

## **McDowell Sonoran Preserve Pioneer Collection donated by Carla**

The archive material for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Pioneer collection was donated by Carla, Preserve Pioneer. Carla worked tirelessly for the first 15 years of the preserve movement resulting in the creation and expansion of Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Since Scottsdale is her home, Carla wanted her material to stay in Scottsdale at the Scottsdale Public Library's Scottsdale Heritage Connection.

As a youngster, Carla moved to south Scottsdale in 1965. She cofounded the Ecology Club at Coronado High School in the 1970's. She and her brother, Greg Woodall (who would become an archeologist), used to roam the McDowell Mountains in their free time.

Carla joined the McDowell Sonoran Land Trust board in 1992 and served on the McDowell Sonoran Preserve Commission (1994) and Desert Preservation Task Force (1997). She helped spearhead the "Save Our McDowells" campaign in 1995 where voters approved a two-tenths of 1 % sales tax increase to help fund land purchases for the Preserve. She would also visit schools, businesses, and civic groups preaching the beauty of the McDowell Mountains, Sonoran Desert and open spaces.

In 1998, she was made the Executive Director of the McDowell Sonoran Land Trust and served in that position until 2007. She and fellow Preserve advocate, Chet Andrews, created the steward program which has trained thousands of people in Preserve conservation.

Carla was also involved in the Arizona Preserve Initiative which involved State Trust Land reform. In 2001, she orchestrated a turnout of 1,500 people at a State Trust Land hearing.

Carla has been the recipient of the Frank Hodges Award from Scottsdale Leadership, was inducted into Scottsdale's History Hall of Fame, and has a street named after her "Carla Way" as the access road to the Gateway to the Preserve.