

St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society
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St. David, AZ 85630

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St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society

Our Mission: To serve the community of St. David and the San Pedro Valley as a society enabling the preservation and development of our historical and physical heritage, while promoting the cultural arts.

EVENTS & NEWS

JUNE-JULY 2021



Did you know that Apache Nitrogen Products is a major sponsor of our Pioneer Days celebration? This is their historic fire engine, and it will be in the parade. Thanks, Apache!

"CELEBRATE!"

St. David PIONEER DAY July 24

Are you ready to Celebrate?
We are, and hope you will join us for St. David Pioneer Days!

Come together with neighbors and friends from the San Pedro Valley and beyond for a truly great time. Join the parade, learn some history of 100 years of St. David's Apache Powder Company (now Apache Nitrogen Products), experience pioneer activities with the Mormon Battalion Association and play some old fashioned games. Delicious BBQ Beef luncheon, visit area farms and businesses and enjoy music, food and vendors under the stars. Win fabulous prizes or the Heritage Quilt, and of course, enjoy the FIREWORKS!

Here are some things you will want to know:

- 2021 Theme: "Celebrate!"
- We'd love to have you or your organization be in the parade, be a vendor, donate a drawing item, or help with an event. Details inside or online.

StDavidPioneerDays.com



- Please spread the word to others who love the San Pedro Valley, and "Like" us on Facebook!



2021 Heritage Quilt It Could Be Yours!

Queen Size, by Wilda Dillman
Red, Black, Cream
Valued at \$1,500

- NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN -
StDavidPioneerDays.com
OR ORDER FORM ON PAGE 4
FOR TICKET INFO

www.SaintDavidHeritage.org
Facebook: St. David Heritage &
Cultural Arts Society
SaintDavidHeritage@gmail.com

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100 Years of History to Celebrate!

HAVE YOU OR SOMEONE IN YOUR FAMILY worked for Apache Nitrogen Products (formerly known as Apache Powder Company)?



If so, you are guests of honor at our Pioneer Days celebration this year! We especially invite you to join us in the Lansing Auditorium following the Pioneer Day parade to explore some history and celebrate (10:00-11:30 a.m., July 24).

Apache Powder Company was formed in 1920 and has been a big part of the lives of St. David and San Pedro Valley folks ever since. Last summer the COVID-19 pandemic cancelled Apache's plans to celebrate, but we are pleased to make their celebration a part of ours this year.

Congratulations, Apache Nitrogen Products, on 101 YEARS in St. David! Your employment opportunities and continued support of St. David Schools are greatly appreciated. - HISTORY ON PAGE 2 -

FIREWORKS DONATIONS NEEDED -- will you help?

Make a Fireworks donation and qualify for great Pioneer Days drawing prizes and more.

Also — FREE Quilt ticket with new or renewed membership. See page 4 to learn how to receive a FREE book with your Heritage Quilt ticket order, fireworks, membership, or other contribution.

A True Community Partner — 100 Years and Counting!

Perhaps you or a loved one has been employed by Apache Nitrogen Products (formerly Apache Powder Company) or received one of many college scholarships awarded through the years. If you've attended a St. David High School football game you did so in the Apache Nitrogen Stadium. You've likely read the announcements on the school marquee made possible by an Apache contribution. Donations from Apache have provided matching funds for grants to upgrade the school's Lansing Auditorium and helped with expenses for the annual Pioneer Days celebration. Thank you, Apache, for being a great community partner. Let's Celebrate!

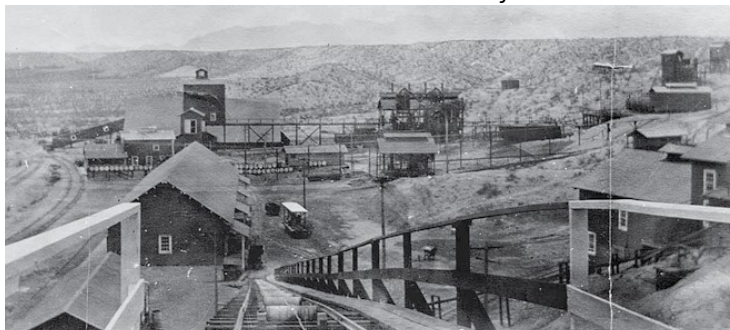
Birth of a Powder Company

by Larry Scott, Apache Nitrogen Retiree

It's 1920, and life is good in Southeast Arizona. The great war is over, and Pancho Villa has finally retired from revolutionary life. During the last several decades, the railroads have opened the doors to commerce with the rest of the nation. Small settlements are becoming cities, and, throughout the Southwestern U. S., mining is King.

The mining community is growing rapidly and the ore is good. But dynamite, so critical to unlocking the wealth of the mountains, must be shipped in over great distances and at great expense. The first yellowed page in the red-leather-bound book is entitled 'Certificate of Incorporation, Apache Powder Company.' The date – May 19, 1920. Ornate, fountain-penned signatures witness the birth of a new company.

1930s view of the acid area



Within two months, Southeastern Arizona was abuzz with the story. A new explosives plant was under construction south of Benson. Sites were being prepared for a powerhouse and a machine shop. A map, dated June 21, 1921, shows about 70 buildings in place. They carried interesting names: acid plant, dope mill, dry house, nitrator, de-nitrator, case house, laboratory and box mill.

Just two years after the corporation was born, on April 28, 1922, Apache's first stick of powder was packed. The desert hillsides had been converted into a working dynamite factory. There were buildings and tanks and miles of roads, pipelines and railroads. From our perspective, nearly 100 years after the initial construction, the magnitude of what went on there is

almost unbelievable.

More than 100 buildings were constructed, some involving complex operating equipment. With today's resources it would be impressive enough, but consider the equipment and resources available then. The machinery and power tools we now take for granted hadn't even been invented. Earthwork was done by teams of horses and mules.

By 1925, Apache was flying high. In a press release that year an Apache manager noted: Our plant covers 700 acres of land with 141 buildings. We sell enough powder in one year that if the sticks were laid end to end, they would reach from San Francisco to New York — and back again.

And that was just the beginning! Apache Powder Company eventually became the largest dynamite production site on earth, producing more than 2,000 cases of dynamite a day!

By 1923 fireless steam locomotives replaced mules for transporting explosives on campus.



Would you like to know the rest of the story?

Today's Apache Nitrogen is a modern facility supplying a variety of important products.

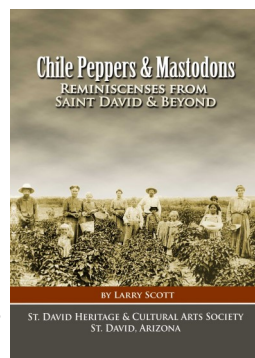
Join us Saturday, July 24, 10:00-11:30 a.m., following the Pioneer Day parade in the school's Lansing Auditorium for a special presentation, historical displays and videos, and a chance to share memories. Meet Apache Nitrogen employees and contribute your memories. **More of the story is also in Larry Scott's book, *Chile Peppers and Mastodons*. See page 4.**



A case house worker adds the last sticks of dynamite to make a 50 pound box.



A worker carefully and skillfully pushes a nitroglycerine "angel buggy" into the mix house.

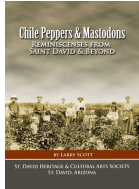


2021 Heritage Scholarship Awarded

Hailey Garrett, 2021 St. David High School graduate, has been awarded a \$500 scholarship for her volunteer efforts with events and projects of the St. David Heritage Society. Congratulations, Hailey! We wish you the best in your future endeavors. *We welcome student volunteers as well as contributions to the Heritage Scholarship Fund — use the form on page 4 of this newsletter or donate online.*

NEW! 6th Edition St. David History

TWO POPULAR ST. DAVID HISTORY BOOKS are always available for order and at our events. Stop by the 1938 Building during Pioneer Days or at our booth at the Fireworks events and pick up your copies: Larry Scott's *Chile Peppers & Mastodons* or the 2021 6th edition of the early history, *Mormon Pioneers of the San Pedro Valley—St. David, Arizona*, with updated info and photos.



See form on page 4 to order, and see how you can qualify for a **FREE** *Mormon Pioneers* or *Chile Peppers & Mastodons* book!

A New Tradition—Local Farm and Business Tour

This year's Pioneer Day celebration will include a new feature, and we are excited about it! During the afternoon hours between the BBQ luncheon and the evening festivities, we will provide a list of local farms and businesses that would love to share with you what they are all about. The list is under development and will be posted online at stdavidpioneerdays.com as the event date draws near.

Would you like your business or farm in the St. David area to be featured on Pioneer Day, July 24? Contact Andy Mayberry, andy_mayberry@hotmail.com.

An Especially Easy Way to Help

Do you know that one of the easiest ways you can assist with the projects and events of the St. David Heritage Society is to **do your online Amazon shopping by going to the Smile.Amazon.com site?**

We hope you will designate St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society to receive the donations. **Thank you!**

Shop at AmazonSmile
and Amazon will make a donation to:
St David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society

Get started

amazonsmile

PIONEER DAY EVENT SCHEDULE

Events at St. David School (Hwy 80, St. David, AZ) unless noted

SATURDAY, JULY 24, 2021

9:00 AM Pioneer Day Parade, N. Miller Lane. Road closes to vehicles at 8:45 AM. **Theme: "Celebration!"**

9:30 AM—12:00 Noon

Old-fashioned Games, Mormon Battalion Encampment & More on school grounds (Crawford Field). Games, races, pioneer activities and demonstrations, black powder rifles, fire engines, tractors and engines display, wagon rides, and more.

10:00-11:30— "Celebrating 100 Years: Apache Nitrogen Products" (Lansing Auditorium, 1938 Building) Historical displays and presentations explore the unique community-building partnership between what was earlier known as Apache Powder Company and the St. David community. Former and current ANPI employees are invited to help tell the story. Displays, videos, and more.

11:00-1:00 PM Traditional BBQ Meal (K-Hall) BBQ Beef, Beans, Cole Slaw, Tortilla, Chips & Salsa, Drinks, Dessert. \$7 Adult/\$5 under 12; \$1 discount per plate with Heritage Society membership (available at the door).

1:00-5:00 PM Local Farm and Business Tour - Visit various locations in the area showcasing our rural lifestyle. Use the QR code below or go to stdavidpioneerdays.com for a list and schedule.

5:00-9:00 PM EVENING EVENTS - at St. David High School's football field (Apache Nitrogen Stadium) --

- **5:00-6:45 Youth Tiger Football/Cheer Camp Games**
- **Food and Craft Vendors**
- **Visit and Picnic, Music**
- **Fireworks Donation Prizes & Silent Auction**
- **Heritage Quilt Drawing (Value \$1,500)**
- **GRAND FINALE FIREWORKS!**

If you or your business would like to donate a drawing or silent auction item, call Sherrie at 520-720-9329 - Thank You!



ONLINE PIONEER DAY INFO & MORE —

- **Quilt Tickets**
- **Vendor Information**
- **Parade Registration**
- **Membership Discounts**
- **Fireworks Donations**
- **Full Events Schedule**



StDavidPioneerDays.com

Facebook: St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society

**ST. DAVID HERITAGE & CULTURAL
ARTS SOCIETY**

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**We're on the web -
SaintDavidHeritage.org**

**"Like" and Follow us on FACEBOOK:
St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society**

St. David Heritage & Cultural Arts Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Donations to SDHCAS are tax-deductible.

Projects of SDHCAS include:

St. David Trees	History Publications & Lectures	Broadway & Beyond!
1938 Building Rehabilitation	Archiving Local History	St. David Fort Monument
Bell Monument & Bricks	Heritage Museum Room	St. David Pioneer Days
Alumni Class Photos		

This Newsletter is available electronically by email and on our website. If you would like to receive it as a PDF document by email, please send your request to us at SaintDavidHeritage@gmail.com.

If you know of others who live outside of St. David who would enjoy receiving the newsletter, please forward it to them, or send us their email address.

We will use your email address for Heritage Society business only and will not share it with others.

New or Renewed Memberships = FREE Heritage Quilt Ticket! Additionally, all St. David Heritage Society members will receive a **\$1 per plate discount at the July 24 BBQ**. Join or renew below, on our website, or at the BBQ. **MEMBER BENEFITS** include discounts at all events and annual access to our **NEW digital file collection**, including histories, photos, yearbooks, etc.

FREE! - Your choice of popular Heritage books FREE with each \$50 in Heritage Quilt tickets, fireworks drawing tickets, membership and/or other contribution placed with the order form below. Mark your choice on the form below. As always, copies may also be ordered for \$10 each, below or online.

Fireworks Donations = Drawing Tickets + Fun Prizes

Fireworks are fun AND expensive! Your donations make them possible, and our vendors and others have provided great prizes in exchange for your help. Tickets are available with the form below or at events. Drawing prizes will be awarded at the July 24 evening events, 5:00-9:00 p.m. on the football field, prior to the fireworks. Tickets: \$1 each; 12 for \$10; 25 for \$20. Keep one side and place the stubs in the prize bags of your choice that evening. If you order with this form, you can pick them up on the football field July 24.

Fabulous Silent Auction -- Airplane tour of Cochise County, Apache Powder Box, and More... A special addition to our evening Pioneer Days activities is the silent auction prior to the fireworks. Check it out! To donate an item, email us or call 520-720-9329.

ST. DAVID PIONEER DAYS 2021! Together we can celebrate St. David Pioneer Days with Festivities and Fireworks, and help put lighting and sound equipment in the historic Mary P. Lansing Auditorium. Will you join us?

YES! - I'd like to help in the following ways:



____ HERITAGE QUILT TICKETS* (Quilt value \$1,500)
____ 1 for \$5 ____ 3 for \$10 ____ 7 for \$20
____ 20 for \$50 ____ Other (Need not be present to win)

____ 2021 PIONEER DAYS FIREWORKS DRAWINGS!*(
(Pick up your tickets July 24 @ football field)

____ I'm making a tax-deductible ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
CONTRIBUTION* (\$1 off per plate at Pioneer Day BBQ):

____ \$15 Individual ____ \$25 Couple ____ \$30 Family

____ I'm enclosing a Tax-Deductible Contribution*
(Specify amounts in the spaces provided):

____ 1938 Building Fund ____ Pioneer Days / Events

____ St. David Trees Fund ____ Scholarship Fund

____ ***MY CONTRIBUTIONS & TICKETS ORDER at left**
total \$50 or more. For each \$50, please
send a FREE book (choose here):
____ *Chili Peppers & Mastodons*
____ *Mormon Pioneers of the San Pedro Valley*

ORDER FEATURED PUBLICATIONS:

Mormon Pioneers of the San Pedro Valley—St. David, Arizona
NEW 2021 6th Edition, early St. David history, 30 pages, over 60 photos
____ copies (\$10 each)

Chili Peppers & Mastodons—Reminiscences from Saint David and Beyond, by Larry Scott; narrative collection w/ photos, 78 pages
____ copies (\$10 each)

FULL ORDER FORM (PDF)
SaintDavidHeritage.org

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ PHONE _____

TICKETS \$ _____ MEMBERSHIPS / CONTRIBUTIONS \$ _____ BOOKS \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

QUESTIONS? Email saintdavidheritage@gmail.com or Call 520-720-9329 or see website, www.saintdavidheritage.org
Make Checks Payable to SDHCAS, and mail to SDHCAS, PO Box 3, St. David, AZ 85630