

NEWS

Museum Update

Contributions by:

Roxanna Erickson-Klein, Kristina Erickson, and Marnie McGann

We at the Milton and Elizabeth Erickson Museum in Phoenix, Arizona continue to welcome visitors from around the world with enthusiasm and joy. Our concierge, Cecilia Gratz, is the primary tour director. Guests not only get a personalized tour of the home, Dr. Erickson's office, and grounds, but Cecilia complements the tour with color photographs, which are then emailed to visitors and recorded in our visitor book.

As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, the majestic, old Palo Verde tree that dominated the back yard, and of which the Ericksons were so proud, sadly, collapsed in a thunderstorm last fall. Following Ericksonian philosophy, the loss was turned into a positive gain -- with preservation of much of the trunk, which now serves as the focal point of photographs, just as the tree did during its life. Branches from the Palo Verde have been fashioned into key chains and pens, now available at the museum gift shop.

This year, along with archiving and preservation, the primary effort at the museum has been the development of the landscaping on the property. The transformation of the front and side yards to desert xeriscaping is nearly

complete, and existing foliage and cacti have been incorporated into the design. Also, more benches will be placed to allow visitors to enjoy the restful, peaceful, oasis that is found at the museum.

The Erickson family and Foundation continue in their efforts to add to the memorabilia displayed at the museum. We receive, and hope to continue to receive, important and meaningful item from family, friends, students, colleagues, and people around the world. Each of these is treasured and displayed, so that visitors can study and reflect upon the life and contributions of Dr. Erickson. Those of us who are active in preserving Dr. Erickson's legacy strive to give the museum personality, and a sense of the history of the professional and personal life of Dr. Erickson.

Although all Erickson family members contribute to the museum on an ongoing basis, three of Dr. Erickson's children, Robert, Roxanna, and Kristina are actively involved daily and give readily of their time and resources to develop and enhance the collections, display, and preservation of the Erickson home. Currently, Roxanna is spearheading an inventory project, which involves writing descriptions and archiving each donation, possession, and object at the museum.

Fundraisers and donations have further enabled development of the museum. In May, Roxanna Erickson-Klein was joined by therapist, Joyce Mills, in a benefit presentation entitled: "Metaphors in Everyday Life." This was the fourth in a series of fundraiser lectures that Roxanna has scheduled at the museum. The series has been well attended and received, and we are hopeful these presentations will continue on regular basis. In July, Jeff Zeig, Brent Geary, Steven Lankton, and Lilian Borges presented the 2015 Summer Intensives, which brought another group of students and visitors to our museum.

We are so grateful for the opportunity to develop the Erickson home and museum and appreciative of all who have assisted us in this effort. We hope you will visit, and believe you will find it a most rewarding experience.

For a tour of the museum please visit: www.erickson-foundation.org.