



The Mohave Museum  
of History and Arts  
**Mohave Memories**

March – April 2020

### Letter from the Director

I have often been asked where I learned my courteous and polished personality and the answer is in the fact that I was raised in the “South”, Southern California to be precise. I grew up with terms like: gridlock, inversion layer, chlorinated water and high risk neighborhoods, I mean I could not drive in “it” nor breathe “it” and neither drink “it” or live in “it”. The only sure alternative was I could step in “it”.

The negativity of living in Los Angeles came to an end when I discovered Kingman Arizona. I remember the feeling of freedom that I felt when I first arrived. I still enjoy that same feeling of emancipation to this day. I wondered if it could get any better than this and sure enough it did. I had found a community that took pride in its history, not just in bragging rights but also by building a state of the art Museum designed by the best visionary artist of the Southwest: Roy Purcell. This was not a simple task accomplished by one man but a compilation put together by the people that built this community. I would like to thank all involved down to the people that swept the floors on a job well done.

The Museum, although more complex than its original design still provides a portrayal of the past as well as a look into the future through programs and grants. Sunday March 1<sup>st</sup> the “Women Making History” annual program will again be hosted by the Museum. The first Sunday in March marks the traditional day set aside to honor the “Women” that have done exceptional work to keep Kingman a magnificent place to live.

Both Museums: Mohave Museum and Route 66 Museum are adding new exhibits. The Historic Route 66 Association of Arizona has added an art gallery that will host different artists with Route 66 themes. The opening exhibit will be Bob Waldmire’s classic maps. The opening will be in March. The Mohave Museum is renovating the gift shop as well as transforming the area in front of the Library into a classic display. As you know this work could not be done without the help of our great volunteers. Please come and visit your Museums and witness for yourself the splendor of your ever changing institutions. Thank you for being a part of this Museum.

*Shannon*

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## A Disappearance in Chloride

Contributed by Charles Cook

One hundred years ago the Mohave County town of Chloride boasted twice as many inhabitants as the town of Kingman.

Bolstered by mineral production from a large number of active mines, Chloride had something for everybody. Employment was assured to anyone who wanted to work for a living. A flourishing business district with varied activities and appealing merchandise tempted the hard rock miners to spend their paychecks as they desired.

There was also a thriving branch of the “Arizona Central Bank” in Chloride to accommodate those citizens who wanted to put their stocks, bonds and cash savings into safekeeping for future endeavors and pleasures. The bank boasted deposits of over three million dollars being held by the trusted and watchful manager Mr. C.B. Cravens, a tall professional looking gentleman who had come to Chloride around 1912, the same year that Arizona became a state.

One early Monday morning a Chloride citizen was passing by the bank building and noticed that the lights were on but there seemed to be no people on the premises. Upon further inspection by law enforcement personnel a number of accounts were found to be short of funds and some stocks and bonds were missing.

The authorities checked with Mr. Craven’s wife at their Chloride home and found that Mr. Cravens had informed her on Friday night that he would be gone Saturday and Sunday to look at some mining properties in the Chloride area.

Mr. Cravens did not return to Chloride on Monday as expected.

I found the following article in the July 12th issue of the Mohave Miner newspaper. “Monday a warrant was sworn out and a reward of a thousand dollars offered for his arrest. Tuesday Sheriff Mahoney took up his trail and is still out but the probability of catching up with him is remote. A 60-hour head start does not leave a fresh trail. The hunt will however go on.

I have been unable to ascertain if Mr. Cravens was ever captured or if he managed to get away without a trace.

A small brochure authored by Jessie A. Day who lived in Chloride tells us this: “No one can recall what happened to Cravens, whether or not he served time for the theft. Cravens was never seen in Chloride again. Nor was any bank ever again opened in Chloride”.

Perhaps Cravens was one that got away and it should go without saying that the residents of Chloride from this time on had to make the forty mile round trip to Kingman if they wanted to have their valuables protected.

The mystery remains unsolved.

Main street Chloride circa 1912.



I'd like to thank all of our new volunteers who responded to our urgent and sincere pleas for help in the Museum's research facility.  
Your support is greatly appreciated!!

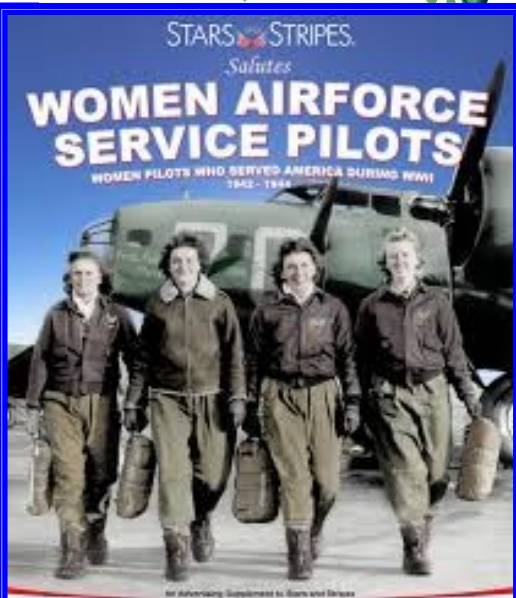
New volunteers: Scott Avery, Jennifer Chambers, Jim Pederson, Dave & Kathy Reimers.

You have joined a great group of existing volunteers here at the Mohave Museum, the Route 66 Museum located in the Powerhouse Visitor Center and the historic Bonelli House.

Mohave Museum: Dorothy Brown, Gary Chace, Pat Campagnuolo, Mary Dise, Karen Goudy, Les Harvey, Mike Issel, Dan & Teri Jones, Cindy Morlund, Judy Olney, Susie Patch, Lucy Pewsy, LaNore Printup, Cindy Roth, Susan Ryno, Andy Sansom, Nancy Smith, Fred Steffen, Karon Surnick, Brandon Turner.

Route 66: Iris Blevins, Gaveston Brown, Jim Byrne, Rita Cownie, Carol Delgado, Pat Detko, Phil Kelly, June Lawrence, Dotty Matz, John Perko, Lois Pickens, Kaydawn Todd, Gregg Wyatt.

Bonelli House: Walt Greg, Jerry & Katie Woods.



During World War II over one thousand women served as Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), freeing male pilots for combat roles at a critical time during the war. The WASPs ferried planes from factories to embarkation points; performed engineer test flying of repaired aircraft and did target towing for gunnery training. By the spring of 1944, every P-51 Mustang flown in combat had already been flown by a WASP. This presentation shares their stories as fliers, patriots, and women who had to fight for the right to be called veterans.

**Speaker – Natalie J. Stewart-Smith**

Natalie J. Stewart-Smith has been an educator for over 25 years and taught at the elementary, high school, and college levels. As a former Army officer and historian, she is interested in women's contributions to the military, particularly those who served as military aviators.

**Saturday February 22,  
2pm in the Mohave Museum Auditorium.  
Free and open to the public.**

Join us in celebrating the women of Kingman at the  
**2020 Winners of Women Making History  
Awards Ceremony**

**Sunday March 1st at 2pm in the Mohave Museum Auditorium  
Open to the public**

## 50 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1970

Sgt. Donald McVicar was discharged from the army on Feb. 28 after serving the past 14 months in Vietnam with the 5th Artillery of the First Infantry. Sgt. McVicar received the Bronze Star and Army Commendation medal. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Doug McVicar.

A former Mohave County Cattle rancher, now a successful contractor in San Diego, has donated 85 valuable western books to the Mohave Museum of History and Arts. He is Roscoe Hazard, a former associate of the late John Neal, and H.H. Timken of the Burro Creek Ranch in Mohave and Yavapai Counties.

Hualapai Downs opens its fourth annual race meet with an eight-race card Saturday. Post time is 1:30p.m.



## 80 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1940

Betty and Olive Clack will return to their studies at the University of Arizona at Tucson on Saturday after spending a week at the home of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Clack. They will accompany Mrs. Dan Murphy, who is driving to Nogales to bring Mr. Murphy back to Kingman after spending several weeks there on business.

Through the untiring efforts of Harry Nace and Ira Rawlings, manager of the State Theater, Kingman will be one of the first of the smaller communities in the United States to have the privilege of seeing the original version of "Gone With the Wind" which comes to Kingman for a limited engagement starting Sunday, April 14th.



## 100 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1920



Buster Brown of “Funny Paper” fame descended upon Kingman with his dog Tige this week, much to the delight of the kiddies.



Eleven more turkeys arrived this week from the State Game Warden and were taken to the Wallapais and turned loose.



Bids were opened at Phoenix for the building of the Goldroad-Oatman Highway.

### Mohave Memories Newsletter and Museum Memberships

MOHAVE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
invites you to participate in preserving our past and building our future.

**General Member                      \$ 30.00**

Includes member and immediate family,  
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Route 66 Museum & Bonelli House.

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Includes all General Member benefits,  
plus no-charge research assistance from Museum staff.

**Business Member                    \$200.00**

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 William J. "Bill" Bailey  
 William J. "Bill" Bailey  
 William J. "Bill" Bailey  
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MOHAVE MUSEUM  
OF HISTORY AND ARTS

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