

# HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PALM DESERT The Hourglass



**Summer 2025** 

Ed. Merilee Colton

# April's Picnic in the Park(ing) Lot a Great Success!

After a short business meeting, the members enjoyed good food and a fun raffle













#### **President's Letter**



Thank you all for all your participation and support during this last quarter. We have all helped to make our organization stronger and more successful. We concluded our visitor season with our last Friday Night Lecture at the Palm Desert Public Library in May. This last season we had a very successful partnership with the library. Our numbers were higher than ever and our donations were substantial as well.

We are all excited for our Midsummer Madness potluck and Volunteer Appreciation event, and of course the opportunity drawing, on July 20<sup>th</sup>, which will be held this year at the Palm Desert Country Club Association Clubhouse, a new but familiar venue for us, as the Historical Society met there in the summers until about 15 years ago.

We have revamped our Mini Muster Committee and are working closely with the schools, fire department, Rotary, and City of Palm Desert to create a more successful program. This year, for example, we are changing the event to March, as it won't be in the middle of fire season, making it better for all.

At the museum we will be making some changes to the firehouse apparatus bay (West-Prinzmetal Room) exhibits, adding some original works of art by some of the desert's famous artists. We also will be adding another 15 facings to our Breezeblock garden. Archival work will continue through the summer with our archivist, Rochelle, and her volunteers.

Our Architecture and Design Committee is working on plans for our partnership with Modernism Week in February, with hopefully three events in Palm Desert in 2026, which always sell out. Remember that tickets for Modernism Week go on sale November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 for February 2026 tours and activities.

We are excited for the museum opening in October and another successful visitors' season. See you all soon,

**David Toltzmann** 



## **Archivist's Corner**



Last summer, while the museum was closed, we worked on a number of projects that we needed to do when there were no visitors. It was so successful that we decided to do it again this year. If you'd like to help, contact the HSPD at 760-346-6588 and leave a message, or contact me directly at <a href="mailto:archivist@gmail.com">archivist@gmail.com</a>.

## 2025 Summer Projects:

- *Collection Cull Sessions* so that we can officially discard non-Coachella Valley and non-Palm Desert materials appropriately.
- **Digital File Organization** We are also renaming all the remaining files with a standardized naming system to make things easier to find.
- **New Donation Organization** we've had two major donations recently, so we need to get those materials indexed and organized.
- Photo Scanning We have vintage photos in our collection that need to be scanned and described.

## Rochelle McCune, HSPD Archivist

HSPD MISSION STATEMENT
TO COLLECT, PRESERVE AND RECORD THE
HISTORY OF OUR CITY AND COMMUNITIES, AND
TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES
AND ARTIFACTS THROUGH EXHIBITS,
PUBLICATIONS, PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

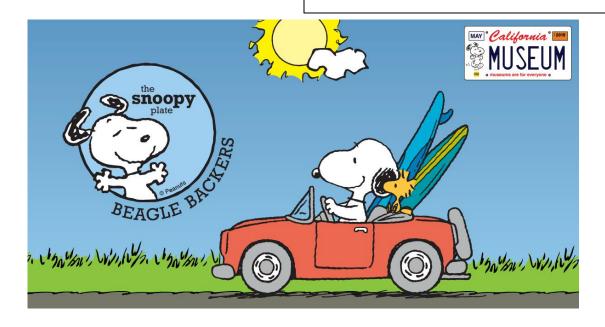
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#### **HSPD OFFICERS**

David Toltzmann, President; Beverly James, Vice-President; Tracey MacDonald, Treasurer; Merilee Colton, Secretary

#### **DIRECTORS**

Linda Holden Clode, Nerl Porras, Erika Sharp, JoEllen Hughes, Christel Prokay, Charlie Franks, Barbara Keedy-Eastes, Leslie Roth and Rob Pitchford, Past President



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### THESE BUSINESSES SUPPORT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY – LET'S SUPPORT THEM!















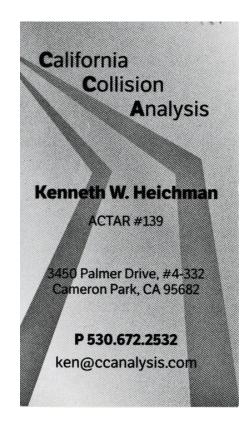
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Business members (\$100 yearly) receive a free business card-sized ad in every issue of the newsletter, and the opportunity to place business cards and brochures in the museum. Larger display ads in the newsletter are available. Call the office at 760-346-6588 to find out more.

# Would you like to be a member? Would you like to gift a membership?

Fill out the information below and mail along with credit card information or a check payable to **Historical Society of Palm Desert** to:

HSPD, P.O. Box 77, Palm Desert, CA 92261-0077

#### OR

Join or renew on our website: visit www.hspd.org and go to Get Involved/Become A Member

Name		Membership Level - July 1 to June 30 yearly
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