

Grapewine News



COLORADO RIVER HISTORICAL
SOCIETY MUSEUM



Above drawing on display in museum library

Letters from Fort Mojave Concerning Mojave City

Mojave City was a small enclave located north of the Camp/Fort Mojave military reservation. In 1863 the city sprang- to-life to meet the entertainment needs of the soldiers at the fort and the miners that were quickly populating the area in search of valuable minerals. It was large enough that in 1866 it was named the county seat and operated a post office. The following letters written by Commanders at Camp/Fort Mojave provide a glimpse at some of the difficulties they encountered due to the goods and services provided by Mojave City establishments which eventually led to the military seizure of Mojave City in late 1869. The city was incorporated into the fort grounds but continued to be referred to as Mojave City by many.

The letters are presented as written by the Commanders.

July 16, 1866 Letter from Capt. & Brevet Major Robert H. Porter, Commanding to Lt. George L. Choisy, Acting Asst. Adjutant General, District of Arizona

Sir

I have the honor to request instructions under Genl. Orders No. 11 Hd Qrs. Mil Div of Pacific of 1866 republishing the 20 Section of Act of Congress

approved Feby 13" 1862 concerning the introduction and sale in the Indian Country and making it the duty of all officers on duty on the Indian Frontier & in the Indian Country to enforce the provisions of this Act.

The Place called Mojave City close to the Reservation consists of seven houses, five being occupied and three of them saloons, where they sell liquor to any one who desires it. I have given them notice that I will proceed against them under this Act of Congress & seize & destroy their stock of liquors they claim that they have licence from their municipal government and that they are not within meaning of Indian Country. The evil must be abated as I cannot keep my men sober. I have given the keeper of these saloons notice that they must not sell or give soldiers liquor. I await your decision in the matter.

August 20, 1869 Letter from Capt. & Brevet Lt. Colonel M. H. Stacey, Commanding to Brevet Capt. A. P. Jerome, Commanding Camp Willow Grove

"Se-rum" head Chief of the Hualapais who has been paying a friendly visit to this Post was brutally

con't on pg 2

con't from pg 1

assaulted this evening by a drunken man in the street of Mojave City. I have caused the arrest of the perpetrator, I have him in confinement in my guard house, and sent word to Se-rum but find that he has left his camp. The probabilities are that this aggressive act will lead to another war with the Hualapais and I wish you to warn any travelling parties to be on the alert as well as yourself. Please give my express any aid you can to the Toll Gate."

August 24, 1869 Letter from Captain & Brevet Lt. Colonel M. H. Stacey, Commanding Post to Acting Asst. Adjutant General, District of Upper Arizona, Fort Whipple, Prescott, Arizona Territory

"I have the honor to transmit herewith the proceedings of a Meeting of Citizens of this place held on Saturday Evening last (21st Inst.) In forwarding them I deem it proper to say that a portion of the statements made are untrue in fact. The lawless indiscreet conduct of some of these citizens has caused me considerable anxiety lest some act should be committed that would lead to bloodshed and difficult complications. I have not been wholly able to restrain them as will be seen by accompanying charges against William Willis, for a murderous assault on Su-rum, Chief of the Wallapais. I have Willis in irons in my guard house. I have also forbidden any more town Meetings on the reservation under penalty of removal of the parties thus offending.

I am in hopes that no evil consequences will result from the assault on Su-rum, his two brother having been in yesterday. They represent Su-rum as having been considerably hurt but he promises to come and see me as soon as he recovers. They all say they desire to have peace. This may, or may not be sincere, I don't think it would be wise to trust them too far.

The white men out prospecting from here in the Sacramento Dist. Have returned in safety and without the slightest molestation. I know of no way of protecting the half a dozen white men living in the Vally between here and the Needles unless they move up nearer to the Post. If citizens are so foolish as to live so far from assistance in an Indian Country, they do so at their own peril.

I have warned the Mojave Captains in that section they must keep their country free from the intrusion of hostile Indians, and in the future they will be held responsible for any outrages committed.

In case anything further occurs it might be well to seize one or two Captains and hold them as hostages. This might lead to war. A better plan would be to compel the Mojaves above

the Needles to live on the reservation at La-Paz, but a considerable force would be necessary to hold them in check while the removal was being made.

I would like to have about twenty Cavalry attached to the Post, or a sufficient number of horses to mount Infantry in order that a rapid move might be made in case of necessity. The herd of beef cattle is further away from this Post that I could wish but it is necessary to keep them where they are for the sake of grass, which is very scarce in the Vally this year."

August 30, 1869 Capt. & Brevet Lt. Colonel, M. H. Stacey, Commanding Post to Acting Asst. Surgeon F. S. Sterling, U.S.A.

Evidence having been received to these Hd. Qrs, that C. A. Luke a Citizen Trader on the Military Reservation of Camp Mojave, has in direct violation of General Order No. 3 Hd. Qr. Sub Distr. of Upper Colorado, dated July 24th 1869 based on a letter from the Hd. Qrs. Dept. of California dated Oct. 16th 1868 sold liquor by the bottle to enlisted men knowing this to be contrary to said General Orders No. 3 Hd. Qrs. Sub. Dist. Upper Colorado and this liquor having been given to Indians thereby disturbing the peace and quiet of this Post, you are hereby directed to proceed to the establishment of said Luke and to seize his stock of which you will take an exact inventory, close his place of business, arrest him and have goods removed to a secure place. A suitable guard will be furnished for this purpose, and such other facilities as you may require.

August 30, 1869 Capt. & Brevet Lt. Colonel, M. H. Stacey, Commanding Post to Acting Asst. Adjutant General, District of Upper Arizona

"I have the honor to report that this morning I caused the arrest of C. A. Luke, a trader in Mojave City, the seizure of his stock, and closed his establishment. I did this for the reason that he has violated Genl. Orders No. 3 Hd Qrs Sub Dist of the Upper Colo, in selling liquor to enlisted men and others by the bottle. This liquor has been given to Indians resulting in disorders, and the disturbance of the public peace. I would like to have the order of the Comdg Genl. As to the disposition of the property. It has been usual in similar cases to turn the liquor over to the Medical Department for use among the sick.

WORD PUZZLE

Mojave City

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

ACT	CATTLE	CAVALRY
CITIZENS	CITY	CONGRESS
FORT	HERD	HUALAPAI
INCORPORATED	LIQUOR	MILITARY
MOJAVE	POST	SALOONS
SEIZURE	SOLDIERS	TRADER

August 2023 puzzle answers: Western Frontier Women

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

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hi Happy September,

So many special happenings at the museum. Chief Trebes of the Bullhead City police department is speaking on the 20th of September. Also, on the 22nd is 40th anniversary. We will have a cake and some special things happening at the museum from 10am to 2pm. Please stop by and say hi and have a piece of cake This is a long time coming and a Special Thank You to all the members and volunteers for making our museum so special.

Also coming up on October 7th is the combined Farmers Market with a Pumpkin Patch in the backyard of the museum featuring a pumpkin walk. Come and see you will be surprised. Also included will be gold panning at our mining table with our volunteer Richard Dotson giving “How to find yourself some gold” instructions. We are working with Claire Adams of Parks and Rec on this event, and we are hoping to continue with many projects during the Fall.

The hard work and dedication of all involved with our museum volunteers, sponsors, businesses and the city have made all this possible. I am so proud to be the president of the Colorado River Historical Society and Museum. We are also very happy to announce that shortly we will be starting the building of the new extension. This will be a place for our archival things and a partial kitchen for our events.

And again, thank you to all the volunteers. Without you we couldn't continue as a museum and the historical society. If you need any questions answered or have suggestions or would like to become a volunteer or sponsor please call me anytime at 928-219-2582

Sincerely ,

Karole Finkelstein, President

COMMITTEES UPDATES

From The Desk of Our Curator:

The Collection Committee met in August. We discussed upcoming projects, which will include additions to our ranching display. The committee will meet later this month to clean the inside of the display cases. As you all know, dust is a constant battle in this valley.

I also want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Collection Committee member Laurie Thompson and her team for their vision and dedicated work on the museum Educational Garden. The garden is beautiful, and the artifacts and storyboards provide a wealth of information for museum visitors.

Carla Lucas

CRHS Curator

Seeking Donations for Our Collection

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

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Have you been by to see our Educational Gardens yet? Our volunteers have done a phenomenal job creating a beautiful space highlighting local floral and fauna, a Cactus Hill, a Prehistoric display, mining displays, a wonderful mural wall and much more! Your donations made this space available! If you haven't become a member of the Colorado River Historical Society yet, now is the time.

If you have questions about membership, or you're interested in becoming a member, please reach out to Ellen Brown at 928-542-1160 or see one of the docents when you visit the museum.

Membership Chair - Ellen Brown

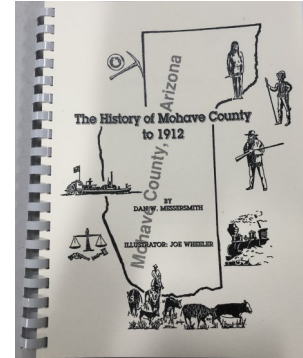
GIFT SHOP NEWS

Featured item:

The History of Mohave County to 1912

By Dan W. Messersmith

\$18.00



EVENTS CALENDAR

All events are at the museum unless otherwise stated

Guest Speaker - Bullhead City Police Chief Trebes:

Long time resident Robert Trebes talks of his history with the Bullhead City Police Department.

September 20th 2023 - Wednesday 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Colorado River Historical Society's 40th

Anniversary:

Stop by to say "Hello" and see what's happening at the museum. We will have a cake and light refreshments.

September 22nd 2023 - Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm

2nd Annual Pumpkin Patch:

Come join us for fall festivities in the Educational Gardens at the museum. There will be gold panning and a pumpkin walk.

October 7th 2023 - Saturday 9:00am - 1:00pm

Annual Membership Meeting

November 13th 2023 - Monday 10:00am - 11:00pm



**COLORADO RIVER
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MUSEUM**

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Phone: 928-754-3399
Email: CRHSmuseum@outlook.com
Web: coloradoriverhistoricalsociety.org/
Hours of Operations:
Tuesday—Saturday 10:00am - 2:00pm
(last admittance 1:00pm)

Grapevine News Editor - Laurie Thompson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

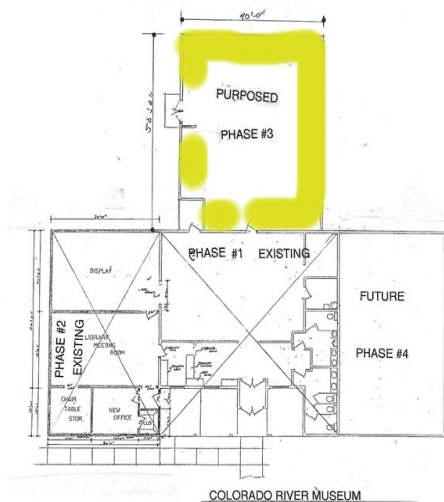
- Karole Finkelstein – President
- Ralph Patterson – Vice-President
- Ellen Brown – Secretary
- Carla Lucas – Treasurer
- Laurie Thompson – Director
- Robbie Adams – Director
- Denise Vallon – Director
- Barbara Brandt - Director
- Jim Lucas – Director

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 Phase 3 Update

We are pleased to announce the funds have been raised to start our next phase of the museum building. This addition will store our archives and collections not presently displayed in the museum. Also, with this addition we will also have an area to do maintenance and repair on our artifacts as needed.



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 the types of volunteer we need:

- Docent
- Gardener
- Teachers
- Fundraising & Event Coordinators
- Handyman
- Data Entry
- Marketing