Zane Grey was undoubtedly the most famous person living in Rim Country during the 1920’s. Grey wrote 24 books with an Arizona setting and 14 of those were set above or below the Mogollon Rim. He put the people and places he encountered, recognizably, in his books. Grey might still have been an important character in Rim Country history even if he had not constructed a cabin just below the Rim on land he had purchased from Anderson Lee “Babe” Haught. The cabin was first occupied in October 1921 and took on a life of its own after Zane Grey left in 1929 never to return. After nearly 30 years of abandonment, it was resurrected in the original location by Bill Goettl and became a private museum. The cabin burned to the ground in June 1990 and was resurrected again in 2005 on Northern Gila County Historical Society, Inc. property in Green Valley Park by the Zane Grey Cabin Foundation.

A Zane Grey Cabin Photo History starts on page 3.
It’s Holiday Shopping Time

The Rim Country Museum Gift Shop has unique items for all your gift needs and your purchases help us support our mission.

Open 10-4 Fridays and Saturdays.

Check out these gift ideas:

- Large selection of books about the history of Payson, pioneer life, attractions in the area, cookbooks, outdoor guides, and trips to take.
- Extensive collection of Zane Grey novels and books on the author and his time spent in the area.
- Clothing – Payson-themed t-Shirts (both short and long-sleeved), sweatshirts, and women’s tops in a variety of colors in sizes from small to 3XL.
- Browse the Payson and animal-specific hats and a wide assortment of unique socks for adults.
- Kids gifts - Broad selection of stuffed animals including those native to our area, polished rocks, agates, arrowheads, books, etc.
- Assortment of bags, packs, purses and totes.
- Special gift items – coffee mugs, Christmas ornaments, souvenirs, scenic prints, and a variety of other items.
100 Years of the Zane Grey Cabin
Payson, Arizona

Lumber being delivered in 1921 to the cabin site Zane Grey had purchased from Babe Haught.

The nearly finished cabin with Zane Grey sitting on the steps.

Lillian Wilhelm painting southwestern designs on the fireplace.

The Cabin after being abandoned nearly for 30 years.
Northern Gila County Historical Society Newsletter

The interior after 30 years.  
A new roof before rebuilding.

Four views as the cabin appeared in the 1970’s and 1980’s
The View remains the same

After the Dude Fire

Bill Goettl Memorial at the cabin site
The Zane Grey Cabin Today...

June 2005 – Green Valley Park

Opening - October 2005

Zane Grey Cabin Free Day
As a service to the Rim Country residents, the Zane Grey Cabin will be open for viewing without cost on Cabin Free Day Saturday, January 29th 2022. Bring your friends and come view this historical gem here in Payson.

October 2021
Sometimes you just have to keep your sense of humor!

The hands-on “Miss Julia’s Schoolroom” exhibit has been very popular. Our younger visitors enjoy writing with chalk on individual slates and on the chalkboards on the wall. Often they play school...with one of them sitting at the teacher’s desk that was actually used in her classroom. Everything seemed to be going so well.

One day a visitor pointed out that our alphabet strip had no “W”! How could this have happened and how can I fix it?

As a former elementary school teacher, I do know that there are 26 letters in the alphabet. When ordering the strip of vinyl letters, did I neglect to request that all 26 be included? A new set of alphabet letters could be ordered, and we could cut a new board (since the present one has no room for the missing “Ww”). In the meantime, the missing “Ww” had to be addressed.

Problem solved...by a little cartoon mouse holding the missing letters and a dialog box saying “Look what I found!” It adds some humor and lets our visitors know that we really do know how many letters are in the alphabet! I think we’ll keep it!
NGCHS Annual Meeting and Board Election

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the annual meeting for 2021 was again held virtually. Annual reports were emailed to NGCHS members and the vote for the NGCHS Board was held electronically.

There were two candidates for the board: Pete Bernard was up for re-election and Connie Latham - who had served on the board previously - was again running for the board. Both were elected to the board for 2021-2024 terms.

Officers were re-elected to their positions at the October 2021 meeting:

- Sandy Carson - President;
- Lisa Rasley - Vice President;
- Donna Daly - Recording Secretary;
- Rebecca Fillerup - Corresponding Secretary;
- Barb Chism - Treasurer.

Rim Country Museum at the Payson Chamber Expo

On October 23rd, a Museum team of volunteers participated in the Payson Chamber of Commerce Expo. The team met with local businesses and community members to share our mission, represent local authors and acquaint visitors with the Museum, Cabin and Gift Shop.

Holiday Closure

The Rim Country Museum and Zane Grey Cabin will be closed on Saturdays Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.
The 1940s Farm Wagon Finds a Home
By Donna Daly

Three years ago just before Thanksgiving a group of volunteers from the historical society moved a 1940s farm wagon to the museum grounds from its location several miles away. This might not seem like a mighty task...but the wagon had no working wheels!

Precariously perched on “support wagons” (that actually had wheels), the farm wagon was very carefully rolled onto a trailer and towed to the museum.

The wagon sat nestled between the tool shed and the museum propped up on cement blocks for several years. During this time various repairs were made by Pete Bernard and Sandy Carson and the wagon was eventually moved to the Farm Equipment exhibit. The restored wheels now turn, but the wagon bed rests on concrete pillars to keep it securely in place. A brown canvas tarp was recently installed on the wagon (as seen in the photo below).
Scholarships Available

Are you a PHS or Center for Success senior graduating this year? The Northern Gila County Historical Society is offering two $2000 scholarships to deserving applicants. The scholarships are for the college or vocational (trade) school of your choice.

The application is available on our website: www.rimcountrymuseum.org or the PHS website. You can also pick up an application at the Rim Country Museum Gift Shop, 700 Green Valley Parkway during business hours, Friday & Saturday 10am-4pm.

Applications are due April 1.

Questions, email ngchs82@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars!

Zane Grey Cabin Free Day

As a service to the Rim Country residents, the Zane Grey Cabin will be open for viewing without cost on Cabin Free Day Saturday, January 29th 2022. Bring your friends and come view this historical gem here in Payson.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Northern Gila County Historical Society, Inc. does not discriminate in its staff, board, volunteers, volunteer committees or recipients of services on the basis of a person’s race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, veteran status, or mental or physical disability or any other status prohibited by applicable law.

Calendar of Events

2nd Tuesday—Board of Directors Meeting, 9am

Current Hours for the Rim Country Museum and Zane Grey Cabin

10-4 Friday and Saturday
Northern Gila County Historical Society Newsletter

Northern Gila County Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!

Northern Gila County
Historical Society
Mission Statement:

To acquire and preserve artifacts and writings relating to the history and culture of Northern Gila County for exhibit and Research.

Thank you to those who had the vision to preserve our past!