

In This Issue

NWHP Founder Honored by Nevada Legislature	1
Jennie O'Hare Riordan	3
"Startle Yourself" to do Essays	4
Nevada History Day Winners	4
1999 NWHP Conference a hit	5
Northern Nevada Business Meeting Announcement	5
News from the North	6
NWHP Awarded a SHRAB Grant	6
News from the South	7
Second Annual Soiree Planned for May 15	7
Jean Ford Added to NWHP Roll of Honor	8
Wednesday's Woman Program Celebrates Women in History	8
Carrie's Corner	9
Research & Registry	9
Hats in Fashion Program Rounds out History Month	10
A Memorable Event in Las Vegas	10
Calendar	11
Potpourri	11
Some NWHP News Contacts	11
Membership Application	12
New Members	12



NWHP Founder Honored by Nevada Legislature

Jean Ford, who served in both the Nevada State Assembly and Senate, was fondly remembered on April 7th with a joint legislative proclamation read in both houses at the Legislative Building in Carson City. A large crowd of friends attended the ceremony and heard several legislators speak about their remembrances of Jean and the deep respect they had for her. Jean's daughter Janet and granddaughter were in the audience. Janet accepted the framed proclamation on behalf of the family.

Sen. Bill Raggio, R-Reno, Senate Majority Leader, spoke of her "deep commitment to the entire state." "She set a fine example," he said. "Jean was a rare person. A large number of people responded to her clarion call on many issues. We are a far better people and state because she accepted the responsibility and dedication to bring forth needed change." Sen. Lawrence Jacobsen, R-Minden, remembered her as being "tenacious on women's issues." He re-



Plaque Presented to Janet Spelman, Jean Ford's Daughter, in Carson City Ceremony

(Pictured from l. to r.: Senator Joe Neal, Sue Wagner, Assemblywoman Chris Giunchigliani, Janet Spelman, Senator Bill Raggio, Lt. Governor Lorraine Hunt, Senator Lawrence Jacobsen.)

marked that while attending Jean's memorial service in Washoe Valley last August he "thought of all the things she had done for this great state." He described her as being a "super lady" who exhibited "loving kindness" and was a "role model legislative-wise." Sen. Joe Neal, D-North Las Vegas, remembered Jean from her involvement with the League of Women Voters in Las Vegas and her work promoting libraries in Nevada. He said, "Jean pulled me into the whole library thing - also parks. Jean was big on parliamentary rules and asked good questions on is-

sues. She was an individual without prejudice for people and issues. Her contribution to this body and organizations changed our state."

Assemblywoman Jan Evans, D-Washoe, recalled working with Jean on the Domestic Violence Funding Bill. She called Jean "an environmentalist" because of her dedication to parks and our historical and cultural heritage. She said, "Jean, those of us who follow in your footsteps thank you." Dawn Gibbons, Assemblywoman-R-Reno, remarked that "Jean Ford and

continued on page 2

NWHP Founder Honored by Nevada Legislature

continued from page 1

Sue Wagner are the reason why the Legislature looks the way it does,” commenting on the fact that Nevada now ranks number two in the nation in percentage of women serving in the Legislature.

Several assemblywomen described Jean as being a role model for them and many commented that Jean was a person ahead of her time. All agreed that she had made her mark and that our state and its citizens were far better off because of her work and love for Nevada and its people.

The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, The residents of the State of Nevada were deeply grieved at the passing of former Nevada Legislator Jean Ford, a visionary leader who died in her Carson City home on August 26, 1998, after a hard-fought battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, Jean Ford was born on December 28, 1929, in Miami, Oklahoma, graduated cum laude with a Bachelor's Degree in sociology from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, Texas, and later received a Master's Degree in public administration from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; and

WHEREAS, Epitomizing the civic contribution a private citizen can make, Jean Ford chaired the committee that brought about the creation of the Clark County Library District in 1965, headed the Nevada Air Quality Conference in 1971 and led the effort that saved Clark County's Red Rock Canyon recreation area from development; and

WHEREAS, After her election in 1972, Jean Ford served 4 years in the Nevada Assembly where she devoted her efforts to the support of visionary legislation that banned discrimination in the workplace based on gender, enhanced state parks, protected the environment, and would have increased public access to governmental meetings and required lobbyists to file disclosure statements; and

WHEREAS, After losing her first bid for a seat in the Nevada Senate, Jean Ford changed her party affiliation from Republican to Democrat and won election to the Senate in 1978 where she served until 1982 and was instrumental in passing bills to expand library services and

state parks, encourage the training of police officers to deal with domestic violence and protect the rights of parents, children, the elderly and the handicapped; and

WHEREAS, The love Jean Ford had for Nevada culture, history, flora and fauna found expression in her personal exploration of this state and the sharing of her passion and knowledge by organizing and leading bus tours of rural Nevada and resulted in her appointment by former Governor Bryan in 1983 to direct the first Nevada Commission on Tourism and Economic Development; and

WHEREAS, Her devoted efforts to ensure that Nevadans recognize the role women have played in the development of this state led Jean Ford to head the Women's Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno, where she also developed the Nevada Women's Archives and co-founded the Nevada Women's History Project; and

WHEREAS, Jean Ford received numerous awards of distinction, including the Distinguished Service Award from the Nevada State Park System, the award for Outstanding Citizen from the Business and Professional Women's Clubs, the Community Public Service Award from the American Society for Public Administration and the Woman of Power Award from the Nevada Women's Political Caucus, was named President's Medalist and Distinguished Nevadan from the University of Nevada, Reno, and was publicly honored at the state capitol on October 25, 1997, in a celebration of her life; and

WHEREAS, Jean Ford is survived by her two daughters, Janet Spelman of Las Vegas, Nevada, and Carla Oberst of Boston, Massachusetts; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 70th session of the Nevada Legislature extend their deepest sympathy to the family of Jean Ford including her daughters and her grandchildren; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the legacy of Jean Ford will live on in the achievements brought about by her dedication and seemingly inexhaustible energy that continue to enhance the lives of so many; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Secretary of the Senate prepare and transmit a copy of this resolution to her daughters, Janet and Carla.

Kay Sanders

Jennie O'Hare Riordan

Jeannette (aka Jennie) O'Hare Riordan was born in Carson City on May 10, 1874. Of Irish descent, she was the third daughter and fourth child of Michael and Margaret O'Hare. Jennie received her education in the Carson City schools, graduating in 1893. For the next four years

she taught school in Esmeralda, Nye and Lincoln counties. She began her teaching career at Coyote Hollow in the Cambridge District, and also taught at the Cambridge Mine, White River Valley, Cave Valley and Sunnyside. While working at the school in Nye County (White River), she met James Riordan whom she married on September 5, 1897 in St. Teresa's Church in Carson City. James Riordan was the first white child born in White Pine County. His parents had immigrated from County Cork, Ireland, and settled in the

White River Valley where they initially made their living selling milk, butter and eggs to the people in the mining camps of Pioche and Hamilton. Later they raised beef. The Riordan ranch became one of the well known ranches in eastern Nevada.

Jennie and James made their first home at Lane City, Nevada, where they had some mining interests. After three years they sold the mine, leased the O'Neill ranch in Spring Valley, White Pine County, and went into the cattle business. At the end of three years, they decided to move to the western part of the state. They went into a new venture when they purchased the hotel at Plumas Junction, about 35 miles north of Reno in Lassen County, California. It was the junction of the Nevada, California, Oregon and Sierra Valley Railroads. The nearest town where all their business was transacted was Reno. When the Western Pacific was completed, the junction became a thing of the past, which meant another move for the Riordans.

When James' father passed away, they returned to his ranch and continued the operations. They raised six children, Francis, Emmett, Lawrence, Ethel Fraser, Loretta Rodrigue, and Gertrude Gottschalk. All of their children were sent to California for their educations. After spend-

ing 34 years on the ranch, they retired in 1943 and their youngest son Lawrence became the new owner. Jennie happily returned to her beloved Carson City with her husband. James died at the age of 90 in 1960; Jennie at the age of 91 in 1965.

Jennie's parents were most interesting. Her father, Michael O'Hare, born in Ireland, was a Civil War veteran having served in the Artillery from New York City. He came to Carson City in the late 1860s and was employed first at the United States Mint and later at the Virginia and

Truckee Railroad foundry. Her mother, Margaret McNally, also a native of Ireland, immigrated with her family to New York at a young age. She met and married Michael Francis O'Hare in 1866 and preceded him to Carson City, where her parents, the McNallys, had moved in the early 1860s.

The story of Margaret's journey from the East Coast to Nevada is one of courage, endurance and determination. In 1867, accompanied by a younger brother and sister, she traveled via a ship to the Isthmus of Panama. While on board the Henry Chauncey she gave birth prematurely to a baby boy. Continuing on to her destination she, her four-day old infant son, and younger siblings rode donkeys across the Isthmus to board a steamer on the Pacific side. From San Francisco she journeyed to Sacramento by boat, then by train to Placerville, and lastly a stagecoach to Carson City. Her parents met her there. She was joined

continued on page 4



Jennie O'Hare Riordan - (1874-1965) - Pioneer Nevada Teacher

later by her husband Michael. In 1886 Michael died of pneumonia leaving Margaret with eight children to rear.

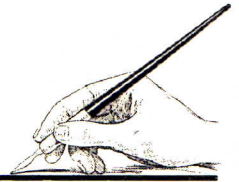
Jennie's four sisters also taught school in Nevada. The eldest, Minnie, taught at Wadsworth and Campbell's ranch in eastern Nevada, where she met her future husband, Josiah Miles. Tessie, the second O'Hare daughter, taught at Reese River, Candelaria, and Ione. She met her future husband, John Mayette, while teaching at Ione. Maggie, the fourth daughter, taught at the Star Mine in Cherry Creek, at Lane City, and in McGill where she was principal and one of the two teachers employed there. She later became an operator for the telephone company in Ely, a position she held for many years. Maggie never married and made her home with her mother. The last O'Hare daughter, Lyda, taught one pupil at a place called Johnny on the Phelan ranch near Currie. She married Fred Oldfield of Ely and taught naturalization classes in that area until 1959.

When Jennie was 90 years old (1964) she wrote a piece for the Carson City paper. In it she reminisced about earlier days, "I wonder how many Carson residents remember that Carson City once boasted a large Chinatown and quite a colony of Chinese. It was situated in the southeast section of the city, not far from Sunny Acres. I remember it best in the early 1880s when my father used to take us for a walk at night when they celebrated their New Year. The whole town would be lit with Chinese lanterns with tapers or candles in the windows. The firecrackers would be going off all around... Their funerals were another source of childhood delight, since they were so entirely different from anything we ever saw as they paraded to the cemetery moaning and beating cymbals to keep evil spirits away from the dead person." Her concluding paragraph was, "I have had a very happy life, and I look back to my school days and am glad that I lived in the best era of our country. The Gay Nineties were happy, carefree times, and we have seen so much progress over the years. I have seen Carson City grow from a small frontier town to its present population of fifteen thousand. I am glad that it has been my home."

An outstanding Nevada pioneer lady, Jennie lived her Catholic faith, raised a wonderful family, and contributed to each community in which she lived. Her biography is included in Special Collections at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Kay Sanders

"Startle Yourself" to do Essays



The next "Startle Yourself" workshop to be held on Saturday, May 22nd, beginning at 10:30 a.m. will feature Janet E. White (one of our own members) who will help us learn to write the personal essay. We will listen to the personal essays of famous essayists, examine and critique their works, and discuss what the personal essay contains. It's a far better genre than journals and diaries, and a lot more fun to write because you can really express yourself in this technique, according to Janet. Janet has a B.A. in Literature and is an applicant for an M.A. in English, Writing Option, in December 1999. Bring your good spirits, paper, pencil/pen, and a good sense of humor. For location, call Susan Roberts at 775-677-2423.

Nevada History Day Winners

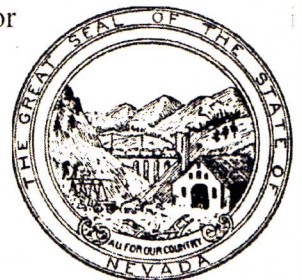
The Nevada Women's History Project offered special awards for participants of the Nevada History Day contest sponsored by the Nevada Humanities Committee. The topic this year was Science, Technology and Invention in History. To be eligible for the special awards, the entry also had to include a woman or women in Nevada.

There were four categories: high school and middle school in the northern region and high school and middle school in the southern region. Two hundred dollars were awarded to two winners this year.

In the southern Nevada contest, Jennifer Atwell was awarded \$100 for her museum style exhibit "Cultivating the Desert: A Woman's Influence". Jennifer is a student at Becker Middle School in Las Vegas.

In the northern Nevada contest, Jillian Miner was awarded \$100 for her exhibit and essay: "Margaret M. Wheat". Jillian is a student at Swope Middle School in Reno.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Jillian.



1999 NWHP Conference a Hit

"Nevada Women on the Trail: from the 49ers to the 99ers", our 2nd biennial conference theme, proved to be a hit with those who attended in Reno the weekend of February 26-28. Kicking off the events with a chuckwagon dinner, artists Linda Hussa, Joyce Vetter and Sophie Sheppard entertained an enthusiastic crowd with song, poetry, prose and photographs. Gwen Clancy and Nancy Kelly talked about their experiences in Surprise Valley, CA as cowgirls and eventually filmmakers. Their documentary, *A Cowhand's Song: A Crisis on the Range*, which was four years in the making, was shown. Linda and Carolyn Dufurrena added to the program with slides and sharing their personal experiences in Nevada.

Featuring keynote speaker Barbara Van Cleve, author of *Hard Twist: Western Ranch Women*, Saturday morning's program was well received as Barbara narrated her slides and gave a description of the lives of the various western women she had interviewed and photographed. At the luncheon, Angela Taylor, Director of Women's Athletics at University of Nevada, Reno recounted the past 100 years of women's athletics at the university. The afternoon continued with numerous workshops including "Breaking the Glass Barrier in Education", a panel discussion featuring Mary Petersen, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools, Jaculine Jones, Ed.D., retired Washoe County School Administrator, and Geraldine Harge, Superintendent of Nye County Schools, a talk about "Women of Rhyolite, Nevada" by Cari Coughlin, and a how-to-discussion on "Writing Nevada Women" by Sally Zanjani, Ph.D.

"Sisters of the Sage: Carson City Women in Living History" was the special program during the social hour that evening. Eileen Cohen portrayed Hannah Clapp; Sue Ballew, Nellie Davis; Cherry Jones, Eliza Cook; Cindy Southerland, Anne Martin; and Bonnie Dietrich, Eilley Oram Bowers. The evening concluded with a stroll to the Nelson Building to hear the Reno Pops Orchestra, con-

ducted by Joyce Williams, perform *The Principal Man Suite*, composed by Jeanine Mooers, a blind musician and student at UNR.



NWHP Conference Workers shown l. to r. are Phyllis Cudek, Kay Sanders, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Kathy Noneman, Mary Anne Convis.

Anita Watson, Ph.D., spoke on "Nevada Women Emerging into Public Life" and Carrie Townley Porter inducted Jean Ford posthumously into the NWHP Roll of Honor during the final Sunday morning session of the conference.

Holly Van Valkenburgh, conference chair, reported that the conference more than paid for itself, generated much interest in Nevada women in history, and that the evaluations were

glowing. The next conference will be held in Las Vegas, date to be announced later.

Kay Sanders

No. Nevada Business Meeting Announcement

The 1999 NWHP, Northern Region Annual Meeting will be a delicious champagne brunch at Reno's hottest new cooking school.

When: Saturday, June 19, 1999, 10:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m.

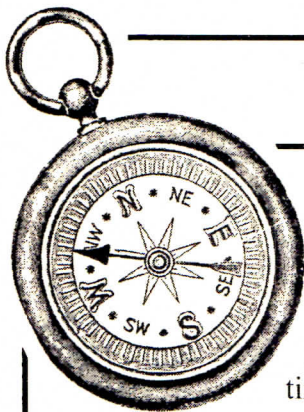
Where: The "Nothing To It!" Culinary Center located at 225 Crummer Lane in Reno.

What to expect: Great food, champagne, door prizes and fun! Guest speaker will be media personality and Chef Jennifer Bushman. Jennifer will give a revealing talk about women chefs.

Cost: \$18.00 per person at the door for members
\$20.00 for non-members

For reservations ASAP: Call Lisa-Marie Lightfoot by June 1, 1999 at 775-849-2050 (attendance is limited)

We want all our members there! This is the perfect time to bring friends, relatives and others. Introduce them to the best women's organization in Nevada.



News from the North

As you can see from this edition of the Newsletter, our organization has continued to grow and to offer different and exciting programs and projects, as well as continuing with some of our old favorites. Here in the North, we have two events monthly. The Hannah Clapp lecture series at the State Library and Archives so ably chaired by Isabel Espinoza and the "Startle Yourself" writing series created and wonderfully nurtured by Susan Roberts, our program chair. Both have proved to be very popular with both members and the public. These are only two of our tireless and devoted workers, among the others:

Kathleen Clemence is once again in charge of our annual soiree, our major fundraiser here in the North. She is being assisted by Linda Wycoff and Mary Ann Convis, our finance committee.

Patt Quinn-Davis works to get us publicity in spite of going to school full time. Janet White is membership chair and historian. She is also our town crier and gets the word out via e-mail and telephone tree when we need to contact our membership. In spite of being a busy woman she always manages to "get it done" for us.

Kay Sanders continues to do a peerless and gallant job in so many areas: newsletter chair, fill in secretary for Helen Oster, chairing the website committee and the annotated bibliography committee. All this in spite of her exhausting family responsibilities due to her father's illness. Kay is the epitome of what Jean Ford wanted us all to be.

Holly Van Valkenburgh successfully spearheaded and chaired our annual conference. She managed to make it fun, educational and a money maker. What a woman!

Beverly Hubbard, our treasurer, who does a great job of making all those figures balance, explains it all so that it makes sense to the rest of us, and always seems to come up with the solution to our problems and budget woes.

Lisa Lightfoot, fairly new to our group, but a wonderful find - as our project chair, she works on the website with Kay, and worries about and tends to whatever we need her to do, be it the conference or planning this year's annual meeting luncheon. She is also a genius when it comes to finding the freebies and getting folks to donate them to us.

Carrie continues as our state coordinator without pay. She does everything from managing and organizing the office, to finding just the right person or solution for whatever we need. She coordinates this organization and keeps us all "in the loop".

These ladies are ours, yours and mine, 1998/1999 Northern Region Executive Committee. How very lucky we are to have such a group working so hard to make it all work! I know that there are many others of you who have worked very hard this past year for the Project, and we thank you all for being there whenever we needed you. Please come to our Annual Meeting so that we can all celebrate the end of a fun and successful year and plan for the next one.

Kathleen Noneman

NWHP Awarded a SHRAB Grant

The NWHP received a \$1,729 grant to organize the Jean Ford Research Center at our office in Reno. The Nevada State Historical Records Board is charged with administering funds awarded by the National Historic Preservation Records Committee for use within Nevada. The money will be used to hire Townley-Porter Associates to design a system for and to organize the forty-five cubic feet of research material collected by Jean Ford and donated to the NWHP.

Finding aids will be developed to make the collection more accessible for research by our members. Work should begin this month. If you are interested in volunteering to help with this project, please call Carrie Townley Porter at 775-857-2050.

News from the South

NWHP, Southern Region, has been involved in several worthwhile projects these past months. They include "Celebrating Black History Month" in February, March History Month with "Wednesday's Woman" sponsored by the Las Vegas Clark County Library District, developing regional bylaws that will be compatible with the State bylaws, publishing our first regional newsletter for our members, biography workshops for members and friends and, most important, the undertaking of the first biographical encyclopedia.

We have applied for grant money to carry out the biographical encyclopedia project. We plan to begin with "Volume I" which will include only southern Nevada women who are now deceased and were active in their communities prior to 1950. Artists in the community are invited to submit cover designs. Volume One will take two years; we are excited and ready to complete this work.

The biographical encyclopedia will be furnished to school libraries for use in Nevada history classes and sold to the public. The research will lead to multimedia presentations about these historic community-building Nevada women.

Anyone wishing to help with Volume One and future volumes please contact Mary Gafford at 648-9415

or Frankie Williams at 876-3586 or write to PO Box 12184, Las Vegas, NV 89112-0184.

On June 5, 1999, the Southern Region will hold its annual business meeting at the Elks Lodge in Las Vegas. Members and friends are invited to a brunch at 10:00 am. Entertainment and the business portion of the meeting will follow the brunch. A special program is being planned by Loni Noyes that will feature "Treasures from Grandma's Attic". Your check for \$15.00 is your reservation for the brunch. The deadline for reservations is May 24th. Members and friends are asked to mail their checks to the Southern Region mailing address which is listed above.

On May 15, 1999, Dr. Joanne Goodwin, Assistant Professor, Department of History, UNLV will conduct a biography workshop at the UNLV library. Members and guests are invited. Please make reservations by calling Rose Irwin at 457-4577 as soon as possible.

Have a marvelous summer and be careful on your travels near and far.

Rose Irwin



Second Annual Soiree Planned For May 15

The Northern Nevada Region of the Nevada Women's History Project cordially invites you, your family, and friends to our Second Annual Soiree and Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, May 15, 1999, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the home of DeVonde and Kathleen Clemence, Galena Forest Estates, 35 Austrian Pine Circle, Reno. Potato Bistro will cater the food, Ron Keilholtz will enchant us with beautiful piano music, Mother Jones and Dr. Mary Fulstone will be portrayed by Young Chautauquans Mara Brosy and Marisa Peri. Numerous door prizes will be awarded including a week at a Bear Valley, California mountain home (sleeps 2 to 20) and a week at a Brian Head, Utah condo (sleeps up to 6). Wines of Husch Vineyards (Mendocino County, Ca.) will be featured.

Cost is \$75 per person. For further information contact Kathleen Clemence at (775) 849-3665. Directions to her home will be provided by calling her number. Contributions in excess of \$25 may be tax deductible. For a \$50 contribution your name will be entered in the door prize drawing (for those of you who are not able to attend).

Please support NWHP through an afternoon of good food, beverage, conversation, and entertainment, or make a donation and be eligible to win a prize.

Jean Ford Added to NWHP Roll of Honor

At the NWHP conference held in Reno in February, Jean Ford was added to the NWHP Roll of Honor. The Roll of Honor was introduced at the first biennial NWHP conference held in March of 1997. The purpose of this on-going project is to honor individuals and organizations who have "Made a Difference" in the gathering and dissemination of Nevada women's history. The honorees have shown commitment and creativity which resulted in contributions of published works, video productions, making accessible research data and special services.

The Roll of Honor was one of Jean Ford's many ideas, and she refused to be included among the first honored. Jean's contributions have been numerous and it is certainly proper that her name be added this year.

The other recipients of this honor are: American Association of University Women (Nevada Division) and Delta Kappa Gamma (Alpha Chi State Chapter); Isabelle Slavin Blackman (1898-1995); Dr. Elaine Enarson; Mary Freeman (1875-1920); Dr. Patricia A. Gueder; Mary Ellen Glass; Dr. Anne Howard; Verde Hughes; Ron James; Lee Kosso; Janet I. Loverin; Celesta Lowe; Mesquite Club of Las Vegas; Lee Mortensen; Nevada Humanities Committee; Sylvia Ontaneda-Bernales; Nona Parkin (1921-1988); Dr. Jeanne Elizabeth Wier (1870-1950); and Dr. Sally Zanjani.

Wednesday's Woman Program Celebrates Women in History

The Nevada Women's History Project hosted and planned the March 31, 1999, "Wednesday's Woman" presentation at the Las Vegas Clark County Library. The moderator for the evening was Rose Irwin, Chairperson for the NWHP Southern Region. Distinguished panel members were Carrie Townley Porter, State Coordinator for NWHP, Frankie Williams, Secretary for the NWHP Southern Region, Billie Bates, NWHP Southern Region Parliamentarian, Ellen Reed, who oversees the Jean Ford and Nevada History Collection and the Grants and Funding Resource Center at the Library, Joan Kerschner, Henderson District Public Libraries Director, Grace Woo, Sierra Health Services Quality Improvement and Research Department, Catherine Bellver, UNLV Professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, and Judy Winzeler, Executive Director of the Nevada Humanities Committee.

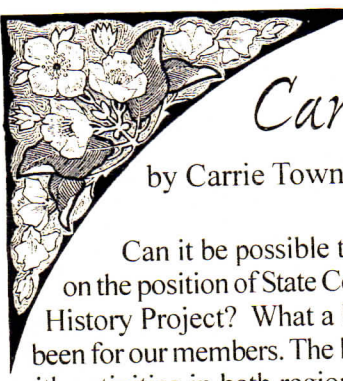


The previous four programs for "Wednesday's Woman" included Margo Gutierrez, Mexican American and Latin Studies Librarian and Bibliographer for the University of Texas, Angela Oh who joined UCLA in 1999 as a Visiting Scholar and Lawyer in Residence, Dr. Pouran Ameli, founder of "Hope for Tomorrow", who is currently the Chairperson of the Mexican Iranian Friendship Association, Dr. Dorothy Randall Tsuruta, Associate Professor of Literature and Composition in Black Studies at San Francisco State University, and Kim Russell, Artistic and Program Director for Women of Diversity Productions.

The "Wednesday's Woman" series was sponsored by Las Vegas Clark County Library District, Cable Broadcast sponsored by the Clark County Department of Parks and Recreation and the Public Communications Team. The series were filmed and broadcast for television. Additional copies of this video were placed in the libraries for public viewing.

The NWHP was honored when asked to be involved in the "Wednesday's Woman," series. We thank all who participated in this worthwhile program featuring renowned women of diversity and the role of all women in our nation's history. Topics included literature, politics, cultural contributions and development of the female role in society.

Rose Irwin



Carrie's Corner

by Carrie Townley Porter, State Coordinator

Can it be possible that a year has passed since I took on the position of State Coordinator of the Nevada Women's History Project? What a busy and productive year this has been for our members. The last three months have been packed with activities in both regions. Our volunteer members have worked hard to make these activities successful. I continue to marvel at what our members accomplish.

The second biennial conference held in Reno in February was a wonderful start to our participation in Women's History Month. The program developed by Holly Van Valkenburg and her committee exceeded our expectations and provided an enjoyable weekend that was an opportunity to learn about women on the trail – from overland trail to the campaign trail.

Our members in the south supported the "Wednesday's Woman, A Celebration of National Women's History Month" each Wednesday in March. These events provided our organization a great opportunity to make others aware of what we do. On the fifth evening, we sponsored a panel discussion which was organized and monitored by Rose Irwin. Rose did a superb job on this event and has received many compliments from viewers who saw it on television the following weekend.

Frankie Williams and Mary Gafford presented the program "Remembering Carver Park and Victory Village Experience" to celebrate Black History Month.

In the north, members have been sampling new experiences with "Startle It" workshops organized by Susan Roberts. Isabel Espinoza ensures the Hannah Clapp Lecture Series in Carson City continues with interesting and entertaining programs. Kathleen Clemence is once again planning a Soiree fund raiser for May.

I had fun celebrating Women's History Month with my fellow Soroptimists. We had a quiz each Thursday with a prize awarded for the first correct answer and the last meeting I brought as a guest, Violet, the large stuffed moose donated to us by former First Lady Sandy Miller as part of her collection. Violet, who is now a part of history, had a great time. She even contributed two Happy Dollars to thank Janice Hoke, the journalist who wrote the article on the Sandy Miller collection for the Reno newspaper.

We are progressing on our web site project and the book assessment. Many hours of dedicated work have been put into these two projects. If you have not checked the web site lately, take a look.

Our members in the south are beginning an exciting new project in the first ever Biographical Encyclopedia of Nevada women. The first group will be deceased women who lived in the southern region of the state prior to 1950. If you know of anyone who fits these criteria, but who may have ended her life elsewhere in the state, please share this information with the committee working on this.

Research Registry



Orphan Train Riders

Between 1854 and 1929, more than 150,000 orphaned, abandoned or homeless children were taken from institutions in New York and transported west to rural America. At each train stop, the children were lined up on the station platform or in the churches, schools, or social halls for observation by local citizens. To find a home, children sang, danced, recited, and did tricks hoping to be selected for adoption. Those not chosen were loaded back on the train and taken on to the next stop where the process was repeated.

Children who made the trek all the way west, slept on the seats and on some trains had nothing to eat but bread with jelly or peanut butter for as long as a month. Fifty-nine of these unfortunate children were left here in Nevada before federal legislation stopped the practice of "placing out".

Frankie Williams is the Nevada "Orphan Train Lady". If you or someone you know was a rider and you want help accessing your records, finding out where you came from and who your parents may have been, there is help. Call Frankie at 1-702-876-3586.

Researchers & Writers Wanted

Southern Nevada members call Mary Gafford at 702-648-9415 or Frankie Williams at 702-876-3586, or write to NWHP, Southern Region, P.O. Box 12184, Las Vegas, NV 89112-0184.

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 775-786-2335 in Reno, or write us at NWHP • P.O. Box 50428 • Reno, Nevada 89513.

DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE SUMMER ISSUE OF NWHP NEWS IS JULY 9, 1999.

Please keep track of the hours you put in on our activities and report them to your respective board members so that we can continue to use them for grant writing. These hours represent the dedication and hard work of our members and when compiled, give a good picture of why our organization continues to thrive and accomplishes so much. I appreciate what you all do to make us a success!

Carrie



Hats in Fashion Program Rounds Out History Month

Women's History Month closed with the Nevada Women's History Project presentation of a special window to the past - "Remembering Millinery." The event took place on March 27th at the North Las Vegas Library Civic Center. Frankie Williams, fashioner, milliner, and business woman, emceed the show along with her friend Bernie Lenz. Bernie opened the first Fashion Merchandising Institute of Nevada in 1971 and has been a resident of Las Vegas for fifty years.

A large collection of vintage hats were shown and worn. They included Girl Scout hats from 1912 -1999 worn by Mitsi Johnson, Jessica Johnson and Wendy Wimer. Char Cruse wore her great-grandmother's sunbonnet and a 1905 picture hat. Colleen Schroeder known for her years as a fashion commentator, introduced several from the Elizabeth Castle collection. Mary Snow and Joan LeMere participated in the fashion show by wearing their Elizabeth hats.

Elma Jurva, Sophia Hesbon, Rose Irwin and Kathleen Haslemann modeled wide and narrow brims, large and petite sized hats made from a variety of fabrics. Leather and a rare selection of impressive feathered hats were also included in this portion of the show. A special Air Force military hat loaned to NWHP by Retired Col. LaVerne Drake and a white fox fur hat loaned from the Katherine Symon collection were also modeled. Kathryn Howell surprised and delighted the audience with hats that she wore when meeting two presidents, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson.

The Stetson hat, called "the hat that crowned the West", made a great impression on the American woman by the variety of materials used for casual or dressy affairs. Heide Holms gave us the opportunity to display and show her collection of western hats

The grand finale was a glamorous hat worn years ago in a Stardust Production. Due to the generosity of Sandy Peltyn and John Victor Clark, it was displayed and worn by Jessica Johnson.

Rose Irwin

A Memorable Event in Las Vegas

In early January invitations for "**Remembering the Carver Park and Victory Village Experience**" were sent to members and friends. This delightful and educational event took place at 10:00 am on February 13th at the Elks Club on West Charleston Blvd. in Las Vegas. Members and guests were welcomed by Rose Irwin, Chair of the Southern Region. Senator Mark James and State Controller Kathy Augustine were introduced, who in turn addressed the members and guests briefly. Mary Gafford and Frankie Williams gave a stimulating program. Many members in the audience were caught up in the excitement and several remembered and shared their childhood memories with tenderness and love of neighbors and friends. We are so appreciative for all the time spend re-searching, writing and presenting this historical program.

Alana Noyes, our meetings person for the organization, planned and arranged to make the room breathtakingly beautiful in pink and white with soft pink roses placed in an oblong glass cylinder. Valentine cards and candy were placed at each place setting along with a printed program designed by Mitsi Johnson. A buffet brunch was served. Beautiful red roses were presented to Mary Gafford and Frankie Williams as a small token of our appreciation.

Rose Irwin



So. Nevada Business Meeting Announcement

What: NWHP Annual Business Meeting - Southern Region

Place: Elks Lodge, West Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas, NV

Date: June 5, 1999

What: Annual Business Meeting

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Program: "Treasures From Grandma's Attic"

Cost: Your check for \$15.00 is your reservation

Deadline: May 24, 1999

Mail to: NWHP, P.O. Box 12184, Las Vegas, NV 89112-0184

Calender

NORTHERN REGION MEETING DATES

May 10, 1999 - Executive Committee Meeting

June 19, 1999 - Annual Business Meeting

July 12, 1999 - Executive Committee Meeting

August 9, 1999 - Executive Committee Meeting

(Executive Committee Meetings, 201 West Liberty, Suite, 201, Reno - beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

MEMBER EVENTS

May 15, 1999 - 2nd Annual Soiree, 4 to 7 p.m. - Home of DeVonde and Kathleen Clemence

May 22, 1999 - "Startle Yourself" workshop - 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Call Susan Roberts at 702-677-2423 for location.

Hannah Clapp Tour - June 2, 1999. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at Mia's Restaurant in Dayton, in the parking lot. A "Walking Tour of Dayton" will be followed by a no-host dinner at Mia's.

July 16, 1999 - "Potluck Social" Picnic, Whitaker Park, University Terrace (NW Reno - near tennis courts), Picnic - 5:30 p.m., Program - 6:30 p.m. Talk on Bishop Whitaker School for Girls by Carrie Porter.

Hannah Clapp Tour - August 4, 1999. Tour of the Roberts' House in Carson City starting at 5:45 p.m. Mrs. Roberts, in the person of Dorothy Dolan, will be our guide. Refreshments will be served. For information about either tour, call Cherry Jones at 775-267-3410.

August 21, 1999 - Jean Ford Annual Wildflower Hike - tentative plans for Castle Peak area. Call 702-786-2335 for more information.

SOUTHERN REGION MEETING DATES

June 5, 1999 - Annual Business Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - Elks Lodge on West Charleston.

July 3, 1999 - Executive Committee Meeting

August 7, 1999 - Executive Committee Meeting

(Executive Committee Meetings, Frontier Girl Scouts, 2530 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, beginning at 4:00 p.m.)

MEMBER EVENTS

May 15, 1999 - Biographical Workshop at UNLV, under the direction of Dr. Joanne Goodwin. Call Rose Irwin at 457-4577 or Mitsi Johnson at 385-3677 for more information.

Coming up - Second Annual Tea - home of Jeanne Greenawalt - late October - TBA

Potpourri

Congratulations

- **ALANNA NOYES** was nominated by Robert O. Gibson Middle School, Las Vegas for "Best Teacher Award".
- **ANNE HOWARD**, Professor of English, University of Nevada, Reno, is retiring after 35 years of teaching, research and service. An undergraduate scholarship in her name is being established. Contributions are welcomed. Contact Linda Gorelangton, English Department, UNR.
- **ESTHER EARLY** was honored, along with several other northern Nevada women, as Nevada Women's role models by Nevada Attorney General Frankie Sue Del Papa. Del Papa, as well as U. S. Senator Richard Bryan handed out the awards at a recent Truckee Meadows Human Services Association meeting.
- **ANITA WATSON** is listed in the Speakers Bureau brochure sponsored by the Nevada Humanities Committee. She portrays Mary Oxborrow, a Nevada pioneer midwife. This brochure, with profiles of presenters and additional program detail, can be obtained by calling (775) 784-6587.

Thanks

- To the following donors who helped with our 2nd Biennial Conference: Franktown Corner's Car Wash, Trader Joe's Grocery Store, Reno-Sparks Convention Authority, St. Mary's Hospital, Norwest Bank, Sierra Pacific Power Company, St. Ives Florist, Meadowood Mall, Starbucks, Sephora, Nevada Bell, Sundance Books, Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, Nevada Division of California State Automobile Association, Gottschalks Department Store, Michael's Arts and Crafts, Andrea's Kitchen Conspiracy.
- To Mary Gafford for her efforts in putting together a display at the UNLV Library spotlighting NWHP and Women's History Month.

Announcements

Joyce Marshall has accepted the position of NWHP State Chair beginning July 1, 1999. She replaces Kathy Noneman whose term is expiring. Eva Stowers has agreed to be NWHP State Treasurer; she replaces Beverly Hubbard.

Volunteers Needed for the Following:

Northern Region: Newsletter Editor • Project Chair

Southern Region: Newsletter Editor • Finance Chair • Publicity Chair

Some NWHP News Contacts

Carrie Townley Porter

Fax: 775-857-4447 • Email: tpareno@ix.netcom.com

Kay Sanders

Fax: 775-747-1642 • Email: ksanders@scs.unr.edu

Rose Irwin

702-457-4577 • Fax: 702-385-9278

NWHP - State Office

201 West Liberty Street, Suite 201 • Reno, NV 89513

Tel: 775-786-2335 • Fax: 775-786-8152

South: P.O. Box 12184 • Las Vegas, NV 89112-0184

The Nevada Women's History Project newsletter is published quarterly in Reno, Nevada. Annual subscription rate is included in dues. Non-member subscription rate is \$20 domestic, additional overseas. Copyright NWHP. All rights reserved. Under copyright law, this newsletter and the contents herein may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any means, electronic or otherwise, without permission from the publishers, except in normal use as provided by law. Opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily reflect official policy of NWHP. Unsolicited articles and photos and requests for Writer's Guidelines should be sent to the editor, NWHP • P.O. Box 50428 • Reno, NV 89513

Article Reprints \$2.00 • Back Issues \$5.00 • Editor: Kay Sanders



NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY
PO Box 50428 • Reno, Nevada 89513
NWHP is a delegate agency of the Nevada Women's Fund

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Reno, Nevada
Permit No. 568

Visit the Nevada Women's History Project Online at www.unr.edu/wrc/nwhp/

Membership Application

Individual Membership • Dues \$25/Year

Name _____

Mailing Address _____ Zip _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____

E-Mail _____ Voice Mail _____

Remember that e-mail is case sensitive, so please print carefully.

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!*

Individual Members

Sonya Aikens	Faye Anderson
Patricia D. Cafferata, Esq.	
Dale DeLong	Dorothy Dolan
Linda Dufferena	Carleen Ernest
Terry Gallagher	Shirley Hammen
Margaret Kehres	Mary Korpi
Kay Lockhart	Mollie Murphy
Jane Olive	Kristy Price
Francine Pulliam	Irene Rostine
Angela Taylor	Joyce Williams

Organizations

American Association of
University Women, Yerington
Mesquite Club, Inc.

Any NWHP member may receive the full membership list by sending \$5 to NWHP, P.O. Box 50428 Reno, Nevada 89513. The Southern Membership Chair of the NWHP may be reached at PO Box 28206, Las Vegas, NV 89102.