

LA PILITA MUSEUM NEWSLETTER



420 S. Main
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 882-7454

March 2007

Volume VII, Number 4

Web site: lapilita.com

E-mail: lapilita@qwest.net

Gallery & Tiendita Hours

Weekdays:

11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

HOLIDAY HOURS

CLOSED: Easter Monday April 9

Children's Programs

Weekdays

2:30 PM – 4:15 PM

School Field Trips

Contact J. Daniels

pilitajdaniels@qwest.net

Call: 882-7454

Tours:

By appointment-882-7454

MARCH

March 5 – 15 Exhibit

WE ARE HOW WE LIVE

Snapshots of Tucson History

City High School

March 20 - 31 Exhibit

Indians of the Southwest

Carrillo School Fourth Grades

APRIL

SATURDAY April 14

10:00am – 2:00 pm

EXHIBIT & SALE

Gourds and Garden

Concepts

MAY

May 11 VOLUNTEER

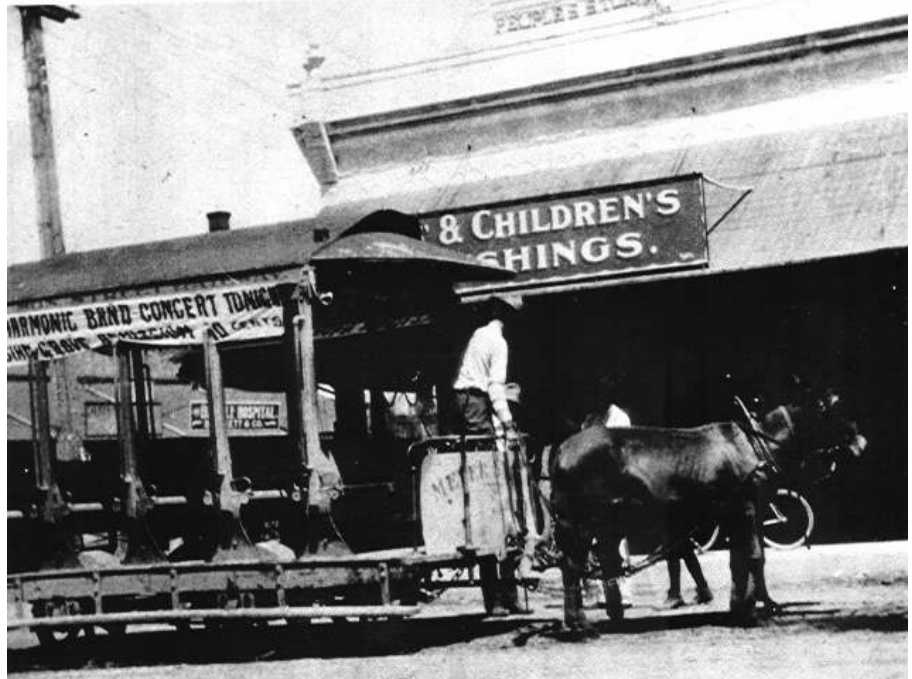
HONORS

AWARD BREAKFAST

7:30 – 9:00

JUNE 1 – AUGUST 20

Closed for the summer



Trolley Banner Reads:

“ PHILHARMONIC BAND CONCERT TONIGHT”

“ ELYSIAN [sic] GROVE ADMISSION 20 CENTS”

Trolley #5, to Elysian Grove (circa 1902-1903) Northeast corner of Congress and Stone

Recent sewer repairs in Barrio Viejo have found residents patiently enduring the inconvenience of water shut offs. But, on the other hand, a significant amount of septic smell will soon disappear and another side benefit may have emerged. In the process, Pima County contract crews unearthed a long strange length of metal buried beneath Meyer street between Kennedy and Simpson.

The metal rail appeared smaller than regular train rail. Museum staff searched in the archives of the Historical Society photo collection. They found two photos that show a mule trolley clearly set upon a rail.

Gene Caywood, local historian, examined the rail and the photos. Gene explained that there was a trolley (beginning in 1898) which traveled Meyer Street from Congress and brought citizens as far as 17th street. That rail had a dogleg which turned on to Mission Road (Simpson) and traveled about 600 yards west to take citizens to the events at Elysian Grove.

The museum has new photos and stories to add to its collection for the neighborhood. A special thanks to the helpful work of Cecilia Vindiola, community outreach coordinator, for keeping everyone informed.

NEW MUSEUM EXHIBITS INTRIGUE STUDENTS



Above: Student docents, Marisa and Craig, look at rail recently excavated from Meyer St.
Right: City crew working on sewer lines in Barrio Viejo



Above: A fourth grader tries on the giant's ring

THANK YOU, ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL

La Pilita Museum recently hosted a presidio tour field trip for St Michael's School fourth graders.

It was one of those rainy Tucson days where the chaperones pulled their coats tighter and the students basked in the occasional rain misting. The students presented their reader's theater versions of "The Bell Ringer of San Augustin" and "El Diablo in Carrillo Gardens". When they left they had really had an "old time" outdoor experience.

Upon returning to school the students elected to have a bake sale for the museum and donated the proceeds to the museum. Mil gracias, St Michael's.

FROM THE GIANT

In the early 1920's the circus came to town and set up on the hill where Carrillo School now stands. Young William Sayre begged his dad for a ring from the circus giant. With the ring came a picture postcard of the giant. Bill kept that special treasure for most of his life. Before his death he gave the ring, the photo, and the story to his friend, Josie Zapata. Ms. Zapata has loaned it to the museum to be enjoyed by all.

Note: The inscription on the ring is "George Auger"

MISSION STATEMENT: It is the mission of La Pilita Association to restore and maintain the historical integrity of La Pilita site and to develop it as a center for research and learning of regional history. It will serve as an extended classroom for students, the neighborhood, and the Tucson Community providing a deeper understanding of early Tucson.

Editors: Joan Daniels, Carol Cribbet-Bell, Virginia Gray. Comments and contributions – 882-7454

Web-site: lapilita.com Maintained by volunteer Pat Muldowney e-mail: lapilita@qwest.net

Newsletter made possible by the generosity of museum members and donors and grants awarded to support the mission.

GOURD AND GARDEN SPRING SALE

Spring Event - April 14th 10 am - 2 pm



MUSEUM FUNDRAISER – Start your spring garden with a beautiful gourd birdhouse or a potted pony tail. La Pilita gallery will feature painted, cut, gourds for garden or home décor. Various artists have donated their work to the event. Outside potted plants will be for sale. Begin your spring garden with a beautiful piece from the Museum.

After you have been inspired by the artists you can purchase raw gourds and try your hand at a birdhouse. Maybe you want some seeds to start your own gourd garden. Seed harvested from the La Pilita Museum wildflower garden will be for sale too-hollyhocks, African daisy, California poppy, and lupine!

Education/Development Director, Joan Daniels and Board Member Ray Martinez search through acres of raw gourds at the Gourd festival in Casa Grande. Exotically shaped gourds were supplied to generous and willing artists who will paint them for the April event.

CACTUS GARDEN OFFICIALLY OPEN Neighbors Invited to Visit



*Feb 20, 2007, Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Cactus Learning Garden
The museum invites all the neighbors to “take a walk in the Garden”*

The ribbon cutting ceremony for the cactus garden was February 20th. Ms. Sugiyama’s third grade class from Carrillo School conducted the ceremony. They thanked the Tucson Cactus Succulent Society, particularly Joe and Patsy Frannae and David Palzkill. Several of the cacti are rescued from construction sites.

Adult volunteers Annette Johnson, April and Dave and the La Pilita Docents spent over 40 hours setting the pathway. Docents painted the identification tags with the help of Sam Casados.

The garden will serve as an outdoor learning space and a tranquil garden for the neighborhood.

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VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

May 11th 7:30 am

La Pilita survives on the energy of its volunteers. Without the fifty-eight adult and student volunteers who give of their time to Pilita projects there would be no Board of Directors, no web-site, no cacti garden, no receptions and events--no museum. Adults alone gave 3,180 hours for 2006. Students also earned service hours and they will be honored with medals and certificates. Roger Carrillo, aide to Nina Trasoff, has been invited to distribute the awards. Continental breakfast begins bright and early at 7:30 am. The recognition ceremony begins at 8:00 am.

MOTHER'S DAY

Don't forget your mom this Mother's Day. La Pilita tiendita has soap, books, plants, and jewelry. The museum invites you to drop by to look over our gifts. Everything is reasonable and everything benefits the museum. Show your mom you love her with a La Pilita "love bug"—only 50cents.

NEW VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT

The museum needs volunteers to host/hostess in the gallery and the tiendita on weekdays from 11 am -2 pm.

Many visitors request that our hours be extended, and especially that we be open on Saturdays. As the gallery/tiendita volunteer cadre increases that will be possible. Currently, the museum needs one volunteer on Monday's from 10 – 2. Call 882-7454 if you are interested. Pilita Museum will be closed for the summer beginning in June.

