

WELLSPRING NEWS

October 2007

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Tucson, Arizona

From the President:

Currently, the county has expanded the program they are offering at Agua Caliente Park, which seems to appeal to the general public. It also is expanding its effort to secure more volunteers to execute the programs. This, I believe bodes well for the success of these ventures.

I hope people who attend the events indicate their feelings to the county to continue the programs that appeal to them. This would be

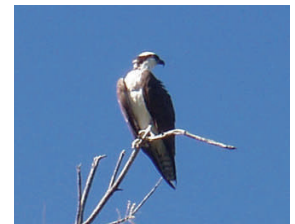
helpful to gain support to continue the interesting programs being offered.

My tenure is coming to an end this year as President of the Friends of Agua Caliente Park, which proved to be an interesting challenge. The Friends of Agua Caliente will continue to support the Park's needs.

Dick Watts

New bridge coming soon to Agua Caliente Park!

Within 4-6 months, we should see the old bridge come down and construction start on a modern footbridge to the island, providing access to park Patrons. Tune in to the website for additional details as they become available.



Osprey



Great Blue Heron

Annual Membership Meeting Planned for January 28th, 2008

What a great opportunity to become involved in supporting this wonderful oasis in our own backyard called Agua Caliente Park. **Join us for our annual membership meeting on January 28th, 2008 at 7 PM in the Bunkhouse at Agua Caliente Park.** Voting for officer positions will take place during the meeting.

The Friends of Agua Caliente are currently in a period of transition. Many of the projects and

programs we have supported are coming to fruition. Buildings have been restored and Pima County has funded the replacement of the Island bridge, which should happen early 2008. Funds raised by FOAC to support the bridge project will be used to assist Pima County in developing the bridge and island. Opening the island brings new opportunity for FOAC to support Pima County with other projects. We will work closely with the County to ensure the plans are consistent with the FOAC vision and input from the

community.

FOAC is involved in all aspects of the Park and works along side Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation personnel. FOAC is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and any contributions are tax deductible. Enclosed is a form you can use to contribute to FOAC. This is a great opportunity to put your tax deductible money to work in your Tucson community. A receipt will be returned for tax purposes and we appreciate your support and trust!!

From the Bunkhouse:

It is hard for me to believe that it was over 56 years ago that I first arrived at The Agua Caliente Ranch. It was love at first sight. I spent nearly nine years living there before my parents sold the Ranch due to my Dad's failing health. Yet I remember many wonderful times I spent there as if it were yesterday. In these Notes From the Bunkhouse, I try to share some of the good times and the funny things that happened.

When we first arrived we hired a "Wrangler" to help with our livestock as coming from the Midwest, things were done differently. One time when my Dad was looking for a new wrangler, a very nice young couple came and applied for the job. My dad liked them and hired them on the spot. He was a person who liked everyone. We provided them with an efficiency small house near the corals that we called "The

Wranglers Cottage". Things went along quite well for awhile. He was a good worker and his wife was a very nice young woman. Everything was going along fine until one day there was a knock on the front door. My Dad invited the young Cowboy in. He told me that he was looking for his wife. She had run off with another young man. When he described his wife and the young man she had run off with, it sounded like the young couple he had hired. So my dad took the cowboy out to the "Wrangler's Cottage" and knocked on the door. There was no answer and he looked around and did not see their pickup. So after knocking several times, he opened the door and went in. The couple had packed up their belongings and left without a word. We don't know if she saw her husband's pickup or someone had warned her he was coming. The young cowboy was broken hearted of

course, after tracing his wife so far and then just missing her. My Dad tried to comfort him and invited him to stay for supper. But he thanked my Dad and said he would be on his way to keep trying to find his wife. We really don't know what happened as we never heard from any of them again.

As I said in the beginning, even though I have been gone from the Ranch for nearly 48 years, many of these little incidents that happened stick in my mind, just like it was yesterday.

I hope all of you enjoy your visits to the "historical" Agua Caliente Ranch as much as I do. It is a wonderful place to visit and enjoy all the wildlife and peace and quiet.....most of the time.

*Pete Filiatrault
The Ghost of Agua Caliente*

FOAC Website

The FOAC website is a great source of current information. The address is:

http://www.geocities.com/fo_agua_caliente/

The site is kept updated with current

Park activities, photos of the Park, and other interesting information/links. The site also includes archived copies of the Wellspring News, the FOAC Bylaws (including standing committees) and Goals, and procedures to make a donation, join FOAC, send comments.

Please bookmark the site and visit it often.....and tell your friends about it. Let me know if you have suggestions for improvement.

Jim Knoll

Friends of Agua Caliente, Inc. Board of Directors Standing Committee Chairpersons annotated in () below the name

Richard Watts, President (Park Liaison)	529-4637	
Chuck Ford, Vice President (Park Liaison)	748-7612	cfordjr@juno.com
Francie Hilkemeyer, Secretary	247-9776	fhilk@msn.com
Peter Filiatrault, Treasurer	577-8202	azghost@comcast.net
Sally Danielson (Fundraising)	749-2184	sawynd@aol.com
Mike Deal (Membership/Volunteer)	749-1984	miguelitodeal@aol.com
Mary Jane Dyson	749-5245	afroirish@msn.com
Judy Gray	749-1159	
Jim Knoll (Newsletter, Website)	760-7609	foac@earthlink.net
Sandy Sarah (Nominating)	885-7466	sandyjsarah@yahoo.com
Bud Seaman (Donors Wall/Walk)	299-3175	bbseaman@juno.com
Paula Stoner (non-board member) (Historian)	591-0764	pjluvshky@excite.com

Upcoming Events at Agua Caliente Park

Check the FOAC web site (Park Events) for up-to-date events and times: www.geocities.com/fo_agua_caliente

Wake Up with The Birds (Every Tues)
Nature Walks/other events (most Sat's)

Historic Speaker Series — Sun 1 pm
German Jesuits as Founders of Arizona? A forgotten History (Nov 11)

Homesteading and Ranching (Dec 9)
The Day The Railroad Arrived in Tucson (Dec 16)

Hints of the Past (Jan 13, 2008)

Ranch House Gallery:

Nov 1—Dec 13: Watercolors/Oils

Dec 14—Jan 29: Photography

To volunteer at Agua Caliente Park with Pima County Natural Resources Parks and Recreation, call 877-6112.

Nominating Committee

We wish to thank the members of this year's Nominating Committee for their time and effort in interviewing members to provide nominees for the Board of Directors and working to provide a slate of officers and committee chairs for 2008.

At the September 28 Board of Directors meeting, the Board ratified the nominations of Sally Danielson, Chuck Ford, Jim Knoll and Dick Watts for another three-year term on the Board ending in 2011. With these nominations, the Board is at an 11-member complement. The Board of Directors expanded the Board in 2007 to include two additional Board Members which will be filled in 2008.

The Nominating Committee is also working to finalize a slate for Officer positions on the Board. Officers must be elected from current Board members and a slate will be presented at the November 26 Board of Directors meeting and a vote will be taken during the annual membership meeting on Jan 28th. Any members desiring to vote need

to be present at the membership meeting.

We are continually looking for members to become actively involved in FOAC. There are many opportunities to participate and chair various committee's. Anyone interested in participating in the many activities of FOAC and help chart the course of Agua Caliente Park are encouraged to contact any Board Member or use the website to contact FOAC.

Thank you to all who have agreed to serve in 2008!

Sandy Sarah



*Agua Caliente Pond 2
June 2003*

Membership in the Friends of Agua Caliente

Join Friends of Agua Caliente

We are looking for "A few good men and women" who want to help maintain Agua Caliente Park as a very special place. As birders, or those who like to picnic, or stroll the grounds, you know the significance of this "Oasis in the Desert."

Your time, talents, and donations will be the contributions that make the difference at this historic time in the life of our organization and the Park. If you can't spare the time to volunteer, how about at least joining FOAC to help us protect what we all treasure so dearly?

Friends of Agua Caliente, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) Corporation, therefore all donations are tax-deductible.

Dues are based on the following schedule:

Student	\$10
Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Organization	\$50

Please send Name, Address, and Phone Number along with Check to: Friends of Agua Caliente, Inc., PO Box 32005, Tucson, AZ 85751-2005 or contact Mike Deal, Membership Chairman, at 749-1984 for more information.

Welcome to our newest members: Ms Shirley Ameling, Mr/Mrs Clyde Beaver, M.B. Des Portes, Ms Charlotte Cardon, Ms. Donna Dehaan, Mr. Brad Filiatrault, Mr/Mrs Richard Fulgenzi, Mr/Mrs

The Holidays Are Coming Tra la, Tra la!

Yes, the Holidays will soon be upon us. Your chance to enjoy them Tucson style and benefit the Friends of Agua Caliente is also here. *Scrooge—A Gaslight Musical* is our Holiday fundraiser this year and should keep us all laughing and singing right through to January. Come to The Gaslight Theatre production on **Wednesday, December 12 at 8:30 PM.** You can boo and hiss with the rest of us in the best of melodrama fashion. All seats are reserved in the first three rows of the theater which means the actors can't miss our responses to their antics and we are in the midst of the action. Reservations will be on a first come/first served basis. Your check is your reservation so sign up before the best seats are taken. See the included flyer for all the details.



The Cast of Scrooge

Steve Hazen, Ms Michelle Heyl, Mr/Mrs Hugh Jarvis, Mr/Mrs David Kelly, Mr/Mrs Harry Mayo, Ms Renee McWenig, Mr/Mrs Herbert Trossman, Mr. Robert Verhulst, Mr/Mrs Doug Ward, and Ms Patricia Wojnowski.

We appreciate all the members that have renewed their membership for another year.....We can't do what we do without a great membership!

Current membership roster:

Family Memberships:	42
Individual Memberships:	<u>12</u>
Total Memberships:	54

Voting Members: 96

Mike Deal

FOAC

Friends of Agua Caliente, Inc.
P.O. Box 32005
Tucson, AZ 85751-2005

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Organization
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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING
JANUARY 28TH, 2008

Mailing Label

Tucson Audubon at Agua Caliente Park

It's Fall and the weather is getting delicious with warm days and cooling nights and the little pesky gnats and mosquitoes are packing it in for winter. We've all enjoyed the fresher Tuesday bird walks and linger just a little bit longer in front of the Ranch House to enjoy the pleasant pace before we begin to scurry around like our lizard friends. After a year as manager of the Tucson Audubon Nature Shop here at Agua Caliente, I must admit that my initial gushing enthusiasm is still with me, and my collaborative work with Pima County Parks and the Friends of Agua Caliente has been very satisfying. Engaging with the community through the Nature Shop has rewarded me with many new friends and associates and given Tucson Audubon Society an opportunity to share it's mission as well. As the 'high' season approaches, the Shop will add more hours to serve our visitors and our product line has expanded

with wonderful books for all ages, a great gift line as well as more choices in binoculars. Stop by and see our new custom built countertop, generously donated by Tom Rehm, you'll agree that it adds some zing to our look and efficiency to our work.

Tucson Audubon Society is dedicated to improving the quality of the environment by providing education, conservation, and recreation programs, and environmental leadership and information.

Becky Aparicio
Manager Tucson Audubon Nature Shop
Agua Caliente Park

Hours: Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.
9:00 am—3:30 pm. Please call 760-7881 with any questions or clarification of our operating hours.

The Friends of Agua Caliente also have some items for sale in the Audubon Shop to include postcards with pictures of the Park. Please stop by and check out the great selection of gifts and merchandise.



Tucson Audubon "Big Sit" at beautiful Agua Caliente Park on a fabulous fall morning.