

THE MOHAHVE MUSE



Mohahve Historical Society
P.O. Box 21, Victorville, Ca 92393



Volume 25 Issue 4
April 2022

President: Marcy Taylor, **VP:** Delvin Harbour, **Treasurer:** Carol Wiley, **Rec Secy:** Julie Moffat, **Corres Secy:** Therese Moore
Directors: Mary Dutro, Julia Jackson, Carol Johnson, Mike Phillips, Rick Schmidt

President's Corner

Hello MHS Members:

Spring has sprung, and hopefully the weather will cooperate for our planned outdoor events. For those of you who don't love driving in the dark, for the next six months it will be light out when you arrive at the Lone Wolf Colony for our monthly evening meetings. However, please don't arrive before 6:30. It is creating confusion when members and guests arrive before the board members and speaker are ready to greet you. I know you can't wait to get there, but remember, things go much more smoothly when you allow us our needed set-up time.

Thanks to member **John Blanc** for his donation to the monument fund. Our remaining balance is just over \$300, which does not include whatever costs may be associated with the tortoise repair. There is an unexpected glitch in retrieving the Palisades Ranch monument, which we hope to resolve soon.

Now I would like to do a little bragging on our board members. Over the past year or so we have received numerous thank-yous and compliments by way of phone calls, emails, and actual thank-you notes. Yes, some people still take the time to put pen to paper to write a note, place it in an envelope with a stamp, and mail it! Positive comments have been received regarding the "Muse," fieldtrips, monument repair, the Membership Directory, fieldtrip and meeting reminders, and the organization in general. Our thanks to **John Marnell, Linda Titus, Nick Cataldo, Elizabeth Ross, Norman Bossom, Trudy Shoemaker, Jeanne Brown, Mary Ann Christy**, and others who have sent positive comments. We also welcome constructive criticism, which is why the Suggestion sheets are on the check-in table at meetings. But don't be too hard on us, as we are all volunteers.

I am trying to keep our name out there and attract new members. On Wed. Feb.23 I was invited to speak at the MOAA (Military Officers Association) group at Spring Valley

lake Country Club. What topic did they want me to speak on? Why, whatever I wanted. So I took the opportunity to promote the MHS, the AV and VV Legacy Museums, and to summarize the accomplishments of the AV Historic Advisory Committee. In addition, I discussed our Murray Ranch display on the Smithsonian Traveling Greenbook Exhibit tour, and the upcoming Capt. Joseph McConnell Centennial Celebration. Several MHS books sold, as well as posters and other museum for-sale items.

On Sun. March 6, I attended the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce 3rd annual "Evening Affaire," held for the first time at the SB County Fairgrounds, proudly wearing my MHS badge, and a few others. Lots of prominent community members and local elected officials were



there as always, the food was good, the band was outstanding, and the camaraderie was appreciated. I did see a few other MHS members, as well as representatives from the Lone Wolf Colony. The last time I checked the limited edition beautifully framed Roy Rogers poster donated by Bob

and Karin Tinsley had a \$300 bid on it.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support, and especially those of you who bring guests and recruit new members. Sincerely,

Marcy

MHS website: www.mohahve.org Email: Mohahve64@gmail.com (Stormie Reid - Webmaster)
[Facebook:](https://www.facebook.com/Mohahve-Historical-Society-2022-101844115718783) <https://www.facebook.com/Mohahve-Historical-Society-2022-101844115718783>

MHS Upcoming Events

- Apr. 28 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
Nelson Miller- "Black Mountain and Inscription Canyon"
- Apr. 30 **Fieldtrip** 9:30am, Meet at MRVM
Black Mountain and Inscription Canyon
- May 26 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
Delvin Harbour "The History of Ham Radio on the Desert"
- May 28 **Fieldtrip** 10:00am, Route 66 Museum
Victorville
- Jun. 23 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
Marcy Taylor "The Amazing Influence of Dale Evans"
- Jun. 25 **"Saturday Night Bath"** 6:30pm
Movie at Apple Valley Legacy Museum
- Jul. 28 **Driving Fieldtrip** Old Rt. 66, Victorville to
Oro Grande to Helendale to Barstow
Meet at Emma Jeans at 5:30pm
- Aug. 27 **Fieldtrip:** 10am, Wrightwood Museum visit
- Sep. 22 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
Norman Bossom - "The Big Horn Mine"
- Sep. 24 **Fieldtrip:** 5:30pm, History and hike to
Hilltop House with refreshments at AVLM
- Oct. 27 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
- Oct. 29 **Field Trip** TBD
- Nov. 17 **MHS Mtg.** 7:00pm, Lone Wolf Colony
Steve Brown - "Hadji Ali (Hi Jolly) Beale's
Camel Expedition"
- Dec. 15 **MHS Christmas Party**

Community Upcoming Events

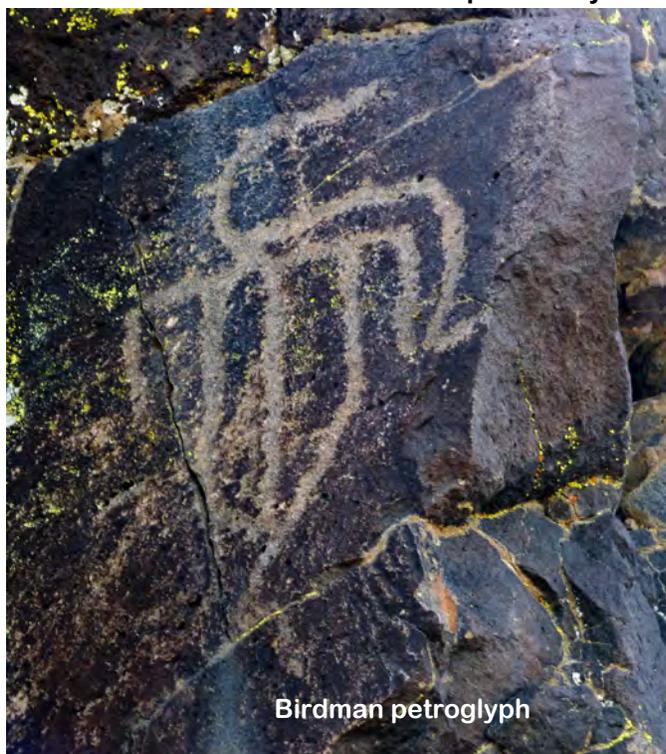
- Apr. 2 4:30-8:00pm, AVLM honoring Centennial of
Capt. Joe McConnell, AV Inn
- Apr. 3 1:00pm, Ceremony Victor Valley Memorial
Park in honor of Capt. McConnell
- Apr. 9 10:00am-5:00pm, Oro Grande Days
- May. 7 10:00am-4:00pm, Santa Fe Trading
Company Crafts Fair, Victorville
- May. 14 10:00am-4:00pm, Mojave River Valley
Museum BBQ, Barstow
- Jun. 11 10:00am-3:00pm, AV Village Street Fair
and Car Show, James Woody Park, Apple
Valley
- Aug. 13 8:00am-1:00pm, AV Flea Market,
Lions Park, Apple Valley
- Oct. 1 10:00am-3:00pm, AV Village Parade and
Car Show
- Oct. 8 AV Air Show, AV Airport



Nelson Miller - April Speaker and Trip Leader

The Thursday April 28 speaker and Sat. April 30 fieldtrip leader will be MHS member Nelson Miller, whose topic is the "Black Mountain and Inscription Canyon Petroglyphs," a major anthropological attraction in the High Desert. A retired urban planner, member of Desert Explorers, and Board Member of the Mojave River Valley Museum, also an expert on the Old Spanish Trail, Miller calls himself "an amateur historian." His talk at the Lone Wolf Colony will introduce us to more than 10,000 petroglyphs that have been documented around Black Mountain, including the more than 1,000 in Inscription Canyon. These ancient Indian art images were made by scraping rock formations using stone tools, depicting humans, desert animals, the sun and stars, and other important symbols of life. The Birdman petroglyph was at one time used as the logo of the American Institute of Archaeology.

APRIL TRIP - Black Mountain & Inscription Canyon



Please plan to meet at the Mojave River Valley Museum, 270 East Virginia Way in Barstow at 9:30 AM on Saturday. According to Miller, the museum bookstore is the best in the Mojave Desert, with a number of books on petroglyphs. If possible, work out carpooling, as vehicles can be left at the museum. We will leave from there at 10:00 and return by about 2:00. You may want to bring water, snacks, or a lunch, and a walking stick. Keep in mind, there are no facilities available on this trip. The trip to Black Mountain will involve about 42 miles of driving on dirt roads, which are generally accessible with a high-clearance two-wheel drive vehicle. Many of the petroglyphs can be easily accessed along short, flat, easy walking trails. If the weather has been favorable, we may also see an abundance of spring wildflowers. Please sign up for this trip at the Thursday meeting, at the AV Legacy Museum, or by calling (760) 985-1918.

February Activities

Thanks to Scott Johnson for his Feb. 24 presentation on The History of Hesperia, and for generously donating 10 of his "Hesperia: Inland Gateway to Southern California" books for us



to sell. If you didn't get Scott's book or Griz Drylie's "Images of America: Hesperia" book, it's not too late. We have more. However, the last "Shaping Kate" by Hazel Stearns has been sold.

It was a small but enthusiastic group who previewed the Apple Valley Historic Points of Interest driving tour Sat. Feb. 26. Using driving directions and a flyer provided by the Town, and a draft booklet with a detailed history and photos of each site developed about a year ago by Marcy and Michelle, attendees were bombarded by lots of information, that may take a second tour to digest. In a two and one-half hour trip, with the "shotgun" passenger reading the history of each upcoming site, while the driver (hopefully) kept his / her eyes on the road, and despite one missed turn, the trip was highly informative. Starting in central Apple Valley at the AV Inn, then making a huge circle going east, then south, then west, then way north, the fieldtrippers ended up back in the center of town at the site of the old Apple Valley Airport location, now a shopping center. While enjoying lunch the group studied vintage airport photos, and then



posed for one last group photo in front of the fireplace with the framed airport picture above it. It was interesting to note that only two attendees were AV residents, the others hailing from Victorville, Hesperia, Spring Valley Lake, Oro Grande, and Lu-

cerne Valley. If you want to drive this tour on your own, directions are available. P.S. The two dogs on the trip were well-behaved and learned a lot of history.



MHS members on the site of the 1st Apple Valley "Shopping Mall" - The El Pueblo Shops

On Friday Feb. 25 five MHS members (Delvin, Marcy, Carol, Julie, and Bill) met at the Route 66 Museum in Old Town Victorville to greet the seven members of the Searles Valley Historical Society who came all the way down from Trona to learn some local history. Actually we three girls were loafing around



and talking, while the guys, both museum volunteers, did all the



work. Delvin was busy welcoming visitors and giving tours, and Bill was manning the gift shop. They took a break just long enough for a photo op. Now why is Julie, our Recording Secretary, in both group photos? Because she was born and raised in Trona, of course.

Apple Valley Treasures Preserve its History

by Marcy Taylor

A 12 x 5 foot oil on canvas mural that once hung in the Apple Valley Inn has returned to Apple Valley from a long trip to Oregon. Local pioneers Walt and Maggie Cramer purchased it for \$500 when the Apple Valley Inn closed its doors to become a brain trauma center. They sent it to Oswego, Oregon, the residence of Dorothy Westlund, one of the founders of modern-day Apple Valley, who was involved in the development of the Inn, as the Cramers believed it rightfully should be returned to her. After many years, Dorothy gave it to her youngest son, Morris, who along with his two older brothers, was born and raised in Apple Valley. She included a note explaining which of his relatives and other town residents

posed for the figures surrounding the fire in the old western themed mural. They included his father BJ Westlund, Uncle Newt Bass along with his children Leann and Eric, Uncle Red Bass, Glenn Trosper, and a few others. Some time ago Morris sent it back to Apple Valley to long-time resident Bob Tinsley, who brought it to the Apple Valley Legacy Museum Feb. 28. We are hoping that, after some cleaning up, it can be returned to its proper place on a wall in the Apple Valley Inn.



Where's the Buffalo? By Marcy Taylor



A few years ago it was "Where's Trigger?" Both residents and tourists were reporting that he was missing from his pedestal at Sunset Hills, where he had stood for a number of years. As it turned out, he was down at Hitt Plumbing in the Village of Apple Valley for a much deserved equine make-over. After all, he hadn't been repainted since 1967! He soon galloped off to his new and current spot at the Spirit River Center on Apple Valley Road to greet his fans and pose for photos. Now the question is, "Where's the buffalo?" You may have noticed, the sign post in front of the old Buffalo Trading Post has lost its mascot who seems to have disappeared on the morning of Monday March 7. Could it be his turn for a sprucing up? We'll have to wait and see where he ends up. I guess after 66 years on that corner he deserves a change of scenery. Pictured L/R: Jeffrey Yoon (seller of property), Marcy, Chris Hitt, Hitt Plumbing volunteer taking down Buffalo, Kari and Paul Leon, realtors and Mayor of Apple Valley (Kari).



How old is Old? by Marcy Taylor

I hear a lot of people complaining about getting old. Medical problems as well as some life-style choices do seem to take their toll. Maybe you can't do things at 60 that you had no trouble doing at 50. Maybe your memory at 80 is not what it used to be at 70. These are things we either come to accept, or we may just complain about, sometimes to the dismay who those around us. But how would it feel to be 110? An amazing lady, Beatrice Pruitt of Hesperia, will be able to tell us all about it when she becomes a supercentenarian May 22! I have had the good fortune to celebrate most of Beatrice's birthdays and many other events with her since she was 101. That year we were celebrating Herb Jeffries's 100th birthday party at the Apple Valley Inn. He was surprised to find out that he was not the oldest one in the room. At a more recent Apple Valley Inn event in 2020, we had a speaker, Bob Cambridge's grandmother, who was 101. Beatrice was in the audience at age 107.

Last year Beatrice celebrated her 109th at Mama Carpino's Italian Restaurant in the Village of Apple Valley. She greeted her guests wearing a hand-made braided necklace with a large 109 around her neck, sitting under 3 large balloons announcing her age. Think of the changes she's seen in this world since her birth in Hope, Arkansas in 1912. All I'll say is, "Truly amazing!"

MHS Member Linda Titus Keynote Speaker at NAACP Event

By Marcy Taylor.

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Black History Month, NAACP Branch 1082 and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority partnered to present the "Martin Luther King Lunch, Learn, and Live, Health and Wellness Event" Sunday February 27, 2022 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Victorville. The luncheon was supported and sponsored by a large number of individuals, as well as local and civic organizations including the NCNW (National Council of Negro Women), Divine Interventions, the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department, Burning Bush Baptist Church, and the High Desert Masonic Lodge #107. Mayor Debra Jones and Mayor Pro Tem Leslie Irving, representing the City of Victorville, presented a proclamation to NAACP President James Campbell. The two outstanding



Keynote Speaker Linda Titus

Keynote Speakers, Linda Titus, PA, RN, and Blessing Unlimited HD Health and Wellness Coach; and Terrence Stone, Founder, President, and CEO of Young Visionaries Youth Academy, and CEO of Stones Consulting, Inc. not only kept the group's attention with dynamic messages, but had audience members on their feet and participating. The afternoon was rounded out with information on scholarship opportunities for area youth, as well as a drawing for beautiful donated gift baskets.

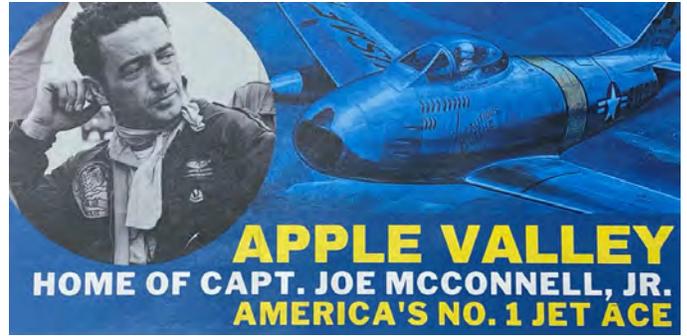
Our thanks to NAACP President James Campbell, Membership Chairs Lakeisha Kidd-Campbell and Linda Titus for organizing the event, to all the others who worked together to make it a success, and for all attendees committed to the goal of unifying our community, and working together to keep ourselves and those around us active and healthy, with a positive "we can do it" outlook on life.



The
Honorable
Honorary Mayor of
Oro Grande
And his bodyguard
Randy invite you to
Oro Grande Days
Sat. April 9
10:00am - 5:00pm

Captain Joe McConnell Centennial

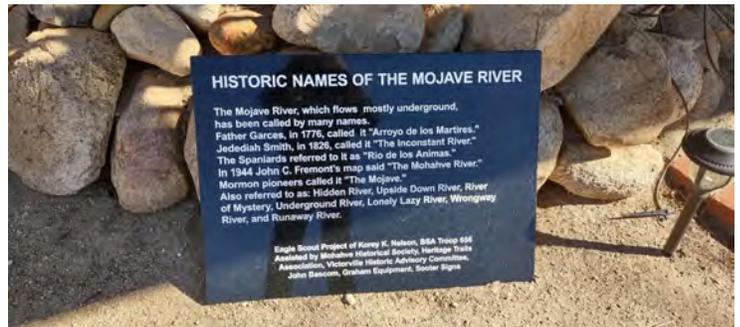
By Marcy Taylor



Captain Joseph McConnell, Jr., a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War, really put Apple Valley on the map. He earned the title of the first and only Triple Jet Ace of the Korean War, having shot down 16 MiG-15's in a matter of weeks in his F-86 Sabre Jet fighter. McConnell moved his family to the desert while stationed at George Air Force Base. The Town of Apple Valley honored him with a new home, built in August of 1953, in a record-breaking 45 hours with all donated labor and materials, that still stands on Highway 18. Unfortunately McConnell was killed in an accident outside of Edwards Air Force Base the following year.

This year we will recognize Capt. McConnell's Centennial year, with a two-day celebration April 2 and 3, in conjunction with the Apple Valley Legacy Museum's 7th Anniversary. Museum volunteers will be assisted by volunteers from the Apple Valley Historical Advisory Committee, Mohave Historical Society members, the staff of the Victor Valley Memorial Park, the Sultana High School ROTC, and other community members.

The 4:30-8:00 Sat. event at the Apple Valley Inn Cottage #153 will include live music, a narrated historical hayride, a raffle, silent auction, museum displays, and dinner, all for \$15. The celebration will continue at 1:00 Sunday at the Veterans Memorial at the cemetery on C and 11th Street in Victorville. Air Force Veterans and community members will speak, and an Honor Guard will present the colors. Refreshments will follow. Tickets for the Sat. event can be purchased at the Apple Valley Legacy Museum or by calling (760) 985-1918. Please lend your support to this important event.



Many Thanks to all those who donated to the Monument Fund.
This is the last plaque which will soon be placed.
Monument maintenance and repair is an on-going effort requiring continuing funding.
MHS appreciates all donations specific to this effort.

MOHAHVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Founded 1964
 Website: www.mohahve.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____
 STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

ANNUAL: FAMILY/COUPLE \$30 SINGLE \$20
LIFETIME: FAMILY/COUPLE \$200 SINGLE \$150

MEMBERSHIP DATE: ____/____/____

Newsletter (MUSE) delivery option:
 Email USPS

RENEWAL NEW MEMBER

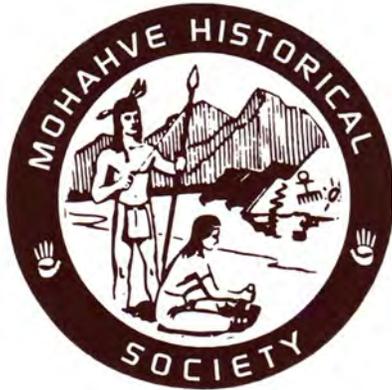
Questions? Call (760) 985-1918
 Please make your check out to:
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Mail the completed form and your payment to:
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 P.O. Box 21, Victorville, CA 92393

PLEASE USE THIS FORM TO RENEW OR CHANGE YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS
 (Name, Address, Phone, Email) and submit by USPS, Email or in person at a general meeting)



Remember to shop at smile.amazon.com which donates 0.5% of your purchase to MHS. Most items qualify, but you will be told if is not.



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The **MUSE** is the
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 of the
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