

Resorter

June/July 2025

SUSIE MARTIN, EDITOR

Meet Mohave County, Arizona

By: Susie Martin

How much do you know about the county that you live in?

I thought it would be interesting to dive into our county and see what I could learn about its history. Once again “thanks Wikipedia!”

It covers 13,461 square miles of which 13,311 square miles is land and 150 square miles is water. With a population of 226,479 from the 2024 census. The county seat is Kingman and the largest city is Lake Havasu City. It is the second largest county in Arizona (by land area) followed only by Coconino County and the fifth largest county in the United States.

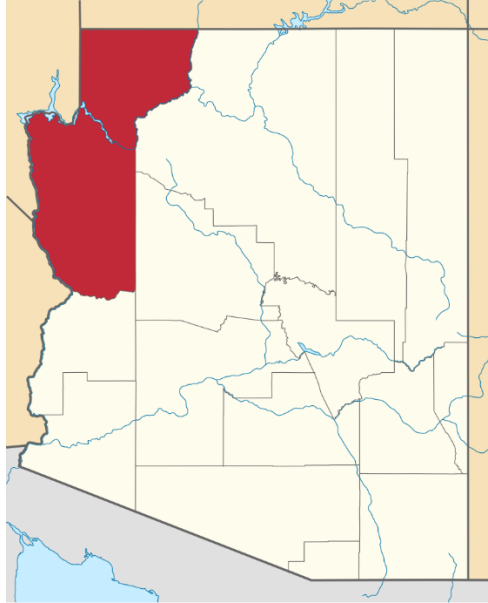
It is interesting to note that Mohave County borders the largest county (by land area) in the US being San Bernardino County California. Also, Mohave County borders three different states, California, Nevada and Utah.

Mohave County contains parts of **Grand Canyon National Park** and **Lake Mead National Recreation Area** and all of the **Grand Canyon–Parashant National Monument**.

Mohave County was one of four original Arizona Counties created by the **1st Arizona Territorial Legislature**. The county territory was originally defined as being west of longitude 113° 20' and north of the **Bill Williams River**. **Pah-Ute County** was created from it in 1865 but was merged back into Mohave County in 1871 when much of its territory was ceded to **Nevada** in 1866. The county's present boundaries were established in 1881. Mohave County has had five county seats: **Mohave City** (1864-1867), **Hardyville** (AKA Bullhead City) (1867-1873), **Cerbat** (1873–1877), **Mineral Park** (1877–1887), and **Kingman** (1887–present).

There are only 3 incorporated cities in Mohave County. They are Lake Havasu City, Kingman and Bullhead City. It has only one town known as Colorado City which is up close to the Utah border. It has 62 designed areas which includes Fort Mohave and Mohave Valley. Fort Mohave is governed by The Fort Mohave Tribal Council and Mohave Valley is governed by the Mohave County Board of Supervisors. There are 3 federally recognized Native American tribes/communities, The **Kaibab**, **Fort Mojave** and **Hualapai** Indian Reservations. Mohave County also has 62 areas that are considered “ghost towns”.

According to the BLM, Mohave County has an estimated 1,925 burros living amongst us in the Black Mountains.



Mohave County, Arizona in red.



Sometimes you can drive and drive and never see civilization. This photo was taken on State Route 389 near the town of Colorado City.

A Thank You Note from Jacque:

I would like to express my gratitude for all the love and support we received from you, our Vista family during what has been the most difficult time in my life.

When Jeff and I joined the Vista community 6 years ago we knew we had found somewhere truly special. It was the first time we had honestly felt like we were where we belonged.

During his hospitalization the cards, phone calls, prayers and even many offers to bring us anything we needed 250 miles away were above and beyond what anyone could expect. Our children were amazed and repeatedly told me how grateful they were that we had been led here. There was even a surprise visit from some extra special people who just came to give me much needed love before they went back to Minnesota. They also brought the heart pillow that many of you had signed for Jeff. Unfortunately, he never got the opportunity to see it, but it was a great comfort to me and sits in his chair at home.

For those who don't know, Jeff and I were married on a sailing vessel off the coast of Newport Beach, CA. Our family decided to return his ashes to the sea where we had started.

Jeff was a modest man who never asked for much (other than In-N-Out and spaghetti). So, later in the year when more of our Vista family have returned, we will have dinner together in his honor.

My sincere love and affection,
Jacque



Certificate of Burial at Sea



Wreath and Rose



A verse in Jeff's honor



family and my support

Our beautiful
team.

Notice, we all have "In-N-Out Burger" shirts on in memory of Jeff.

This and That.....

By: Susie Martin

Please send anything you might want posted to this section to me.

Email.....rmatax@socket.net

Phone 573-434-6314 (Texting would be great)

Thanks to everyone who shares your photos

One thing that never dies down is our weekly game of “Bean Bag Baseball”. Even in the summer the Clubhouse comes alive every Friday at noon. The guys on one side, the ladies on the other side. This is one time we can “bad mouth” our spouses and get away with it. We are all there to WIN!!!!!!!!!! However, we have become a giant happy family (just like our VDS community) and we take care of each other. With that being said, Nancy Weaver Kelly (AKA Fancy Nancy at BBB) was recently under the weather, so the BBB Friday group signed a card and mailed to her. She asked me to please send this response.....

“Thank you for the get well card , it brightened my day. To all of you checking in on me it was so appreciated and made me feel so loved. Every day I am grateful God led me to VDS, I love you all. Thank you for caring.

Nancy Weaver Kelly”

In two months, we only had one addition to the fan club. Welcome Dawn!!!



AKA..Mrs Gunnnnnner!

Come join us, you will get hooked! And you will laugh, laugh and laugh.....

We had to say goodbye to Patti Schneider as she decided that she should be closer to her daughter in Houston, Texas since she no longer has her Leon. Neighbors, Kelley and Lenny Dehart helped Patti prepare for her move. While they were clearing off the back patio (which had an outdoor rug on it) they found this little guy living under the rug. I wonder where he lives now?!?!?!?!?! Rumor has it that he was seen at Rick and Jackie Perry's.



Mr. Chuckwalla needs a home

During June-July a group of ladies from the neighborhood came together and did a very thorough cleaning job in the Clubhouse and kitchen. Fran Lafata was the spearhead of this project. So, I wanted to take this time to thank everyone for volunteering your time and effort you made on behalf of the community. The kitchen and Clubhouse look fantastic.....Fran said that she especially wanted to thank those who made donations for the cleaning supplies (you know who you are). Thank you to Fran Lafata, Sindie Harman, Nancy Weaver-Kelly, Jacque Donofrio, Cheryl Coates and Debbie Faveere. A very special thank you to Nancy's grandson, Blake Farrar and her daughter Amanda Farrar for hanging with the ladies and doing such a wonderful job on the windows.

Those of you who are not spending the summer here at Vista Del Sol, you might wonder “What do you do here in the summer?” Well, here are a couple of activities that keep us busy.

Fishing.....

Whether you want to fish off the banks of the Colorado river or you prefer fishing out of a boat on Lake Mohave, there are fish to be caught.

Richard Cantu is the person to see if you are interested in wetting a line. He knows where to go from the bank and what bait to use. I understand he has recruited a few more neighbors to join him. You might find him out there early morning or maybe right at sunset. I understand he has a cheerleader during the sunset fishing, Martha Cantu.



Caught in the evening

Another way of fishing, is out of a boat on Lake Mohave. It appears that Julie McClay has a contact that takes people out in his boat and knows just where to drop the line. Julie and her grandson, Hayden went out with their guide at 5:00 am and here is one of the results.



Looks like fish tacos to me

Then there is BINGO.....

For those of us who don't want to be outside in the heat, we have Bingo.

It appears that VDS has some lucky charms floating around the neighborhood.

As the song goes (with just a little substitution):

BINGO in the mornin'
BINGO in the evenin'
BINGO at supertime.....

Bingo at Riverside made Sindie and Nancy just a little bit richer....



Another day and time for Julie, Sindie and Greg.....



Oh, but the BIG WINNER and best Diva's Day Out ever was at Edgewater's 1:00 session on a Tuesday. Power ball was I-23. Jacque's machine dinged (Bingo lovers know what that means) and I asked her what number, she said 23 just as the announcer said I-23. I said Jacque you won the power ball...she said NO, I didn't, I said yes you did!! Congratulations to Jacque for being at the right place at the right time. While no one else in our group bingo that day, we all left feeling like we did.....it was so much fun!!!! If you want to join us next Diva's Day Bingo at Edgewater it is going to be Thursday, August 7th. Could you be a winner too?



Finally, our 4th of July community dinner was after Bean Bag Baseball since the 4th landed on a Friday. We had hamburgers (cooked by George and Sherry Royal) and everyone brought a dish to add to our lunch table. Thanks to one of our newest neighbors, The Royals, for volunteering to cook the burgers. They were delish!!!!!! As were all the great dishes everyone added.



Sherry, George and Susie



Gotta love Mike's shirt!



Loving me some 4th of July hats!!!!!!!



Featured VDS Neighbors for June-July 2025

By: Susie Martin

Frank & Louise D'Ambra

The D'Ambra's live at 2374 Cortez Lane in their newly completed Casita. They purchased their lot in 2022 (from an individual). They told me they found VDS 7 years ago from an ad in the local paper, however, they never really came and stayed until they purchased the lot in 2022.

They still own a home in San Dimas but purchased their lot here at Vista Del Sol when they sold their second home in Crestline, California.

Frank was a commercial truck driver starting with Albertsons and retiring with Ralphs. For those not familiar with these names, they are known mostly as California grocery stores. Louise was an AVP with Union Bank of California and managed the largest office in Palm Springs where she retired.

Frank & Louise have a wonderful love story to tell. They are both from San Dimas, California. They met in high school and dated until their senior year. That is when they went their separate ways and continued their lives without each other. Both Frank and Louise married other people. Frank has two sons and one daughter. Louise has one son and one daughter. Never forgetting, they found each other again in 2007 and married in 2008. Frank and Louise told me that their large, blended family of 7 get along wonderfully and they all love each other.

The D'Ambra's have two dogs, a 4-year-old mixed Australian Shepherd and Labrador named Gabby and a 14-year-old Chihuahua and Corgi mix named Rocky.



Gabby



Rocky

We are glad that Frank and Louise found each other again but mostly we are glad they found Vista Del Sol and decided to become residents here.



Frank and Louise's big blended family



Frank & Louise - Then



Frank & Louise - Now

Off Road News

By: Rocky Martin



Off roading is NOT a summer activity! It is just too hot and with the added heat from the engines the humans cannot take the heat.

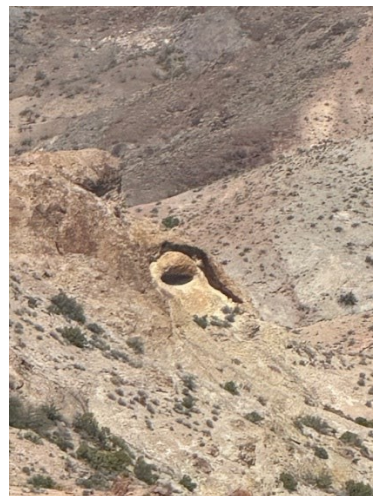
However, late May and early June did provide us with a couple of trips in the desert. With the limited amount of my friends able to go we went to a place we cannot go to with more than a few buggies. The other outing was a trip to Oatman for lunch.

Hudson's Heaven (near rattlesnake ridge) is a round trip that has breathtaking views but only allows 5 cars at the most. A picnic lunch at the top allowed us to take in the views and enjoy the cool breeze of the higher elevation.

While taking in the view, we all notice a strange outcrop. Unable or unwilling to try to get to the outcrop we tried to take pictures and zoom in. Still not sure what it is, we all let our imaginations take over and decided it was a foot of a dinosaur..... What do you think? And who could prove us wrong as it is impossible to get any closer.....Thanks Cactus Pete for the great zoom job.



View at Hudson's Heaven



Dinosaur Foot

Enlarge the picture and you can see the outcrop at the base of the blacktop mountain.



We did not have Melody's tripod, so Susie did the best she could for a group picture.



So many babies this year.

So, until fall and all my buddies (including me) get uncovered, may you have sweet dreams of our Side-by-Side adventures coming soon. Remember, always be safe and drink plenty of water. See you in September!!!!!!

Woodshop News

By: Rick Perry

Hello neighbors!!!!!!

I really have nothing to report from the Woodshop for the summer. With the summer months, the woodshop is very quiet and will remain locked at all times.

Please go to the office and sign up to receive a key to enter the shop. Remember you must have completed the woodshop orientation class to enter the woodshop. If you need to complete the orientation or need help with any projects, please contact me (Rick Perry) at 817-313-8450 and we can set up a time to meet in the woodshop.

Look for our September newsletter with a list of our upcoming October classes. Until then, enjoy the remainder of your summer.

Your Summer Shop Stewards

Rick Perry
Barney Pounds
Jeff Freed
Lenny Dehart

Craft Room News

By: Susie Martin

Same as the woodshop, not much is going on in the craft room at this time of the year. However, the craft room is not locked. If you need some time or room to complete a project, the room is yours. We just ask that you make sure a class is not in session and that you return the room the way it was when you entered. You may want to check with the office if you do want to use the craft room as the A/C may be turned up due to lack of use during these summer months.

Looking forward to beginning our fall classes once again. Check out the September newsletter for more information.

Enjoy your summer!!!!

Your Craft room Stewards

Trudy Newman
Susie Martin
Jacque Donofrio

Funny Bone Corner Just for a Laugh.....

By: Susie Martin

I believe this will make everyone chuckle.....



FINAL THOUGHTS

By: Susie Martin

Summer has arrived....which means we are having our usual hot summer days. There are very few people here, which affects our summer activities. Trudy is still trying to be creative with a few activities to help entertain us. Thanks to the office and the summer volunteers for what you do to keep our summers fun.

Due to lack of things to report about, Linda and I have decided that the next newsletter will be another combined August/September newsletter. So, look for the release around the 20th of September via email.

Construction has gotten off to a slow start, so I hope to have some pictures of the 5 homes that have received approval from our ARC committee in the next newsletter.

Enjoy your summer and we will catch up in September!

NOTE FROM THE OFFICE

By: Linda Huber

Middle of summer/year already, time is flying by. It seems as we get older the faster the years slip by. Do you remember saying, I can't wait until:

I am 16 and can drive
I am 18 and can move out of parents' house
I am 21 and can go to the bars
I am 30 and have grown up and have a steady job
I am 55 and can get discounts
I am 65 and can retire (maybe)
I am in the golden years, oh how time has flown by.

I did a Let's talk About in July – thank you to those that attended. I will do another in September before our fall season starts, so if you want to be informed, plan on coming. If not, my office door is always open for your questions.