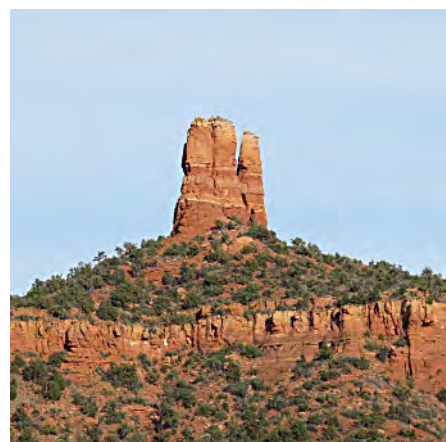


Earl's Diary - December 13, 2015

Greetings once again to all my Loyal Readers;

Much to my surprise, today dawned without a cloud in the sky! The sun shone bright on the bare branches of the trees and made a perfect day for visiting - if you were sitting or standing in the sun. There were some in our group preparing for the return trip home.

No gathering activities were planned for today, so I thought it would be a good time to photograph some of the beautiful red rocks of the Sedona area. When in Sedona the red rocks are THE sights!



"On my honor - -"



Dear Readers, here is probably more than you want to know about Sedona. If so, you can skip over this section.

Sedona is a city that straddles the line between Coconino and Yavapai counties in the northern Verde Valley region of Arizona. As of the 2010 census, the population was 10,031. Of course, in tourist season, that number swells to at least twice that amount.

Sedona's main attraction is its array of red sandstone formations. The formations appear to glow in brilliant orange and red when illuminated by the rising or setting sun. The red rocks form a popular backdrop for many activities, ranging from spiritual pursuits to the hundreds of hiking and mountain biking trails.

Sedona was named after Sedona Arabella Miller Schnebly (1877-1950), the wife of Theodore Carlton Schnebly, the city's first postmaster, who was celebrated for her hospitality and industriousness.

Sedona has a long history of Native American activity in the area. The first Anglo settler, John J. Thompson, moved to Oak Creek Canyon in 1876. The early settlers were farmers and ranchers. Oak Creek Canyon was well known for its peach and apple orchards.

Sedona played host to more than sixty Hollywood productions from the first years of movies into the 1970's. The city nestled between thousand-foot high walls of stone in lushly forested Oak Creek Canyon and the wide open spaces of the Verde Valley, and it was the diversity of this unspoiled landscape that made it such an ideal location to shoot outdoor scenes. Stretching as far back as 1923, Sedona's signature red rocks were a fixture in major Hollywood productions -- including enduring favorites such as Johnny Guitar, Angel and the Badman, Desert Fury, Blood on the Moon, and 3:10 to Yuma -- but were typically identified to audiences as the terrain of Texas, California, Nevada, and even Canadian territory. For fifty years, this picturesque outpost quietly played host to Hollywood legends in the making, yet the town is rarely found in standard histories of the movies

The elevation of Sedona is 4,500 feet.



Thanks for sightseeing with me - - Earl