



Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's "Third Thursday Food for Thought" Series

Unsung Heroes: Search and Rescue – First Responders – Southern Arizona, 1901-2000

A Zoom History Presentation by Charles R. "Butch" Farabee, Jr.

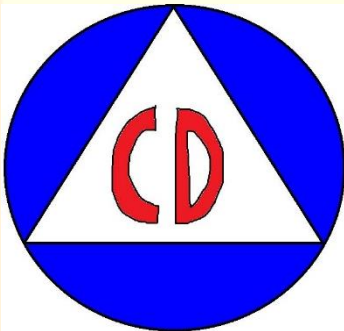


1958 - Headlines of Tucson's morning newspaper. This November 15 tragedy was a watershed event in the region's First Responder history.

November 15, 1958: Tucson suffered the second greatest snowfall on record. Not forecast. Three young Boy Scouts tragically perished hiking nearby. Nearly 750 searchers – mostly volunteers – were involved for 19 days, the largest search in Arizona history. Butch Farabee was one of them.

How and why did rescue teams first organize in this country? Know anything about regional fire departments and sheriffs' departments with their first responders? Local ambulance services were first run by funeral homes, and paramedics came on the scene with what popular TV show of the 1970s?

The Civil Air Patrol began a week before Pearl Harbor, saving hundreds of thousands since. Military and hospital medivac services started in 1947.



1951- With the Atomic Age, the world lost its innocence with the Cold War.

Remember Civil Defense's "Duck and Cover" during the Cold War of the 1950s? Life-saving result of Titan missiles in Arizona or of the Border Patrol and its incalculable contributions! The advent of Mountain and Desert Search and Rescue?

When and where did "911" begin? Why Arizona's "Stupid Motorists' Law?"

Numerous lost children, some never found! Massive flooding, tornadoes, fires, and much more.

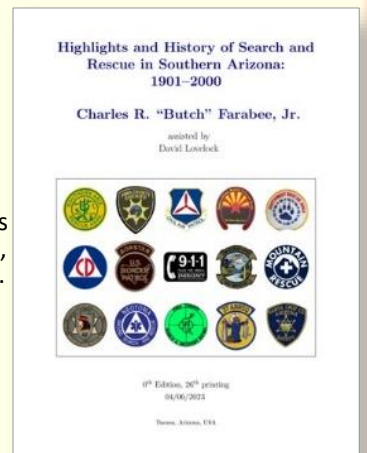
This program is based on Butch's recently finished 599-page book, which is FREE, digital, and online.



1968 - On July 1, New York City was the first city to implement the 9-1-1 system. In its first 13 hours over 40,000 calls were handled, mostly from the curious. Thank Indiana Congressman Edward J. Rousch for these three numbers that have helped tens of millions of people.



1945- Helicopters, now totally commonplace and their use almost assumed, first began civilian rescues in Arizona. This "Jolly Green Giant" was stationed at Tucson's Davis-Monthan Air Force Base for nearly five decades.



Thursday November 21, 2024

7 pm ARIZONA/Mountain Standard Time

To register for the Zoom program click on this link:

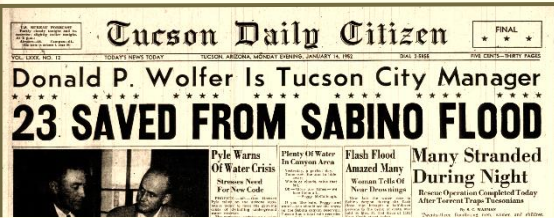
https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_VSALZFjKQgmYSH3M0RQ3Tw

For more information contact Old Pueblo at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.

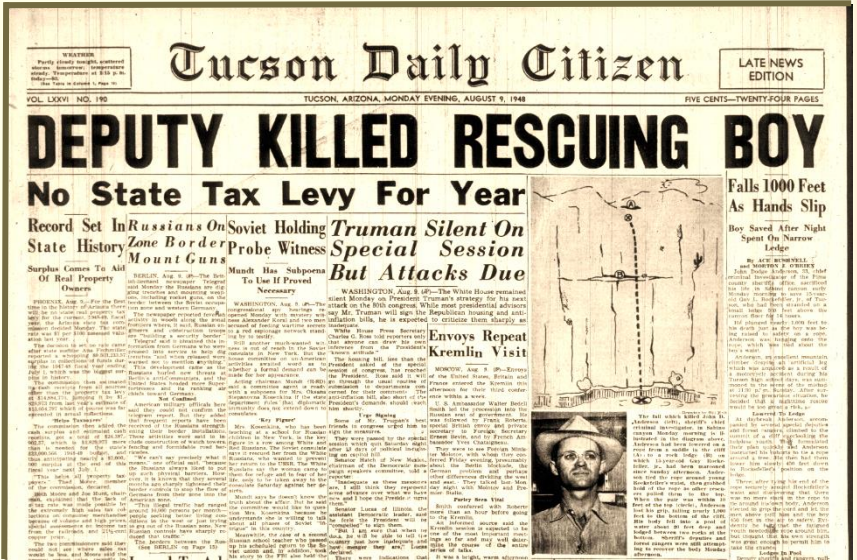
Unsung Heroes: Search and Rescue - First Responders . . .



1934 - Hundreds of volunteers search 19 days for first grader. She survives being buried alive; case is never solved.



1952 - Hundreds of unsuspecting outdoor enthusiasts have required rescuing by volunteer Search and Rescue teams, along with Law Enforcement. Sabino Canyon near Tucson is a very favorite recreation spot.



1948 - Pima County Sheriff's Investigator falls to his death within just feet of reaching 17-year-old boy. The entire fall is captured on film by reporter and appeared widespread in national news the next day.

This month's Third Thursday presenter Butch Farabee graduated from Tucson High (Class of 1960), then somehow received a BS in Zoology from the University of Arizona. His work as a Tucson Policeman for three years was followed by 35 years with the National Park Service in roles from trail crew ("maybe my best years") to field ranger to retiring in 2000 as Acting Superintendent of Glacier National Park.

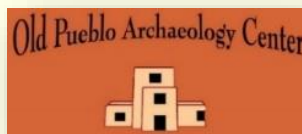
Butch served in 11 amazing park areas including Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Sequoia, Kings Canyon, Rainbow Bridge, and Death Valley. He then managed four Texas State Parks. He earned a Master's in Public Administration and went to the FBI Academy and, after 65 years still scuba dives.

He had five books published on Search and Rescue and Park Ranger-ing before his sixth – *Highlights and History of Search and Rescue in Southern Arizona: 1901-2000* – came out a year ago. The basis of this month's Third Thursday program, this book is digital, all on-line, and FREE.

Butch is most proud, however, of his two sons and four beautiful grandchildren.



For more information contact Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at info@oldpueblo.org or 520-798-1201.



Photos courtesy of Butch Farabee