

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center presents:

Native Roads:

A Pictorial Guide to the Hopi and Navajo Nations

With
Jim Turner,
Historian

Guest Presenter for
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's
"Third Thursday Food for Thought"
Dinner at Village Inn Restaurant,
6251 N. Oracle Rd., Tucson

January 19, 2017
6 to 8:30 p.m.

*Make your reservations through
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center**

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

Horseshoe Bend on the Colorado River, courtesy of Jim Turner

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EXPLORE. SHARE. EXPERIENCE.

This month's Third Thursday presentation, made possible by Arizona Humanities, covers the broad area from Flagstaff, Arizona, to Farmington, New Mexico. In addition to detailing trading posts, prehistoric sites, and the geological wonders of the Four Corners region, this virtual tour uses beautiful slides to present the history, folklore, and legends of this unique domain. Historian Jim Turner was editor of the third edition of *Native Roads: A Complete Motoring Guide to the Navajo and Hopi Nations* written by Fran Kosik and first published in 1995. He shares his travel experiences, insights, and enthusiasm that he acquired for this enchanting region as he traced the original book's native roads before the newest edition of it was published.

Describing his talk, Jim said "My 'Native Roads' presentation came about after I was asked to update the third edition of Fran Kosik's book, *Native Roads, A Motoring Guide to the Navajo and Hopi Nations*. Author Fran Kosik went to work for the Indian Health Service at Tuba City as soon as she graduated from nursing school, and she spent more than three decades learning about the culture, geology, geography, history, and archaeology of the area.

The book first came out in 1995, and she did not want to update it, so I was asked if I would like to do it. It was the largest project I'd ever taken in my five years as an editor at Rio Nuevo Publishers, and I jumped at the chance."

(See more about *Native Roads* and Jim Turner on next page.)



**Monsterslayer carving
found on a Native Road,
courtesy of Jim Turner**

**Guests may select and purchase dinner at the restaurant. There is no entry fee.
Donations will be requested to benefit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's educational efforts.**

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED by 3 p.m. on the Wednesday before the program because the Fire Code limits meeting room capacity and the restaurant needs advance notice to schedule sufficient staff for our event.

*** Contact Old Pueblo at 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org for your restaurant reservation or more information.**

Native Roads (Continued)

After making seemingly endless phone calls to see what had closed since 1995 (trading posts are a major part of the book) and lots of research to see what was new to the area, Jim set out for a 10-day trip to the Four Corners in January to get first-hand views of the areas Kosik had described and to visit several additional locations to add to the book: Shiprock, Farmington and Aztec Ruins, plus a new route from Farmington to Gallup.

Unlike the book, this month's presentation has many more pictures, in color, many taken on Jim's editing trip. After seeing his presentation those who are new to the topic will be eager to go on the Native Roads and those familiar with the area will desire to return to revisit fond memories.

A brief autobiography of this month's guest presenter Jim Turner: "When people learn that I get to travel, take pictures, and write about interesting places for a living, they think what a great job. And it is, indeed, but I hasten to tell them that I had a lot of crappy jobs before I got this one. My résumé includes, but is not limited to: gutting fish in Ventura, California; delivering furniture; shuffling boxes in a plastic factory; and furniture refinishing.

"I completed my masters in U.S. history while working full time as a secretary at the University of Arizona Chemistry Department, and became the historian for the Arizona Historical Society. There, I had to give up being a Tucsonan and become an Arizonan, working with more than 65 museums all over the state. Since I was in charge of a grant program, I like to say I have many friends in small places.

"In 2008 I was co-author of *The Arizona Story*, a fourth-grade Arizona history textbook. The publisher then approached me to write a centennial book. After being denied permission to write it from the powers that be, I took early retirement from the Arizona Historical Society and published *Arizona: A Celebration of the Grand Canyon State*, in October 2011. The book sold 7,000 copies in three printings and just went out of print a few months ago.

"*Native Roads* was my first traveling project for Rio Nuevo Publishers, but I got an even bigger opportunity in 2015, when I was asked to travel the length of the Green and Colorado Rivers and write a pictorial souvenir book, *The Mighty Colorado: From the Glaciers to the Gulf*. Like *Native Roads*, the book is a combination of geology, geography, history, anthropology, and lots of "gee whiz facts" about how glaciers are formed and why so many people think (incorrectly) that oil comes from decaying dinosaurs.

"This year I had the privilege to travel to Oregon and write another book, *Crater Lake and Beyond: Land of Fire and Ice*, which will be on the stands April. With two more books in the works, my slogan is definitely "better late than never."

"In addition to Arizona Humanities and Road Scholar (formerly Elderhostel) presentations, I have added several regular monthly clients, mostly senior assisted living centers. I like to say I have been



Agathla Peak photo courtesy of Jim Turner

a public speaker for more than twenty years, and was only boring for the first five.

"At Arizona Historical Society I liked to say I had the dream job . . . I'm reminded of something historian Will Barnes said about his work in the early Forest Service in northern Arizona. Paraphrasing, "The job was so remote that he only saw his boss four times in as many years, and the boss only saw him twice."