

# THE MOHAHVE MUSE

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 2



FEBRUARY 2019

## FIRE ON THE MOJAVE

*Fire On the Mojave: Stories from the Deserts and Mountains of Inland Southern California* is an award-winning project that takes a broad view of the role, presence and impacts of wildfire in our local desert and mountain regions.

Join the Mohave Historical Society on February 28<sup>th</sup> for a lively presentation with Q&A on the urgent topic of wildfire in our region. Our guest lecturer is College of the Desert Professor/Author and former BLM-USFS wildland firefighter Ruth Nolan.



Ruth Nolan, M.F.A., M.A.  
Professor of English, College of the Desert.  
Author, Lecturer, and Editor.

The presentation will look at Native American uses of fire as a form of resource management; fire ecology/fire research conducted by leading scholars and experts in the field; interviews with regional firefighters; a showcase of community college Public Safety Academies; stories from citizens who've survived major wildfire events; emerging wildfire science; prevention, management, adaptations and preparations for future wildfire events; and a close-up view of the work of a wildland firefighter as seen through Nolan's point of view.



# 2019 OFFICERS

## President

Jim Mustra

## Vice President

Mary Ruth Hughes

## Treasurer

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## Recording Secretary

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## Corresponding Secretary

Fran Elgin

## Directors

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## Membership / Director-at-large

Andrea M. Gutierrez

## Newsletter Editor

Mary DeSantis

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## The Mohahve Muse

is the official newsletter of the  
Mohahve Historical Society

P.O. Box 21

Victorville, CA 92393

The Mohahve Historical  
Society is a non-profit  
501(c)(3) organization.

Our organization meets the 4th  
Thursday of each month  
at 7:00 p.m. at

Redeemer Church  
22434 Nisqually Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92308

Visit our website

[www.mohahve.org](http://www.mohahve.org)

Our E-mail address is:

[mohahve@verizon.net](mailto:mohahve@verizon.net)

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## THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER!

I'm on the lookout for history  
stories & photos, or information  
about historical locations. You  
don't have to be a writer to  
contribute. Just write out the  
facts about the topic and I'll  
turn them into an article – and  
you'll get the byline.

Send to Mary DeSantis at  
[MaryMinutemaid@hotmail.com](mailto:MaryMinutemaid@hotmail.com)  
or see me at our monthly  
meeting.



## MEMBERSHIP CORNER

### MEMBERS NOTE:

December is our  
renewal month

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

BILL & DIANE CADENHEAD, HESPERIA  
JACK MAGRO, VICTORVILLE

### RENEWALS

ROBERT BROWNE, VICTORVILLE  
ANNA CAREY, VICTORVILLE  
KEN & BERTHA CHURCHILL, HESPERIA  
RON DAVIDSON, HESPERIA  
MARY HUGHES, APPLE VALLEY  
JULIA JACKSON &  
ELAINE KENDRICK, APPLE VALLEY  
RICK SCHMIDT &  
PAL BEVILACQUA, APPLE VALLEY  
ADRIENNE & FORD SHERIDAN,  
HELENDALE  
MARCY TAYLOR, DEYNELLE  
& JADA, APPLE VALLEY  
RICHARD & KATHY THOMPSON, APLVLY

Thank you for your  
continued support!



For membership questions call

**Andrea M. Gutierrez**

▶ (760) 961-2731 ◀

or contact her at the meeting.




## 2019 CALENDAR

### February 28

#### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker:** Ruth Nolan

**Topic:** Fire on the Mojave – stories of fighting wildfires in the deserts and mountains of Southern California.

### March 28

#### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker:** Mark Landis

**Topic:** The Camp Cajon Project

### April 25

#### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker:** Matthew Cabe

**Topic:** Movie Making in the High Desert

### May 25

#### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker:** Bob Cambridge

**Topic:** History of the Cambridge family in the Victor Valley

### June 27

#### GENERAL MEETING

**Speaker:** Luis Fuerte

**Topic:** My Time With Huell Howser

### 2019 FIELD TRIPS

All events and field trips will be posted to our website as soon as they are planned:

[www.mohahve.org](http://www.mohahve.org)

# JANUARY RECAP

**Story and photos  
by Marcy Taylor**

The January meeting of the Mojave Historical Society offered an exciting tour of the Mojave Road in 1863 presented by historian Jeff Lapidus. The attendees were treated to a

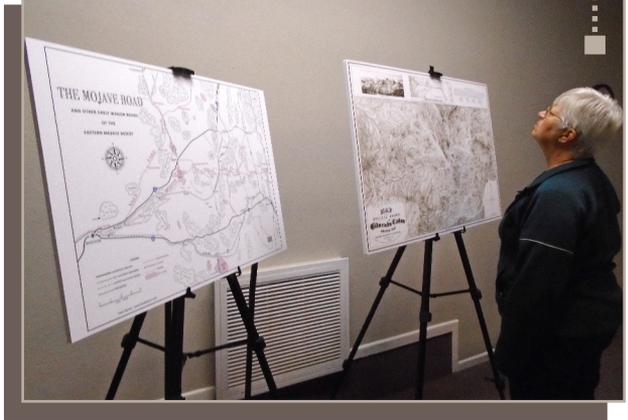
PowerPoint presentation featuring rare 1863 photos of Rudolph d'Heureuse, as well as large map displays tracing the route. The meeting drew a large number of members and guests, including some faces we've never seen before.

The meeting drew a large number of members and guests, including some faces we've never seen before.

The evening also included the usual raffle, refreshments provided by Rita Wells and Fran Elgin, and a small "test" to see who was paying attention to Fran's skits, performed by talented members at the Dec. 13 Christmas party. The object was to match the five photos of the skits with the characters depicted. Although a large number of people were not in attendance at the party, some who did attend admitted they either didn't pay attention or could not remember anything from a month ago. Six people did manage to pass with 100% and were rewarded with

vintage postcards.

The geniuses were Rick Schmidt, Pal Bevilacqua, Mary Hughes, Bertha Churchill, Rita Wells, and Hugh Kidd, who never saw the skits, but with the help of his wife Tere and the costumes that the characters were wearing, figured it out!



# UNSUNG HEROES OF THE MONTH



by Fran Elgin

John and Barbara Marnell are ardent supporters of the MHS and contribute to our organization in many ways.

When John retired from the Los Angeles Police Department, he and Barb decided to escape the big city and explore the Mojave Desert. They moved to Hesperia about 18 years ago and became important

## Barb & John Marnell

members and leaders of our Mohahve Historical Society, as well as liaisons with the Mojave Desert Historical & Cultural Association (MDHCA) in Goffs, where John leads Mojave Road trips and other exploration trips.

After serving as MHS President for a two-year term a few years ago, there was no replacement ready to step up to the position, so John agreed to serve for another year, which saved us until we could find a new President.

John and Barb actively participated in the recent renovation and reopening of Mitchell Caverns. They were invited to share their extensive knowledge about Mitchell Caverns as guest lecturers in 2018, and then organized and led a field trip to the caves with an optional overnight camp out for participants.

A wonderful cook, Barb often bakes homemade goodies for our general meetings. The Marnells have co-authored and edited several historical books published by the MDHCA and are avid campers and four-wheel drive enthusiasts.

John and Barb, thanks for your past and continuing contributions to our group! ♦♦♦♦

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The members who prepared the turkey and ham for our 2018 Christmas pot luck need to make sure they turn in their receipts so they can be reimbursed.

A couple of helpers are needed to stay behind after our meetings to help with clean-up and arranging chairs and tables back the way they were found.

Thanks to many leads from members, our slate of speakers for this year is nearly filled and we have a list for prospective 2020 speakers. The only open month for this year is October. We will be meeting in the smaller class room in October so we need a speaker that has just a lecture presentation. Any ideas would be appreciated. ♦♦♦



*-Jim Mustra-*

## Museum Hopping Tours

The Apple Valley Legacy Museum and Victor Valley Legacy Museum volunteers will be offering "Museum Hopping" tours to local groups. Half-day tours will start at the visitor center on Seventh Street to get a taste of the history of the Victor Valley, Old Town Victorville, and Route 66. Attendees will then cross into Apple Valley, have a photo op at "Good Ol' Trigger," and continue down Hwy 18 to see the amazing displays at the old Vic's Barber Shop and the Apple Valley Legacy Museum, both located in the Historic Apple Valley Inn.

Full day tours will include options ranging from the Bascom Barn, Westlund/Rogers home, Sunset Hills, and more. Apple Valley driving tours of historic sites, as well as Bell Mountain tours including the Murray Ranch and old movie sites in Sycamore Rocks, are also available. If your local group or organization is interested in learning more about local history, please call (760) 985-1918 for scheduling and further information. ♦♦♦

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION REQUEST



Website  
<http://www.mohahve.org>  
Email address:  
[mohahve@verizon.net](mailto:mohahve@verizon.net)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW  
MEMBER



RENEWING  
MEMBER

## MEMBERSHIP TYPE

ANNUAL: FAMILY/COUPLE \$30  SINGLE \$20

LIFETIME: FAMILY \$200  SINGLE \$150



Please make your check out to: Mohave Historical Society

Mail the completed form and your payment to:

Membership  
Mohave Historical Society  
P.O. Box 21, Victorville, CA 92393



# WELCOME TO THE MOHAVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

and **THANK YOU** for supporting  
this great organization.



# CELEBRATING OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS!!

Mary Ruth Hughes

## Tishomingo



818 259-5998  
www.MaryRuthHughes.com

### CALIF. TURTLE & TORTOISE CLUB HIGH DESERT CHAPTER



P.O. BOX 163  
VICTORVILLE CA 92393  
PRESIDENT  
Dave Zantiny (760) 792-3753  
ADOPTIONS  
Mary Dutro (760)247-2364  
www.tortoise.org/highdesert

### Apple Valley Legacy Museum

Apple Valley Inn #153  
Marcy Taylor  
(760) 985-1918



OPEN  
7 Days a Week  
Hours vary  
by season



20601 Highway 18, Apple Valley, CA 92307

### Victor Valley Legacy Museum

Old Town Victorville  
Marcy Taylor  
(760) 985-1918



Open Monday  
through  
Saturday



15492 7th St, Ste A • Victorville, CA 92395

### RUMSEN AM: A TUR:ATAJ



## OHLONE

David & Dee Dee Ybarra  
Tribal Elders Council

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## MINING SUPPLIES & ROCK SHOP



16808 Main St Ste F, Hesperia, Cali. 92345  
**760-244-9642**

