a blasting accident in Devil’s Canyon along the new Miami to Superior Highway. The Arizona Republic identified the two injured men as Dick Pedersen and Clint Rapier. The paper said, “Pedersen was burned by the blast, while Rapier was burned and sustained three broken ribs” and “both are at the Magma Hotel in Superior under the care of nurses.”

In its prime, the Magma Hotel was a landmark for the once thriving town of Superior. It is the hope of Superior that the newly restored historic building can give more life to Superior’s Main Street and bring more tourists to this old mining town.

Pheonix-Superior Ray- Stage

Cars leave daily Commercial Hotel, Phoenix; Magma Hotel, Superior; Civil Drug Company, Ray. Make reservations.

FARE		
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MISFITS:
It was Robert's first visit to the Zoo. “What do you think of the outside?”

Arizona Republic (Phoenix, Ariz.), 17 Feb. 1914. Digitizing America! Historic American Newspapers. Lib. of Congress.

← **TRAVEL AD**

Ad from the Feb. 17, 1914 Arizona Republican advertising travel routes in Arizona. Image courtesy Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Record.

HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER →

Ad from the Sept. 12, 1920 Arizona Republican advertising the amenities of the Magma Hotel. Image courtesy Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Record.

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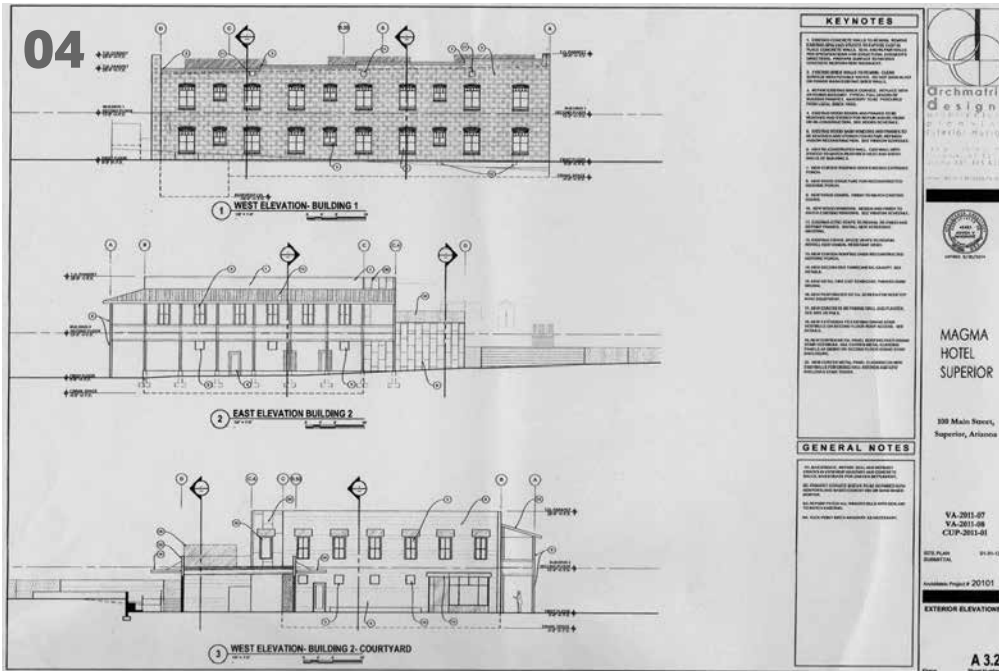
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MAGMA HOTEL: A TIMELINE





The original Magma Hotel, erected in 1912, boasted screened-in upstairs sleeping rooms. This building later became the site for a drug store and was a center of activity during the day and evening hours.

In 1994, through the effort of then owners Mary and Charles Sanchez, the Magma Hotel was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

01 December 7, 2007, the Magma Hotel suffered a partial collapse of the front exterior wall off the two-story adobe structure in the center of the three adjoined buildings that made up the Magma. Over a period of months, the hotel continued to crumble and a state of emergency was declared and the town removed the center portion, a project that included asbestos removal and other work. Two structures of the three remain on the site.

02 April 13, 2010, the Town of Superior successfully foreclosed on the Magma Hotel. A lien in the amount of \$164,000 was placed on the property. The lien arose from the town's abatement for safety reasons of a portion of the hotel.

03 August 10, 2010, the Magma Hotel sells to new owner Miguel Sfeir from Chile, South America.

04 October 15, 2014, Magma Hotel owner Miguel Sfeir addresses the Superior Chamber of Commerce about his continuing renovation of the hotel and reveals the plans for the exterior. They will be decorating and furnishing the hotel with the furnishings to match when the hotel first opened in 1912. The Magma Hotel will feature 21 rooms, 6 in the adobe section and 15 in the brick section. Each of the hotel rooms will feature a historic photo of Superior blown up to be the wall paper in each room and other artifacts of Superior's history will be on display, he said.

05 June 2016, renovations and interior decorating continue. Owners hope to have the hotel open soon, although no date has been set.



Old Dominion Mine Park earns Merit Award

If you've lived in Globe-Miami a long time, you might remember when the Old Dominion Mine was an unused mine site, with crumbling foundations, eroded tailing piles and rusting machinery. The deserted mine site was closed to the public, although well known to the community as most had explored it in their youth.

BHP Billiton, which purchased the property in 1995 from Magma Copper, was ready to begin reclamation proceedings in the mid-1990s and they held public meetings on the matter.

Were they surprised to have a huge public turnout...one that had public comments overwhelmingly in favor of preserving the character of the mine and making the site into a walking park for the community? In a community used to the comings and goings, the ups and downs of mining, it must have seemed remarkable that people asked that history be preserved rather than razed.

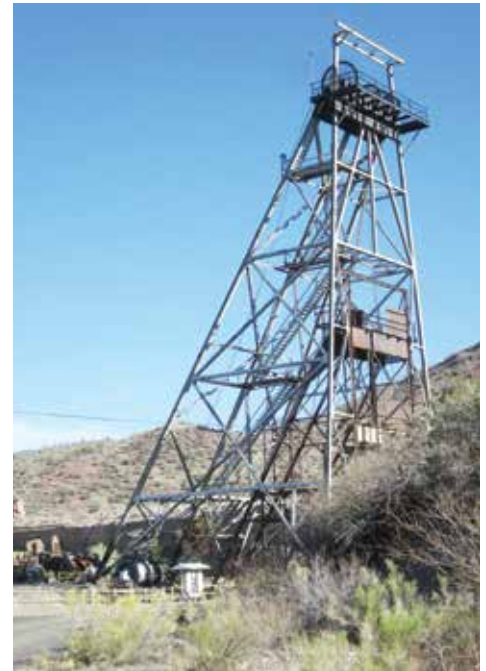
Now a premier city park, the Old Dominion Post Mining Legacy project has

earned a Merit Award in the BHP Billiton annual Health, Safety, Environment & Community recognition program. The park project was judged along with more than 100 projects submitted by BHP Billiton's wide network of properties throughout the world and was one of only eight to earn the Merit Award.

The small but dedicated Old Dominion Historic Mine Park Committee has been working since the 1990s on the concept of a walking park on the site. The work done to reclaim the site is striking, with huge piles of tailings re-contoured then covered and planted with native vegetation with the goal of bringing the site closer to its original state. Early progress of the volunteer committee, a subcommittee of the Gila County Historical Society, was measured in tiny steps as they visualized what could be and translated those ideas to a map of the property.

BHP Billiton was a partner in the process to establish the park, agreeing to keep

Continued on page 11



HEADFRAME

The headframe from the old Dominion Mine in Globe stands as the centerpiece for the mining history park.

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Old Dominion

Continued from page 10

the access roads used in the reclamation project intact for use as biking and hiking trails and working with the committee on locating those trails where ever feasible.

A huge outcry to save the camera-friendly headframe convinced BHP Billiton to preserve that iconic structure and visitors to the park now can walk up within yards to get a closer look. The park, with its self-guided tour, is atypical of mining properties where companies typically discourage visitors because of safety or liability concerns. Crafting the easement agreement with the safety of visitors paramount helped make the idea of having the public on the property palatable to both BHP Billiton and the city of Globe.

The committee has changed membership through the years, but several volunteers have been at work on the project from day one. Dr. Thea Wilshire chairs the group and she is a driving force for the committee, overseeing and indeed preparing many of the grant applications and funding requests that have allowed the installation of interpretive and educational signage that explains not only the history of the site, but of copper mining in general. Picnic tables, large group ramadas and attractive signage, as well as the public restroom and drinking fountains, are in place because Dr. Wilshire and her group became the “squeaky wheel” that continuously promoted the cause of the park.

Working hand in hand with the mining company, specific walking areas were identified and a large flat area next to the slag piles was set aside as a “boneyard” for old mining equipment, much of it donated by BHP Billiton, as well as other local mining companies. Company representatives helped identify the best area for placement of the benches and shade structure. BHP Billiton remains in charge of the site and works closely with the committee to ensure that park works well for both the company and for the city.

Visitors to the park will enjoy strolling the Globe Ledge or Mule Shoe Trails or perhaps using a little more lung capacity on the Interloper Trail...all named for original mine claims in the area. One of the attractions of the park is the variety of trails that range from level to steeper.

On a typical day, there will be dog owners, mountain bikers and families with baby strollers and young children on the paths—to say nothing of disc golf enthusiasts who

Continued on page 14



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Visiting La Trattoria el Faro Blanco - The California Lighthouse Restaurant in Aruba

BY HEATHER SNEED
THE BUBBLY HOSTESS

The Hubby and I recently visited Aruba, with another couple with whom we have been friends since college - we were all celebrating our 20 year wedding anniversaries! While there, we decided to check out La Trattoria el Faro Blanco which is an Italian restaurant that is located right next to the California Lighthouse, located on the northwest tip of the island. This was just a 15 minute cab ride from the resort where we were staying, the Occidental Grand Aruba.

The lighthouse was built in 1910 and is a popular tourist spot on the island. We had been on several boat trips throughout the week where we could see it overlooking the coastline, but were excited to see it up close! It is currently under renovations, but still beautiful from the outside.

The restaurant is right next to the lighthouse, unique architecture on the outside and fantastic views from the patio! If you go here, you'll need

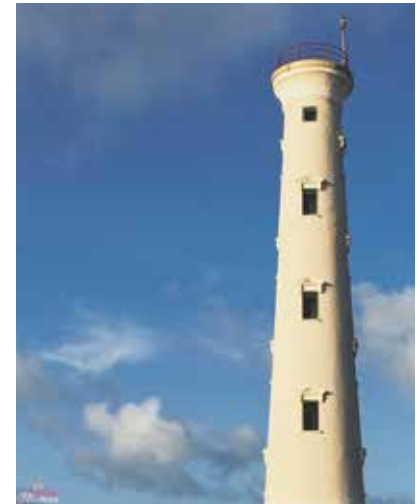
to make a reservation and make sure you request the patio - it is a must ... and full of visitors taking photos too!

Each of us had amazing meals, you can see their full menu at www.aruba-latrattoria.com/pasta. Our friends each started with the Insalata Cesara, The Hubby ordered the Insalata Ortolana (mixed salad), and I enjoyed one of my all-time favorite types of salads, Insalata Di Rughetta (arugula).

For dinner, our friends ordered the following: Linguine Alla Vongole (Linguine aglio olio sauce with clams, garlic, parsley and olive oil), Fettucine Al Salmone Affumicato (A nice bed of Fettuccini pasta served with a rich creamy tomatoes sauce with chopped smoked salmon).

The Hubby chose the Fettucine Con Gamberoni Alla Vodka (Specialty of our La Trattoria el Faro Blanco- Fettuccini with a creamy pink sauce prepared with fresh tomatoes, basil, a splash of vodka topped with jumbo shrimps).

While I enjoyed the Fusilli All 'Amatriciana (Curly short pasta with sautéed Italian bacon



and prosciutto with onions, basil, garlic and fresh tomatoes).

Everything was fantastic - the service, the food, the wine, the view ... and especially the company! To see more photos from our experience, make sure you visit my website.

I love to hear feedback - please visit my blog at www.bubblyhostess.com. You can also follow The Bubbly Hostess on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram, and Twitter.



About the Author

Heather Sneed has written for the Nugget's sister newspaper, the *Southeast Valley Ledger*, for several years and she continues to write for the sister news outlet, *STVDailyPRSS.com*. Heather loves to cook, entertain, plan parties, and of course - drink champagne. She is excited to share her planning tips, party ideas, and favorite recipes. Being a wife and a mommy, her party style ranges from birthday parties for little ones to elegant cocktail parties for the grown ups. Her plans include a combination of her own ideas coupled with those from others. You'll find that her recipes leave some room for experimentation - she doesn't usually make the same dish exactly the same way twice - She loves to try different things!



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Old Dominion

Continued from page 11

were pleased to see the city install the course last year.

In addition to the trails, the “boneyard” is easily accessible over level ground. More than 50 pieces of equipment are on display, most with signage for those eager to learn how the mine worked in earlier days of underground mining. Smelter ladles, a man cage that hauled miners down the main shaft and a large agitator are just a few highlights of the boneyard which continues to expand with the support of BHP Billiton and other local mining companies.

The current project underway is installation of a handicapped-accessible playground near the group picnic areas of the park. A kid friendly mine tunnel already has been installed and work is beginning soon on the other playground equipment. The playground suffered a

huge setback when thieves struck recently and vandalized the playground and stole the zip line and some other playground equipment. The community has rallied and more than \$1,000 has been raised for a reward to find the perpetrators, as well as several thousand in donations to help replace and to complete the playground.

More than 6,100 volunteer hours have been recorded on the park with thousands more not officially counted. Many local contractors have donated equipment and labor to the project through the years and their donations, along with that of BHP Billiton and other mining firms, have made the project possible. Even when different projects were part of a construction grant, almost all companies donated a significant amount of equipment, time and labor above and beyond the project.

Grants and donations have totaled more than \$300,000 with an additional \$240,000 of in-kind donations for a value of more than half a million dollars invested in this unique park. It would have been much easier, and no doubt much less expensive, for BHP Billiton to have simply reclaimed the park, demolished the structures and locked the gates to the public.

Instead, this partnership of BHP Billiton, the city, the Gila County Historical Society and the committee has resulted in a city park that is drawing history and mining enthusiasts and hikers from throughout the state. It is an investment that will pay dividends for decades to come for the local area and for the mining industry.

The Old Dominion Historic Mine Park is located at 1300 N. Broad St, Globe, AZ 85501.

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Hiking to Kinishba

“Caw Caw,” the ravens call as we approach Kinishba. These ruins are located at the base of the Sawtooth Mountains on the Apache reservation. “Kinishba” means “brown brick house” in the Apache language and the large rectangular structures are masterpieces of Mogollon architecture. When the village was in full bloom over eight hundred years ago thousands of people lived here. Visitors to Kinishba will discover over six hundred rooms and multistoried sections of some of the buildings still standing.

Visiting Kinishba is not as difficult as it used to be. It used to be that as soon as one turned off the Beeline Highway onto the reservation you kept a careful watch on your odometer until it had clicked 12.1 miles and turned onto an unmarked dirt road. Nowadays there is a big brown forest service sign that tells you where to turn. You do however need a reservation hiking permit. The road rolls for a few miles past corrals and horses but as you approach Kinishba the structures rise up from the earth in a way that blends in beautifully with the Sawtooth Mountains in the background. In some ways the multi storied ruins resemble an abandoned apartment building. During the height of its occupation, through the 12th and 14th centuries, Kinishba may have been home to as many as one thousand five hundred human beings and was probably the cultural center for the region. Kinishba is believed to share traits of both the Mogollon and Anasazi cultures. Both Hopi and Zuni peoples claim ancestral ties. One summer many years ago when I was visiting the site an Apache father was there with an eagle feather, a fistful of corn pollen and a bright yellow invitation to his daughter’s naichee ceremony. He intended to leave the invitation for spirits of the ancients, so they might bless his daughter during the ceremony. I noticed that when he carefully placed his gifts on the rock beside the ancient spring there were already eagle feathers which others had left previously.

Some scholars believe that Kinishba may have been the ruins the Coronado expedition visited in 1540 and called Chiciticale. The first archaeologist to visit was Adolph Bandelier in 1892. The first organized and extensive excavations at Kinishba were led by Byron Cummings from 1931 to 1940. Cummings was founder of the University of Arizona archaeology department as well as the Arizona State Museum. Cummings had started as a classics professor and when he discovered the prehistoric ruins of the southwest he wondered aloud why we weren’t studying the wonders in our own backyard instead of the distant Mediterranean. Cummings also wrote of being the first white man to view sacred Rainbow Bridge in Utah. His account of traveling the backcountry for days before waking up at



↑ RUINS

Visiting Kinishba requires a reservation hiking permit from the U.S. Forest Service.

BY GARY EVERY PINAL NUGGET

sunrise and racing a mule under the arch to beat his rival explorers is a sharp contrast to the present when Lake Powell tour boats make daily pilgrimages, floating right up to Rainbow Bridge.

As he was nearing retirement Cummings began to restore Kinishba. He was hoping to provide the Apache with a Mesa Verde style tourist trap. He built a small museum just beyond the ruins that was supposed to provide Apache craftsmen a chance to sell their jewelry, pottery, and art. Cummings came armed with the usual assortment of university graduate students in the summertime but he was also able to interest some of the local Apache in the project. In particular David Kane, Chester Holden, and Turner Thompson were all tribal members who spent at least five years working on the project. Turner Thompson often camped with Cummings inside the museum as it was being built. The two men became fast friends and I have often wondered if their friendship was aided by Thompson’s deafness. When the museum burned down the project was temporarily abandoned and never restarted. Now the two ruins, Kinishba and the museum stand side by side, both of them with trees poking branches through windows.

While Cummings and his crew were excavating they discovered amazing things like the graves of two tiny children wearing bracelets with over 17,000 beads of red pipestone, turquoise, and gray slate. There was one room which seemed to serve as a pottery show room, holding only shards of wonderfully detailed, intricately painted pottery. As one wanders the roughly rectangular shape of Kinishba you come to a clearing in the middle. This large patio served as a ceremonial space, a courtyard where dancers, drummers and audience could gather. An altar was discovered with painted deer and antelope jaw bones. The stone altar was decorated with a painting of a kachina type of figure wearing a storm cloud headdress with lightning bolts painted him above him and corn stalks painted on the sides.

The brown brick ruins at Kinishba are huge and beautiful and architecturally they blend in beautifully with the Sawtooth Mountains which serve as a majestic backdrop. Between the Great Depression and World War II, Kinishba was never adopted by the National Park Service nor became the type of financially lucrative tourist trap envisioned by Cummings. However if you take the time to visit Kinishba you will be glad you did.