

# The Skull Valley Historical Society (SVHS)

## 2025 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



### 2024 SPEAKER PROGRAMS

Thank you to all who helped make our 2024 speaking events a success! Whether you attended or volunteered your time, we appreciate you. A special Thank You to Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for their donation of a projector that along with a new large format screen has drastically improved the quality of our programs.

In September we welcomed archaeologist Michael Kellett, who spoke about the form and function of various hilltop architecture in and around Skull Valley and in October former Executive Director of Sharlot Hall Fred Veil taught us about the historic Battle of Skull Valley.

We had great feedback from the community after both events and hope to welcome them again for future programs. A special thank you to Wesley Schaffer and his musical group who performed at each event, they are always a terrific addition!

Our next program will be at the end of March, the details of the event will be shared on [www.skullvalley.net](http://www.skullvalley.net) and on our Facebook page soon. We hope to see you there!

Remember to visit the Skull Valley website at [www.skullvalley.net](http://www.skullvalley.net) for information on community resources, upcoming events, and much more! If you have an event or other information you would like to publicize, send the details to [info@skullvalley.net](mailto:info@skullvalley.net) to have it added to the website.

### SVHS COMMUNITY CENTER

Remember the SV Community Center is not exclusively for the monthly SVHS board meetings and the annual SV Elementary School Christmas program. It is also available to serve other local organizations, such as the Skull Valley Cemetery Board of Directors and Ruger Ranch HOA, as well as for community members' graduation and birthday parties, wedding receptions, celebrations of life, etc.

Members of the community can contact any SVHS board member or email us at [info@skullvalley.net](mailto:info@skullvalley.net) to request use of the building.

### SKULL VALLEY CEMETERY



Founded in 1921, it is located at 1220 Iron Springs Road. Thanks to a generous donation from the Eugene Delk family, the Skull Valley Cemetery became a landmark and cherished place of final resting for families and descendants. Samuel Abner Kuykendall, son of Benjamin and Laura Kuykendall and a casualty of World War 1 during the Meuse/Argonne Campaign, was the first to be laid to rest at the Skull Valley Cemetery in June 1921. His was also the first of many military internments and veterans from all American military conflicts are represented at the cemetery, from the Civil War through the War on Terror. Incorporated as a non-profit in 1988, the cemetery has a total of 352 internments. Today you will find a well-maintained testimony of honor to the residents and families in our care. During your next visit to the cemetery, please notice the cemetery directory, constructed with materials reclaimed from the old Skull Valley railroad station. For questions or further information please email us at [skull\\_valley\\_cemetery.1921@gmail.com](mailto:skull_valley_cemetery.1921@gmail.com) or call us at (928) 531-9916. Check the cemetery website at [www.skullvalley.net/sv-cemetery](http://www.skullvalley.net/sv-cemetery)

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## THE SKULL VALLEY DEPOT AND SECTION HOUSE MUSEUMS

During Summer 2025 the museum received additional items for display and a lovely new picnic table that encouraged several visitors to bring a lunch and enjoy the shade of the beautiful cottonwood trees. Tom Veatch is currently working on a rustic display box for a violin donated by Robert and Bill Brown. The violin belonged to Chess Shupp who played it at weddings and other functions in Skull Valley in the early 1900s. Be sure to stop by the museum to see this wonderful piece of local history. The Railway Depot and Section House will open Sundays from 1:00 to 4:00 from May 25<sup>th</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup> and will also be open during the Skull Valley Car Show (date TBA) and the Pie Social on October 4<sup>th</sup>.



3150 S. Old Skull Valley Road



Photo credit: Mark Wood

## 2024 ANNUAL SKULL VALLEY EVENTS

**The 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Pie Social** held on October 5<sup>th</sup> featured a wide variety of pie slices covered with ice cream as well as live music and unique vendor booths. The hosts of the Depot and Section House museums made the Annual Skull Valley Pie Social a day to remember for history enthusiasts and pie eaters alike.

The Skull Valley Historical Society sponsors these annual socials and the 2025 event promises to be bigger and more delicious than ever so **SAVE THE DATE:** The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Pie Social will be on Saturday, October 4, 2025.

**The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Skull Valley Car Show**, benefitting the Skull Valley Volunteer Fire Department, drew 75 pre-entries but due to the uncertain weather, only 50 entries made it out. Despite a very cold start to the day, it ended up being a beautiful afternoon with perfect temperatures, a welcomed change from the heat of the 2023 event. The Depot and Section House Museum buildings were open and Sky Daddy kept the crowd signing all day. Stay tuned to [www.skullvalley.net](http://www.skullvalley.net) for more information about the 2025 car show.

## MEET YOUR SKULL VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

C. Paul Harris, President

Kellie Raymond, Treasurer

Lindsay Haberern, Programs

Carolyn Harris, Board Member

Gary Godwin, Board Member

Sarah Wright, Secretary

Tom Veatch, Museum Host

Katherine Wood, Membership

Judy Burges, Board Member

Cindy Verdugo, Board Member