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## *Annotated Bibliography Distribution Has Begun*

Copies of "Women in Nevada History: An Annotated Bibliography of Published Sources" have been distributed to public libraries throughout the state. Holly Van Valkenburgh headed up this effort to place a copy in each of 84 different locations. Next on the agenda is an August distribution coordinated by Bill Strader of the Nevada State Department of Education and Kay Sanders. Bill will be assisting in presentations in both Clark and Washoe counties to public school librarians at their annual meetings in late summer and fall. He plans to place 480 copies in schools across Nevada. Bill hopes to have this accomplished by early September.

University of Nevada, Reno and the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, plus each campus of the Community College System, will also receive copies for their libraries, learning and resource centers.

The Nevada Women's History Project will have copies for sale to members and interested non-members. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Please send a check or money order made out to NWHP and mail to: Kay Sanders, NWHP, 770 Smithridge Drive, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502-0708.



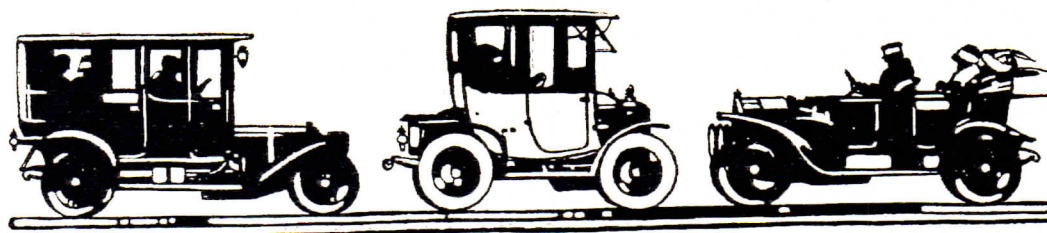
## *2001 Conference Plans Take Shape*

Local historic interest and central meeting locations will combine in Carson City, the site of the 2001 NWHP Conference.

Preliminary plans have begun for the conference, slated for Friday and Saturday, March 23 and 24, in various locations of the state capital's downtown. Organizers plan on developing the theme, "Women in Public Service," and include panel discussions and various speakers addressing the many aspects of the theme.

Organizers plan to set up continuing education credit through the university and/or professional development credits for teachers.

Watch for more information and plan to attend this exciting state-wide conference. Those interested in helping with the conference or receiving additional information may contact the NWHP State Office, 786-2335.





# Northern Nevada NWHP Membership Report

The Northern Nevada Chapter now has 127 paid-up individual members and six organizational members. Our two new members this month are Jane Lehrman and Janice Morgan. Many of our continuing members have paid their 2000 dues in response to my telephoning. Unfortunately, some have chosen not to renew this year and had to be removed from the mailing list. These former members are welcome to rejoin at any time. If you know of friends who are interested in our organization, please send me their names and addresses so I can send them information about NWHP.

*Kathleen Noneman,  
Membership Chair  
Northern Chapter*



## NWHP Leadership

### NORTH STEERING COMMITTEE:

Carrie Townley Porter: Chair  
Anita Watson: Vice-Chair  
Tammy Buzick: Treasurer  
Carleen Ernest: Secretary  
Kay Sanders: Communication Chair/Newsletter Editor  
Kathy Noneman: Membership Chair  
Mary Anne Convis & Lisa-Marie Lightfoot: Project Review Co-Chairs  
Dana Bennett: Program Chair  
Patt Quinn-Davis: Publicity Chair

### SOUTHERN REGION

Jane Olive: President  
Anne Reck: Vice President  
Joan LeMere: Second Vice President  
Eva Stowers: Third Vice President  
Irene Rostine: Recording Secretary  
Frankie Williams: Corresponding Secretary  
Mitsi Johnson: Treasurer  
Joyce Marshall: Nominating Chair  
Rose Irwin: Nominating Committee Chairwoman

### NWHP STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Rose Irwin: Chair  
Carrie Porter: First Vice President  
Joan LeMere: Second Vice President  
Holly Van Valkenburgh: Third Vice President  
Mitsi Johnson: Treasurer  
Eva Stowers: Secretary  
Jane Olive: Southern Chapter Representative  
Carleen Ernest: Northern Chapter Representative  
Frits Ericson: Nevada Women's Fund Representative

## Calendar

### NORTHERN NEVADA SCHEDULE

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2000** - Thunderbird Lodge, South Lake Tahoe Tour. This famous estate built by George Whittell in the early part of the 20th Century has a colorful past. Later Jack Dreyfus bought and added to its notoriety. The guided tour will be approximately 1 1/2 hours and lunch will be at the property immediately following the tour. Limit to 15 individuals. \$10 for the tour/lunch. Car pooling is available and advised. Call Carleen at (775) 787-8779 for times and reservations.

**OCTOBER 5-6, 2000** - Nevada Library Association Conference will be at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Exhibit hours on Thursday, October 5, are 12:15-8 p.m. A cocktail party will be held in the exhibit area from 6-8 p.m. that day. Exhibit hours on Friday, October 6, are 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**OCTOBER 14-15, 2000** - "Black Tie at Black Rock" Jean Ford Silver State Sampler, a tour of the Black Rock Desert, Pyramid Lake, the Santini Ranch, Peter Lassen's grave site and several more fascinating areas of Northern Nevada. See related story, this issue. For additional information, contact Isabel Espinoza, 775-883-9035 or the NWHP state office.

**MARCH 23-24, 2001** - 2001 NWHP Conference, Carson City. Preliminary plans are underway. See related article, this issue. A State Board of Directors meeting will follow the 2001 NWHP Conference, Carson City, on March 24.

### SOUTHERN NEVADA SCHEDULE

**AUGUST 17, 2000** - Executive Committee Meeting

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2000** - General Meeting, "Remembering Las Vegas and the Children of the '50s." Joyce Marshall will report on her research. A video tape about life in Las Vegas as lived by locals who were teens in the '50s will be shown. Begins at 10 a.m., Elk's Lodge, 4100 W. Charleston Blvd.

**SEPTEMBER 21, 2000** - Executive Committee Meeting

**OCTOBER 19, 2000** - Executive Committee Meeting

**NOVEMBER 16, 2000** - Executive Committee Meeting



# *Writer and Researcher Paints an Enthralling Portrait of Nevada Women and Their Achievements*

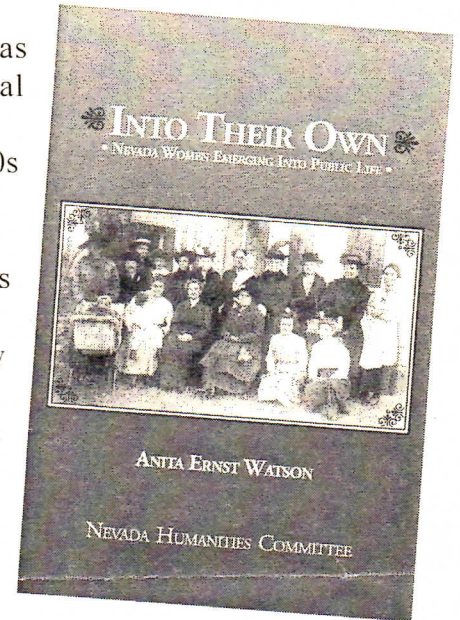
Anita Watson's intriguing new book, "Into Their Own - Nevada Women Emerging Into Public Life," is a historic look at Nevada women and their achievements. Published by the Nevada Humanities Committee, the book is dedicated to Jean Ford, whose archives were combined with Anita's own research in developing this compelling book. Among the women researched in Watson's book are:

- Mrs. Delphine Squires - a Las Vegas newspaperwomen who campaigned for women's suffrage
- Lubertha Johnson - Las Vegas' first African-American nurse who was twice elected president of the Las Vegas chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- Laura de Force Gordon - a lecturer on women's suffrage during the 1860s
- Nelli Mighels Davis - a newspaper reporter in Carson City
- Dr. Eliza Cook - a doctor in Carson Valley
- Wuzzie George - a Native American who has passed on the tribal skills of her grandmother to other generations

The book contains a particularly thorough dedication to Jean Ford by another NWHP member, Vikki Ford.

Anita was hand-picked by the Humanities Committee to write this book because of her work with Jean Ford and her reputation in previous research. She received her doctorate in history from the University of Nevada, Reno after completing a scholarly study of divorce and the family.

"Into Their Own," is available in bookstores for \$15 or can be ordered from the Nevada Humanities Committee, (775) 784-6587.



## *North Welcomes New Members, Great Events*

By Carrie Townley Porter  
Northern Region Chair

As I write this, Mary Anne and Chuck Convis, my husband, Keith, and I are sitting in a motor coach, just leaving London, England, headed for Bangor, Wales. This article, written on my laptop computer, will be sent to Patt Quinn-Davis, our editor for this issue, via e-mail from the University of Bangor, Wales, I hope. If not from Bangor, from Limerick, Ireland. Isn't technology great?

Our annual meeting this past June was chaired by Cherry Jones. Not only did we share a delicious lunch and hold our election of officers for the Northern Region, but we had the opportunity to participate in the Snowshoe Thompson Festival in Genoa. Enjoying the performances of the Carson Valley Young Chautauquans perform reminded us that part of our mission is to ensure that Nevada's young people learn about the history of Nevada's women. It is rewarding to see our young students portray individuals who made a difference in our country. Thank you, Cherry and your committee for making this happen.

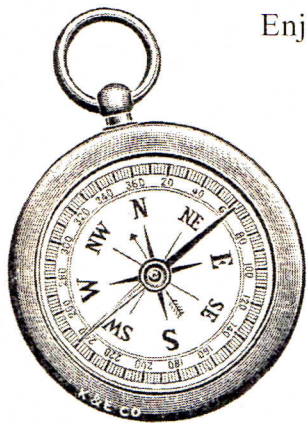
Congratulations to our newly elected Vice-Chair, Anita Watson, and our new Treasurer, Tamara Buzick. We welcome both of you to our Northern Region Steering Committee.

*continued on page 8*



## News from the North

### Northern Chapter Meeting Attendees Enjoy Carson Valley and Genoa



The Northern Nevada Chapter of NWHP held its Annual Meeting and Luncheon at the Carson Valley Brewery June 24. Carrie Porter, North Chair, thanked members of the Steering Committee-Kathy Noneman, Kay Sanders, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Beverly Hubbard, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Mary Anne Convis, Patt Quinn-Davis, and Carleen Ernest for their hard work and dedication.

More than 20 members attended and enjoyed hearing about the accomplishments of NWHP the past year as well as plans for the coming year. Among the highlights of the 1999-2000 year were the Woman of Achievement award honoring Betty Glass for her tireless work on the "Women in Nevada History: An Annotated Bibliography of Published Sources", and the anonymous donation of \$10,000 given by one of the members for the Sue Wagner Oral History Project.

Some of the highlights of upcoming programs announced by Carrie are the Jean Ford Wildflower Hike (August 5), Nevada Library Association Conference (October 5-6), Silver State Sampler Bus Trip (October 14-15), and the 2001 NWHP Conference.

Cherry Jones chaired the committee that made the arrangements and planned the trip to Genoa during the afternoon where the group enjoyed the Snowshoe Thompson Festival. Special Chautauqua performances were held at the Mormon Station in Genoa featuring Amelia Earhart, Sacagawea, Beatrix Potter, Walt Disney, Clara Barton, Braxton Bragg, Tenzing Norgay, and Snowshoe Thompson. The performers ranged in age from 7 years to 12 and were sponsored by the Carson Valley Historical Society, the Douglas County Library, and the Nevada Humanities Committee.



## News from the South

### Renowned Public Women Meet with Southern Members

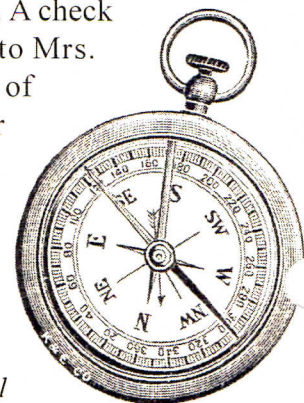


Rose Irwin and First Lady Dema Guinn

More than 60 members were present for the 2000 Annual Business Meeting of the Southern Region NWHP held on Saturday, May 20, at the Desert Pines Golf Club and presided over by Rose Irwin, outgoing president. Guests for the event included Nevada First Lady Dema Guinn, District Court Judge Nancy Becker as guest speaker, and State Controller Kathy Augustine, who conducted the officer installation.

Joan LeMere, second vice president, reported there were 104 members and she distributed the 2000 membership roster booklet which includes member e-mail addresses. Mitsi Johnson, first vice president, reported there had been six great programs this year and thanked Alanna Noyes, third vice president, for arranging for great food and great meeting places this year. Rose Irwin reported for Joyce Marshall on a very successful conference. Eva Stowers made the treasurer's report and submitted next year's budget.

Frankie Williams read the minutes from last year's annual meeting. A check for \$1,001.52 was presented to Mrs. Guinn on behalf of the Friends of the Mansion. She spoke of her work restoring and preserving the history of the governor's mansion and accepted gratefully the proceeds of the



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# Alice Pearson - A Lifetime of Service

Born in Hendricks, Minnesota and a graduate of Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minnesota, Alice Pearson came to Las Vegas with her husband in 1956. She soon became involved in community and church activities, including the PTA, Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts.

As her three children grew, Alice became increasingly involved in community services. She joined the Mesquite Club in 1960, one of the first women's club in Southern Nevada. Alice served as president of that club from 1971-1972. She is still a very active member of this organization. Her recent appointive positions have been "We Care," devotions, and as parliamentarian. She has been an active member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs since 1960 and has served on the GFWC Nevada Board of Directors from 1994-1996 and 1998-2000.

Alice is a charter member of the Assistance League of Las Vegas. She has participated in various programs that the organization promotes, served on many committees and became president of the organization. Her favorite time was reading to the children and serving on the committee for "Operation School Bell." This committee, along with its members and generous donations from the community, provides school clothing for children with special needs.

She has been a member of the local P.E.O. chapter for more than 32 years. She served as the president of this chapter

and became state president in 1987. Alice continues to support and help with fund-raisers. All of the proceeds from the fund-raisers are used to support the five national projects for the education of women.



Alice Pearson has enjoyed a lifetime of service to clubs and organizations. She was honored by the Salvation Army Advisory Board in May for her contributions.

Alice's involvement in the NWHP began when Jean Ford held the first meeting in Las Vegas at the Elks Lodge on West Charleston. She has served as communications chairwoman, devotions and is presently serving as parliamentarian for the southern region.

She has been a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board for more than 18 years and is a charter member and past president of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary. In connection with her work with the Salvation Army, she has interviewed clients for food, clothing, toys, and distributed the items to families in need. She has also chaired and helped with the annual "Doll Tea." This event collects toys for special children and distributes them

during the Christmas holiday. Alice has served on numerous committees for the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary and faithfully attends the monthly board meetings and supports the organization in its community commitments.

Alice was awarded the prestigious "Life Membership" award by the Salvation Army Advisory Board at its Annual Dinner, May 12, 2000 at MGM Grand. The award is given to those who have contributed in time and effort to the Army's programs and have been active in other civic endeavors.

## New State Executive Committee Officers Voted In

Our 1999-2000 slate of officers to serve on the State Executive Committee has been approved. Officers are: Rose Irwin, President; Carrie Porter, First Vice President; Joan LeMere, Second Vice President; Holly Van Valkenburgh, Third Vice President; Mitsi Johnson, Treasurer; Eva Stowers, Secretary; Jane Olive, Southern Chapter Representative; Carleen Ernest, Northern Chapter Representative; and Fritsi Ericson, Nevada Women's Fund Representative.

Rose Irwin is contacting members to set a meeting for September or October. Date and agenda will be announced soon.



# *South Region Plans a Full and Active Calendar*



by Jane Olive  
NWHP, Southern Region President

It is an exciting opportunity to summarize the NWHP, Southern Region's plans for the years 2000 to 2002. Naturally, we'll attempt to continue the efforts so well begun by those who have guided this organization in the past. They have done an outstanding job by presenting the NWHP's mission: to research, record and educate the public about the outstanding contributions of Nevada's women. We'll make every effort to follow this example of excellence.

Our work has begun with the reorganization of all our committees. They are now in place. We have begun our calendar. All executive committee meeting dates have been set up for the next two years. A September 9 general meeting has been arranged. It features a program about the children who grew up in Las Vegas during the 1950s. Members of the executive committee are working to bring about a large fund-raising project for late October. In August we'll begin making arrangements to facilitate the year 2002 NWHP Conference to be held here in Las Vegas.

However, our major effort for the fall of the year 2000 will be to correlate and evaluate the publication readiness of all the biographical materials developed during the past several years by our group from southern Nevada. We'll adapt those materials to our chosen format. Then we'll move on to new research and writings. Workshops and meetings will be developed towards those goals as the needs arise.

During the first half of the year 2001, we'll press forward with the public education portion of our mission. At least six presentations to other organizations will be made including the AAUW, the Mesquite Club, the Pen Women and the Salvation Army. A general meeting is being planned for January or February. We hope to honor African-American women during February and present a program for March, Women's History Month. An exciting fund-raising event is planned for May as well as our annual business meeting late that month.

As the fall of the year 2001 approaches, we hope to see enough of the biographical encyclopedia completed that efforts will be made to find an appropriate publisher. The work of writing and editing will continue. A major fund-raising project will doubtless be required to help with the costs of publication. General meetings, workshops and programs will be given for the membership and public until the holiday season. Work in preparation for the NWHP to be held in Las Vegas in March of 2002 will continue.

Winter and early spring will see us doubling our efforts to publicize our organization and educate the public about the life efforts of Nevada's outstanding women. This will comprise the greatest share of our work as we present the March NWHP Conference. It would be wonderful if the book or portions thereof could be published in time for this event. One or two general meetings will also be held during these seasons. Our annual business meeting in late May will conclude the public activities of this executive committee.

Thank you for your support of our efforts. Please contact us if you have any further questions. We look forward to hearing from you.

## *Request from Rose Irwin*

This chairwoman needs your help in locating files on completed biographies of deceased southern historical women of Nevada prior to 1950. If anyone has information, it would be deeply appreciated. It would definitely help and speed the process of locating, adding, editing and possibly writing on those that need to be added to the first edition.

Many names have been submitted, but we are not certain what area they are from and what they contributed to the development of this wonderful state of Nevada. If you have a person or persons who you think should be listed in the first edition, please let me know and also include the

information needed for the first edition.

The biographical encyclopedia is not just a southern project. All members, friends and organizations can contribute to and help make this project successful. The first edition will include only southern historical women prior to 1950 and the second edition will follow with northern historical women.

Please help us in making this project successful.

*Rose Irwin* • 1-702-457-4577

e-mail: toots1110@aol.com • 3111 Carnelian Court • Las Vegas, NV 89121-2220



# Beda Cornwall

**Born:** November 21, 1907

**died:** June 13, 1994

**Maiden name:** Brennecke

**Race/nationality/ethnic background:** Caucasian (German)

**Married:** Charles Norman Cornwall

**Children:** two (one daughter, one son)

**Primary city and county of residence and work:** Las Vegas (Clark Co.)

**Major fields of work:** civic affairs (public library founder) and local government (elected school trustee)

**Other role identities:** wife, mother, educator (teacher), social worker, woman's club leader, appointed federal official

Beda (Tabitha) Brennecke Cornwall was born on November 21, 1907, in Tulare, South Dakota to Frederick William and Martha Brennecke. Her father was a German Evangelical Lutheran minister. She received her education at the University of Idaho, Southern Branch, at Pocatello and at the University of Denver, majoring in education and social services. She taught school for four years in Montrose, Colorado.

In 1932 she married Charles Norman Cornwall of Aspen, Colorado, a graduate of the University of Colorado Law School at Boulder. From 1935 to 1939, Beda worked under a federal appointment to do social work for the Farm Security Administration under President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Beda and Charles had two children, a daughter, Gretchen, and a son, William Leo. They moved to Las Vegas in 1943 where Charles became a well-known attorney and served as city attorney from 1944 to 1948.

Her first year in Las Vegas, Beda taught school at Dry Lake. She became very active in USO work during and after World War II as well as Travelers' Aide, Red Cross and other social and civic endeavors. She served on the Las Vegas City Recreation Board and was appointed through that group and the City Commission to see what could be done to have an adequate library to serve the city residents. She was instrumental in the formation of the Citizens' Library Association, composed of interested members of various local charitable and organizations.

Under Beda's leadership in 1948, the group launched an

all-out drive to raise money for a library building. Scrapbooks of news clippings and organizational records currently housed in UNLV Special Collections give examples of that campaign. Hal Erickson, retired director of the UNLV Library, reports: "Reading through the minutes of the Citizens' Library Association, copies of the letters sent to clubs, potential donors, and casinos, one easily becomes fired with enthusiasm for building a library...Beda was their leader...and she couldn't have had a better group ...newspaperman Al Cahlan, lawyer Milt Keefer, Laura Belle Kelch, Harvey Menente, Nellie Bunch, and others... The projects used to get money belong in a text on fund raising. Every organization adopted the library as its

project and raised amounts varying from tens to thousands of dollars. One organization sponsored a contest to guess the 1950 Las Vegas census figures. Six slot machines set aside in a number of casinos each provided a week's earnings. Bea Barron, wife of Last Frontier Hotel executive Ballard Barron, organized a door-to-door canvas which raised thousands of dollars." (Kepper)

The city donated a building site at 4th and Mesquite in downtown Las Vegas. The dedicated Citizens' Association raised \$68,206 by public subscription and donations, representing over \$3 per person in Las Vegas at the time, and the city added \$30,000. The new library was dedicated to the city

on June 1, 1952, at that time the largest and most modern library in the State of Nevada. Reba McKinster, who had come to Las Vegas in 1949 from Kentucky, served as the city librarian for nineteen years and worked closely with Mrs. Cornwall in bringing library needs to her attention.

In 1952 Beda was also chair of National Library Week and was honored by the American Library Association for her contributions to public library service. She continued as chair of the Citizen's Library Association Board, which functioned as the Library Board of Trustees for another 20 years until 1972 when the Las Vegas Public Library merged with the Clark County Library District.

Beda was president of the Service League (now Junior League) from 1950 to 1951. She also served as chair of the



Beda Cornwall, "Mother of the Public Library"  
UNLV Collection

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## *Beda Cornwall*

*continued from page 7*

Clark County Social Agencies and chair of the Clark County Safety Council. She was given an award by the Shell Oil Company for her outstanding contribution to public safety.

Also in 1952, Beda was named Mrs. Las Vegas by the American Legion for her work in the community and was recognized as one of the three Outstanding Women of the Year by the Soroptomists, a professional women's service club. The Hadassah Club of Jewish Women also presented her an award of merit for outstanding service to the community.

In 1954 Beda Cornwall was elected to the Las Vegas City School District Board of Trustees and served until 1956 when the school districts were consolidated to form the Clark County School District. In 1954 she was also campaign chair for the Community Chest.

Beda was one of the founders of the Home of the Good Shepherd Auxiliary, serving as their president from 1963 to 1965. She was a member of the Children's Service Guild, providing assistance to abandoned and neglected children at Child Haven run by the Clark County Juvenile Court Services. She was a member of the Founder's Club of the Clark County Boys' Club, where the Boys' Club Library was named the "Cornwall Library" in honor of Beda and Norman Cornwall.

An avid flower grower, Beda was also a member of the American Rose Society, and entered her flowers in several state competitions.

In 1978 the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Library sponsored a special exhibit of artifacts, photographs, papers, etc. that illustrated the history of public library creation in Las Vegas. It also held a large reception to thank those longtime library supporters; Beda Cornwall was a special honored guest at that event.

Beda Cornwall remained an ardent library supporter and community worker until her death on June 13, 1994. Her son, William, was quoted in her obituary notice as saying, "She was a preacher's daughter. She felt good works were her responsibility."

(Biographical sketch by Jean Ford)

### Sources of Information:

1. Beda Cornwall papers, 1941-1974. Special Collections, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.
2. Kepper, Anna Dean, compiler. Las Vegas Public Libraries: An Exhibit, a booklet printed and distributed by University of Nevada, Las Vegas Special Collections, 1978.
3. Obituary, Las Vegas Review-Journal, June 16, 1994.

## *New State Executive Committee Officers Voted In*

*continued from page 3*

There is still space on the Steering Committee for new members. Because our members seem to travel a great deal, we would like to see several of our positions with co-chairs. This would help ensure that the region runs smoothly. Please let Anita Watson or me know if you would like to participate in this area.

Our newest project, the Sue Wagner Oral History Project, was a sudden, unexpected one. Like our project, "Letters From Nevada's Daughters," the new project originated from a source outside the normal planning function of the NWHP. This is a project which is long overdue in our quest for recording the lives of Nevada's women. We deeply thank our member whose generous donation is making this project possible. Please note the article elsewhere in the newsletter on this new and exciting project.

Although summer is upon us and times are usually slower, we have begun planning for future events. The Great Basin Book Festival will be held at the end of September. This will be the third year the NWHP has participated. Sponsored by the Nevada Humanitic Committee, it provides us an opportunity to showcase what the NWHP is and what it accomplishes. This year we will be very proud and happy to display our newly published annotated bibliography, "Women in Nevada History: An Annotated Bibliography of Published Sources."

In early October we will have a booth at the Nevada Library Association's annual conference. This will give us an opportunity to interact with librarians from public and school libraries located state-wide. This is just one more event to feature the bibliography.

October 14 and 15 are the dates set for the Jean Ford Silver State Sampler. This is our annual bus trip, which provides education as well as an opportunity to have a fun weekend. Be sure to sign up early, as seating is limited. Specific information is addressed elsewhere in this newsletter.

Planning has begun for our next year's conference. The committee would like to have a few more members working on this event. Please let Anita Watson or me know if you could help. There is much to do in many different areas to produce a productive conference.

May your summer be a safe and happy one wherever you may vacation.



## University Women Honor NWHP South



Mary Gafford, left, and Rose Irwin, right, accept awards from AAUW-Las Vegas Branch President Carolyn Stone, middle, during ceremonies in Elko.

The NWHP, Southern Region has been honored with the coveted Lubertha Johnson Award during the Nevada State American Association of University Women meeting in Elko. AAUW-Las Vegas Branch President Carolyn Stone presented the award to NWHP Southern Region President Rose Irwin and Projects and Review Chair Mary Gafford.

The award calls attention to NWHP, Southern Region's recognition of Nevada women of all ethnic groups who have made positive contributions to their communities. The award was presented to recognize the business or organization which most supports and promotes AAUW goals, including recognition of diversity of women in leadership, gender equity and issues pertaining to women and children.

In applying for the Lubertha Johnson Award, Southern Region President Rose Irwin stressed the organization's mission statement as well as its accomplishments over the past two years. These included detailed workshops on writing and publishing biographies, programs on Carver Park, Moulin Rouge, Fanny Soss and numerous other related topics.

Next year, Rose Irwin has been invited by AAUW-Las Vegas Branch to present a program on the inception of the NWHP organization and its progress made over the years. That program will be in March, 2001.

## Library Conference

The NWHP will have an exhibit booth this fall at the Nevada Library Association Conference, which will be at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. The exhibits will be open for two days: Thursday, October 5 and Friday, October 6. Exhibit hours on Thursday are 12:15-8 p.m. A cocktail party will be held in the exhibit area from 6-8 p.m. that day. Exhibit hours on Friday are 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Two groups of volunteers are needed to help with the NWHP exhibit.

Group I will "work" the exhibit booth. Members will greet the public, assist with membership forms, and answer questions about the organization's goals, projects, and achievements. Some people will need to take care of selling fund-raising items at the booth.

Group II will be women in historic costume who will be "in character" as Nevada women. We want to schedule them so that we can advertise when their "Nevada woman" will be at the exhibit booth. Before and after their scheduled appearance at the booth, we may ask them to mingle among the conference goers and distribute free NWHP bookmarks or other small items promoting the work of the organization.

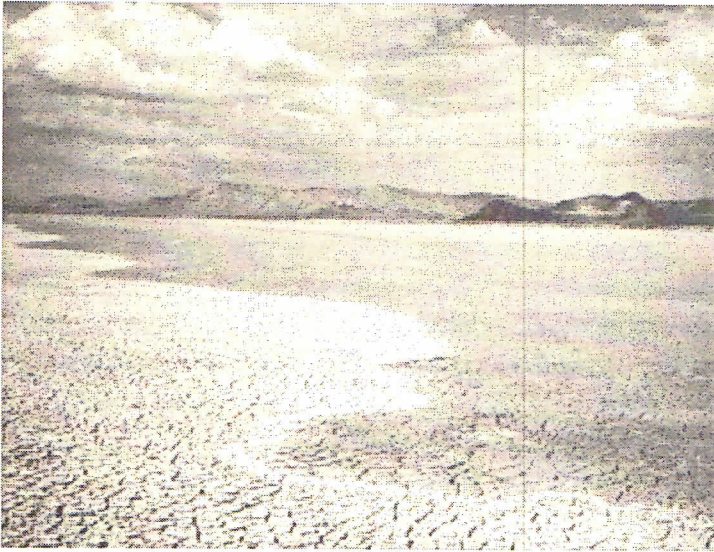
Sign-up sheets are being prepared for one-hour shifts for both Group I and Group II. Volunteers are welcome, however, to cover the booth for more than one hour if they wish.

Those interested in participating may contact Betty Glass, 775-356-7233, email [glass@unr.edu](mailto:glass@unr.edu).





# *Tour Travels Through the Black Rock ... in Black Tie*



Attending a "Black Tie" event takes on an all new meaning during this year's Jean Ford Silver State Sampler October 14-15.

Organizers of the "Black Tie at Black Rock" Sampler have put together an altogether engaging tour of the Black Rock Desert, Pyramid Lake, the Santini Ranch, Peter Lassen's grave site and several more intriguing points of interest in northern Nevada. And yes, dinner at Bruno's in Gerlach requires formal wear, which will be provided... You'll simply have to be there to believe it!

Cost of the two-day event will be about \$165, including transportation, lodging and five meals. The tour is limited to 30 people. Participants include guides Mary and Mo Royels and historian, Chuck Convis. For additional information, contact Isabel Espinoza, 775-883-9035 or the NWHP state office.

## *A Message For a New Administration*

by Rose Irwin

It is a great honor to serve as your State President for the 2000-2002 administration. Service in researching and writing about our Nevada women will bring knowledge to the present and future. When we as volunteers share generously of our time and talent, we will accomplish the goals set out for us.

Let me take this opportunity to invite each of you to belong to this great organization on a journey into the 21st Century. The journey is bound to have its ups and downs, but we have much to accomplish and the journey will be worth taking.

We must focus on membership growth. Our communities are fast growing and we have the opportunity to bring in new chapters. We need the help of each member to get involved and spread the enthusiasm in building friendships and providing the historical documents of our Nevada women to our communities and to other readers throughout the nation.

The NWHP is undertaking the first biographical encyclopedia in the state of Nevada. The first edition will cover the historical women in the southern region of Nevada and a second edition to follow with the northern region. This project will take members and friends from all over the state to do the researching and writing of our historical women. We are not asking you to concentrate on just the writings for the first edition. If you have someone that you have or will be doing for the second edition, continue to do so. However, let us not forget to interview those women still living who have contributed great services to our state.

It is my deepest hope that we can work together to make this organization more relevant in the present and future.

Please join me in this journey of tomorrow.





### Congratulations:

- Cecile Brown was named Person of the Week in the Reno Gazette-Journal on July 8. She was honored for her work at the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center in Gardnerville. Cecile applied for and received a grant of more than \$21,000 from the Frances C. and William Smallwood Foundation to fund a new Youth Gallery named in their honor. Her plan is to recruit 15 fifth-grade students to learn planning, budgeting, exhibit construction, scheduling, research, theme development and group dynamics. For details, call Cecile at (775) 782-2555.
- Dr. Doris Dwyer, community college professor of history and humanities at Western Nevada Community College in Fallon, was selected as Teacher of the Year by her peers and students in June.
- Esther Early was chosen as vice president of Elder College at the University of Nevada, Reno. Elder College is an institute of learning in retirement and is sponsored by the Continuing and Distance Education College at UNR. Call (775) 784-8053 for information.
- Joan LeMere was installed as president of the Pen Women's organization in Las Vegas on May 18.
- Rose Irwin was selected as the Woman of Achievement for Nevada in the year 2000 by the General Federation of Women's Clubs. The federation recognizes women of achievement in communities and states who have made noteworthy contributions in any of the GFWC departments, such as arts, conservation, education, public affairs, international affairs, home life and leadership. Rose received her award at the 109th Annual International General Federation of Women's Clubs in Boston on June 19.
- Mary Gafford was awarded the Sarah Winnemucca Award in April at the Nevada State American Association of University Women meeting in Elko. Mary received the prestigious award for effectively implementing the AAUW vision of educational equity. Mary is a native of Dallas, Texas. A graduate of North Texas (UNT), she has attended University of Alaska, UNR and UNLV. She has taught school for more than 30 years and presently teaches at Roy Martin Middle School in Las Vegas.
- Vikki Ford will develop the oral history of former state Sen. Sue Wagner following the anonymous donation of \$10,000 to NWHP, specifically earmarked for this Oral History Project.

A special thank you to all outgoing NWHP officers who have donated their time and talent over the past year(s). Your dedication and hard work are appreciated. You make it possible for NWHP to thrive and grow.

October benefit tea honoring the first ladies of Nevada.

Luncheon speaker Judge Nancy Becker spoke about the impact women have had in politics and policies of Nevada and the progress yet to be made. She urged the audience not to vote for women candidates just because they are women but to carefully consider the platforms of the candidates.

Kathy Augustine conducted the new officer installation, using the analogy of flowers to describe for each new officer her position duties. The new officers are: President, Jane Olive; First Vice President, Anne Reck; Second Vice President, Joan LeMere; Third Vice President, Eva Stowers; Secretary, Irene Rostine; Corresponding Secretary, Evelyn Bisek; and Treasurer, Mitsi Johnson.

Rose Irwin presented thank you gifts to her outgoing officers and appointive chairmen. The group then honored Rose with a standing ovation and a gift for her excellent leadership over the last two years. Jane Olive gave a stirring speech in accepting her position as president of NWHP, Southern Region.

### Some NWHP News Contacts

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## Membership Application

Individual Membership • Dues \$25/Year

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Organizational Membership • Active Dues \$50/Year

Corporate Sponsor • \$250/Year

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Voice Mail \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Welcome New  
Members!*

### **NORTH:**

Grace Davis  
Jane Lehrman  
Janice Morgan

### **SOUTH:**

Kathy Augustine  
Beverly Carlino Banta  
Joan Kerschner  
Michelle Lord  
Joan McSweeney  
Mimi Rodden  
Barbara Slivac  
Clark County School District  
UNLV Women's Research  
Center