



# BENSON CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

Editor: Ron Desmarais

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### From the Editor's Desk

Ron Desmarais, Editor

Things were slow getting off the line with the BC&B Newsletter, but now we are up and running and attempting to keep you informed.

This is our second newsletter of the year and our attempt at having a newsletter every two months. Hopefully we will have enough news and information on what is going on with BC&B to have things to report. That is one of the problems with a small organization where it is mostly meetings, planning, and all the normal events that take place. Can I say, "Boring"?! Of Course I can. However, BC&B is not about words, it is about action. I hope to bring you news in the newsletter that shows you we are acting on items. A lot has been happening since the last newsletter and I would like to share it with you.

So hold on to your hat...

### Sock Hop a Success

The Sock Hop fund raiser succeeded in bringing in \$650 to add to our mural fund. Our next mural will be on the Quiburi Mission building. I gave you a preview of that mural in the previous newsletter.



From left to right, Sharon Quarles, Doug Quarles, Annette Tomek, Lisa Hill, Michelle Johnson

It will be nice to see it up on the front entrance of the nursing home. The Sock Hop, hosted at the Lions Club, was a success, not only in bringing in donations, but by those that danced away the night to the sound of Oldies. So well was the Sock Hop received that those in attendance requested future events be offered under various themes. This is good feedback for our fund raising efforts and bodes well for our future endeavors.



Shown: Terry and Jeannie Reeves

### What you may not know about Quiburi Mission.

Quiburi Mission is a part of the Good Samaritan Society a Lutheran organization and a Medicare-certified rehabilitation and skilled care center in Benson, Arizona. They recently celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in October. What a wonderful service industry to have in our community and a good neighbor in supporting Benson. Congratulations Quiburi on your anniversary and hope to see you around in 30 more years. The name Quiburi is a Sobaipuri Indian word meaning "houses."

Don't ever question the value of volunteers. Noah's Ark was built by volunteers; the Titanic was built by professionals.

Unknown

### OLD BENSON ADVERTISING

<b>BENSON CHOP HOUSE</b>
OPPOSITE DEPOT.
<b>At Bob Stewart's Saloon.</b>
<b>Open Day and Night.</b>
Fresh Eastern Oysters cooked in any style. Game of all kinds. The best place in the town to get a good meal.
de2 <b>CHAS. EVERETTS, Prop</b>

Taken from the *Arizona Weekly Citizen*, December 31, 1882

### Butterfield Stage Days

Benson Clean and Beautiful kicked off the Butterfield Stage Day events with a dance Friday night featuring live music by country western singers Dennis Wittig and Belle Saffold.



Saturday's entertainment included a car show, tractor pulls, and The Trashy Women of Cochise County, and Dr. Andy Mayberry giving rides in a wagon pulled by his oxen, Cuddles and Fluffy.



Also making an appearance were the 9th and 10th Calvary Buffalo Soldiers.

A lot of local talent took the stage when the D.J. offered Karaoke. The car show continued on Sunday and there was a performance by the Dynamite Tumbling Group. Thanks to our sponsors, vendors, and car show entrants, more than \$3,000 was raised for our mural fund.

### **Benson History Notes**

Taken from an article in the Arizona Republican (Phoenix), February 16, 1914 detailing the events.

#### **COUNTRY STAKED OUT SEVERAL MILES AROUND**

#### **Gold Find Near Benson is Followed by Filing of Many Claims.**

More details of the recently reported gold strike near Benson were brought to Phoenix yesterday by Deputy Sheriff Allie Howe of Cochise country. This excitement has now quieted down since all the surrounding country, for several miles about has been stake out and filed upon.

James Clark and Hi Wo, the latter a Chinese restaurateur of Benson, made the first discovery. They brought in numbers of samples that ran from 40 cents to \$300 per ton in yellow metal, such samples being all taken from the surface. With the information of these assays, a rush started for the field and every vehicle in Benson was commandeered to carry gold seekers to the scene of the discovery. This rush quickly resulted in the filing upon all surrounding country that looked at all promising.

The find made by Clark and Hi Wo is about twelve miles out of Benson between the Little Dragoon and Yellowstone mountains.

Well there you have it, Benson's own Gold Rush. Needless to say Sutter's Mill gets all the glory, but Benson had its own day in the sun. So for any of you scooting around the valley in your Quads, keep an eye out for any

shiny yellow stuff lying out in the open.

As an aside I would just like to say that I am on the lookout for other tidbits of Benson history and will try and include "Benson History Note's" as a regular feature, space allowing.



### **Behind the Scene Happenings**

Several behind the scene endeavors are taking place that don't receive a lot of limelight, but still show that BC&B is not sitting on its duff.

### **Clear Coating Murals**

We are in the process of protecting our investment against sun-fading for years to come by clear coating the completed murals with UV protection paint. Even though this is hampered by the wind and weather we will persevere. Stephen Cleveland, a local contractor, is giving us a discounted hourly rate to apply the clear coat with material sold to us at a deep discount by Sherwin Williams of Sierra Vista.

### **Mural Booklets In Final Stages**

Mural booklets are in the final stages of production to aid visitors in locating and visiting our murals. Our original intent was to sell the books for \$3.00, but due to high printing costs we may be forced to raise the selling price to \$4.00 or \$5.00. The additional monies received for the booklets will go towards printing additional copies. Hopefully these will be a good seller.

The booklet will feature each mural with relevant information and a "Look for" section detailing our own hidden object game for specific items to find in the mural. I would give you examples of things to find in our murals, but then that would defeat the purpose of making the mural booklets unique.

Hopefully, this will go a long way towards getting tourist to stop in Benson and spending a little time here. Stopping to eat at our local restaurants or shop in our stores.

### **Benson High School Woodshop**

BC&B sponsored a 50/50 Raffle for the Benson High School woodshop over Saturday and Sunday at the Butterfield Days events. BC&B was able to share the results of the raffle by contributing \$125.00 to the woodshop. Congratulations to those who use the woodshop at the high school. Hopefully this will provide needed supplies for those using the woodshop.

### **What's Happening Round-Up**

Well, we come to the close of the BC&B newsletter. You can see that we have not been idle and things have been moving at a brisk pace since the last newsletter.

Rest assured that we will not slack off and we will be doing more in the coming months to build up our mural fund and set new goals for ourselves. Let me share with you that this is no easy task. With the limited number of volunteers we have, their support and time have been invaluable. Without them we could not do it and for their support and time we thank them.

So stay tuned to the next newsletter and what is taking place with BC&B. Also, give it some thought about joining us in our work. You could make the difference in our next success.