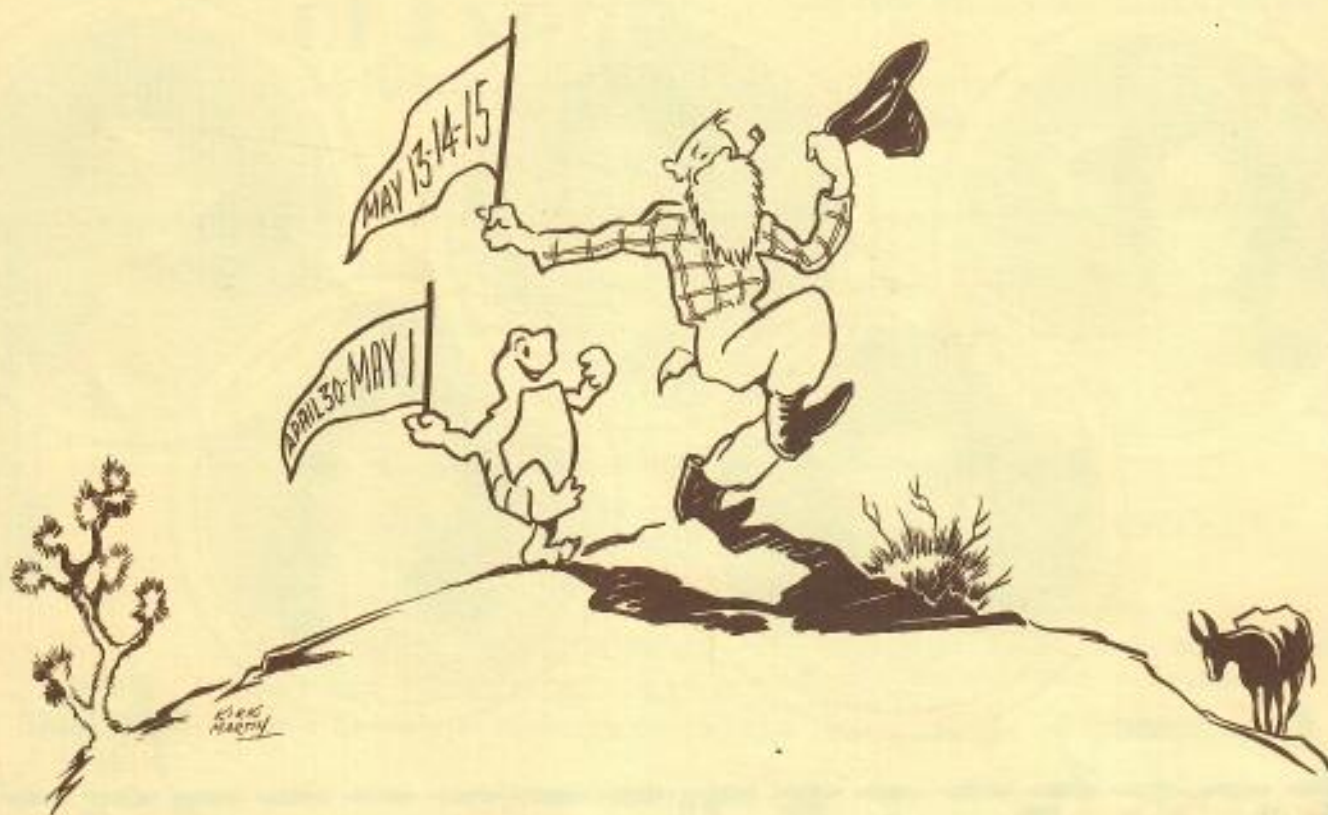


S O U V E N I R P R O G R A M



Fifteenth Annual

TURTLE RACES

April 30 & May 1, 1960
JOSHUA TREE, CALIF.

Tenth Annual

GRUBSTAKE DAYS

May 13, 14 & 15, 1960
YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

Twentynine Palms ★ Morongo ★ Pioneertown ★ Banning

1/2023 SCANNED BY GEORGE H. BALAZS

GRUBSTAKE DAYS' ROYAL FAMILY

Princess
Joanie Pekarovich

Her Majesty,
Judy Brown

Princess
Leona Sandrowski



Princess
Cheryl Hammett

Princess
Marie Paige

THE Gold Dust Ball

COMMUNITY SERVICE CLUB
Friday Night — 9 P. M.

MAY 13th.



Parade Marshal, ART MILLER



THELL REED, Jr.



Honorary Sheriff, BEN GAGE

Program of Events

10th Annual Grubstake Day's
MAY 13-14-15

Grubstake Grounds behind Horton's Market

SATURDAY - 11 A. M. Parade . . . Starting West End of Town
Honorary Sheriff, **BEN GAGE**

Parade Marshall, ART MILLER

Riding Peavine Golden Major, World Champion Parade Horse

Military Unit from Twentynine Palms Marine Base

Many Mounted Horsemen . . . Three School Bands

Two Majorette Groups . . . Beautiful Commercial and Comical Floats

Trophies and Ribbons for All Events

NORTON AIR FORCE BASE **W.A.A.F. BAND**

Midway Opens at Close of Parade . . . Games, Food and Drinks

2 P. M. — Gymkhana — At Midway Grounds



FAST DRAW CONTEST at BURNT MOUNTAIN DUDE RANCH

PRELIMINARY, SATURDAY - Time Trials immediately following Parade.

MAIN EVENT, SUNDAY - 10 A. M. Sunday. Live ammunition for Perpetual Trophy

(won last year by Theil Reed, Jr.)

Entry Fee . \$100.00 . \$2500.00 in Prizes

Contact Chamber of Commerce for Any Last Minute Changes.

SUNDAY, MAY 15th

Attend the Church of your choice

Midway Opens at Noon

2 P. M. — One-quarter Midget Races

Sponsored by Southern California Midget Association

Held at the Midway Grounds

Button Drawing — After Midget Races

Beard Judging — After Button Drawing



THIS PAGE GENEROUSLY
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CAR 17. "Little Tex" Girdner 66. Sue Ann Newell 89. Van Wyck 24. Johnnie Burns 32. Randy Wagner

Welcome to

Yucca Valley . . . QUEEN OF THE HI DESERT

AS ONE REACHES the top of the Morongo Hill heading east, he sees stretched before him, in yawning complacency, the Queen of the Hi Desert, Yucca Valley. With an altitude of 3350 feet, this valley offers a peaceful retreat from city traffic, smog and noise. Bordered on the north and south by mountains, whose majestic grandeur cradles the valley in their rugged strength, Yucca Valley offers the young - - opportunity and recreation of all types; the retired - - peace and solitude, and the afflicted - - a new lease on life. . . .

This Queen of the Hi Desert shares her royalty with all newcomers. She offers a growing town of modern schools, super markets and parks to all those who would partake of her generosity and friendly warmth. ♦ The population of 5000 upward is scattered over approximately 32 square miles, but is strongly united in civic pride for the growth and betterment of its community. ♦ People of all faiths find a church of their choice in which to worship as they see fit. For one becomes ever mindful of God when His beauty is spread lavishly before him.

Picturesque Joshua trees are found in vast abundance in the Hi Desert. The Joshua tree, a member of the lily family, is found elsewhere only in the Holy Land. Warm sunshine is a guarantee to all who abide in the Hi Desert. As surely as the sun rises, so does it set in a blaze of glorious color, leaving one with the feeling that Nature's curtain call, by far, surpasses all others. ♦ A visitor to Yucca Valley always leaves the Queen Village with warm and beautiful memories of a town of tranquil living and gorgeous sunsets and a keen yearning desire to someday return to her beauty.

50

Years ago

IN THE MORONGO PASS

Mrs. Ellis was a "Homesteader", beginning in the year of 1913. Her youngest sister Marie and she were in search of health. Those days are gone - there remain so many happy memories - of all the kind friends and neighbors; also one learned to appreciate all of the many forms of Desert Life existing there.

By Frances Sargent Ellis

ACCORDING to legend, the first inhabitants in the region now known as The Morongo Basin, were the Morongo Indians, these were nomadic tribes, living on the pinyon nuts, raising corn and grain crops, the squaws were left to care for the crops and gather the nuts, while the braves hunted with bow and arrow to fell their Deer, Antelope and Buffalo for meat. After the Government Reservation was established east of Banning, the Morongo Indians departed from their "Valleys of many Waters", to take up their abode in the Reservation.

THE Morongo Pass was more or less a desert trail - traveled over by white-faced cattle, the cowhands, the riders of the range. The teamsters freighting supplies to the mines; The Virginia Dale The Lost Horse - The Queen - and The Rose mine. The prospectors paced through with their burro teams, or their pack burro trains, on their way in the search for gold, in the vast area of the Taquitz mountains. The Spanish Missionaries passed through the Pass on their way from the Mojave Desert to the Colorado River, stopping only to make camp and to take a fresh supply of water.

Some fifty years ago the Indian man-hunt made headlines throughout the West - the murderer "Willie Boy" kidnapped his sweetheart, fleeing into the rugged desert region, then he shot and killed her. He was finally cornered and taken in the Pipes Canyon. Mr. Reche, the head Deputy Scout, was severely injured by one of the shots from the outlaw's gun, carrying the scars to his death.

AROUND the year of 1878 Chuck Warren settled on 160 acres of land in the Little Morongo Valley (Morongo Valley of today) building an adobe house, a barn, and a spring house, in the cleings raising alfalfa, sorghum, grain and corn. In later years and his sons raised the white-faced cattle; securing a lease from the Government for the purpose of a grazing range for his herd of cattle. As his herds increased he and his sons bought the acres of School Land in Section 36, North of Baseline, that have been set aside for schools, in The Big Morongo Valley (Yucca Valley of today.) The Warrens dug a well, and according to tradition of the West, the area became known as "Warren's Well". A cabin and a barn were built, trees were cut from the nearby hillsides, then hauled to make fence posts and the large corrals. A large reservoir was constructed of rocks and cement, then with their windmill for pumping water from the well, a supply of water was always available, for the cattle, and for the wayfarer.

In the year of 1912, Mr. Will Talmadge and two brothers bought the Warren cattle, and the property in the Big Morongo Valley their headquarters were established at "Warrens Well", with Walter Warren as "Rider" for the year. The water tanks were constructed at The Spring in the west end of the Valley, piping a stream of water from the Spring into the constructed tanks. The same construction was used at The Black Rock Spring in the southern end of the Valley, giving a supply of water for the herd of cattle. These white-faced cattle grazed on the thriving Gall and Bunch Grasses, the Alfilaria or "Filaree", also on the "Pride Pear" - the "Cacti". Ranging from Seven Palms, White Water Mission Canyon, The Pipes south into the Covington Flats, and into the Coyote Holes area. The last of May the "Round Up" started then the herds were headed for Big Bear Valley for the summer months.

After many years the old cabin that the Warrens built at "Warren's Well", burned to the ground, the Talmadge brothers then erected a very comfortable Log Cabin on the property.

During the year of 1910, Mr. Percy a "Locator" of Government Lands, put down a well on the Section 31, North of Baseline, acquiring a good supply of water, he then solicited some professional and business men of Riverside for locating in the Big Morongo Valley (Yucca Valley of to-day), on desert claims. After the men inspected the land for entry, Doctor Ellis, one of the twelve men, drew the North One-half of Section Six, Township One South, for his filing. The entrymen made their required improvements on their lands for two years, after several one hundred foot well-holes were drilled without acquiring any water, the claims were then relinquished. Mr. Percy also abandoned his project on the Section 31, after having discovered that his well and his windmill were on Southern Pacific Railroad land.

Many years later, Mr. Frank Rogers secured the property, building a beautiful home, with modern equipment, electric lights, landscaping the fenced in area, some years later the home was destroyed by fire.

In the year of 1913, Doctor Ellis decided to relinquish his desert land claim, in order to file upon a Homestead, on May 16th, 1913, he filed on the Northeast Quarter of Section Six, establishing a home, where he, his son and his daughter resided until he returned to his practice in Riverside, having regained his health making occasional trips to his desert home place. Throughout the years he sent many people to the Valley, to seek health and Desert-living.

In the year of 1910, the Heard family established their home on Section 34, North of Baseline. There were two other families in the East end of the Valley on Section 4, South of Baseline. In the following years there were many families founded their homes throughout the Valley.

Upon leaving Banning one looked forward to the "Camp-site" near the Whitewater Ranch, there, the clean, cool water flowed from the White Water River through the canal to the ranch for irrigating the alfalfa fields, and for other ranch uses. There was no White Water River Bridge - one forded the stream at the crossing - first looking to see if there were boulders visible in the stream. The old road was along the southern slope of the White Water Hill, a one-way passage, with a couple of widened spaces along the bank, just in case you should meet some one coming down the grade. Crossing The Devil's Garden, the Mission Creek flowed through the Mission Canyon, to the desert regions below. A Spring was to be found on the west side of the road, in the Dry Canyon area. At the summit "The Warren Ranch" was in view, with the farm buildings and the corrals - The Farm House was set to the south among the fine old cottonwood trees.

The Fred Pollards leased the "Warren Ranch" in the year of 1912, for several years; Mr. Pollard did freighting from the Palm Springs depot, carrying the mail to the Ranch-house, there, to be distributed and forwarded throughout The Pass; - by the person or parties, who had stopped by The Ranch, one of The Riders, a freighter, a mine-owner on his way to The Mines, or a neighbor passing through, leaving the mail, in the mail-boxes that were placed at "Warren's Well".

The "Warren Ranch" was the official Voting Place" for the District; also, "The Way-side Open-House" - where a wayfarer sought lodging and meals, with the true western hospitality, of our desert.

In later years The Pollards built the original "Morongo Lodge" north of the "Warren Ranch", with a fine orchard and garden, and beautiful shade trees. The property was sold, then enlarged, as it now stands.

During the year of 1910, and for many seasons there was heavy rain-fall through out the desert regions, with snow; on May the first of 1916 we had a snow-covered ground.

Through the years of 1913 and 1914, Doctor Ellis leased the fenced area of the Heard Homestead on Section 34, for the planting of the grain - "Russian Emmer" - grain-seed was secured from a large seed house in Los Angeles. The grain crop was very bountiful, securing five large hay-stacks.

MAY 13th, 14th, 15th

WATER-WATER

Plenty of Pure

Soft Water

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Besides our dry, clear air, where the sun is really at its best in curative health giving, we doubt if there is any place on earth that can give to a community a purer, fresher, water than that which is being served in Yucca Valley, from our deep underground spring water wells.

Chemists who have tested our water have claimed that in all their experience, this is the purest water they have ever tested. Can you realize the health giving values that Yucca Valley has to offer by this pure water, sun, dry clear air, and at a just right, Hi Desert elevation of 3300 feet.

We are told by hydraulic engineers and geologists that our underground water reserve and the source from which it comes, will amply take care of our whole Yucca Valley at any rate of population growth we may have. Our wells remain at the same level through the driest years.

Yucca Valley is blessed with its abundant, pure soft water.

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A PAGE FROM THE PAST



May 1910. Percy's Well on Section 31, north of Baseline. The windmill and watertank had not been installed



1913. Homestead cabin of Frances Sargent on Government Lot Three, Section Six, Township One South, Range Six East, S. B. B. M. there was enough snow to make a snowball.



1914. Doctor Ellis and his mules Jack and Charlie, and the barn and haystack. The "Russian Emmer" hay was planted and raised in the Valley on Section 34, north of Baseline.



1914. Doctor Albert E. Ellis in the foreground. There are five "Russian Emmer" hay stacks and his cabin home in the background, located on Government Lot 2, Section Six, Township One South, Range Six East.



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YUCCA VALLEY

Through the following years, Mr. Heard planted grain crops upon his fenced in area on the Section 34, having bountiful crops of grain. Mr. Kellerman also planted grain crops on his fenced in field on the Southeast Quarter of Section 34, during the years of 1914 and 1915.

For the planting in the years of 1915 and 1916, on the Northeast Quarter and also on the Northwest Quarter of the Section Six, - Doctor Ellis planted "The Tepary Bean" - the bean-seed was also supplied from the same Los Angeles Seed-house. The two bean crops came up and made a beautiful stand, in both of the fenced fields. The entire crop of beans was taken row by row in both of the fields - by the jackrabbits. The entire fields of beans were cleared, not a sign of a bean plant was visible, after this "RAID" of this army of Jackrabbits.

Friends and neighbors lost their orchard plantings, and seedlings and gardens, throughout The Pass; a rabbit proof fence was the only solution for a planting.

The Quail and The Dove, were plentiful, and available in season; The Dove would come to their feeding grounds, to feed upon the "Doveweed" growing along the Twentynine Palms road, they also found a supply of water at "Warren's Well" near by. The "Cotton-tail" rabbit was to be found here and there throughout The Pass, always making a very tasty meal now and then.

By the year of 1915, there were enough resident school-aged children to apply for a school in the area. A permit had been granted for a school in the Little Morongo Valley, (Morongo Valley of today). The Supervisors suggested that a different name be submitted for the school in the Big Morongo Valley. Doctor Ellis made the suggestion that the name "YUCCA" be presented. The name "YUCCA", was then accepted; the school was established, beginning with the Fall term of school, in the home of Mr. John Cariker, located on the Northeast Quarter of Section Two, South of Baseline. Mrs. Joe Robertson was elected as president of the school board, with Miss Christine Snelling accepted as the first teacher, of the Yucca Valley School. Fifteen or more pupils were in regular attendance throughout the first school year. The three children of the Dutton family, the two daughters of the Robertsons, the Pierce children, the Cariker children, the Heard children, and several other children in The Valley.

During World War One, many of these Homestead families found and made homes elsewhere; after retiring from their occupations, many have returned to enjoy Desert Living again.

During the 1920's many veterans, after their Army service came to The Morongo Basin in the search of health; remaining, to make their homes here in The Basin through the years.

In the late 1920's The American Telephone and Telegraph Company made their survey through the district, securing their Right of Way, to erect their Continental lines across the State. The Power lines were also erected - bringing electric power to the Valley.

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24 HOUR SERVICE

*To Our Hospital Let Us Humbly Give
All We Can That Others May Live*



HI-DESERT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL INC.

P. O. Box 332, Yucca Valley, California

Not many moons ago the Hi-Desert Memorial Hospital was only a dream but today because of community cooperation this dream is fast materializing into a reality. Recognizing an urgent need for a hospital to serve the fast growing population of the Hi-Desert area the citizens united in an all out effort to meet this need. Through innumerable projects of individuals and organizations many thousands of dollars have been raised, but many more thousands are needed. There is no greater asset to a community than a hospital and no better investment than in the welfare of humanity. You, Mr. and Mrs. America, are cordially invited to participate in this worthy endeavor. Your contribution will be another cog in the wheel of progress justifying the faith and rewarding the tireless efforts of the pioneers of the Hi-Desert Memorial Hospital.

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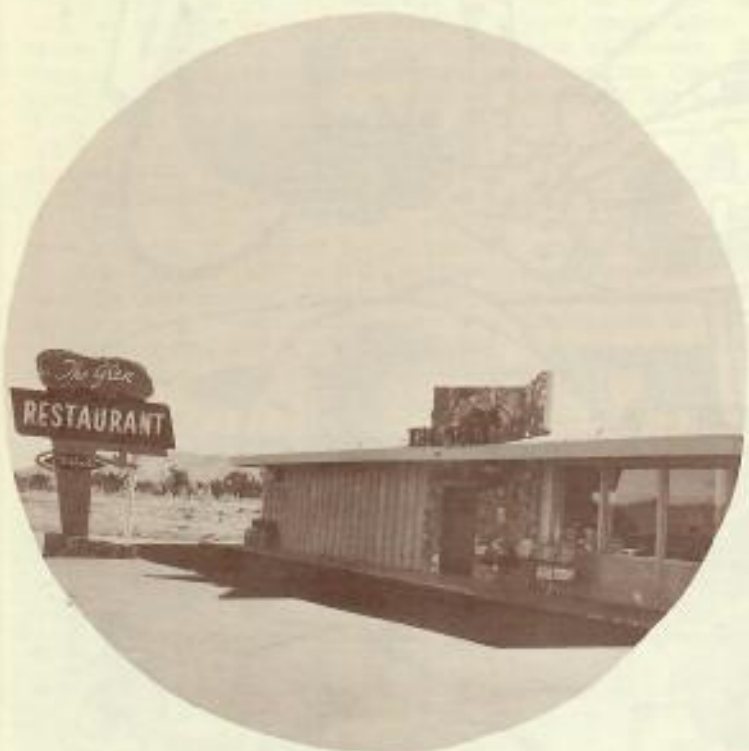


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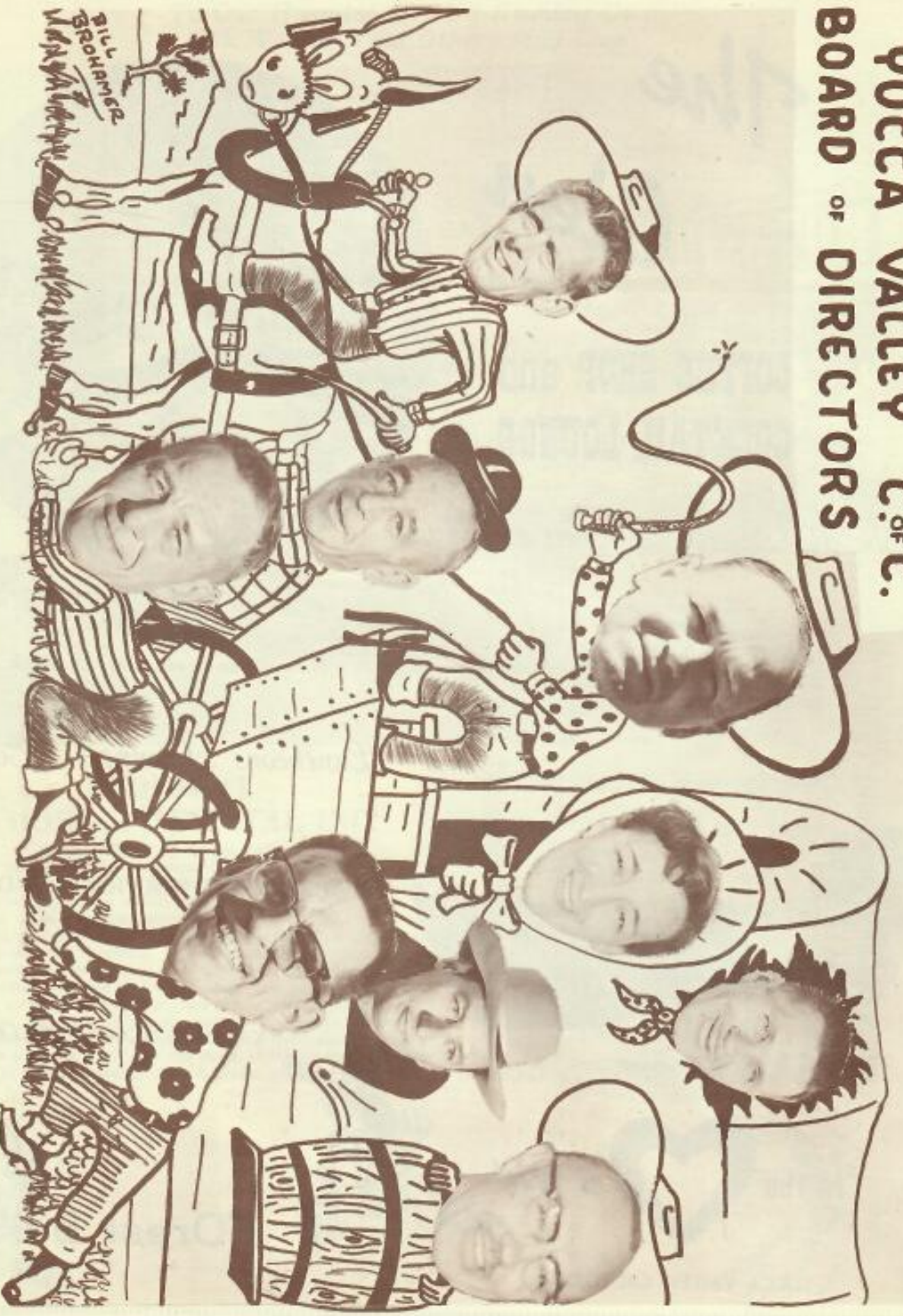


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I CALL ON MY NEIGHBORS

By June LeMert Paxton

Again I have been asked to write a story about my years of experience in Yucca Valley, here on the Hi-Desert. Although I recently published book, *My Life on the Mojave* (Vantage Press, New York), and somewhat later a long article for the special Grubstake issue of the Hi-Desert Star, entitled "Hi-Desert Fascination", I trust that I can recall other incidents that will bring you the healthy development of the valley and of the people who have contributed to its history-making progress.

This region called the Great Morongo Basin is located between the San Bernardino and the Little San Bernardino mountain ranges in the Mojave desert. It has an elevation of between two thousand and three thousand, five hundred feet. It is not a true desert in as much as there is a diversity of vegetation, including yuccas, juniper, manzanita, creosote (commonly called greasewood), smoke tree, catsclaw, ocotillo, palo verde, and others. There are also many low shrubs that cover most of the landscape, relieving it of drabness.

Twenty-eight years ago when I came to live here, the area was to me a desert - a bleak, almost unheard-of country. Until then I had never known a desert, nor isolation, nor loneliness. But then I was ill, and for me it was a choice of remaining with my family in Hollywood or accepting the challenge of good health that the desert had to offer. I chose the latter! The little two-room shack that I shared with John, the boy who started the homestead, was located on the north side of the 29 Palms highway on the lower slope of the San Bernardino range. Our only neighbors were Jim and Emma Dever, one-fourth Cherokee Indians, who lived at the Warren's Well cattle ranch, a well known landmark in those days. An old, antiquated two-ton truck was our means of hauling the fire-wood and water and served also for a time, as our pleasure car. As soon as I could travel about the valley, I learned that, scattered sparsely over the desert, there were people much less fortunate than I. It was then that I realized that I should not only recover my own health but also try to encourage others to do the same!

For almost twenty years after I came, this entire valley was an open cattle range. The cattle grazed at will, since conveniently placed watering troughs located here and there over the desert, plus a few natural springs, supplied their needs. The herds were a source of much ill feeling not only among the cattle men but also between them and the settlers, whose places were being over run, with resultant destruction to young trees and vegetation. By the time I arrived in 1932 there were already several well established feuds, and a few of the early residents allowed their emotions to override their better judgment. I recall how upset



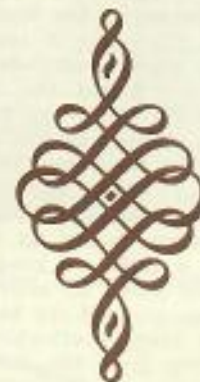
Edward Paxton and Mr. Stevenson, the well drifter - February 1939, bringing in one of the early wells on the Paxton acreage.



Dennis Lilley store - later the "Pop" Hardesty store, now the Horton's Super Market.



Yucca Valley school, 1938-1939. Beatrice Hicks, teacher. back row - left to right, boy unknown, Alice Minter, Walter Bolster, Kenneth Pearce. Middle row - Dick Bolster, Roseanne Stacey, boy unknown, Raymond Royal. Front row, Carol Stacey, Markie, Maybelle Royal



a neighbor became as he rode up to tell me that he was going to lay for a certain cowboy when he brought the cattle back that evening". I watched intently, and sure enough, the irate fellow had parked his car under a Joshua tree waiting for the unsuspecting cowhand. I could see them later in animated conversation; then the situation seemed to quiet down. The next day I was told that they settled the argument over a friendly drink. Many such conflicts, however, led to more serious encounters. There was one pioneer lady, a homesteader, who won the title of being "the two-gun woman", for it seemed that when the troublesome cattle were being driven to summer pasturage they passed too near her canyon home. Feeling that she had no recourse, she tackled the problem in her own way, so that each summer the cowboys shied away from meeting "the two-gun woman". As for the Paxtons, we put a wire fence around a part of our acreage, knowing that to be the safest way to deal with the cattle and other marauders.

Other circumstances were reminiscent of some of the lawlessness of the old West. The "hatchet woman" living several miles to the west of us was leaving the valley when I arrived, so I did not become acquainted with her. It seemed, however, that in her long-standing quarrel with the man across the road, she frequently threatened him with her favorite weapon. I recall, too, the wife of a man who later served a term for stealing equipment and for burglarizing a home. I was in their home identifying some of the stolen articles when the officers came to get her husband. The woman, in tears, said, "How can they take him? I have prayed and prayed!" I did not understand whether she meant that she had prayed that they would not be caught or that the law would overlook the offense.

As time went on there was built below us a lovely home - which, unfortunately, burned to the ground later - that of Jessie and Frank Rogers. Local information had it that they owned a thousand acres in Yuuca Valley at that time. They had a beautiful black and white coach dog whom they called Pancho. Our mongrel dog Salley was his lady-friend. One stormy, winter day Sally presented us with a family of five puppies. In order to inform Jessie about the "grand-dogs" I put a note in a small bottle so that when Pancho came up to make his call, I could put the bottle around his neck and send him home. Bewildered Pancho; what a dog's life! Jessie has since passed over, but Frank now lives in Morongo Valley to be near his daughter Florence MacKenzie, and his son-in-law, Hector, who owns Pancho's Cafe.

Years ago, when there were so few of us in the entire valley, we kept in close touch with each other. We needed to do so. Our social functions, usually held at the roomy adobe ranch house at Warren's Well, were enthusiastically attended and developed a deep sense of fellowship. But now, with thousands of new people moving into our midst, we old-timers are prone to see less and less of one another. To present a view of the Great Morongo Basin as it is today, with a degree of perspective, I have chosen to call upon some of my friends, both new and old, in each locality, and shall present them now as a series of personalities who help to make up our current desert society.

Morongo Valley

I made my first call on Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Geil, pioneer friends who live at the Morongo Inn. The Inn is located just off the main highway at the top of the grade between the canyon and Morongo Valley. Formerly, the highway went right past the Inn. The Geils came to the valley in 1923 and built their present home in 1924, remaining there practically ever since. For one and one-half years they also leased the Morongo Lodge, another landmark in that vicinity. (Later, so Mr. Geil told me, Mr. and Mrs. Stead lived at the Lodge, as Mr. Stead was then the mail carrier. The mail route for many years was from White-Water to Twentynine Palms.) While reminiscing with Mr. Geil, he told me that during his early days, almost every car stopped at his place for water after coming up the grade. The occupants were also grateful for a drink of good, cold water. All through the years Mr. Geil has taken an active part in the social and civic affairs in the community and can be relied upon for his interest and good judgment in every worthwhile enterprise. The smell of baked apples emanating from the Geil kitchen reminded me that it was getting near lunch time so, after leaving my old-time friends, I dropped in for a snack and chat with Carlette at the near-by Tom Tom Cafe.



June Paxton - 1953 with baby burro - part of their animal family.



Patricia Doran, 1943, feeding the goats at grandmother June's cabin home, "The Joshuas".

Making my way eastward through Morongo, I called on my busy but good friend, John Kobaly, who operates the garage back of the Chevron filling station. John came to Morongo Valley shortly after World War II with the intention of staying several weeks. He is still there! He and his wife Barbara, with the three children, Martin, Denny, and Robin, have a lovely home in Morongo Highlands. Barbara is a popular columnist for the Hi-Desert Star; and at the present writing John is the efficient president of the Morongo Valley Chamber of Commerce. Should Gabriel blow his horn, I think that John would still be reluctant to leave his beloved adopted valley!

As Marie Lambert's home lies on the way back to my cabin, I dropped by to learn some of the interesting things she is doing. Marie is a comparative new-comer to Morongo Valley, having located at her present home in February, 1957. From the very first she has been a loyal and hard worker in practically every enterprise in that community. To learn that she also has many hobbies amazed me! In her studio she teaches arts and crafts, such as ceramics, work with leather and metal materials, and flower arrangement. With all of this diversion she still finds time to be a rock-hound and a cactus-enthusiast. But for me, her room of tropical plants was the most interesting and refreshing surprise! As Marie explained to me, "Morongo Valley is primarily an art center". The natural setting of the little valley, rimmed in with picturesque mountains and supporting an unusual growth of lovely trees, stimulates creative idea. Still having several errands to make, I drove homeward after promising Marie that some winter evening we would have a mulligan stew at my cabin and discuss other interesting topics.

Among the first people that I knew when I came to the desert, hearing and recognizing the rattle of his car, would run to at the foot of Morongo Grade. Allen told me as I was visiting with him in his home several days ago, that his father first homesteaded in 1917 and built the attractive stone house, now surrounded by trees, on the 29 Palms highway. A few years later, Mrs. Hicks and Allen took up another homestead a short distance to the east. It was not until 1934, however, that the family built on that site and moved into the present home. Years passed; the parents passed over; Barbara was married, and Allen was alone. Perhaps it was during the winter of 38-39 that Allen met Beatrice Blahnik who was teaching in the one-room school house in Yucca Valley. Shortly after, their friends were pleased to learn that they were married and would live in the family-home. The afternoon was almost over and time for school to be out so I lingered on until the children, Ruth Ann and Robert, came home. I was waiting also to see Beatrice, who is teaching again, but now in our modern Yucca Valley school. I especially wanted pictures of the old one-room school house and perhaps, get several of the pupils whom she had taught. Some of these children still live in the Hi-Desert.

One should not leave Morongo Valley without making a restful stop in their Covington Park. The land for this recreational center was a gift from one of the very early homesteaders; it now honors his name. However, the many facilities that make the place worthy of pride are the result of a prolonged and untiring effort on the part of the local citizens!

Yucca Valley

Of the early homesteads filed on in Yucca Valley, one was that of Joseph and Susie Heard in 1910. Their land was located where the golf course now gives a pleasant welcome to those entering the village. Recently, as I was visiting Susie in the home of her son Howard, she told me that the family came to the valley in a covered wagon from Fullerton, California, and built their home where the quonset lumber yard now stands. The cabin was made of Joshua tree logs, and until it was completed they lived at the Warren's Well ranch house. (This place is now the property of Dr. John Bendall.) The Heards, Susie told me, were looking for farm land; since there was more rainfall back in those days, they succeeded in having forty acres planted in grain which grew to be four to five feet tall. Not only did they raise grain and alfalfa for their stock but an abundance of garden for the family. I understand that Mrs. Patricia Heard Tripp, now living in Highlands, California, was the first white child born in Yucca Valley.



Mary and Charlie Gross, August 1938.



Vance Danner's "Two by Four" cabin in 1946.



As time went by, the valley had less and less moisture and, consequently, less vegetation. In Howard's yard there is a huge mesquite tree that he believes is sixty to seventy years old. He also told me about the valley's first school house which was located near their home: on the first day of school, he remembers, he saw three rattlesnakes. The first bee-hive in this valley was that of Howard's and was made up of wild bees.

A Fuller brush man had nothing on me as I drove about the valley calling at one place and then another; especially did I want to talk with people whom I had not contacted in my other writings of this valley. Since I was thirsty I decided to "kill two birds with one stone" and went into the Grant Redden's store to enjoy a bottle of cold Cors Cola and to reminisce with Grant and his wife Dewain. It was a treat to talk over old times - events that happened twenty or thirty years ago. During those days there were so few of us living here that each person knew almost every other one in the valley. Much of the conversation with Dewain and Grant was, "and do you remember when so and so happened?" But for courtesy's sake we do not publish some of the long-ago happenings.

The Grant Redden store, including the home, is located on part of his grandfather Hezekiah Quick's place, which was homesteaded in 1914 at the west end of Yucca Valley near the top of the grade. Grant's father, John Redden, did not homestead until 1923. After building his cabin, John dug a well by hand, striking good water at a depth of ten feet. Grant was recalling the days when

there was so little traffic coming up the Morongo grade that his dog, hearing and recognizing the rattle of his car, would run to meet him. (A dog would have nervous prostration these days, trying to check on the traffic!) In 1948 Grant acquired part interest in the much-talked-of Rose mine on the new Pioneer Pass Road. One could write a book on the early-day experiences of the Heards and the Reddens, so many interesting stories they can tell!

Down in the village there still remains an old landmark. On the highway just east of the Pausch real estate office, the Al Butz family had a nice home. That big tree and a cement slab are virtually the only reminders of the home which burned to the ground. Many are the motorists who have sought shelter under that tree, the only tree that survived the fire! I shudder when I see so many of our Joshua trees being ruthlessly destroyed, - they, the wonder and pride of our valley!

After doing some marketing, I dropped by to see Rose and Tom Scarvin. The Scarvins, living just east and a little to the north of the Hi-Way garage, are also among our early settlers, having come to this valley in 1935. In his more robust days I could almost rely on Tom to solve aw of our windmill problems. Our wells were put down at about the same time, to the same water level (160 feet), and by the same driller who, shortly after, passed over. I reminded Tom of the day that he came up to my cabin in an uneasy frame of mind; he had just sold some of his land bordering the 29 Palms highway for \$125.00 an acre and wondered if he had over-charged the man. A low estimate on that property today would run about \$12,000 an acre! But Tom is like that - honest, slow, and easy going!

When the next errand took me to the bank I had a brilliant idea: the manager, Spencer Hamilton and family were among our new-comers. Why not ask him to write an article that I could include in this, I Call on my Neighbor, story? I wanted his reactions to the valley as a neighborly, family-man, and soon I received this heart-warming reply:

Dear June LeMert Paxton:

One of the first things I did after coming to Yucca Valley was to read your book. I enjoyed it immensely. I have seen a tremendous growth in this area in the months that I have been here and can appreciate the change which you have seen. The isolated area in which you decided to make your home - the dirt roads - the occasional automobile, all have given way to the Yucca Valley of today. The flow of traffic on our highway is continuous now, twenty-four hours a day.

I enjoyed very much helping to establish the first bank in this area. We worked hard and long hours those first months, but there was a great deal of satisfaction in the job. We have outgrown our quarters and plans are being formulated now to give us more lobby and working space.

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Yucca Valley



Our new home was completed about five months after our arrival. We had flurries of snow on the afternoon that we moved in. The ensuing mild winter was a great disappointment to our daughters, Judy and Georgia, as they wanted snow and lots of it. Their wish may be granted this winter.

Last winter, Georgia had a turtle for several months as a pet. She occasionally took it for a stroll so that, as she put it, the turtle could eat properly. On one of her Grandmother's visits, Georgia insisted that she accompany them on one of the walks. When they returned, Grandma said that she had done many things in this world, but that was the first time she had ever walked a turtle!

When we first came, I had wondered about the problem of occupying our time. It has never been a problem. We are just as busy here as we ever were in the metropolitan area.

I came home one evening and my wife, Marion, told me the great news. A telephone had been installed. She said that while the young fellow had been putting it in, the refrigerator had suddenly stopped humming. He paused and listened for a moment, then said, "Quiet, isn't it?" We like it that way.

(Signed) Spencer Hamilton

Now each member of the Spencer Hamilton family seem much closer to us, belonging, as it were, to our valley!

An errand down in the village is always a joy because invariably, I run across friends whom I probably could not take time to call on. As I was coming out of the market yesterday I ran into Berta LeFerry who now lives in the Juniper Heights section of our village. Fred and Berta, when their four girls were small, lived about six miles to the east of us and kept several cows. An outstanding memory of that time was that of the weekends when Mr. Paxton came up to the cabin he always enjoyed going to the LaFerryes for his pail of milk. It was about as near to country life as he ever got! At times I encounter Ann Bull, or Minnie Fuller, or Vi Humphreville - all early-day settlers.

Now I want you to meet my near-neighbors. For the first few years after I came to live on the desert, the Paxtons' was the only residence on this hillside, but now there are five homes on a slope which is often referred to as Harmony Hill. However, as soon as we acquired the patent to our acreage, we called it "The Joshuas" and had the name registered in Sacramento. Mary and Charlie Gross need no special introduction because many readers met them while they were serving the community so faithfully as host and hostess in the "Hospital House" while it was on display. The Grosses, who live about a city block from us, on the west, had their initiation to the valley in '48 - '49 winter of the big snow. They were building their home at that time. As none of us had chains for our cars, we were practically isolated for two weeks! They are also our neighbors in Hollywood, but, like myself, spend as few days there as possible, so well do they enjoy the friendly people and the climate here on the Hi-Desert! Mary and Charlie are not only good neighbors but untiring and willing workers when called upon to help in civic affairs. And that is practically all the time!

Bob and Arlene Wadle live in their bright red studio-home farther up the hillside. They came to the desert in December, 1953, and bought what is to them one of the nicest view-places in the valley. I always enjoy the frequent hikes up the slope to to chat a while with Arlene and Bob. Winding in and out through the chaparral, avoiding the wicked cholla cactus that betrays an unsuspecting person, I thrill to the freedom of the wide open country below and the protecting range of mountains that rim us in on the north. Fortunately I seldom see a snake nor have any fear of one. The Wadles are makers of novelty and theatrical wigs and beards. Rarely do they find time to take a day off, and often I see the light late at night in their studio and know that they are still at work. Belonging to the Yucca Valley Players, group, Bob shows himself to be a real professional in any play in which he takes a part. Arlene is also active in the same organization.

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YUCCA VALLEY

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My nearest neighbor is Frank McVay, a retired seaman. "Mac" is a somewhat recent comer. Already the quiet and seclusion of his cabin-home have won him over to the desert. Since reading *My Life on the Mojave*, he says that if he should do any writing, he would call the article *From Seaweed to Sage Brush*. I'll bet he could tell of many interesting experiences! Since there are no cats nor dogs about the place to frighten away the rodents, Mac has had a hard time devising ways to outwit them. For months he found that the squirrels and chipmunks were eating the feed that he put out for the birds. It became a game - a challenge as to who could outwit which; but now he thinks he has solved the problem. By inverting a long tin can on a pole so that the rodents cannot surmount it in order to reach the feed tray above, they become puzzled and give up. About the first day of Mac's successful venture, a chipmunk that was accustomed to getting his meal so easily from the tray, discovered that he could no longer scale the pole. What did the little fellow do but sit down and begin to wail mournfully! At last Mac's sympathy was aroused as he went out and gave the offended one a special dinner right on the ground!

Sitting on a knoll, just across the highway to the south, is the home of the Vance Danners. Vance first came to the valley in '46. At that time he was so frail that I wondered if a strong breeze might not blow him away while he was building the little "two by four" cabin that housed him for several years. Even though ill at the time, he succeeded in making his way by selling the lovely and attractive articles he fashioned from Joshua tree bark. Lamps, jewelry boxes, picture frames - everything that he designed was a work of art! When Vance became stronger he went back to South San Gabriel and resumed his trade as wood pattern maker. But he loved his desert-home and bided the time when he could return with enough money to build for himself and family a larger place. Laura, his wife, with the two girls, Donna and Deborah, are now ensconced with him in their cozy, artistic view-site home.

I have told you of our near neighbors that have been here for a number of years, but already many residences are being built in the newly developed Western Hills estates which join us on the west. To the south of us, directly across Paxton Road, the large acreage formerly owned by Frank Rogers then, later, by Bowman and Lightburn, has been sold for immediate subdividing. A few years from now, telling about our near-neighbors would require a volume in itself, so rapidly is the Hi-Desert being developed.

Camilla Hudson, who is well known in this valley, came to the desert with her husband Bill and three children in November 1925. Because of ill health, Mr. Hudson had to give up his law practice in Redlands, so they bought a relinquishment from people who had failed to prove up on a homestead in section 30, range 6 east. While spending an evening with me lately, Camilla related many of their early-day experiences. An interesting book could, also, be written about the Hudsons! Their first home was a ten-by-twelve foot shack, and during that first winter they slept in tents. They hauled their water from "The Tanks", a watering place about five miles to the west, and, in a primitive way, did their laundry there. That homestead, which still belongs to Mrs. Hudson, joins that of the Paxtons on the east and extends to the west line of Paradise Valley.

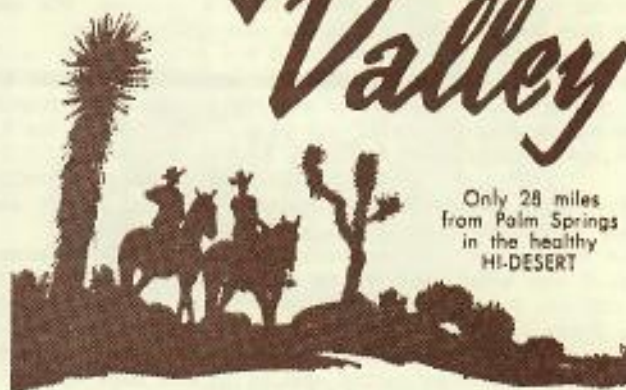
The Hudsons later took up a homestead in the Pipes country, where Camilla still makes her home. There in that isolated place they were given a partially unfurnished cabin sixteen by twenty feet. It was roofless and had no windows nor doors, so during the first summer, the sun came down mercilessly upon them. Later this shack served as one of the first school houses in Morongo Basin. At that time this Pipes school was considered the smallest one in the largest county in the United States. Camilla Hudson is a real pioneer. She says "My home is 32 years old and, as yet, not finished. But there is always a manana. I love my home and my desert just as it is!" The Hudson children and grandchildren enjoy coming to the cabin on their vacations and, as one of the little ones once said, "I love to go there; the place is so easy!"



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I have always called a certain little energetic, striped beastie a chipmunk as most people do; but recently I have been shown that this rodent is a Yuma ground squirrel. One day when our friend Jim Cassell, (practically a new-comer to the valley) was here, we were discussing the habits of these creatures and he told us of our error. A few days later I received a colored postcard from Jim on which was the picture of a true chipmunk; I readily noticed the similarity to, and difference from, the Yuma ground squirrel. Jim has a unique little home near the Old Woman's Springs Road and during the several years he has lived on the desert, I'll wager that he has learned more about the fauna and flora in this locality than many an old-timer!

Back in Cold Water Canyon, near the road to Pioneertown, live the Mellettes - Rene' and Mabel. Mr. Mellette, like many of the rest of us, was drawn to the desert because of ill health, arriving here in 1943. As soon as he was able to do so, however, Rene' again took up his beloved occupation, piano teaching. Beside his local pupils, he gave lessons in Palm Springs, Banning, and, I believe, was the first teacher of piano in Twentynine Palms. Rene' has now retired after teaching piano for forty years. Mabel is a past president of the Yucca Valley Womens Club, and has been for some years a collector of local news for the "Desert Trail" of Twentynine Palms.

JOSHUA TREE

Joshua Tree - home of the turtle races and of the beautiful Christmas Pageant.

About one week ago I visited with Frances Keys, who lives back in the Joshua Tree National Monument, at that time she told me that it was in 1910 that her husband Bill came to this area from Death Valley, there he had spent ten years. He had found a gold mine there, so Frances told me, and sold it to one of the Du Ponts. Bill heard of the Desert Queen mine which had been located in 1894; soon he was given a job there. In 1912 the owner died, and as the wife's attorney did not have the money to pay Bill what they owed him, he was told to locate the claims when they ran out. He did so, and has held them ever since. "He made a living from the mine until he could build up a herd of cattle, and then ran cattle until a few years ago", said Frances. In 1918 Frances came to this desert-mountain region and married Bill. They have five children: Willis, Virginia, Ellsworth, Patricia, and Phyllis. When the little ones were ready for school, the Keys had to provide their own teachers for several years. In the meantime other children came into that locality so, eventually, Mrs. Dudley, a County teacher, was sent to them and served five terms of school.



Yucca Valley school. 1938-1939. Bentrice Hicks, teacher.

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and

DESERTAIRE, Joshua Tree

When Mr. Keys got title to his land and millsite, he took up a homestead and grazing land; by that time he already had a bearing orchard and a flourishing vegetable garden. Frances told me that they have had a struggle to keep their land because of the efforts of other cattle men to take possession of it.

Bill and Frances, no longer young, have been, and still are, hard working people, so we trust that the future may bring to them the peace and plenty which is every man's heritage!

Often when I am in Joshua Tree I try to run by to see Vada Wright. Vada and her late husband, Jim, came to our valley from Kansas in 1938. After enjoying the desert for a few months they decided to make it their home. Theirs was about the seventh home built in Joshua Tree. Vada is one of our senior citizens; her early-Kentucky sociability endears her to all of her friends.

The home of Femie and Charles Magee, just west and to the north of Joshua Tree, is the epitome of hospitality. I seldom pass their lane without turning in to chat a bit while enjoying the fine view of the valley one has from their home. The Magees came from Coos Bay, Oregon, in 1945 and after going back and forth several times finally decided to build and make the desert their permanent home. For about thirty years Charles was a ship builder, so this place is a far cry from their water-front home. Femie is one of the unfortunate arthritic victims, and her faith, courage, and cheerfulness endear her to a wide circle of friends.

Among the new-comers to Joshua Tree are Dee and Harry Golemon from near Vista, California. The Golemons bought the Oleander Motel and immediately began redecorating and making the place attractive. Soon the Chamber of Commerce chose Harry as its vice-president; it is this type of person who readily makes friends and does his part in promoting the worthwhile things of the valley!

Those who did not get to see the "Gay 90's" put on by the Upsilon Deltas, missed a rare treat. The play was a hilarious one from start to finish! I was quite impressed and since I had read much about the local chapter's worth-while activities, I asked the president, Gwen Keys, to write of the things for which the chapter stood. In part this is her reply: "California Upsilon Delta, Joshua Tree, now three and a half years old, is one of the 66,000 chapters of Beta Sigma Phi international Sorority. Of the 160,000 members, Upsilon Delta claims 22 active. Beta Sigma Phi, a non-academic sorority, was created for young women in search of further cultural and social development. The Joshua Tree chapter has found its place in the hearts of the citizens of this little community and is working side by side with the Chamber of Commerce and other clubs for the further development and beautification of the area." We are justly proud of them!

Now that you have gone with me as I called on our neighbors, both old and new. I hope you feel somewhat acquainted with each one. I believe they are a cross-section of the population of this Great Morongo Basin. We have attended together our many denominational churches; visited our modern schools; sampled our life-giving water; called on the many merchants, cafes, and places of business. And then together we viewed the wonderful pictures fashioned by the Master Artist: the mountains, sunrises, sunsets and the stars and the moon in all its phases. These make up our Hi-Desert as one sees it. But to get the feel of belonging to and loving the place, one must have more than climate and scenery! He needs to sense there is hospitality, friendliness, honesty, and cooperation before he can say, "This is our place; this is our home!" All these, too, are in this valley!

Sage

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FEDERAL U. S. POST OFFICE



YUCCA VALLEY

Left to Right: John Stephenson; Dorothy Stephenson; Lloyd H. Havener, Star Route Box Delivery; Hilda Hardesty, Postmistress; Jane Kie Singleton; Gordon Barth; J. L. Smith, Star Route Carrier, and son "Bob."

"I can't work my combination; do you have to put all this Junk in my box?; are you sure I didn't get a package today?; is it too late for "This" to go out?; have you got something I can stick this together with? did old Joe pick up his mail today?; This was in the wrong box. My check is overdue. Did I leave my keys in here? I don't want you to give my mail to anyone but me, Joe, Bill, Suzy, Tom, Agnes or Harry.

Say, I'm looking for a fellow that just moved out here from Los Angeles; he has one of those five acre tracts"

That's what a modern second class postoffice sounds like in Yucca Valley, California. It sounds like "people" living in a rapidly growing desert community, but it didn't always make so BIG a human racket.

In fact, when Postmaster, Mrs. Hilda Hardesty opened Yucca Valley's first office in October, 1945, there were only thirty boxes. They were set into the wall of her dining room in the rear of that so well remembered land-mark, "Hardesty's Friendly Store".



Gordon Barth;



THEY SAID IT
COULDN'T BE DONE

A few of her first customers only picked up their mail once a month, or so, when they came down from their workings in the hills. And most of the rest were very colorful, hardy, vigorous people, in a big country, with big jobs to do; not only developing the land, but, building good lives; some working to regain their health, others coming here to spend their quiet years in the clean air. And more came; and to meet their growing needs the postoffice was moved to larger quarters. Mrs. Dorothy Stephenson was hired a few years later, Miss Jane Singleton joined the crew.

Twice automobiles caused heavy damage to the building and finally it was destroyed by fire in April, 1958. Service was maintained in the Chamber of Commerce Building until the completion of the new postoffice on the present site in October, 1958. New people have been added to the staff and postal service extended to an ever larger part of the valley.

As to the "future", we will soon have delivery service in our city. As we said before, "It isn't the postoffice; it's the people."



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Constable, JACK CONES



Sheriff, FRANK BLAND



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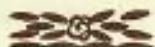
APRIL 1959 THROUGH DECEMBER

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Ted Keller opens Service Plumbing Shop.
Dr. J. B. McDonald, optometrist, opens office.
Iva Hunnecutt opens real estate office.
Construction started on Glen Restaurant.
Pioneer Pass Road Push began new road to Big Bear.

MAY:

Grand opening "Val" Valentine and Ted Morton's new
Liquor Store and Delicatessen.
Jerry Moore appointed new editor of Hi-Desert Star.
Sky Drive-In Theatre opened.
Gerth Auto Parts moved to new location in Bonser Building.
Ground broken for new Osborn Market.
Ground broken for new Alamo Market.

(continued)



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Yucca Valley

Let's Look at Facts *about* Yucca Valley

ELEVATION - 3300 feet above sea level; Rainfall 7.04
 CLIMATE - Summer Cool & Clear Winter; Mild & Clear.
 POPULATION - 5200
 AREA - 25 Square miles; Shopping-Trading Area 48 sq. miles.
 ASSESSED VALUATION - \$3,601,434
 FINANCIAL - Security First National Bank
 POST OFFICE RECEIPTS - \$28,947.43
 SCHOOLS - Morongo Unified School District - Grade And High School.
 SCHOOL ENROLLMENT - 330
 CHURCHES - CHURCHES OF MANY DENOMINATIONS
 TELEPHONES IN SERVICE - 657
 ELECTRICAL SERVICE CONNECTIONS- 2470
 LIQUEFIED GAS CONNECTIONS - 2,320
 WATER CONNECTIONS - 1167
 REGISTERED VOTERS - 985 MOTELS - 10; Accomodations 52
 NEWSPAPERS - Local Weeklies 3; Metropolitan Dailys 5
 TRANSPORTATION - 29 Palms Stage to Banning, 2 trips daily
 Direct conections to LA via Greyhound Bus.
 THEATRES - 3 Drive-in and 5 hard-top serving the area.
 FIRE DISTRICT - 25 square miles; PARK DISTRICT - 32 sq. mi.
 POLICE - Area policed by radio-control resident Sheriff and California State Highway Patrol

| TAX RATE VALUATIONS | SECURED VALUATION | UTILITY VALUATION | UNSECURED VALUATION | TOTAL VALUATION | TAX RATE |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|
| 1959 - 1960 | \$4,308,750 | \$296,500 | \$193,670 | \$4,798,920 | .95 |
| Fire District | \$65,830 | \$3,740 | | \$69,570 | \$1.44 |
| Lighting Districts | \$3,010,400 | \$478,450 | \$115,010 | \$3,603,860 | .25 |
| Park District | \$18,284,400 | \$3,293,000 | \$1,648,100 | \$23,655,530 | \$3.94 |
| Morongo Unified School District | | | | | |
| TAX RATE VALUATIONS, 1954 - 1955 | | | | | |
| Valuation, \$816,440.00 Rate .67 | | | | | |

JUNE:

Security First National Bank celebrates first anniversary.
Lyons Furniture opened store.
Whirl-A-Whip purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Gifford, re-named "Hi-Desert Drive-In."
Hat Rack Motel purchased by Wally & Twila Estill of Glendora.

JULY:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Herman opened Hi-Desert Shoe Repair, in Bonser Building.
Yucca Valley Appliance Center opened by "Mac" McCulloch.
Stuff n Things purchased by Dorothy McCulloch.
Plaza Pastry Shop opened by Sylvester and Katherine Lakezich.
Medical Center opened by Drs. B. J. Woodley and S. C. Hon in Bonser Building.
Mr. and Mrs. Alton C. Young opened new ambulance service.
Barnhardt's Nursery purchased by Mr. Sipes.
Sky Harbor Estates opened by Elsinore Machris, John Haskell and Norm Essig.
Western Hills Estates moved into new location at Victorville Road intersection.
New Building Inspector, Ray Sumner, replaced E. E. Boyd as Boyd resigned.
Chamber of Commerce employed part-time secretary.



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Quality Furniture*

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Yucca Valley

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Remington Nylon 66, 22 Calibre Rifle
Donated by BUILDERS SHOWCASE

WHISKERINO CONTEST PRIZES

- 1st - Longest, Electric Sander
Donated by YUCCA VALLEY LUMBER
- 2nd - Thickest, Bailey Hat
Donated by YUCCA VALLEY TRADING POST
- 3rd - Most UNIQUE, Shoe Shine Kit
Donated by STUFF an THINGS
- 4th - Most Western, Gillette Razor Shaving Kit
Donated by YUCCA VALLEY REXALL STORE

Home Furnishings

| | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Maple Furniture | Carpets |
| Modern Furniture | Tile |
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| Appliances | Venetian Blinds |
| Bedding | Drapes |
| Dry Goods | Traverse Track |

Moving & Storage

LOCAL - STATEWIDE - NATIONWIDE
PACKING - CRATING


AUGUST:

Grand opening of Osborn's super-market.
 Yucca Valley street lights turned on between Elk and Cherokee Trails.
 Grand opening of Glen Restaurant by Scotty and Mrs. Gillander.
 Brown's Cafe celebrated first anniversary.
 Opening of Mrs. Lee's Golden Arrow and Candle Shop.
 Builder's Showcase celebrated expansion of business.
 Al Young and Francis Callahan introduced Taxi Service in the Valley.

SEPTEMBER

Ground broken for new Waysilk Chiropractic Clinic.
 Corinne Crawford's Hi-Desert Fashions celebrates 2nd anniversary.
GRAND OPENINGS: Green's Jewelry by Thomas and Peggy Green - Alamo Market - Suburban Gas new office - Yucca Valley Desert Gardens by Harold Sipes - Cactus John's Card, Gift and Souvenir Shop - Surveyor, Wm. B. Hatch opened office in Buck Building - Beauty Corral opened by Mrs. Malatka.

(continued)



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OCTOBER:

Ben Gage Land & Development Co. opened new office.
 Fire Station No. 2 opened, 29 Palms Hwy and Victorville Rd.
 Mrs. Austin opened Custom Drapes Shop in Evanoff Bldg.
 Mr. Obar opened Art and Stationery Store in Evanoff Bldg.
 New Floral Shop, De Wi Ki, opened by Mrs. John Bruder in connection with Trading Post.
 Mr. and Mrs. Orville Elkins broke ground for their Real Estate Office on 29 Palms Hwy.

NOVEMBER:

Plaza Barber Shop opened by Leonard Quigley.
 Yucca Valley Laundromat adds four washers and one dryer.
 Ground broken and work began on Joan Hayes office Bldg.
 Y. V. Fire District gets resusitator with fund donated by citizens in memory of the late Tom Humphreyville.
 Chas. Haynie moved into Bonser Bldg. with new merchandise
 Lacey Reneau took over Haynie's Swap Shop.
 Golden State Dairy Products opened branch office and storage plant here.
 Bruce S. Jenkins opened his Insurance and Real Estate office on corner of Inca and 29 Palms Hwy.

DECEMBER:

Sage Realty opened their beautiful new offices.
 Western Union branch office is now located in Yucca Valley Trading Post.



Alma E. Elkins

BROKER

Orville Elkins, Associate

HOMES

LOTS

ACREAGE

FOrest 5-4908

56297 29 PALMS HWY

YUCCA VALLEY

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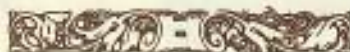


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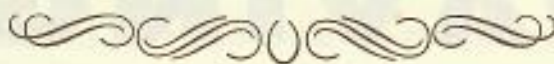
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NEW SCOUTMASTER



JOHN GROOM, Scoutmaster

Taking over the leadership of Boy Scout Troop No. 75, Joshua Monument District, Arrowhead Area Council, Yucca Valley, California, since November, 1959, is John H. Groom, Scoutmaster. Becoming a Boy Scout in 1948, Groom has remained active in scouting most of the years since.

Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p. m., the Scout House on Yucca Trail is a beehive of activity when the 12 registered scouts get together for their weekly meeting.

During December, '59, Osborn's Market donated their Christmas tree concession to the scouts to make all the money possible for Summer Camp funds. The boys netted \$115!

For the new year of 1960 the scouts are selling fireplace wood by the cord. Pine sells for \$35 and pinon for \$40 a cord. The troop makes \$5 on each cord sold and that is added to their Summer Camp fund also. They hope to raise enough money to send the whole troop to Camp Arataba.

The troop is backed up by a very capable adult Scout Committee headed by Jack Huntsman and is sponsored by the T.V. Cable.

Our scouts are as fine a group of boys as you will find anywhere, so let's continue to support them and give them any help we can whenever possible.



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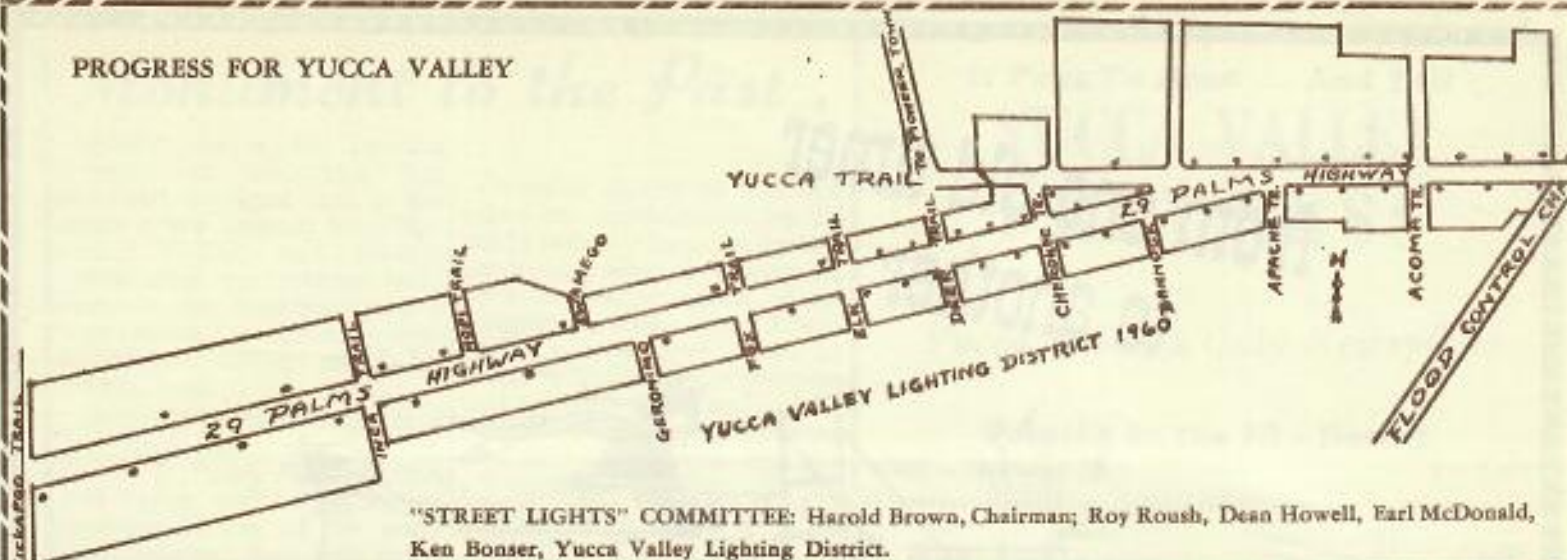
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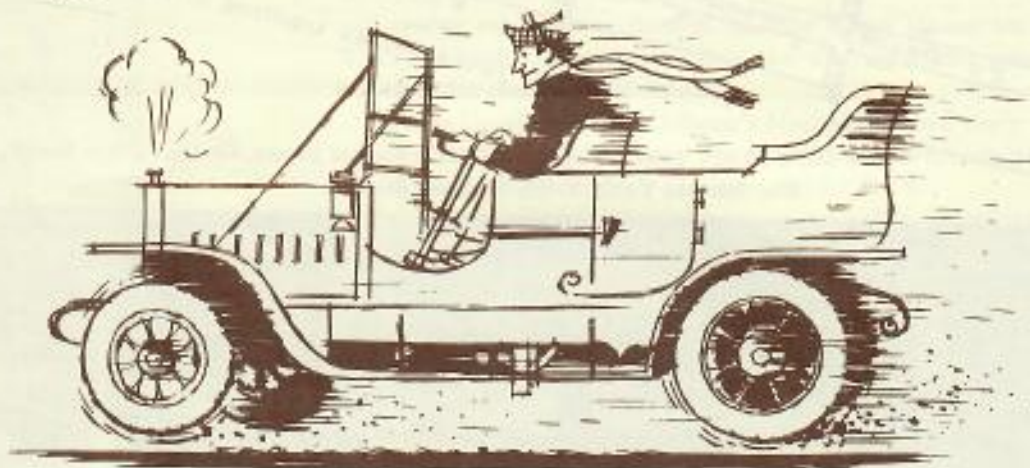
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Monument to the Past .

Along the gold bearing creeks and mountains that stretched eastward and to the south a few degrees from Holcomb Valley, and several years after the original gold strike in the Holcomb country was made, prospectors continued their endless search for mother lode.

Some 20 or more miles from Big Bear lake, Jim Smart, Steven D. Folks, Al Watts and Jess Taylor, well known miners and prospectors of the early '80s, believed they had made correct deductions as to where the "mother deposit" should be found. They prospected the country which lies east by south of Baldwin lake and near the slopes of Tip Top mountain.

RICH PROPERTIES

For miles to the north west a broad stretch of mountains and deserts showed mineralization. Across the Holcomb Valley discoveries, through the Orc Grande and Victorville districts and on through the Randsburg and Johannesburg fields past the Inyokern and Trona areas and into the Darwin Wash and Panamint mountains there were hundreds of promising prospects and some extremely rich properties.

King Solomon, Yellow Aster Black Hawk, Eldorado, Apex Golden Shrine and many many others indicated the "pay belt" struck in a general way north west by south east. On the south striking in the same general way the mineralization outcropped in paying quantities into the Hexie and Pinto mountains, where Los Horse mine, Virginia Dale mine, Lost Padre and others were working with greater or lesser success.

TAKEN FROM SANDS

Placer gold could be found on most of the streams. In places such as Rattlesnake and Arrastre creeks, much gold had been taken out of the sands and bed rock. But no large strikes had been made in the triangle formed by the Baldwin mine immediately to the north, Gold Hill a little farther south and the rim of the high peaks which formed the high lands along the southern edge of the desert.

Whether or not all this was taken into consideration by the hardy prospectors is not known. But in any wise they went far back in the mountains of the vicinity. In those days it was really a long way back, no roads or trails; only wilderness and uncharted spaces.

How long they prospected and how despairing was the adventure is not recorded, but one day they found their mine. Old Rose they named it, because of the pink to lavender color of the quartz in which the strike was made.

EXPAND THE CLAIM

It was rich, some ore running as high as \$225.00 per ton (old price of gold) and much of it ran above \$40.00 per ton.

The group worked the property for a while, and finally the group of claims was purchased by a Riverside mining company. They expanded the operations, constructed a 40 stamp mill, and installed a cyanide system, the ruins of which are still on the property.

It was soon noted that the character of the ore was such that it could be freighted on and shipped to Selby (near Sacramento) where the smelter people were glad to have the ore, and smelt it without charge. It contained sufficient copper and lead that it became a premium ore for fluxing.

Ore having a value in excess of \$40.00 per ton was thus hauled to Victorville where it was loaded on railroad cars.

LONG, ROUGH HAUL

Although one can drive an automobile over the entire freight route today in a few hours, it was a long two or three day haul for freighters. The rough crooked mountain road, which connected with the Cushenbury grade and thence went down to Lucerne Valley was probably the roughest portion of the trip.

Turn-outs were few and far between, and the giant ore wagons with strings of four and six driven by the freighter-pioneer of that day was one of the thrilling and spectacular period of events, which made mining history of the west.

It Pays To Read — And Tell

YUCCA VALLEY PROGRESS

Yucca Valley's Only Newspaper

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Yucca Valley, Calif.

LUCERNE VISTA

Stop-overs were made in Lucerne Valley, and regular camp sites where the freighters "hauled-in" for the night were scenes of great importance.

A Chicago syndicate finally purchased the property from the Riverside operators. Grant, famous manufacturer of billiard and pool room equipment, headed the Chicago investors, and they made further improvements and development underground.

The original workings were located at the massive stone ruins, which stand east of the present shaft house. Rich ore bodies were opened in this shaft (or perhaps more properly called an incline) and all was going well until one fateful day when miners working in the breast of one of the lower levels were drilling their regular "round" of holes.

The lifting holes had already been drilled; the upper or smashing holes were partly drilled, when suddenly either a forceful stream or a vast underground lake of water was tapped by one of the steel drills. The pressure of the water drove the drill back out of its hole and so strong was the "push" that the drill landed several feet behind the crew in the drift.

Water came pouring in through the widening hole so rapidly that miners had to run for their lives. It took three successive attempts at bulkheading the break before the water was finally closed off.

Some work followed this misfortune, but eventually fear that the body of water might again be tapped prompted the starting of another shaft north of the nearly 1300 foot abandoned workings.

RUINS STILL STAND

A new mill with new and modern equipment was erected. This is the ruins that still stand, wobbly though they are, because vandals have taken much of the fine old timber out of it.

The new shaft skillfully timbered and a man-way, constructed at the back of the shaft proper, are in excellent condition for the most if not all of the 700 foot depth to which the operators sank the new mine, designed to tap rich ore bodies that lay below.

Since the days of largest operation, many leasers have worked the mine and the "tails" with greater or lesser success, but in the opinions of several old timers who know the property and know the underground workings, they believe that the "big end" of the Old Rose mine is still in the ground. Millions of dollars have been taken from it in years gone by, but the old timers have much to justify their ideas concerning larger and richer deposits still being

there awaiting the efforts of modern capital and mining methods.

TOLL IN LIVES

Like other great mines of the early day, the Old Rose has taken its toll of life. Roy Smith, nephew of Fred Poppett from whom much of the information on the mine was gathered, lost his life in the workings when he fell through an open hatch deep below the surface.

At another time, when an over ambitious foreman tried to speed up the loading of timber at the collar of the shaft, a stick of heavy timber "got away" and went headlong down the vertical shaft and took the life of another miner working at a level landing hundreds of feet beneath the shaft house.

At another time when other miners had staked claims in the district, and when claims were very personal possessions of the prospector, who willingly protected his rights with his life if need be, one Billy McGee zealously protecting his rights resulted in tragedy.

McGee, whose reputation for honesty was likewise known as a "hard man," thought that a Dr. Kuntz who lived in one of the camps in Holcomb Valley was infringing on his (McGee's) property lines.

As the story is related by several old timers, McGee warned the doctor that any more attempts at working on the claim would result in trouble; some say that McGee told the doctor out right that he'd be a dead man if he ever came back to the property.

The doctor evidently did not take too seriously McGee's warning, since he jokingly retold the threat to other miners in Holcomb Valley about the argument.

ROTARY CLUB OF YUCCA VALLEY



MEETS FRIDAY NOON *Callahan's*

THE FOUR-WAY TEST

- 1 Is it the *TRUTH*?
- 2 Is it *FAIR* to all concerned?
- 3 Will it build *GOODWILL* and *BETTER FRIENDSHIPS*?
- 4 Will it be *BENEFICIAL* to all concerned?

ED CLIVER

GENERAL CONTRACTOR



FOrest 6-2021

P. O. BOX 263

Yucca Valley, Calif.

The story tells about the doctor loading up lumber at one of the sawmills in Holcomb one morning, taking with him a young German lad to help, and starting for the claim in dispute up near the Old Rose property, with the intention of building a shack to live in while working the property.

He pulled up to the claim as he had planned; McGee met him and once again warned the doctor. They started throwing off lumber, and McGee returned to his cabin for his gun.

Yet the doctor thought perhaps the "hard man" was only bluffing; he was wrong, the trigger pulled, a flash of fire and the doctor lay dead, sprawled on the ground he was accused of "jumping." McGee went back to his cabin; another shot rang through the clear mountain air; McGee had taken his own life.

VERIFIED BY MANY

The German lad ran in panic, and the team as many of the old timers testify, turned themselves about in the narrow canyon and headed back to Holcomb, as run-away-teams do with all their speed, never stopping until they pulled up at the doctor's cabin, with empty box and driverless seat.

Many of the old cabins and store buildings still stand in the vicinity of the property, and it is hoped that further vandalism will not destroy these old marks of a day which can never live again.

On the walls of some of the cabins copies of old newspapers, used as wall covering, date back more than 50 years. In old fashioned "pica type" they record the news of Los Angeles, Denver, and other places. A great deal of it is mining news, and on one page is told eye witnesses stories of the great fire of Cripple Creek, Colorado.

A RECKLESS SOCIETY

In speaking of the rebuilding program, and the re-opening of business houses which started immediately after the fire, the Denver News printed a paragraph which stated, "Shortly after midnight the restaurants are thronged. The people at the tables buy the best and most expensive food. They are the late birds who have been out for an evening's lark, the sport-

ing element and theatrical attaches. Their voices and conversation are merry. They are contented with today and careless of tomorrow, or a thousand tomorrows. . . . There is vice to be sure, but it is not flaunted. . . . It is more of a reckless society than an evil one."

On an old page of the Los Angeles Times of 40 years ago, a class-ad states. "For Sale—\$150 cash balance \$20.00 per month, a nice modern up-to-date five room bungalow in Boyle Heights. Within one block of three car lines, 20 minutes from Third and Spring St., price \$2500.00. . . . the property will rent for \$18.00 per month." Another advertised "A seven room cottage modern, with lot 52x160 feet, 600 feet north on high ground from West Lake Park, price \$5500.00."

TRAGEDY, ROMANCE, OPPORTUNITY

And so were the days now gone, with their tragedy, romance and opportunity. And amidst the hardships and difficulty of the times, people were happy, courageous and toiled on to reach their goal. They were hardy folks, never dreaming that within the fiscal century, highways would be table top smooth across the nation, that prize freight horses would pass from the scheme of affairs and conversation would be flashed across the nation in seconds.

They never dreamed either that their mining camps and settlements would some day turn to "ghosts" of the back country, and less in some cases where not even an old foundation, over which dance halls and mercantile buildings were lighted by the dim dark coal-oil lamps, remain.

But buried deep in ancient crevices of the earth, there may yet be more of the gold and treasure that has ever been removed, and one day again maybe Old Rose may blossom forth with riches, under modern operation that will far exceed the wealth she has already produced. . . .

By Austin Drake



In 1959 the old shafts were filled up by Grant Redden for safety purposes due to the increased traffic and sight-seers that visit the Valley and take the Pioneer Pass Road to Big Bear.

It is understood that in the near future the State Forestry will have a roadside park and campground adjoining the Rose Mine property.

Permission granted from The Grizzly Newspaper to reprint
Rose Mine Story

YUCCA VALLEY

A Friendly Place with Friendly People

GREETINGS

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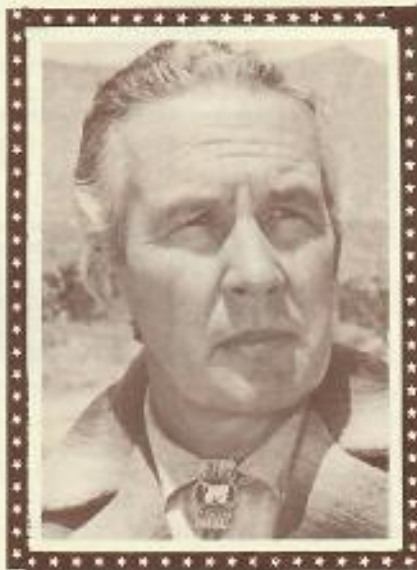
Yucca Valley's Own Newspaper

★ THE HI-DESERT STAR



Offers Congratulations
and Best Wishes for

GRUBSTAKE DAYS



JERRY MOORE Editor

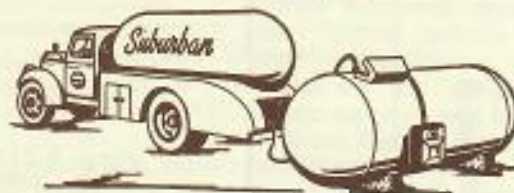
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Staff



BETTY BROWNELL, Advertising Manager

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COLORFUL CULTURAL LIVING

- ★ We are always glad to welcome you as a visitor, and especially glad to have you as a neighbor, if you choose to stay.
- ★ *This Hi Desert is a most delightful place to live and enjoy the good things of life. We of Yucca Valley want to help you find enjoyment in good living with the climate and good fellowship, Music and the Arts.*
- ★ We of Obarr's Art & Paint Shop have lived here in the Hi Desert many years, attracted by the clean air and the color and form of the hills and sandy washes. We feel especially fitted through experience to help and be of service whether you be an Artist, Decorator or an appreciator of the Arts.
- ★ *You are always welcome to visit and we will be glad to help you from that experience.*

WHETHER YOU SEEK A PLACE TO PAINT OR WHETHER YOU WISH TO MAKE YOUR HOME A BIT MORE COLORFUL FOR THE SAKE OF GOOD LIVING IN YUCCA VALLEY.

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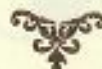
THELL REED, Jr.

quick-draw champion.



Thell Reed, Jr., sixteen year old youth of Bell, California will be on hand to defend the title he gained, "Fastest Gun," by winning a contest here in 1958 along with the perpetual trophy which was given by Elsinore Machris. Any three-time winner will keep the trophy.

Besides entering and winning contests, giving exhibitions of his skill, young Thell and his father, who is his tutor, went on a hunting expedition in Alaska. For his own protection, he shot and killed a 1200 pound Grizzly bear from a distance of 500 yards. To date, the largest bear on record. It is now on display in his father's restaurant, Reed's Bar-B-Q, 5147 E. Gage Ave., Bell, Calif. For the event this year gun club members are expected from all parts of the country to participate in "Fast Draw" which is becoming the most popular sport, year around, from coast to coast.





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These vegetables were grown by Paul Griswold, one of our hometown boys in his own garden.
P. S. Between fishing trips.



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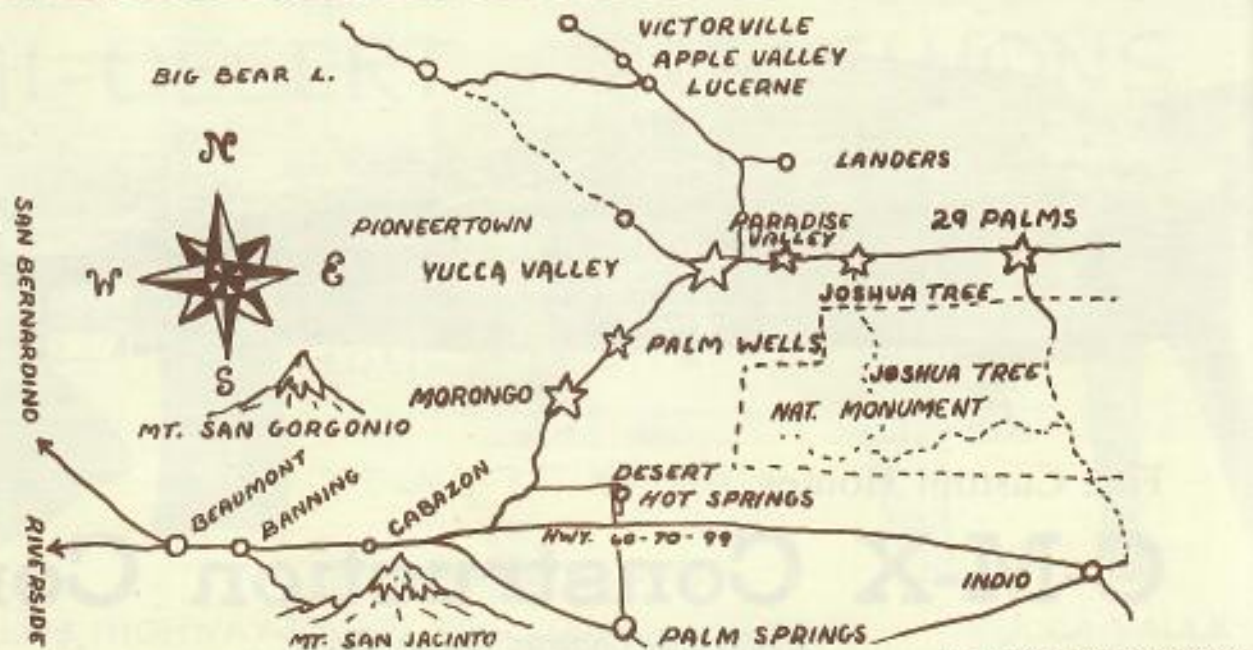
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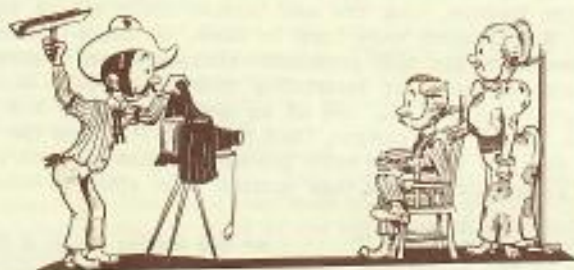
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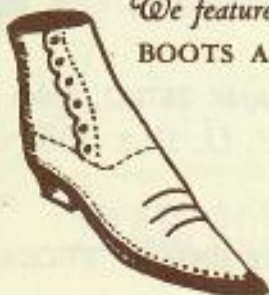
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Yucca Valley

SAGA OF YUCCA VALLEY

As one views Yucca Valley today, it is a bit difficult to realize that a mere handful of early settlers founded this fast growing young town. Our ultra-modern Real Estate offices are subdividing some of those early homesteads into very creditable homesites and business districts.

There are quite a number of second generation people who can easily remember the WHEN days against this present transformation. I have spoken to a number of them, and even yet they are a two camp group. Those who regret the passing of the good old days; and those who welcome the modern conveniences.

A glimpse into the lives of those early settlers may be of interest to the present newcomers. You know, you are a newcomer if you have been here less than seven years!

We all know the Indians were here first. Several tribes of them. Their marks of occupancy are proven by various campsites. Bits of broken pottery and some in still usable condition are to be found yet. Also by their hieroglyphics found in several places in this district. What seems odd, is that they left more land marks than the white man, who has left, mainly heirs.

One of the first white families to settle in this district, was Mark (Chuck) Warren of San Bernardino. In 1881 he brought his cattle to the Valley. Then an unnamed open rangeland. Here, he chose a site protected from the winds by the hills to build a wooden cabin and dig a well to water his cattle. Today one knows this site as Doctor Bendall's place. The airstrip covers the old cattle trails that led to Warren's Well.

Chuck Warren put several of his oldest sons to work as cowboys while he looked further for a spot to build a family home for his brood of nine children. The spot chosen was in Morongo Valley. That place is known today as Covington ranch.

Here he built a two storied adobe house. Planted crops, garden and orchard, all plentifully watered by his open creek. The ranch soon became a public stage stop, for teamsters hauling supplies to the mines in the Joshua Tree Monument. One and all travelers were welcomed to sit and rest a spell. It was Mark Warren's avid love for the game of chuck-a-luck that earned him his lasting nickname of CHUCK.

One of the first teamsters Charles Reche found Frances V the most attractive person on the ranch and soon married her. Thereby starting the present day Reche family, which has Lark Reche, the fifth generation of old Chuck Warren. His desert born and living right here. Before we leave Chuck Warren it is noteworthy to mention his two last children, Ed and Lela born in Morongo on the family ranch in 1889 and 1892 respectively. Perhaps the first white children born here.

In April 1910, Joseph Herd, left Fullerton with his wife and ren in a covered wagon. Nine days after they pulled into the ren sage-ranch in Morongo Valley. They stayed there for months while Joe Herd looked around for a likely place to stay. He chose the 160 acres just west of the old school house Yucca Valley. At first they lived in a tent, while they built a log cabin with an adobe fireplace. Theirs was a family. They raised feed for the cattle and had chickens and a garden. Susie Herd tells her great grandchildren the many stories those early rugged days.

Joe Herd knew one Hezekiah Quick in Hot Springs, Ark. Joe soon interested him into coming west and homesteading new raw land. So, in 1914, the Quick family migrated out. They chose 160 acres that now extends from the Twentynine highway up to Mountain View Ave. One of his daughters, married to John Redden, took the half section south of the family. In 1920 Six children were born to them, of which Grant and Redden Kerr, are still prominent citizens in the Valley.

I wish to insert an interesting note here. Jessie Kerr was enough to permit the use of an old letter from her grandpa Quick, to her own mother, then in Iowa. It shows the long since one, who like the other early pioneers, looked far into the future of this Valley. This letter was written soon after he arrived in 1914.

(Quote from letter) "... an old soldier holds a claim (instead of 160 acres) not as good as mine one mile distant, I offered \$1000 for it. He said, No, \$1500 will buy it, not less. Here I tell you truly if I live to get a U. S. patent on my (homestead) no man's \$1500 would be an inducement to me

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ON HIGHWAY WEST END OF YUCCA VALLEY

I am not excited either nor running wild. No, just give us WATER and we'll then have the finest country in the world. It is only a question of time . . . it is coming . . . just as sure as sunset follows sunrise . . . and then "Morongo" Valley (Greater Morongo Basin) will bloom equal to any part of California. (Mr. Quick's favorite expression was, "Mark you well, some day we will see a city at the foot of these hills) You can't buy an acre, unimproved, the roughest for less than \$100 and from that up to \$250 and higher. As to climate, it surely is ideal . . . the breeze wafted off those snow covered mountains make it pleasant. Of course now it is all new, wild and a desolate place to look at. (One must) live the life of a hermit among the varmints, wolves (coyotes) owls and snakes and endure all the hardships and inconveniences a man has to undergo. Now do not be uneasy about me if you do not hear from me, for a time. . . we are 24 miles from the nearest postoffice (Palm Springs) and no regular delivery, just as some one happens to pass, is our only chance for mail. I have every arrangement made for winter except some grub. And that I will buy and ship to the nearest railroad station. That is at Palm Springs, I will have to hire a team to haul my supplies from Palm Springs to the valley. Now don't you be uneasy about me. I am well fixed for the winter and among friends. -" end of quote from the letter.

It is of interest to note that Mr. Quick was a hearty 73 years young when he homesteaded here in 1914. Men with such courage and vision were never daunted by age . . . for them there was always a tomorrow. The one faculty a human being needs to advance and progress.

These were the first three families before 1920. After that the migration was steady and to list all of them would be impossible. Too, many of them and their offerings today constitute a large per cent of our present population. It is wonderful to note how the children of these families have continued to remain right here with only short sojourns into the wilds of the big cities to see what they may have missed.

While these three families were hewing out their respective ranch sites there was one faction of business going on. That of cattle raising on a large scale.

Old Will Shay of San Bernardino, had his cattle out here. By HERE, I mean just about as far in all directions that the cattle cared to wander. C. O. Barker had his cattle out here and it was he that laid script on 40 acres that was later to be known as Reche Well, five acres of this was to be set aside for the cattle, with first rights from the well to the watering of the cattle. The Talmadge brothers, Will, John and Frank, ran on this range from the 1880's till as recent as 1944. But their headquarters were at White-water ranch (opposite Snow Creek on Highway 99 and their winter range at Big Bear Lake. With a headquarters at the Pipes near Pioneertown. Then there was the big outfit at Old Woman Springs, owned then by Swarthout and Gentry, all of these outfits used the same range, and the young fellows of that time were cowboys. Their twice a year roundup were the stuff our Americana is made of.

There is one point about a landmark that is misunderstood. I want to clear it up once and for all. The adobe house that Doctor Bendall uses for his office today was NOT built by Chuck Warren. When he established Warren's Well, he built a wooden cabin for a bunkhouse. It burnt down and was rebuilt. As late as 1930, when John Berry, now of Victorville, used the well for a period of three years while he ran his herd among the rest of the cattle, he built the present adobe house. Let this clear up the misunderstanding.

Some of the readers may be wondering, where did those freighters or teamsters haul to, that used to stop at the Warren stage-ranch.

In those early days and even before, Chinamen and Spaniards sought gold throughout this district. Later the white man got into the act. But no mine of great importance was ever discovered in

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Yucca Valley

this part of the country. Our records tell us that.

Before closing, I want to say, there were several people who came in their early years, saw, liked what they saw and later came back to settle here.

Back in the late 19 hundreds, Reuben E. Jeffries, then State Game and Fish Warden, brought his young daughter Laurel, along with him on one of his annual trips. She fell in love with the country and later when she married Kirk Martin they moved out here. As many know, Kirk is an artist whose works rank among the top ten of America. Laurel is now well known for her western leather clothes designs.

Tom and Vi Humphreville came first. Their many relatives visited them. All liked the Valley and soon a large number of them were here. When their friendly little HARDESTY'S store added a room for our first post office, many thought the new town would be HUMPHREVILLE. It was at that time still known as WARREN'S WELL, the postal authorities decided to skip personal names and so today we have YUCCA VALLEY.

Another person of those very early twenties, was Mrs. June Le Mert Paxton, who still lives in her attractive red house east of the old Warren's Well. She has done much for the valley with her writings of the early days.

There are many more wonderful people. I mention these three because by virtue of their varied professions they are a bit more outstanding than the rest of us. But ALL of us are true lovers of this desert . . . and therein lies the crux of the matter, we are also a camp divided.

The good old days are gone . . . but were they so good? THAT is the bone of contention, and good for an argument any time or place two members of opposites meet.

That rugged mode of life in the good old days . . . hauling water many miles in some cases. Fixing a picnic lunch to take along while the mother and children went to spring or watering place to heat her wash water over an open fire, hand scrub the clothes, then hang them on the bushes to dry while they ate their lunch.

Or the long trek, once a month into Banning for grub supplies over roads wending aimlessly around greasewood and sagebrush as the team picked its own footing. Out here where Charlie Reche settled his family on the C. O. Barker range, it was closer to go to Victorville. His wife took their youngest son Walt with her on the little buckboard hitched to four burros. It took them seven days to make the round trip, and Victorville is a scant 57 miles now made over oiled roads in about an hour.

The good points about those early days were the healthy solid bodies of the people. The free from tax, worried minds. Hard riding fun loving cowboys, without a yodel amongst them. That was the GOOD of the old days.

The other faction welcomed the advent of straightened roads. The valley's first concession to advancement. The coming of the automobile. No man was more overworked than those first few mechanics who tried beyond their skill to keep those gas buggies rolling over those wash board roads. Always ending up with the old standby of bailing wire to tie those early models together.

After that things moved fast. In the relatively short span of 20 years we made fence gates of wagon wheels, and patio fountains of old hand water pumps. Our coal oil lamps gathered dust on back shelves. But we did NOT throw them away. We soon found that the blessing of electricity that lights our streets and glows warm from our windows has a nasty habit of failing us when we need it most . . . during a rugged storm. Then is when we wise owls dust off those coal oil lamps and permit a sigh to escape us as the soft glow snugly serves us . . . again.

There is one man I think we should pay respect to in this annals of the desert. That is JACK CONES, still a law officer in Twenty-nine Palms. For many years he was our only lawman. He was beloved, feared and respected by virtue of his own ability to hold his scattered population in line. Today he represents the old and the new and he has spanned the years with devoted service to each of us.

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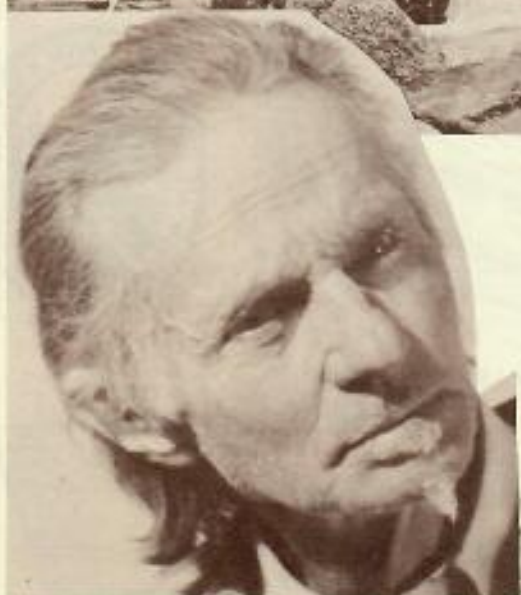
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THE HI-DESERT PARK



PARK DISTRICT

On May 7, 1957, the board of the newly organized Yucca Valley Park District entered into an agreement with the Morongo School District for the use, for park purposes, of the south five acres of the elementary school property in Yucca Valley and at once started development of the present Hi-Desert Park.

During the two and a half years since that date the grounds have been cleared of brush and graded, water lines and fence installed, over 100 shade trees and much shrubbery planted and a utility building with sanitary facilities constructed.

Through the co-operation of many local citizens and organizations the park now has a flag pole electric service, picnic arbor, double barbecue and tables and benches for 60 people.

Also available to the public are shuffleboard, horseshoes and croquet, and for the small fry there is a sand box, teeter, swings, horizontal bars, whirl and giant stride.



GLENN HARDY,
Park Board Chairman



C. H. JACOBS
Advisory Chairman



JOHN MARSH
Park Custodian

A portion of the utility building has been allocated to the County Free Library and is now in use as the Yucca Valley Branch of that department. The public response to this activity has been such that it has become necessary to increase the available area and an addition to the building more than doubling the original library size is now in use.

Also under development at the present time is a small neighborhood park in Paradise Valley, with picnic and barbecue, and some playground facilities now in use. Further development is now under way. The co-operation of the residents of this area is also appreciated by the park board.

Indicative of the remarkable growth of the Yucca Valley area is the assessed valuation of the park district, which rose from \$1,712,460 for the 1957-58 fiscal year to \$3,601,434 in the current 1958-60 year, an average increase of \$629,658 a year for the three year period.

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 Daryl Sausser, B. of M., Band
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Betty Beal
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Belva Green
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Martha Jeffries
Grades 2 and 3



Dr. Vernetta Landers
Junior High



Hazel Steen
Grades 3 and 4



Nelva Williams
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Stella Lofgren
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George Rauch
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YUCCA
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SCHOOL

OCT. 1959
STAFF

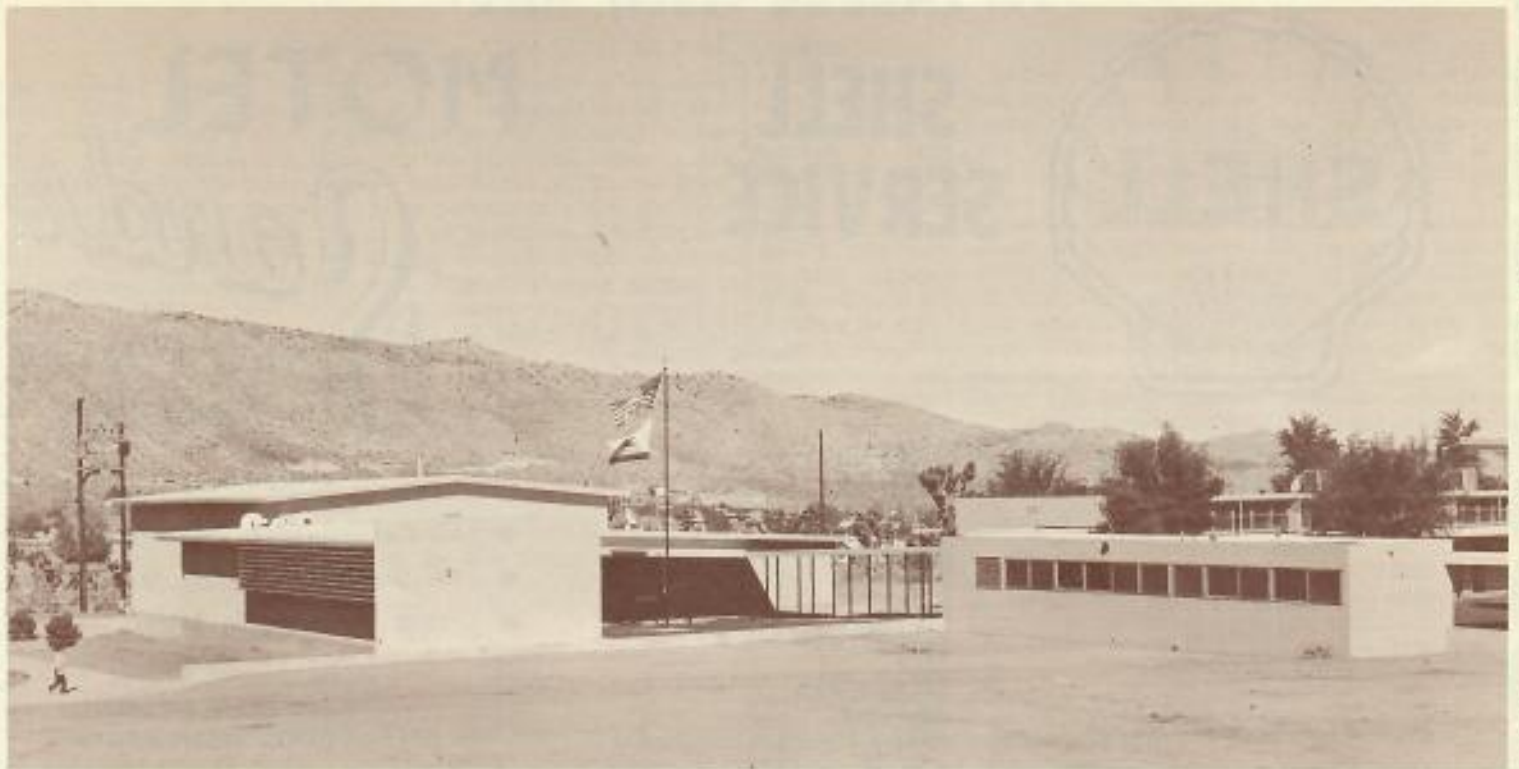


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Arithmetic

A A



These pages are sponsored by the Yucca Valley Parent Teacher Association in cooperation with the Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce. We believe that the educational opportunities in a community are of the utmost concern to prospective residents. We are proud of the high caliber of our school staff, our school and the quality of education that is represented.

Children of the hi-desert communities are served by a forward looking educational system comprised at present of four elementary schools and one high school. A trained professional staff of more than one hundred teachers and administrators plan and execute an educational program which equals the best in the country.

Yucca Valley Elementary School is a modern, attractive one story building. It includes kindergarten through the 8th grade, offices, conference room and a multi-purpose room. The multi-purpose room is equipped as a first-rate cafeteria, and is also used for orchestra and choral instruction. The school is available at night for adult education and other community activities.

There are approximately three hundred and twenty children from Joshua Tree, Pioneertown, Morongo and Yucca Valley attending the Yucca Valley Elementary School located centrally among these communities. All high school youth attends school in 29 Palms. Bus service is provided. The Morongo Unified School District Administrative offices are also located in 29 Palms.

The school board and administrators are currently formulating plans to build more schools and additional classrooms at existing schools. A new Junior High School is being planned for Yucca Valley.

This community is very interested in schools as is exemplified by the Parent Teacher Association with some 335 members. This membership concerns itself with all phases of child life - health, welfare, education and recreation. They have worked with the school and recreational districts to institute a summer program for all elementary age children plus a summer pre-school nursery.

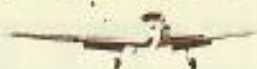
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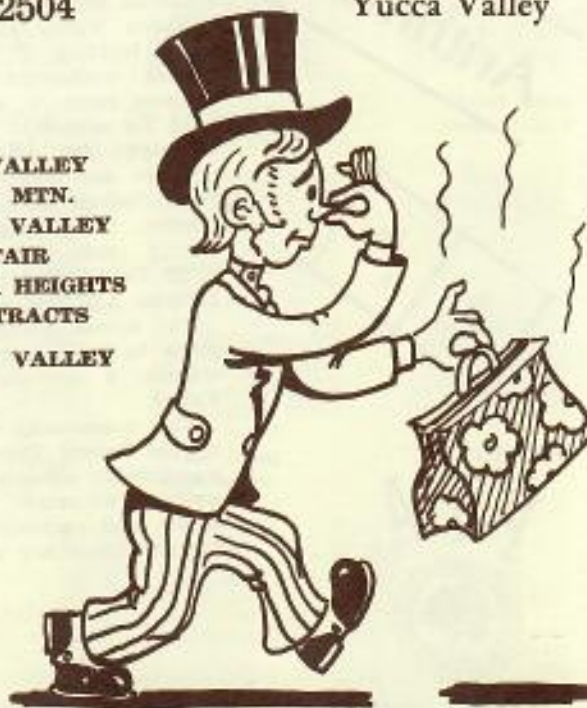
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THE HIGH DESERT ...

By Merle Armitage

The obviously strong attraction of the High Desert is not easily put into words, for its appeal is a mixture of tangible and intangible elements. Here are no giant sequoias, no immense waterfalls, no grand canyons nor lakes nor rivers. What, then, is the lure of the desert? To many persons used to the continuous green of eastern landscapes, the desert is a forbidding place. To them it is a world of intense heat, of cacti, of monotonous nothingness and rattlesnakes. But if you are a man or woman who responds to magnificent distances, to the most magical moonlit nights, to the superb mountains, and to the ever present sun, the desert is alive with interest. Those who approach the desert with a friendly attitude will be unusually rewarded. Here, for instance, is a brilliantly colored flower, growing out of bare sand; a lizard scuttling from a cactus clump to a sage bush, or the flashing color of a beautiful bird, singing in the wilderness.

At our Ranch we have groves of the traditional Joshua trees, green clumps of cats claw, scrub oak, pinoon, juniper and that incomparable stylized bush, the manzanita. Mercifully removed from all the hideous smog, traffic and utter congestion of the city, the desert is a tranquil haven. In this fortunate world, on the eastern slopes of the great San Gorgonio escarpment, we have seasons. A mild but capricious winter which often brings token snows; a spring of amazing wild flowers; a hot dry summer punctuated with desert showers that often pepper us with cooling hailstones; an autumn of such serenity that guests who come for a day or more, linger on for weeks.

We have many desert friends. There are jack rabbits, cottontails and some of the most beautiful foxes in this world. There are squirrels and chipmunks and, of course, the birds. Migratory birds make the high desert a stopping place, en route north in the spring, and again, as they wing south in the fall. We have counted as many as twenty-two different kinds of birds in a season. East of us and high on a rocky monument, atop one great monolithic rock, with perpendicular sides, eagles come each year.

Father comes first, and after circling for a day or more, is joined by his wife. Then when they are sure that nothing disturbing has occurred during the previous year, the mother lays and hatches her eggs, the father eagle providing the food. It is a fascinating cycle, and once we were fortunate in watching the newly born eaglets take off on their first successful flight.

We live here in the desert with all the amenities and possessions that a city can afford. The high desert villages have splendid markets, garages, shops and some have drive-in theaters. There is practically nothing that we need that cannot be found within a radius of fifty miles. And an occasional trip to New York, Chicago and monthly trips to Los Angeles, supply more than enough contact with the treadmill of urban life.

But the desert warns you to be cautious. Keep a container of water, and plenty of gas in your car. Walking deserted roads in the mid-summer sun can be fatal. But all these things are quickly learned and are a small price to pay. The rattlesnakes, centipedes, tarantulas and scorpions, (we have learned in seven years of living among them) offer about the same dangers as crossing Madison Avenue in New York at any time of day!

Being a writer, I have here the uninterrupted solitude that makes writing a thousand times easier than in the midst of all the demands of conferences, meetings, visitors and that modern monster, the business telephone. But, if you are a plasterer, a mechanic, a carpenter, an electrician, or whatever, you will find the same advantages as I have, in a greater or lesser degree. The outdoor living is for everyone. The natural health of the region is its greatest asset. And across the shimmering desert floors, are always bold ranges of mountains, bare except for the scattered green dots that are the unconquerable shrubbery of the desert mountainside. These give the otherwise limitless expanse a boundary, and call your attention to the fact that beyond those limits are places where life is not half as sweet, and where days are not nearly so full, enjoyable and interesting.



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A Desert Spring "COYOTE HOLE"

By Frances Sargent Ellis

THROUGHOUT the days of the pioneer, water was easy to find at the "COYOTE HOLE SPRING". Sometimes the water would run in a thin stream over the polished lip of the great granite boulders in the canyon. Sometimes the surface water was hidden under the gravel that overlaid the granite bed of the stream. Then the coyotes would dig down into the gravel to water, and from their excavations The Spring was named.

THE HIEROGLYPHICS

The Clan symbols of the Indians at "Coyote Hole"
or

ACCORDING to legend the Indians left these picture writings on many of these granite boulders - no one knows what they mean, - whether they were put there to convey information, - to express art - or to doodle away idle hours. Many arrow-heads have been uncovered. The Indians were expert in the field of archery, as the wild game was felled by their archery. In latter years there have been many other evidences unearthed, testifying to their early inhabitation in THE MORONGO BASIN.

THE JOJOBA NUT

THE Jojoba shrub grew in profusion along the trails in the "Coyote Holes Spring" area in the early days, bearing a small like nut incased in a fiber-like hull. When the nut matured, it was very tasty, having the almond like flavor.

THE CHOLLA CACTUS

THE handsome Cholla Cactus is very heavily covered with spines, pack-rats transport pieces of them to protect their runways, and the cactus wrens lodge their nests in the thickets of its spiny branches, protecting their eggs, as well as their young.

THE YUCCAS

THERE are several varieties of the Yuccas, belonging to the lily family - sometimes they are called "Adam's needle".

THE conquistadores of old named them "The Spanish Bayonet". The brown-robed padres, seeing them on the hill-side, above the trail, as they climbed and made their way through The Pass, called them the "Candles of The Lord" As the explorers and the over-land settlers encountered them traveling through the desert lands, in their search for gold, and for a home-site, they named these Yucca trees, "The Joshua"; these strange looking trees reminded them of "out-stretched arms", welcoming them to a "Promised Land".

THE trees are very old, but because their growth does not take the form of concentric annual rings, no one knows how old; some of the big Joshua trees could have been growing here in the time of Christ.

SPRING IN THE PASS

We journeyed toward the Sunrise -
To dwell beneath The Yuccas in the sage enchanted land -
To commune with Mother-Nature,
As she unfolds her magic carpet upon this desert land -
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CALIFORNIA

Denizens of Desert

BY NORVAL JEFFRIES
California Department of Fish and Game

More wildlife, birds, reptiles and animals make the high-desert so they increase in numbers. Years of light rainfall cause a reduction in the most important factor governing wildlife populations. Years of good rainfall create ideal conditions for wildlife, but areas their home than is generally realized. Weather converse condition.

The California mule deer is a resident of foothill and mountain areas along high-desert slopes. These animals are seldom seen by desert travelers. Deer generally remain in isolated places and travel considerable distances seeking favorite foods. These desert bred animals require a minimum of water and when green succulent plants are available in the spring, they require no other form of moisture. Food and water supplies are limited for deer on the high-desert, therefore their numbers will always remain limited also.

The desert big-horn sheep is a resident here. His occurrence is extremely limited in most areas outside of the Joshua Tree National Monument. Very rarely one will wander from the Monument and be seen, or more often to those observant of tracks, his tracks will be seen and identified. Inside of the Joshua Tree National Monument there lives a fair population of desert big-horns. These animals are extremely shy and shun man at all times. The experience of sighting a big-horn ram with his massive curled horns, silhouetted on a rocky peak is a thrill the fortunate observer will never forget. Big-horn sheep are protected at all times in California.

Coyotes, bobcats and gray foxes are common residents of the high-desert. These animals are considered nuisances and are called "varmints" at times, yet they have their place in the scheme of nature. Their most important food supply consists of rodents such as rabbits, ground squirrels, antelope ground squirrels, commonly known as desert chipmunks, field mice, packrats and kangaroo rats. Occasionally various birds are taken for food. Coyotes and foxes will also eat almost any kind of melon, fruit or berry available, including manzanita and juniper berries. Coyotes will readily take poultry and even a pet housecat when the opportunity comes his way. He is an exceptionally intelligent animal. The kitfox or desert swift, is generally found only on flat sandy areas of the high-desert.

Many varieties of bird life can be observed here. The desert or gambel quail is common in many places, and has learned to adapt himself to living near man in some instances when he is

not molested. One of his worst enemies is the ill-fed or so-called wild house-cat. The mountain quail, a bird almost twice as large as the desert quail is also found here. This bird prefers country somewhat higher and more rugged or rough than the desert quail. A third game bird found here is the chukar partridge. This bird, a native of Asia, was introduced to California about thirty years ago. The chukar, considerably larger than a mountain quail, lives in remote, rough, rocky desert mountain areas. He fills a need for an excellent game bird that can live in desert areas unsuitable for quail. The most important foods for chukars and quail are certain varieties of weed, grass and plant seeds.

A number of song birds live in and seasonally visit the high desert. Many of these birds migrate up and down the elevations as the seasons change. Constant pleasure can be derived from watching and identifying these little friends by making a little food and water available to them in or under a tree in your yard. The most common varieties to be seen will be: desert sparrows, white crown sparrows, linnets, several varieties of orioles, mockingbirds, cactus wrens, California bluejays, bushtits, and road runners. Occasionally more rare varieties will pay a call.

Several varieties of lizards, including the chuckwalla and horned lizard, commonly mis-called horned toad, occur in high desert areas. These reptiles are non-poisonous and harmless. Their important food includes most insects, flies and ants. The chuckwalla, largest of the lizard family in the southwest, attains a length of twelve inches or more. He feeds on green annual plants when available, as well as insects. The chuckwalla has a large thick body and when he senses danger, will crawl into a crevice between rocks where he inflates his body with air so he cannot be pulled from the crevice.

The desert tortoise is a common resident here. So common is fact that he is often a traffic victim on the highways. This reptile sometimes reaches a size of twelve inches in diameter and will weigh nine pounds. They have been known to live for more than a century. The desert tortoise is a vegetarian, feeding on green or dry plants as he finds them.

Snakes also are not uncommon to high-desert areas. Gopher snakes, kingsnakes and several varieties of racers will occasionally be seen. Several varieties of rattlesnakes also occur here, but are never abundant. The rattlesnake is the only poisonous reptile on the high-desert. All reptiles hibernate, generally underground during the cold winter months.



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By Art Chase, Director

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Do you know that once a year these good Hi-Desert people - the Boy Scouts, Rotarians, Chamber of Commerce members, local church members, and the Marines from the 29 Palms base - go up and down the 29 Palms Highway, the Victorville Road and the Pioneer Road cleaning up this MESS of cans and bottles thrown out of cars by these litterbugs "just passin' through"?

The Hi-Desert has everything but it doesn't want other people's litter. The golden sunsets, the fine pure smogless air, the pure cool soft water, the blanket of stars at night warming the hearts of all who look heavenward, and, the most important thing of all - the friendly people living on the Hi-Desert - are some of the many God-give joys of this area of happy homes.

There is a slogan which "PARKY" The Tidy Kangaroo symbol against litterbugs is always telling everyone - "Help Keep America Clean and Beautiful" - and this means Yucca Valley, Joshua Tree, Morongo Valley, 29 Palms and all the rest of the Hi-Desert. To stay beautiful IT MUST STAY CLEAN. Be like PARKY and "Keep It Clean".



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YUCCA VALLEY ART GALLERY AND ARTISTS OF THE AREA

By Mabel Kennedy Mellette

Lois Wilde Buck opened the Yucca Valley Art Gallery in the Buck Building, 5595 Twentynine Palms Hwy., on December 1, 1959, with 10 exhibitors, from the high desert area. Lois has expressed her creative ability in three mediums of art. At the age of nine years she started ballet dancing and at ten she had a contract with the New York Metropolitan ballet where she studied and danced until at fifteen she went to the Florenz Ziegfeld Follies and was there for four seasons. She was under contract with Howard Chandler Christy, famous for his Christy girls, and it was during this time with Christy that she became interested in painting. Next Lois followed a dramatic career on both stage and screen and played leading roles in New York and Hollywood in many outstanding pictures and stage plays. In 1938, following a serious automobile accident, which ended her dramatic career, she turned to painting. She studied oil under Leonard Scheu of Laguna Beach and watercolor under William Payne. Portraiture is her special field and her pictures can be found in many homes throughout the United States.

Lois' husband, Gilbert D. "Gil" Buck, is a natural in the art field. He is a civil engineer who took up painting as an avocation. His teachers were Leonard Scheu and his wife. He is an impressionistic modern with a keen sense of color.

Kirk Martin is the pioneer artist of Yucca Valley, coming here in 1947. His first studio was in Little Morongo Canyon, his studio home is now on Mountain View Trail. Kirk's first national recognition was for his painting "Riders in the Sky", featured at the Death Valley Encampment in 1952. He is a versatile artist and his mediums are oil, water color, pastel and wood engraving. His wood engraving "Trail Ride" was accepted for the Pennell Exhibit in the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Kirk's career started as a small boy in his father's newspaper shop and he grew up in small western towns where he obtained his intimate knowledge and vital style of painting horses, Indians, miners and rugged scenery. Kirk's scholastic training was years at Occidental College and three years in the school of architecture at USC. He was publicity director at the Howard Hughes aircraft plant and edited "Hughes News". During World War II he was art consultant at California Institute of Technology, and there designed a new type of cargo plane and robot boat which the Institute sent to the War Department in Washington, D. C.

Kirk's lovely wife, Laurel, is a leather designer. Her first contribution in leather is a shoe which she patented under the name of "Sandab". It was featured by Irene in Hollywood. Her leather costumes under the name of "Sandabs" include the "Huntress", "Jerkin Vest", "Dab-Hat", "Dab-Bag" and a cocktail dress stole.

Nicholas Yellenti of Reche Road, Yucca Valley is an artist and art designer. He has studied with Philip Hale, the Boston Museum Art School, and with Joseph Kleingera, a German artist who was a pupil of William Chase in Cincinnati and of Louis Lautrec of Paris. Yellenti designed 100 Broadway productions in New York City and also the Earl Carroll Vanities in Hollywood. His paintings have been exhibited at the Cochrane Gallery, Washington, D. C., the National Academy, New York City, Pennsylvania Academy, and at the Los Angeles County Museum Gallery. He has had numerous one-man shows and his pictures are in many private collections. He was the 1958-59 president of the Twentynine Palms Artists Guild and is a member of the Magundi Club of New York City, known as the "Little Academy".

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Elsie Norstad Marshall of Joshua View, Yucca Valley has spent many years at her easel. She was a pupil of Galen Doss of Laguna Beach and has studied with Paulina Peavey, Long Beach; Orin White, Pasadena; Henry Richter, Palos Verdes; and Will Krehm, Banning. She works in oils and water color. The memorial picture for Mrs. Ruth Blood, which hangs in the Sojourners Clubhouse in the village is one of Mrs. Marshall's finest desert pictures. The lovely soft colorings of the smoke trees in the foreground with the rugged mountains of strength in the distance, is an inspiring picture and is a fitting memorial to the lovely Mrs. Blood. Mrs. Marshall is a member of the Twentynine Palms Artists Guild where she has exhibited. She is also an exhibitor at the Palm Springs Art Center.

Leonard Borman of Joshua Tree, whose studio at the end of the road has the mountains for a back drop and the Morongo Basin for a front yard, came from Pasadena where he had an art gallery and store for many years. Leonard says he is English and Dutch. He is a Canadian Veteran of World War I, enlisting in Winnipeg, Canada.

He was severely wounded in his right arm and during the 18 months he was hospitalized he started sketching as an arm and finger exercise. As the arm grew stronger he went to the Chicago Art Institute, where he studied under Joseph Pennel and portrait painting under George Bellows and Will Fester. He first became his first work was etching, then animal painting and he became internationally known for his portraits of dogs. He is equally at home with landscapes, seascapes and portraiture; he is an expert in restoring paintings by the old masters. Leonard retired from business two years ago. His studio is filled with a large variety of his work and art objects gathered from many lands. He has a large teakwood carving from India, which was exhibited at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893. His charming wife, Mabel, when asked if she paints replied, "I am just a helper" and Leonard added "that tells a big story."

Daucie Aveline of Joshua Tree is an artist who learned from doing, and is an example of how one can develop a latent talent.

Mrs. Aveline was a hospital patient when her physician brought her a box of water color paints and a sketch pad saying "here is something new to amuse you". She began painting the flowers on her bedside table and has developed a technique that blends the grace and color of flowers into a harmony and rhythm that is impressive. She has sold many pictures to Barker Bros. in Los Angeles. Mrs. Aveline also paints landscapes, seascapes and flowers in oils and has received recognition for her work in this medium.

Art and Rae Taylor of Paradise Ave., Morongo Valley are two artists, who as young people laid aside their yen for painting for other careers. Art became a serious musician and expert photographer, being one of the pioneers in color photography. Rae gave up her career as a free hand interior decorative painter for the duties of a home and motherhood.

In 1954 they found themselves free to again take up painting and joined the Art Guild of the Palm Spring Art Center, where they had instruction from some of the outstanding artists in oil painting. As another medium of expression Rae does sand painting. She became inspired by the brilliance of the colored facets of the silicon in the desert sands and began experimenting in making sand pictures. She organized a sand painting class in Palm Springs and now teaches sand painting. Some of her best pictures are "The Arrowmaker", "Gipsy Dancer", "Pinkie" and "Blue Boy".

F. B. Brooks of Morongo Valley, whose studio on Juniper Ave. is filled with pictures of the high desert with a few marine scenes for contrast. He traveled and studied with R. O. Ross, a well known painter of the west - roaming the desert and mountain areas. He records what he sees in nature with interesting light effects and brilliant color. As a relaxation from painting Mr. Brooks makes lamp bases from desert woods.

Carlotta Wolf of the Tom Tom, Morongo Valley paints for relaxation from a busy life and for the joy she finds in the wide, open spaces. Speaking of her work Carlotta will say "I am not an artist, I just paint for fun", but look at her Indian portraits - they make one feel that Carlotta knows her Indians.

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EVERY CITIZEN A SKILLFUL BUILDER

One of the penalties of being in the building business is that you have so many competitors. Every male citizen older than a Cub Scout believes that he is a skilled builder. It seems to be part of our national heritage. This state of affairs wasn't so bad - it could be endured - in the days before the advent of the "do-it-yourself" boom of the last year or so. But conditions are bad now and are due to get worse.

The conditions referred to have to do with building correctly - doing a job of framing so the house won't fall down, putting in insulation so condensation within a wall or ceiling won't rot out the lumber, installing wiring so the house won't burn down, putting in plumbing so the family doesn't come down with nameless diseases. Time was when a contractor was called in by the home owner to do these jobs. But not any more. With sound business sense, manufacturers have prepared kits to aid the home owner to do his own work on a vast number of home building and modernizing projects, large and small. Dealers have set out to aid the weekend carpenter. Builders have been in on it, too, for they have built "handyman houses" for buyers to complete. And so on. But all of this sales push has another side to it, too.

Here's the problem in a nutshell: A man did some re-wiring in an old house. Through ignorance he purchased and used some electrical equipment in a way contrary to the local code. Then he sold the house. The new owner also wished to do some re-wiring and hired an electrical contractor to do the job. The contractor saw the non-conforming work and told the new owner the proposed work would never be approved by the inspector unless that non-conforming work was done over again. The answer, of course, is needless expense on the part of the second owner. Perhaps the first owner - the man who did the faulty work in the first place - did it in good faith. Through lack of information and misplaced confidence in his own ability to do any sort of building work he passed along a botched job. He had no building permit. Since he was doing his own work he assumed it was his right to do the work without one. What responsibility did the merchant have who sold the first man the materials which were then used incorrectly?

It is easy to say that the merchant had no responsibility for it at all. The materials he sold were in good order. Beyond that his responsibility did not go. Perhaps so. But he failed in his responsibility if he did not do one simple thing: suggest that the work to be done required a building permit of some kind.

We all work with building codes so much we are inclined to take them for granted. We sometimes feel that if we're building in an area where there is no code we're lucky. That is not so. And we sometimes think that everyone knows about codes and

permits. You would be amazed at the large numbers of who have moved to the West in postwar years from east areas where there is no such thing.

And there are the smoothies who pooh-pooh such things. "The work will be done inside, out of sight. No one is going to see. I don't need a permit." They are only kidding themselves and may harm others later. One such fellow we heard of - an ethical builder tell him that what he wanted to do didn't pass the code. The owner promptly ended working with him. A builder who was hungrier. When the work was done and the inspector discovered it, the building code appeals board turned down the work, and finally the owner got the city council to order the non-conforming construction still there. So, in effect, he had paid nothing save future potential expense.

Perhaps you just don't like your building inspector. He's officious so-and-so. But aside from matters of personal preference, that, there is no group of men in the building industry in the West who are more anxious to do a good job for the public than the building officials, building inspectors and their office. Any building inspector worth his salt not only will cheerfully suggest to the "do-it-yourself" man what he should do but will make helpful suggestions which if allowed will result in a better job. The building inspector does not have to make such suggestions. All he is paid to do is to tell the week-end carpenter, "No, make it right". They're human and they like to help. If your own business dealings with them have been pretty negative.

We of the building industry can discharge our responsibility to the "do-it-yourself" customer by doing one simple thing. If we're a dealer, we can ask, "Do you have a building permit when we sell materials to a man when we know what the materials will be used for (and what building materials salesman should find out from each customer what the project is going to be)?"

Or, if we're a builder selling a man a "handyman house" doing the heavy part of a do-it-yourself remodeling job, we should point to the local building department as a good place to be acquainted.

Often we think of the building inspector as the fellow who delights to tell us we can't do something. Let's think of him perhaps, if we do, we'll see him as an underpaid, over-worked man who delights to put his technical knowledge to work for the low man - a fellow who can help all of us discharge our responsibility to the week-end carpenter and to the public as a whole. (Reprint of editorial in September issue of Western Building Inspectors: Ray E.)

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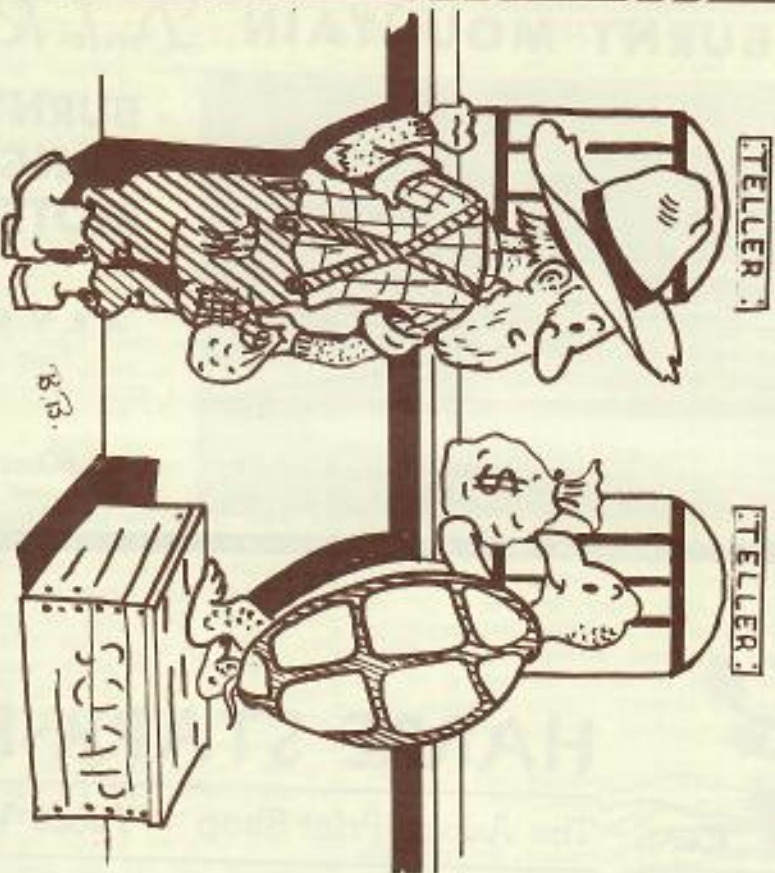
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YOUR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Sheriff's Office of Yucca Valley is composed of one regularly salaried deputy, known as a Resident Deputy. His services are augmented by the Yucca Valley Sheriff's Reserve Unit and the Yucca Valley Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit. These two units are volunteer citizens of the community, who give their time and effort whenever called upon to do so.

The Sheriff's Reserve Unit consists of five members who must furnish their own police equipment, uniforms and weapons at their own expense, and in turn receive no compensation whatever for their efforts. This unit has been averaging about 600 man hours per month during the past year.

The Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit consists of approximately seven members. These men and women also give their time and efforts voluntarily and receive no compensation whatever. Their basic function is search and rescue, although they may be used for actual law enforcement should the need arise. Both units are used for various types of law enforcement work during Grubstake Days, Turtle Races, etc. Members of both units attend monthly training classes where they are instructed in all types of law enforcement work.

Without the assistance of these two units, the Resident Deputy for Yucca Valley would be faced with an almost impossible situation, with an area of almost 1,000 square miles and an estimated permanent population of nearly 9,000.

The Sheriff's Office is located in the Chamber of Commerce building in Yucca Valley, and the Resident Deputy is on call 24 hours per day. Please feel free to call upon the Resident Deputy or any member of the Sheriff's Reserve or Search and Rescue unit at any time that you may need assistance.



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PARADISE

PARADISE VALLEY

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The valley of peaceful living lies nestled in the foothills north of Twentynine Palms Highway, three miles east of Yucca Valley and three miles west of Joshua Tree, California. Within short driving distance from Twentynine Palms and a giant Marine Corps Base, Paradise Valley is in the heart of everything.

For years the High Joshua Desert lay underdeveloped, waiting for people to discover the vast beauties and healthful climate of this area. About twenty years ago, S. Krantz, president of the Kranshire Realty, was exploring the area. He was struck with enthusiasm for this warm dry climate, and envisioned in the future a desert Paradise. Thus started the early development of Paradise Valley.

With an abundance of soft, pure water, living in Paradise is green and lush. With two wells pumping over five hundred fifty gallons of fine drinking water each minute, in twenty-four hours seven hundred ninety-two thousand gallons of water could be available.

Paradise Valley has an elevation of thirty-two hundred feet. This means warm days and cool nights. The air is very dry with a yearly average relative humidity of about 30.9% which creates a most healthful atmosphere. This dryness is especially a boon to sufferers of arthritis, asthma, bronchitis, sinus and many other afflictions. The sun always shines in this beautiful valley.

Paradise Valley is the home of The Sunshiners, a group of the local women who take pride in the Civic Betterment of their little community, with their eyes always open for ways to make our valley a better place in which to live.

In the past year a neighborhood park has been under development bringing to the residents a recreation area for young and old. A lath house and barbecue with picnic tables make picnicking most enjoyable. While children enjoy the fun of swings, tether-ball and sand box, growing trees add beauty to the recreation area. Residents of this chosen valley take great pride in its development. Water pipes were laid and trees planted by group cooperation.

Each day begins with a sunrise in the east that blazes forth in all its glory to bathe the valley in its warmth. Each sunset is like a shuttling kaleidoscope of prismatic color, finally blanketing the surrounding hills in rich hues of blues and purples, gradually darkening to lay at rest under the firmament of shining stars that glow over a peaceful valley in sleep.

Beautiful large scenic lots, with a panoramic view of the surrounding valleys are now under development by the Kranshire Realty Company.

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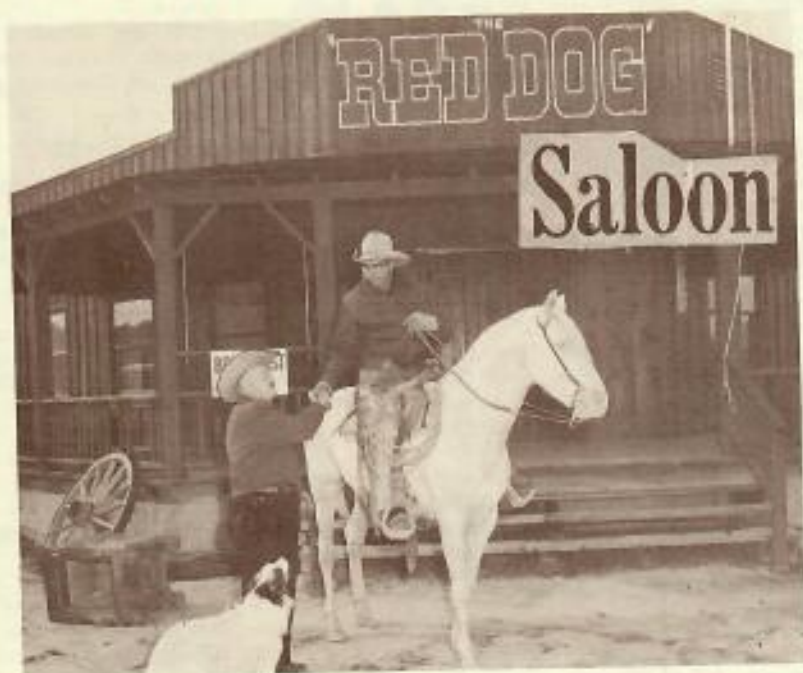
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Landers Homestead Valley Association, Inc. was inevitable with the popular demand for the 2½ and 5 acre tracts, and the Desert Electric Cooperative, Inc., and REA installation, making possible the modern comfortable living available in the beautiful healthful, smog and fog free valley.

The townsite of Landers, California is the approximate geographical center of our valley and the extremities may be described as enclosed by the horizontal ring of mountains which encircle the area.

Ten years ago this was a nearly uninhabited desert waste when a few pioneer minded Southland citizens took advantage of available cheap government lands in five-acre tracts on which to build a small cabin and use as a desert hide-away for weekend vacations etc. These cabins for the most part were quite small and constructed only to pass the minimum building code requirements for San Bernardino County.

As these cabins began to appear somewhat scattered and quite remote from one another, industry was created; giving employment to some cabin owner tradesman who moved in on a permanent basis.

One small group of air enthusiasts spearheaded by Newland Landers, George Belfield and Lee De Fever grouped their five acre tracts together and put in a runway for airplanes. George Belfield constructed the Sky Room Cafe, swimming pool, and motel, creating with his well the first public oasis, later to be followed by Johnnie Taylor's Golden Slipper Cafe.

With water available locally, the building tempo increased so rapidly that cabin pre-fabricators set up shop in Yucca Valley to supply the fast-growing demand which quickly reached boom proportions. Roads and trails soon laced the interior, and the new "HOMESTEADERS" applied to the government for an REA program to supply the district with electricity. This became a reality in 1957.

Victorville Road, our main thoroughfare, was paved due to the increased traffic demands. Real estate men saw the bonanza and acquired land for subdivision, while Earl Ramey, the well driller, continued being snowed under with well drilling demands.

Out of a clear sky the County Planning Commission decided to change our M-1 rated area into R-1 which would have restricted 700 square miles to residential use only. Our Homesteaders turned out by the hundreds making such a violent protest at the commissioners' hearing in San Bernardino that the Homestead Valley Government tracts were excluded from the plans.

Next came an attempt to include our valley in a water district designed to tap our water shed and pump the water down grade to another area. A water committee was formed by popular demand and by this coordinated effort the water problems were likewise halted in the hearing before the County Board of Supervisors.

These growing emergencies were becoming entirely too frequent and thus was proven the need for a local organization to serve in coordinating the Homesteaders' efforts in securing community improvements of all kinds.

A town hall meeting was called and created an organization known as THE LANDERS HOMESTEAD VALLEY ASS'N., dedicated as a property owner's and property holder's medium to acquire our community betterments by the democratic Town Hall procedure.

On February 13, 1959, our state charter was granted and duly filed with the County Recorder authorizing the Landers Homestead Valley Ass'n. to operate as a non-profit organization of property owners and holders dedicated to preserve the valley's natural beauties, to obtain adequate fire and police protection, educational facilities, roads, transportation, lighting and water supply, and to generally promote the welfare and civic betterment of the community as a whole.

As this brief valley history goes to press our membership numbers well over 300 members who pay \$1.00 per year dues meets the last Saturday of each month at 7:00 p. m. at D. Hall, Landers, California to democratically engineer our civic improvements.

The use of our meeting place is generously donated by our members, Mr. Lee DeFever, until such time as we are to build a Community Club house which, by the way, is all on the drawing board.

We are quite proud of our accomplishments during these few months since the inception of our charter.

Our Road Committee was highly instrumental in getting County to pave four miles of Reche Road, another of our thoroughfares, the remaining five miles to be paved in 1960.

The Park Committee has placed fourteen brightly painted ter barrels along our main arteries and have cleaned the side of accumulated litter.

We are in the process of acquiring 160 acres of magnificent beautiful land to be used as a Park and Recreational area will also serve for a building site for our Community Club playground equipment individual barbecue and picnic area public swimming pool is in the distant planning.

Another 20 acre plot of land is being acquired for a legalposal dump to serve the community.

These lands are acquired from the U. S. Government Land Office and are endorsed by the various County departments necessary in order to operate them legally.

Plans are under way to obtain some fire fighting equipment and to train an organized volunteer fireman company or companies, which will greatly improve the present system of skelter, bucket brigades; and by the Sky Room and Landers delivery trucks that always turn out as speedily as a fire ported, usually by pony express.

In case of sickness or other emergencies, a blue light flasher home gives out a distress signal, that help is needed.

Anyone and everyone who sees the light goes quickly to the aid of their neighbor.

Additional operating funds other than the regular dues are obtained by special parties, turkey grabs, auctions, and right necessity inspired donations, none of which are computed.

Our communications are greatly enhanced by the weekly published local newspaper, "THE HOMESTEADER", published by Hawley Publishing Co., who moved their press and equipment to our valley during the water district attempt. The Homestead was at that time, and has been since, a perfect medium to the valley homesteaders well informed of the current news regarding our valley.

The Womens Club of Homestead Valley joins with the Association in the overall program for the community. This organization of more than sixty women meet monthly for social and business activities. By their money raising projects they are contributing equipment for the club house, such as chairs, tables, dishes and other essential items. The club finds it necessary to change its meeting place from the homes of members to D. Hall because of its continual growth.

Perhaps the true spirit of these organizations and their members is typified in their emblem which can be seen, displayed yard or home, "WE MAKE, TOGETHER, OUR HOMESTEAD VALLEY ASSOCIATION"



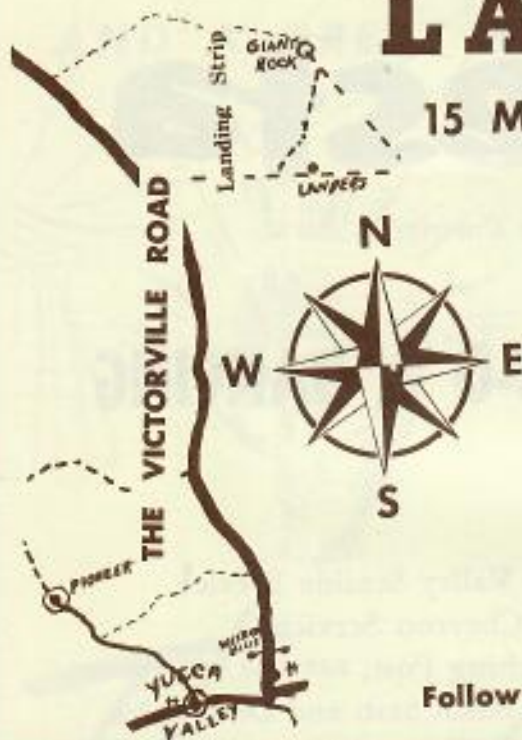
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MAY
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If you have found a new friend in Yucca Valley, we are the beneficiaries. If you have enjoyed your stay with us, it is we who rejoice. If Grubstake Days this year was your first visit, we trust you are an admirer, and if you are an 'old timer' returning, we know you are.

The door of Yucca Valley is always unlocked, the latch string is ever out. Come again to Grubstake Days, and better yet, join our fast growing community and help us plan a bigger and better celebration for the ensuing year.

Grubstake Chairman:
ROY ROUSH

Drawings by:
KIRK MARTIN, Artist
DAVID WILSON
BILL BROHAMER

Publicity:
HAROLD BROWN

Grubstake Buttons:
GLADYS STIFF

Grubstake Secretary:
ALICE BENNETT

Smooth Puss Buttons:
CORENE HAMMETT

Parade Chairman:
JOHNNY KEE
BILL BROHAMER

Advertising, 29 Palms:
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Midget Races Chairman:
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Queen Attendant:
CORINE CRAWFORD
JUNE GELLER



ROY ROUSH



Photo by L. Gholson

A QUEEN & FOUR OF A KIND — Queen of 1960 Turtle Races in Joshua Tree, Dianna Shaffer (center) and her four proud princesses (top L. to R.) Nita Fritchard and Audrey Diehl, and (bottom L. to R.) Pamela Bolin and Travis Cook. This is the second time in her life that Dianna has won in a contest.

Joshua Tree, Calif.

"Home of the Turtle Races"

and

THE SCENIC ENTRANCE TO THE

JOSHUA TREE

NATIONAL MONUMENT



PROGRAM

SATURDAY

- 11:00 Western Parade, Starts west of Joshua Tree, ends Sportsman's Field.
- 12:00 Trophy Awards for Parade. Final judging on mounted classes here.
- 12:30 Lunch time, Chuckwagon Dinner served until 4:00 p.m. in Sportman's Hall. Also food booths on the grounds, and cafe's in town: Jerry's, Hi-Ho, Hi-Hat, Red Rooster and Drugstore. All with good food.
- 1:00 Official opening of Turtle Races. Flag Salute.
- 2:00 Joshua Tree Crawl (under 8 in. only)
- 2:15 Special Events, Interesting displays.
- 2:30 Hidden River Run (for the big ones)
- 3:00 Homesteaders Special (If you don't have a turtle be sure to get one from the corral.)
- 3:15 Special Events, Visit Booths.
- 3:30 Sunfair Strut (for all turtles)
- 3:00 Turtle Toddle Dance
- Be sure to keep your winner for the sweepstakes tomorrow.

SUNDAY

- 10:30 Beginners Trot, (for kids with small turtles)
- 10:45 Visit exhibits and booths.
- 11:00 Morongo Meander (turtles all sizes)
- 11:30 Yucca Yaw. (Jockeys 12 years and under)
- 12:00 Time out for lunch, Local cafes and booths.
- 1:00 Pionertown Roundup. (for big tough tortoise)
- 1:15 Art Contest Awards.
- 1:30 Panorama Paddle (for all sizes)
- 2:00 29 Palms Toddle.
(turtles 8 in. and under)
- 2:15 Special Attraction
- 2:30 Western Wobble.
- 2:45 Special Events & Booths.
- 3:00 Last Chance. Winners get ready for run-off.
- 3:30 Grand National Sweepstakes. (Open to Winners only)
- EVENING CHURCH SERVICES. ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND



THIS PAGE GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY
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Bill BROHAMER

NO STRANGERS HERE



Sketch by Evelyn Hutchinson

*In our town
No stranger you'll ever see
There are no strangers
In Joshua Tree*

... Adger Hutchinson

JOSHUA TREE

By Gwen Keys

In our town no strangers you'll ever see - there are no strangers in Joshua Tree.

The verse quoted above, by Joshua Tree's beloved poet, Adger Hutchinson, best expresses the warmth and friendliness of the little town located in the heart of the great Mojave Desert.

Here, at the western scenic entrance to the Joshua Tree National Monument, is the place in the sun called "home" by more than 2500 permanent residents and the hub of activity for the 5 Acre Tractors who spend their weekend and vacations relaxing and enjoying daily sunshine, the desert's clear, dry air and Joshua Tree's pure, well water.

A small town to be sure, but a growing one. Every passing year finds new houses and residents added to the census, more power lines and poles linking the "pioneers" to the ever expanding pattern of the modern mode of living. Those who live on the "outskirts" of town have found themselves drawn in by the ring of a telephone, the flip of a switch bringing light when needed and the mere turn of a knob for the pleasure of entertainment.

Joshua Tree is a town of many talents. Tradesmen, contractors, home-builders, artists, vocalists, musicians, teachers, poets, real estate brokers and salesmen, a lawyer and a doctor . . . etc. reside here. Some are active, some are retired, but all respond generously with time and talent when called upon to do so.

Joshua's Point With Pride

To their modern, attractive Post Office on Park Boulevard where Postmistress Grace Aldridge and her assistants, Mary Ransom and Neva Naaktgeboren serve the public with courtesy and efficiency.

To the Desert Journal Publishing Company on the Palms Hwy: owned and operated by Leona and G. Burton Gholson, which serves the high desert with four separate newspapers on a weekly basis: the Desert Journal (Joshua Tree), Yucca Valley Progress, Morongo Valley News and the 29 Palms News. Well-composed and instructive editorials are presented through this medium by the Desert Spectator, John Bassett. Some of which have been read over the Kerwin Hoover coast-to-coast broadcast, as have been poems by Adger Hutchinson.

To the Joshua Tree Community Hall and Park where clubs and organizations hold their meetings and where visitors may stop rest in the shade of trees and picnic on the tables placed there with care and forethought.

To the many businesses, including a builders supply, a hardware store, auto parts shop, a laundromat, Helen's Variety store, Lichers Dept. Store, Desertaire Druggette, a garage, a watch repair, an appliance repair, two beauty salons, a liquor store, two well stocked markets, several motels, a doctor's office and a chiropractor, several cafes, "Jerry's", complete with soda fountain; "Shamrock", beer and sandwiches, the "Hi-Ho" (formerly Tea food and cocktails.

To the five service stations: Shell (Robert Garry); Union (Carl Petersen); Chevron (H. Mickey); Mobile (Jim Carpenter) and Commanche Serve-Yourself (Bill Lewis).

To the Fire Dept. and Ambulance Service

To the Joshua Tree Elementary School, the two established churches; the Community Methodist (Rev. Charles Maloney) the First Baptist (Rev. W. H. Lucas) and a Fellowship Group (Rev. H. McGee).

To the Joshua Tree Woman's Club (President Mabel Petersen) Joshua Tree Community Association, (President Mabel Petersen) Order of DeMolay (John Greswit, Master Councilor), The Hi-Lert Sojourners (Don Blood, President), and the Rainbow Club (Travis Ann Cook, Worthy Advisor) the V. F. W. Post 7264 (Commander Bill Mullins), V. F. W. Post 7264 Auxiliary (Mary Fausch, President), the American Legion, Jack V. Rice Post 761 (Commander Harvey Todd), P. T. A. (Breck L. Nott, President) Community Park & Recreation (Harold Sherborne, President) Home & Property Owner Improvement League (Christine D. Eron), The National Turtle Race Association (Kenneth Williams, President), a Cub Scout troop, The Sportsman's Club (Bob Perry, President), the Upsilon Delta Chapter 5180, Beta Sigma International Sorority (Gwen Keys, President) and to the Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce (Charley Coleman, President).

JOSHUA TREE

FACTS

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| ELEVATION | 3,000 ft. above sea level |
| ESTIMATED POPULATION | Approximately 4,000 as served by Post Office Approximately 1200 in Joshua Tree proper |
| TELEPHONES | 275 |
| WATER HOOKUPS | 450 to 500 |
| ELECTRIC METERS | 600 |
| CHURCHES | 2 |
| SCHOOLS | 1 (Elementary) |
| ENROLLMENT | 125 |
| P. O. RECEIPTS | 16,000 |
| REGISTERED VOTERS | Approximately 700 |
| THEATRES | 1 (Located between Joshua Tree and Yucca Valley) |
| OUTSTANDING FEATURE | Scenic Entrance to Joshua Tree Monument National Park |
| NEWSPAPERS | Local weeklies 4, metropolitan dailies 5 |
| FIRE DISTRICT | 8 square miles |
| POLICE AREA | Policed by radio control, Sheriff and California State Highway Patrol |

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Step Forward

The Joshua Tree Chamber of Commerce has announced the securing of a flood control project to be started in the first part of 1960. Another step forward by the Chamber is the street lighting project now under consideration and being handled by Chairman John Duncan and Charles Mitchell. Cooperation is the key word for the local chamber in working shoulder to shoulder with other organizations to perpetuate the beauty and development of the Joshua Tree area. Curbing of the business district in Joshua Tree is near completion.

Culture, Recreation and Gay 90's

The town's cultural activities are furthered by an annual presentation of the "Town of Bethlehem", a Christmas Pageant, produced and directed by Vic Groves and Carl O'Bryan. Local citizens portray Biblical characters with a local choral group supplying religious airs. The pageant is presented gratis, nightly, the seven nights preceding Christmas and including Christmas Eve. The main thoroughfare of Joshua Tree sets the scene and spectators remain in their cars for the performance. It is a pageant of simplicity and beauty and has merited attention as "one of the 100 Most Colorful Events in Southern California" according to the All Year Club 1959 publication.

Also serving the community in a cultural capacity, is the Upsilon Delta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi sorority, which has adopted sponsorship of the California Community Concert Series Association program. Captain of the Joshua Tree area is the sorority secretary, Elinor Fairbanks. Working with her are townspeople, Gloria Amrine, Judy Randle, Evelyn Hutchinson, and Rev. Harold McGee.

Recreation for Joshua Tree is evidenced in the program of the Turtle Race Association. "National Turtle Races" are held annually in Joshua Tree on the first weekend in May, attracting visitors from near and far. Local turtles are used for the "races" and for a small entrance fee, stand ready to reap for their backers a fair sized monetary reward should the turtles be among the 1st, 2nd or 3rd denizens to cross the "finish line". Visitors are urged not to take the turtles away from the desert, their natural habitat.

Last September, a "Gay 90's Revue" sponsored by Upsilon Delta, was staged at the Sportsman's Hall in Joshua Tree, which was enthusiastically received by five separate audiences. The appreciative public encouraged the sorority to stage a repeat performance in October, which also played to capacity crowds and may result in another "annual event" for Joshua Tree. The Revue starred Francis Callahan, of Yucca Valley as Master of Ceremonies, and featured such personalities as Millie, the Desert Lily, (Millie Plueger) the Two Dots, (Dot Sherman and Dot Randolph), the Gay Blades, singers (John Hiebo, Sheridan Sherman, Lyle Robertson, Carl Couture and George Vance).

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LOOKING AT JOSHUA TREE

By John Bassett

A MATTER OF PRIDE holds a strong grip on residents of Joshua Tree, old timers and newcomers alike. Pride is strong in the enduring beauty of the desert which surrounds it. Serving as west gateway to the fabulous Joshua Tree National Monument with its scenic wonders and outdoor recreational offerings, the town also affords access to Coyote Hole Canyon with its interesting and historic Indian hieroglyphic writing on cliff walls. Incomparable desert vista abound, westward to mountain ram-parts and the commanding peak of snow-clad San Gorgonio, and eastward across pastel-shaded desert hills to the sunset-tinted face of the Sheephole Mountains. These are the things of local pride which time never changes.

PRIDE IN ACTIVITIES is also strong in Joshua Tree. Its home-conceived Annual Turtle Races, now in their fifteenth year, have realized an ever increasing popularity through the wide spreading of interest in this unique feature. A more recent de-gaunt of exquisite and reverent beauty. Production of both of these is the outgrowth of community effort.

PRIDE IN GROWTH has led to the establishing of a local school; to the constant increase in the number of fine new homes; and to the foundation of clubs such as the well-supported Federated Women's Club which is always in the fore in civic im-provement projects, and of a Community Association dedicated to a spirit of friendliness and development of such recreational ac-tivities as the Wednesday Evening Card Club and outdoor shuffle board. These community activities are held at facilities main-tained at the Community Park which also boasts provision for picnickers, shade trees and a beautiful drinking fountain.

Out of these elements has come the spirit which has helped form the town of Joshua Tree.



Dick Sharp

will perform rope tricks at the Turtle Race Days and Grubstake Days

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JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL MONUMENT, located in beautiful high desert country, preserves a typical California desert where plants and animals have acquired specialized habits in order to survive; where the sand may suddenly be covered with millions of wildflowers; where the oases shelter a colorful and varied bird population; and where the colorful cactuses, the spidery ocotillo, and the grotesque Joshua-tree are symbols of the desert.

The altitude of this monument ranges from 1,000 feet in the eastern end to nearly 6,000 feet in the Little San Bernardino Mountains. The weather is delightful most of the year and particularly on winter days. In summer, while it is hot at lower elevations, it is relatively cool at higher altitudes. The average annual rainfall is less than 5 inches, but there are wide departures from this average.

This area was established as a national monument on August 10, 1936, and has an area of more than 870 square miles.

Desert Plants

Joshua Tree National Monument is preserved primarily because of the notable variety and richness of its desert vegetation. The monument lies within both the Mojave and Colorado Deserts. This is one reason for the many and varied species of desert plants.

Many of these are extremely rare. Among them is the rapidly diminishing Joshua-tree (*Yucca brevifolia*), one of the most spectacular botanical features of our western desert. It belongs to the lily family, as do many other hardy desert plants, and attains heights up to 40 feet. Its cream-white blossoms grow in clusters 8 to 14 inches long at the ends of heavy, angular, erratic branches. It is believed that the Mormons gave this giant yucca the name of Joshua-tree, or the "praying plant," because of the upstretched "arms."

Unlike a typical tree, the Joshua-tree trunk is not composed of annual rings or layers, hence it is difficult to determine its age.

The great feathery plume of the nolina (*Nolina parryi*) blossom is another striking feature of the landscape in early summer. It is not a yucca, but is frequently confused with the Mohave yucca (*Yucca schidigera*).

Widely scattered throughout the monument are the paloverde, manzanita, pinyon, live oak, juniper, ocotillo, desertwillow, indigobush, smokethorn, mesquite, catclaw, numerous species of colorful cactuses, and a profusion of small bushes, plants, and shrubs whose blossoms lend brilliant patches of color to the desert in the spring after a wet winter. Then there is the common creosote-bush which forms a sea of dark green on every level area and valley floor. Desertholly grows in a few isolated areas.

Wildflower displays are best observed during April and May, although flowering starts in March at the lower elevations and continues through June at the higher altitudes. As is typical of the desert, in some years there is no floral display because of unfavorable weather.

Palms and Oases

There are several oases in the monument where groups of California Washington-palms (*Washingtonia filifera*) are found. Among these is the splendid group at Fortynine Palms Canyon, just inside the northern boundary and easily reached by trail. One of the best known stands is at the Twentynine Palms Oasis. Col. Henry Washington, who conducted a Government survey party through the area in 1855, was the first white man known to have seen this oasis. The largest group of palms within the monument is found in Lost Palms Canyon. This group of more than 100 palms is reached from Cottonwood Spring over a 4-mile trail.

Geology

The topography of Joshua Tree National Monument is briefly a series of mountain blocks separated by desert flats, the result of shifting along great cracks, or "faults," in the earth's crust. The land surface has been intensely modified by the sudden changes in wind, water, and temperature conditions typical of desert climate.

Rocks of eight different geological periods, ranging in age from Precambrian to Quaternary, are found in the area.

Hundreds of light-gray or pinkish rock formations are scattered over a large portion of the monument, particularly in the high plateau region. This rock is called White Tanks quartz monzonite, a rock once molten during the age of reptiles. This molten rock

rose up into the crust as "magma," cooled and solidified not too far below the earth's surface. Today it is exposed to view because the overburden of rock has been worn away by erosion.

Many narrow bands of contrasting color are seen in these massive rock formations. These are dikes (aplite, pegmatite, or rhyolite) which resulted from molten material being forced up through cracks when the older mass of magma had cooled and contracted in the process of hardening into monzonite.

Early Human Habitation

Prehistoric man has left behind relics of his occupation in this area, perhaps 5,000 years ago. The Pinto Basin is famous for a particular type of stone weapon point associated with the distinctive culture of Pinto Man. These points were used to tip darts propelled with the atlatl (throwing stick) before the introduction of the bow and arrow. Pinto points, with other stone artifacts, were found along the shore of an ancient lake that was there during and following the Ice Age (Pleistocene Epoch). Subsequent decrease in rainfall left the basin so dry that it was no longer habitable by primitive man. Embedded in the shore deposits of the now-vanished lake are found fossilized bones of camels, horses, antelope, ground sloth, and other animals.

More recent Indians also inhabited the monument. Until about 1913, the Serranos, a branch of the Shoshone tribe, lived in this area and left arrow points, pottery, beads, metates, manos, petroglyphs, and pictographs.

Wildlife

Many kinds of wildlife and the means by which they survive in this desert area are a source of surprise to most visitors. Among the animals are the desert bighorn, mule deer, coyote, bobcat, an occasional cougar, badger, desert fox, and many rodents ranging in size from the jackrabbit to the silky pocket mouse, one of the smallest mammals in North America. Since so little water is available, rodents have learned to satisfy their thirst by eating vegetation from which the necessary moisture is secured.

Birds are numerous especially around the oases; more than 230 species have been identified. Many are migrants, while a number live permanently in the area.

Reptile life is abundant, with the desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizi*) leading in interest. Many colorful lizards can be seen darting across the hot sands. The rare

(continued)



Xantusia vigilis, one of the smallest species of lizards, is associated with the yucca. They have vertical (catlike) pupils, have no eyelids, and are usually nocturnal. The chuckwalla, the largest lizard in this area, lives among the rocks.

Salton View

Salton View is the outstanding scenic point in the monument. From an elevation of 5,185 feet, there is an unforgettable sweep of valley, mountain, and desert combined in one magnificent panorama. The Salton Sea, 241 feet below sea level and 30 miles away, is visible from here.

In the foreground lie the renowned "date gardens" of Coachella Valley. Date palms were first brought to our shores by Spanish missionaries.

To the right is the blunt-faced escarpment of San Jacinto Peak (elevation 10,831 feet). This sheer rise of about 10,000 feet within a distance of 5 miles, is one of the greatest in the country. To the north lies San Geronio Mountain whose top, snow-covered the greater part of the year, reaches an elevation of 11,485 feet, making it the highest in southern California.

The well-known San Andreas Fault, source of many earthquakes, can be seen directly below and to the west, extending approximately northwest to southeast on the near side of the Coachella Valley.

Other Places of Interest

Fine stands of Joshua-trees are located in Queen and Lost Horse Valleys. Split Rock, a giant granite boulder knifed into two large sections, is a short way off the Salton View Road. The whole high plateau through which the road travels is dominated by fantastic piles of monzonite which culminate in the Wonderland of Rocks.

Hidden Valley is in the Wonderland of Rocks on the road to Salton View. According to legend, this valley, completely enclosed by a wall of rocks, was formerly used as a cattle rustlers' hideout. An excellent view of the Wonderland of Rocks is had from a high point atop the wall surrounding the valley.

Cottonwood Spring is truly an oasis, providing sufficient water for palms, cottonwoods, and other plant and animal life. From Cottonwood Spring there is an easy 4-mile trail to Lost Palms Canyon where desert bighorn are sometimes seen. Along the road in Pinto Basin are the Cholla Cactus Garden and the Ocotillo Patch.

How To Reach the Monument

Located in southern California, the monument is less than 150 miles east of Los Angeles and is best approached on U. S. 60, 70, and 99 to a point 15 miles east of Banning, thence to Twentynine Palms or Joshua Tree and the north entrances.

From U. S. 66, you may turn south at Amboy and follow a paved road 50 miles to Twentynine Palms.

You may enter the monument from U. S. 60 and 70, via the Cottonwood Spring or south entrance.

Main roads in the monument are of a good desert type, most of them having an oiled surface. You are cautioned to stay on the regular designated routes. Water should be carried, especially during the summer.

Camping is delightful the year round although the nights are sometimes cold during the winter. Seven free campgrounds have been developed, with tables, fireplaces and toilets. Campers must bring their own water and firewood. Camping is confined to the designated camps. Picnic lunches may be eaten outside the camps, provided no fires are built and the area is left clean.

The monument is a sanctuary for wildlife and hunting or shooting is prohibited. No plant or animal life, deadwood, artifacts, or other natural or historic objects may be gathered, cut, disturbed, or removed from the monument.

Administration

Joshua Tree National Monument is administered by the National Park Service of the U. S. Department of the Interior. The superintendent, whose address is Twentynine Palms, Calif., is in immediate charge.

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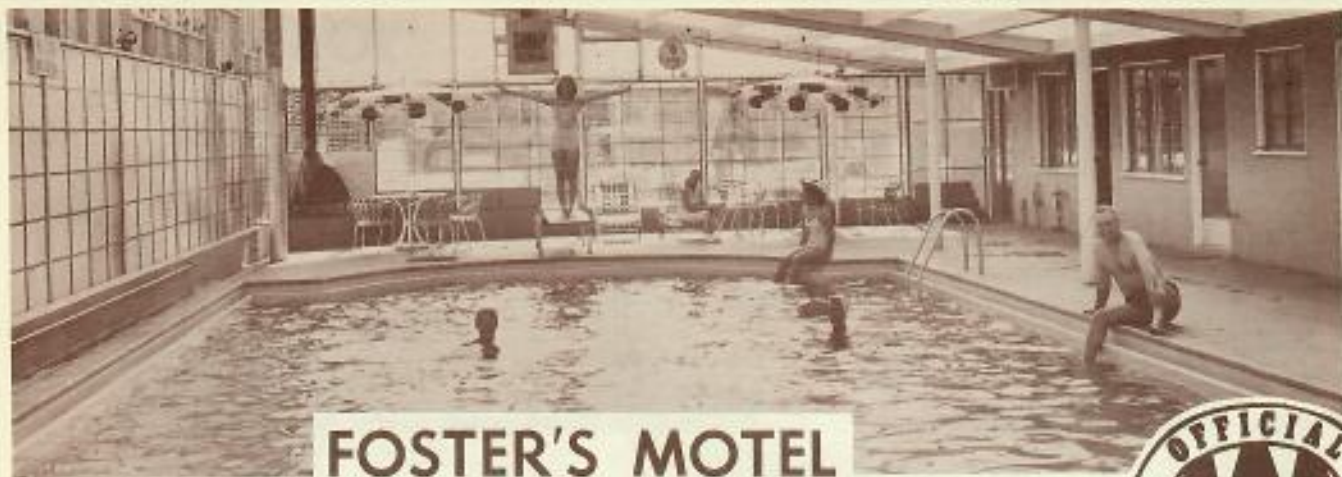
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That makes one happy to be here.
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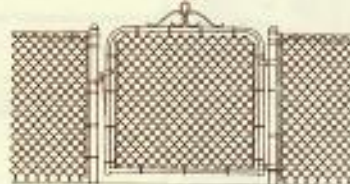


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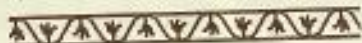
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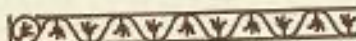
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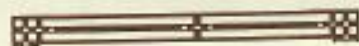
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**The Hi-Desert
 Community Concert Association**

Harry Wallman

Grubstake Days, 1960, will be remembered as the year when residents of the Hi-Desert "staked" themselves to the enjoyment of music forever. It will be remembered as the inaugural year when the finest artists in the United States of America will make the Hi-Desert as a place to provide the best entertainment. All this was possible because of a plan calling for the voluntary efforts of the citizenry to form a non-profit organization, the Hi-Desert Community Concert Association. The plan was remarkably simple and based on faith and trust of each other - in other words - giving each other a grubstake!

It's a common economic concept that ready cash will provide a better "buy" than purchasing on credit; thus, it follows that money was needed to bring the world's finest artists to the locality. Over seven hundred adults and students responded by providing a Grubstake of \$7.50 and \$4.00 respectively. Capital being provided, it remained for the local officers of the association to select the type of artists that the Hi-Desert citizens wished to enjoy. Their selections were a work of marvel and genius for February 14th saw the Boston Opera Company bringing forty-five artists, dancers, vocalists, and orchestra, to the High School Auditorium in order to perform a very timely operetta entitled "Voyage to the Moon" written by composer Offenbach. April fourth saw an eighteen-piece Temianka Little Symphony Orchestra perform, and a third program was scheduled. The Hi-Desert Community Concert Association united the community in a living audience, enhancing for all the enjoyment of music; provided the family an opportunity to share a stimulating emotional experience, invited residents to a rewarding social occasion, and established a concert series, a cultural asset in any community.

This was also the biggest value in live entertainment for these seven hundred pioneers. These "music grubstakers" could enjoy three performances in the Hi-Desert, and with their Hi-Desert membership card, they could visit any community so as to participate in their concerts with no extra charge for there are over one thousand community concert associations in the United States and Canada. Membership cards are transferable so anyone who could borrow a card may see the program; the local association doesn't allow tickets to be bought at the window because it is a non-profit organization.

Just as the Lyceum and Chautauqua sponsored artists to go to smaller communities, our local association now offers similar opportunities where music can be enjoyed without traffic and parking problems that plague more densely populated areas. Special tributes should be given to Mrs. William Amrine and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dunn for leading the association in its initial successful year. Educators and other leaders provided the backbone to the association. We are looking forward to autumn, 1960 when local association workers will again be asking for a Grubstake for yourself. Remember not to let them down!

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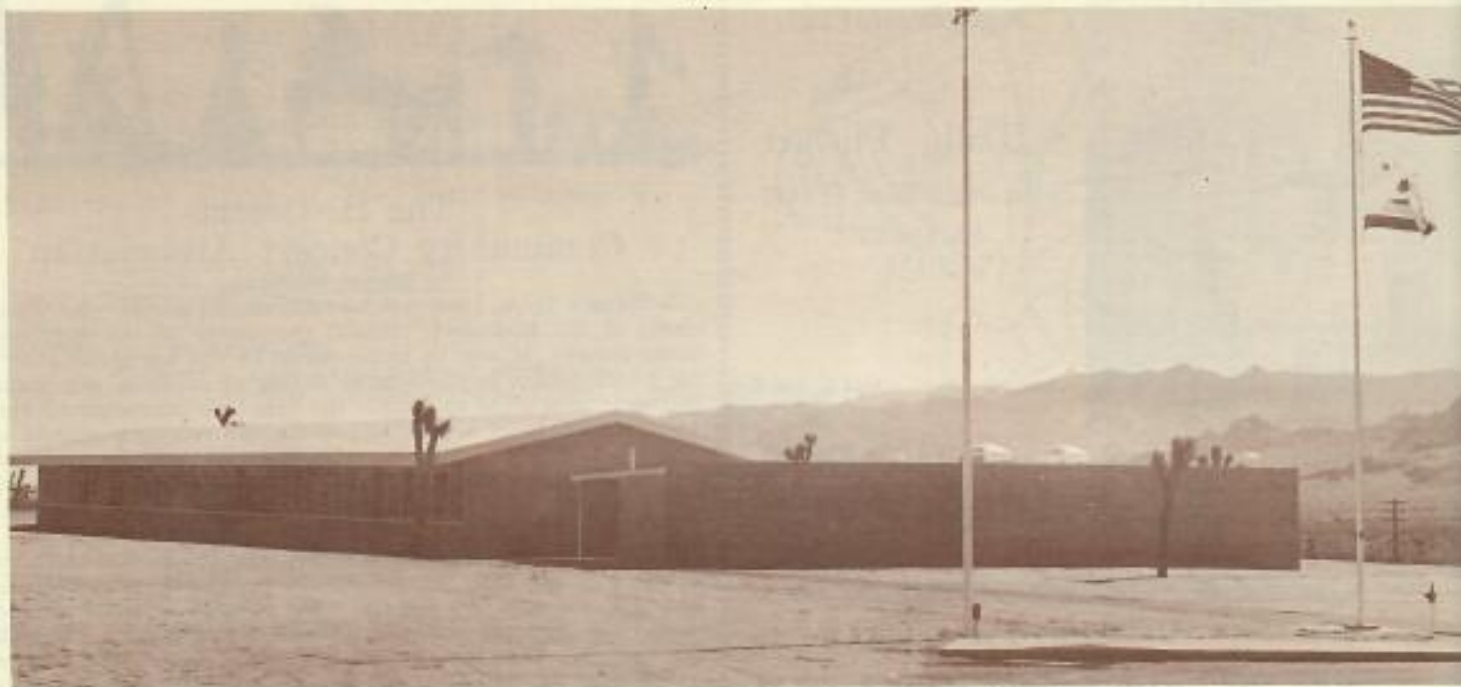


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Joshua Tree Elementary School

The Joshua Tree Elementary School, modern in every respect, housed its classes in September 1958. Three classrooms took care of children in grades one through six. Enrollment grew from sixty-six to eighty-five.

Wm. Greene, as principal, headed a faculty of Harry Wallman, Mrs. Bessie Mercer and Mrs. Nellie V. Hyde. Wm. Shreves was head custodian. Kenneth Williams was president of the P. T. A.

September 1959 found all five classrooms in use, with an enrollment of about 120 pupils. The faculty, under principal Wm. Greene, includes Mrs. Beatrice Hicks, Harry Wallman, Mrs. Nellie V. Hyde, Mrs. Elizabeth Naugle and Howard McCracken. Mr. Shreves continued as custodian. Breck Nott presided over the P. T. A.

Hot lunches, prepared in the Yucca Valley School kitchen, were introduced in October. Lunches are transported by truck and served within a few minutes.

Playground equipment offers a variety of healthful activity. There is a baseball diamond, three tether ball courts, hopscotch and a four-square game. Swings, a slide, barrels, swinging gate, jungle gym and acting bars give children opportunity to develop large muscles, kick balls, rubber balls, basketballs and jump ropes are also provided.

James Ranney and Darrell Sausser, District music instructors, bring choral and instrumental instruction to children in grades four through six.

Audial Visual Aids provided for the school include a film projector, a slide and filmstrip projector and a tape recorder.

Mrs. Inez Barnes served as school nurse and Mrs. Carol Martin was school clerk.



Nellie V. Hyde
Grades 1 and 2



Beatrice Hicks
Grade 2



Harry Wallman
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Wm. E. Shreves

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Photos of Teachers and School Buildings Courtesy of
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Oasis of Mara

A Cordial Welcome
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from

We Hope To See You Soon . . .

TWENTYNINE PALMS

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Welcome! to TWENTYNINE PALMS,

Land of Sunshine, Health and Gracious Living

By Edna Benito

Twentynine Palms is the last of the valley towns as you travel east on the highway through the Morongo Basin. Such is the varied terrain of the area that each sparkling little town is completely different from its neighbors. Twentynine Palms is the oldest of these communities.

This is partly due to the Oasis of Mara, the most northerly in the United States, a never failing source of water in the early days. First the ancient Indians lived in the vicinity. Then the freighters and miners stopped on their way to and from the rich mines of the Dale District. In time a settlement grew up. Sporadic mining continues to the present day. The largest operation at the present time is the Iron Age Mine about 25 miles east of Twentynine Palms that supplies high grade iron ore to the Kaiser Mills.

Many of the early settlers of the present day era came seeking health. The dry atmosphere worked wonders and the word spread and the community grew. At the present time many people come to spend the winter in this healthful climate.

But Twentynine Palms has grown far beyond a little settlement of health seekers. It is a modern bustling little city that now also boasts of many young active citizens. It has a magic something that draws people back. During World War II, the dry lake north of town housed first a Glider Base and then a Naval Air Training Group. Many of Twentynine's most active members first saw the town at that time and returned to make it their home. The same is true today of many people being released from the Marine Corps Base. Twentynine Palms is becoming their permanent home.

The physical setting of the town is very attractive. On the south are the bleak, rocky, Little San Bernardino Mountains. To the north are the dark purple peaks of the Bullion Mountains with their contrasting areas of windblown sand. Back to the west loom the high San Bernardino Mountains with lordly Mount San Gorgonio dominating the skyline with its crown of white. The valley gently slopes to the east until it is bounded by the granitic Sheephole Mountains and the black Pintos with a teasing glimpse of the serrated crests of the Coxcomb Mountains beyond. The town is bounded on the south by the Joshua Tree National Monument and on the north by the Marine Corps Base. But the valley is wide and the town has plenty of room to grow. In fact it is spread over a wide area at the present time with lots of open spaces between.

The citizens are justly proud of their modern business district. This includes a long planned Civic Center area in which the first two buildings have just been completed. The County Building houses all of the County governmental offices, including a court room and a jail. The other building houses the County Branch

Library. Both are extremely attractive structures in keeping with the desert. Schools in town include two public elementary schools and one parochial elementary school, and one four-year high school.

Headquarters of the Joshua Tree National Monument is located at the Oasis of Mara at the northeastern entrance to the Monument. The featured attraction is one of the finest stands of Joshua trees but there is much more to be seen and enjoyed. It is a fascinating area of weird jumbled rock formations that invite you to climb and explore. It has old placer diggings, dirt roads that lead to abandoned mines, ancient Indian sites. It is a region of interest to the entire family.

Twentynine Palms is a town of enthusiasts. One of the largest and most enthusiastic groups is the Twentynine Palms Gem and Mineral Society, familiarly known as the 'Rockhounds'. Their members come from Morongo Basin and even from the city areas beyond. This is an ideal hobby for Twentynine Palms lies within a region of excellent rock hunting. Within a hundred miles radius are many fine fields. Another busy group is the Twentynine Palms Camera Club. Photography is another ideal recreation for this area that has not only the wonderful desert scenery of the Morongo Basin but also the marvelously photogenic Joshua Tree National Monument. Both rockhunting and photography are fine family hobbies. The town roster of many other fine organizations is long and varied.

Just a few years ago, Twentynine Palms was at the end of the paved road going east. A dirt road led down the valley and over the pass to Amboy and highway 66, but it was quite an undertaking. Another dirt road crossed Pinto Basin in the Monument and eventually arrived at highway 60-70. The Park Service has realigned and paved almost all of that road through the Monument and it is now a pleasant drive and a good way to go to the Imperial or Coachella Valleys. A new road, the Baseline Highway, has been cut through east to connect with the Desert Center to Parker, Arizona highway. The San Bernardino County Highway Department has completed the paving all the way to the Riverside County line. Word has been received that the Riverside County Board of Supervisors has voted to pave the remaining seven miles. In fact it might be done by this time. This gives much closer access to the Colorado River areas and much of Arizona. Several years ago the Amboy Road was paved and it is now a busy highway as it traverses the heart of the five acre tract homestead lands. And so Twentynine Palms is no longer at the end of the road. And its busy citizens are making sure that its road into the future looks good.

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5647 Adobe Rd. - 29 Palms
FO 7-6871

Yucca Valley

Buck Bldg. - 29 Palms Hwy.
FO 5-4055

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Welcome to the Yucca Valley 10th Annual GRUBSTAKE DAYS

Howdy Partner:

We are extending a hearty welcome to you and your friends to join us for this three day celebration, **MAY 13th, 14th, 15th**. Our parade will be held Saturday, May 14th at 11 a. m., and it is our sincere wish that you or your organization can be with us to participate in our Parade and Gymkhana. The entry blank below lists the classifications for parade groups and gymkhana events. Alfalfa hay will be furnished for your horses. We would appreciate your reply for entry as soon as possible.

Cordially,
JOHN KEE, Parade Chairman

I hereby enter the above horse or horses at my own risk and subject to all rules and regulations of the show. I further agree that if any damage be occasioned by or loss or damage occur from any cause to the horse(s) exhibited, or to any equipment that I may send with such horse I will make no claim thereof; I further agree to indemnify the management and/or the owner and manager of the grounds where the show is held against any legal proceedings for personal injuries or property damage arising from an accident occasioned by any employee or entry of mine.

If exhibitor is under 21 years of age, parent or guardian sign here

Exhibitor Sign

Street Address

City and State

Return to
Chamber of Commerce
Att'n John Kee
BILL BROHAMER,
Parade Chairman
Yucca Valley

CLASSIFICATIONS: Please Check

| PARADE: | Novelties (you name it) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| Sheriff's Posse | Float |
| Riding Group | Most Typical Prospector |
| Matched Pairs | GYMKHANA |
| Western, Men | |
| Western, Women | Boot Race |
| Silver Mounted, Men | Key Hole Race |
| Silver Mounted, Women | Musical Chair |
| Largest Family Group | Rescue Race under 18 over 18 |
| Western Girl under 16 | Bending Race |
| Western Boy under 16 | Balloon Race |
| Parade Horse | Stake Race |
| Bands | Bull Riding |
| Children under 10 | Baton Race |

SWEEPSTAKES PRIZE



BEVERLY HOFFMAN *The Queen of 1959*

*To Our Hospital Let Us Humbly Give
All We Can That Others May Live*

5% NET PROFIT from
GRUBSTAKE DAYS
Will Go to the
**HIGH DESERT MEMORIAL
HOSPITAL FUND**

No 0

Name

Address

PLEASE PRINT

GRUBSTAKE DAYS QUEEN TICKET !

1960 FORD HALF TON PICKUP

Courtesy BOB FAHY FORD, 220 E. Ramsey, Banning

5 percent Net Profit goes to HI-DESERT HOSPITAL FUND

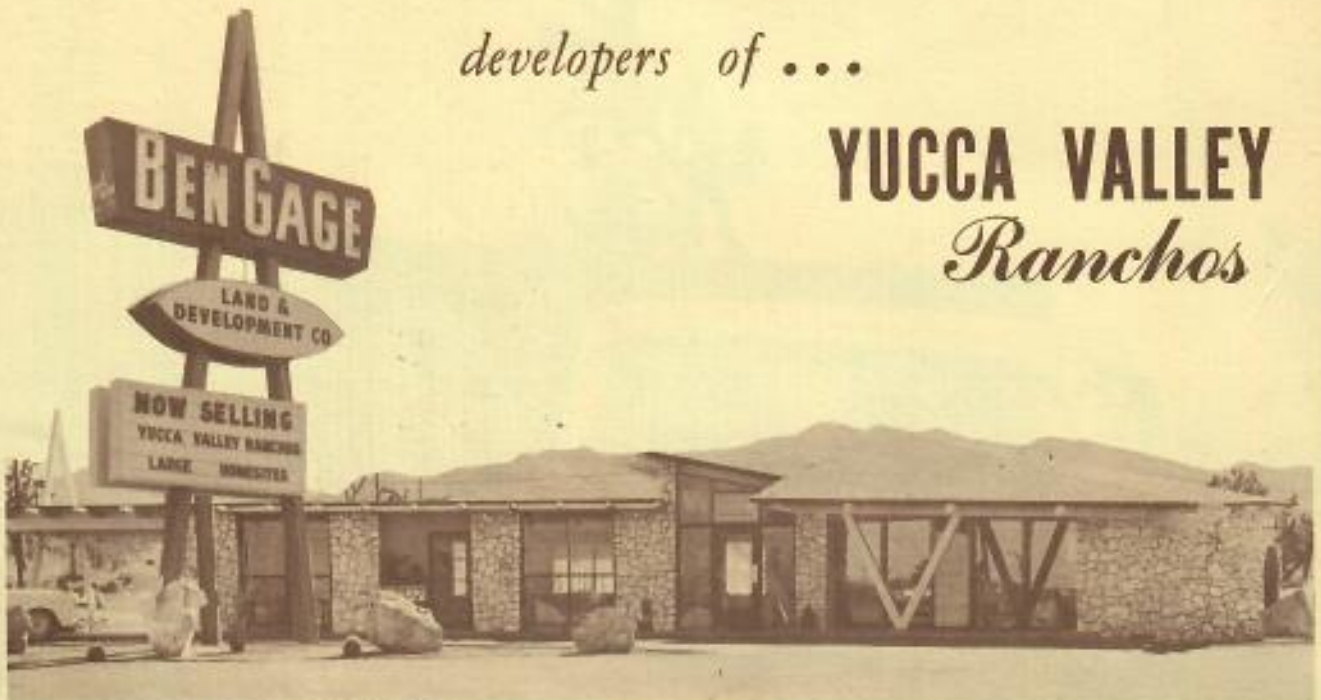
No 0

Drawing, Sunday, May 15, 1960.
Donation \$1. You do not have to
be present to win. Car on display
in YUCCA VALLEY

THE ONLY SHELTERED HIGH DESERT VALLEY
IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

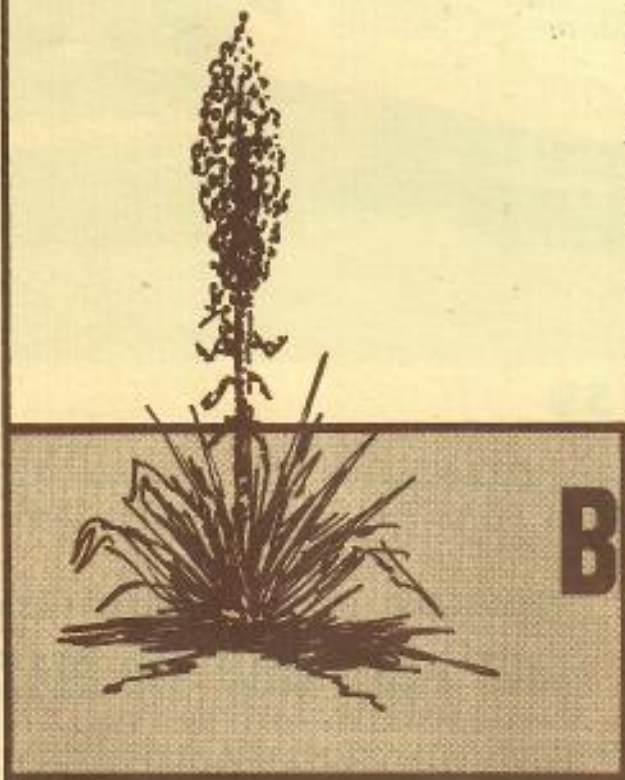
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