



The Mohave Museum
of History and Arts

Mohave Memories

November - December 2020

Letter from the Director

I will be the first to admit having very limited knowledge of proper masking protocol, so to err on the side of caution, I am writing this newsletter with full preventive attire: I mean mask, face shield, gloves and ear plugs. Having succumbed to the “new normal”, I feel confident that the electronic transfer from my office is not only draped with protection but also bathed in paranoia.

The pandemic has been responsible for limiting the amount of people coming through the Museum and also the dynamics of the audience. The European and Asian guest are being replaced by stateside Americans. The Museum has played host to people fleeing claustrophobic lockdowns from the bordering states of California and Nevada.

The moral to this masking dilemma is that whatever negative turn it might take, it will never cover the beauty and relevance of this Museum. It has been said: “the eyes are the window to the soul”. I have observed guests with masks on talk much less and have a tendency to stop and read all the verbiage in the Museum. Another unique circumstance about being mask bound and six foot apart is that when I communicate with a Museum visitor you keep complete eye contact. It is the most interesting of times to be alive and a fortunate time to be associated with this fine Museum.

The Museum has weathered this uncertain time because of all you Museum Members that have given so graciously in times of need. I thank you!

Christmas will soon be on the horizon, and out of an abundance of caution we have had to cancel our annual Christmas Program. This is the first time in the 19 years I have been here that this has happened. I have a feeling that although there will be no people here on the first weekend in December, a certain quiet reverence will occupy the halls of this institution. Please take a moment of your time and remember the beautiful music and song that filled the auditorium honoring Christmas.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Shannon

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Nostalgia

Contributed by Charles Cook

I often have reason to travel from my home in the area we used to call Hilltop to the older part of Kingman known as “old” town.

When I drive westward through the red cinder cut of Highway Sixty-Six, I usually travel on Beale Street to 4th Street, make a right turn onto Oak Street, turn left and then proceed west to 1st Street. When I arrive at the junction of Oak and 1st Streets, I never seem to feel like I am right with the world. There should be a huge gray high school building at the end of Beale Street. The magnificent gray building is no longer there. A careless fire removed that grand old school from my life forty-five years ago.

My fading memory recalls the joy the huge gray school building helped to create. An atmosphere of excellent learning and creativity for generations of Kingman students. I remember the classrooms, the teachers and the central study hall where I spent a lot of time pretending to study. Good times were realized in that building. Wonderful episodes of teenage comradery were enjoyed with good friends and fellow students who made up the student population. It was an idyllic place in a special time.

I gaze at the massive green athletic field that takes up the space where the old gray building stood. The area is now part of the spacious and modern new Lee Williams High School including the grounds that encompassed the Kingman Junior High as well as the old Kingman Pioneer Cemetery grounds. The only landmark building that is still there from my high school era is the old domed roof gymnasium.

The “gym” as we called it, was built in 1936 by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), an entity formed by the National Government to help bring America out of the great depression by hiring a lot of Americans who were out of work. It did not take long to build the gymnasium and it still looks great today.

The old gym holds many of my early recollections of fun and adventure. There was a stage at one end of the interior of the building complete with royal blue velvet draw curtains. Many Junior and Senior theater productions were performed on this stage. As students, we also appreciated the faculty plays the teachers and administrators performed for our enjoyment. We found out that our educators were almost as human as we were.

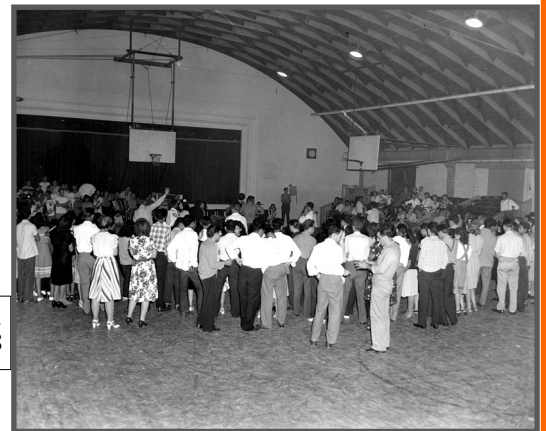
The most enjoyable activity for me though, was the high school basketball games at the old gym. School teams from Arizona, Nevada and California would come to town to play against Kingman High. You were not sure of getting a seat for the games if you were not there early and there was always a crowd milling around outside the large side doors due to the limited seating. Dances and other social gatherings were often scheduled in our gym to satisfy the needs of the community.

To my complete satisfaction, our old “gym” is still being used by young people. The building is now home to the “Club for Youth”, a vital organization which maintains programs and activities for school age children all year long. It makes me extremely happy to know that an early positive fixture in my school life is being used by my grand-daughter to hone her basketball skills.

Move over nostalgia. The future is coming fast!



Kingman High School and gym.
ca. 1942



A dance at the old gym.
ca. 1948

THE MOHAVE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP
ANNOUNCES ITS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SALE

It's almost time once again for sleigh rides, hot chocolate and the most favorite thing of all
Christmas Shopping for all your family and friends!!

The Mohave Museum Gift Shop gives you the perfect opportunity to start your shopping early. In spite of the
pandemic and restrictions the gift shop will be holding its Annual Christmas Sale.

The sale offers a **10% discount** on all merchandise in the gift shop, with the exception of consignment items.
Museum members will receive a total of **20%** off all merchandise in the gift shop,
with the exception of consignment items.

This year the gift shop is featuring an exciting new local artist. She is offering special items on consignment for
those hard to find gifts for family and friends. Her stained-glass pieces will feature fall colors and Christmas themes.
Start your shopping early at the Mohave Museum Gift Shop while the merchandise is still plentiful
and you have a variety to choose from.

Remember these dates!!

November 24th through December 31st

for your best shopping experience and come to the gift shop at the Mohave Museum!!!
For more information, please call 928-753-3195.

Thank you for supporting the Mohave Museum and local artists and businesses.



Bob Boze Bell, author, artist, Arizona historian and former Kingman resident,
has generously donated one of his paintings as well as
one of his books to benefit the Museum through our annual fundraiser.



The painting entitled: "Doc Holliday in Colorado"
along with his book titled: "The Illustrated Life and Times of Doc Holliday"
will be raffled Friday February 12th, 2021.
(Date is subject to change.)



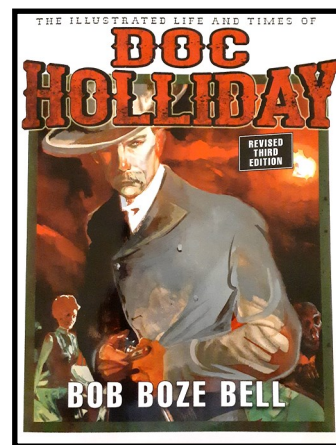
Bob Boze Bell will be on hand to give a talk, sign books and draw the winning ticket.

Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

You may purchase tickets at the
Museum or by phone at 928-753-3195.
Raffle tickets would make a great stocking stuffer!

Items are currently on display at the
Museum and will be raffled as a pair.

Need not be present to win.



50 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1970

November Mrs. William Grounds returned home Wednesday from Grand Junction CO. where she visited her granddaughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Lashbrook. Mrs. Lashbrook and daughters returned With her for a week visit.



80 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1940

November Clyde Cofer made his first shipment of cattle this week the Cofer ranch. The moving was done by Claude Neal, who is operating a trucking service for the cattlemen in the county. The cattle were shipped to the Marshall ranch in Hualapai Valley.

December A delicious turkey dinner and an evening of dancing were enjoyed by members of the Kingman Country Club last Saturday night. There were approximately 60 at the party. The committee was composed of Mrs. M. O. Hanhila, chairman; Mrs. George Williston, Mrs. C. A. Dutton, Mrs. W.L. Robinson, and Mrs. Glenn Auld.

Don't forget to vote!



Don't forget to vote!

100 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

1920

November Lonnie Van Marter returned to Kingman last Wednesday night from northern California. Lonnie broke one of the small bones in one of his legs while up there and will have to rest for several weeks.

Early Tuesday morning the Beale Springs house belonging to the Kingman Water Company was burned to the ground. The cause of the fire is not known, but it is thought that someone set the buildings on fire. The Sheriff's office has not been able to find any clue that would lead to the identification of the fire-bug.





ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Due to the pandemic and the restrictions of buildings and businesses brought on by the pandemic, the board of directors of the Mohave Museum of History and Arts is sad to announce that the annual Christmas program will be canceled this year.

Thanks to all of you for supporting the Museum.

The Board of Directors look forward to planning an extra special program for next year.

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,
free admission to Mohave Museum,
Route 66 Museum & Bonelli House.

Supporting Member \$100.00

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

Business Member \$200.00

Director's Circle \$500.00

Applications available online

www.mohavemuseum.org/resources
or call 928-753-3195.

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

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Kingman home in the snow.
ca: unkown

MOHAVE MUSEUM
OF HISTORY AND ARTS

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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2020



Happy Holidays to all of you
from all of us at the
Mohave Museum of History and Arts,
the Route 66 Museum and the Bonelli House!
Have a Happy and a Healthy New Year!!

