



# MOHAVE MUSEUM OF HISTORY & ARTS

# MOHAVE MEMORIES

Volume 7

September 2015

Mohave Museum of History and Arts  
Host

**Kingman Antiques Appraisal Fair**

**October 17, 2015**

**10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

Limited: 55 participants  
(One item at \$30.00 or two items at \$50.00)  
No Guns, Coins or Stamps

Lottery tickets for the event available at the Museum  
Gift Shop—\$10.00 each  
(No Refunds)

Sean Morton of Morton Appraisals LLC, From Scottsdale and a member of the Antique Appraisal Association of America will be with us at our Appraisal event offering verbal appraisals (Not In Writing) of fine arts, porcelain, crystal, silver, clocks, Asian works of art, Native American and antique jewelry.

Sean is a certified, licensed and insured appraiser that provides fair market and insurance appraisals, for estates and individuals. He also works as in independent national auction representative, helping clients consign to nationally recognized auction houses.

Tickets go on sale  
August 17, 2015—Monday  
9:00 a.m.

Mohave Museum of History and Arts  
400 West Beale St.  
Kingman, Az. 86401  
(928) 753-3195

## Save This Date

Mohave Museum of History and Arts  
13th Annual Wine and Cheese

Saturday  
November 7, 2015  
6:00 pm—8:30 pm

Wine Tasting  
Food  
Silent Auction

KINGMAN - The Bonelli House is celebrating its Centennial this year, and as part of the celebration the house was presented with a new plaque from the Mohave Museum and its board of directors.

"The plaque is to let people know passing by, and to get a brief picture of what this place is all about. Who the Bonellis were and what they did," said Cathy Kreis, the tour guide at the Bonelli house.

"It has the designation for the National Register of Historical Places. And, the dates and information are all correct this time," said Kreis.

A previous plaque presented years back had some erroneous information.

*Ref. Kingman Daily Miner, Aug 10, 1915*





**Presents the Kingman Concert Band  
September 27, 2015 at 2pm  
At Metcalfe Park**

The Kingman Concert Band returns to Metcalfe Park on September 27th under the direction of Conductor Julie Gragg and Associate Conductor Art Swanson. Formed in 1998, the Kingman Concert Band is a group of volunteer musicians providing our community with excellent music. This year's performance explores the theme "American Traditions" featuring a variety of American folk songs, patriotic tunes, classic marches and a bit of jazz.  
**It'll make you proud to be an American!**



**Sponsored by JM Eagle**

**Director's Letter**

The year has amped up and soon will conclude but not before a new wave of events and exhibits are added to our Museum complex. The Mohave Museum continues to prosper and stay relevant by the creation of new exhibits. By the time you receive this newsletter, the Museum will have a new display designed to give children a series of hands-on objects to make their Museum adventure much more rewarding. The intent of the "Children's Corner" is to provide a space where they and their parents or guardians can interact with objects and have a mutual learning experience. Since this is a totally new concept for this facility, the Museum would appreciate any suggestions.

The Bonelli House celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 7<sup>th</sup> and everything went better than planned. The Bonelli family was well represented and all in attendance seemed to agree that along with the Court house, these two stone buildings are the gems of Mohave County. Job well done!

The Route 66 Museum has added a new electric car to its growing family. The Buckeye Bullet holds the electric car land speed record of 303 miles per hour. It is 35 feet long and is made of fiberglass. This is truly a must see.

I talked to Roy Purcell last month and found out that he was doing drawings of all the birds of Arizona, he said he had about two hundred finished already and had about another hundred to do. I stand in awe of such true genius that can produce such renderings. Roy's art work still stands triumphantly in the front of this Museum and what a testament to him that he is still instrumental in preserving the images of these animals that are a part of the history of this great state. My wife continually reminds me of the beauty to be found by simply turning your head to the right or left in Arizona, and if your eyes are truly the windows to your soul then I have been blessed beyond belief to witness the terrain filled with wondrous wildlife surrounding my living space.

Stay tuned for all the upcoming special events, especially the "Appraisal Day" on October 17<sup>th</sup>. It has been a number of years since Sean Morton has been up to Kingman to give us insight on the value of objects that we have cherished through the years. Please do not miss this event!

Shannon Rossiter-Director

**Museum Business Membership**

These are some of the Business Members who support the heritage and culture of Mohave County

**HEY CULLIGAN MAN!**

**Culligan**

**JULIE MOON**

Office: (928) 753-5653  
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## 50 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

### September 1965

Billy Guitar, popular country and western singer, song writer and recording star, will return to the Lake Mohave Ranch Club for the annual barbecue and rodeo to be held this weekend.

Joseph A. Coppa, administrator of Mohave General Hospital, has recently been appointed to four statewide health and hospital group posts.

Kingman police are moving their headquarters to 313 North Fourth Street from the county courthouse and expect to be established in their new offices by Friday.

Bullhead City: Mrs. Kathy Mundell reported that her son Butch Mundell was one of the National Guard called to quiet the rioting in Los Angeles.

The Jade Restaurant, popular Kingman place for the past 13 years, has been sold by Charlie Lum to Tommy Choy. Lum has operated the business since it opened in 1952. He will continue to live in Kingman and operate his Lum Laundry and Lum Apartments on Hilltop.



Jade Restaurant —1962

The 19th annual Mohave County Fair opens a three-day run at the fairgrounds in Kingman Friday.

The Mohave County Gemstoners journeyed to Coaldale, Nevada over the weekend and met with a group of 300 or more Californians for rock hunting. The Gemstoners will have a booth at the fair and invite everyone to drop by and see their demonstrations.

Tom Cochran was the winner of the Underwood-

Olivetti typewriter given away at the fair by the Mohave County Miner.

The Yucca Honolulu Club will begin serving Mexican dinners semi-monthly on September 23.

Lake Havasu City: Baseball great Ted Williams was given a large-mouth bass by eight-year-old Nick Wright during a recent visit to Lake Havasu City. Williams was a guest of Robert P. McCulloch, founder of the city. Wright's fish was an entry in the Lake Havasu City Public Bass Derby.

Roy Dunton and Ellis Rucker attended the General Motors 1966 car showing in Los Angeles several days this week.

Dr. Paul Long was in San Francisco last week where he attended a four-day conference of the Western State Forum on Community Health held at the Palace Hotel.

The appointment this week of Mrs. Floyd (Terry) Milting as manager of the 24-hour Telanswer service to be started here October 1 was announced this week by Mrs. Jessie Maurer, owner of the service.

A runaway horse damaged two cars Saturday afternoon as it raced down Andy Devine on Hilltop, police reported. A horse owned by Jay Gates first collided with a car driven by Bill Doolin of Scottsdale, and then jumped over the hood of a second car driven by Charles Robert Burk of Pomona, California. The incident happened at the entrance to Denny's restaurant as Doolin was turning into the restaurant driveway and Burk was leaving the service station, police said.

The Soroptimist Club of Kingman has presented a collection of books concerning Arizona to the Kingman Public Library as a public service project initiated by last year's president Mrs. Ruth Dunlop.

Oatman: Two days have been spent trying to dispose of the burro that was killed on the edge of town. Two burros were killed on the highway near Cool Springs.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department has initiated an investigation on the feasibility of javelina transplants in Mohave County. Several areas have been considered, the more prominent of which are the Hualapai Indian Reservation and portions of the Hualapai Mountains.

## 80 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

Sep. 1935

The big three-day Kingman rodeo was a smashing success, not only in an entertainment way but financially as well. The entire three days were full of fun and frolic. Besides the rodeo events there were boxing bouts and dances each evening for both the young and the old.



Miss Jean Boner has accepted a position at the Cottage Café as entertainer and hostess.

Andy Devine, movie star and former Kingman resident, entertained five friends at a dinner party at the Lewis Tavern Sunday.

Word received at the National Reemployment Service at Kingman asks for cotton pickers to work in the Maricopa County fields. The wage scale is 75 cents for short staple and \$1.25 for long staple. Shelter is furnished but the worker must supply himself with other camp equipment.

The new diesel locomotive of the Santa Fe, which passed through Kingman last week at an early hour in the morning, passed again Sunday afternoon eastbound, pulling a full train of Pullmans. A goodly sized crowd of Kingmanites gathered along the local yards to view this new motive power.

President Franklin Dana Roosevelt is speeding westward for the dedication of Boulder Dam next Monday morning at 11:00 o'clock. He is to arrive at Boulder City Monday morning at 4 o'clock and is scheduled to remain at the dam and in Boulder City until 4 o'clock in the afternoon when his special train leaves for Los Angeles.

Miss Ida Davis has accepted a position in the Chloride school for the coming year. An unusually large enrollment necessitated the addition of another teacher to the faculty.

## 100 YEARS AGO FROM THE MOHAVE COUNTY MINER

Sep. 1915

A. B. Fancher, wife and daughter have returned from the coast where they journeyed last month by auto. They were accompanied by George Fancher in another machine. The trip was one of enjoyment, so Mr. Fancher reports, and he advises all who can to go to the big fair by automobile.

About 50 Kingmanites went down to Needles last Monday to help the good people of that town in celebrating Labor Day. The Needles people had prepared an excellent program of sports and other doings.

Hotel Brunswick with Model "T" delivery wagon on Front St. Ca. 1915



At the meeting of the Board of Supervisors this week J. N. Copenhour bid on the old courthouse building for \$400. He intends to wreck it and remove it to his place on Oak Street. The building has a large amount of lumber in it, but it is rather a costly affair to remove it and reconstruct it into a new building.



Seven men in front of old Courthouse. Plaque on courthouse says: Mohave County Court House taken October 17th, 1913. Left to right - J. P. Gideon, Sheriff; J. Bartholomew, Clerk of Boards; J. W. Morgan, Recorder; T. J. Whitney, Deputy Recorder; J. C. Lane, Undersheriff; L. M. Teale, (sitting) Clerk, Superintendent, Court; Thos. Devine, Treasurer

# Mohave County Movers and Shakers

CHARLES METCALFE, Pioneer, Developer, Citizen, was born in 1855 in Ohio. The family moved to Missouri, and as an adult Metcalfe settled in Las Cruces, New Mexico where he married Sadie Bowman. They had four children. While living in Las Cruces, Metcalfe published the Las Cruces Republican.



The family spent some years on the Pacific Coast, and then came to Mohave County where Metcalfe tried prospecting near Mineral Park. They moved to Kingman in 1885 and Metcalfe worked for Anson Smith on the Mohave County Miner, then became bookkeeper for the mercantile firm of Gaddis and Perry.

Charles Metcalfe served as U.S. Postmaster, was elected Probate Judge of Mohave County under the Territorial government, was Superintendent of Public Schools of Mohave County, a member of the Masonic Order, Past Exalted Ruler of Kingman Elks, and a principal owner of the Great Eastern group of mines.

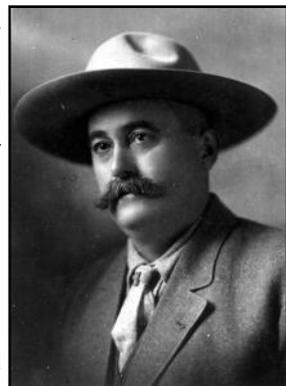
At the age of 74 Metcalfe homesteaded a half-section near Kingman, called it Metcalfe Acres, and sold lots. An advertisement in the Mohave County Miner reads: "Lots in Metcalfe's addition to the town of Kingman, size 50 X 146 feet, from \$20 up. Apply to Charles Metcalfe."

Metcalfe was active in promoting the construction of Boulder Dam and donated the last mile of the Boulder Dam Highway.

He acquired land for Metcalfe Park and donated it to the city in 1934. In 1982 a monument to Metcalfe was erected and dedicated at the park.

Charles Metcalfe remained active and healthy until his death on February 9, 1943.

HENRY WEBB LOVIN – Merchant, Mine Owner, Rancher, Sheriff, Statesman, was born in North Carolina in 1866. Prior to coming to Mohave County in 1890 (or 1893), he had cultivated an orange grove in Florida, and then in Phoenix. He was first employed in Kingman at Taggart Mercantile Co.



In 1896 Lovin married Ruby Roe. They had two daughters, Fannie and

Elizabeth. Ruby died in 1911, and he later married Ora Thompson in 1922.

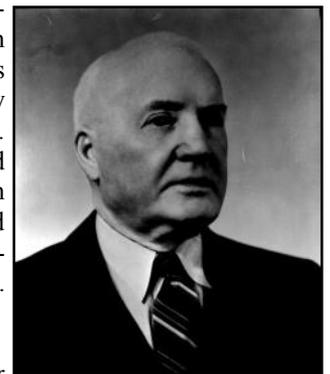
In 1902 Lovin grubstaked Jose Jeneres ("Mexican Joe"), discoverer of the gold field at what became Goldroad mine. This proved to be a good investment, enabling Lovin to open City Ice House, to have ranches on the Sandy, round Valley and Francis Creek, and to operate Lovin & Withers Mercantile (which was taken over by Central Commercial in 1917). An advertisement for Lovin & Withers in the Mohave County Miner in 1902 states, "We handle everything from a corkscrew to a quartzmill." A sign on the first store read, "All Nations Welcome Except Carrie."

Henry Lovin was active in community affairs, serving as Kingman Constable and then two terms as sheriff. In 1910 he was chosen as delegate from Mohave County to the constitutional Convention for the Territory of Arizona. After Arizona achieved statehood in 1912, he was elected Mohave County's first state senator. In 1925 he was elected supervisor of Mohave County. Lovin was never defeated at the polls.

He was a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows, and the Elks.

Henry Lovin died in Kingman in December 1931.

CARL KROOK, Attorney, Superior Court Judge, was born in Minnesota in 1870. He was reared in a German community and was fluent in that language. After leaving college he worked in an attorney's office and then took courses in law in England and at the University of Minnesota, where he obtained his LL.B. degree.



After practicing in Minnesota for some years, he came to Mohave County in 1903 where he spent several years mining and prospecting. Together with his brother he purchased a mine at Signal. During this time he was elected to the 24<sup>th</sup> Session of the Arizona Legislature. He worked to raise standards of the legal profession and supported the Good Roads bill. He was Mohave County's first superior court judge after statehood in 1912.

Krook was a member of the Kingman Elks Lodge, the Masonic Lodge and the Kingman Rotary Club. He served as president of the Mohave County Bar Association.

Carl Krook died in Kingman on December 16, 1958.

## Membership Renewal

Virginia M Angle  
Paul & Linda Bennett  
Fern Campbell  
Rene L Chavez  
Doug & Sherry Willmann, Mason, TX  
Jane Coleman  
Peter A Hansen, Golden Valley, AZ  
Kingman True Value Paul Shuffler  
Billy R and Patsy Neal  
Robert L Odle, Golden Valley, AZ  
Thomas & Jackie Reno, Lake Havasu City, AZ  
F Marilyn Stover  
Gene & Marlene Tidwell  
Mr John Wettaw, Flagstaff, AZ

Penny L White  
Patricia Green  
John & Ellyn Artz  
Tim & Mollie Casson  
Ray Short  
Michael R and Rebecca D Gross, Golden Valley, AZ  
John & Vicki Olson  
Lucille Fairchild  
Pat and Doris Russell  
Sharon A. Shelley, Gilbert, AZ  
Lynne Armao, Kingman, AZ  
Mr. & Mrs. George Arnold  
Kay Pincikowski

## New Memberships

John & Fran Barnes, Mt Pleasant, NC  
Marsha Burford, Dewey, AZ  
Mr & Mrs Bruce Ott  
June K. Benson (Smith), Palm Desert, CA  
Laura K. Patriquin

## Memorials

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

### In Memory Of

Dennis James Sim  
Susan (Susie) Lynn Griffith-Barbour  
Gertrude (Girlie) Slavik-Stanton  
Vonceil Chachere Trahan  
James Martin Lawrence ("Marty")  
Tracy Alan Davis  
Susan (Susie) Lynn Griffith-Barbour

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Ben Lamb and Pat Mullen Lamb  
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Ben Lamb and Pat Mullen Lamb  
John Wettaw  
Jack M Kesler  
Mr. William J. Bailey  
Joan McCall

# Radar Hill



Many newcomers to Mohave County may have wondered why the big hill leading to downtown Kingman is sometimes called "Radar Hill." It's because these buildings once served as an Air Force radar station for tracking of possible enemy aircraft. (Photo by Jim Hudson)

## High on a mesa above downtown Kingman sits a now-defunct Air Force tracking station

By Jim Hudson  
Miner News Editor

A cluster of white buildings and communications equipment is still extant atop Radar Hill, a reminder of an earlier year when a U.S. Air Force installation was constructed there in the 1950s.

Opened on June 23, 1955, for tracking of possible enemy aircraft, the radar station was closed in 1958 when the Air Force eliminated stations of its size.

During the height of its operations the Kingman Air Force Radar Station was staffed by 200 officers and men.

In operating the installation, the Air Force leased the old Vista Solana Housing Project as a cantonment area for airmen and their families.

After the closure, the government facility was utilized for many years by the Bureau of Land Management as headquarters for the Kingman Resource Area offices, until that agency leased new building quarters on Beverly Avenue.

Still highly visible, located as it is on a mesa overlooking Kingman, the site is now privately owned and used as a communications signal center.

The beginnings of operations were marked by considerable fanfare on Oct. 27, 1955.

The \$470,000 radar facility was identified as strategically located within the Air Force defense system of the Southwest Sector of the United States.

Following activation on June 23, 1955, the Air Force staged an open house that October, so that residents of the community might tour and inspect the installation.

A highlight of that tour, in which groups visited each of several departments, was a 10-minute period when visitors were allowed to observe in the operations room, the heart of the aircraft control and warning network. It was in the operations room that the radar scopes were located, feeding information to the large plotting board.

More than 600 persons toured the facility. The visitors boarded buses at the bottom of mesa at Jefferson Street (there is limited parking atop Radar Hill) and were transported over the new switch-back road, which was constructed by the government.

Hosting the open house was Lt. Col. William Maybaw, commander of the 60th Aircraft Warning and Control Squadron.

Possible military utilization of

the Kingman area had been revealed in July 1954, when the Air Force requested a 25-year lease with an option to buy the Vista Solana Housing Project.

Almost simultaneously, bids were called for construction of a site facility at an estimate cost of \$200. Speculation at the time was that the installation would be located on the hill in back of the Kingman Grammar School, now called Palo Christi School.

In September construction got under way on the new road leading from the Jefferson Street terminus to the mesa heights.

Extensive remodeling of the Vista Solana Housing Project commenced soon thereafter. That \$282,000 construction project involved remodeling of buildings into bachelor officers' quarters, barracks, an administration building and other accommodations.

The radar station augmented the rapidly expanding early warning system which alerted the jet fighter-interceptors, anti-aircraft batteries and guided missile batteries against attack from enemy long-range bombers.

The maintenance of a network of radar stations presumed that an attack initiated by an enemy would have almost unlimited

avenues of approach available for launching an attack, if and when an enemy decided to send long-range bombers against this country.

The Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) was a joint activity involving the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force, which developed the network to assure that the command could go into action seconds after it received a warning of the approach of unidentified aircraft.

The operations of CONAD were divided into four distinct phases: detection, identification, interception and destruction.

For detection CONAD relied mainly on the radar stations and the volunteer services of the Ground Observers Corps.

Considerable effort was expended by the Arizona congressional delegation to keep the station in operation, but the Air Force elected to close the station and depend on similar sites in Winslow, Nevada and Southern California.

When the Kingman Air Force Radar Station was closed there were some 530 airmen and their families living in Kingman.

In 1968 that was 5 percent of the population of Kingman. \*

Mohave Pioneers  
Historical Society, inc.

400 West Beale Street  
Kingman, AZ 86401-5708  
928-753-3195

[museum@mohavemuseum.org](mailto:museum@mohavemuseum.org)  
[www.mohavemuseum.org](http://www.mohavemuseum.org)

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