

The New Season Is Here

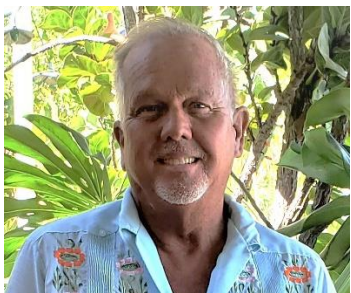
The Historical Society calendar is filling up, don't miss an event!

October 3, 10-3	Opening Day for the Season at the Museum
October 11, 11-1	Opening Reception with light refreshments – all welcome
October 17, 5:30-6:30	Friday Night Lecture Series begins with Kurt Leuschner on Desert Birds
October 26	Golf Cart Parade – see the famous fire truck
November 17, 11:30-2	Fall Luncheon at Mitch's on El Paseo
February 19, 2-5	Modernism Week at the Museum featuring the Breeze Block Garden

Plus, new exhibits at the museum featuring vintage desert ranch furniture, original artwork by noted desert artists, and the Friday Night Lecture series at the Palm Desert Library each month except December.

Come visit the museum! The museum is open 10-3 Friday through Monday from October through Memorial Day each year.

President's Letter



Well, it's that time again. We're waking up from a long, hot and humid summer and looking forward to an invigorating fall. There's lots going on this coming year at the HSPD!

Thank you all for attending the Midsummer Madness potluck, it was our most successful one yet. We really enjoyed the venue with all its space, and who doesn't like a good old-fashioned potluck with the myriad delicious food choices.

A special **Welcome** to all our new members, we are so excited to have you on board. We are opening the museum for the season on Friday October 3rd, and if you are interested, we always need docents to assist our patrons. We can train you and get you involved, and as a special bonus, you will learn our local history. Call the office at 760-346-6588 and leave a message.

Speaking of our opening, we are very excited about our new exhibits. We have furniture from the Nina Shumway ranch; a wood carving by O. E. L. Graves; original paintings and drawings by Swinnerton, Hilton and Morrey; and of course, our extensive Carl Bray collection. Also, our Breeze Block Garden is now complete with 25 different styles, new and salvaged.

Then, on Saturday, October 11th we will have our formal Museum Opening event, with light refreshments, from 11-1. I invite you all to be there and celebrate our accomplishments.

Our Friday Night Lecture series starts October 17th at the Palm Desert Library. This series is planned for each month through May, 2026, generally on the third Friday. You will be notified via Constant Contact for each lecture. The first speaker is Kurt Leuschner, Professor of Natural Resources at the College of the Desert. His specialties include ornithology, entomology, desert ecology, and natural history. His lecture will be on the birds of the desert.

The 61st Annual Golf Cart Parade on El Paseo, sponsored by the Palm Desert Area Chamber of Commerce, will take place on Sunday, October 26th. Come out for this fun event and see the HSPD fire truck in the parade.

Our annual Fall Luncheon is on November 12th at Mitch's on El Paseo. It's a great time to celebrate another season, meet city council members and staff, enjoy delicious food, and of course, bid on raffle items. We will be sending out invitations via Constant Contact; your RSVP will confirm your choice of entree.

A Modernism Week-sponsored event at the HSPD museum will be the new and expanded Breeze Block Garden display. This event takes place on February 19th from 2-5 PM. Tickets will be posted on the Modernism Week 2026 website starting on November 1st; this is a free event, but tickets are required.

See you soon!

David Toltzmann

Archivist's Corner



We had a great summer in the archives while the museum was closed! The archives volunteers worked on a number of projects:

- We held multiple Collection Cull Sessions and officially discarded (deaccessioned) 350+ items that were non-Coachella Valley and non-Palm Desert materials.
- We made great inroads on our digital file organization by renaming all files with a standardized naming that matches how we organize physical materials. We also managed to delete 300,000+ duplicate digital files that we found while organizing them.

- We've almost completed organizing our Research Files, the last task being to attach proper, typed labels on all the file folders.

We're still working on:

- New Donation Organization - we've had some 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.

If you'd like to help, contact the HSPD at 760-346-6588 and leave a message, or contact me directly at archivist@gmail.com.

Rochelle McCune, HSPD Archivist

Midsummer Madness Potluck

This summer's Midsummer Madness potluck was held at the Palm Desert Country Club Association, where we used to have our Midsummer Madness get-togethers. Everyone was happy with the return to the historical venue. The food was great and the raffle was lots of fun! This summer's potluck featured a very special thank-you to all our wonderful volunteers.



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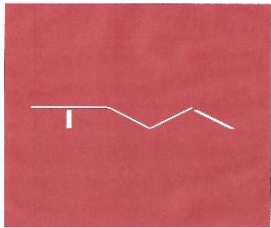
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Business members (\$100 yearly) receive a free business card-sized ad in every issue of the newsletter, and the opportunity to place business cards and brochures in the museum. Larger display ads in the newsletter are available. Call the office at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

☐ *Individual \$50*

☐ *Family \$60*

☐ *Business \$100*

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