



**Sharlot Hall Museum Library and Archives**  
**415 West Gurley Street**  
**Prescott, AZ 86301**  
**[www.sharlot.org](http://www.sharlot.org)**

**Title:** Kuhne-Looney Family Papers

**Creator:** Kuhne and Looney Family Members and Ancestors

**Dates:** 1808-2011 (Bulk dates 1902 - 2011)

**Quantity:** 3 linear feet (4 boxes) (1 Oversize folder)

**System of Arrangement:**

- Series 1: Family Information
- Series 2: Photos of Family Friends
- Series 3: Prescott Area Information
- Series 4: Yavapai County Youth Center (YCYC)
- Series 5: Havasupai Canyon Information
- Series 6: Miscellaneous Materials
- Series 7: Oversize Photos

**Abstract: Brief synopsis of the collection**

The Kuhne–Looney Family collection contains photos, negatives, historic documents, books, correspondence, scrap books and albums for many Prescott area families. Frank Adolph Kuhne originally came to Prescott from Germany. They lived in Navajo and Howells Arizona. He and his wife Marie had five children; Marie, Moritz “Moe”, Frank, Helen and Robert. This collection also has information on the John Wilson Simmons family, the Alexander Brown family, the Henry Colquette family, the Giuseppe Enrico Gardarino family and the Looney family. It also includes photos of family friends, train wrecks in Skull Valley, and documents on Territorial Arizona. Documents describing the Yavapai County Youth Center. (YCYC) are included. Havasupai documents from land acquisition and Kuhne’s work in the village are also included.

**Identification:** SHM PC - 8

**Language and Scripts of the Materials:** English



## Biographical History

### Kuhne Family

Frank Adolph Kuhne was born August 18, 1846, in Germany. Frank was serving in the German Navy when he came to San Francisco in 1867, and he left his ship for a life in America. For a short time, he worked the fields in California before moving to Arizona in 1868. Frank first settled in Navajo, Arizona, located along old Route 66. For a few years, he drove a hay wagon from the Big Chino area for feeding the military horses and mules at Fort Whipple. In 1891, Frank returned to Germany to marry Marie Seidler (born June 26, 1862, in Halle (A/Saale), Germany), as part of an arrangement made by Frank's and Marie's parents when they were young. After the wedding, Frank and Marie returned Arizona.

They began their married life in the small town of Howells, Arizona, along Lynx Creek, where Frank had several mining claims. Frank served as Howells' Postmaster from January 1888 until July 1890. He was away from home frequently, for long periods of time. Although Marie did not know his exact whereabouts during this time, the income from this employment allowed Frank to support his growing family. Marie, meanwhile, cared for the three children – Marie (b. July 22, 1892), Moritz "Moe" (b. January 29, 1894) and Frank (b. August 30, 1896) – at home in Howells, and worked as a trained seamstress with a talent for hand work, bobbin lace, embroidery, crochet and knitting.

In 1897, Frank and Marie moved their family to Prescott and built a home at 418 S. Marina. Later, Marie gave birth to two more children - Helen (born December 23, 1899) and Robert (born May 19, 1902). A year later on February 6, 1903, Frank Adolph passed away from a heart attack.

Robert "Bob" Herman Kuhne, the youngest of the Kuhne sons, attended Washington School through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. However, his brothers, Moe and Frank, pulled him out of school so Bob could help out and participate in the Kuhne brothers plumbing business in order to support their widowed mother. Later, Bob began working for Art Gage (1916-1917) as an auto mechanic. In 1918, he lied about his age and went to work at Fort Whipple as a mechanic on the trucks and ambulances. He was given a letter of recommendation when he left their employment and went to work for Fred Harvey at the Grand Canyon as a mechanic. Bob was an adventurer, and spent all his non-working hours exploring the canyons and land in and around the Grand Canyon by hiking and photographing the landscape. He was friendly with the many of the Indians, particularly the Havasupai. While he was working at the Canyon he bought an acre and a quarter of property in Miller Valley at the corner of Fair and Valley Street.

On December 6, 1923, Bob married Laura Helena Bolden and they made their home at 936 Fair Street. He also opened an auto shop in the 700 block of Miller Valley Road. Later, he moved his frame house from Fair Street to Valley Street and began constructing



a rock and brick three-bedroom, two-bath home which was finished in 1932. On September 18, 1931, Joan Marie was born at her Grandmother Bolden's maternity home at 212 Summit Street.

In 1933, Bob took over his father-in-law's well drilling business. This business kept him moving to different locations in Arizona, as many of the wells were for ranches. His businesses did not interfere with his many hobbies. He built 3 boats and spent many hours on various lakes and rivers. He watched and photographed the canyons as the water filled Lake Powell behind Glen Canyon Dam.

In the early 1950s, Bob made frequent trips down into Havasupai to deliver donated items for the Indians--everything from food, clothes, household items, even a Ford tractor. This was dismantled and hauled down on horses and mules and reassembled at the bottom. He, with the help of the Supais, built their first tourist lodge in about 1952.

Bob was instrumental in forming the Miller Valley Fire Control in 1952. From 1958 to 1959 he was a Yavapai County Supervisor for District 1. At the end of 1953, beginning of 1954 he started the fundraising plans and work toward the development of the Yavapai County Youth Center. In 1955 the ball parks were laid out, softball and little league fields. In March of 1956 the Center was dedicated. In July of 1956 the swimming pool and bath house were opened. From 1958-59 the wading pool for children and two tennis courts opened. During 1961 boxing and wrestling matches were held in the center. In 1962 the gymnasium, recreation hall, skating rink opened.

In June 1965 "Kuhne Day School" (Prescott Handicapped Children's School) opened. Prescott Unified School District provided teachers. All of this work was completed from donated money, material and labor by the citizens of Prescott. In 1973 the YMCA took over the Youth Center. The community knew him as "Mr. Youth Center," and in 1958 named him Prescott's first "Man of the Year."

His hobbies also included constructing beautiful pieces of furniture, some with metal inlays. He built the cabinets, furniture and interiors for the many buildings he was involved in constructing.

Bob died November 19, 1976, at the age of 74, from emphysema and chronic asthma. He is buried in Mountain View Cemetery in Prescott.

### **Simmons, Brown, Garbarino & Bolden Families**

The first family members to arrive in Prescott included John Wilson Simmons (b. 1811 - d. 1888), his wife Mary (Churchman) Simmons (b. 1807 - d. 1921), son Thomas Wilson Simmons (b. 1837 - d. 1921), son John Franklin Simmons (b. 1840-d. 1908) and a daughter Margaret/Margret "Maggie" Brown (b. 1838 - d. 1922). The Simmons family



had traveled from Kansas through Colorado down to Albuquerque, New Mexico where they met other wagons traveling to Prescott. The Simmons arrived on July 17, 1864.

The Simmons began their travels to the West from Eastern Tennessee as the U.S. Government opened up new land to be homesteaded. They settled in Arkansas in the late 1830s. Their three children, Thomas, John and Maggie, were born in Tomahawk County, Arkansas. In the 1840s the family migrated to the Denton, Texas area where they homesteaded some land. Maggie met and married Alexander Brown from Tennessee (b. 1828 – d. 1869), who owned a saloon on the north side of the Courthouse in Denton. Maggie and Alexander had six children - Robert E. Brown (b.1857-d. 1927), Richard Brown (b. 1859 – d. 1842), Mary Inez Brown (b. 1861 – d. 1917), Catherine Brown (b. 1863 – d. 1949), Minnie Brown (b. 1865 – d. 1887) and James Brown (b. 1867 – d. 1893). Unfortunately in early 1869, Maggie became a widow with her six children and in order to survive, her two brothers traveled from Prescott to Denton and brought their sister and her children back to Prescott. One of her children, Catherine Brown, was 6 years old when they came. She told that she would get tired of riding on the rough wagon so she would jump off and walk behind.

In 1872, Maggie married Henry Colquette (b. 1812 – d. 1877) and they had twins born on April 18, 1875; a daughter Cora Mae Colquette (b. 1875 – d. 1955) and a son Charles Henry Colquette (b. 1875 – d. 1945).

By 1892, Maggie had homesteaded 160 acres in Miller Valley. Today this property is between Willow Creek Road and Iron Springs at Gail Gardner Road. She died 25 Oct. 1922.

Maggie's daughter, Catherine, was born June 18, 1869 in Denton, Texas. She moved to Prescott with her mother and siblings to be by her uncle. The family lived in northwest Prescott called Gold Gulch at that time. She married Giuseppe Enrico Garbarino, 15 December 1879. Giuseppe (Joseph) was born in Italy 15 April 1850 and came to America as a teenager. Catherine and Joseph lived on their ranch six miles north of Prescott on Willow Creek. They had five children born in Prescott. Augustus Henry (b 1881, d 1957); Nora Darling Bianconi (Cron) (b. 1882, d. 1941); Anna Laura Bolden (b.1886, d 1966); Alexander Garbarino (b. 1898, d 1966); Gail Noel Garbarino (b. 1896, d. 1970). Catherine developed allergies, particularly to ragweed so she moved from the ranch to a home near the railroad station in Prescott and ran a boarding house for the railroad men. That is why her sons worked for the railroad later. They managed their money well and he had a good amount in the bank when the stock market crashed in 1929 and he lost it all.

Anna Laura, called Laura, was raised in Prescott and often rode her horse to grade school at Miller Valley School. Laura was born 20 January 1886. She married Alfred William Bolden from San Antonio, Texas, 31 March 1904. He was born 9 Aug. 1877 and died 18



July 1930. The Bolden's lived in Skull Valley on a ranch about 1910 where they raised dairy cows, sold eggs, butter, and some produce to Prescott. Fred also had a water well drill machine. The Bolden's had three children, Laura Helena born 29 April 1905, died 15 September 1994, Alfred Ralph born 19 December 1908, died 1 Sept. 1977; and Eva Lenelva (Bruno) Rezzonico b.4 May 1915, d 23 January 2003.

Laura Bolden was widowed at 44. Eva was still in school so Laura opened her home at 212 N. Summit and the house next door (218) as maternity homes. Many of the residents of Yavapai County (especially from the ranches) were born at the home between 1930 to about 1937. Her mother, Catherine, also lived with Laura on Summit St. She then went to work as head housekeeper at the Pioneers Home. In 1940, Willis Butler, Sheriff of Yavapai County employed Laura as County jail matron for the women and juveniles at the jail in the Courthouse. She served as matron under Sheriff Orville Bozarth starting in 1946.

Laura's daughter, Laura Helena (called Helena) Bolden married Robert Herman Kuhne on 8 December 1923 and they lived on the property bought by Bob in 1919 at the corner of Fair and Valley St. in Miller Valley. Bob worked for the County and he also worked as an auto mechanic. He owned Miller Valley Garage at 715 Miller Valley Rd. in the early 1930's. He then took over the water well drilling of his late Father-in-law. He drilled many of the wells in Prescott and the county, especially for the farms and ranches. Helena had the job of bookkeeping and traveling as the errand runner to Bob's well drilling locations. She was also an avid gardener with her yard full of beautiful flowers, lawn and vegetables. Bob and Helena had one daughter Joan Marie, born 18 September 1931 in her grandmother's home on Summit St. She was delivered at birth by Dr. Robert Looney who was their family doctor.

### **Looney Family**

Joan Kuhne met her future husband Richard A. Looney when they attended Prescott High school together. They both graduated in 1950. Dick's family had moved to Prescott in 1947 from Southern California. His father was in Whipple Hospital and he passed away in 1950. Dick went into the Navy and Joan worked for the telephone company. They were married on 10 February 1953. When Dick finished duty in the Navy the Looney's moved to Phoenix and Scottsdale. Their son Michael Richard was born 10 January 1956. Dick retired from AiResearch (Allied Signal) in 1986. Dick and Joan moved back to their home in Prescott in 1997.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Kuhne – Looney collection consists of family information including genealogies, biographies and stories. Family photos including negatives from different family albums of the Kuhne family. It also includes photos of family friends, train wrecks in Skull Valley, and documents on Territorial Arizona. There are pictures of Prescott and a souvenir booklet. Documents describing the Yavapai County Youth Center. (YCYC) are



included, explaining the concept and completion of the various phases of planning and building as well as newspaper articles on YCYC. Havasupai documents from land acquisition and Kuhne's work in the village are also included. Paperwork on the formation of Boy Scout Troop 3 as well as Boy Scout manuals (1923 and 1930's) is included. Ranch pictures in Chino Valley.

## Restrictions

None

## Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Unpublished and published manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder. The Sharlot Hall Museum may not own copyright to all parts of this collection. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain permission to publish from the owner of the copyright (the institution, the creator of the record, the author or his/her transferees, heirs, legates, or literary executors). The user agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Arizona and the Sharlot Hall Museum - this includes its Board of Trustee officers, employees, outside contractors, and agents from and against all claims made by person asserting that he or she is an owner of copyright.

## Related Archival Materials & Subjects

### Personal Name(s)

Bianconi (surname)  
Bolden (surname)  
Colquette (surname)  
Garbarino (surname)  
[Goodwin, John Noble, 1824-1887](#)  
[Kuhn family](#)  
Kuhne family  
Looney (surname)  
Simmons, John Franklin, 1840-1908  
Simmons, John Wilson, 1811-1888  
Simmons, Margaret, 1838-1922  
Simmons, Mary Churchman, 1807-1921  
Simmons, Thomas Wilson, 1837-1921

### Corporate Name(s)

Mast Foos Co. Turbine



### Geographic Name(s)

[Chino Valley \(Ariz.\)](#)  
[Havasupai Reservation \(Ariz.\)](#)  
[Navajo County \(Ariz.\)](#)  
[Prescott \(Ariz.\)](#)  
[Skull Valley \(Ariz.\)](#)  
Springfield Illinois  
W. B. Storm Ranch

### Subject(s)

[Ranch life.](#)  
[Railroad trains](#)  
Yavapai County Youth Center

### Other Related Materials:

Obituary Books at Sharlot Hall Museum Library & Archives  
DB 476-477, Mona McCroskey Collection  
[One Last Frontier](#), Pat Savage

## Administrative Information

### Custodial History

Accession Numbers:

76.019 - from Bob Kuhne (Scrapbook of Havasupai documents, 2 photos & frames)  
76.020 - from Frank Kuhne (47 photos of Kuhne family & Prescott area)  
92.060 - from Dorothy Hodgers - courtesy of Mrs. Bob Kuhne (Memorabilia from Youth Center)  
98.008 - from Joan Kuhne Looney (20 photographs of Bolden Family in Skull Valley)  
2011.074 - from Joan Kuhne Looney (Various maps of Yavapai County and State of Arizona)  
2011.077 - from Joan Kuhne Looney (1939 photo taken by Dr. Ernest Born of Emery Falls)  
2011.082 - from Joan Kuhne Looney (Constitution booklet of the State of Arizona & photos of Prescott Area)

The materials found within this collection were personally donated by members of the Kuhne or Looney family. Various family members donated a variety of items and materials to Sharlot Hall Museum approximately from 1976 to 2011. Materials were pulled from DB 330, Folder 22; DB 373, Folder 1-3; DB 338, Folder 226; DB 484, Folder 9; PB 8; PB 11, Folders 5-7; PB 23, Folder 11, PB 160, Folders 2-3, PB 175, Folder 6.



Oral History of Joan Kuhne Looney (1997), tape #1147.

**Accruals:** More accruals may be coming from Looney family or accruals may be located in museum that should be added to the collection.

**Description Control**

This collection was processed by Joan Marie Kuhne-Looney using *Describing Archives: a Content Standard (DACs)* in January 2014.

**Container List**

**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** 1812 – 2011

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains documents, photos and negatives regarding the Kuhne Family and their ancestors such as the Bolden and Garbarino Families.

<b>Series 1: Family Information</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1	1	Family Information & Genealogy	1823 - 1994
1	2	Bolden & Garbarino Family Photos	1864 - 1966
1	3	Kuhne Family Negatives	1900 - 1930
1	4	Kuhne Family Photo Album Negatives	1920 - 1940
1	5	Kuhne Family Negatives	1900 - 1930
1	6	Skull Valley – Bolden Family Ranch	1909 – 1925
1	7	Trains – Family	c.1907 - 1940

**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne-Looney Family Collection

**Dates:** 1893 - 1948

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains the photographs that were collected by Kuhne family members regarding friends of the family.

<b>Series 2: Photos of Family Friends</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1	8	Family Friends Photos	1893 – 1948





**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** c. 1900 - 1956

**Series Scope & Content:** This series consists of photos (including a cyanotype), postcards and souvenir booklet regarding the Prescott Area and community.

<b>Series 3: Prescott &amp; Yavapai County Area Information</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
1	9	Prescott Area	c.1900 - 1956
1	10	Prescott Postcards – Colored & B&W	1900 - 1920
1	11	Prescott Souvenir Booklet & Folder	1902 - 1930
1	12	Palace Bar Photos	c. 1920
1	13	Boy Scout Photos	c. 1920 - 1930
1	14	Miller Valley Fire Dept	1953, Unknown

**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** c. 1990 -1969

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains photos, documents, and news articles of the Yavapai County Youth Center.

<b>Series 4: Yavapai County Youth Center (YCYC)</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
2	1	Youth Center Documents	1953 - 1973
2	2	Youth Center News articles	1953 - 1997
2	3	Youth Center Photo album	1953 - 1966
2	4	Youth Center news articles album	1954 - 1969

**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** c. 1900 - 1960

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains letters, maps and documents associated with the Havasupai Indian Reservation.

<b>Series 5: Havasupai Canyon Information</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
2	5	Havasupai Indian Reservation	c. 1900 - 1960



**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** c. 1862 - 1930

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains miscellaneous items such as a Boy Scout Manual for Troop 3, Arizona Territorial papers, Skull Valley train wrecks, and ranches in Chino Valley.

<b>Series 6: Miscellaneous</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
3	1	Boy Scout Manual Troop 3	1924
3	2	Ranches – Chino Valley	c.1920-1930
3	3	37 <sup>th</sup> Congress of the United States, State of Arizona 1891 Constitution and Proclamation from Governor Goodwin	1862 - 1891
3	4	Skull Valley Train Wrecks	c.1900-1920

**Collection Title & Number:** Kuhne–Looney Family Papers - SHM PC-8

**Dates:** c 1889 - 1966

**Series Scope & Content:** This series contains the oversize items of the collection, which includes two large convex oval photos (originally in frames) of Garbarino sisters and Giuseppe Garbarino.

<b>Series 7: Oversize Photos</b>			
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>File/Item Description</b>	<b>Dates</b>
4	1	Garbarino Sisters - Laura & Nora	Unknown
4	2	Giuseppe Enrico Garbarino	Unknown