

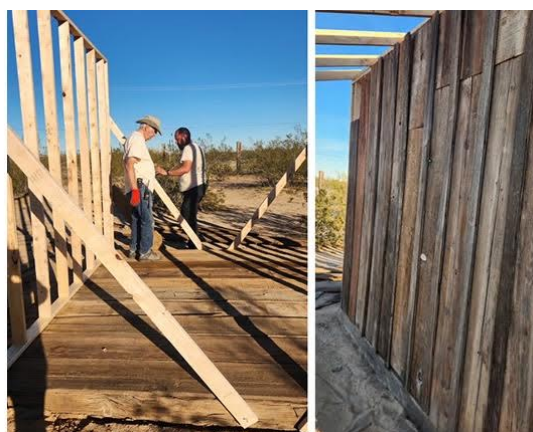


Goffsgram



Mojave Desert Heritage & Cultural Association
Goffs Schoolhouse

May 2026 | Goffsgram Editor: Laura Misajet



DR. DAVID HESS, MDHCA INTERIM PRESIDENT

I would like to thank the Board of the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association for their trust at the June meeting in electing me President until the next Annual meeting to be held at Rendezvous in October. This election was required due to Sean Holman's and Sam Sumitani's Board terms ending June 30 and their decisions not to continue as Board members. At that June meeting, Garret Baquet was elected Vice-President and Austin Schoenopf was elected to a three-year Board position. I would like to thank both Sean and Sam for their service as officers and hope that they will remain active with MDHCA.

I have been reaching out to the members of the Board to determine their views on the issues that affect MDHCA. Although I have not yet reached all of them, the most important issue seems to be the financial status of the organization. We are currently losing about \$50,000.00 per year, with grants, memberships and donations not covering our ongoing operating expenses. The Board is looking closely at expenses, with the largest categories being personnel (Laura and Chris), utilities, insurance, repairs and maintenance. Thus far, we have found very little to cut that would not entail reducing public access to the MDHCA

campus at Goffs. That means that we need to work on the income side. We are growing our membership, but balancing the budget will require about one thousand new members. We are increasing income from events held on the campus, non-member donations when they visit the campus, and grants for repairs and improvements to the campus. However, as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, a significant increase in tax-deductible donations from our members and friends will be required to cover ongoing expenses and increase our endowment to cover future expenses. None of us are really comfortable asking for money, but it is necessary. If there are members of MDHCA with comfort and/or experience in fundraising, I encourage you to reach out to us as we form a Fundraising Committee.

I have been working with Garret Baquet on the technology required to open the monthly Board meeting to the membership. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 2026, at 6 PM. We plan to notify all members of the link to join the meeting using Google Meet. I also hope to have the reports from the Grounds, Archives, and Membership committees available to the members prior to the meeting.

You will be receiving information about the upcoming Mojave Road Rendezvous, scheduled for October 15 through 18, and hope to see you at the event.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions about the Mojave Desert Heritage and Cultural Association, I urge you to reach out to me at dmhess@themojaveraod.org or by telephone or text at 661 333 2314.

David M. Hess



Visit MDHCA: [37198 Lanfair Rd., Goffs, California](#) (At the intersection of Lanfair and Goffs Roads)

[Google Map](#)

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MDHCA Website: <https://themojaveroad.org>

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