

# Finance Department

Meet the Staff



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Carol L Schneider – Deputy Finance Director

Carol joined the Finance department in February 2008 and became the Deputy Finance Director in February 2013. She received an Associate's Degree in Business/Fashion merchandising from Mesa Community College and a Bachelor of Science degree in Business/Accounting from the University of Phoenix. She has 10 years of finance experience in the hotel industry, 3 years of finance experience in property management specializing in office buildings, and 10 years of finance experience in the recycling and manufacturing industry.



Carol was born in Evansville, Indiana and moved to Mesa when she was 3. She relocated to Cochise County 10 years ago. She is married to Tom Paul Schneider and they have 3 grown daughters and 6 grandchildren that live in Texas and Louisiana. Her hobbies are reading, singing, and learning to play piano.

One memorable event that she remembers occurred on Friday, June 20, 2008. This is when the direct deposit file was sent to Chase and all the routing numbers reverted back to Chase – meaning that at least 80% of County employees didn't get paid! The entire Finance department worked together and paid everyone through Accounts Payable and was done by 7:30 pm that evening. It was a very stressful and frantic time but everyone in Finance and a few other departments pulled together and made it happen.

She thinks the Finance department is a great place to work. We strive to provide excellent customer service to County departments and the public. We encourage questions and comments on how we can improve our processes. Please come by and visit.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Elaine Esparza – Accounting Technician

Elaine joined the Finance department in April 2016. Her primary duties include processing accounts payable, credit cards and travel vouchers. She has an Associate's degree from Ricks College (now BYU-Idaho) in Office Management specializing in Word Processing. Prior to joining the County, the majority of her work experience has been in Accounts Payable with JCPenney, UMC/UAHN/Banner (Tucson) and Summit Regional Medical Center (Show Low) and in Payroll with Payless ShoeSource.

She recently relocated from Pinetop, AZ and spent the majority of her life in Tucson, AZ with a few detours including Idaho, Utah, and Kansas. Elaine has been married to her husband, Paul, for 2 years. Between the two of them, they have 5 children (ages 22, 21, 16, 15, and 14). In her spare time she enjoys working outdoors puttering in the yard and crocheting. She is happy to be part of the Cochise County Family.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## **Laura Wenc - Accountant III**

Laura joined the Finance department in April 2010 for the payroll department. She was promoted to Accountant III – General Accounting in January 2015.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Lupe Contreras – Accounting Technician

Lupe has been in the Finance department since October 2004. Her primary duties include processing accounts payable, credit cards and travel vouchers.

She graduated from Bisbee High School and her prior work experience includes 10 years at a flower shop and 13 years at a customs brokerage firm.

Lupe is a Bisbee native and comes from a large family with 2 brothers and 3 sisters. She has one brother and one sister that also work at Cochise County. She is single with a 21 year old daughter and is a proud grandmother with a grandson born in August 2015. In her spare time she enjoys interior design, baseball, volleyball, cooking and spending time with her family.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Michael McGinnis – Budget Manager

Mike joined the Finance department in January 1998 and became the Budget Manager in November 2005. He graduated from Northern Arizona University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy. Prior to joining the County, he worked for the State of Arizona in Tucson for 8 years before moving to Douglas. He also worked for a maquiladora (manufacturer) in Agua Prieta, Mexico for 3 years.

Mike was born in the Chicago area and lived in Illinois for 21 years before moving to Arizona. He is married to his beautiful wife, Maria, and they have 3 grown daughters and 6 grandchildren – one daughter and 2 grandchildren in Tucson and the others currently residing in Douglas. His hobbies are hiking, bicycling and working on their old pickup.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Glenda Nugent –Payroll/Technology Supervisor

Glenda has been in the Finance department since January 2006. Her primary duties include supervising payroll, managing the financial software, capital assets, and ad hoc management reports. She graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. She also became a Certified Public Finance Officer in 2008. Prior to joining the County, she worked as an Accountant for Honeywell Corporation in Phoenix and Tucson for 16 years.



Originally from the Chicago area, Glenda moved to Arizona and has been here most of her adult life. Glenda has been married to her husband, Jack, for 35 years. They have one rambunctious puppy and a loveable cat. She comes from a large family and has seven siblings that live in the Midwest. So she has loads of nieces and nephews. She travels to see them at least once a year. In her spare time she enjoys hiking, biking, and reading (biographies, history, politics and self-improvement). One goal on her “bucket list” is to make a transatlantic crossing on the Queen Mary 2 ocean liner.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## **Adele Lea – Accountant II/Payroll**

Adele has been with the County since August 2012 starting out as a Financial Clerk III at the Superintendent of Schools, then joining the Finance Department in February 2013 as an Accounting Technician and in March 2015 became an Accountant II in Payroll. Her primary duties include processing payroll, timecards, tax reporting, journal entries, and financial analysis.



Besides Cochise County, Adele has worked at several other counties and cities in Arizona, Nevada, and California including; Pima County, Washoe County Sheriff's Office, Sutter County, City of Yuba City, Live Oak Alternative School, and Bank of America.

Adele graduated high school in Yuba City, California, attended 2 years to Yuba College for an accounting degree. In 2000 received license and a Travel & Tourism Certificate and opened a travel agency. Adele also passed the California Dental Hygienist exam and was licensed as a Dental Hygienist in California. Adele has a certificate in the Essentials of Business Management.

Adele has been married twice but is currently single and has a 30 year old son who lives in Sahuarita, AZ and he works for Raytheon in Sierra Vista, AZ and is a Drill Sergeant for the Reserves. Adele has a 9 year old grandson and a 14 year old grandson from her son. Adele is the youngest child in her family. She has a brother and 2 older sisters. Her parents are both deceased. She was born and raised in Yuba City, Ca. She moved to Reno, NV in 2003 and moved to Sierra Vista, AZ in 2011.

In her spare time she enjoys being with her son and grandson and traveling with them and reading. Adele loves the ocean. Her lifetime goal is to visit all beaches in the US and to go back a visit Tahiti her favorite memorable vacation.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Rita Shipley – Accountant III/Payroll

Rita has been in the Finance department since February 2013. Her primary duties include processing payroll, tax reporting, and financial analysis. She is also a Departmental Safety Coordinator. Rita graduated from Arizona State University in December 1995 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accountancy (Cum Laude). She is also a licensed Accident/Health/Life insurance agent. Prior to joining the County, she worked as an Analyst for an employee benefit actuarial consulting firm for 9 years and then as an Account Executive with a major insurance company for 3 years.



Originally from Colorado, Rita moved to Arizona in 1981 and lived in Mesa, AZ for 27 years. Rita moved to Bisbee in May 2008 to open an all natural pizzeria, Bella Roma Pizza, in Old Bisbee. Her business won the Bisbee Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year award in 2011. She sold the business in February 2013 and came to work at Cochise County.

Rita is single with a 26 year old son that lives in Mesa. She has an older brother that lives in Globe, AZ. In her spare time she enjoys traveling, cooking, gardening, reading, hiking, biking, and camping. One of her lifetime goals is to see all 50 states with her son and is currently at 15.



# COCHISE COUNTY

## Bessie Evans' Retirement February 2015



# COCHISE COUNTY

Lois Klein's Retirement  
February 2016



*Public Programs...Personal Service*



# COCHISE COUNTY

