

THE MOHAHVE MUSE



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



Volume 26 Issue 10
October 2023

President: Marcy Taylor, **VP:** Delvin Harbour, **Treasurer:** Carol Wiley, **Rec Secy:** Meera Maheswaran, **Corres Secy:** Stormie Reid
Directors: Mary Dutro, Dennis Hom, Eric Mandeson, Mike Phillips (MUSE Editor), Rick Schmidt

President's Corner

Hello MHS members and supporters,

As always the fall season is swamped with community events (as is the spring season.) So here we go! Put these dates on your calendar:

Oct. 7- You have a choice between the Victorville Fall Festival and the Apple Valley Air Show.

Oct. 14- Join us at the Santa Fe Trading Co. Crafts Fair in Old Town Victorville. Our booth will be right outside the Victor Valley Legacy Museum door. Come and shop or even volunteer.

Oct. 21- You have to make a choice again, either the Lone Wolf Colony Fall Festival (which also continues on Sunday) or the Apple Valley Pet Fair in Civic Park, where we will have a booth.

Oct. 28 weekend will offer plenty of Halloween-ish events, including Trunk-or-Treats and the Apple Valley Halloween Festival from 5-8 PM. November weekends are equally packed, so no need to stay home and be bored!

Thanks to all of you who made September events possible and successful. From the Movie Night volunteers, to the awesome actors, actresses, and musicians on the Happy Trails Parade float, to those who worked at the Street Fair and Crafts Fair booths, to those board members who attended events at Fort Irwin and Kemper Campbell Ranch, and members who supported one of our sister museums at the Barstow BBQ. You are awesome!

Fall season is also the time to think about board positions. Most of our board members are (thankfully) willing to continue in their current positions. We are fully able to function with three Directors, rather than five, unless one or two willing and capable members are nominated and agree to accept the nomination. Nominations will be accepted at the Oct. meeting (see page 9 for form), voted upon at the Nov. meeting, and sworn in at the Dec. Holiday dinner.

Other business must be taken care of during the fall season so we can start the New Year off with a bang! Those of you who wish to be included in the Membership Directory (or Buzz Book) can submit/ update your information with Stormie, our Corresponding Secretary (see page 8). You will receive a copy of the booklet in January only if you participate. Unless you are a life member, it's time to think about renewing your membership for 2024. Please fill out the form (see page 10) and submit it with your cash or check. Again, we prefer to take care of this before the clock strikes 12:00 Dec. 31. And very soon it will be time to purchase your ticket for the Utterly Fantastic Holiday Celebration Dinner Thursday Dec. 14. You don't want to miss the delicious meal and fantastic entertainment! So please try to take care of some of this business between 6:30 and 7:00 preceding the start of the fall meetings. You'll be glad you did!

Marcy



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

MHS Upcoming Events

- Oct. 26 **MHS Mtg.** Joe Manners & Marcy Taylor "Ghosts that Haunt the Desert"
- Oct. 27 **Fieldtrip. 10am**, Tour Oro Grande Town and Cemetery.
- Nov. 16 **MHS Mtg.** Speaker Dennis Hom "Growing Up in Old Town Victorville", Election of 2024 Board officers.
- Dec. 14 **Christmas Celebration, 5pm**, Installation of 2024 Board Officers

Community Events

- Oct. 7 **San Bernardino County Air Show, 9:30am - 3pm**, \$10, Apple Valley Airport
- Oct. 14 **Santa Fe Trading Co. Crafts Show, 10am - 4pm**, Old Town Victorville **
- Oct. 21 **AV Pet Fair, 10-3pm**, 14999 Dale Evans Pkwy, AV 92307 **
- Oct. 21 **Lone Wolf Colony Fall Festival, 12-7pm**, 23200 Bear Valley Road, AV 92308
- Oct. 22 **Lone Wolf Colony Fall Festival, 12-6pm**,
- Nov 11 **Veteran's Day Parade, 9am**, Old Town Victorville, Victor Valley Legacy Museum open **
- Nov 18 **Museum Hop with town of AV, 10 - 1:30pm**, Meet at VV Museum, Register 760-240-5000, Ext. 7055
- Dec. 2 **Christmas Parade, 10am**, Old Town Victorville
- Dec. 5 **AV Tree Lighting, 5-7pm**, Civic Center Park
- Dec. 9 **Santa Fe Trading Co. Crafts Show, 10am - 4pm**, Old Town Victorville **

** MHS booth at these locations

Membership Summary

Life Members	Family Single	18 15
Annual Members	Family Single	21 57
Total Active	111	

Enjoying High Desert Chamber of Commerce Membership Perks

by Marcy Taylor

It was a gorgeous summer evening at the Kemper Campbell Ranch mixer, sponsored by the Greater High Desert Chamber of Commerce, courtesy of the Campbell family.



Four board members, dressed in their MHS bling, represented and promoted the society, as well as the Apple Valley / Victor Valley Legacy Museums.



Two happy Chamber members won our raffle bags, packed with vintage postcards, brochures, buttons, books, and other collectibles. Delvin and Stormie were also lucky winners. Longtime Victorville resident Terry Caldwell shared the history of the original Verde Ranch, later subdivided and renamed **Kemper Campbell** in honor of a family member killed in combat, as attendees enjoyed a delicious meal on the Main Ranch House patio. Music played as the sun set, while the cattle grazed and the trains rumbled by. A big thank you to the Campbell family for hosting this Chamber event year after year, on the most beautiful cattle ranch / guest ranch remaining in the Victor Valley.

What a wonderful way to keep our history alive!

Happy Trails Parade Rolls Down Highway 18

By Marcy Taylor

Saturday September 9 was a great day for a parade--good and HOT, but no wind or rain. The combined Mohahve Historical Society/ Apple Valley Legacy Museum float was #6 in the line-up, right behind the outstanding combined Granite Hills / Apple Valley High School Marching Band, under the direction of Mr. Javier Alcantara-Rojas.

Ten Mohahve Historical Society members and three community volunteers presented "Genuine Desert Animals" of Apple Valley and Lucerne, featuring Leo Eiffert on guitar and Gary Whiteside keeping the beat.



With cowboys Rick and Dennis in the cab, we were off!



The cheering spectators seemed to enjoy the creative costumes and props, as we rolled down Outer Highway 18 singing a jingle about each animal including: the Apple Valley cow and burro, the Apple Valley Inn pigeon, the Jess Ranch turkey, the children's toys DeeGee Bunny and Lucerne BunnyDuck,

TV stars Trigger, Buttermilk and Bullet, and of course, the good ole desert tortoise. "We are all genuine desert animals...Apple Valley and Lucerne, the places we call Home"

Happy Trails!
Everyone.
See you next year!



Awarded 1st Place in Floats Division!

Village Street Fair



MHS members man the booth at the Apple Valley Village Street Fair at James Woody Park following the Happy Trails Parade Sept 9.

VP Delvin joins Wrightwood Historical Society at Camp Cajon

The previously cancelled Wrightwood Historical Society's trip to Camp Cajon took place Saturday Sept. 16 with VP Delvin Harbour representing MHS. Led by the Camp Cajon team, Mark Landis, Nick Cataldo, Gary Smith, and others, attendees



got a great history lesson about an important stopping place in the pass back in the early years of Route 66. Best of all, the new kiosk and road signs were on full display, and the soon-to-be-erected mileage signs are greatly anticipated.

Hats off to the Camp Cajon team for keeping history alive!

"Eight on the Lam" Raced Through Apple Valley

By Marcy Taylor

Our fourth movie night featuring "Eight on the Lam," one of the films highlighted on our 2022 Happy Trails Parade float, had the crowd cracking up laughing Saturday Oct. 2. What could be funnier than Bob Hope teaming up with Phyllis Diller for an adventure film full of shenanigans, as a banker, his seven children, and a large dog run for their lives and



end up in, where else, Apple Valley? (The sign said Arizona, but we all know that was the Apple Valley Inn!) The stone entryway, the check-in counter, the dining room, the hotel rooms, the grounds, and the golf course were all easily recognizable. Who expected a horse and golf carts to be tearing down the hallway?

Previous screenings included 1965's "Saturday Night Bath in Apple Valley," 1955's "The McConnell Story," and 1955's "Tarantula," all filmed (or partially filmed) in Apple Valley, the movie mecca of the mid-20th century. Six attendees received patriotic prizes for attending all four: Bonnie, Jamie, Joe, Jeff, Delvin, and Eric. And there are a lot more to look forward to in the future.

The wind was kind enough to die down just about the time people were arriving, and the music was ready to start. Boni on the Keys and Dano on the Strings were a big hit, as always. Other volunteers included Stormie and Carol manning the museum and sales tables, Dennis the ticket taker, Eric the projectionist, Jamie and Delvin doing set-up and take down, and Jeff the Cookie Man, handing out home-made VW cookies and freshly popped popcorn.

While we had a lot of return visitors, we were also happy to welcome some first-time movie goers and others new to the Apple Valley Legacy Museum. Thanks to all who bought movie tickets and especially to those who purchased books and other collectibles to help pay expenses and keep the museum door open. Eric and Delvin stood out from the crowd with their special "Eight on the Lam" t-shirts. Other dignitaries in the crowd included the Honorable Mayor of Oro Grande and the First Dog Randy, as well as two ladies who had both played the part of Phyllis Diller at past events. So you see, there are still movie stars roaming around in our midst. Maybe you can get some autographs.



"Jeff, the 'Cookie Man' contributes to our movie nights. We can't wait to see what he has planned for Halloween."

MHS Board Members Experience

"The Box" by Marcy Taylor

On Friday September 8, five Mohave Historical Society members had the rare opportunity of attending the Fort Irwin Box Tour. According to Senior Public Affairs Specialist / Community Relations Officer David Dupree, only .0001 % of the U.S. population succeeds in getting this experience.



We met at the picturesque Painted Rocks just outside the gate, where many soldiers on rotation have made their mark. After the photo op, the pre-screened and pre-approved group boarded the military bus to enter the National Training Center / Fort Irwin Headquarters building, where we were treated to an informative slideshow of NTC operations. The proud soldier giving the presentation touted the facility as the best in



the world, under the leadership of Brigadier General Curt Taylor. This introduction was to prepare us for what we were to encounter at "The Box."

So what is "The Box" anyway? It's a 1,200 square mile area of fake cities and fake citizens, but with the look and feel of a real-life war zone, where soldiers train for combat. After years of training geared towards fighting insurgents after the U.S. invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan, the focus changed last spring due to both Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the U.S.- China power struggle, so that is what we expected to see. But the focus had just changed again, now to North Korea. So we were greeted by Asian actors portraying civilians in a market place. Our destination was the city of Razish, where a noisy crowd of "locals" aggressively attempted to sell us

their wares.



After we navigated our way through town, we were directed to climb a flight of wooden steps to a viewing platform to safely watch the action from a distance. It wasn't long before we heard the roar of helicopters and saw the army tanks roll in. Soldiers emerged, weapons drawn, and started clearing buildings one by one, while searching for the enemy, as the frightened villagers screamed and ran. The helicopters hovered above and the smoke from gunfire filled the air.

Having lived through the invasion, we were invited to climb down the stairs, and proceed to a cluster of tables under a shade canopy for lunch. We got to choose from a variety of military grade highly nutritious MRE's (Meals Ready to Eat.) Everything needed for the



meal was right inside the brown package, including an MRE heater. Just add water to produce a chemical reaction and voila! In a few seconds the steam rises, the bag gets dangerously hot, and you have cooked a tasty meal! After lunch we had time to check out some military equipment, even try out the weapons if we so desired. Dennis and Delvin climbed into various vehicles, anxious to enlist, until they were reminded that the age cut-off is 35. (Sorry, boys!)

Our last stop was the Heritage Center, a military exhibit back on Post. There we were given a short tour by an enthusiastic Ken Drylie, who just happens to be the cousin of Griz Drylie, curator of the Hesperia Museum. The Heritage Center includes much more than a visitor can digest on a short visit, even though 4 of the 5 of us had been there before. But it was time for the mini-bus to



take those of us from "the outside world" back to our cars at Painted Rocks, so we could return to our safe civilian lives, as the young men and women we had spent the day with continue to prepare for combat.



MREs keep our soldiers healthy and full of energy in training and combat situations.

One of the missions of the Mohave Historical Society is for members to present to other groups on historical topics



MHS President Marcy Taylor presents The Apple Valley Legacy Trail at the September 12 Friends of the Apple Valley Library general membership Meeting

The Terri Lee Ethnic Dolls display and presentation at the August 27 NAACP Branch 1082 Fundraising Banquet



A Drive Down Wrightwood's Memory Lane.

By Marcy Taylor

The fourteen MHS members who attended the Wrightwood driving fieldtrip Sat. Aug. 26 couldn't have asked for a more beautiful day for a jaunt through the local mountains. Could this be why we scheduled trips to Wrightwood in August two years in a row? Attendees had to stay alert and pay attention, as this trip pointed out seven sites in the first part of the trip, and another sixteen in part 2.

We were very lucky to have MHS member, Wrightwood resident, and super historian **Mark Landis** meet us at the first



stop, a little seating area, directly across from the Big Pines Recreation hall which we visited last year. He shared the history of the area, a top winter vacation spot for Angelinos and other 'down-the-hillers' from the roaring 20's on, where people came for ice skating, sledding, and snowshoeing, as well as sitting around the campfire at the natural amphitheater to enjoy beautiful days and nights in a mountain winter wonderland! We were provided with a map, showing the location of these early recreation sites and the nearby Smithsonian Observatory.



Historic Acorn Lodge

After a great introduction, we were off to McClellan Flats and the site of the Smithsonian's Jet Propulsion Lab. We also saw the locations of the Ski Club Lodge, and the former locations of the Big Pines Zoo and the ice rink. Next it was time to explore the San Andreas Fault Line and the beautiful Jackson Lake, actually an earthquake sag pond. Another stop on the way back gave us a great photo opportunity, as we observed how a

powerful earthquake can change the landscape.

So for me that was the best part of the trip, as I let Mark do most of the work. The next 16 sites were in and around town, and I prayed I wouldn't get us lost, even though I had practiced it twice. We were all prepared with two maps, one of the Big Pines area, and one of the town area, plus a set of directions and a packet with a description of each site. We saw many beautiful rustic buildings, some early businesses locations such as the Skyline Silver Fox Farm and the Wrightwood Trading Post, lodging areas such as the Blue Ridge Inn, the Robin Lodge, and the absolutely beautiful Acorn Lodge. Residential sites nestled among the trees included the Prince Cabin, the Sears Home, and some vintage log cabins. We also passed the Wrightwood Country Club on Twin Lakes Drive, a street aptly named after the two sag ponds formed by the earthquake, and saw lots of people having a great day swimming, playing tennis, and enjoying other activities.

So during all of this, the passenger was supposed to be reading the history while the driver maneuvered the narrow and steep winding roads.

So far so good! Nope! The leader (me) missed the left turn onto Lark Road (in my defense there was no street sign and I couldn't look at the street map while driving) so oops! I was lost. But thanks to VP Delvin, who was familiar with the area, we got back on track and saw the last three sites: the Catholic Church, previously a school moved to that site in the 1920's; the Stern cabin, also dating back to the 1920's; and finally the Wright Ranch House, dating from 1910, making it the oldest residence in town. Occupied by the family for whom the town is named, the magnificent house overlooks Wright Lake. The property includes two guest cottages on the knoll above the home, as it is said that Kate Wright loved to entertain company. That was site part 2, site 16.

So after a powwow on the side of the road, the consensus was to head over to town for lunch, as exploring the mountains can cause you to work up an appetite, even if you were just sitting in the car looking out the window!



Spooky October Presentation and Fieldtrip by Marcy Taylor

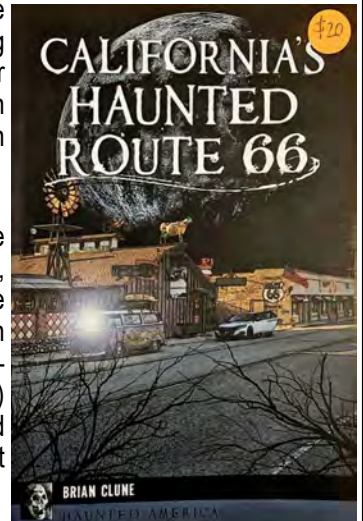
The Thursday Oct. 26 should get you in the mood for Halloween. Members Joe Manners and Marcy Taylor will introduce you to "Ghosts that Haunt the Desert." A number of you have already purchased Brian Clune's "California's Haunted Route 66" with a color photo of Oro Grande's Main Street on the cover. (If you haven't, you're in luck. We have a few copies left for the bargain price of \$20.)



The Honorable Honorary Oro Grande Mayor Joe, who contributed to Chapter 10, is both the town's official Historian and the caretaker of the (haunted) Oro Grande Cemetery. He has given more tours than he can count, including lots of tours for Oro Grande Days, and a private one for author Clune. Many MHS members have been there, some more than once, but only the BRAVE ones dare take the night time tour when the ghosts appear.

The power point presentation will take you to many haunted Route 66 towns, starting at Goffs, passing through Amboy, Ludlow, Barstow, Helendale and Victorville, with side trips to Lucerne Valley and Apple Valley. But the focus will be on Joe's hometown of Oro Grande. The fieldtrip the next day, Friday Oct. 27 (yes, Friday, not Saturday, exactly 2 weeks after the scary Friday the 13th)

will start at the Antique Station at 10:00 AM. We will proceed to the Oro Grande Shops area, and then to Fourth Street which ends at the Oro Grande Cemetery. Some of those ghosts won't stay put in the cemetery and insist on haunting the whole street!



You won't want to miss this trip. Sign up at the Thursday meeting at the Lone Wolf Colony, at the Apple Valley Legacy Museum, or by calling (760) 985-1918.

2024 Membership Directory

The Correspondence Secretary is now ready to prepare the 2024 Membership Directory aka the Buzz Book. If you would like to be listed, for member use only, please submit your information on this form. You may submit your information at any of the following:

MHS meeting or fieldtrip,
 Mail to: Stormie Reid
 Mohahve Historical Society, PO Box 21, Victorville ca 92393,
 Email: faerieblueone1@gmail.com .

If you were listed in the 2023 edition, you will not be automatically included. You will need to resubmit / update your information. The plan is to distribute the Buzz Books in January 2024.

Why a Buzz Book? Maybe you need a ride or just some information. Maybe you want the calendar dates for the year. This is purely optional. All information need not be completed

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Phone Home _____

Phone Cell _____

Email: _____

Please don't delay, as we need to get this out in January .



Give the gift of Adventure!

**Mohahve Historical Society
 Gift Membership**

Recipient's Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Phone: Home: _____

Cell: _____

Email: _____

Membership Type: Single Annual () \$20, Single Life () \$150
 Family Annual () \$30, Family Life () \$200

Gift Giver's Name: _____

(Your gift payment is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law)

**Mohahve Historical Society
 Post Office Box 21, Victorville, CA 92393**

Nomination and Election of 2024 MHS Board Officers

The following Board Members have continuing terms:

Vice President Delvin Harbour- 2023-2024, Director 2 Dennis Hom- 2022-2024, Director 3 Mike Phillips- 2023-2025, Director 5 Rick Schmidt- 2022-2024

The following Board Members are finishing their term, but are willing to continue in their current office if nominated, or another member in good standing can be nominated to take his/ her place. (If there are two or more nominations for an office, there will be an official ballot vote.) President Marcy Taylor- 2 year term 2022-2023 ending, Corresponding Secretary Stormie Reid- 1 year term 2023 ending, Recording Secretary Meera Maheswaran- 1 year term 2023 ending, Director 1 Mary Dutro- 3 year term 2021-2023 ending, Director 4 Eric Mandeson- 3 year term 2021-2023 ending.

The following Board Member is finishing a term, but will not continue in her office: Treasurer Carol Wiley- 1 year term 2023 ending

Nomination forms will be sent out by email and will also be available at the October membership meeting. The person you are nominating must have AGREED to accept the nomination.

Schedule:

September: The status of current offices / officers is reviewed.

October: The Nominating Chairperson accepts nominations for open offices.

November: A vote is taken by written ballot, or oral response of all candidates are running unopposed.

December: Officers for the following year are sworn in.

Eligibility: Any member in good standing and qualified for the position may be nominated. A background in local history is desirable. See the By-Laws and Policies & Procedures for formal job descriptions. Directors take on any tasks they are willing and able to do for the good of the Society, including book sales, membership, newsletter editor, website, Facebook, refreshments, fieldtrips, raffle, meeting set-up, parking and sign-ins. A Director may step into a board position if a mid-term vacancy occurs.

OFFICE Incumbent	Term of Office	OfficONE Status Term	Incumbent willing To Continue	Nominee
PRESIDENT <i>Marcy Taylor</i>	2024-2025	OPEN 2 years	YES	
VICE PRESIDENT <i>Delvin Harbour</i>	2023-2024	FILLED		NONE REQUIRED
TREASURER <i>Carol Wiley</i>	2024	OPEN 1 year	NO	
RECORDING SECY. <i>M. Maheswaran</i>	2024	OPEN 1 year	YES	
CORRESP SECY. <i>Stormie Reid</i>	2024	OPEN 1 year	YES	
DIRECTOR 1 <i>Mary Dutro</i>	2024-2026	OPEN 3 years	UNDECIDED	
DIRECTOR 2 <i>Dennis Hom</i>	2022-2024	FILLED		NONE REQUIRED
DIRECTOR 3 <i>Mike Phillips</i>	2023-2025	FILLED		NONE REQUIRED
DIRECTOR 4 <i>Eric Mandeson</i>	2024-2026	OPEN 3 years	YES	
DIRECTOR 5 <i>Rick Schmidt</i>	2022-2024	FILLED		NONE REQUIRED

Nomination made by current MHS member _____ Phone _____

Return this form to Nominating Chairperson Delvin Harbour at the MHS meeting or fieldtrip, or mail to Delvin at 14295 Navajo, Apple Valley, Ca. 92307 or email yorrah52@gmail.com.

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:
 Mohahve Historical Society

Mail the completed form and your payment to:
 Membership
 Mohahve Historical Society
 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)

MHS GENERAL MEETING Lone Wolf Colony
 23200 Bear Valley Road, Apple Valley, CA 92308
 7:00pm - doors open at 6:30pm



Mohahve Historical Society
 Post Office Box 21
 Victorville, CA 92393

The **MUSE** is the
 Monthly newsletter
 of the
 Mohahve Historical Society

www.mohahve.org
Mohahve64@gmail.com

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