Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Presents:

“Casa Grande Ruins and Middle Gila Valley Archaeology & History” Carpooling Tour

Saturday November 20, 2010
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Departing from Pima Community College, 401 N. Bonita Ave., Tucson

Experience the depth of history in central Arizona with a visit to the Coolidge-Florence area of the Gila River Valley. This tour includes an extended morning visit to the archaeological features and museum in the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument in Coolidge. The Casa Grande Ruins site, which was a pivotal community of the Hohokam Indians between A.D. 1300 and 1450, includes not only the “Great House” (Casa Grande) for which the Monument was named, but also large public structures interpreted as platform mounds and as a ballcourt used for ritual purposes.

After lunch in the Monument’s picnic area we’ll get drive-by views of the Grewe archaeological site (predecessor village to the Casa Grande Ruins) and the Hohokam platform mound and ballcourt at the Adamsville Ruin on our way to Florence, the Pinal County Seat.

In Florence we’ll take a guided tour of the Pinal County Historical Society Museum, a little-known museum really big on Gila Valley history. It offers wonderful displays, unexpected information, and some surprises.

Next we’ll drive north from Florence across the Gila River to view the Escalante Ruin (which also features a large platform mound) and to visit the Poston Butte Ruin, a Preclassic Hohokam village with a ballcourt and huge trash mounds. Escalante and Poston, which are in an undeveloped Sonoran Desert area, offer the true feeling of being within large archaeological ruins alongside the Gila. Both are being considered for incorporation into the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument.

Your guide, Allen Dart, M.A., is a Registered Professional Archaeologist and Executive Director of Tucson’s not-for-profit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. Al has been a recipient of the Arizona Governor’s Award in Public Archaeology for his efforts to bring archaeology and history to the public.

Participants will provide their own transportation and are encouraged to car-pool. Driving time one-way from Tucson to Coolidge is less than 1½ hours. Wear comfortable hiking shoes and bring your own picnic lunch and water.

Fee $40 ($32 for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center & Pueblo Grande Museum Auxiliary members)
Includes all entry fees and a donation to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Call Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 520-798-1201 or email us at info@oldpueblo.org to register

Please visit our web site at www.oldpueblo.org
COST AND PAYMENT POLICY: Reservations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Full payment is due upon billing. Tour cost includes a tax-deductible contribution to Old Pueblo in an amount to be determined based on tour expenses compared to revenues after all expenses have been paid. Entrance fee savings from passes, permits, memberships, etc. will become part of the donation to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. We welcome singles and couples.

CANCELLATIONS made 30 days or more before departure will not be charged. Cancellations 8 to 30 days before departure will be refundable at 50% of the fee paid unless the cancelled space can be filled. Cancellations 0 to 7 days prior to departure date are not refundable. All cancellation notices must be received in writing or via email and will become effective as of the date received. Cancellations after the final payment date of a program will result in forfeiture of all money paid. Failure to pay the fee by the date due can result in your reservation being cancelled. No refund will be made for leaving a program in progress. Trip insurance is highly recommended. Old Pueblo reserves the right to cancel programs while in progress and to take action as needed on an individual or group basis, when in Old Pueblo’s sole opinion the health, safety, or well-being of participants requires such action. The tour itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance if the change is under the control of Old Pueblo.

TRANSPORTATION: Participants are required to provide their own transportation for the tour and are encouraged to carpool.

MEALS: NO MEALS are included in the tour fee. Registrants need to bring their own lunches, water, and snacks.

DEPARTURE AND RETURN TIMES: The tour will depart from the southeast corner of the parking lot at Pima Community College (PCC) Community Campus, 401 N. Bonita Avenue in Tucson. Parking at PCC is at your own risk. Anticipated return time to Tucson is 6 p.m. Participants are responsible for their own transportation; carpoolers are asked to provide their drivers with some cash to help pay for gasoline. Driving time one-way from Tucson to Casa Grande Ruins National Monument is approximately 75 minutes.

ACCESSIBILITY: Total walking/hiking distance is about one mile roundtrip. Participants can walk/hike as much or as little as they wish.

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS: You must be in good physical and mental health to do this tour. We are concerned about your health and safety, and our tour leaders have first-aid and CPR training, but medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible during all or part of the tour. You are responsible for selecting events appropriate to your abilities and limitations. If you have any doubts about your ability to participate, please contact us prior to registering. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported when the reservation is made, and a follow-up explanatory letter may be required.

PARTICIPANTS MUST ABIDE by all federal and state regulations pertaining to visitation to historic sites, antiquities, and artifact sites. Please do not collect artifacts or create or contribute to artifact piles or displays. Please read about protected-site etiquette at www.ci.phoenix.az.us/PUEBLO/cietiquette.html.

MEMBERSHIP: Becoming a member of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center opens a world of new discoveries. Trip fee for nonmembers of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center will include a 1-year “Friend” membership, which provides a subscription to the Old Pueblo Archaeology electronic bulletin and a 20% discount on our publications and some of our trip and course fees. Contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or visit our web site www.oldpueblo.org for membership details.