

NWHP

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

News

Calendar

Northern Nevada Schedule

NOV. 11-15 - Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project Committee will have an exhibit on the project at the National Congress of American Indians, a nationwide conference in San Diego, CA.

NOV. 18 - Steering Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m. - Home of Holly Van Valkenburgh, Carson City.

JAN. 13, 2003 - Steering Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m. Reno. Location to be announced.

JAN. 31, 2003 - Carrie Townley Porter will present a program on the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project for the Reno Elder College.

MAR. 9-11, 2003 - Grassroots Lobby Days, Nevada Women's Lobby. Call Pam Russell (775) 424-0711 or e-mail her at peffnjam@power.net for information.

MAR. 22, 2003 - NWHP Sarah Winnemucca Project fundraiser at the Benna home in Reno. Details to be forthcoming.

MAR. 29, 2003 - All-Day NWHP Conference in Virginia City.

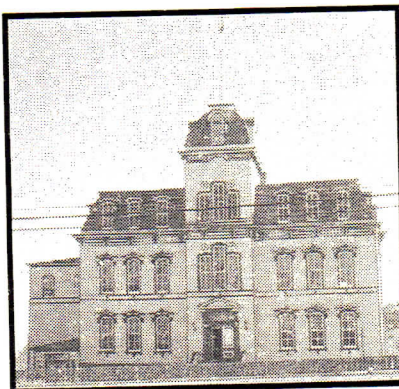
Southern Nevada Schedule

NOV. 16 - Luncheon at the home of Joan LeMere beginning at 11:00 AM. This is a fundraiser for the Sarah Winnemucca Project. Please call Joan at (702) 456-9242. Seating is limited.

NOV. 20 - Steering Committee Meeting - 10:00 a.m. - Home of Joan LeMere. Call (702) 456-9242 for details.

JAN. 18, 2003 - General Membership meeting at 11:00 a.m. Membership will be advised of location.

NWHP Conference Date Set



Site of 2003 Conference

Courtesy Fourth Ward School,
Virginia City.

Just a reminder! The Nevada Women's History Project Conference will be held on March 29, 2003, continuing our tradition of having it during Women's History Month. It will be held at the newly renovated Fourth Ward School in Virginia City (weather permitting!), and will focus on gathering and disseminating information about early Nevada women. We will learn a lot about our history, and have a lot of fun, too. Lunch will be at an historic place, and there will be a choice of events in the evening. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

State President's Report

After a summer which seemed it would last forever, our land, at least in northern Nevada, is a fall wonderland. The color of the trees have been inspiring and have lasted so much longer than usual. It seems appropriate that we experience an Indian Summer as so much of the activities with which I have been involved recently concern the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project. It almost seems the project has begun to have its own synergism. Keeping up with new activities and opportunities has been a challenge. Thanks to the help of Sherrada James, Nevada's Executive Director of the Indian Commission and her staff person, Jane Gardner, we are reaching out to more people than ever before. NWHP exhibited on the project at the Nevada Inter Tribal Council Conference in Reno.

We had an exhibit for the project in Carson City on Nevada Day in addition to our float in the parade. One Girl Scout entry in the parade held up signs saying Sarah Winnemucca was their role model, providing good support for our own Sarah float.

Plans are underway to have an exhibit for the project at the National Congress of American Indians held in San Diego, California, on November 10 - 15, 2002.

The oil painting of Sarah done by Adam Baker attracts attention everywhere we show it, whether in the new banner or on our exhibit table. We are most appreciative of his gift of this painting.

The project has had wonderful support from the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs.

They worked with Gwen Clancy to produce a video of the project, which is now ready. The video is being shown on the public channels throughout the state and one copy will be placed in every public library in the state. We have been showing it at our exhibits and it receives much attention.

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State President's Report

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Tri-folds continue to be spread to other states, as well as in Nevada. Native American facilities in Oregon are placing them for customers to take. One thousand were sent to the Nevada table at the National Book Festival in Washington, D. C. in October. Numerous visitors to our exhibits in the past three months have taken them back to their own communities or offices.

Donations to the project are \$29,423.00 to date. The Southern region will be holding a fund raiser on November 16, showing the video of Alexandra Voorhees portraying Sarah Winnemucca, produced by Women of Diversity. Plans continue for an event at member Karen Benna's home in March of 2003. NWHP sold books at the Goldfield 100th Anniversary Celebration to benefit the Sarah Winnemucca Administrative Fund.

In other projects, the Web site continues to make changes and additions. Members are encouraged to work at adding biographies to our biography section. There are still women to be written about for placement on the Web site. If you are interested in writing a biography, please consult the Web Site Committee.

Volunteers are still needed to help with the Jean Ford Research Center. If you have time to work on this project, please let me know. Training can be provided.

Thank all of you volunteers for the hard work you put into our projects and to keep our organization strong.

Carrie Townley Porter
NWHP State President

NWHP Leadership

NORTHERN REGION STEERING COMMITTEE:

Holly Van Valkenburgh: Chair
Cherry Jones: Vice-Chair
Sarah Britt: Treasurer
Kathleen Allred: Secretary
Kay Sanders: Communication Co-Chair/Newsletter Editor
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot: Communication Co-Chair
Isabel Espinoza: Finance Chair
Kathy Noneman: Membership Chair
Mary Anne Convis: Project Review Chair
Cherry Jones and Carleen Ernest: Program Chairs
Carrie Townley Porter: Past-Chair

SOUTHERN REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Joyce Marshall: President
Mary Gafford: First Vice President
Kaye Gray: Second Vice President
Frankie Williams: Third Vice President
Ann Reck: Recording Secretary
Molly Murphy: Corresponding Secretary
Jean Spiller: Treasurer
Frankie Williams: Acting Nominating Committee Chairwoman

NWHP STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Carrie Townley Porter: President
Joan LeMere: First Vice President
Kaye Gray: Second Vice President
Holly Van Valkenburgh: Third Vice President
Jean Spiller: Treasurer
Kathleen Allred: Secretary
Carleen Earnest, Northern Region Representative
Joyce Marshall, Southern Region Representative
Fritsi Ericson: Nevada Women's Fund Representative
Kay Sanders: Editor for State Newsletter
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot: Webmaster
Mary Anne Convis: State Project Review Chair

In Remembrance

NWHP officers and members express sympathy to the friends and families of:

Alice Lohse, NWHP member for many years, who died on August 8, 2002;

Bette Sawyer, Honorary NWHP member and Former First Lady, who died on September 11, 2002 in Las Vegas;

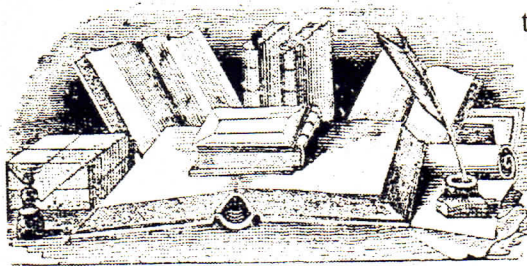
Alice Pearson, Parliamentarian for the NWHP Southern Nevada region who passed away in October. Her biography appeared in the Summer 2000 issue of our Newsletter.

They will be dearly missed.



Great Basin Book Festival Report

Wingfield Park was once again the scene of the booksellers' market at the Great Basin Book Festival sponsored by the Humanities Committee on September 21st. The Nevada Women's History Project shared a booth with Isabel Espinoza from Nevada Magazine. This year we had the best selection of books ever thanks to Holly Van Valkenburgh, Stan Paher, Sandy Crooms at UNR Press, Mary and Kathleen at Oral History and Chuck Convis. All of these people provided us with books to sell. The setup committee again this year included Chuck and Mary Anne Convis, Kathy and Charlie Noneman and Linda Wyckoff. Staffing the booth along with Linda and Isabel were Carrie Porter and Grace Davis. Thank you to all these people and, of course, to the Humanities Committee for the opportunity to participate.



Luncheon Featured on November 16th

A luncheon will be held at the home of Joan LeMere on November 16th at 11:00 a.m. This luncheon is to raise funds for the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Fund. A video of Sarah will be shown after the luncheon and food will reflect the culture of Native Americans in Nevada. Seating is limited. For further information, please call Joan at (702) 456-9242.

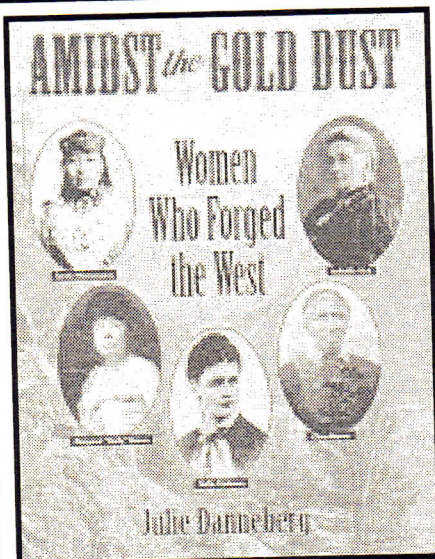


New Children's Book Described

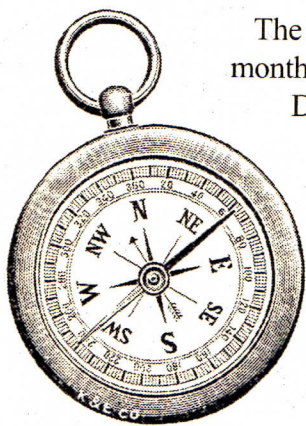
Amidst the Gold Dust: Women Who Forged the West

Julie Danneberg wrote a wonderful collection of biographies for grades 3-7 of five women who braved the western frontier. 1) Isabella Bird, a refined Englishwoman venturing into untamed wilderness; 2) Clare Brown, a newly freed slave just tasting her freedom; 3) Margaret Brown, a miner's wife turned millionaire/society woman; 4) Nellie Cashman, a caregiving wanderer trying her hand at prospecting; and 5) Sarah Winnemucca, a Native American fighting against the loss of her culture. Despite their outward differences, these women have much in common and much to teach us about hardships and perseverance. (Golden CO, Fulcrum Resources, 2001)

The NWHP has several copies of this book and will be willing to sell them for \$11.95. Contact Holly Van Valkenburgh at hovava@juno.com.



News from the North



The Nevada Day Parade October 26 was the event occupying most of the North's efforts during the past month. Cherry Jones organized and led the work on the entry, which earned a Second Place in the Historical Division. Since the parade theme was "Nevada is Indian Territory", it was natural that we use Sarah

Winnemucca in our entry. Cherry designed a representation of Sarah Winnemucca's Peabody School in Lovelock in 1886, with women from Lovelock visiting the school. Mary Anne Convis led the decorating committee, with Cherry Jones, Fred Jones, Kathy Thompson and Holly Van Valkenburgh assisting. On the float were NWHP members Billie Brinkman, Eileen Cohen and Cherry Jones, representing the visiting women and a Paiute family

portraying Sarah Winnemucca and the school children, relatives of the Winnemucca family, Louise Tanneheimer's daughter Karen, her niece Helen Fillmore, and friends from Sparks, Breanna Wahnetah and her brother. Fred Jones drove the beautiful blue pickup that pulled the float while Mary Anne Convis and Holly Van Valkenburgh carried the banner shown in the picture.



Nevada Day Float



Happy Hikers

Also in the Nevada Day parade was a banner carried by the Reno Girl Scouts which read: "Sarah Winnemucca is our Role Model".

The Jean Ford Memorial Hike was held October 12. Wildflower seeds provided by Isabel Espinoza were tossed where Jean's ashes were scattered, with a view of both Spooner Lake and Lake Tahoe.

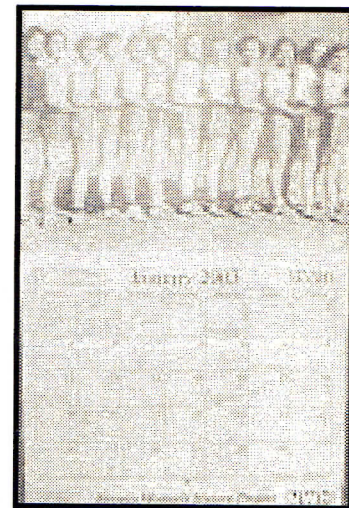
Then the participants went on a hike

up the Tahoe Rim Trail to the Marlette Lake lookout. Eileen Cohen led the trek, joined by Holly Van Valkenburgh and Glee Willis.

NWHP agreed to provide and sell authors' books for the "Women Writers of the West" program at the Great Basin Book Festival on September 19. Linda and Carolyn Dufurrena, Linda Husa and Sophie Shepherd presented their works and thoughts on writing and life in the West. Holly Van Valkenburgh and Cherry Jones sold the authors' books as a fund raiser for NWHP. Bonnie Buckley, from the Nevada Center for the Book, saw our Sarah Winnemucca Project brochures and took 1,000 of them to the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C. for distribution. She said they were all distributed and there was quite a bit of interest in the project.

The March 22 fundraiser, chaired by Carleen Ernest will be described in the February issue as well as the 2003 Conference, to be held March 29 in Virginia City at the Fourth Ward School. Cherry Jones is heading up the committee working on the Conference and is looking for volunteers to assist in the planning and implementation. Contact her at cljnvquail@charter.net.

The NWHP 2003 Calendars are now available. Provided by Isabel Espinoza, they are \$11 each or \$10 each for two or more. Holly Van Valkenburgh has some in Carson City and they are also available in Reno at the NWHP office. If you are interested in purchasing one or more, contact hovava@juno.com.

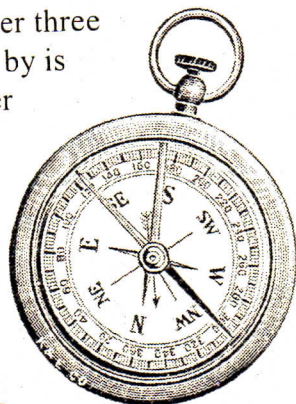


2003 Calendar

Holly Van Valkenburgh
Chair, Northern Steering Committee

News from South

Hard to believe that another three months have gone by, or flown by is more appropriate. The weather here in the South has cooled off and we are all busy working on some exciting events that we have planned for this fall and the coming spring. There is just something about a brisk fall morning that gets a body going. So speaking of exciting projects,



if there is anyone reading this that has not yet chosen to get involved, just pick up the phone and give me a call. I can always be reached at my office, (702) 895-2246, and we will put you to work. There is something very rewarding about being part of a group that shares a common vision. As you will read in this issue, the Sarah Winnemucca Project is really blossoming as more and more clubs and organizations get on board. We have a series of luncheons in the planning stage to be held over the next year where we will serve authentic Native American food and show a video of Sarah's life. We will also have a Pink Tea here in the South, sometime in the spring. A firm date has not been chosen and we'll let you know as soon as possible. As you are all aware, our Governor Kenny Guinn and First Lady, Dema Guinn, are huge supporters of the NWHP and we are especially grateful to Dema for her continued involvement with the Pink Teas.

With everything wonderful going on, we have also endured some sadness. We lost a very special member last month, Alice Pearson. Alice was always present and involved, giving a hand for whatever needed doing. She constantly kept a positive attitude and her smile lit up the room. Although her spirit remains with the group, we will miss her very much. Life is so short. We all need to call someone today and tell them how much we love them.

I hope all of you will have a wonderful holiday season.

Joyce Marshall,
President
Southern Region
Executive Committee



Outstanding DAR Support for Sarah Winnemucca Project Shown

In March 2001, at the Nevada State Society State Conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Las Vegas, the late Wanda Mitchell gave me a brochure describing the NWHP's Sarah Winnemucca Project. The thought of being able to help in ensuring that the State of Nevada had a second statue in Statuary Hall in the United States Capitol, commissioned in the likeness of Sarah Winnemucca was very exciting to me. I quickly saw the merit of this ambitious project and not only wanted to be involved in it, but I hoped to gain support from the D.A.R. too.

Rosalie O'Grady is the newly elected State Regent of the Nevada State Society, NSDAR, and I was thrilled when she announced that she had chosen the Sarah Winnemucca Project to also be her State Project over the next two years. One of our Valley of Fire Chapter members, Martha Garner (owner of Garnay, Inc.) offered to create a pin simulating the likeness of Sarah Winnemucca, which we could sell to raise money for the project. We now have pins and key chains that sell for \$10 each. The attractive pin may also be worn as a pendant.

I am pleased to say pin sales have been brisk, so much so that we may be sending a reorder to the pin maker! It is important for you to know that every cent that is collected from the pin sales will be turned over to the Nevada Women's History Project. The D.A.R. is not keeping any of the money. If anyone reading this article would like to order a Sarah Winnemucca pin or key chain for \$10 each, you may contact me several ways: e-mail: LVJoanD@aol.com or by telephone at (702)242-9012 or by fax at (702)243-9715. You may mail a check to me, Joan Dimmitt, 2328 Brighton Shore St., Las Vegas, Nevada 89128-7409. Please make any checks payable to the Nevada State Society, NSDAR, and on the memo line write Sarah Winnemucca.

I will be giving a talk on Sarah Winnemucca to a political women's group later this month and have spoken about her to two DAR Chapters. I am also a member of the State Executive Board of the Colonial Dames of the Seventeenth Century and I know that a donation has been forthcoming from that organization also. I know that all of us will be proud when that beautiful statue is dedicated in our nation's capitol and

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Outstanding DAR Support for Sarah Winnemucca Project Shown

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with your help through the pin sales, we can make it happen, hopefully sooner than planned. My congratulations to the Nevada Women's History Project for having the foresight to embrace this project and also to allow us to share in the work to ensure that the required funds are raised. I hope to hear from many of you.

Joan Dimmitt

Past Vice President General, NSDAR



South Fall Membership Luncheon Held

Our quarterly membership luncheon was held on September 8th at the Golden Steer Restaurant. It was a huge success with 40 ladies attending. While our members were arriving and chatting with friends and up until we were served lunch, everyone was treated to a fabulous fashion show of luxurious furs that were owned and modeled by some of the members of our group. They were all beautiful and it was a special treat to have these ladies share their treasures with us. One of the more unique coats was a seal stroller worn by Molly Murphy that was a gift from her husband.

The program was presented by Joan Dimmitt and was titled, "The History of Republican Women's Clubs of Southern Nevada." It was very interesting and informative and gave us all an insightful overview of this organization. In conclusion, Joan presented Rosalie O'Grady who talked about the DAR's involvement in the Sarah Winnemucca Project. Be sure to read her article in this issue. We are blessed to have these organizations on board and sharing our vision of sending Sarah to Washington.

Death Valley Women's History Exhibit Opens

The Shoshone Museum Association announced recently the inauguration of a new display celebrating Death Valley Women's History. Opening on November 1st, the exhibit includes photos, artifacts and documents that help illustrate the untold and under-told stories of women. The museum is located just outside the southern boundary of Death Valley National Park on California State Highway 127. Part of the Death Valley National Monument (the northeastern section) extends into Nevada but this museum would be best accessed via Pahrump or Amargosa Valley.

As miners, nurses, teachers, innkeepers, writers, businesswomen, wives, and mothers, and as Native Americans struggling to make the transition into a culture deeply impacted by white emigration, women were witness to every significant event in Death Valley recorded history. Up until now, however, that history has been told mostly through the stories of men.

A rotating component of the exhibit highlights different kinds of historical occupations for women here. Beginning with the innkeepers, they present the stories of women who managed the Amargosa Hotel, Furnace Creek Inn, and Stovepipe Wells Village in the 1920s and 1930s as road building made tourism possible in the newly created National Monument. One of the women featured in the exhibit is Nona Rosenberg, who lived on the Tonopah & Tidewater Railroad in a boxcar with her husband during the Great Depression.

Since the early histories of Nevada and California were intertwined, this exhibit would be of particular interest to Nevada Women's History Project members.

Victoria Ford

NWHP 2001 Roll of Honor Recipient



Vikki Ford receiving the Roll of Honor award from Carrie Porter.

Victoria (Vikki) Ford is the last of the 2001 Roll of Honor Recipients featured in our Newsletter. She is an outstanding author, oral historian, and currently works at Truckee Meadows Community College in their Public Information Office. Vikki's professionalism, thoroughness, and excellent writing ability are evidenced in her several books which include *Silver Peak*, *Never a Ghost Town*, *Silver Peak: At Work, At Play and At Home*, *Jean Ford: A Nevada Woman Leads the Way*, *Charlotte Hunter Arley*, *Making Their Mark: Reno-Sparks YWCA History*, and *Life Without A Safety Net: An Insider's View of War, Hollywood and Reno*, by Jud Allen, edited by Victoria Ford.

Currently she is completing the final phase of a statewide Nevada mining oral history project for University of Nevada Oral History Program, interviewing former Lt. Governor Sue Wagner, and editing interviews for a project on the Civilian

Conservation Corps in Northern Nevada.

Vikki received a Master of Arts degree in journalism from the University of Nevada, Reno. Prior to working at TMCC, she was a part-time consultant at the University of Nevada Oral History Program. For several years she was owner of The Ford Factor, an oral history, writing, and editing business. She also worked at the UNR Library and was managing editor of the UNR Times alumni magazine.

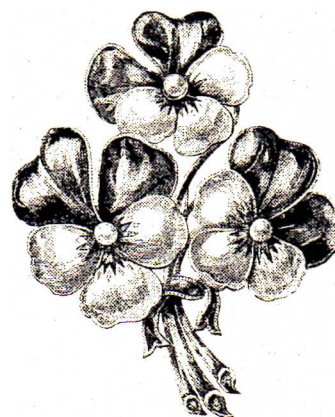
Included among her many honors are: Northern Nevada Chapter American Marketing Association, ACE Award, Sierra Nevada Chapter, PRSA Silver Spike Award, Reno Ad Club, "Promotion Group of the Year" award, and Outstanding Editor of the Year award, UNR.

In addition to her books, she has written several articles for Range Magazine. She was a reporter for the Feather Publishing Company in Quincy, CA early in her writing career.



Wildflower Hike participants: Craig Downer, Kay Sanders, Xiomara Navas-Carbo, Marie Werner, Isabel Espinoza, Nancy Oakley, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Carleen Ernest, Jan Walker.

Led by Kay Sanders, the trail started at the Mt. Rose Meadows heading south on the Tahoe Rim Trail. Mid-July and wildflowers were abundant.



Featured Historic Nevada Woman

Ferminia Sarras

Born: July, 1840

Died: February 1, 1915

Maiden name: Sarras (possible spellings Sararis, Seraras, Sararez)

Married: Pablo Flores, Archie McCormack, Fermine Arriaga, several others not named

Children: five (four daughters, one son)

Race/nationality/ethnic background: Caucasian (Spanish, from Nicaragua)

Primary city and county of residence and work: Luning (Mineral County), Silver Peak (Esmeralda County)

Major fields of work: mining (prospector and owner of copper mines)

Other role identities: wife, mother, grandmother

Biography:

Ferminia Sarras came to Nevada sometime around 1881, which was the date she was first listed on Esmeralda County tax records and described as "Spanish Lady, Belleville." Much of her story had been lost until recently when author Sally Zanjani worked with Ferminia's great-grandson to reconstruct the past.

Ferminia always described herself as "a Spanish lady of royal blood," although she was often mistaken as having Mexican ancestry and was no doubt often called "greaser." She was a descendant of the noble Contreras family of Nicaragua where a relative, Roderigo de Contreras, governed during the 16th century. In her native country, Ferminia was married to Pablo Flores and gave birth to four daughters, Conchetta, Concepción, Juanita and Emma. When she arrived in Nevada, Ferminia evidently felt her two youngest daughters would be safer in the Nevada Orphans Asylum in Virginia City than at the mining camps of Belleville and Candelaria. Ferminia may have joined her husband who is thought to have worked in those rough mining towns, but he did not remain in her life.

It appears that she may have been married as many as five times during her life, often to men who were younger than she. Her youngest son was named Joseph A. Marshall, although Ferminia was not married to anyone named Marshall at that time. One newspaper article claimed that all of her husbands died violent deaths, and author Zanjani speculates that she may have been interested in men who were handy with a gun because they could help protect her claims. One of those was Archie McCormack, a man twelve years younger than Ferminia, who was described as a Canadian-born gunman. He was killed in 1906 in a gunfight while defending one of her claims. However, by the end of her life, one of the young men she trusted stole her money from a Los Angeles bank and returned to Central America.



Photo courtesy of Sally Zanjani

Ferminia did not depend on the men in her life for her livelihood. She began prospecting in the Candelaria area in 1883 and went on to file a number of claims on copper mines in the Sante Fe district. She spent a few years prospecting in Silver Peak, but didn't have much luck during the 1890s, a time when Nevada was in an economic depression. She returned to the Sante Fe district in 1899, and it was there that she eventually made her fortune. She prospected alone wearing pants, boots and a back pack. By the time she died in 1915, she had made several fortunes on her copper mines, often stashing the gold coins from her sales in her chicken coop where she believed it would be safer than in the banks.

Each time she made a profitable sale, Ferminia would travel to San Francisco, stay in the finest hotels, shop for elegant clothes and enjoy fine dining and young men until her money ran out. Then she would return to Nevada's mountains and resume prospecting for another fortune.

According to author Zanjani: One cannot resist observing that when liberated from the cloistered world of the upper-

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Featured Historic Nevada Woman: Ferminia Sarra

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class Latin American woman in the place rightly known as a "man's country," Ferminia used her freedom much as a man of similar background would have done. In this tradition, wealth was to be enjoyed and generously spread among one's friends, not devoted to the civic purposes of churches and organized charities; individualism was the normal mode, not the galling restraints of team-work and joint enterprise; and a good deal of blatant philandering was both a pleasurable assertion of the self and a status symbol, not in the least damaging to one's reputation. If Ferminia had been a man, her compatriots would have admirably called her "muy hombre."

Ferminia named her many mining claims after her family, friends, and lovers. She had small cabins or adobe houses in several locations, but lived mostly at Luning, Nevada, between prospecting trips. Later, the town of Mina was named in her honor.

Ferminia's belief in the value of her mines eventually proved to be true. Her most valuable mines were located in Giroux Canyon, Nevada, which is currently being mined successfully. Likewise, her belief in herself never wavered. She arrived in Nevada as a Spanish lady of royal blood and was dubbed nobility here as the "Nevada Copper Queen." Thanks to author Sally Zanjani, her legend has been recovered.

(Biographical sketch by Victoria Ford)

Sources of Information:

1. Zanjani, Sally. *A Mine of Her Own. Women Prospectors in the American West, 1840-1950*. Lincoln, Nebraska: University of Nebraska Press, 1997.
2. Zanjani, Sally. "The Copper Queen," *Nevada Magazine*, November/December, 1995.



Silver State Sampler 2002

On Friday, August 23, thirty-eight men and women boarded the early morning bus in Carson City and Reno to participate in the Nevada Women's History sponsored Silver State Sampler 2002. The group would spend the entire day Saturday, August 24 in Goldfield, helping to celebrate the Centennial of Goldfield, Nevada. (1902 - 2002)

After a brief stop in Fallon, museum and lunch in Hawthorne, the bus stopped near Mina at a lobster farm. Yes, believe it or not, a lobster farm. An enterprising rancher has built a large number of vats filled with controlled water flow. Hundreds of lobsters of all sizes are reared there. It takes a year to put one pound of weight on a lobster and this is the size requested by most buyers.

Upon entering Tonopah, we stopped at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park. After viewing a film on the history of the mining bonanza of that area, we followed our guide, Shawn Hall, through the various mine buildings. Especially fascinating were the stories of the great horned owls that some years ago chose the main building to hatch their progeny up in the rafters. The owls continue this practice and are welcome and protected. Also the stories of Howard Hughes and his purchase of Tonopah mining claims in the declining days of Tonopah mining were most interesting. Our first night was spent in Tonopah.

Boarding the bus on Saturday, were numerous women members of our tour dressed in flowing, long skirts, long sleeved blouses and huge hats. They were prepared to ride on the NWHP float in the Goldfield parade representing women movers and shakers of Nevada's early history. Petite Susan Paslov was dressed as Sarah Winnemucca in plain, unadorned, long brown shift made of a buckskin illusionary material. The NWHP float won second place. First prize was won by a Wyatt Earp group of eight, shooting blanks as they walked the parade route.

Tour members not riding on the float arranged the rented Civic Center for the day. Activities for the afternoon included sale of books of various Nevada authors, a program including the history of the famous prizefight in Goldfield, historic Goldfield poetry and Chautauqua presentations of Bird Wilson, Minnie Blair, Hannah Clapp and Anne H. Martin.

The anticipated tour of the Goldfield Hotel did not materialize. However, we did tour the historic Goldfield

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NWHP Goldfield float in all its glory!



Goldfield Girls - Several members taking part in the Goldfield Centennial festivities were: Kathleen Noneman, Eileen Cohen, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Rose Stewart, Carrie Porter, Isabel Espinoza, Cherry Jones, Susan Paslov, and Mary Anne Convis. Behind them is the new Sarah Winnemucca banner.



Ismail and Sally Zanjani - taking part in the Centennial Parade in Goldfield.

Silver State Sampler 2002

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Courthouse which, well maintained, is still in use. We returned to Tonopah to spend the second night.

On Sunday we viewed a rare film at the Tonopah Central Nevada Museum which showed a mining stamp mill in actual operation.

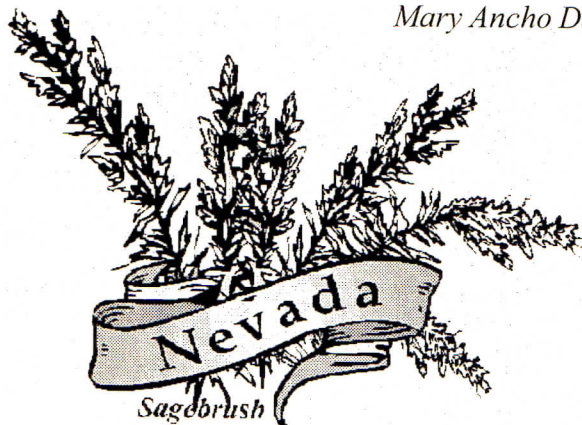
Then on to Belmont and Manhattan. These so-called ghost towns are alive and kicking. How can Belmont be called a ghost town when new homes are being built along the hillsides of the town, which already boasts a bed and breakfast, all purpose store and post office? New building was also obvious in Manhattan. Is it possible that these towns may be summer resort towns of the new millennium for persons tired of the city rat race? Belmont, especially, is situated in a charming mountain locale.

The Belmont Courthouse is an imposing multi-storied building with a well preserved brick exterior and an almost totally gutted interior. Fortunately, a recent new roof has eliminated further deterioration of the interior from water damage. After a sandwich lunch at the Belmont Bed and Breakfast, we drove through Manhattan and photographed the perfectly preserved small, rustic, brown Catholic Church sitting on a prominent hillside.

Then on through Smokey Valley to the Round Mountain Gold Mine. This is one of the world's largest open-pit, heap leach operations. The enormous open pit is astonishing and, wearing hard hats, we were privileged to watch the day's operation. Tinker Fannin, a young local woman who has worked her way through the ranks, is now Executive Secretary of the Gold Mine Corporation. After happy hour on the bus and dinner in Fallon, we returned home.

This was a great tour, informative and fun also, thanks to the planning of tour organizers Isabel Espinoza and Cherry Jones.

Mary Ancho Davis



Congratulations to:

- Ronald and Susan James, NWHP members, for their recent publication of a new book, *Castle in the Sky: George Whittell, Jr. and the Thunderbird Lodge*, published by the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society.
- Sally Zanjani who received the Westerner's International 2001 Best Western History Book of the Year for her biography, *Sarah Winnemucca*.
- Georgia Hedrick who recently exhibited her work at the Arts and Authors show at the Wilber D. May Museum, Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno. This event was presented by Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows.

Thanks to:

- Adam Baker for the contribution of his painting of Sarah Winnemucca. Adam is an artist in Carson City who paints oil portraits from photographs. His painting is from the photo on the front of Sally Zanjani's biography of Sarah Winnemucca. We have used this banner in the parade at Goldfield and the Nevada Day Parade. The painting is available for other Sarah Winnemucca functions.
- Sierra Pacific for their generosity in printing new flyers for the Sarah Winnemucca project. All contributions that have come in for the project are used for the statue unless otherwise noted. This printing has allowed us to replenish the supply at museums and other sources. Be sure to thank Sierra Pacific when you have the opportunity.
- Isabel Espinoza for organizing the Silver State Sampler Tour to Goldfield and other Nevada sites. All involved came back with happy memories and wonderful reports of a good time had by all. Great job, Isabel and helpers!
- Cherry Jones for taking the lead on the Nevada Day Parade float committee. Winning 2nd place in the Historic Entry category was an extra plus and great publicity for our organization and the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project. Thanks also to all the hard workers and people in costume on the float.

- The Carson Valley Historical Society for donating copies of *Threads Through Time, Women's History Remembering Project* biographies. These are a most welcome addition to our research library.

Recovering:

- Mitsi Johnson is back to work and doing well with her recovery from recent surgery. We love Mitsi and have been sending positive thoughts and prayers for her quick return to good health.

PLEASE INFORM THE STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR AND YOUR REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHAIR OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND/OR E-MAIL ADDRESS. KAYE GRAY'S ADDRESS IS: P.O. BOX 12184, LAS VEGAS, NV 89112. IN THE NORTH PLEASE ALSO NOTIFY KATHLEEN NONEMAN AT: NWHP, 770 SMITHRIDGE DR., SUITE 300, RENO, NV 89502.

Articles for the February 2003 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor Kay Sanders no later than January 24, 2003. Email her at ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

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