

Aug. 99
Summer 1999

NWHP

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY

Project News

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Project Completed: Coeds remember World War II

Memories of struggle and fulfillment, tremendous tragedy and college frivolity are woven through the documentary, WWII Coeds at UNR, which has just been completed.

The documentary, available on videotape, records what it was like to be a woman student during World War II at the University of Nevada. Sponsored by the Nevada Women's History Project and researched and produced by Esther Early, the two-video tape set has been in production for more than two years. The set is now being presented to numerous Nevada libraries and repositories.

The years 1941-1945 were pivotal in the history of women everywhere because the world was locked in the worst war in

history. There was a common belief that the United States and its allies were threatened by defeat and that the American way of life could come to an end. Everyone rallied behind U.S. armed forces and the challenge of providing arms and supplies for the countries that were fighting along with the U.S. Some women met the call to enter the armed forces, but most stayed home to not only take over full care of the families, but also to enter the work force as they had never been able to do before. After the war, their roles had changed forever.

In January 1997, women

from that era were invited to a tea at NWHP offices where many of them met for the first time in more than 50 years. Then at the Graduation Commencement celebration at the University of Nevada, Reno in May 1997, the Alumni Association honored the women with a special WWII Coeds Tea, which was videotaped. Meetings were then organized and members of a steering committee decided what topics of interest should be preserved for history and how to accomplish the task.

Women involved in the project included Nora Chipman Saunders, Esther

Detweiler Early, Elinor Jensen Erickson, Muriel Westergard Gamble, Dorothy E. Goetz, Many Lou Hovenden



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Project Completed: Coeds remember World War II

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Noel, Marilyn Dugan Perkins, Ruth Armstrong Smith, and Betty Zang Waltenspiel. Money was raised through individual donations to pay for the professional work involved and for copying the tapes which would be presented to various selected agencies.

In May 1999, a group of women were interviewed at the Sierra Nevada Communications Access Television Studios, which was also taped. Segments from the tapes were selected, edited and put together, along with music from that era, pictures of students and the campus at that time, poetry by Jean McElrath, and voice-over introductions and commentaries by Esther Early. Covers for the tapes were designed by Tami Early, the same graphics design artist who developed the NWHP logo.

The academic, social and work experiences of the coeds were discussed and illustrated at length. They tell how they supported the war effort by raising money for war bonds, volunteered for the Red Cross, USO, and in many other ways. Their stories are humorous, nostalgic, and sometimes tragic, but they all reflect the hard-working ethic of the women who accepted their lot of living with rationing, the fear of the loss of loved ones, and the reality of a world at war.

One of the interesting tales they relate is how the university was utilized by the armed forces to educate Air Force cadets and Army engineers. They were housed in the gymnasium, and the men and women's dormitories, so the young women had to live in fraternity houses if they were from out of town. Although the campus was under armed guard and the armed service personnel were strictly segregated from the women, the stories of how the men and women managed to make contact with each other and date on weekends are very entertaining. Other remembrances are sad, for the stories involve men on their way to war—the women didn't know if the young men they met would survive the war once they had completed training and were sent to their destinations.

On campus the young women took over the jobs traditionally held by men, such as president of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, even though it took

a change of the bylaws to make it possible. As they assumed non-traditional roles, the possibilities of equal opportunities with men in the work place became evident. After the war, many went ahead to have professional careers as well as to raise families and work in their communities on a volunteer basis. The women relate some of the difficulties they had entering fields other than teaching, nursing or secretarial work. In many cases they made compromises but they kept up the pressure on society to accept women on an equal footing with men. If they did not achieve their dreams, they have helped to make it possible for their daughters and granddaughters to pursue their true interests and talents.

These tapes have recorded a special time in Nevada history. Little has been told about these times from the viewpoint of the women who lived through them, and how they affected so many lives. With this documentary another portion of Nevada women's history unfolds, sharing the wisdom of the women as they comment on the past and present times.

The following agencies are the recipients of the WWII Coeds at UNR: the Department of Women's Studies at UNR, Getchell Library Special Collections, UNR Archives, Washoe County Library, Washoe County School District, Nevada Historical Society, Nevada State Library, Nevada Women's History Project, and Sierra Nevada Community Access Television.

Esther Early

NWHP Leadership

NORTHERN REGION:

Carrie Townley Porter, Chair
Holly Van Valkenburgh, Vice-chair
Janice Gunderson, Secretary
Beverly Hubbard, Treasurer
Fritsi Ericson
Kathy Noneman
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot
Patt Quinn-Davis
Kay Sanders

SOUTHERN REGION:

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

Fanny Goldwater Soss: The Ultimate Las Vegas Business Woman

Fanny Goldwater Soss (April 10, 1884-April 3, 1990) became the legend Women's Wear Daily called, "The finest ladies' retailer in the country."

She was born in the Whitechapel sector of London, England to a confident, strong-willed mother and a father who designed and tailored extravagantly fine ladies' and men's wear. The family came to America when Fanny was 18 months old. On the advice of a friend, they first lived in Lincoln, Neb., where Mr. Goldwater opened a men's store in the Lincoln Hotel. Other boom towns followed in Idaho, Montana, Utah and Wyoming, winding up in Oakland, Calif., in 1906, right after the San Francisco earthquake. The family added four brothers and two sisters.

In 1897, when Fanny was 13, her mother told her she wasn't going to school any longer because she already knew everything a proper young lady needed to know. She had also assumed her father's trade. Her childhood had been secure and privileged. Surrounded by fine things, the brothers were involved in school and sports and the girls spent hours dressing up, changing accessories and impersonating their mother, teachers and celebrities they saw in periodicals and newspapers. Fanny was fascinated with a New York World reporter, Nellie Bly, who set out to go around the world in less than 80 days and actually made it in 72.

Born three or four generations ahead of questioning parental authority, Fanny spent her days at home and gradually took over the duties of an executive housekeeper. There was a staff of servants, so she never had to scrub or clean,

but she planned meals, ordered supplies, managed costs and supervised the care of clothing and the demeanor of her siblings. She also studied nutrition. There were numerous awards for her creative recipes and fine cooking.

At 20, Fanny had never had an eligible suitor: she had been busy managing a large household. Her brothers started a campaign to see that she was suitably wedded. The Goldwaters were Orthodox Jews. However, Fanny was introduced to a handsome Mendel Soss, a Reformed Jew. Mendel's family manufactured fine bench-made luggage and handbags and Mendel jobbed their products. It appeared to be a perfect match and they married when Fanny was 23 and Mendel was 27. They moved away from



their families to live in Los Angeles. Fanny became a wife and a mother of a girl and a boy.

Unable to reconcile differences in lifestyle and religion, Fanny divorced her husband after 20 years of marriage and became a single parent during the Great Depression. She rejected help from her family, selling coupons for photographers, cold canvassing the better neighborhoods and selling stockings on the street in the garment district. In 1931, she was running a small clothing concession in Los Angeles and she learned of the boom in Las Vegas and the Boulder Dam Project. She opened shop on Vegas' west side that same year and couldn't make enough to cover the \$15-a-month rent. With her capital dwindling, she moved to Fifth and Bonneville. Fremont Street on pay day was swarming curb to curb with construction workers

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and their money and that was where Fanny longed to be!

On July 4, 1932, she moved to a house on Fremont hat had previously been Watt's cafe. In celebration, she and her friends participated in the first Helldorado Parade, walking on the unpaved street in bathing suits. In six months, a better location became available, where the Four Queens is now. The shop began as a one-woman operation but the woman was Fanny Soss. She worked seven days a week, locking the door on Sunday for accounting and cleaning. Her first employee was Marion Thompson.

From the beginning there were salon-style touches. Every purchase was carefully wrapped and on holidays, the outer wrapper and bows became elaborate. Alterations and complete restyling was available. This store remained for 35 glowing years. Her customers were newcomers and pioneers. She had a loyal following of out-of-towners. Virginia Hill came to Fanny to shop, so did wives of the mayor, police chief, bank presidents and the "ladies" from Block 16. She had the first neon lights, mannequins in the windows and the first fashion shows. Buying was done in New York. Designer clothes and European imports were sold. The Fur Salon and millinery were unequalled. In 1947, she opened the store in the Flamingo Hotel. Later there were four locations and the last and the jewel of them all was on Las Vegas Boulevard and Deal Drive which is now Fashion Show Drive. Her son Maury operated that location until 1979. When it closed, Fanny wasn't sorry or nostalgic. The high-minded business woman who worked seven days a week for years said she was never a slave to business and moved on with her rich, full life.

Achieving so much success in a man's world, Fanny never felt diminished because she was a woman, and was never too busy to enjoy herself. She loved getting involved. During World War II, she volunteered with Catholic USO, and she was always a benefactress of the Blind Center. She was a member of Royal Neighbors of America and a booster of Helldorado. In her last Helldorado Parade at 92, there seemed nothing left to do but ride an elephant. The one used in the movie "Around the World in 80 Days" was flown to Las Vegas. She turned down a saddle and rode bare-back down the street where she started out when it was a one-burro town.

Fanny said that fashion and longevity were in her genes. Both of her parents lived to be almost 100 and she lived to be the oldest woman in Nevada. Fanny died at her own home planning a party for her 106th birthday, still eating wholesome foods. She never smoked but she liked champagne and she said she fed her mind on the Golden Rules and the Ten Commandments.

Nevada was graced with her presence for 60 years. According to her wishes, no funeral was planned. Entombment was in the Home of Eternity Mausoleum in Oakland, Calif.

(Sun and Review Journal newspaper articles from the collection of memorabilia belong to the son of Fanny Goldwater Soss, Maury Soss of Las Vegas.)

Frankie Fletcher Williams



Chefs and Massages

The history of women chefs, fine music and the wonders of hand massages provided a unique backdrop for the Northern Region Annual Business Meeting in June.

More than 40 members and guests attended the meeting, arranged by Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, project chairwoman, on Saturday, June 19, 1999, at the "Nothing To It" Culinary Center in Reno. Those attending enjoyed a gourmet champagne brunch and a historical presentation about the history of women chefs by Jennifer Bushman, media chef for KRNK television station and owner of the center. For many of the members, this was their first opportunity to inspect the new facility.

Members were also treated to complimentary hand massages by Brenda Burns and Starla Coverston, licensed massage therapists. Rene Snyder entertained the group with musical selections on her harp. Young Chautauquan Marisa Peri appeared as Dr. Mary Fulstone. Although she is only 10 years old, her performance was delightfully professional and a highlight of the day. Kathleen Noneman, chairwoman, conducted a brief business meeting and new officers were elected for the coming year.



NWHP Applies for Grant: Annotated Bibliography Moves Forward

A monumental project by NWHP members recently received an impressive reception from the State Council on Libraries and Literacy. A grant application has been submitted to the

council, requesting funds to publish the Annotated Bibliography of Women in Nevada History Books. The funding request received the highest possible number of points in the voting.

Called a LSTA, or Library Services and Technology Act grant application, the purpose of the request is to publish the bibliography in printed and/or electronic format. The goal is for every public school and public library in Nevada to have access to the bibliography, either in printed form or through the Nevada Women's History Project web page.

The statewide project to provide an annotated bibliography of women in the Nevada history books began in 1996. Jean Ford compiled a list of Nevada history books both in public community libraries and in libraries in public schools and higher education throughout the state. Volunteers read or scanned more than 900 books, documenting the amount of information on each woman, the treatment, and providing brief content notes. More than 325 books, which have "substantial" content about Nevada women, received annotations.

The entries were combined into a single publication, which will have about 154 printed pages. Jean began to compile the entries, a process which Jean Stoess Word Processing is now continuing. Completion of the massive project is anticipated this summer.

The LSTA grant requests \$5,000—\$4,500 to print 550 copies for the 83 public libraries, 449 public schools, the seven institutions of higher education and the State Library and Archives; and \$500 to prepare the bibliography electronic format availability on the web site.

The members of the State Council on Libraries and

Literacy were particularly impressed by two factors in this project: 1) It was the result of volunteer labor and 2) It is ready for publication. In this past year, more than 1,000 hours of volunteer labor were contributed by NWHP members on this and other projects.

Holly V. Van Valkenburgh

Southern Region Takes on Biographies

The Nevada Women's History Project, Southern Region, is now researching and writing biographies of deceased southern Nevada historical women for the first-ever biographical encyclopedia.

In May, during a biography workshop by Dr. Joanne Goodwin at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas campus, Dr. Goodwin elaborated on the importance of researching and collecting information on pioneer women. She also stressed the need to document the women who are making great contributions currently. Attendees at the two-hour workshop expressed their enthusiasm and shared their stories about people they knew and those they were interested in researching and writing about.

In June, another biography workshop was conducted by Frank Wright and Barbara Slivac at the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society located in the Lorenzi Park. Those attending were impressed by the fine collection at the research center and the tools for research that were there.

Researchers and writers are needed for this biographical encyclopedia project. The first edition will be dedicated to deceased historical women of Southern Nevada. Those interested may call Mary Gafford, 702-648-9415, or Frankie Williams, 702-876-3586. Or you may write to NWHP, Southern Region, P.O. Box 12184, Las Vegas, Nev., 89112-0184.

Rose Irwin

A Letter from the Proctors



(Editor's Note: As many of you already know, former newsletter editor Carolyn Hamilton Proctor and her husband, Cork, have volunteered for a two-year commitment in the Peace Corps. Here is a letter from Carolyn and Cork about their newest adventure.)

Well, it's official. Cork and Carolyn need to be in Miami Aug. 31 for what the

Peace Corps calls "the staging event" prior to departure for the Republic of Suriname.

Suriname is a tiny South American country (slightly larger than the state of Georgia) on the northeast coast, above Brazil and next to French Guiana (think "Papillon," Devil's Island...). Suriname was Dutch Guiana before it received its independence in 1975. The Peace Corps has only been there since 1995.

The country is four degrees north of the equator (ironically we just returned from the Peruvian Amazon, four degrees south of the equator). The climate is described as "tropical" with coastal swamps, savanna and jungle. The capital is Paramaribo (pop. 180,000). The entire population of the country is only 438,000. Dutch is the official language, but English is spoken and a Creole language, Sranan Tongo. Hindustani and Javanese, as well as local Maroon and Amerindian languages are also spoken. The country exports bauxite, aluminum, wood products, rice, bananas, and shrimp.

Paramaribo is reported to be a pretty city with palm-lined avenues and Dutch colonial architecture. We'll let you know...

Fed Ex delivers there (for about \$40 and in about one week's time—no overnight), snail mail takes six weeks each way, and hopefully (if Cuzco was any example) there's a cybercafe; Carolyn's taking diskettes just in case. It looks on the map like just a hop from the eastern Caribbean islands.

We've pulled down everything we could find on the Internet, including the latest "report" from the U.S. State Department and the CDC in Atlanta.

On the personal side: We each can take two suitcases, nothing "valuable or irreplaceable," and will have "no-fee" diplomatic-type passports (can't use our regular passports). We'll have to take malaria pills (the controversial Lariam) for two years, but we already know we don't have any side effects from it since we are just finishing taking it for the eight weeks around our Amazon trip.

We will be in pre-service training in Paramaribo from Sept. 1 to Nov. 15. About the seventh week in, we will receive our site assignment. Most sites are near the coast (pray for a great beach for us) but four are inland in the jungle. Our assignment titles are "Community Service Extensionist."

There are two distinct ethnic groups in "the interior:" Amerindians and Maroons, also known as Bushnegros (honestly, that's what the PC handout says). Amerindians are descendants of indigenous groups present prior to the arrival of the Europeans, while the Maroons are descendants of escaped slaves brought over primarily from African countries. To complicate this further, there are four principal Amerindian groups and six distinct Maroon groups... etc. etc.

We will most likely be working with local community groups, acting as a liaison between the rural community and development agencies. Primary activities will focus on expanding social services to adults, women, youth and preschoolers. Our responsibilities may also include: nominating local candidates for training programs; conducting informal workshops or seminars for community development-related groups, and developing a working relationship with one or more communities. And of course, we'll be doing this in the local native language, whatever that is! The whole thing sounds very broad, make-it-up-as-you-go-along creative, which is a perfect challenge for our talents.

At home, we are told we will most likely be preparing our meals over an open fire or propane stove.

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A Letter from the Proctors

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That is, Carolyn will most likely be doing this. Gender roles are different in Suriname. "Male volunteers who cook, wash clothes/dishes, and clean the house will seem very strange to their neighbors," our assignment description says. It also says, "Women in Suriname generally have traditional roles, especially in rural areas where they perform the primary work in the fields, as well as run the household, prepare meals, clean, and rear children. Men are expected to be dominant in public; often they are expected to smoke, drink, pursue women, be strong, and discipline wives and children. In Maroon cultures, it is acceptable for men to have more than one wife." I think it is safe to say Cork and Carolyn (with her suitcase full of Tupperware) are going to "seem very strange to their neighbors."

We are expected to "maintain Peace Corps' pro-

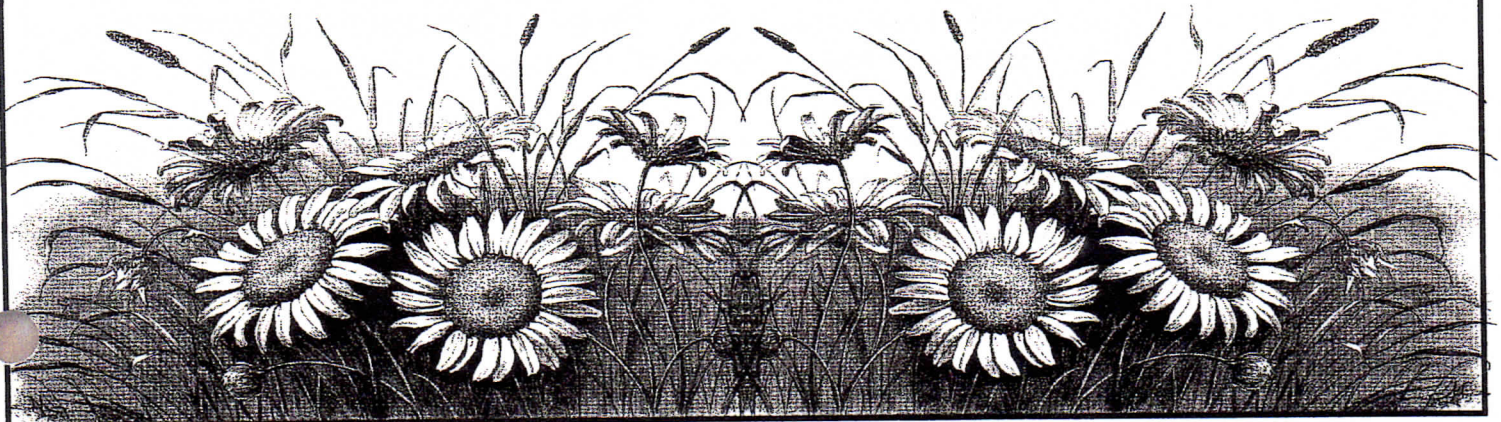
fessional image" by wearing conservative clothing (wait till they see Cork's collection of flowered Jimmy Buffet shirts). This means "collared shirts"—well, the JB shirts are collared—, "slacks, dresses, skirts and clean shoes." No shorts in public in Paramaribo. No long hair, pony tails or earrings for male volunteers.

So, that's it for now. Cork is finishing up the apartment/cabin in the backyard, the Huffers have their house for sale in anticipation of moving into ours, Cork's replacement at the Orleans is chomping at the bit, and Carolyn is just hoping she gets paid by all her clients before they discover she is leaving the country...

The Proctors

Hikers Enjoy Sierra Wildflowers

As this newsletter goes to print, the following activity happened: The phenomenal wildflowers of the Sierra will be the highlight of the First Annual Jean Ford Wildflower Hike, Saturday, Aug. 21, at the Castle Peak area off of I-80 across from Boreal. Accompanied by a knowledgeable botanist, those participating in this day hike may meet at the Safeway parking lot on North McCarran Boulevard at 9 a.m. to car pool to the summit. The hike will start around 10 a.m. and the group will return by 2 or 3 p.m. The distance covered will be 3-5 miles with a 500-foot to 800-foot elevation gain. Layered clothing and a hat are recommended and sturdy walking or hiking shoes are a must. Bring lunch and water. Call Kay Sanders at 775-747-1740 for more information.



Second Silver State Sampler Tour Honors the '49ers

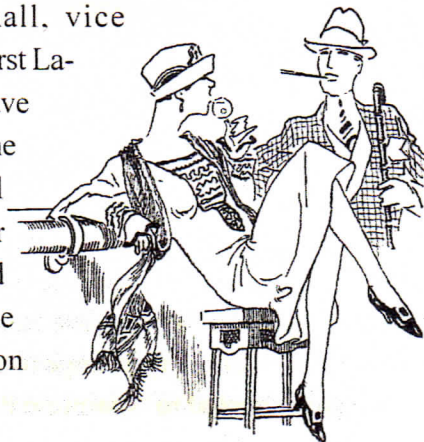
An exploration of part of the trail the '49ers traveled through Nevada awaits participants of the Second Annual Jean Ford Silver State Sampler Bus Tour, Oct. 15-17. This year is the 150th anniversary of the Great Migration of 1849.

It is proper that the theme was created by Jean Ford. The trip will leave Reno, picking up participants in Carson City and Fernley. Both nights will be spent in Winnemucca, with a day trip Saturday to visit sites to the north of Winnemucca, borrowing on the knowledge of several local residents. Experience crossing the dreaded 40-Mile Desert—in an air-conditioned bus, of course.

This is a fund-raising event for the northern region. NWHP. Watch for details in the mail, or call Carrie Porter at 775-786-2335 for additional information.

Fundraising Tea: First Ladies Honored by the South

The NWHP, Southern Region, will be honoring the First Ladies of Nevada during the Second Annual Tea at Mrs. Jeanne Greenawalts' home Oct. 16. Organizing this popular event are Kaye Gray, chairwoman, and Joyce Marshall, vice chairwoman. The First Ladies of the state have all been invited to the tea. This annual event is a fundraiser with money raised being donated to the Governor's Mansion and for research.



Prize Fights, Fashion, Holiday Cheer Comes to Carson City

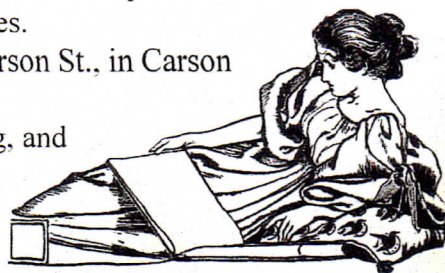
The popular Carson City historic program, the Hannah Clapp Lecture Series, has already presented some fascinating offerings in two "road tours" during the summer months. The series continues in earnest Wednesday, Sept. 1, at the Nevada State Library and Archives Building on Stewart Street in Carson City at 5:45 p.m. and will be presented the first Wednesday of each month.

Among this year's lectures will be a program about the early Nevada prize fights, a fashion display of clothes "in the daily life of a woman in 1890," and a glimpse into "Grandmother's Trunk"—the "grandmother" is the niece of Dr. Eliza Cook. In December, there will be a sample of holidays on the Comstock.

The June meeting of the Hannah Clapp Lecture Series took place on June 2 in Dayton. Although plans included a walking tour of historic sites, the weather was freezing! However, Dell Miner, of the Dayton Historical Society, was kind enough to open the Dayton Museum and gave the participants a personalized tour. Following that tour was dinner at Mia's Swiss Restaurant and an official "thank you" to Isabel Espinoza for her two years of planning and organizing programs for the Hannah Clapp lectures.

The Aug. 4 meeting is scheduled to be at the Roberts House, 1207 N. Carson St., in Carson City.

There will be light refreshments provided at each Hannah Clapp meeting, and any who wish to do so are invited to dinner afterwards at a local restaurant. For information or suggestions regarding this year's lecture series, call Cherry Jones, (775) 267-3410.



Women of Achievement Honored in Reno

Entertainer Lou Rawls and guest speaker, Ann Richards, former governor of Texas, were part of the Women of Achievement awards luncheon held in Reno May 12. Sponsored by the Nevada Women's Fund, the event honored women selected by businesses and organizations for their outstanding contributions to their organizations and to the community. Carrie Townley Porter, state coordinator for NWHP, was nominated by NWHP, and former First Lady of Nevada, Sandy Miller, was honored by being inducted into the Nevada Women's Fund Hall of Fame.



Southern Region Chairwoman Rose Irwin, former First Lady of Nevada Sandy Miller, and Carrie Townley Porter, state coordinator of NWHP, attended the prestigious Women of Achievement Awards Luncheon in Reno in May. Carrie was nominated by NWHP as an award recipient and Sandy Miller was inducted into the Nevada Women's Fund Hall of Fame.

My Life Long Friend

Frail and small her body shows the years,
our talk of life and death is mingled with our tears.
Her crippled hands are cold within my grasp,
she recalls times of joy and laughter in the past.

The womens' work clean sheets upon the line,
are yearned for now within her active mind.
Remembrance stirred she thinks of kneading
dough,
or garden gifts she tended long ago.

Unable to do little for herself,
she struggles daily with maintaining health.
I take her spoon so gently in my hand,
and guide her progress as she tries to stand.

My heart is heavy as I watch her sleep,
I pray for happy dreams, sweet, long and deep.
I'm saddened by the prospect of her end,
this mother-in-law has been a life long friend.

—Joan LeMere

(A note from Rose Irwin, southern region chairwoman: Joan's poem was entered in the General Federal of Women's Club Contest. She won at the state level in 1998. Her poem was subsequently printed in the Mesquite Club newsletter and for the GFWC convention in 1998.)

Business Meeting: Southern Nevada Shares About the Pioneers

Guests were entertained by a wide variety of antiques that were displayed as centerpieces at the Southern Nevada NWHP annual business meeting and buffet brunch June 5 at the Elks Lodge on West Charleston in Las Vegas.

The business portion of the meeting was dedicated to the adoption of bylaws for the Southern Region, which went into effect immediately. Each member was given a regional membership list and additional information was also available for workshops, meetings and fund-raising events for the summer and fall months.

The antique centerpieces, which graced the dining tables and other larger tables, were courtesy of Mary Gafford, Joyce Marshall and Frankie Williams.

As part of the day's entertainment, there was a presentation of "Things from Grandma's Attic," by Loni Noyes. The Nevada State Museum and Historical Society provided the trunk and its contents—fascinating items from pioneer family kitchens.

NWHP Conference Plans Underway

The Nevada Women's History Conference and the Women's Summit 2000 will again join forces in Las Vegas with back-to-back conferences March 17-18, 2000.

The Nevada Women's History Project Conference will be at the Rivera Convention Center in Las Vegas March 17, 2000. Joyce Marshall and Kaye Gray are the co-chairwomen for the event and plans are now forming for the event.

The Nevada Women's League has set March 18, 2000, as the date of the Women's Summit 2000. The summit, which includes educational meetings and workshops on many women's issues, will also be at the Rivera Convention Center. Plans are tentative and those interested in co-sponsoring or being a part of the planning committee may contact Bobbie Gang by e-mail, mcj3825@aol.com.

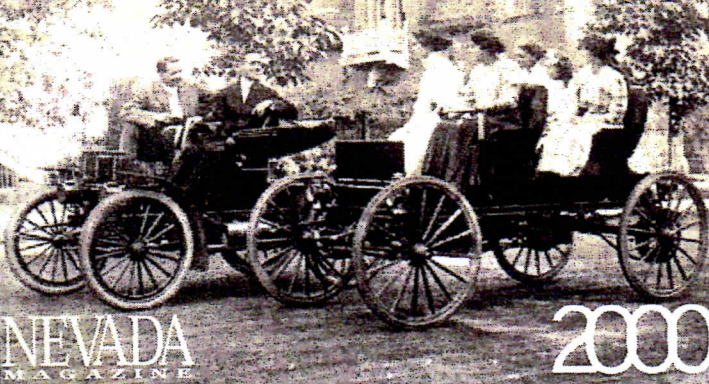


Nevada Women's History Project Calendars for the Year 2000

The NWHP has bought next year's historical calendars from Nevada Magazine. The Year 2000 calendars are personalized with the NWHP logo, and historic photos eloquently capture Nevada's past. The 10x14 inch wall calendars have plenty of room for personal notes and include listings for major Nevada special events and important historic dates. To order, send \$10 plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling to NWHP, PO Box 50428, Reno, NV 89513.

Nevada Historical Calendar

Illustrated with Rare Historic Photos



Genealogy: Learning About Our Roots

Beginning in the fall, Carrie Townley Porter will offer classes in genealogy for NWHP members. The training will culminate in a trip to the LDS Family History Center in Salt Lake City.

This amazing Utah research center makes available records from all over the world. There is no other repository like it.

Experienced researchers will meet to learn how to research in the center to better utilize the time spent there. Beginners will receive training in how to research genealogy as well as how to research the center.

The trip will not be sponsored by the NWHP—researchers will provide their own travel arrangements and accommodations while in Salt Lake City. Although a week will be blocked out, participants may spend a few days or the entire week. Carrie and her husband, Keith, will be available to provide assistance in researching.

Should the Salt Lake City trip prove to be successful, it is hoped that the NWHP can repeat it as a fund-raising event.

For more information, contact Carrie at 775-786-2335.



Calender

AUGUST 21, 1999 - Jean Ford Annual Wildflower Hike
(see accompanying story, this issue).

SEPTEMBER 1, 1999 - The Hannah Clapp Lecture Series at the State Library and Archives Building on Stewart Street in Carson City. The series will be each first Wednesday of the month at 5:45 p.m. Light refreshments. Call Cherry Jones at 775-267-3410.

OCTOBER 16, 1999 - Second Annual Tea at the home of Jeanne Greenawalt, Las Vegas.

MARCH 17, 2000 - Nevada Women's History Project Conference at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas.

MARCH 18, 2000 - The Women's Summit 2000, March 18, 2000, at the Riviera Convention Center in Las Vegas.

Nevada Women's Fund Awards First Jean Ford Grant

The Nevada Women's Fund is pleased to announce \$700 has been awarded to the Nevada Women's History Project from the Jean Ford Endowed Fund. The award will be used to complete and publish an annotated bibliography of women in Nevada history books begun by Jean in 1996. The Nevada Women's History Project, a program of the Nevada Women's Fund, maintains an office and the Jean Ford Research Center at the Nevada Women's Fund Offices, 201 W. Liberty St., Suite 201, Reno, NV 89501.

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.

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES FOR THE FALL
ISSUE OF NWHP NEWS IS OCTOBER 8, 1999.**

Potpourri

Thanks

- To the following who made donations recently to the NWHP, either in kind or monetary:
Dana Bennett, Kathleen Clemence, Cynthia Townley Ewer, Delta Kappa Gamma, Fritsi Erickson, Barbara Finley, Betty Hoe, Del Laine, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, The Nevada Women's Fund, Kathleen Noneman, Carrie Townley Porter, Bobbie Talso, Barbara Thornton, Pat Tripple, Sue Wagner, Anita Watson, Linda Wykoff.

Congratulations

Our member, Dr. Sally Zanjani, has received the 1999 Rodman Paul Award for outstanding contributions to mining history. This is the first year the award has been awarded to a woman. The award was announced at the national meeting of the Mining History Association. Zanjani's latest published book, A Mine of Her Own, deals with women prospectors in the American West from 1850-1950.

Sylvia Onteneda-Bernales, who was very active in NWHP during its early years and is a former editor of this newsletter, has received a Nevada Women's Fund grant for \$3,000 to study law at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

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Article Reprints \$2.00 • Back Issues \$5.00 • Editor: Patt Quinn-Davis



Project News

PO Box 50428 • Reno, Nevada 89513

NWHP is a program of the Nevada Women's Fund

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
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Kathleen Hanselmann
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