



The Mohave Museum
of History and Arts
Mohave Memories

September - October 2021

Letter from the Director:

I have a tendency to compliment this Museum for its ability to preserve history and way too often ignore the history being made here daily. Fortunately, this was brought to my attention at an event in July in which we honored Karin Goudy before her move to Colorado.

Karin's resume includes: Museum Director, President of the Museum's Board, Exhibitor, Curator and Benefactor. Also included on her resume is Master Quilter, Mentor and Friend. Karin is the whole package. I have had the privilege of working with her throughout my tenure here and have benefited greatly from her knowledge and work ethic. Karin made history come alive and she will be greatly missed. I am sure that she will take her "can do" energy to Durango and add much to their historical establishments. Thank you Karin for the rich legacy you left Kingman.

Several times a week I am paged to come to the Museum's foyer and meet a guest who has a question and more times than not I can answer simple queries. However, when it comes to more in depth questions about mines or prominent Pioneer ranches and families, I will suggest that the Mohave County records referring to such matters are housed in the Museum's Library.

How can I characterize the duties performed by the Library? Simply put the Museum's Research Facility is in the business of "izing": they memorize, alphabetize, summarize and eventually digitize. The library staff does all these tasks well, but the real miracle is putting all the data into a form that makes it available to the general public. I can say without hesitation that they are not only up to this enormous task, but they are skilled in every facet of library science.

I encourage you to visit our Museum and see for yourself our state of the art Library. You will not be disappointed. While you are downtown visit the Route 66 Museum and the Historic Bonelli House. Kingman is fortunate to have three great facilities that remember the past, record the present and promise a spectacular future.

Shannon

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Little Meadows
and its Gold Road Connection: Part I
by Michael Goethals

On the eastern slopes of the Black Mountains, rising high above the sun-scorched and wind-swept land of Mohave County's Sacramento Valley, old Route 66 dips and winds along the contours of a beautiful landscape that once boasted some of the richest gold discoveries in the nation. Originally traversed by early army explorers like Captain Lorenzo Sitgreaves (1851) and Lieutenant Edward F. Beale (1857), the original route from Kingman through the Black Mountains still bears some of the historical names of Beale Springs and Sitgreaves Pass. Yet, it wasn't until June 1900, while prospector Jose Jerez searched for his missing burro, that one of the greatest mineral bonanzas in the region was discovered. Described as a mammoth ledge outcropping of high-grade gold that extended for two miles along the county's earliest road, the new strike drew prospectors and gold speculators from all around the nation to Mohave County.

Between August and October, quite a number of good strikes were reported from the area where Jose Jerez made his initial discovery. On 8 August 1900, Articles of Incorporation of the Gold Road Mining Company were published in the Mohave County Miner newspaper. At the same time, workmen were busy repairing the road from Kingman to the area near the base of the strike known as Little Meadows. As time went on, the two greatest concerns for the development of the area were the availability of water and the need for a dependable road up to the new gold strikes. Since the early days when ranchers raised cattle in the region, Little Meadows had been known as an area where several springs provided water for local herds. As a result, over the next forty years, Little Meadows became essential to the growth and success of the road and the town that many people called Gold Road.

As plans for providing both water and transportation to the new diggings in the Black Mountains developed in 1901, a former deputy U.S. Marshal from Casa Grande named Byron B. Dunure established the first road station at Little Meadows to provide for the convenience of the traveling public and supplies to the local miners. Owing to the lack of pure water for drinking and camp use, by October of 1902, the Gold Road Mining Company was compelled to put in a water pumping plant at Dunure's Little Meadows. A two-inch pipe was initially laid for pumping water up the steep grade to Gold Road, while grading on the wagon road was also well underway. Old Timers stated that the blasting being done to clear the roadway reminded them of the good old days when holes were blown into the hillsides of California mining camps in search of gold.

Between 1903 and 1906, several local businessmen ran daily stage lines from Kingman through the stage station at Little Meadows to Gold Road (Davis and Tate from the Fashion Stable from 1903-1904 and Ed M. Carrow from Livery Stable #1 on Front Street from 1905-1906). Then in 1906, Ed Krider bought a five-passenger automobile to carry the mail and riders to Little Meadows, from which point the stages made the remainder of the trip up the steep grade over Sitgreaves Pass. Unfortunately, the steep and winding wagon road up to Gold Road wasn't always the safest route for hauling people or the mail. In September 1906, stage driver Charley Wilson was injured when he was thrown from his runaway stage on the hill above Little Springs, and in May 1910, driver Jesse Crain ran down his stage in a buggy when several of the horses bolted from the stage station at Little Meadows. Finally, in June 1912, the Kingman Transportation Company received two large freight trucks from Los Angeles, which facilitated additional changes to the Gold Road highway due to the weight and wheel-base of the larger truck's rear axles.

Meanwhile, pumping operations between Little Meadows and Gold Road changed. In 1911, the Gold Road Mining Company installed a new 300-gallon water pump to handle the mining and milling operations in camp, leaving the smaller water pump at Little Meadows to provide the limited domestic water needs for the town. Although pumping operations at Little Meadows decreased, Oscar B. Elliott was hired by the company as the caretaker for the roadside stop. While living at Little Meadows with his wife Lois, he reported one of the most gruesome murders committed in Mohave County during the early 1900's.

Cont...

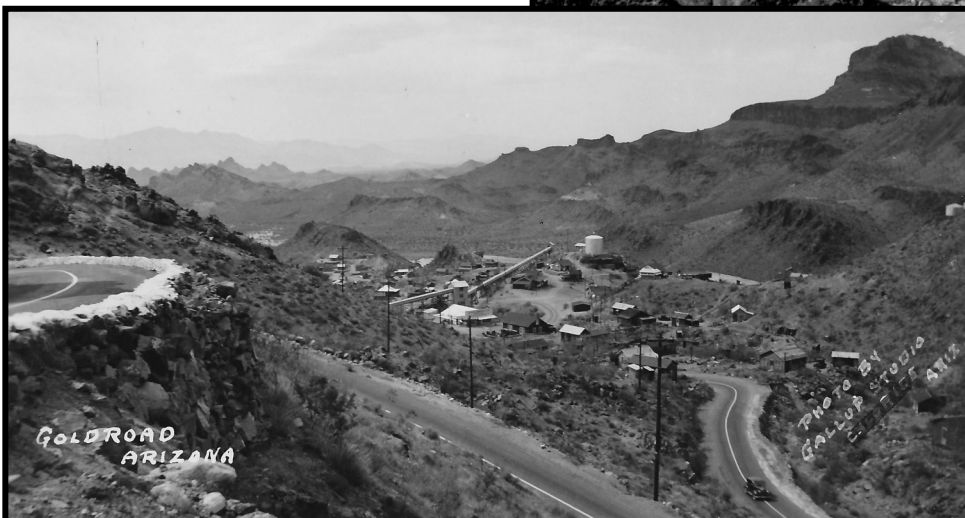
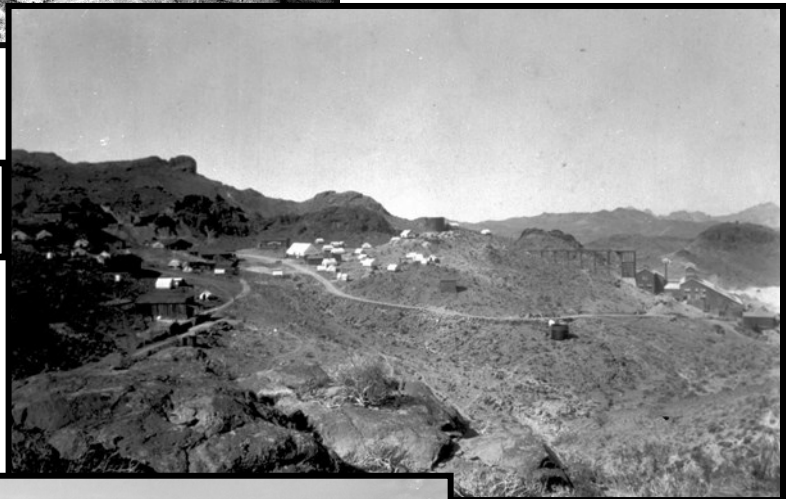
Supposedly, two miners had camped overnight at Little Meadows and gotten into an argument over their partnership. In the process, it was determined that Charles Jagger shot August Rost in the right chest and head, dragged his body into one of the small wooden buildings at the site, and set the building and body on fire. The Mohave County Miner article stated that the body was almost totally consumed by flames and was horrible to look upon. Of course, Charles Jagger was found guilty of murder and sent to Yuma Territorial Prison.

To be continued...



Aerial view of Kingman (top,center) and the Sacramento Valley (Golden Valley) picturing the Gold Road. ca 1940

Tent city at Goldroad, AZ
Goldroad Mine ca.1900



Goldroad, AZ ca 1944



Mohave
Museum
of
History
and
Arts

The Mohave Museum of History and Arts is partnering with the Sounds of Kingman to raffle a 159 year old quilt. This quilt was created in a Cocks' Comb and Red Berries pattern. It is 90" x 96" in size. It was completed in April, 1862. The quilt was donated by Marge Hauert, a member of the Perkins Family.



The photo above is just a small sample of the exceptional craftsmanship of the quilt. Each applique is consistent with the others and the stitches are consistent through-out the quilt. There is a certain amount of wear and tear as could happen on a quilt of this age. The guardians of the quilt have not taken the responsibility to clean these areas, however, the winner of the raffle may certainly take this upon themselves.

The quilt will be on display at the Mohave Museum and tickets will be on sale at the Museum gift shop starting August 23, 2021.

Single tickets are \$5.00 each.

The proceeds will be shared equally between the Mohave Museum and the Sounds of Kingman.

The drawing will be held at the Museum's Christmas Program on December 4th, 2021.

Participants need not be present to win.

If the winner resides out-of-town, Sounds of Kingman will ship the quilt.

For information concerning this raffle please call:

Rosanne Rosenberg with The Sounds of Kingman, 928-303-3341.

Membership Renewals

Hal & Arlene Johnson, Peoria, AZ
Bill & Colleen Kirby
Bob & Darlene Shaeffer Maher
Harold R. & Elsie M. Smith
Sutton Memorial Funeral Home,
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Shay Givans
Keith M. & Kathleen E. Kintner
Ms. Dorothy Campbell Castleberry, Yucca, AZ
Judith Kocher
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Sansom, Tucson, AZ

Memorials

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

<u>Donor</u>	<u>In Memory of</u>
Dorothy Campbell-Castleberry	Rillis B. Campbell
Dorothy Campbell-Castleberry	John Campbell
Steve, Pat and Treacy Lee	Nora Elizabeth "Chimento" Speer
Steve, Pat and Treacy Lee	Harold J. Johnson "Hal"
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Clairann P. Cave	Dorothy Elizabeth Patriquin
Belinda & Billie Jo Barnes	Bill Barnes

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
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Includes member and immediate family, free admission to Mohave Museum,
Route 66 Museum & Bonelli House.

Supporting Member	\$100.00
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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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Director's Circle	\$500.00
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Applications available online





"Kingman has long been known as a stop on the way to some place else. Even in the iconic song about getting your kicks on Route 66, Kingman is mentioned as a place to stop on the way to California.

But Kingman has also been a destination. For more than a century this dynamic dusty crossroads has been popular with film companies, sports stars, celebrities, authors and artists. The list of celebrities with a Kingman connection includes Clark Gable, Carol Lombard, Andy Devine, Bob Boze Bell, Pamela Anderson, George Grantham, and Louis Chevrolet.

Join America's storyteller author

Jim Hinckley

at the Mohave Museum of History and Arts,

Saturday October 16th, at 1:00 pm

for a fun filled, fast paced look at Kingman's celebrity history
and its Hollywood connection.



Save the Date!!

Saturday December 4, 2021

The Mohave Museum of History and Arts
along with the Museum's Board of Directors,
is happy to announce the return of the
Annual Christmas Program!!

Please save the date and plan on joining us
here at the Museum to once again celebrate the season!

There will be decorations, songs, refreshments and more!

All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

More details to follow.



MOHAVE MUSEUM
OF HISTORY AND ARTS

400 WEST BEALE STREET
KINGMAN, AZ 86401-5708
928-753-3195

Email: museum@mohavemuseum.org

Web: www.mohavemuseum.org

Facebook: Mohave Museum of History
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September - October 2021

