

# NWHP NEWS

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY Project

## IN THIS ISSUE

Editor's Note .....	2
Nevada Elected Women's Network Donation Honors Jean .....	2
Honoring Our Volunteers .....	2
NWHP Essay Contest Winners .....	3
Mary G. Rose .....	4
Holly & Beverly Elected to N. Nevada Board .....	5
Carrie's Corner .....	5
Southern Region Executive Committee Meeting & Installation .....	6
Winning Recipes .....	6
Introducing the Nevada Coverlet .....	7
Janet E. White, NWHP Historian .....	8
Annual Business Meeting - North .....	9
Mojave Messages .....	9
Hannah Clapp Lecture Series .....	10
Silver State Sampler Tour .....	10
Ford Oral History Now Available .....	10
Nevada Women's History Forum Meeting Planned .....	10
Calendar & Potpourri ..	11
Research Registry .....	11
Welcome New Members .....	12

## Letter From Jean

To my friends and colleagues who care about Nevada Women's History -

It's exciting to report to you my activities of the last three months:

- Responding to your interest in continuing to have cultural history tours, I worked with Billie Brinkman and Lynn Bremer to bring together NWHP members who brainstormed future tour offerings. Several are featured in this issue of the News: a one-day tour to Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park in September (thank Isabel Espinoza for the hard work on this one) and a four-day/ three-night Silver State Sampler, featuring James Hulse and Mary Lee Fulkerson. Reservations are now being taken for both!

- Over twenty of you gathered at my home during February and March and helped organize - by county, event, tour - approximately 5,000 Kodachrome slides recording over 30 years of traveling around Nevada, and selected portions of California, Arizona, and Utah. They are neatly labeled into 3-ring binders and will find a home at the Nevada State Museum. Details of the tours are found in new additions to the Jean Ford Collection at the UNR Library.

- How exciting it was to see the completion of my Oral History, conducted by Vikki Ford, and funded by Maya Miller and Babette McCormick. The first printing, generously covered by the Nevada Library Association, will be distributed to thirty libraries throughout the State; details are available on page 10 on

how you can get a copy if you wish. Vikki Ford now moves ahead on my personal narrative based on this document.

- May 31st was the date of a wonderful occasion in Las Vegas when the Las Vegas/ Clark County Library District dedicated to me the Jean Ford Special Collection Room at their Flamingo Road Library. Its holdings began with my "how to" files related to citizen action and community building and includes library resources on fundraising, lobbying, and other key topics related to citizens "making a difference." Additional materials are being gathered from around the state.

- Mary Bean has been very helpful in my doing the big "book sort" to see that they get to the most appropriate home: natural history books to the UNR Life and Health Science Library, women's studies, feminism, women in general to the UNR General Collection and Women's Studies Department (thanks to Anne Amaral for all the cataloging help!). The remainder - Nevada reference, Nevada history, women's history from all angles - will be managed by the Nevada Women's History Project as long as it has that capacity and has a system for the materials being accessible to those doing research.

- I am pleased to report that the culmination of several years of my work has resulted in a publication entitled: Nevada Women's History: A Guide to Archives and Manuscripts in Nevada Repositories. UNR Special Collections now plan to dis-

tribute this document to librarians through the state. If you're interested in a copy, do call them at 702-784-6500, extension 327.

- I've just added a new computer to my home office, with greater capacity and now Internet capabilities. Many thanks to Tom Kendall for handling all the technical set-up. He's now going to take my old computer and upgrade it to handle our basic accounting and word processing needs at the NWHP office. Again - thanks to Tom!

- An all-day ghost town exploring trip to Pine Grove, south of Yerington, was great fun, thanks to our guide Jack Gibson of Carson City. Co-travelers were Beverly Hubbard, Donna Deitrich, and Kathy Walsh. Another fun week-end was traveling with daughter Janet to Eureka in February to dinner at the Opera House

*continued on page 2*



Meet the first woman legislator from Humboldt County, page 4.





## Editor's Note:

Computers continue to amaze and frustrate me. Since the production of our last newsletter I was surprised by my husband with a brand new Power Macintosh G3, and as happens every time one upgrades, certain familiar programs belch and sulk, causing us to relearn lessons in patience.

I have decided that e-mail is the eighth wonder of the world. Now all I need to figure out is how to do the kind of work I do basking in the sun on a tropical island, yet hooked up to the Internet, like you see in VISA t.v. commercials!

But then I couldn't participate in fun things like Sandy Miller's October tea in Las Vegas, which I am really looking forward to.

*Carolyn Hamilton Proctor*

### **The Nevada Women's History Project MISSION STATEMENT**

*To provide visibility and support for the gathering and dissemination of history about the roles and contributions of Nevada Women of every race, class, and ethnic background.*

## Nevada Elected Women's Network Donation Honors Jean

The gift of \$868.06 recently bequeathed to NWHP by Nevada Women's Elected Network was given in honor of Jean and her past work in gathering the history of women in politics in Nevada and making it available to students and the general public. Specifically mentioned was the inclusion of biographies of many of Nevada's women legislators on our website.

The organization was formed in 1980 by several of Nevada's outstanding women legislators. Jean Ford, Helen Foley, Sue Wagner, Jan Evans, Joan Swift, and Judi Bailey were among the founders. It lasted for 15 years, disbanding in 1995.

Following through on their goal to mentor and encourage women to be active in politics, they sponsored "Elected Women's Day" at the Legislature in 1981, 1983, 1991 and 1995.

All women elected to office in Nevada were invited. In addition, several statewide meetings were held during the years the group was active.

A database was maintained on all women elected to office in our state.

Due to various reasons such as time constraints of members, competing organizations, and lack of interest, the group decided to formally disband. We thank the members for their most generous contribution. ♦

### *Letter From Jean continued from page 1*

with Thomas Jefferson.

Winding it up: a few short wildflower walks have been very rewarding...Anita Watson is working on a draft of a book utilizing my research files on Nevada women...A one-day plane flight to Las Vegas allowed me to attend the birthday pool party of seven-year-old granddaughter, Hayley...A three-day visit in May with daughter Carla from Boston brought happy memories.

All the above represented both work and fun—the kinds of things I love to do, working with others who have these common interests.

However, this last week in June brings a catscan report on my pancreatic cancer that does not bode well. The growth is larger than before and suggests infiltration into other organs nearby. Nothing we can do except continue to manage the pain in a way that enables me to function with as much comfort as possible.

Thanks to all of you for your extension of both heart and hands. I love you all—we have had a great time together.

Love,

*Jean*

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- Back Issues \$5
- Editor: Carolyn Hamilton Proctor

## Honoring Our Volunteers

You are wonderful! Without the commitment of volunteers like you, your hard work and dedication, NWHP would cease to function. We want to recognize and thank all of you who have given so freely of your time and talent.

In an earlier mailing to members last spring we asked for an approximate number of hours donated and projects worked on during the program year, July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998. Those who responded include:

Billie Brinkman - 20 hours, tour planning, Hannah Clapp series

Kathleen Clemence - 100 hours, state and northern Nevada treasurer, First Annual Soiree and Fundraiser

Phyllis Cudek - 300 hours, membership chair, newsletter mailings

Esther Early - 250 hours, biographical research and writing (Jean McElrath, organization of WWII Coed Living History Project, steering committee speaker)

Jean Ford - 520 hours, state board member, research, program planning, fundraising

Victoria Ford - 75 hours, state secretary, fundraising committee, search committee for state coordinator, First Annual Soiree

Carrie Townley Porter - 140 hours, Research Round Table, Roll of Honor biographies, Great Basin Book Festival, First Annual Soiree

Kay Sanders - 250 hours, Northern Nevada vice-chair, state chair, Great Basin Book Fair, newsletter, First Annual Soiree

Dixie Westergard, small group meeting, slide organization, Research Round Table presenter. ♦

*See photo page 9.*



# NWHP Essay Contest Winners

Leslie Snyder and Jessica Kraft are two of the students who participated in the essay contest hosted by NWHP. Both were eighth grade students at Ernest A. Becker Middle School and move on to Cimarron High School this fall. Of all the essays submitted, these two were the most interesting and the most well researched. Congratulations to Leslie and Jessica for their fine effort. We encourage them to continue learning and writing about Nevada's many outstanding women.

## **Sadie Hurst: Nevada's First Female Legislator** *by Leslie Snyder*

Sadie Dotson Hurst was born in Iowa in 1857. After her husband died, she moved in with her two sons. They were both involved in theatrical enterprises. The three of them later moved to Reno, Nevada, where Sadie became active in civic affairs which included making the community a better place to live and participating in prohibitionist efforts. She was not, however, an activist for the women's movement affairs and she was never associated with controversial suffragette groups.

With support and endorsements of "The Club Women of Reno" Sadie filed for a seat in the Nevada State Assembly in 1918. On November 5, 1918, she won the election to the state Legislature, which surprised everyone. She was indebted to the women of Reno who supported her. Most of the men did not really take her seriously.

At that time Sadie Hurst was the first woman to be elected to the Nevada Legislature. It was interesting to learn that although other women

were elected to the Assembly in succeeding years, it was not until 1967, when Helen Herr was elected to the State Senate, that a woman was able to achieve a higher legislative office in Nevada than Sadie held almost fifty years earlier.

As a State Assemblywoman, Ms. Hurst served during both the regular legislative session of 1919 and the special legislative session of 1920. In 1919 she introduced several progressive measures which, among other things, promoted equal rights for women. An example of this was Assembly Bill No. 8 which would have given a mother full and complete control of her children and their estates in the event of the death of their father. Bill No. 182 would have created a State Board of Charities and Corrections to oversee the State Mental Hospital, the State Orphan's Home, the Nevada Industrial School, and other related state institutions.

None of these measures were passed in 1919, although the nursing bill was enacted by the legislature but was then vetoed by the Governor.

Sadie Hurst was successful in gaining passage of two important measures in 1919. Assembly Bill No. 271 redefined statutory rape to include all consenting females under the age of 18 instead of the previous age limit of 16. Secondly, Assembly Bill No. 94 prohibited various acts of cruelty to animals and established penalties for any violations.

Voters of Nevada passed a State Suffrage Proposal in 1914, which gave women in the state the right to vote. Governor Emmet Boyle called a special session of the State Legislature to consider the Nineteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, in

1920. The first paragraph in his message was: "You have been called in extraordinary session for the United States proposing the extension of the voting franchise to the women citizens of the nation." Sadie had the distinction of introducing and presiding over the passage of the resolution of ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment. The Senate voted 12 for and none against and the Assembly voted 26 for and one against.

Although belittled and criticized from time to time by members of the all-male legislature, Sadie was a true Nevada pioneer by entering an arena that formerly had been reserved for men only. Sadie did not run for reelection in 1920, but her determination paved the way for other women to be elected.

Sadie moved from Nevada to California in 1922, to follow her sons and their theatrical careers. Nevada's first assembly woman died in Pasadena, California, in 1952 at the age of 94. Although there was no notice of her death in Nevada newspapers at the time, it is hoped that this paper will not only help remind us of her accomplishments, but also the important role women have played in Nevada Legislative service.

## **Helen J. Stewart: A True Nevada Pioneer** *by Jessica Kraft*

Helen J. Stewart was born Helen Jane Wiser in Springfield, Illinois on April 16, 1854. When she was just a small child, she crossed the plains in a wagon train with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Wiser. The family first settled in Carson Valley, Nevada, but then moved to Sacramento, California.

She got her education from the public schools of Sacramento and went on to graduate from Woodland College in Yolo County, California. To get a college education was very rare for a young woman of that era. She was a bright student and did very well in school.

After she graduated, she married Archibald Stewart. He was a cattle rancher and purchased a large tract of land to raise cattle to sell to the miners. After a few years he bought a ranch near Pioche, Nevada. The couple's first three children were born there.

Helen tried to hide her sadness when her husband wanted to move further south and buy land that became the Las Vegas Ranch. Archibald told her it would only be for two years and then they could go back to California. He planned on going back and forth to manage the ranch.

His many business interests kept him on the road most of the time. Helen was left alone to manage the Indian farm workers. On July 13, 1884, Archibald was shot in a dispute at the Kiel Ranch and died from the wound. Helen's father came to the ranch to help Helen harvest the crops in the fall. She then traveled to Galt, California, where her fifth child was born. She named him Archibald after his father.

Helen and her five children returned to the ranch and she resumed operating the 960 acres. She bought more property and eventually owned 1,800 acres of prime land and water rights.

In 1902, Helen sold most of the ranch for \$55,000 to Senator W.A. Clark of Montana who was building a railroad and planned a division point in the Las Vegas valley. This was

*continued on page 6*



# Mary G. Rose

**M**ary Grace O'Donnell was born on February 1, 1875, on the family ranch in Humboldt County (near Winnemucca), Nevada, to Patrick and Ellen Crown O'Donnell. Patrick was an Irish rancher, born in England. Ellen Crown immigrated from Ireland to New York, lived there and in Philadelphia, then traveled around Cape Horn to San Francisco in 1868 and eventually to Elko, Nevada, where she met and married Patrick O'Donnell on January 1, 1872.

Soon after marriage, the O'Donnells moved to Winnemucca, where they bought land and ranched. They had three children, Thomas Crown, born March 26, 1873, James, born in 1877, and Mary Grace.

Mary received her education in the Winnemucca schools, taught for a short time in Winnemucca (school unknown), was librarian at the Winnemucca Public Library, and active in the Winnemucca Civic Club and the PTA.

In 1900 she married David McBane Rose and they had a daughter, Helen Vida, born September 11, 1901, and a son, Donald Crown, born August 19, 1902. In 1908, after the death of Mary's younger brother, Thomas Crown, the family moved to Portland, Oregon, where they resided for six years.

They returned to Winnemucca in 1914 to manage the O'Donnell ranches, as Mary's parents were then in their seventies.

Mary registered to vote on August 12, 1918, listing herself as a housewife, 5'7" tall, Democrat, living on the O'Donnell ranch in Humboldt County, and then changed the address

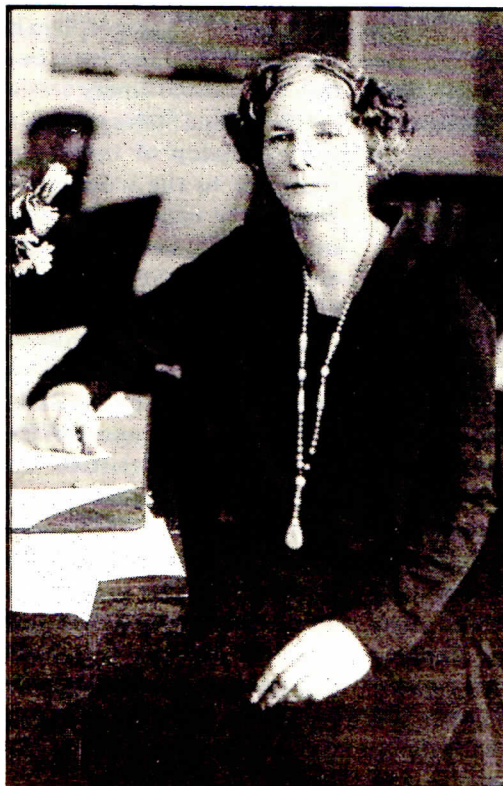


Photo courtesy Humboldt County Museum & Creative Photography

## Mary G. Rose

### At a glance:

Born: February 1, 1875

Died: June 1, 1935

Maiden name: O'Donnell

Race/nationality/ethnic background: Caucasian (Irish)

Married: David McBane Rose

Children: 2 (one daughter, one son)

Primary city and county of residence and work: Carson City (Ormsby Co.) Winnemucca (Humboldt Co.), Reno (Washoe Co.) (Douglas)

Major fields of work: education (teacher), librarian, government (elected to State Assembly, appointed State Land Registrar)

Other role identities: wife, mother, rancher

to read, "Garteiz Bldg. Winnemucca." She was a registered voter in Humboldt County until she moved to Reno in 1928.

On March 11, 1921, Mary's exceptionally popular daughter, Helen Vida, died unexpectedly of appendectomy complications. The high school yearbook, the "Winnada," was dedicated to the memory of Helen Rose (nicknamed Pat), flags on the

fully recover.

Mary's son, Donald Crown, left Winnemucca shortly after graduation from Winnemucca High School in 1921, to become an international dancer. He married his dancing partner, Marian Stadler, and they appeared in the late 1920s from coast to coast in the United States, France, Africa and Greece, as

Winnemucca High School marched in a body to the grave site, as did the Women's Benefit Association and the Ladies of the Macabees. Helen's death was a great shock from which Mary never did

introduced four bills or resolutions during her term of office, one of which was an Assembly Substitute for Assembly Bill No. 8, "An Act to amend an Act entitled 'An Act to provide for free public libraries, and other matters relating thereto,'" which became the library law for the state of Nevada.

Humboldt County suffered the effects of the depression through the 1920s and 1930s with many ranchers losing their properties, and the O'Donnell ranch was one of those properties. Mary's mother moved off the ranch into Winnemucca and Patrick O'Donnell went to the Veterans' Home in Yountville, California.

During her time in office, on February 20, 1925, her mother Ellen died in Winnemucca at the age of 89, after being in ill health for some time. Mary returned to Winnemucca to bury her mother next to her brother in the Winnemucca Cemetery. Assembly Resolution No. 10 was introduced noting Mrs. McDonnell's death and offering Mary the Assembly's condolences.

Mary and her husband moved to Reno in 1928, where he was employed as a solicitor for one of the Reno newspapers.

In 1932, Mary wrote a letter to her son in Chicago telling him that she would like to run in the Senate race that year, but that money was so short she and her husband were not able to pay

.....  
**The first woman legislator from Humboldt County, and the second woman to appear on a general election ballot in that county, Mary Rose was elected in 1924 to the thirty-second Session of the Legislature of the state of Nevada, to be seated in 1925.**  
 .....

Victory and school flag poles were flown at half-mast as a mark of respect, and her funeral services were held in the Nixon Opera House in order to accommodate the large assemblage of mourners. Six of her classmates, dressed in white dresses, were pallbearers, and the students of

county, Mary Rose was elected in 1924 to the thirty-second Session of the Legislature of the State of Nevada, to be seated in 1925.

Mary was a member of several committees: education, internal improvements, enrollment, and state library, and in-

well as Reno, Winnemucca, and Elko.

The first woman legislator from Humboldt County, and the second woman to appear on a general election ballot in that



# Holly and Beverly Elected to Northern Nevada Board

Holly Van Valkenburgh and Beverly Hubbard have been elected for positions on the northern Nevada board. Holly will serve as Vice-Chair and Beverly will serve as Treasurer.

Carson City resident Holly Van Valkenburgh moved to Nevada in 1988. She has three children and four grandchildren, and says her first avocation is reading. Holly also loves "white water" rafting and is planning a trip down the Green River next spring. She holds a M.Ed. in Computer in Education and another M.A. in Librarianship and Information Retrieval. She has worked many years in the library field, has been very active with the AAUW and volunteered in many community projects.

Beverly Hubbard has lived in the Reno/Tahoe area for 20 years. She and her husband, Duke, recently completed careers in the resort business at Lake Tahoe. Beverly holds degrees from Cal-Poly and Pepperdine University and

the \$15. fee for her candidacy. She said that her friend, Harriett Spann, was helping her, and that thirteen Democrats and nine Republicans were running for this one office. She, however, was not successful.

Mary's husband, David, was killed in an automobile accident near Susanville, California in July of 1933, and Mary again returned to Winnemucca, burying her husband next to her daughter in the Winnemucca Cemetery.

In 1934, after again running unsuccessfully for the Senate,



*Holly Van Valkenburgh*



*Beverly Hubbard*

would like to return to the field of Elementary Education as a classroom teacher. She is dedicated to the education of herself and others.

Both Holly and Beverly agree with the mission of NWHP to help in the collection and maintenance of historical information on Nevada women so that it can be made available to researchers and especially for school curriculums for now and future generations. ❖

Mary was appointed by Governor Vail Pittman to the position of state land registrar, a federal position which she held until her death.

She had been living in Carson City following the death of her husband, and was rushed to a Reno hospital where she died on June 15, 1935 from pneumonia. Mary was buried in the Winnemucca Cemetery next to her mother and brother, close to her daughter and husband. ❖

*Research and biographical sketch by Janet E. White.*

## Carrie's Corner

*by Carrie Townley Porter, state coordinator*

Has it really been only six weeks since I was employed as state coordinator for the NWHP? So much is happening that I found myself quickly immersed in a sea of meetings and activities.

Also we have been asked to switch to smaller offices so that more non-profit organizations can operate at the YWCA, thus moving our office down the hall was imminent.

In my first week we did two bulk mailings and I found out how much work they are. Another week found me participating in the annual meetings in Reno and in Las Vegas.

Then began the involvement in planning and working on our projects and activities. You can read details of these elsewhere in this newsletter.

Here is a short list of what we are currently working on:

The Nevada Sampler Bus Tour; 1999 Nevada History Day; Grandma's Group grant for the schools; the Hidden Valley Garage Sale fund-raiser; the 1999 statewide NWHP Conference; Tea and Program with First Lady Sandy Miller and other Children of the Mansion projects; the Great Basin Book Festival booth; the summer activities of The Hannah Clapp Lecture Series; the fall series of the Hannah Clapp Lecture Series and the NWHP Forum; the summer newsletter; the coverlet sales; the 1999 Soiree fund-raiser; the website; the Book Assessment and our bylaws and procedures revision. Whew! I wonder what I left out? Not only is this list overwhelming, but

what really impresses me is that all this is being accomplished by VOLUNTEERS. Our members, all volunteers, are finding the time and energy to donate hundreds of hours to accomplish our goals. (Please keep track of your hours; we need them for grants.)

When we held our meetings in January to determine the future of the NWHP, members were asked to commit themselves to ensure that the activities of the project would continue. Obviously, these members are fulfilling their commitments. Not only are they donating their time, talents and expertise, but they care about the project.

Emphatically, I recently became aware of this. Our home phone rang at 9:15 on a Saturday evening. One of our members knew I was having problems getting our membership lists transferred into my new software program. She was calling to offer me some help.

This member was in the midst of dealing with a serious family medical problem while holding down a job. Yet she took the first opportunity she could to call with an offer of help - a Saturday evening.

Thinking about this degree of commitment and the commitment of all of our other members still can bring tears to my eyes. (Are Kleenex deductible?)

There is no doubt that the Nevada Women's History Project will continue to be successful as long as it has volunteer members like all of you who care so greatly about it. I salute each and every one of you! ❖



# Southern Region Executive Committee Meeting & Installation

The Southern Region of the NWHF met on June 6th at the Country Inn on South Rainbow Boulevard in Las Vegas.

Members and guests were greeted by chair Joyce Marshall. A delicious luncheon was served and Carrie Townley Porter, our new state coordinator from Reno, was introduced. New Las Vegas members introduced were Alice Pearson, Gayleen Roy, and Caryll Dziedziak.

Our special guests were two young ladies who had entered the Women's History Month Essay Contest, sponsored by NWHF.

Leslie Snyder's essay was titled, "Sadie Hearst" and Jessica Kraft's essay was titled, "Helen J. Stewart." Both students read their essays at the meeting and each was presented with a gift

certificate for their participation in the contest.

A business meeting followed with bylaw changes and the election of new officers. The nominating chairman, Claytee White, read the slate of officers and the membership elected the following members:

Chair, Rose Irwin  
Vice Chair, Mitsi Johnson  
Recording Secretary, Frankie Williams

Eva Stowers who will continue as Treasurer until June, 1999.

The installation ceremony was presented by Joyce Marshall and each new officer was given a floral corsage. Joyce was also presented with a gift for her outstanding service as outgoing chair for the Southern Region.

The executive committee

had its first official meeting on July 9th at the home of Rose Irwin, where appointive chairmen were selected and voted upon. The first Southern region membership meeting will be October 17th.

The goals for this new administration are to keep members more informed about what is happening in the organization with additional newsletters and establishing a telephone committee for a stronger communication system within the organization.

We hope to have at least three meetings with brunches or luncheons and include interesting programs about our historical women of Nevada.

The October 3, 1998 fundraiser is underway and more details will follow as plans are formulated. ♦

Essay Winners,  
continued from page 3

the start of the new town of Las Vegas. She was finally going to be living among people and would not be so lonely. The town grew very fast, first with tents and then with permanent houses and businesses.

Her interest in the history of Southern Nevada started when she first arrived and continued until she died. Helen was chosen the first president of the Historical Society and was excited to participate in other women's clubs formed in the early days of Las Vegas. The first one was the U-Wah-Un Study Club, but her favorite was the Mesquite Club. It was formed in 1911 and it was Helen who chose the name.

In 1916, Governor Boyle appointed her one of Nevada's delegates to the twelfth Annual Convention for the American Civic Association in Washington, D.C. When men finally allowed women to join them on juries, Helen was among the first to serve in Las Vegas. She became the first woman elected to the Clark County School Board.

Even though Helen had been sick for most of the year in 1923, it was still a shock for Las Vegans to hear that she was ill with cancer. On March 6, 1926, she lost her life to the disease, but her spirit continues to live on. She was a successful rancher, business woman and mother who never let doubt creep into her positive outlook. Helen J. Stewart faced life with courage and met her problems head on and is a true inspiration for everyone who reads about her. ♦

## Here are the winning recipes –

### VELVET TRUFFLES:

1 6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate  
1 oz. unsweetened baking chocolate  
2 T. butter 1/4 cup whipping cream  
3/4 cup powdered sugar 2 egg yolks  
2 T. Kahlua or other liqueur 3 - 1/2 oz. Amaretto cookies, crushed

Place chocolates and butter in a 4-cup glass measure. Microwave on medium power for 3-4 minutes. Stir until melted. Using a wire whisk, blend in cream, sugar, liqueur and egg yolks. Stirring midway through cooking, microwave on medium power for 3 minutes or until mixture is heated. Shape into small balls. Roll in cookie crumbs and place in small paper candy cups. Refrigerate until shortly before serving. Makes 40 candies. (These are especially rich and creamy candies. Both recipes are from the Dick and Paulie Olson Alles Family.)

### CHOCOLATE RASPBERRY TRUFFLES:

2 T. heavy cream  
1 T. butter  
1 1/3 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips 2 T. seedless raspberry jam

In a heavy-gauge saucepan, combine chips, cream and butter. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until smooth. Stir in jam. Cover with plastic wrap and freeze for 20 minutes. Drop by teaspoonfuls onto foil-lined cookie sheet. Freeze 15 minutes. Roll into balls and freeze until firm.

Coat frozen truffle balls by rolling with one or all of the following coatings: powdered sugar, cocoa, OR white or chocolate already prepared as follows -

Over hot, not boiling, water, melt 1 6-ounce

package white chocolate baking bar or 1 cup chocolate chips with 2 tsp. shortening. Stir until smooth. Drop frozen truffles one at a time into coating. Stir quickly to coat, then remove with a fork, shaking off excess. Place on cookie sheet. Chill until set. Store in fridge. Makes about 4 dozen.

### JANET'S NOT-NEARLY-ENOUGH CRAB DIP:

1 pound crab meat, fresh or imitation (NOT canned)  
1 cup finely chopped celery  
1 tsp. Bon Appetit 1/4 tsp. white pepper  
1/8 tsp. dry mustard  
Dash each: ground red pepper, ginger  
1 tbsp. FRESH lemon juice 1/2 cup chopped black olives OR stuffed green olives  
1/2 mayonnaise  
Scant 1/4 tsp. each: dried dill, oregano, basil  
1/4 tsp. salt paprika—fresh, not the bottle you've had on the shelf for years  
2-3 small parsley sprig tops.

(If you like curry, use 1/2 tsp. curry powder and eliminate red pepper & ginger)


Pick over crab to remove shells, and chop semi-fine. Blend white pepper, mustard, red pepper, ginger and herbs in lemon juice and let stand 10 minutes; then mix with lemon juice mixture with crab to coat, and let stand another 10 minutes. Add celery and mix again, and then mix all with mayo.

Put in serving dish, sprinkle with paprika and add parsley sprig tops to enhance presentation. (The fresh lemon juice is important to this recipe. I add 1/4 tsp. fresh lemon zest and sometimes more than 1/4 tsp. of dill, because I'm fond of that, too. Depends on what you like.)




# Introducing the Nevada Coverlet


MARGARET M. WHEAT • EVA ADAMS • UNA REILLY DICKERSON • LUBERTHA JOHNSON




**BIRD WILSON**  
1872 - 1942




**SARAH WINNEMUCCA**  
1844 - 1891



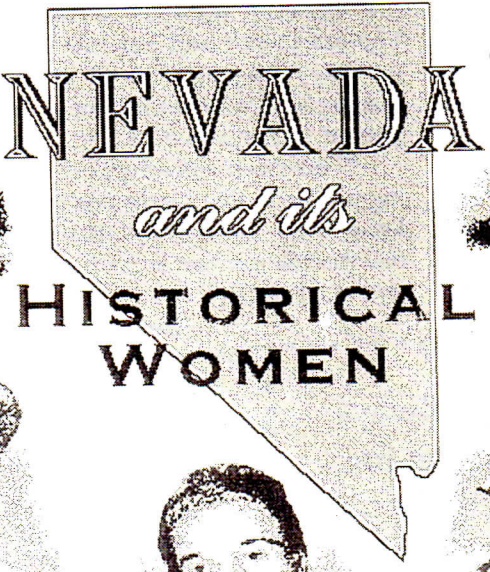
**FANNY SOSS**  
1884 - 1990




**MILDRED GRAY**  
1892 - 1975




**HELEN J. STEWART**  
1854 - 1926







**MAUDE FRAZIER**  
1881 - 1963




**ALICE SMITH**  
1902 - 1990



**DELPHINE SQUIRES**  
1868 - 1961  
commissioned by the  
**NWHP**  
NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT



**ANNE H. MARTIN**  
1875 - 1951



**BERTHA B. RONZONE**  
1885 - 1969

EILLEY ORUM BOWERS • DR. ELIZA COOK • HANNAH CLAPP • THERESE LAHALT

JEAN SYBIL MCELRAITH • MINNIE BLAIR • FRANCES WILLIAMSON • BERTHA RAFFETTO • DR. MARY HILL PULSTONE

This beautiful coverlet was commissioned by the Nevada Women's History Project and created by We Love Country.

The custom-woven coverlet is 100 percent cotton, two and a half-layer, Jacquard woven in the U.S.A. It is preshrunk, colorfast and machine-washable. The fringe extends around all four sides.

The colors duke blue and navy are combined with natural, nutmeg and parchment hues to make up beautiful, relaxed tones that will complement any room.

The innovative design captures the history and spirit of Nevada with the depiction of Nevada and its historical women.

The Nevada coverlet is a perfect gift for family members and friends both near and far. It is destined to become an instant keepsake.

The coverlet is reasonably priced at \$50 (much less than what you'd pay for a custom-woven decorative coverlet in any department store) and proceeds from sales benefit the Nevada Women's History Project. ♦

Proceeds from  
sales of the  
Nevada  
Coverlet  
benefit the  
Nevada  
Women's  
History Project

Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ Nevada Coverlets @ \$50. each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sales Tax (7%) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to:  
Nevada Women's History Project  
Mail to: NWHP, PO Box 28206  
Las Vegas, NV 89102  
Attn: Rose Irwin, Finance Chair

Total amount  
enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ordered by (Please print):

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (with area code) \_\_\_\_\_



# Profiles of Members

## Janet E. White, NWHP Historian

Janet E. White joined the NWHP in 1995 when it was first organized and has been its historian ever since, attending almost all of the northern meetings, assisting in several functions, and working on the membership committee to contact all e-mail members.

"If you're going to successfully function as historian, you must attend all possible meetings in order to obtain copies of minutes, addenda, newsletters and other pertinent documents to maintain the continuing history of this project," she says. "If you don't want to take on such a responsibility, you shouldn't bear the title."

A Nevada native, Janet Sara Eastman was born on the Eastman Ranch just outside Winnemucca, Nevada, in September, 1927. She was the only child of Minor C. and Jean Robertson Eastman, who had migrated west from New York City in 1918 to seek relief for Jean's asthmatic condition.

Unfortunately a congenital dislocation of both hips, not diagnosed by the local doctor in time to prevent permanent physical problems, decreed that Janet would spend much of her early childhood not "riding the range" as a rancher's daughter, but in orthopedic hospitals in California.

When children are confined to body casts and bed rest," Janet says, "they depend more on mental abilities than physical abilities to keep them occupied, and they become strangely sensitive to what is occurring around them."

So it was with Janet. She knew which nurses were interested in their small charges and

which were feigning that interest. She was an early and addicted reader, and eventually initiated a newsletter for the children of the Shriners' Hospital For Crippled Children in San Francisco, who were all age ten or younger.

Janet's mother had become well-known in Nevada political circles when her husband became the first elected president of the newly formed Humboldt County Farm Bureau. In the next election year she ran for the presidency of the group, and traveled the state extensively after she was elected.

Jean was newly elected to a second term when she learned she was pregnant. The tiny, 85-pound woman knew that her ranch work and the pregnancy would substantially reduce her Farm Bureau activities throughout the state, and she resigned that responsibility early in 1927.

When the great depression gained almost as firm a foothold in the west as it had in the east, many Nevada ranchers lost their land and their incomes, the Eastmans among them.

Minor Eastman became ill and returned to New York, and Jean Eastman was appointed by then-governor Vail Pittman to run the culinary department of the Nevada State Orphans'

Home in Carson City in 1933.

Jean's mother, Janet Robertson, cared for little Janet while her mother worked, and when the grandmother died in March of 1937, Janet and her mother resided for several months with Theresa Laxalt and her family. They thereafter lived in the Orphans' Home until they moved to Reno in 1938.

"There were some very caring people in that Home and I know from my own life there that the children were well taken care of," Janet tells us.

.....  
"I was always searching for something new to learn," she explains, "and almost all my women friends worked in those days."  
.....

Janet graduated from Reno High School and attended one semester at the University of Nevada and one at Berkeley before she married.

"I was always searching for something new to learn," she explains, "and almost all my women friends worked in those days."

Her experience includes that of legal secretary for several well-known Reno attorneys; escrow officer at two title insurance companies; real estate loan officer at a savings & loan company. She has held a Nevada real estate license since 1977, and owned and operated Assured Investments, a Nevada licensed real estate loan company.

Janet has been a member of many women's organizations and was an early member of the Nevada Artists' Association. Additionally, she has been

a member of several professional organizations, including the Mortgage Bankers' Association and the Reno-Sparks Board of Realtors. She also holds Laubach Literacy Action certification.

At the age of 63, Janet returned to study at the University of Nevada, Reno. She held a major in English Literature and was looking for a minor when she met Jean Ford at an evening Chautauqua event and the rest, as the elders say, is history.

Jean Ford interested Janet in the women's studies course that Jean was teaching at the time, and the newly-forming NWHP. Oh, yes, she did receive a B.A. in 1995 and plans to be one of the last UNR students to receive a master's degree in the 20th century.

"The only problem I have with the master's degree," Janet says, "is that unless I continue as a university student I will have to stop tutoring at the UNR Writing Center - and I just love doing that."

Janet has been the recipient of scholarship awards from Mensa Education & Research Foundation and the Orville Reddenbacker Second Start Scholarship Program. Also, she has received scholarships for the past four years from the Nevada Women's Fund.

Of her status as a senior citizen student, Janet says, "If I can do it at this ripe old age, anyone can do it, but I wish I'd been able to start earlier in my life." ♦



# Annual Business Meeting - North

The annual business meeting was held at the Washoe County Health Building auditorium at 9th and Wells in Reno. Preceding the meeting the "Second Annual Snack-off" was held. Each member brought a "bite-sized" snack. The categories were "conscientiously healthy" and "blatantly decadent."

Following a rigorous judging by the members, which included an extensive sampling of all entries, winners were announced. The "conscientiously healthy" winner was the crab dip and the "blatantly decadent" winner was the truffles (winning recipes are on page 6).

A poetry reading by and about Nevada women was presented. The poetry readers were

Gail Pahmeier, Kathleen Boardman and Buffy Martin. This was an excellent presentation and set a positive and entertaining tone for the evening.

The business meeting included a salute to NWHP volunteers. Chair Kathleen honored vice chair Kay Sanders, treasurer Kathleen Clements, secretary Helen Oster, membership chair Phyllis Cudek, new program chair Susan Roberts, outgoing program chair Donna Odell, historian Janet White, state secretary Vikki Ford and founder Jean Ford.

Vice chair Kay Sanders saluted all volunteers stating that their job description was "long hours with no pay." All volunteers were asked to keep a

record of the number of hours they volunteer.

Holly Van Valkenburgh was elected vice-chair and Beverly Hubbard was elected treasurer for the next two years. These two outstanding women bring numerous talents and experience to the NWHP. We appreciate their accepting the nominations and are certain that their contributions will help the organization grow.

Mary Anne Convis, Nancy Holmes and Linda Wyckoff will remain on the finance committee, but a chairman is needed. Thanks to this committee for the great work this year.

A membership committee chairman is also needed. We are pleased to announce that Janet

White will remain as historian.

Bylaw changes were approved during the meeting. The changes will do three things: 1) remove the category of associated non-voting membership, 2) streamline the regional decision-making process by placing all the power in the hands of the eleven-member executive committee, and 3) reduce the needed quorum to do business at the annual business meeting from 20 percent to 10 percent of the membership.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. All members were urged to set aside their favorite recipes for next year's Snack-off. ♦

## Mojave Messages *by Frankie Williams*

Mojave Messages was the description of our own Charlene Cruz, a fourth generation Nevadan, for her brilliant showing at the West Las Vegas Library from June 2 through July 26.

It was a woman's show of watercolor, poetry, calligraphy and photography representing the seasons of life and dedicated to the relationship of women to the earth, life, the sacred ancestors and all the sacred places here

in Nevada.

The twenty-eight watercolors show the relevance of the intellectual powers we possess and their correlation to the reproductive cycle. There was poised restraint in Charlene's watercolor technique, which gave mystery to images and a translucence to colors which delighted the senses.

The exhibit began in spring, where everything was born

again in beautiful, abundant color with the watercolor, "Sunset Speaks," a glorious, pale yellow cactus blossom with a fragment of poetry, "Sunset speaks in wisdom of glowing color and life in turn will give to us those things we believe to be truth."

Thirteen calligraphic renderings symbolized the moons in a year and a woman's sensitivity to experience gleaned from people, places and things. Innocence and experience are rationalized as "states of the soul through which we must pass, neither final, neither preferable to the other, but co-existing."

The viewer is free to interpret superstitions and religion, emotion and the personal commitment to his or her own truths and the serenity of maturing with each season preparing for death, moving as one must from spring to summer and autumn with passion for life growing as strong as the river or the wind.

The watercolor "Sunset Sky" is emblazoned, "Sunset Sky... full of magic castles and dreams." There is another calligraphic rendering on a photo-

graph with the message, "Wild wind invites my soul to roam, My shadow tags along." In this section of the show is the Apache wedding prayer and then the translation of the Navajo house blessing. Another beautiful watercolor titled, "Missing You," reveals a poignant fragment, "Crystallized tears of remembrance rest gently upon the branches of life known only to us!"

Autumn is the end of the life cycle to the Navajo people who believe we all come into this world from the east and leave in the west. I was moved by "Prayer Feathers", three gray feathers mounted on this poem, "Grandfather, Great Spirit, the good road and the road of difficulties you have made me cross and where they cross the place is holy."

The Mojave Message is representative of a holy dream and the prayer of peace, born again within the hearts of beast and man. Charlene Cruz, fine artist and poet, is revealed as a new prophet bringing hope and making deep emotions. ♦



Northern Nevada NWHP volunteers honored (see story page 2)  
Front Row, L to R: Patricia Tripple, Alice Lohse, Esther Early, Billie Brinkman  
Back Row, L to R: Georgia Hedrick, Beverly Hubbard, Holly Van Valkenburgh



# Hannah Clapp Lecture Series

By Patt Quinn-Davis

A potluck barbecue is set for August 8 at the home of Patti Cooper Smith, 1206 N. Nevada Street, Carson City, at 5 p.m. The barbecue features your choice of steak or chicken. Dress is casual and everyone is asked to bring a salad, desert, wine, etc. To note the dish you would like to bring, if you play a musical instrument, sing, wish to do a skit or make a presentation, call Isabel Espinoza, 883-9035. The barbecue is \$6 per person.

A day trip to the ghost town of Berlin and visit to Ichthyosaur State Park is set for September 12 with tour specialist, historian and expert on ghost towns, Shawn Hall. Shawn wrote *Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Nye County, Nevada* and has a new book due out in September.

From the YWCA on Valley Road in Reno the tour will also pick up passengers in Carson City before going to Fallon. In Berlin there will also be a speech by rangers while eating lunch (bring your own) at the campgrounds. On the return trip, we'll stop at Grimes Point to view petroglyphs. Dinner will be at the Apple Tree in Fallon. Drinks will be provided. Bring sunscreen and a big hat, too.

Call Isabel Espinoza now to make your reservation. The cost of \$48 per person includes a \$10

donation to the NWHP. Send your check, before August 14, made out to NWHP, to 1301 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.

Jan Loverin talks about Victorian fashions and dress reform October 7, 5:30 p.m., at the Nevada State Library and Archives Building in Carson City. Loverin is curator for the Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center in Carson City and assistant curator at the Nevada State Museum.

Dr. Marie I. Boutte, UNR department of anthropology, speaks on radiation fallout and health effects November 4 at the Library and Archives Building.

Cherry Jones portrays Dr. Lisa Cook December 2. Cherry also portrays Laura Ingalls Wilder and has been a storyteller at the River City Storytelling Festival in Wingfield Park, Reno.

January 6, Kathleen Noneman tells the history of women lawyers in Nevada. Noneman, practicing attorney and chair of the state board and northern region executive board of NWHP, makes her presentation at the Nevada State Library and Archives Building at 5:30 p.m. ♦

*Hannah Clapp (1824-1908) was a Nevada educator & suffragist. Isabel Espinoza, director of the Hannah Clapp Lecture Series, may be reached in Carson City at 702-883-9035.*

## Silver State Sampler Tour

The deadline to reserve your place on the Silver State Sampler Tour, October 1-4, 1998, is fast approaching, so be sure to get your full payment in by August 17, 1998.

Co-sponsored by NWHP and the Friends of the UNR Library, the tour will highlight artists and authors of Nevada.

Tour specialists are Mary Lee Fulkerson, folk artist, and

James Hulse, historian. Mary Lee will discuss natural fibers along the way which can be used for folk art. As the tour progresses, Jim will expound on the history of Nevada.

The Silver State Sampler Tour is a major fund-raiser for NWHP and the Friends of the Library. Plan now to participate in this exciting, educational and fun event! ♦

## Ford Oral History Now Available

The initial printing of Jean Ford's oral history has been completed and copies are being prepared for distribution, with financial assistance from the Nevada Library Association, to major libraries throughout Nevada.

"Jean Ford: A Nevada Woman Leads the Way" is the title of the 550-page document which was prepared by interviewer Vikki Ford. Former Lt. Governor Sue Wagner wrote the preface; many photographs illustrate the text.

The chapters begin with Ford's early life in the midwest, then traces her activities through college, work, marriage, and birth of two daughters, and family settlement in Las Vegas in the summer of 1962.

Over the next thirty-five years, the whole state of Nevada became Jean's community as she found many "homes" with which to become involved - League of Women Voters, Nevada State Park Commission, Ne-

vada State Assembly and Senate, Nevada Discovery Tours, Governor's Office of Community Services, the Reno-Tahoe Company, the University of Nevada, Reno, the Nevada Women's Archives at UNR and UNLV, and finally, the Nevada Women's History Project.

Jean shares her highs and lows while developing new friends, gaining confidence, learning new skills, gaining insights into balancing family, community, business, and politics, realizing she could make a difference and discovering how she could assist others in doing the same.

Copies of the oral history can be ordered for \$59. (or \$55. if you wish to pick it up on the university campus at Mack Social Studies #109) from the University of Nevada Oral History Program, UNR - 324, Reno, Nevada, 89512. Make your check out to the Board of Regents. The UNOHP telephone number is 702-784-6932 ♦

## Nevada Women's History Forum Meeting Planned

Nevada Women's History Forum - A reorganization meeting is planned for the fall to decide the future of the Nevada Women's History Forum. Results of surveys mailed to members last spring will be discussed. New ideas and suggestions are welcomed. If you haven't already turned in your form, please do so. Call Susan Roberts at 677-2423 in Reno for further information. ♦

Nevada Women's History Forums are held at the YWCA, 1301 Valley Road, Reno, from noon to 1:30 p.m. and are FREE.

New members and guests are welcome. For more information, call Susan Roberts, (702) 677-2423



# CALENDAR

## NORTHERN REGION MEETING DATES

August 13, 1998  
Executive committee meet-  
ing, NWHP, 1301 Valley  
Road, #2-A, Reno

August 15, 1998  
NWHP Hidden Valley  
Garage Sale

September 12, 1998  
Hannah Clapp Lecture Series  
Bus Trip to Berlin, Nevada

September 26, 1998  
Great Basin Book Festival

October 1-4, 1998  
Jean Ford Nevada Silver State  
Sampler Bus Trip

October 7, 1998  
November 4, 1998  
Hannah Clapp Lecture Series

## SOUTHERN REGION MEETING DATES

August 13, 1998  
September 10, 1998  
October 8, 1998  
November 12, 1998  
Executive Board Meetings,  
4 p.m., at the home of Rose  
Irwin  
October 17, February 13  
Membership Meetings,  
Frontier Girl Scout Council,  
11 a.m.

October 3, 1998  
A Tea and program  
featuring First Lady Sandy  
Miller will be held at the  
home of Jeannie Greenawalt  
in Las Vegas. Sandy will talk  
about the research she has  
done on children who lived  
in the Governor's mansion.

## DEADLINE

FOR ARTICLES FOR FALL ISSUE OF  
NWHP NEWS—  
SEPTEMBER 1, 1998

## Research Registry

**Jennifer Nelson,**  
**East Ely:** Charlotte  
Perkins Gilman and her  
association with Nevada  
Women's suffrage, 1913-  
1914. Telephone (702)  
289-6480.

**Frankie Williams,**  
**Las Vegas:** Seeking  
orphan train riders and  
their descendants. 59  
children were left in  
Nevada. Telephone (702)  
876-3586.

**Frankie Williams,**  
**Las Vegas:** POINTers  
(Pursuing Our Italian  
Names Together) Tele-  
phone (702) 876-3586.

**Hazel Hohn , Reno:**  
Nevada women who have  
been pilots in the military.  
She found 60 and has  
been able to contact or get  
information for about 30  
of them. Telephone  
(702) 323-4374.

We welcome anyone  
doing research on Nevada  
women to share that topic  
or focus with us. If you  
would like your research  
topic shared with others,  
please call 322-7754 in  
Reno, or write us at NWHP,  
1301 Valley Road, #2-A,  
Reno, NV 89512. To hear  
and discuss, in an informal  
setting, the research  
underway, join the Nevada  
Women's History Forums.

# POTPOURRI

## Congratulations

• To Janet E. White who was awarded the Walter J. Zitter Founda-  
tion Scholarship for \$1000.00 at the Nevada Women's Fund Schol-  
arship and Corporate Donor Reception on June 23, 1998. Janet is  
working on a master's degree in English with a writing option at the  
University of Nevada, Reno. Janet is an active member of the Ne-  
vada Women's History Project, Northern Region. Way to go, Janet!

## Wanted

• The NWHP News wants to continue the "Research Registry" fea-  
ture in each issue. If you know anyone who is researching some topic  
related to Nevada women's history or you are researching a topic  
yourself, please submit these items to Kathy Noneman (North) at (702)  
322-7754 or Frankie Williams (South) (702) 876-3586.

## NWHP Member- ship

Current membership  
of NWHP in the North  
stands at 185 individuals  
and 24 organizations.

Renewals have been  
encouraged, and those who  
have chosen not to bring  
their membership current  
have been dropped from  
our mailing list. We encour-  
age you to bring guests to  
our events, thereby intro-  
ducing them to our dedica-  
tion to acknowledge  
women's varied roles in  
Nevada history.

We extend our appre-  
ciation to those who have  
volunteered as "telephone  
tree" callers reminding  
members of up-coming  
events in their locale.

For their generous  
monetary contributions,  
THANKS to: James Hulse,  
Sandy Young, Barbara  
Thornton, Bonnie Buckley,  
and Jan Meierdierck.

We look forward to en-  
larging our membership in  
the coming year, and we en-  
courage increased partici-  
pation and support from all  
of our members. Discover  
Women's History! ♦

## NWHP Leadership 1998-1999

Carrie Townley Porter,  
State Coordinator

### State Board:

Kathleen Noneman, Chair  
Rose Irwin, Vice-chair  
Beverly Hubbard, Treasurer  
Eva Stowers,  
Southern Treasurer  
Jean Ford,  
Northern Nevada  
Representative  
Mitsi Johnson

### Northern Region:

Kathleen Noneman, Chair  
Holly Van Valkenburgh,  
Vice-chair  
Helen Oster, Secretary  
Beverly Hubbard, Treasurer  
Mary Ann Convis  
Phyllis Cudek  
Fritsi H. Ericson  
Lisa Marie Lightfoot  
Pat Quinn-Davis  
Susan Roberts  
Kay Sanders

### Southern Region:

Rose Irwin, Chair  
Mitsi Johnson, Vice-chair  
Frankie Williams, Secretary  
Eva Stowers, Treasurer  
Carolyn Hamilton Proctor  
Joan LeMere  
Pat McNutt



NEWS

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Reno, Nevada 89512

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## Membership Application

Individual Membership • Dues \$25/Year

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Eve) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Organizational Membership • Active Dues \$50/Year  
Corporate Sponsor • \$250/Year

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

President or Director \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (Day) \_\_\_\_\_ (Eve) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Representative to NWHP \_\_\_\_\_

## Welcome, New Members!

### New Individual Members

Reno: Jane Young  
Reno: Mata Marie Cooney

### New Organizational Members

Las Vegas: Iota Chapter,  
Delta Kappa Gamma, Mary  
Blake, representative  
Reno: Utility Shareholders  
Assn. of Nevada, Lisa Marie  
Lightfoot, representative

*Any NWHP member may  
receive the full membership list  
by sending \$5 to NWHP, 1301  
Valley Road, #2-A, Reno,  
Nevada 89512. The southern  
membership chair of the NWHP  
may be reached at PO Box  
28206, Las Vegas, NV 89102.*