

# The Mohave Museum of History and Arts

## Mohave Memories

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019

### LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The overwhelming heat of the Arizona summer seems to stain my ability to find the proper words to describe what is happening in real time at the Mohave Museum. However, when I sit in the shade of the desert willow, the burden of shrouded ambiguity fades and the bright surrounding sunlight creates a rhythm that gives birth to calm, sequential thought. What I really want to say is that I finally got the rock out of my shoe and feel at ease writing my summer newsletter.

I am sorry to report that Cathy Kreis will be leaving the area at the end of August. Cathy started as a volunteer in the Gift Shop in 2006 then became a tour guide and manager at the Bonelli House. She took on the job of Museum Librarian in 2016. Preservation of the Bonelli House and encapsulation of the Museum's thousands of historic maps are two major projects she has championed. Cathy brought professionalism to every endeavor she was involved in and will be greatly missed! The Mohave Museum's research facility gained new volunteers that Cathy has trained and who will take the helm, continuing to provide the great service for which the Museum has become known.



The key factor accounting for the Museum's success is, in fact, the superb quality of volunteers associated with the Museum complex; however, our numbers are falling short. I would ask of every person who is reading this letter to either volunteer if possible or get the word out that we need help preserving this great institution.

There are two aspects that define the Museum: 1) exhibits, and 2) the people responsible for making those displays accessible. These two factors have a symbiotic relationship. The knowledge and dedication that our volunteers possess has literally put Mohave Museum on the map. I can never express enough how important a part volunteers play in keeping the Museum relevant and beautiful. I really believe that these individuals working together can accomplish anything (I hope this serves as a warning to all that postulate that A.I. (artificial intelligence) will prevail). I am proud to call these museum volunteers my friends.

I wish all of you great health and prosperity!!

*Shannon*

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# Mohave Memories

## Newsletter and Museum Memberships

### APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

[www.mohavemuseum.org/resources](http://www.mohavemuseum.org/resources)

Or call, 928-753-3195

### MOHAVE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Invites you to participate in preserving our past and building for the future:

<b>General Member</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
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Includes member and immediate family  
Free admission to Mohave Museum,  
Route 66 Museum & Bonelli House

<b>Supporting Member</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
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Includes all General Member benefits:  
plus no-charge research assistance from Museum staff

<b>Business Member</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>
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<b>Director's Circle</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
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## ***BEST WAY TO GET ACQUAINTED!***

Whenever I move to a new community, and I've lived in a few... I've discovered one of the BEST WAYS to get acquainted with wonderful people and new surroundings is to volunteer at the local Museum. In Kingman there are three to choose from, and you'll likely find just the job/project to suit your interest and ability. Willingness is the key to open fascinating doors, and what's behind them will knock your socks off!

So I've carved out this space and herewith present for your reading entertainment some specifics; real-time jobs that need you and your time. Our **Volunteer Coordinator, Louise Benner**, can be contacted by phone as soon as you finish this article and can help you find where you are best suited and needed (**928-753-9889**).

At the [AZ Route 66 Museum](#) we are in need of **FRONT DESK GREETERS**. Four-hour shifts (9-1; 1-5) are available Monday through Sunday. Greeters have the best job! You greet and meet people from across the USA and the world and they are mostly in a great mood, on vacation. Call to get your schedule of choice (one half-day, or more).

At the [Mohave Museum of History & Arts](#) we are in need of **FRONT DESK GREETERS**, and **GIFT SHOP CASHIERS**. Training is provided. A greater variety of tasks can be found in the **RESEARCH FACILITY/LIBRARY**. Volunteers there work on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Four-hour shifts are available (9-1; 1-5)—or all day if you get excited about the project...and most folks do!

What sort of projects? Help us complete the encapsulation of maps (come see a demonstration); catalogue the historic contents in document boxes, organize vertical files, or assist in research projects? In the Photo Department we need to organize our collection, add photos to our online e-Hive archives, and fulfill requests for photos. Daily we greet visitors and researchers in the Library, we maintain obituary records from the Daily Miner...and on, and on. There is NEVER a dull day at the Library, and never a day without a project or a need for volunteer help.

At the [Bonelli House](#) we are in need of **TOUR GUIDES**. Our guides are trained to escort visitors through the House while providing stories and history about the Bonelli family and the Kingman/Mohave County area. There we have four-hour shifts (11-3), Monday through Friday only. The House is two-story, so plan on climbing stairs on each tour. Your groups of eight or less are informed and educated; and while on the job you'll meet the most interesting people from all points of the globe. Great fun!

If you can't reach Louise when you call, try our Office Manager, Vicky Markee (928-753-3195) who will give Louise the good news. We look forward to hearing from you and filling our **RANKS OF TERRIFIC VOLUNTEERS** soon!!



## NEVER TOO LATE TO LEARN

CONTRIBUTED BY CHARLES COOK

Reading the written word is a pleasure for me; I'm far from an avid TV watcher, unless I'm lucky enough to find reruns or old film noir movies from the 1930's and 1940's. Most of what you see on TV nowadays is at best a plethora of dull soap operas that I find I can sleep through.

Books give you the option of learning things in the confines of your own home and you get to pick and choose what you want to read. I like that. I'm currently in the middle of sorting through a book we have here at the Museum Research Library, which was published in the 1920's, dealing with the ethnography of the Hualapai, a people who have inhabited Mohave County probably longer than most other ethnic groups (Walapai Ethnology, by A.L. Kroeber, 1935). The Hualapai, or People of the Tall Pines, have been in this area for centuries. They are the ancient ones who have made their mark on this land before most other people groups who are here now even knew this area existed.

What has fascinated me most about this book is learning about the vast network of commerce in which the Hualapai people invested themselves. Life was not easy in Mohave County a few hundred years ago. To the north of Hualapai territory were the Ute and Paiute peoples who often were at odds with the Hualapai. The Yavapai people from the Verde Valley/Prescott area often encroached on Hualapai territory causing discord and warfare. Even the Mohave from the Colorado River area ran hot-and-cold to co-existing with the Hualapai at times.

The Hualapai inhabited a land that was lacking in agricultural opportunities but was fertile with deer, antelope, and other game animals that surrounding tribes desired. There is a color photo here at the Museum showing Hualapai tribal member, Cap McGee's wife, Tim, sitting in front of her home with a Navajo blanket behind her. Why would she have a Navajo rug?

Reading further in the book, I found out that the Hualapai had a thriving business trading meat and hides to the Hopi and Navajo peoples for blankets and other goods they had that the Hualapai desired. The tribes to the east of the Hualapai nation needed something more than a steady diet of mutton, so they exchanged their goods for game meat harvested by the Hualapai.

When the Mohave and Hualapai were on good terms, meat that Hualapai hunters had successfully harvested was exchanged for vegetables that were grown on the fertile banks of the Colorado River by the Mohave. It appears to have been a system that worked well.

I don't want to leave the Havasupai people out of this article because they are closely related to the Hualapai. The Havasupai were pretty-much a self-sustaining entity and appear to have had less contact with outside influences. I could be wrong, and if I am I hope someone points that out to me.

There are so many things about our neighbors, the Hualapai, that I am ignorant of and yet I have lived in this area most of my life. It is refreshing to find out that although there are so many different cultures, we all have common threads in our daily lives which tie us to the human family.



**"TIM" MCGEE AND HER DOG  
HUALAPAI TRIBE**

(MMHA #258)





## GIFT SHOP BOOK REVIEW

### CALL-OUT, by Luis Vega

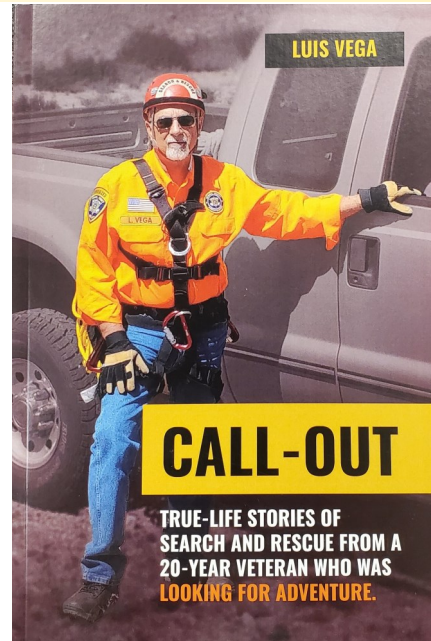
Local resident Luis Vega has released another book and it's been hard to keep it on the shelf. Previously he published, BACK ROADS OF MOHAVE COUNTY, ARIZONA, and it was a keeper. Containing maps and information for the avid back-roader, Vega provided a valuable tool with this book. Unfortunately, that one is out of print.

However, CALL-OUT, is hot off the presses and it provides the reader with a collection of true stories from Vega's experiences as a volunteer with Mohave County Search And Rescue (Arizona). His stories are riveting.

Chapters include what it takes to be a volunteer, information about the equipment used, physical training—which is renewed regularly, the practical aspects of working as a team, and why it is a volunteer service. The human factor, which is always present, is described well. After twenty years' experience he knows the ropes.

Luis, already retired from his career as a globe-trotting geologist, recently took his last call-out, leaving his exciting second career. We hope he will continue to use his gift of writing while he searches for the next adventure.

Available at the Gift Shop, \$12.00



*Remember, you can receive a **full color edition** of the Mohave Memories newsletter by ordering an emailed copy, or downloading it from the website.*

- Email orders, call Vicky (928-753-3195)
- Website viewing or download: [www.mohavemuseum.org](http://www.mohavemuseum.org)

## 50 Years Ago from the Mohave County Miner

### SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1969

The first offering of the Community Concert Association at Kingman (was the) New York Lyric Quartet, (which) performed before a membership crowd of about 450 at Kingman High auditorium Tuesday evening.

Everybody had fun last Saturday on the Miner-sponsored trip to Phoenix to see the Phoenix Suns defeat the Los Angeles Lakers in Veteran's Memorial Coliseum.



The Southern California Edison Company has denied an allegation that its plant across from Bullhead City will cause heavy air pollution in the Mohave Valley-Needles area (Google Photo).



A mass visitation of an estimated 50,000 hippies planned for the Cottonwood Cove area was headed off Monday afternoon during a gathering of about 40 county, state and federal law enforcement and other officials.



# 80 Years Ago From the Mohave County Miner

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1939



**KINGMAN STORE: SPROUSE-REITZ CO.**  
(MMHA #2591)

The new Sprouse-Reitz store will open for business on Saturday, November 18.

An Armistice Day program was presented to the pupils of the Kingman Grammar School last Friday morning by the eighth grade students.

Entry blanks appearing in this week's issue of the newspaper give all residents in Mohave County the opportunity to enter into the big, lighted Christmas decoration contest sponsored by Citizens Utilities Company.

# 100 Years Ago From the Mohave County Miner

SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 1919

Apples thrive in the Wallapai mountains as is evidenced by the fine fruit from Shorty Simpson's orchard in the Wallapais.

Registration at the University of Arizona now stands at 822.

Harry Lang has his new furnace installed for heating of the theater and it is proving itself to be all that was expected of it.



**SAMPLE APPLES**  
(Google photo)

A big time is being planned by the Knights of Pythias for Saturday night, December 13, at the Odd Fellows Hall in Kingman in the nature of a benefit for the band.

(MMHA #2672)



*AUTUMN LEAVES, A REFRESHING TIME AFTER SUMMER  
HEAT AND MONSOON SEASON, RIGHT?*

## Membership Renewal

Larry & Karen Johnson  
 Dorothy Brown  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gene Wolff  
 Rex & Judy Becker  
 Dan C. & Jean Bishop  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Cox  
 Mr. & Mrs. William Ekstrom  
 Robert & Roxanne Freiday  
 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel H. Brownell  
 Judith Padilla  
 Dianne & Bill Riehle  
 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Schritter  
 John J. & Anne Collins  
 Bill J. Bailey  
 William A. Wales  
 Doris B. Huff  
 Richard Porch  
 Vivian & Charles G. Hopkins

Verna K. Wright  
 Doug & Patty Bradley  
 Daniel & Terri Jones  
 Margaret Olson  
 Denny Shaeffer  
 Doris Lightwine  
 Fern Campbell  
 Michael J. & Kari Jo Hill  
 Marjorie Huber  
 Mike Issel, Golden Valley, AZ  
 Sue Baughman, Dolan Springs, AZ  
 Sheldon & Dawn Weisberg, Hackberry, AZ  
 Delbert & Dorothy Campbell, Lake Havasu City, AZ  
 Bayard H. Brattstrom, Wikieup, AZ  
 Rick & Jaynell Chambers, Camp Verde, AZ  
 Russ & Debbie Luke, Tucson, AZ  
 Mr. & Mrs. Wm. B. Graves, Colorado Springs, CO  
 Mark and Rita Wilhelmi, Stanley, ND

## New Memberships

Karen & Bill Collins  
 Phyllis Eaton  
 Brandon Turner  
 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Messersmith  
 Kim Dios, Golden Valley, AZ  
 Joyce Cook, Golden Valley, AZ  
 Roger and Coleen Smith, Meadview, AZ  
 Ralph & Lyneya Eaton, Henderson, NV  
 Mrs. Ella and Terry I. Johnson, Las Vegas, NV  
 Travis & Missy Eaton, Mesquite, NV



## Memorials

If a Memorial donation is not designated for a specific purpose, it will be used at the Museum's discretion

<u>In Memory Of</u>	<u>Donor</u>
Pam Rivedal-Hodges	William J. Bailey
Charles Dennis Obney	William J. Bailey
Billie Jean Griffith	William J. Bailey
Billie Jean Griffith	Jack M. Kesler

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### SOUNDS OF KINGMAN

Sunday, September 29: Concert in the Park

4:00 P.M.—Metcalf Park

**“The Riptides”**

Sunday, October 19: Our Time Our History

2:00 P.M. —Mohave Museum of History & Arts

**“Ghost Towns of the Second World War: Arizona’s Historic Military Sites”**

Presenter: Erik Berg

### *Message from the Library*



The main thing that stands out for me, about being connected to this Museum complex, is the amazing *people* that pass through our lives. Some moved on, some have stayed—as co-workers or volunteers—but all contributed to a delightful experience that could never have been reproduced anywhere else. Visitors, some from far away lands, have left a positive, memorable impression. Co-workers and volunteers willingly shouldered tasks and projects that otherwise would never have been completed. Bottom line is that *the best of working environments* has been created here, and I’ll miss it—and you.

Be it the Bonelli House or the Research Facility, I’ve been involved with many projects and tried to help make our sites become better for the community and our visitors, and I’ve been privileged to be a part of interesting events, such as the 2015 Cen-

tennial event at the Bonelli. Being in the right place at the right time has been a big blessing to me in these fourteen years.

When I moved to Kingman in June 2005 my intent was to stay three years and move on. Halfway between the Navajo nation where I was working at the time, and my family in California, Kingman was the perfect place to settle. Then time stretched a bit, circumstances changed, and fourteen years later suddenly my home is sold and *now* has become the right time to go participate in my next adventure.

Because Interstate 40 is an east-west thoroughfare, and Hwy 93 goes north and south, I see future opportunity to stop in and check up on you all—count on it! However, personal plans made in June have changed drastically so at this writing I have no idea where I will settle. But fear not; all is well, God is in control and I am content (if not a little frazzled).

So, to our Board of Directors, our Director, our Volunteers and Museum members, and all my friends here in Kingman, I bid you, *A Hui Hou Kākou* (until we meet again) and wish you the best possible outcomes for future projects the Mohave County Historical Society (and its associated Museums) undertakes.

[This photo was taken some years ago on tiny Santo island in the nation of Vanuatu—the only photo I could find of me waving goodbye.]

No worries, the Research Facility is in good hands!

*Cathy*



MOHAVE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ARTS

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SEPTEMBER—OCTOBER 2019



BUSINESS ON ROUTE 66—CREDIT: PHIL KELLY 2019, MUSEUM VOLUNTEER