

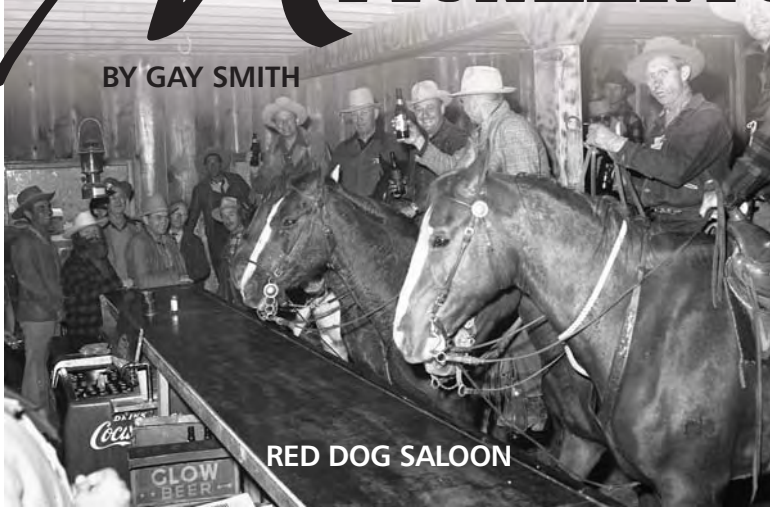


Newsletter Quarterly

P.O. Box 2046 • Yucca Valley, CA 92286 • 760-364-2000 • www.mbhs.net • Email: MBHS.history@gmail.com

Memories OF PIONEERTOWN

BY GAY SMITH



RED DOG SALOON

My husband and I first came to Pioneertown in 1965. The next year we bought a four-acre parcel from the Golden Empire which ran a land office out of White's General Store. We bought an adjoining parcel a year later from the same land office. The parcels sat on a hill overlooking present day Pioneertown. And in 1969 Russ Hayden sold us five more acres next to what is now Pappy and Harriet's. Our intention was to develop a little old west town for the public's amusement. And even though we abandoned the idea after just so much County red tape, we stayed here and have wonderful memories of it.

The Bowling Alley was always a centerpiece of the town. It was originally built by Lillian Thompson and her husband. Lillian played Cactus Kate in many of the old movies. The *Sons of the Pioneers* even wrote a song about her. When she was dressed as Cactus she looked very different than she ordinarily did; she even smoked a big cigar. The Bowling Alley served as the first post office here; and it housed the water company when we locals owned the utility. We would go there

to pay our water bill. There was a huge wood sign painted with blackboard paint which hung over the bar. All of our names were printed on it along with the months of the



year. When you paid your bill, it was marked "PAID" on the blackboard under the appropriate month. Everyone could see who paid their bill *and who didn't*.

Benton Lefton, a car dealer from Chicago, owned the whole town including the property known as the Golden Empire which began on the north east side of Pioneertown Road and stretched out to Pipes Canyon. He had big plans to develop the area with schools, golf course, equestrian center, air strip, and, of course, private ranchos. Lefton ran out of money before water was ever put in. There are water pipes buried throughout the project stopping just short of the abandoned water tank you can still see from Pioneertown Road.

Water was in short supply, but there was never a shortage of local characters. A man named Charlie Hanie dressed himself as the sheriff and liked to walk around town and making sure order was kept and that shop keepers kept to the Old West theme. A fountain used to be in the middle of Mane Street; it was moved by a man named Stoney who lived on the corner of Pioneertown Road and Minna Gombbell. Stoney spent his weekend nights going between the Bowling Alley and the Red Dog Saloon drinking. One night in the early 70's Stoney drove

Continued on Page 6

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

Paul Geeson, Nomination Chair and Member, LyAnne Felts: We are happy to report that all current Board of Directors officers have agreed to remain another term, and all are recommended by the Nominations Committee.

Read their Bios & Annual Meeting Schedule on Page 4:



- Barbara Harris, President**
- Bob Benson, 1st Vice President Properties**
- Ruth Long, 2nd Vice President Finances**
- Jeannie Lindberg, Treasurer**
- Laurie Geeson, Secretary**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



*It is one of the beautiful compensations of life,
that no man can sincerely help another without helping himself.*
~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

A lesson I learned

Last year at this time I was contemplating whether or not to answer the call to serve as MBHS President. As a long-time volunteer I believed in the importance of preserving local history and wanted to see the organization succeed. Still, there were a lot of reasons not to serve. Taking on the duties of president might interfere with my search for a real job; nagging health concerns had me preoccupied and serving as president would mean stepping out of my comfort zone and into an entirely new area for me.

Under reasons to serve, I could think of only one; it seemed no one was willing to serve and I wanted to see the Historical Society continue. A few short weeks later I found myself taking the oath of office. Suddenly my days were busy planning special events, learning parliamentary procedures, and arranging programs. At night I worked on setting goals and contemplated new ways to involve, interest and increase membership. Some of my ideas were hugely successful, others were not. Running board meetings was a big challenge. They became a source of strife over differences in style and vision. The differences were eventually resolved but at a high price. Almost all of the original board resigned. Now more than ever it appeared the future of the Society was in jeopardy. So I turned to those around me and asked for help. Several were also unemployed and agreed to pitch in. The situation made for some busy months, but not only did MBHS survive, it thrived and managed to meet all of our goals along the way!

Not long after, I found myself reflecting on all that had transpired when it occurred to me that something was altogether different. I still needed a real job, my physical ailments weren't any better, and now my comfort zone was bigger. I felt comfortable in the office. The difference was that by shifting my focus to MBHS, and making myself useful and constructive, previous concerns were made trivial. My attention was redirected from things that weren't in my control and things that were. I was doing something positive and my world felt like a better place because of it.

A message to you

The best way to minimize your own worries and concerns is to do something for someone else. We don't need studies to tell us that volunteering can improve physical and mental health. Volunteering can give you a sense of achievement and purpose, and can help you stay social, and make new friends, and contacts.

Many who have given up searching for work find themselves at home with little to stimulate their minds. If this is you, why not pitch in at MBHS and start feeling useful again?

Please contact us at MBHS.history@gmail.com or 760-364-2000. Whether you're interested in history or pulling weeds, we can use your help. And at the end of the day, your struggles will seem distant, smothered by the gratitude you'll feel from MBHS.

I slept, and I dreamt that life was all joy.

I woke, and saw that life was but service.

I served, and discovered that service was joy.

~ Rabindranath Tagore,

Indian Nobel laureate poet, writer, philosopher

NOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The MBHS MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER

After years of preparation and hard work the MBHS Museum & Research Center is now ready to open it's doors to members and the public on a weekly basis.

**OFFICIALLY OPEN EVERY
TUESDAYS 10:30am - 3:00pm**

Come volunteer, work on files, organize papers, water plants, or enjoy some LOCAL HISTORY at the air-conditioned facility. Explore historic files, research subjects of interest, investigate the media room and enjoy historic Oral Histories and other local history DVD's.

For a modest fee your group can take a docent guided tour through the buildings and gardens at the property. The restored original Landers Post Office, Silver Shed clad with recycled printing plates from the *Hi-Desert Star*, Bottle Beacon used to signal the landing strip are a few other items of interest. Or opt to just look around, kick back, read and explore some of the Basin's most fascinating history!

**Off hour tours & appointments
available on request, call 760-364-2000**

Note: *if you visit now, please excuse our dust, we're getting ready for the annual meeting September 25.* Tidying up, working on displays, and completing some ongoing projects. If this is of interest to you, drop by on Tuesday 10:30am to 3:00pm to lend a hand. We have a lot of fun!

If you have items you'd like to donate,

This is a good time to bring them in! Can't wait to show you the new look to Museum & Research Center.

Wish List

This year we would like to arrange for the MBHS to be officially connected to an Internet service to help in research capabilities.

With your help and donations The MBHS will have an opportunity to expand its technology into the 21st Century.



For those already on the internet we encourage you to visit our website www.mbhs.net. If you have a Facebook account - become our friend at:

Morongo Basin Historical Society Group Page

We're also working on a new app for your computer and smart phone, that will give instant history about areas of the Morongo Basin.

More than a half century after its construction, and 13 years after it was disassembled, moved, reassembled and mothballed, Landers' original little Post Office awakened like Sleeping Beauty earlier this summer.



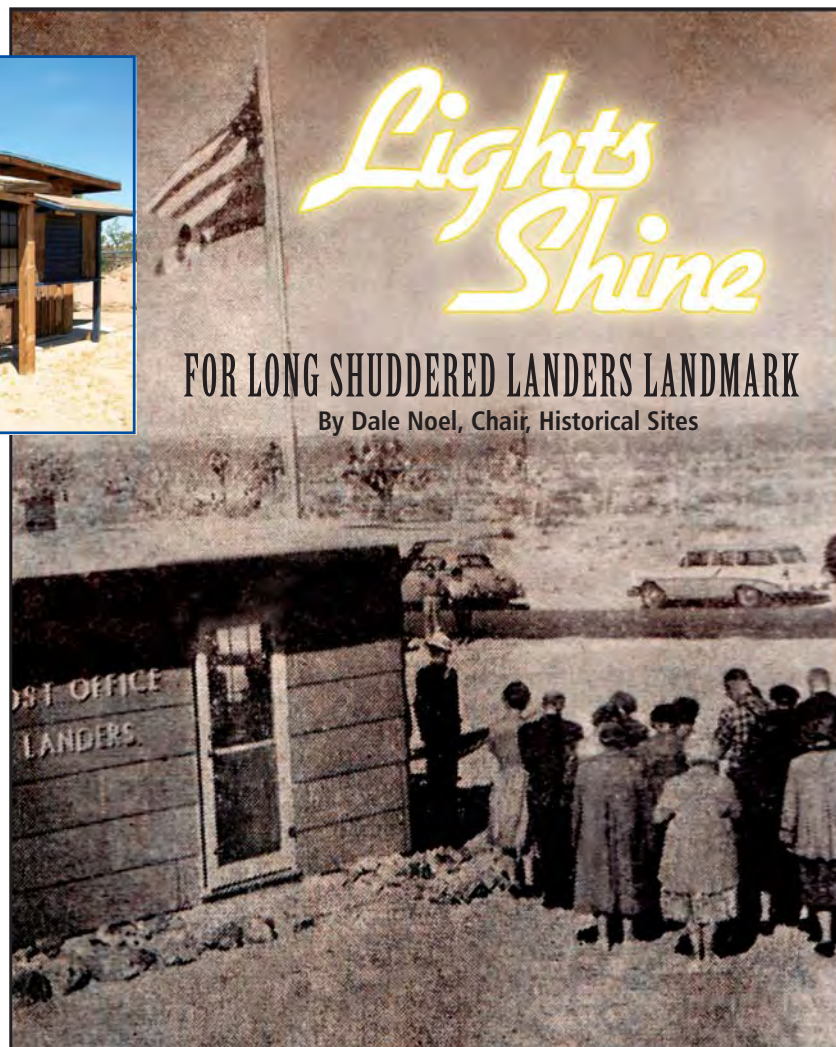
With the flip of a switch ... well, two switches ... power and water seemed to bring the long dormant local icon miraculously back to life.

But it wasn't a miracle that resurrected the one-time civic, social and cultural seat of this remote community. It was the energy, ingenuity and generosity of many individuals working together to see the Post Office Utilities Project through completion. The efforts of all who volunteered will live on in their accomplishment. Gratitude goes out to the 2010 Bakeless Bake Sale contributors, to Assemblyman Paul Cook who helped cut through red tape, to Tom Granger who worked with county inspectors for permits, to Carole Schreiber who literally worked in the trenches, and myriad others such as Jim Brock, Rachel Crawford, Paul Geeson, Ron Montgomery, Lloyd Noel and the US Navy Junior Enlisted Association from Twentynine Palms.

Built as a recreational cabin in 1958 under the Homestead Act, Vernetta Landers purchased the cabin for the purpose of providing mail service. It was the first post office to be approved in an area of government recreational tracts and was dedicated as a rural contract postal station on May 2, 1962.

The approximate 400 sq. ft. wood cabin was divided into two tiny interior parts with slightly over half allotted for postal work, with the balance dedicated for public access to mailboxes and other services. Many locals can remember waiting outside the little Post Office visiting under the trees there. Others gathered under the cottonwoods across the road where they would socialize and fill their jugs from the faucets there. Often this is where plans were made to meet again for Friday Night "Cook Your Own Steak" and dancing at the Longhorn or for Belfield Hall's Sunday morning breakfast.

On May 2, 1998, several yards west of the original, a new Post Office opened with great fanfare. The original building was returned to Mrs. Landers. She was to move it from 890 Landers Lane to 632 N. Landers Lane where it



now stands. Prohibited from moving the building intact, stepson Mark Landers dismantled & moved the small structure piece by piece, then reassembled it on the southwest corner of the property where Mrs. Landers lived much of her life. Glass display units now line the inside of the little building. Each is filled with nostalgic relics and other findings like retired 1962 cancellation stamps, historic documents and old photos from Landers and surrounding communities.

Most rural communities have seen the original post offices razed or left to ruin. Vernetta Landers understood the little building's importance as a repository of local history. A Charter Member of the Society, she presented its first program, *The History of Landers and the Post Office*. She believed in the organization enough to bequeath to MBHS her property, including the original Post Office, now designated a California Historical Resource.

Her vision was to provide a permanent Basin-wide repository for local history and ensure for the preservation of her vast archive of local history and her small private Post Office museum. Anyone who's been to the property in recent weeks knows that Mrs. Landers vision has finally come to pass thanks to the work begun by her and now finished by those who share her respect for the past.

Landers original little Post Office is available to tour Tuesdays from 11 am to 3 pm and by request.

MEMBER NEWS

As of August 20, 2011

OUR CURRENT MEMBERSHIP IS 225

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership. We will print the renewals next go around due to space needed for our Annual Meeting.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joining us since our last newsletter are new members: Pat Fontana • Susan Wagner & Graig Gillingham • Vicki McConnell Kim Stringfellow • Cynthia Kazarian • Tina Gonzales • Carl Camrin Don Koch & Megan Close • Diana Fields • Rudy Gerusa StephanieKerns • Ruth LaMonica • Juce Sessons & Hugh Matthews Valerie Eagle Heart Meyer • Phyllis Schwartz • Debra Thompson Elaine Wallace • Brain Washburn • Aubrey Leahy

Not to be forgotten are the loss of three of our longtime members: Ernie Molnar, Helen Patten and Robert Vatter. God probably has you working on some project right now!

- **PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE EXPIRATION DATE ON YOUR LABEL.** It saves MBHS lots of postage money if you renew your membership without being invoiced...SO PLEASE – PLEASE take a look at that label and renew. It does not hurt to renew early!
- I'm human and make mistakes, if your expiration date is incorrect, your address needs changed, email address needs corrected, or you think your membership has been paid, PLEASE LET ME KNOW!
- **REMEMBER MBHS GIFT CERTIFICATES** are available. They make a lovely gift and it supports the MBHS.
- **NEW MEMBERSHIP PRIVILEGED CARDS** are being unveiled soon. Look for details on the website or at the next board meeting. *We need your help with this program - please volunteer! Contact Carole for details.*
- **SAVE MBHS POSTAGE MONEY** – by subscribing to the newsletter ONLINE MBHS will save money on postage! Try it out and if you don't like it, you can go back to receiving a hard copy via US mail. Or consider donating a roll of stamps? It would be a big help

Carole Kester, Membership Chair, E-Mail Coordinator
pioneertowndolls@earthlink.net or 760-365-4096

WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES....

As a member of the MBHS you should know some of the accomplishments we've achieved over the past 3 months:

- The Landers Post Office; added lights, air-conditioning, displays and a whole lot of TLC.
- Bathroom completed; with new floor tiles, toilet, wash basin, & paint.
- Additional parking cleared in front for ease of entering & exiting.
- Parking area created to eliminate less parking on the street.
- New wider walk-ways, with ramps inside front living room area and near the kitchen doorway, making handicap access easier.
- New paint for many of the rooms and doors. • New displays!!!!!!
- Board applied for a reduction in property taxes, we'll know results Dec.
- The misplaced Charter was found. • Oral Histories done regularly.
- Lowered phone bill \$5.00 per month with a new Verizon plan.
- Reduced cost with Edison. Received \$170.00 credit from over-charges.
- Renewed Warren's Well lease with the city of Yucca Valley.
- Continue to work, volunteer and attend other non-profit meetings in the area - involved and getting the MBHS involved.
- The list goes on, but I've run out of space. This was all done within 3 months! Imagine what we can accomplish with your help & donations.

CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS

NOMINATION SLATE FOR MBHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

Barbara Harris, incumbent

For the past year Barbara has served as MBHS President. From the moment of her installation she has infused her creative style into the daily operations and promotion of the Society. Her fresh perspective and 'can-do' attitude have brought many changes to

MBHS even as she learned the ropes as the top officer. Early on she set goals for her term and then methodically followed them toward completion.

Her forecast for the future of MBHS is bright and ambitious; she hopes to be re-elected so that she might see her forecast through.

Bob Benson, incumbent

Bob's almost 20 years experience in general construction makes him well-qualified to continue in the office of 1st Vice President in charge of properties, a position he has held since his appointment in June. Since then, he has ably demonstrated the skill and motivation required for this office as evidenced in his many recent modifications at the MBHS Landers property. The very close proximity of Bob's own home to MBHS allows for his rapid response in the event of an emergency or other urgent matter requiring an officer's presence on site.

Ruth Long, incumbent

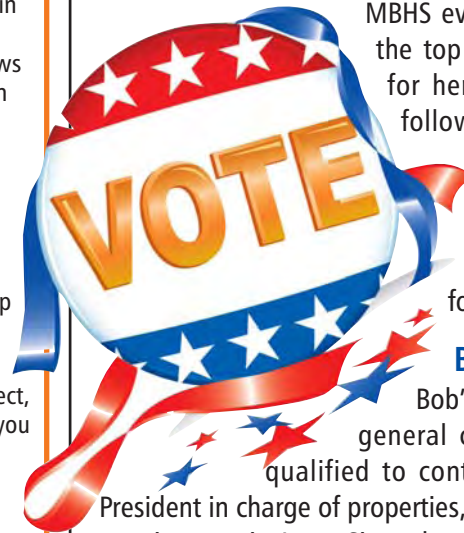
Since her appointment as interim vice president in charge of finance in May, Ruth has consistently proven her aptitude and readiness to meet and exceed the requirements of this position. Her continued service as 2nd Vice President assures continuity while her managerial, personal and professional skills guarantee the competent fulfillment of the tasks at hand. As a Founder, Charter and Lifetime Member of this organization, Ruth has demonstrated her allegiance to its continued success.

Jeannie Lindberg, incumbent

Since Jeannie's interim appointment to this office in May, she has repeatedly demonstrated her skill and aptitude as MBHS Treasurer. If elected to continue in this capacity, the Society will benefit from the continuity she brings, her attention to detail and her insistence for adhering to established procedure.

Laurie Geeson, incumbent

Laurie has ably held the office of recording secretary in an interim capacity since her appointment in May. Since then she has consistently proven her skills and diligence in this area. The Society has already seen the benefits of her attention to detail and past experience in this capacity. If elected in her own right, the continuity further enhances what Laurie brings to the table.



PROGRAMS - EVENTS - FUNDRAISERS - FIELD TRIPS

By Laurie Geeson, Program Director • E-Mail: pg85pp94@gmail.com • 760-363-6681

1st WEDNESDAY PROGRAMS

DATE: Wednesday, September 7, 2011

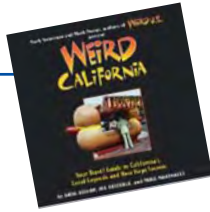
TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Yucca Valley

SPEAKER: JOHN HALE, archaeologist for the 29 Palms Marine Base, will share interesting stories and insights about the Campbells during this fascinating lecture.

TOPIC: Embracing a New Lifestyle in the Desert: Elizabeth and William Campbell, and their Contributions to the Vocation of Archaeology.

\$5.00 donation to MBHS at the door



DATE: Wednesday, October 5, 2011

TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Y.V.

SPEAKER: GREG BISHOP, one of the authors on the world-famous book, WEIRD CALIFORNIA, YOUR TRAVEL GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA'S LOCAL LEGENDS AND BEST KEPT SECRETS.

TOPIC: Greg will discuss many of the stories and tid-bits in the book. He'll also share many of the stories and photos that did not make it into the book. Guaranteed to shares some laughs.

\$5.00 donation to MBHS at the door

DATE: Wednesday, November 2, 2011

TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Yucca Valley

SPEAKER: DAVID DOWLING AND GREG GILBERT

(Note: details still being worked out)

TOPIC: GAMMA GULCH

\$5.00 donation to MBHS at the door

DATE: Wednesday, December 7, 2011

TIME: 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Yucca Valley

SPEAKER: BARBARA HARRIS,

TOPIC: The Stories of Yucca Valley. View photos and listen to stories of a young Yucca Valley and what's available today. Hear about the unusual mysterious connection Yucca Valley has to the Earth's Ley Lines highlighting parallel 33.

\$5.00 donation to MBHS at the door

UP-COMING FUNDRAISERS

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO!!!

We're working on details, programs, dates and times to create these fundraisers. Contact mbhs.history@gmail.com if you're interested in being a volunteer.

Museum & Research Center Yard Sale.....Early Fall
Jimmy Van Heusen/Burnt Mt..... Late Fall
Rock & Geology BBQ adventure at the MBHS
Museum & Research Center.....Early next year

12th ANNUAL MBHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

at the MBHS Museum & Research Center
632 Landers Lane, Landers • 760-364-2000

12:00pm doors open with a dessert bar, tours of the property and a presentation on Giant Rock and the Integratron
2:00pm Annual Business meeting begins

**TOURS, ENTERTAINMENT, RAFFLE
DESSERT BAR & MBHS BUSINESS MEETING**

BOARD MEETINGS

Board Meetings are scheduled for the 2nd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH
SEPTEMBER 13 • OCTOBER 11 • NOVEMBER 8

1:00 P.M. at the MBHS Museum & Research Center in Landers.
Members and guests are welcome to attend.

FIELD TRIPS

PLACE: 29 PALMS MARINE BASE - COMBAT CITY

DATE: Thursday, October 6, 2011

COST: \$4.25 - for Lunch - Exact money required

SPACE LIMIT: 35 - REGISTRATION BEFORE FRIDAY SEPT 30, 2011

Go to the www.mbhs.net for complete list of details or call to register with Barbara at: 760-365-3266

COMBAT FEILD INSPECTION: This tour picks up where the MBHS April Tour ended. It begins with a 45-minute rough road bus ride to the 1,500-structure 'Combat City' training area. Explore Combat City on foot; survey training simulators, heavy equipment, and time permitting, the Tortoise Habitat Preserve, Gun Range and Recycling Center. **CHALLENGE LEVEL: MODERATE:** Reasonable stamina required. Each attendee must be in good physical condition and able to stand for extended periods, climb stairs, walk through deep sand and scramble short distances unassisted. Note: This tour is significantly more challenging than the April Tour. **CAUTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS:** Large sections are unshaded. Sandals or open toe shoes not permitted. Logistics eliminate option to 'sit out' parts of tour on the bus. Water supplied by Marines, but you are advised to bring additional snacks/beverages. No alcohol permitted. Restrooms not available in remote locations. Sandy/rocky terrain precludes use of mobility devices such as canes, walkers and wheelchairs.

**Sign up only if you've a reasonable expectation of completing tour.
PLAN FOR A 9 HOUR DAY!**

* \$4.25 is the cost of lunch and goes to the Marine Base Cafeteria. This is a free tour underwritten by the Morongo Basin Historical Society. Any related donations to the MBHS are greatly appreciated.

PLACE: GILLMAN RANCH- Banning - The Willie Boy Ranch AND OAK GLEN - Fresh picked apples

DATE: Tuesday, October 18, 2011

COST: \$9.00- includes admission, snacks & beverages. Bring your own lunch

SPACE LIMIT: 25 - REGISTRATION BEFORE THURSDAY OCT. 13, 2011

Go to the www.mbhs.net for complete list of details or call to register with Barbara at 760-365-3266

DESCRIPTION: Groups can carpool to Banning where we will meet up with our docent for a 1.5 hour tour. We'll have lunch and if time and weather permit, we'll drive up the hill to Oak Glen to visit the apple ranches enjoy some hot apple pie!

PLEASE GO TO www.mbhs.net FOR A LIST OF ALL FIELD TRIPS PLANNED
TO REGISTER FOR FIELD TRIPS CALL 760-365-3266
ALSO VIEW CALENDAR AT MBHS MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER IN LANDERS

into the fountain and really messed up his car. He was so mad that he got someone with a tractor to come by the next morning and move the fountain to the side of Mane Street. It remains there to this day.

In the late 60's or early 70's a retired L.A. cop and his wife bought the Red Dog. She was determined to make it look like an authentic old saloon. They spent a fortune refurbishing the place; she picked out and had red flocked wallpaper installed. My husband belonged to the Bravados, a group that put on western shows in front of the Red Dog on Sunday afternoons. They also used Altolph's building, now the church, and the Grubstake Building, which is no longer there. Across from the Bowling Alley was Joe's Gun Shop. Joe Hammett use to sell guns, ammo, and repaired guns from there. He was a fast draw and took many a 1st Place for his talent. One year there was a national contest in Landers; it was very interesting.

The OK Corral was leased by some folks who rented horses to the public. My stepsons learned to ride horses there. They would also take us on trail rides out Wydonot Road and along the roads that today are lined with homes. There were only a couple of cabins there at the time.

Russ and Mousie Hayden were instrumental in getting Pioneertown Road widened and paved from Yucca Valley. They used to tell stories about how they would bring dynamite from the L A area in their car and how they worried when they came up bumpy, narrow, dirt Pioneertown Road with the dynamite at Mousie's feet! Today weekend tourists speed along the same road at 50 mph or more!

It has been interesting watching Pioneertown change through the years. One thing that never changed was the two 4-acre parcels we originally purchased from Golden Empire. They remain empty except for our own road leading to a large pad. Maybe our great grandchildren will inherit our dream and enjoy living there someday.

Written by Bill BoBo

Life in the Morongo Basin

Excerpted from the Joanne Wilson's
Collection of Memories
Volume 5



The biggest storm that I have every seen in my entire life struck Morongo Valley! It was absolutely awesome!—and frightening! Anyone who lived there during the storm or witnessed the des-truction as an aftermath (like the McKinneys) can testify to the truth of what I write here. It started at about the time it normally would have been sunset except there was no sun. It built up; and the rain came down harder and harder. None of us could sleep; we moved up to Sis' rock house, it had a much better fireplace and was much warmer. The 4 of us, Pop, Mom, Allen and I played cards. Close to midnight the rain was coming down so hard that there was a "roar" of noise throughout the valley. We opened the front doors and stood under the overhang to watch.

The valley was lit up as though there was moonlight. Water cascading down the mountains had created a type of "friction light". There was a shallow, wide wash on the lower part of our 40 acres. We could see it, even at midnight, and there was a literal river running there. We watched in awe as the rainfall intensified, it was almost like standing under a waterfall. Fortunately our houses were at least 50 feet above the wash. Soon the valley was so lit up and bright that one could have read a newspaper just from the awesome, friction generated light from over the mountains as the water poured off in such vast quantities.

Most of the rain seemed to have fallen over the mountains between San Gorgonio and Yucca Valley. There were floods at least as far north as Pipes Canyon.

Morongo Valley took the brunt of the storm. Starting near Bolsters and Shermans in upper Big Morongo Canyon, a ditch or trench was cut in the floor of the canyon. In places it was over 50 feet wide and as much as 10 feet deep. It extended all the way to the Covington's on the lower Big Morongo. Where the flood waters had crossed the highway just barely to the east of Morongo Lodge, it tore out all the new asphalt pavement, and left an opening in it that was 8-10 feet deep and at least 30 feet across. The canyon below Gile's Morongo Inn was devastated. There was little sign of highway left.

This happened in 1938. Bill Bobo wrote a lengthy article about growing up in Morongo Valley. The MBHS has copies of the books that Joan Wilson published; they are available for sale at the gift shop in Tamma's Magic Mercantile and by calling 760-364-2000 or emailing mbhs.history.net.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FUNDRAISERS AROUND THE BASIN

- Sept. 9-10 Pioneer Pass Golf Challenge
- Sept. 17 Yucca Mesa's 50th Birthday
- Sept. 25 MBHS Annual Meeting
- Oct. 1-2..... Gublers Orchis Festival
- Oct. 15 Archaeopalooza
- Oct. 29 Desert Christ Park 60th Anniversary

1st WEDNESDAYS

- Sept. 7 John Hale - The Campbells
- Oct. 5 Greg Bishop - Weird California
- Nov. 2 Speaker TBD - Gamma Gulch
- Dec. 7 Barbara Harris-Stories of Yucca Valley

FIELD TRIPS

- Oct. 6 29 Marine Base - Combat City
- Oct. 18 Gillman Ranch & Oak Glen
- Nov. 11 Gamma Gulch - Garth's Place

FIELD TRIPS WE'RE WORKING ON

Harvey House in Barstow • Kelso Train Depot • Old Womans Spring Ranch
Rock Corral • Creosote Rings (oldest living thing on earth) • Van Heusen House
Covington Park. Send your suggestions for field trips to:

mbhs.history@gmail.com

REFER TO THE MBHS WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS & LINKS

www.mbhs.net

DO YOU KNOW WERE YOU LIVE?



You'd be surprised how many people don't know the fascinating history of the Morongo Basin. In an effort to expand your horizons on local history, we're starting

this program to make people aware of the unique qualities of the Morongo Basin. In the next few months the MBHS will be launching a Membership Campaign called "DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE?" Each MBHS member will receive a membership card that will entitle them to discounts and gifts from local businesses participating in the program.

You'll be updated on the participants through the newsletter and website. www.mbhs.net

We also have another new member program. When a new member signs up for the first time, they will receive the commemorative program: Willie Boy, The Last Inquest. We've started this program with some of our new members with great success. More details to follow - we'll keep up to date on the website and in the next newsletter, due out in December.



Bakeless Bake Sale

— UPDATE —

We wish to thank all the contributors to the Bakeless Bake Sale. In these economical times, you should all be applauded for your generosity in donating \$1,667.00.

We wish to thank each one of the 60 contributors who made a contribution and exceeded our 2010 results by 13.9% (\$1462.00)



Judith & Alton Addison
 Frances Albea
 Marion Arnett
 Margaret Aston
 Bert & Donna Barber
 Sarah Kennington & Steve Bardwell
 Maryan Barkley
 Betty Bilyeu
 Joan Blood
 Sid & Helen Blummer
 Carol Boyer
 Sallie Brown
 Terry Burkhat
 Charlyne & Bob Connors
 Paul Cook
 Twila Couzens
 Wayne & Linda Darnell
 David S. Dowling
 Stu & Ruth Durrant

Leona Eriksen
 Bernice Falltrick
 Pat Flanagan
 Al & Marion Gartner
 Laurie & Paul Geeson
 Barbara & Rob Harris
 Steve Heard
 Muffin Hill
 Homestead Valley Community Council
 Jim Jobe
 Janet Johnston
 Laura June
 Carole Kester
 Ernie Kester
 Marilee Knudsen
 Harvey & Monica Legrone
 Jeannie Lindberg
 Marion Lovelace
 Ron & Gayle Montgomery
 Richard Moran

Cheryl Nankervis
 Richard Nycum
 Marcia Pealstrom
 Pioneertown Posse c/o Noels
 Barton & Muriel Pedersen
 Marcia Pflingsten
 Nancy Sammons
 Gay Smith
 Carol Swain
 Todd Swain
 Joyce Teters
 Doreen Thompson
 Thomas Tomeko
 Estelle & Robert Vatter
 Eugene & Kathryn Warthan
 Brian Washburn
 Bill Washburn
 Bill Wilson Jr.
 Darlene J. Wing
 Shirley Wyss

Thank You

FOR GOING BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Your help & service is very much appreciated

Dale Noel • Pioneertown Posse
 Wanda's Signs • Bob Benson
 Desert Pacific Exterminators
 Hi-Desert Lock & Key

what's new at the

MORONGO BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Gift Shop

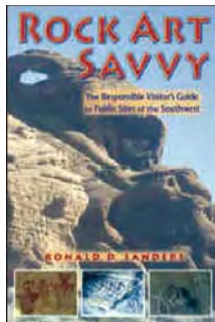
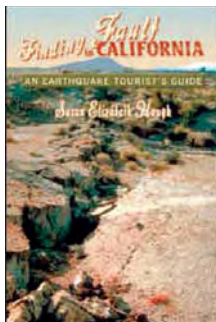
Our DVD's and Books by local authors make perfect gifts! And when you give a gift of local history it's always a good fit!

FINDING FAULT IN CALIFORNIA

An Earthquake Tourist's Guide

Finding Fault in California describes the state's earth-shaping faults and tells the stories behind the major temblors that have shaken the region.

Price: \$18.00



ROCK ART SAVVY

The Responsible Visitor's Guide to Public Sites of the Southwest

This user-friendly guide describes more than a hundred mostly public, easily accessible rock art sites.

Curious travelers, amateur archaeologists, students of indigenous American cultures, and rock art enthusiasts at every level will find wisdom and delight in this smart, practical book.

Price \$16.00

Look Inside

Tamma's Magic Mercantile

Formerly Old Town Mercantile



Old Town Yucca Valley

55727 Hwy 62

760-369-1970

Open Every day
 10:00 am to 5pm

Preserving Our Past For Our Future

MORONGO BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 2046 • Yucca Valley, CA 92286

www.mbhs.net

Email: mbhs.history@gmail.com



12th ANNUAL MBHS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

at the MBHS Museum & Research Center

632 Landers Lane, Landers • 760-364-2000

12:00pm doors open with a dessert bar, tours of the property and a presentation on Giant Rock and the Integratron

2:00pm Annual Business meeting begins

DISPLAYS, ENTERTAINMENT, RAFFLE

DESSERT BAR & MBHS BUSINESS MEETING

**Check the expiration date on the label.
It may be time for your Renewal Date.**

NEWSLETTER MEMBERSHIP



MORONGO BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving Our Past For Our Future

P.O. Box 2046 • Yucca Valley, CA 92286

760-365-1877

Email: MBHS.history@gmail.com

www.mbhs.net

MISSION STATEMENT

The specific purpose of this (non-profit) corporation is to collect, conserve and exhibit artifacts; to collect, display, interpret and publish memorabilia relating to the history of the Morongo Basin; to locate, identify and preserve historic sites; to promote the research and study of local history, and to share the rich heritage of the Morongo Basin with all the communities within and surrounding it.

MEMBER INTERESTS:

I would be interested in volunteering for:

- Docent tours of MBHS Museum & Research Center.
- Help maintain the grounds or house at MBHS Museum & Research Center.
- I would be interested in serving as an officer (specify) _____
- I would be interested in serving on a committee: (circle)

Programs	Membership	Auditing	Budgeting	Fundraising	Hostess/Server	Other
----------	------------	----------	-----------	-------------	----------------	-------
- Telephone committee or liaison representative for my community
- Research land records; member inquiries; requests from public.
- I can file/transcribe/do registrar or archive work.
- I could do video/oral interviews with people within the communities.
- I could help with events and programs / marketing / sales / advertising / newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBERSHIP (Please check one) New Renewal

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (Please check one)

- Individual.....\$20.00 per year
- Family (1 address).....\$35.00 per year
- Organization.....\$40.00 per year
- Businesses.....\$45.00 per year
- Life (1 Ind/Bus/Org).....\$300.00 per person

**Please make checks payable to:
MORONGO BASIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Name: _____
LAST FIRST M.I.

Additional Name (Family Membership only): _____

Mailing Address: _____
P.O. BOX or STREET

CITY STATE ZIP

Telephone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

FOR MBHS USE ONLY

Date received: _____ Cash: \$ _____ Check: # _____

Date received by Treasurer: _____ Date Newsletter sent: _____

NOTES:
(Revised 3/09)