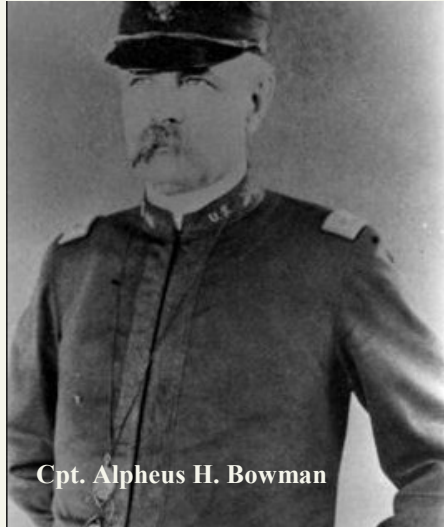


Grapewine News



COLORADO RIVER HISTORICAL
SOCIETY MUSEUM

Capt. Alpheus Henry Bowman served as the last commander of the Fort Mojave military reservation from August 1887 to June 1890, when it was turned over to Interior Dept. of the U. S. for U. S. Indian Industrial School purposes. He was born in 1842 in Loudoun County Virginia. His military career began in 1860 and ended with his appointment to brigadier general and immediate retirement in 1908, as part of a plan to retire older officers. The following memorandum, was sent by Capt. Bowman while at Fort Mojave.



Cpt. Alpheus H. Bowman

To: Maj. W. H. Benaud, Corps of engineers, U.S.A., San Francisco, Cal.

Date: Nov. 12, 1888

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter 22nd ult (last month). In reply to your request for information regarding the navigation of the Colorado river, and to state my knowledge of the river is based general information and not a survey, during the months of July and August, the river is usually navigable to the El Dorado Canon, about fifty five miles above this Post and thirty miles south of the Utah Line, and during high water for a month about, the river is practicable for navigation for light draught steamers to the mouth of the Virgin river Rioville Lincoln Co. Nevada about thirty miles beyond El Dorado Canon and the steamboats Mojave and Gila make several trips during the season, carrying on the up run general supplies for the mining camps, besides coal machinery and a few passengers, returning loaded with silver ore hay and salt from salt mines in the vicinity.

I have no means of arriving at the number of tons or square feet of freight carried for private parties, on government bills of lading there have been transported 554,443 lbs. fiscal year 1888, 89. The Colorado river is the principal means of transportation of freight to and from the railroad. Wagon transportation has been used and is resorted to in an emergency but is very expensive, over difficult mountain roads. The river is navigable every month in the year to this Post, and usually the steamers of

the Colorado Navigation Co. have made one round trip to the Post each month, on several occasions in the past year twice a month, but the navigation beyond the Post to the El Dorado Canon has been confined to the seasons of high water July and August and it also appears that in some years the steamers have made trips up the river in May and June to the Canon. From a point about four miles up the river above the Post to where the foot hills of the mountains jut down to the river and to the Utah line the country both in Arizona and Nevada bordering the river is very sterile, rocky without agriculture or grazing advantages and the resources of the vicinity of the river is confined to mining interests. The El Dorado Canon property is thought to be a prosperous and paying investment and the locality of the mines increasing in commercial importance. There have been some old mines opened and new ones discovered in the Black Range Arizona twelve to fifteen miles distant from this Post in the past six months owned by St. Louis parties that bid fair to be very prosperous. The owner of these properties are

[con't page 2](#)

Bowman con't from page 1

contracting now for mills and machinery, the natural shipping point for these mines is about three miles up the River near the sight of old Hardyville. The nearest shipping point for the mining interest on the Colorado river is the Needles Cal A&P.R.R.

The valley of the Colorado river terminates at the point above referred to about four miles north of the Post, from that point south to the A & P R.R. crossing of the river and below the valley is very fertile but totally undeveloped, occupied by about 1000 Mojave Indians two hundred or more of whom work on the railroad the balance of these people are engaged in farming in a small way, making some progress toward civilization. There are also two or three parties engaged in cattle raising on the river. A few years ago a settlement of Mormons was begun on the Colorado river (at a place called Callville on the maps) near the Utah line, this point being considered the head of navigation on the river, but after considerable improvements were made the place was abandoned because (it is said) the general government did not carry out a scheme of improvement on the river and the navigation without improvements was so uncertain that the situation could not be depended on for a shipping point for the Mormon settlements. As to the prospective development of the country and increase of freight on the Colorado River in the near future. In this connection it is thought the importance of the Colorado river will be enhanced by the construction of a railroad (projected) continuation of the Utah Southern to the mouth of the Virgin river to the El Dorado Canon or vicinity, thence connection with R.R. projected from San Diego to the Needles Cal. A & P R.R.



Capt. Bowman and men in front of the Officers quarters at Ft Mojave

WORD PUZZLE

Capt. Alpheus H. Bowman

K	E	L	Z	O	L	B	Q	C	S	F	G	L	T	N
S	U	V	G	I	L	A	O	S	A	B	P	G	D	O
U	O	U	A	A	B	M	S	U	L	O	L	U	O	I
S	Y	Y	C	J	M	C	N	E	T	W	P	O	S	T
D	I	K	J	A	O	D	O	F	N	M	S	R	L	A
J	C	L	N	G	B	M	T	X	U	A	Q	Z	V	G
S	S	D	V	R	E	V	I	R	K	N	D	N	A	I
H	E	T	N	E	M	T	N	I	O	P	P	A	T	V
R	A	K	E	Y	R	E	W	D	M	H	R	H	S	A
B	G	T	W	A	E	Y	A	Q	I	Q	G	K	P	N
N	U	O	U	D	M	R	Z	U	L	I	T	G	G	N
Q	D	O	L	P	O	E	Y	D	E	E	Z	F	G	H
E	V	E	Q	D	I	W	R	S	J	K	C	L	N	
A	S	W	H	V	E	R	F	S	V	S	U	M	F	D
S	P	P	U	E	Z	C	V	C	H	P	P	I	S	J

APPOINTMENT
COMMANDER
GILA
NAVIGATION
RIVER
STEAMERS

BLACK
DORADO
MILES
NEEDLES
SALT
TONS

BOWMAN
FREIGHT
MOJAVE
POST
SILVER
UTAH

Last month puzzle answers: Lt. Ives

Z	S	C	B	S	H	H	G	Z	T	N	W	R	C	S
P	T	V	C	X	N	H	H	I	I	R	B	I	M	W
D	E	E	Q	T	K	O	Y	H	P	S	I	V	L	I
S	K	F	E	A	M	U	Y	P	T	R	J	B	R	M
L	N	Z	D	Q	G	E	F	C	I	L	T	R	E	M
Q	A	T	H	I	C	K	E	T	S	D	L	T	S	I
B	L	V	G	N	B	J	L	G	D	X	Q	S	T	N
I	B	S	O	N	B	O	L	J	J	H	E	K	N	G
F	C	B	D	O	V	F	U	O	Y	V	M	I	E	Z
K	L	L	X	A	O	H	B	N	A	O	U	X	S	V
E	J	R	Y	W	E	C	M	J	D	S	G	S	E	L
K	S	X	A	R	Y	B	O	N	P	A	J	P	R	A
L	Y	L	W	M	T	M	J	S	V	O	R	B	P	A
F	W	V	J	C	P	T	Y	K	S	X	Z	Y	V	N
O	C	C	A	B	O	T	L	E	T	R	I	P	G	L

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hi Everyone

Well, we have started our season at the Museum with our wonderful Patron Luncheon. It was very successful! Thank you to all our volunteers and event planners that put it together. We're hoping for a bigger and better one next year..

Coming up on the 14th of November is our elections for the board and our board meeting with our new elected officials. Hopefully all of you can make it and make your vote count.

We're hoping for new members and new volunteers and thanks to all that have participated and been there when we needed the help - thank you.

Our backyard project is coming along and our City is working with us and the Master Gardeners to make it something special for our community to have forever. If you have any questions please contact me concerning this as we are looking for sponsors for our storyboards.

Thanking everyone again for your support and caring for our Museum, as without all of you, this could have never happened.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and hoping to see you at our election on November 14th.

Sincerely your president,
Karole Finkelstein

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Colorado River Historical Society Museum is seeking volunteers.

If you enjoy history and want to learn more about the area, the society needs you. This is a chance to meet area visitors from all over the world and form friendships with a wonderful group of volunteers. Many of our volunteers are part-time residents and retirees.

Hours are flexible and duties are as easy or challenging as you would like.

Examples of volunteer activities:

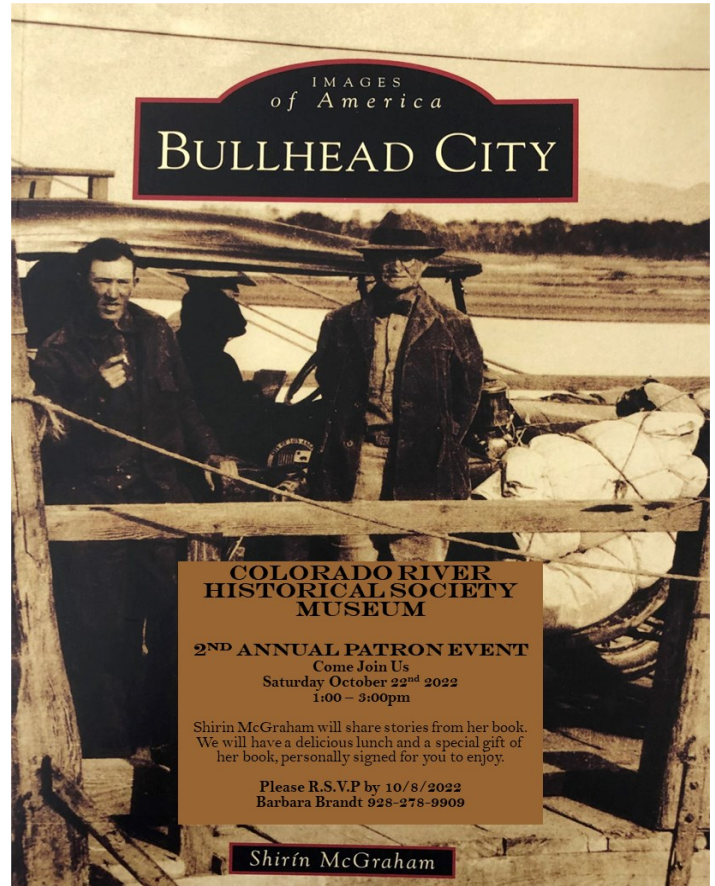
- Handyman
- Gardening/General clean-up
- Historical research
- Docents

EVENTS CALENDAR

Annual Meeting:

November 14, 2022 - Monday 10:00am - 11:00am

Past Events:



COMMITTEES UPDATES

From The Desk of Our Curator:

Author Jere Baker has made yet another wonderful gift to the museum. The collection includes several rolls of microfilm from the National Archives that store images of various documents related to Fort Mojave. He acquired these during his research of his two books, which are on sale in our gift shop. There is also an original photo of Lt. Hersey, who served at Fort Mojave and is the subject of one of Mr. Baker's books. He was given the photo by family members of Lt. Hersey during his research for the book. We are honored to receive these items and want to thank Historical Society member Cheryl Mangin, who was instrumental in Mr. Baker's choice of recipients for these materials.



Seeking Donations for Our Collection

We are looking for any artifact that is pertinent to our Tri-state area. This includes, but is not limited to, photographs, family histories, military activity, Davis Dam, Native Americans, steamboats, ranching, fossils, explorers, highways, historical maps, churches and service clubs, businesses, and mining.

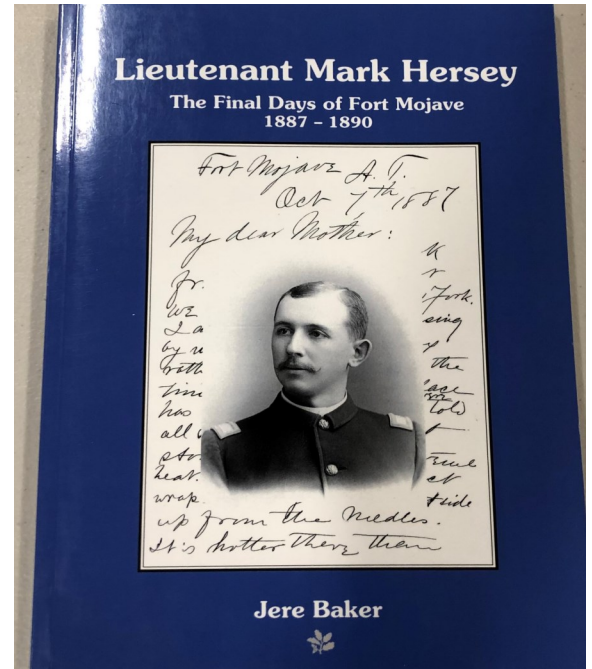
- ◆ We cannot accept an artifact with stipulations on it such as it must be displayed in a particular way or time period.
- ◆ We do not accept loans.

Give us a call at the museum if you have an artifact or historical item you would like us to consider. We are actively seeking local historic photographs and Mohave Valley Daily Newspapers before 2010.

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Featured Book:

Lieutenant Mark Hersey
Available in the gift shop now.
Price: \$12.00



MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

The Colorado River Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting and election for board members is coming up on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the museum in Bullhead Community Park. Social time with light refreshments will follow.

We have three board seats to be filled for a three-year term (our nine directors serve staggered terms of three years each.) The Nominating Committee will present a slate of nominees. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting if the nominee is present.

Come out and join us!

MUSEUM PROJECTS

We are excited to say we are beginning to see the first signs of our Educational Gardens project take place. We broke ground in the last couple weeks with the City grading, bringing in dirt for the cactus garden and boulders for some of the displays. Thank you so much to the City of Bullhead City and The Master Gardeners of Bullhead City!

Colorado River Historical Society Museum Educational Gardens

"Preserving the history of the Tri-State area"

Coming to the Community Park Spring 2023

Seeking Storyboard Sponsors

Features:

- Kids activity center
- Amphitheater
- Educational exhibits

Each of our educational exhibits will have a storyboard depicting the plants and/or animals of that time. If you would like to sponsor one of these boards your name will be added to the display. Average cost per board is \$1000.



For more information call Laurie Thompson - 909-936-0345

Colorado River Historical Society Museum





**COLORADO RIVER
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM**

1239 Highway 95 PO Box 1599
Bullhead City, AZ 86429 Bullhead City, AZ 86430

Phone: 928-754-3399
Email: CRHSmuseum@outlook.com
Web: coloradoriverhistoricalsociety.org/
Hours of Operations:
Tuesday—Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm
(last admittance 3:00pm)

Grapevine News Editor - Laurie Thompson

BIOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Karole Finkelstein – President
- Ralph Patterson – Vice-President
- Brenda Warneka – Secretary
- Carla Lucas – Treasurer
- Laurie Thompson – Director
- Robbie Adams – Director
- Denise Vallon – Director
- Terry Shurte – Director

Mission Statement

The mission of The Colorado River Historical Society shall be to operate a museum to promote interest and knowledge concerning the history of the Lower Colorado River area, most specifically the Tri-state area.

*** * * * MUSEUM FUNDRAISER * * * ***

The historical society is currently in the midst of a fundraising effort, the monies of which will be used for construction of the next phase of the museum. This addition will store our archives and collections not presently displayed in the museum.

These items are currently stored at the Davis Camp site. Mohave County has generously renewed our lease on that building for an additional year, expiring in July 2023. We are in need of a new home for these artifacts, which require multiple storage racks. The Historical Society also stores various other supplies and tools in this facility.

In the coming months the museum’s Fundraising Committee will be using a variety of methods to raise money for our building fund. In the meantime if you are interested in assisting us with a donation it would be highly appreciated. Your contribution may be tax deductible, please confirm with your tax consultant.

It takes a village and we are counting on you to help us make this a reality.

