



COLORADO RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

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GROUND STONE QUARRIES OF THE PIPA AHA MACAV (The People by the River)

The large rectangular block in this display is known in archaeological terms as a "Metate", or ground stone and was the platform on which the milling process of seeds and grains with the use of another shaped rock known as a "Mano" together aided in grinding seeds and other food products from nature on the platform to desired consistency.

The many large sharp angular flakes in the display once coined "Macro Flakes" by The Bureau of Land Management archaeologists were the resultant debris left by the hammering and cleaving off large flakes from the shaping of the Andesite volcanic boulder. Large river quartzite cobblestones were used as

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HOURS OF OPERATION

WE ARE OPEN! FINALLY!

Our hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (AZ Time). Come in and see our new displays and visit for awhile. We are located at 1239 Highway 95 in Bullhead City, AZ.

OTHER NEWS

If you haven't already, please begin using our **NEW** email:

crhsmuseum@outlook.com as we will be discontinuing the former email very soon.

Don't forget that time is changing for our Nevada and California friends. Their clocks will go back one hour at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 1.

hammer-stones to shape the Andesite Preform. An experienced Mojave stonemason developed an ear for the distinctive clink of an ideal Andesite boulder to choose from when that boulder was struck by another stone. Once a rough flat grinding surface was created from the shaped rectangular block, the grinding surface was fine-tuned by repeated pecking blows by chisel shaped hammer-stones on the surface high points until the final flat surface was achieved.

There are thousands of macro-flake ring sites without the finished Metate in this River Valley, most on the East bank and some on the West bank of the river north of Needles, California which represent the successful completion of Metates which were taken from the rings of Macro-Flakes and relocated for a Mojave family or for communal use associated with springs in the early times.

This Metate was found several decades ago upside down in proximity of a large rock cabin, one of ten rock cabins known as the Soldiers Cabins and the Fort Silver Ruins of Silver Creek Springs where soldiers from Fort Mojave once prospected for gold and silver in that region.

This wonderful display was put together by Stanley Krok, one of our loyal volunteers.

DONATION GUIDELINES

What we are looking for is 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.

Please keep in mind these are the guidelines we use if you choose to donate an artifact in your possession:

- Is it of museum quality?
- Is it pertinent to our area of interest?
- Do we already have as good or a better prime example of the artifact?
- Does the provenance of the artifact or material increase its significance?
- Is the donor the legal owner of said materials?
- Do we have enough volunteers to maintain it, i.e. clean, oil, repair it, and can we provide the

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome back everyone! I am so grateful, and excited that we are open again and look forward to seeing all of our visiting public enjoying the Museum again.

Masks are not required at the museum, but we encourage those at risk to wear them. We have taken all necessary and required precautions to keep you and our docents healthy. Just remember, if you are not feeling well, please stay home in consideration of others.

We had a great response from our museum family in setting this year's volunteer schedule. We have many returning volunteers and some new ones as well. Carla and Jim Lucas have been on hand to go over our standard operating procedures for the first two weeks, and it has gone very well. If you would like to be considered for next year's schedule please email us and let us know.

We are hoping to be able to offer speaker events in the very near future. It is something to look forward to!

CORRECTION

Robert Dell sent us this correction to last month's article on Davis Dam:

I noticed an error in the item in the Museum newsletter regarding the building of Davis Dam. It stated that "Dormitories and Mess Hall" were on the AZ side of the river. They were in fact located on the Nevada side. Davis Camp, AZ consisted of single family homes for the Government employees.

Thanks Robert!

correct environmental conditions to preserve the materials?

- Do we have adequate space to store it?
- Do we have adequate space to display it in the foreseeable future?
- 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!

REFERENCE LIBRARY



Our new Reference Library is coming along nicely. We have a good start on our collection and look forward to adding to it in the coming years. Unfortunately the Reference Library is not for the general public's use as some of the books are out of print or fragile and cannot be replaced if lost or damaged. Primarily the library will be used to do research by the Archival Committee or by researcher's looking for information for their thesis, books, or historic papers.

We hope to add desk space and two computers for use by the Officer's of the Board of Directors and the Archival Committee.

The room will also be used for board and volunteer meeting and very small events, such as museum receptions.

The top of the bookcases make a great display area for some of the many trophies in our collection.

ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE

Cheryl Mangin – Archivist
Richard Dotson – Asst. Archivist
Carla Lucas – Member
Jim Lucas – Member
Laurie Thompson – Member

ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

The Archival Committee members spent the last week before our opening finalizing some of the displays, repainting small areas on the walls that needed touching up, wiping down the display cabinets, organization of our materials and equipment, and general clean-up. We would like to thank Totally Awesome Printing in Ft. Mohave for our awesome new display signage, description plaques and business cards. Many of the wall displays will be redone in the coming months and we look forward to working with Totally Awesome Printing!

On or around September 18th we received a call from Tanya Brown-Wirth, Branch Manager of the Laughlin Library inquiring if the museum would be interested in their collection of the Laughlin Gambler newspapers dating back to 1984. The Laughlin Gambler became the Laughlin Times and is still in print. On September 24th we met with Tanya at the library and safely transported approximately 24 banker boxes of newspapers to our archives. The collection came complete and is in chronological order. This is a fabulous donation and we can't thank Laughlin Library enough for thinking of us to become the new caretakers of this collection.