



COLORADO RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 4

SEPTEMBER 2020



An Overlooked Local Monument

This often overlooked monument sits near the front door of the Regency Casino in Laughlin, Nevada. It was erected in 2010 by the Queho Posse #1919 and Billy Holcomb #1069 Chapters E Clampus Vitus. The inscription reads: After the United States government's successful experiment with camels in the west in 1857, entrepreneurs saw possibilities in the ungainly beasts for carrying supplies. In addition to the government's camels, which were sold off by 1864, two private shipments were brought into Texas, and three into San Francisco, with over 200 eventually imported. Companies were formed to utilize camels from British Columbia to Mexico. In Nevada, civilian use of camels

VOLUNTEER

The Colorado River Historical Society is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the history of Bullhead City and the Tri-state area. We are staffed entirely by volunteers, and we are always looking for a few more reliable volunteers. If you are interested in helping in any way, please give us a call at 928-754-3399 or email us at: crhsmuseum@outlook.com. We would love to have you on our team.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak and the restrictions placed by the Governor of Arizona, we have chosen to keep the museum closed to the public throughout the summer months for the protection of our volunteers and the general public. We had hoped to be open by the latter part of September, but at this point in time we still cannot give a definite date. Once we secure enough volunteers to reasonably operate, we will inform the membership by email as well as announcements in the local newspapers and on Facebook.

included transporting salt and lumber to the Comstock, and later running caravans through southern Nevada to Arizona. When business slowed, the camels were let loose in the desert where they flourished, until some local tribes and settlers discovered their meat was good to eat. Though still seen as late as the early twentieth century, camels eventually disappeared from the desert southwest, but their memory lived on in tales told around the campfire.

The next time you're in Laughlin take a little side trip to the Regency to view in person this pretty little monument. Just as an aside the Regency serves a wonderful prime rib dinner at a very reasonable price.

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 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!

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As we move toward the cooler season of fall I think the worst of the summer heat may be behind us. We all have survived another summer in the Mojave Desert!

I would like to acknowledge our great team members of the Archival Committee that have continued to work through the summer, both inside and out at the museum and archives.

These are a bunch of dedicated volunteers, or perhaps I should refer to them as a gang. They ramrodded and wrangled their way over multiple obstacles to achieve their intended goals. While it will always be a work in progress, their accomplishments are many.

I offer my sincere thanks to Carla and Jim Lucas, Laurie Thompson, Rich Dotson and Cheryl Mangin for all their hard work!

Karole Finkelstein

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Karole Finkelstein – President
Elsie Needles – Vice President
Brenda Warneka – Secretary
Carla Lucas – Treasurer
Jeanette Miller – Director
Ralph Patterson – Director
Dick Warneka – Director

OTHER NEWS

Please begin using our **NEW** email:
crhsmuseum@outlook.com

DAVIS DAM



Davis Dam was constructed from 1942 to 1952 as the third and final impoundment of the lower Colorado River by the Bureau of Reclamation. Together with Hoover Dam 67 miles upstream and Parker Dam 88 miles downstream, Davis Dam was built to provide flood protection, hydroelectric generation, and water storage for agricultural, industrial, and domestic use in the Southwest. Storage of water behind the dam and the regulation of water flow in the Colorado River below the dam allow the United States to comply with the Mexican Treaty of 1944, particularly annual delivery of 1.5 million acre-feet of water to Mexico in the Colorado River. Construction was halted in 1943 because of WWII. Construction did not resume until 1946.

The site was named in 1941 in honor of Arthur Powell Davis, U.S. Director of Reclamation from 1914 to 1932. Davis was one of a small group of men whose courage, foresight and vision sparked the beginning of Colorado River development, a development that today would not be cost effective.

Davis Dam was the only major dam in which construction included excavation of a new river channel, a portion of which became a through-dam forebay for delivery of water to the power plant and spillway.

Davis Dam is an earth and rock-fill embankment with a concrete spillway, gravity structure, intake structure and powerplant. As part of the work on the Arizona side, a mess hall and dormitories were constructed, where Davis Camp is today.

Davis Dam was dedicated on December 10, 1952 and cost an estimated 67 million dollars.

ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE

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

ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITY



Rich Dotson and Jim Lucas, utilizing two trailers and a piece of heavy equipment, spent three days moving most of the heavy mining equipment artifacts and the Ft. Mojave Monument to the museum from the Archives. Many thanks to Bob Cutler for the use of his trailer! You can now view the monument in front of the museum. Later the area around the monument will be covered with river rock.

Carla Lucas and Laurie Thompson while still working on the inventory of our historic artifacts, has now almost completed our library book inventory and shelved them in the new bookcases.

The new wooden slat window blinds have been installed at the museum. The blinds were donated and installed by Southwest Vertical Blinds and Window Fashions of Ft. Mohave, AZ. We so appreciate this donation!