

NWHP

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY

Project News

Calendar

Northern Nevada Schedule

MAY 17 - NWHP State Board meeting at State Office in Reno - 770 Smithridge Drive, Suite 300. (Time TBA)

MAY 19 - Northern Steering Committee - 6:00 p.m. at the home of Kay Sanders, 1638 Glen Oaks Dr., Reno. A light supper will be served. Call Kay at (775) 747-1740 for directions to her house.

JUNE 14 - Annual Meeting, Washoe Valley.

JULY 19 - 5th Annual Wildflower Hike. The hike will leave from Carson Pass, Highway 88, and will be to one of the beautiful lakes in the area. Kay will decide the location in early July depending upon best location of wildflowers at the time. Please bring water, lunch, wear layers, and good hiking shoes or boots. RSVP to Kay at (775) 747-1740 after July 7th.

AUG. 30 - Jean Ford Memorial Hike. Eileen Cohen will lead this hike first to the site of Jean Ford's ashes scattering and then, for those who wish to continue, a hike along the Tahoe Rim Trail (approx. 10 miles round trip). Call Eileen after August 1st at (775) 267-2557 to RSVP or for more information.

OCT. 10-12 - Silver State Sampler

NOV. 1 - Nevada Day Parade

Southern Nevada Schedule

JUNE 13 - Bio meeting at Joan LeMere's home, 10:00am

JUNE 18 - Executive Board Meeting, 10:00am, place TBA

AUG. 20 - Executive Board Meeting, 10:00am, at UNLV Special Collections Dept.

OCT. 11 - Pink Tea at Jeannie Greenawalt's home

A Grateful Thanks to First Lady Dena Guinn for the Third Annual Pink Tea and to Governor and Mrs. Kenny Guinn for Their Donation



Gov. Kenny Guinn visits with guests at the Pink Tea.

The NWHP Third Annual Pink Tea was held Saturday afternoon, April 26th, at the Governor's Mansion in Carson City. Organizers were pleasantly surprised to have reached their attendance goal the Monday before the event. In all, more than 150 people attended. Over \$7,000 was raised for the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project. This included a \$5,000 donation from Governor and Mrs. Kenny Guinn. Mrs. Guinn, honorary chairwoman of the statue selection committee, was the gracious hostess for the tea.

The theme of the tea was Nevada women in politics – past and present. The event program listed Nevada women who have held political office. Honored guests Barbara Vucanovich, the first woman elected to federal

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A Grateful Thanks to First Lady Dema Guinn for the Third Annual Pink Tea and to Governor and Mrs. Kenny Guinn for Their Donation

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office from Nevada and her daughter, Patty Cafferata, the first woman state treasurer, were introduced. Guests also included Sarah Winnemucca's grandniece, Louise Tannheimer of Portola, California and Tannheimer's granddaughter, Lisa Grayshield of Carson City.

Flower arrangements adorned every room. The tea table was magnificent. A volunteer chef from P.F. Changs donated two full days to help the mansion chef prepare the cakes and sandwiches for the event. Extra hostesses were recruited by Mrs. Guinn to help during the afternoon. The Pink Tea committee thanks Mrs. Guinn, her staff and extra volunteers for the magnificent job that they did preparing and hosting this most successful and enjoyable fund raiser.

by Mary Anne Convis

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 Ernest, 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



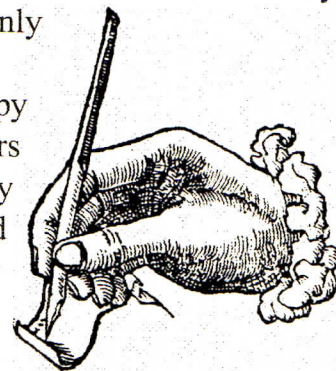
Holly Van Valkenburgh getting ready for her role as Anne Martin during the tea.

Photo credit: Lisa Tolda, Reno Gazette Journal

Membership Chair Report

The total number of members in the Southern Region now stands at 73, plus 3 organizational members. Ladies, if you know of anyone who may have forgotten to renew their membership, please give them a nudge. I know, with all of us belonging to multiple organizations, it's easy to forget who you paid what to and when. Maybe you have a friend that you think might be interested in joining. It would be wonderful to be at 100 members by the October tea. This is certainly an attainable goal.

Having said that, we are happy to welcome three new members since our last report; Nancy Billy, Sarah Smith Stovall and SuKim Chung. We are very excited to have you as a part of the NWHP.



Kaye Gray, Membership Chair

State President's Report

As I write this article I am still on Cloud 9. The Pink Tea held last Saturday at the Governor's Mansion was a wonderfully successful event. It was a fund raiser for the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project. For once, the local newspapers decided to run articles on the event. This was the work of Bob Harmon of the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs. The phone rang constantly at the office and the staff of the Nevada Women's Fund were glad to have the week over with. We had been given a limit of 125 people, and with the great article on the event in the Reno Gazette-Journal on Tuesday, we quickly reached our limit. When Governor Kenny Guinn spoke to those attending, he announced that he and the First Lady were donating \$5,000.00 for the statue.

With the money raised by the AAUW fund raiser in March at the beautiful home of Steve and Karen Benna and the sale of Sarah Winnemucca jewelry by the State Daughters of the American Revolution, we are close to having \$60,000.00 for the statue.

The Sarah Winnemucca Statue Selection Committee met at the mansion the day before the Pink Tea. The Request For Proposal is near final draft and it is anticipated that the sculptor will be chosen in late summer. I, for one, will be very happy to unveil that statue in Washington D. C. in the year 2004!

Two authors contacted our Web site recently and both are currently here in Reno. One came from Tucson, Arizona and the other from Raleigh, North Carolina. I will be meeting with both of them tomorrow at the Jean Ford Research Center. One is writing a book on Nevada women. The other is writing about Sarah Winnemucca and the Bannock War, but he also managed to make the Pink Tea and was able to meet four of the Winnemucca family who were in attendance.

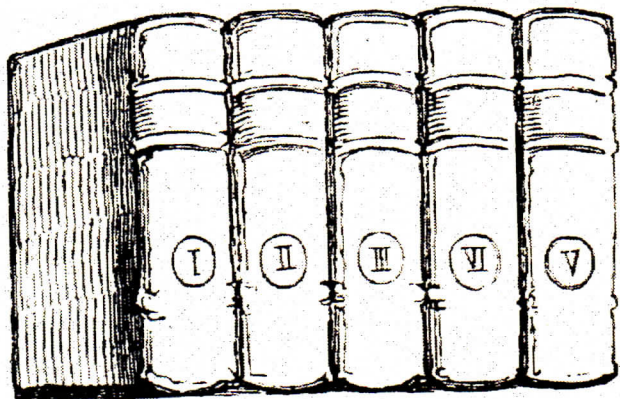
The next meeting of the State Steering Committee is scheduled for Saturday May 17 at the office in Reno. If any of you have anything you would like to get on the agenda, please let me know.

I want to thank our member and former state treasurer, Kathleen Clemence. She has developed a database for us with the name, address and phone number for all our members, including anyone who EVER was a member, everyone who has attended any of our events, at least those for which we had records in the archives. Saturday, just as I arrived home from the Pink Tea, the fax rang and Kathleen had sent the final report on who attended the Pink Tea as well as the money taken in. Thanks, Kathleen!

And thanks to all of you who give of your time and talents to accomplish the mission of the NWHP! Isn't it amazing what we accomplish with all volunteers and no paid employees?

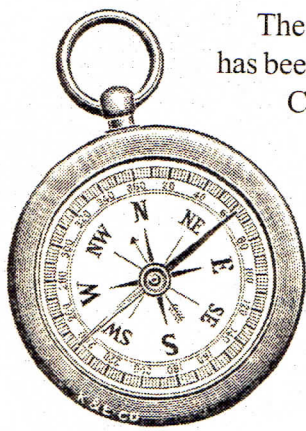
Carrie Townley Porter, NWHP State President

Biographical Encyclopedia Project Plans



The Women's Biographical Encyclopedia is moving forward. We are aiming for a completion date of Spring 2004. There are 78 completed bios with 22 more needed for the first volume. The committee meeting is at Joan LeMere's home on Friday, June 13th, at 10:00am. If you have not been involved thus far, please come and join us. We are in need of willing workers who can research and/or write. It is so exciting everytime another bio is finished. Also, we would appreciate any input from you about women you might know who should be included in this volume or future volumes.

News from the North



The big activity for the North this spring has been the NWHP Conference, March 29.

Cherry Jones did a marvelous job of planning the day of "Capturing Nevada's Women", assisted by her Committee of Isabel Espinoza, Mary Anne Convis and me. The programs at the Fourth Ward School were great, the trolley ride and lunch at the Gold Hill Hotel was fun, and the evening performance of "Emma Nevada" at

Piper's Opera House was wonderful! Cherry is writing about it for this newsletter, so I will not go into lengthy details, other than to say "Congratulations", Cherry, for helping NWHP get back to its primary purpose of gathering information about Nevada's women.

We had a wonderful turnout April 26 for the Pink Tea—I dressed as Anne Martin, Carrie as Helen J. Stewart, Susan Paslov as Sadie Hurst and Mary Anne was an anonymous 1912-14-style woman. Other women in attendance also dressed in "period" attire, suitable for a Pink Tea. Mary Anne is writing about the Pink Tea and Carrie is doing an update on the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project so I won't go into more details. However, it was a wonderful occasion attended by many non-NWHP members.

The Fundraiser March 22 at the Benna House near Reno was a joint project with the American Association of University Women. I also appeared there as Dr. Anne Martin, but this time gave two "living history performances", since the event was "set" in the 1920's. Dr. Martin had moved to Carmel in 1921, so she was "visiting" for the occasion of the housewarming of the Frank Lloyd Wright style home. Several Young Chautauquans gave performances and Georgia Hedrich talked about Sarah Winnemucca and her accomplishments.

April 24 was the first session of the "Chautauqua: How to Do It" series of six workshops presented by Dr. Doris Dwyer. Doris presented a performance as Margaret Breen, of the Donner Party, at the Conference, which inspired many of us to decide to learn more about the Chautauqua process. There were twelve of us there and three more who signed up but were unable to make that first meeting. Among the participants are the author and director of "Emma Nevada", Lena Covello, and the woman who makes authentic period costumes, including all those for "Emma Nevada", Maureen

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News from the South

Spring is here and the weather has been warming up. It's a busy time for all of us because our balmy days here in the

south are so short. Before you know it, the thermometer will creep towards the 100-degree mark.

So, we all better be airing out, cleaning out, planting and planning for the days ahead. Actually, a vacation would be nice. As most

of you know, our fall pink tea at Jeannie Greenawalt's home will be on October 11th. We are looking for members willing to help. We will need those able to assist in the planning stages and, also, on the day of the tea. Please get involved. It is so rewarding on a personal level and will give you the chance to get to know other ladies in the organization.

Let's not forget to purchase (if you have not already) the Sarah Winnemucca pins/pendants, earrings, and key chains. I have my keys on my key chain and find that having something visible is a great way to talk to people about the project. Just think how wonderful it is going to be when we unveil our statue in Washington, D. C. I have supplies of each item, so feel free to call me and I will make sure to get your order to you.

By the time you read this, we will have already had our Spring Luncheon at the Golden Steer. The restaurant is always very accommodating and the food is good. However, if anyone knows of another place you think we should try, we are always ready for a new experience. Just give one of the officers a call. We will be scheduling a working lunch sometime in the first part of September for all those involved with the October tea.

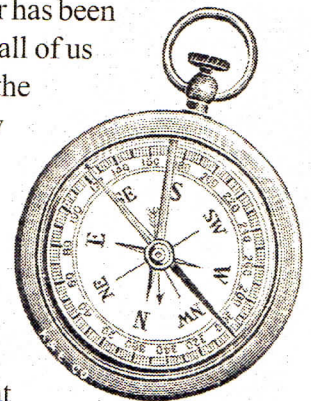
All of you should have received your copy of the Southern NWHP News. Mitsi Johnson has taken on the responsibility of editorship. We are certainly blessed to have Mitsi healthy, happy and back on board. If, for some reason, you did not receive one, please call her at 456-3218 or fax 385-9278 her and she will get one out to you. Also, any local news item or event you would like to add is always welcome. The next News should hit your mailbox the middle of July.

Joyce Marshall-Moore,

President

Southern Region Executive

Committee



Benna Fund-Raiser



Hats Off to Carleen Ernest, Coordinator of the Benna Home Tour Fund-Raiser, for a Most Successful Event.

Frank Lloyd Wright was in fine form the evening of March 22, 2003. The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and NWHP combined their talents and efforts to an evening devoted to education, edibles, libation, fund raising and showcasing a notable Reno home. Guests were treated to self-guided tours of the exquisite, 5,600 square foot house, located in the Virginia Foothills, south of Reno. Owned by Steve and Karen Benna, the house has won awards as an outstanding example of Frank Lloyd Wright style of architecture. Gorgeous views of Reno, Truckee Meadows and the Carson Range are an added attraction. Don Thompson did a splendid job of portraying the individualistic, eccentric, and talented Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright during the evening.

Attendees munched on delicious food provided by Molly's of Carson City, listened to music of the '20s, and watched videos of Frank Lloyd Wright on the Benna's fabulous sound and video system. Downstairs in the children's salon guests were treated to the Chautauquan talents of Holly Van Valkenburgh as Anne Martin, Luke and Jared Rader as Porter Rockwell and Orson Hyde, and Lauren Smith as Annie Oakley. Georgia Hedrick gave a wonderful historical account of the Statue Project's namesake, Sarah Winnemucca.

The event proved a success for both AAUW and NWHP. Proceeds from this event ran in excess of \$8,000. All proceeds went to the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Project. The event was co-chaired by Carleen Ernest, Karen Benna, and Lisa-Marie Lightfoot.

By Carleen Ernest

News from the North

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Hepner. Her daughter is also in the workshop series.

Our Annual Meeting will be Saturday, June 14, at Thunder Canyon in Washoe Valley. Paulette Grune will present a program on "Victorian Manners and Morals" as she dresses from the shift up in Victorian attire. Information about the meeting and program has been mailed out to all North members.

The Wildflower Hike will be Saturday, July 19th, led by Kay Sanders. We will be carpooling from Wendy's in Minden on Hwy. 395, just before the junction of Hwys. 88 and 395 at 9:00 a.m. The hike will start from the top of Carson Pass to one of the beautiful lakes in that area. The choice will be dependent upon wildflower viewing availability. Kay will make that decision in early July. Any questions please call at 775-747-1740 or e-mail at ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

Eileen Cohen will lead the Jean Ford Memorial Hike on Saturday, August 30th. Car pooling will be from the Park and Ride at the junction of Hwys. 395 and 50, leaving at 9:00 a.m. The hike starts at the trailhead of the Lake Tahoe Rim Trail near Spooner's Summit at 9:15 a.m. For those wishing to only go to the site of Jean Ford's ashes scattering, please bring wildflower seeds; there will be a brief ceremony. For those wanting to continue on the Tahoe Rim Trail, the hike is ten miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, and wear layers and hiking shoes or boots. Participants will enjoy a complete view of both Lake Tahoe and Spooner's Lake at the lunch stop. Eileen can provide more information. Her phone number is 775-267-2557 and her e-mail is Eileebird@aol.com.

Also in the planning process is a Silver State Sampler October 10-12, which would include our attendance at the Pink Tea to be held in Las Vegas on October 11. (More about that in the August newsletter.)

Many thanks to all the wonderful NWHP members who have made these programs so successful!!!

*Holly Van Valkenburgh
Chair, Northern Region Steering Committee*

"Capturing Nevada Women" Conference Highlights

Our March 29 conference, "Capturing Nevada Women", was a resounding success. Twenty-six women sat at school desks in an old classroom at the Fourth Ward School in Virginia City, and were "taught" history by a succession of exciting presenters.

The Keynote Speaker, Dr. Sally Zanjani, was introduced by Susan James, Fourth Ward School Historian. Dr. Zanjani reminded us that the stories of little-known women in Nevada's history are not only important as having contributed much to the state's growth, but also are extremely fascinating. She shared with us some of the pertinent factors in researching these stories, and also, some of the surprises that the biographer may encounter.

Eileen Cohen, who has conducted and preserved the oral histories of many Carson City residents, introduced us to six of her "subjects", each of whom shared a special story or two that had been recorded by Eileen. The remarkable storytellers were Muriel Darling, Gertrude Gottschalk, Alice Gottschalk Downer, Genevieve Felesina, Nevada Hale-Byron and Kay Winters. They certainly whetted our appetites, and no doubt some members of their audience will be checking out the written histories that are available at the Carson City Library, and the Jean Ford Research Center in the NWHP office in Reno!

It was a beautiful day to ride the trolley down to the Gold Hill Hotel, where, (as portrayed by Doris Dwyer) Mrs. Margaret Breen, who survived the Donner Party, enthralled us with the story of her terrible experiences during that tragic winter. Unlike Mrs. Breen, we ate a wonderful lunch, then rode the trolley back to the Fourth Ward School. There Doris continued her Chautauqua presentation answering questions and explaining more about how a Chautauqua is researched and delivered.

Gwen Clancy then demonstrated some of the techniques she uses when producing her fine informational videos, and told us a few of the unusual situations that have arisen as she was interviewing some of the people whose lives she was documenting.

Carrie Townley Porter then spoke to us about "Researching Women", and gave us some valuable tips on how to get started, and where to find some of the information that we, as biographers, need to be able to locate. There is so much material to share on this immense topic, that maybe we can get her to do a more in-depth program on this, as we get more involved in collecting the biographies that we need for our website and the Biographical Encyclopedia being assembled by the NWHP South chapter.

Kay Sanders spoke briefly about the format to use when writing a biography for the website, and passed around a list of names of women whose biographies are needed. Several volunteers came forth and signed up to write some of the biographies!

Then Cherry Jones distributed copies of the format required for the biographies sent to the South for their Encyclopedia, and Holly Van Valkenburgh gave a big plug for the "Letters to Nevada's Daughters" project, and we wrapped up the day events of the conference.

The conference then adjourned to a banquet room at the Delta Saloon, where we all enjoyed a sumptuous buffet. Following the dinner, all progressed up the hill to Piper Opera House, where an audience of about 100 were treated to a performance of "Emma Nevada", presented by the Sparks Little Theatre Troupe.

by Cherry Jones



Doris Dwyer performing as Margaret Breen
at the Gold Hill Hotel

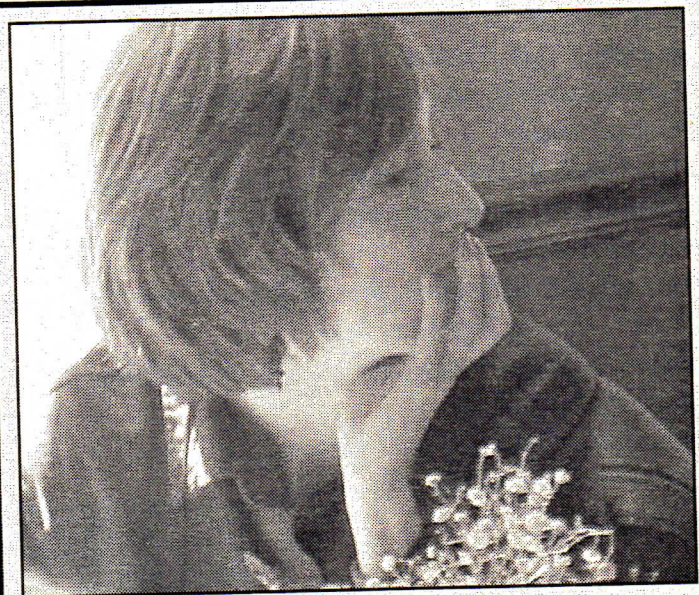


Mary McNeill portrayed Emma Nevada, the
Comstock Nightingale, in a presentation at Piper's
Opera House, Virginia City, Nevada.

Snapshots from the 2003 NWHP State Conference



Kay Winters, Participant in Elleen Cohen's Presentation on "Oral History - How To Do It!" .



Dana Bennett, NWHP member, will be doing a biography on Edna C. Baker for our Web site



Cindy Southerland and Gwen Clancy at the Delta Saloon dinner. Cindy is researching Effie Mona Mack for the Web site. Gwen presented on "Videotaping History" at the conference.



Kathleen Thompson signed up to write a biography on Gue Gim Wah, historic Lincoln Co. businesswoman

Featured Historic Nevada Woman

Katie Christy Frazier

Born: about 1891

Died: August 5, 1991

Maiden Name: Christy

Race/nationality/ethnic background: Native American, Northern Paiute

Married: John Hicks (divorced), Harrison Frazier

Children: three children with John Hicks, four children with Harrison Frazier

Primary city and county of residence and work: Washoe, Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation

Major fields of work: Preserving and teaching Paiute traditions and customs

Other role identities: Wife, mother, grandmother, educator, folk artist, quilter, dancer

Biography:

Around 1891 when Katie Christy was born, Indian births were not yet officially recorded. The time was still early in the settling of northwestern Nevada by the white man. Katie's grandmother had grown up in the old ways, when The People (*Nimi*) were free to go about in their own land as they pleased. Katie was close to her grandmother, as was the custom, and they slept together under a rabbit skin blanket. For many years, Katie spoke only her native language, Northern Paiute. Because she had been born prematurely, she was small for her age and was called *Titzipoona*, which meant small and very lively.

Like many other Native Americans at that time, her mother and grandmother worked for white settlers to supplement the dwindling supply of wild foods available to them. Yet, the family preferred to follow the old ways when they could and in the summer they might be found encamped with relatives near the shore of Pyramid Lake, or digging camas (*yapa*) on the Madeline Plains to the north. In the fall, they traveled north to the Pine Nut Range for the pine nut harvest.

Winters were spent in Honey Lake Valley where acorns, game, and wood for fires were abundant, and ranch work could be obtained. Their winter home was of the same efficient construction that had been in use for thousands of years, the conical willow house (*kani*) built anew each year by Katie's mother.

By 1900 the population of white settlers in Nevada had exploded, and the Northern Paiutes who survived the years of deprivations and diseases, had been pushed onto reservations. *Titzipoona* had been given another name, one that could be written in English, Katie Christy, and she was required by state law to go to a military-style boarding school

for Indian children. Established by the Nevada State Legislature in 1887, Carson Indian school (later renamed Stewart Indian School), operated under a federal policy to acculturate and educate Indian children to the ways of the white world. Her mother estimated that Katie was about eight years old when, in 1900, she took her to Carson and left her.

Following her graduation in 1908, Katie married John Hicks and they had three children. She worked for white families in Virginia City and Reno; in 1918, John Hicks enlisted in WWI. Their marriage ended after the long separation caused by the war, and in 1921 Katie moved to the Pyramid Lake Paiute Reservation. She later married her second husband, Harrison Frazier, and they had four children.

Katie was an enthusiastic advocate for the traditional Indian ways, not only because she enjoyed them, but because it was important to her that knowledge of the Northern Paiute culture be passed on. In 1989, she said this about dancing:

"I just love to dance! I'd be dancing yet



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Featured Historic Nevada Woman: Katie Christy Frazier

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today if I could. Us Indians used to have lots of dances here at Pyramid Lake. A long time ago, people would come from all around and make a big camp by the Truckee River where Wadsworth is now, and they would circle dance a whole week. People did this in the fall, before they went to the mountains to pick pine nuts. They were dancing for a good harvest. Pine nuts meant a lot to us because it was our winter food. I was little then, but I remember how the dance kept going, night and day. Some dancers would go off to rest, but the dance kept going. Us children would always run and play. Sometimes we'd get into mischief! In the winter, people would come to fish along the river where it goes into the lake, and they danced then too. Later some of us here at Pyramid Lake formed a dancing group. We danced at pageants and ceremonies, hospitals and schools, wherever we were invited. My husband was the singer. We did the Antelope Dance, the Owl Dance, the Bear Dance, lots of dances" (Peden).

Katie Frazier's life is a fascinating saga of survival during a period of rapid and drastic change. Whether tanning deer hide to make cradle boards and moccasins, or teaching dances, songs and the Paiute language to schoolchildren at Pyramid Lake, Katie embodied strength, practicality and wisdom. Those who knew her remember another quality that was delightful: her droll sense of humor and her wit.

On August 5, 1991, Katie spent most of the day stitching together squares of cloth, making another of her beautiful patchwork quilts. She had recently celebrated her 100th birthday, and both Nevada Senator Richard Bryan and President George Bush had sent engraved cards of congratulations. She joked, "Well, I'm glad they know how old I am, and I might be older though." At that advanced age, her health was still good: she read, sewed, and loved to go places. In July she had gone with the family to Fallon to spend the day at the All-Indian Rodeo. And so, on August 5th, a Tuesday, when the time came that Katie was called Home, she went easily and gently, smiling.

Katie Frazier, a member of the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, was widely known throughout Nevada. She received many awards in recognition of her work, among them National Indian Educator of the Year, 1985; the Governor's Award for Excellence in Folk Arts, 1986; and Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year, 1989.

(Biographical sketch by JoAnne Peden)

Works Cited:

Frazier, Katie. Video tape. *That Was Happy Life: A Paiute Woman Remembers**

Macias, Sandra. Interview with Katie Frazier. Reno-Gazette Journal, February 9, 1986. (A microfiche copy may be viewed at Washoe County Library.

Peden, JoAnne, a friend of Katie Frazier.

*This award-winning video may be purchased by mail from the University of Nevada, Reno Teaching and Learning Technologies, (775) 784-6085. It is also available at: Pyramid Lake Visitor Center, Sutcliffe, Nevada; I-80 Smoke Shop, Wadsworth, Nevada; Sundance Bookstore, Reno, and at museum gift shops throughout Nevada. (All proceeds from the sales of Katie's video are applied to the Katie Frazier/Native American Alumni Chapter Scholarship for Nevada Indian students at UNR.)

New Book Out on Women of the West

Barbara Van Cleve, the keynote speaker for the 1999 NWHP State Conference held in Reno, has announced the publication of her new book. The title is, *Holding the Reins*, by Marc Talbert, with photographs by Barbara Van Cleve, published by Harper-Collins. It tells the stories of four different ranch girls, each one's life tied to a season of the year, all sharing a love for family, teamwork, the animals they care for, and the wide-open, western spaces they each call home. Van Cleve's book, *Hard Twist: Western Ranch Women*, was featured at our 1999 conference.

2003 NWHF Roll of Honor Recipients

Paulette Grune

Dixie Westergard

For the past twenty-two years, Paulette has used her dressmaking skills to teach history. Her presentations include not just the history of women's clothing, but also teaches the audience what the lives of the women were like. Her presentations include the manners, morals, symbolism, style of language and expected class distinction that were so vividly acknowledged during Victorian era.

Paulette was born in Mississippi, but moved to Nevada as a young girl. Paulette's mother was a seamstress, so she has always been exposed to all types of sewing and needlework. However, Victorian dressmaking is not among those techniques taught in recent years. She found it necessary and important to visit museums, and historical society collections in order to view original Victorian clothing. Her stitching and design work is wonderful and historically accurate.

She has worked on numerous projects with Janet Loverin, Curator of Clothing at the Nevada State Museum.

Paulette's expertise lies not only in the Victorian period, but also in many other time frames. She has produced, organized and presented fashions from 1840 through 1950 for the enjoyment and education of as many as 1200 guests. Her garments are worn by owners of restored museums, docents of museums and living history characters in the Nevada Women's History Project. She designed and constructed the 1884 travel dress used by Carrie Townley Porter as she portrays Helen J. Stewart, The First Lady of Las Vegas.

Her costumes on display at the Wilbur D. May Museum at Rancho San Rafael in Reno, include a girl's ball gown in yellow taffeta. This dress is available for children to try on for the experience and association with this community living history project.

For the past twenty years Paulette has been instrumental in promoting education, preservation and reenactments in the Northern Nevada area. She has assisted in the addition to the Fort Churchill Museum, been involved with the restoration of Fourth Ward School in Virginia City and has been a living historian at Bowers Mansion in Washoe Valley, Nevada.



Paulette Grune, Carrie Porter, Kay Sanders, and Dixie Westergard at the Roll of Honor Presentation. Paulette and Dixie received the 2003 Roll of Honor Awards for their contributions to Nevada women's history.

Dixie Westergard was awarded the 2003 Roll of Honor designation at the State Conference held in Virginia City, March 29, 2003. Dixie is the author of three books, two published and one in the process. The published books are Dat-so-la-lee, Washo Indian Basketmaker (1999) and The Lake

Tahoe Story (2000). Her third book, which is a biography of Dr. Mary Fulstone, is completed and awaiting publication.

She is in demand as a speaker to schoolchildren and has presented the Dat-so-la-lee story to Washoe County schools and libraries, Douglas County schools and Carson City schools. In addition she was a presenter at the Nevada Women's History Project Conference in 1997 on the life of Dat-so-la-lee. At their 2001 conference she gave a presentation on the life of Dr. Mary Fulstone.

Her book, The Lake Tahoe Story, includes 100 pages of history, art work, and conservation and is written for grades four through six. A pilot program using this publication in local schools is in progress.

Dixie donated copies of her book Dat-so-la-lee to libraries in each of Nevada's 17 counties as well as to museums in Carson City. School teachers and students have used information provided in her book for reports, class presentations and projects.

Book signing sessions include the Nevada Historical Society, Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, and the Nevada State Museum. At each of these locations she discussed and answered questions about Dat-so-la-lee.

A meticulous researcher, Dixie has contributed to the bank of knowledge about Nevada and its exceptional women and the role they played in the history of our state.

Born in Rule, Texas, Dixie and her family moved to Lovelock, Nevada where she graduated from Pershing County High School. She and her husband Roland Westergard were high school sweethearts, both graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, and make their home in Carson City, Nevada.

Potpourri

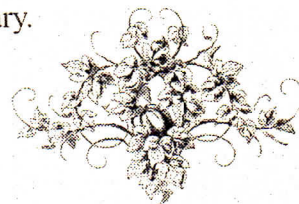
Thanks to:

- Barbara Mackey, Executive Director of the Fourth Ward School in Virginia City, for helping to arrange the 2003 NWHP Conference at that historic building. The conference took place in a classroom, complete with wooden desks and chalk blackboards, which added to the atmosphere for our "Discovering Nevada Women" theme.
- Cherry Jones and her 2003 NWHP State Conference Committee, Isabel Espinoza, Holly Van Valkenburgh and Mary Anne Convis, for all their work arranging such a successful, fun, event-filled convention. All involved had a wonderful day and evening enjoying the speakers, Chautauqua performance, and evening play. Isabel did an outstanding job gathering the material for the conference packets which included Nevada t-shirts. Good Job!!
- Carleen Ernest, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot and the AAUW for organizing the outstanding Benna Home Tour Fundraiser on March 22nd. Hostesses Steve and Karen Benna graciously opened their beautiful home to us for this event. A special thanks to them for making the tour possible. Performers Holly Van Valkenburgh, Georgia Hedrick, Don Thompson and the Young Chautauquans deserve a special thank you as well.
- NWHP members who signed up to do bios on historic Nevada women for our Web site. They are: Dana Bennett, Nancy Oakley, Carrie Porter, Kathy Noneman, Kathleen Thompson, Kay Sanders, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Sue Ballew, Cindy Southerland, and Georgia Hedrick.
- Governor Kenny and Dema Guinn for their most generous contribution to the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Fund. Their support of this project is appreciated by everyone involved. All three Pink Teas held at the Governor's Mansion since 2001 have been outstanding successes. THANK YOU GOV. GUINN AND FIRST LADY!

Congratulations to:

- Joyce Marshall on her March 15th marriage to Charlie Moore. The wedding took place at their church in Las Vegas. Charlie works for the Hilton Hotel.
- Lynn Bremer, former president of the Reno Chamber Orchestra Board, as she was awarded the Da Vinci Award for sustaining excellence in support of the arts by the Sierra Arts Foundation and the Arts Consortium.

- Maya Miller, NWHP member and longtime political activist, for receiving the first Maya Miller Egalitarian Award, presented to her by the Nevada Women's Lobby. Future awards will be given on occasion to outstanding women who represent the virtues of that organization.
- Juanita Westbrook for giving an outstanding Chautauqua performance of Alice Smith, one of NWHP Web site's featured Nevada women. The performance was part of Black History Month in February and was held at the Sparks Library.



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 August 2003 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor Kay Sanders no later than July 25, 2003. E-mail her at ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

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Christina Miller

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