

After 44 years of service, Keep Sedona Beautiful will hold its first ever fundraiser to benefit KSB's Endowment: *Star Raisers and Gazers*. The fundraiser will be held on November 13 at the Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock, Village of Oak Creek from 3-6 p.m.

The fundraiser will feature cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, and a silent auction with items for the home and the body along with travel, restaurants and art objects. Please visit our auction web site at <https://keepsedonabeautiful.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/KSB2016AnnualFundRaiser/tabid/770001/Default.aspx> to see detailed information on the fundraiser and to view photos and descriptions of over 100 items worth \$35,000.

Celebrated author and Executive Director of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center, Ken Zoll, will deliver an exciting presentation on Ancient Astronomical Practices in the Southwest. The silent auction will begin promptly at 3 p.m., with Ken Zoll's talk to follow.



KSB wishes to highlight one donating couple who has made a substantial pledge to the organization. Bill and Justine Kusner have touched our lives in so many ways that we have lost count. Frequently, while driving from the Village into West Sedona for a meeting or shopping, we observe the many walkers, strollers, hikers, dog-walkers, bicyclists enjoying the sidewalks in the Village in the cool early morning hours. As we navigate the four lovely roundabouts in the Village, we recall the countless hours that Bill and Justine have invested in helping to create those sidewalks and the Scenic 179 that we all enjoy when entering the Village from the south and traveling between the Village and West Sedona.

But perhaps it is at KSB that Bill and Justine have had their greatest impact. Bill was on the KSB Board from 1997 to 2012, and was President from 1999-2002. He and Justine have attended many tens of Annual Awards ceremonies, perhaps hundreds of Speaker Series events, written letters to support KSB's position on issues such as the Dark Sky Initiative, the proposed Coconino Forest water tank, the Tobias-Flynn matter, and many other issues. In addition to all of these activities, Bill and Justine have been frequent volunteers in various KSB activities, and loyal Litter Lifters, contributing along with others to our enjoyment of the litter-free highways around Sedona. And they were both active in the Pushmataha gardens, with a particular interest in native plants and prevention/removal of invasive species.

And now, in response to KSB's commitment to create a \$500,000 Endowment Fund, and to kick off KSB's 2016 Annual Fundraiser, Bill and Justine Kusner have agreed to invest in KSB's future and its mission through a sizeable donation, not only this year, but continuing annually into the

near future. Their contribution is without a doubt the foundation on which this year's, and future years', endowment campaigns is based. Their contribution is seen by KSB as a truly significant step toward the achievement of a self-sustaining endowment fund, created to ensure that KSB will continue, through economic cycles in the future, to meet and address the challenges that our Red Rock Country faces. All of us at KSB, and its many members and benefactors, wish to recognize Bill and Justine Kusner for their generous legacy.

All funds raised through these activities are destined to grow KSB's Endowment Fund. KSB's Endowment goal of \$500,000 will ensure that KSB survives and thrives through economic downturns in the future and will thus become self-sustaining, to continue to meet the challenges to our most scenic Red Rock Country. Keep Sedona Beautiful is grateful to the Hilton Sedona Resort at Bell Rock for their generous donation of their Grand Ballroom for this event.