

NWHP

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY

Project News

Calendar

Northern Nevada Schedule

NOV. 8 - Northern Steering Committee Meeting - 6:00 p.m. at NWHP office at 770 Smithridge, Dr., Ste. 300. Bring a treat to share.

DEC. 12 - Tour and Fundraiser at the Santa House of Mary Anne Convis. Call her at 775-888-9867.

JAN. 10, 2005 - Northern Steering Committee - 6:00 p.m. at NWHP office at 770 Smithridge Dr., Ste. 300. Bring a treat to share.

MAR. 9-11, 2005 - Conference in Washington, DC and the Statue Dedication.

Southern Nevada Schedule

NOV. 13 - Luncheon meeting - Golden Steer, 308 West Sahara Ave. - 11:00. Meal at noon. \$20 each. Speaker: Kathleen Clemence, Lieutenant Colonel Retired and member of NWHP-Northern Region. Kathleen, lobbyist to encourage Nevada Legislature to approve \$10,000 for WOMEN OF ARMED FORCES MEMORIAL, is to speak on her reflections of actual dedication of this memorial.

Exciting Plans Outlined for Statue Dedication and NWHP Conference

Nevada Women's History Project members, their spouses, and guests are going to enjoy a fabulous NWHP Washington D.C. Conference in March 2005! Although the 3-Day Conference is already sold out, there are a few spaces available for the reduced event 2-Day Conference.

Although the time and date for the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Dedication will not be confirmed until the 109th Congress convenes in January, plans have been made for the following:

Wednesday, March 9: At 10 a.m., Representative Shelley Berkley will welcome those attending the NWHP Washington D.C. Conference to the United States Capitol, before being divided into smaller groups for a VIP Tour of the Capitol. Lunch will be on your own before reconvening in the Rotunda of the Capitol at 2 p.m. for the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Dedication. Please keep in mind that this is an "invitation-only" event so if you are not registered for the Conference or have not made arrangements to be included on the invitation list, you cannot attend the ceremony. Following the Dedication, there will be free time to explore some of the many sights of Washington D.C. or take the opportunity to rest and relax before that evening's Gala Reception hosted by Representative Berkley atop the Government Printing

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Sarah Winnemucca has left the area! But not without a flourish!



Sarah Winnemucca Statue and sculptor Benjamin Victor

After 30 days working on finishing touches of the statue in the exhibit gallery of the Nevada State Library and Archives in Carson City, the artist, Benjamin Victor of Aberdeen, S.D., placed his 6 foot clay likeness of Sarah in his van and headed for a Colorado foundry where it will be bronzed before he personally takes it on its final leg of the journey to be placed in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C.

The final days in Carson City were exciting for Benjamin and Sarah as they were here for the week leading up to the annual Nevada Day

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Exciting Plans Outlined for Statue Dedication and NWHP Conference

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Office. Again, this is an invitation-only event for registered Conference attendees or those who have made prior arrangements to be on the invitation list.

Thursday, March 10: The Annual NWHP Conference will be held at The Women in Military Service for America Memorial from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Although the final agenda has not been set for the day (please note that there is a call for presentations in this newsletter), attendees will enjoy a catered lunch in the Memorial's Hall of Honor and a private tour of the Memorial. Spouses and guests not attending the NWHP Conference will enjoy a VIP Tour of the Udvar-Hazy Center of the National Air and Space Museum and also be treated to lunch at the Center. That evening all attendees will enjoy drinks, a 3-course dinner, and fun at the Old Ebbitt Grill, a Washington D.C. landmark since 1856 and just steps away from The White House.

Friday, March 11: Attendees will get an excellent overview of the major sights of Washington D.C. and Arlington National Cemetery during a 3-hour chartered Tourmobile tour. Highlights will include a Changing of the Guard ceremony at the

Tomb of the Unknowns and a stop at the National Museum of the American Indian. Following lunch on your own, attendees will participate in a hands-on program, "Tracing the Life of Sarah Winnemucca through the National Archives," before enjoying a private National Archives Experience. At the conclusion of events at the National Archives, the Conference will be concluded and attendees will be on their own to explore the sights and sounds of Washington D.C.

Please note that all scheduled dates are subject to change. Therefore, do not commit to any expenses that are nonrefundable until the date has been finalized. The Nevada Women's History Project will not be responsible for any direct or indirect loss of money arising in any way from the information contained in this article.

Kathleen Clemence,

Chair, NWHP Washington D.C. Conference

NWHP Leadership

NORTHERN REGION STEERING COMMITTEE:

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

SOUTHERN REGION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Anne Reck: President
Mary Gafford: First Vice President
Kaye Gray: Second Vice President
Eva Stowers: Third Vice President
Pat McNutt: Recording Secretary
Jean Baker: Corresponding Secretary
Su Kim Chung: Treasurer
Joan LeMere: Nominating Committee Chairwoman

NWHP STATE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Joan LeMere: President
Cherry Jones: First Vice-President
Kaye Gray: Second Vice-President
Mary Anne Convis: Third Vice-President
Mitsi Johnson: Treasurer
Mary Gafford: 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

North Gains in Membership

What a lot of membership interest our activities planned for Washington D. C. has created! Since publication of these events, we have added the following new members in the northern region: Marcia Cuccaro, Jean Estrada, Patricia Fladegar, Dr. Jane Foraker-Thompson, Carolyn Gardner, Peggy Hamel, Joyce Hinton, Nancy Hollinger, Betty Ihfe, Mabel Mayes, Carley Sullivan, Barbara Vucanovich, and Jack Walters.

We welcome all of you and hope that you will participate in all the exciting events we have waiting for us in the near future. Please let us know if there is any particular area you are interested in helping with.

*Kathy Allred and Carrie Townley Porter, North
Membership Co-Chairs*

NWHP Roll of Honor Explained

New honorees will be inducted into the Nevada Women's History Project Roll of Honor at the March conference in Washington D. C. The Roll of Honor was introduced in 1997 at the first Nevada Women's History Conference. This ongoing project is to honor individuals and organizations who have "made a difference" in the gathering and dissemination of Nevada women's history... who have shown commitment and creativity that resulted in tangible contributions of published works, video collections, accessible research data, special services or other means which have furthered the knowledge of Nevada's women. The recipients may be deceased or living. Membership in NWHP is not a criterion.

A panel of judges makes the decision of which nominated individuals or organizations are chosen to be inducted into the Roll of Honor. This panel is comprised of individuals in the history, library, archives and other professional fields who are familiar with the roles played by individuals or organizations who have played a part in Nevada's women's history.

Current individual honorees in The Roll of Honor are: Isabelle Blackman, Margaret Wells Butts, Dr. Elaine Enerson, Jean Ford, Victoria Ford, Mary Freeman, Dr. Patricia Geuder, Mary Ellen Glass, Eleanor Gottschalk, Paulette Grune, Dr. Anne Howard, Verde Hughes, Ron James, Lee Kosso, Jan Loverin, Celesta Lowe, Joyce Marshall, Lee Mortensen, Sylvia Ontaneda-Bernales, Nona Parkin, Helen J. Stewart, Dixie Westergard, Margaret (Peg) Wheat, Dr. Jeanne Elizabeth Wier and Dr. Sally Zanjani.

Organizations in the Roll of Honor are: American Association of University Women (Nevada Division), Churchill County Museum and Archives and Jane Pieplow, Delta Kappa Gamma (Alpha Chi State Chapter), Mesquite Club of Las Vegas, Nevada Humanities Committee, and the Nevada Women's Fund and Fritsi Ericson.

Nominations for new inductees need to be submitted earlier than usual due to the site of the conference next year being in Washington D.C. Travel arrangements need to be made early by those chosen for induction who plan to be present for the induction ceremony. All travel expenses are the responsibility of inductees and are not paid for by NWHP. A form for nominations is included in this issue of the newsletter. For questions about this project, please call either Cherry Jones at 775.267.3410, Carrie Townley Porter at 775.857.4450, or the state NWHP office at 775.786.2235.

Cherry Jones, NWHP State First Vice-President

Sarah Winnemucca has left the area! But not without a flourish!

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celebration Saturday, October 30.

A special showing by Benjamin for NWHP members was held followed with dinner. A press and photo opportunity with Nevada's U. S. Senator Harry Reid was a special event.

Benjamin rode in the Nevada Day parade with the great-great-great niece of Sarah, Adrienne Wahneta. She was attired in a two-piece fringed costume constructed from white buckskin and beaded throughout. The vehicle, a red convertible, was driven by its owner, Barbara Finley, Reno Justice of the Peace, who has been a writer, producer and performer in the Reno Sheep Dip production for several years.

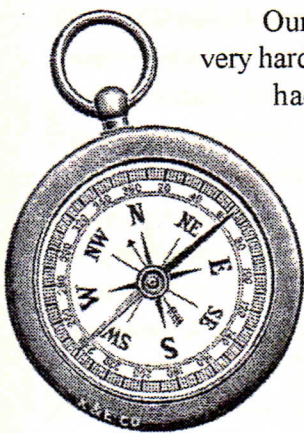
Following the parade, a public reception sponsored by the NWHP, was held at the Nevada State Library and Archives between 12 noon and 3 p.m. for Benjamin as he placed the finishing touches on his cherished work of art and talked with the many visitors. Several Nevada authors were present for book sales and signings including Sally Zanjani who authored the book *Sarah Winnemucca*.

Benjamin was commissioned by a Statue Committee of six Nevadans to sculpt the larger-than-life statue for placement in the Statuary Hall following the appointment of Sarah by the 71st Nevada State Legislative Session in 2001. She is the second and final statue to represent Nevada in the capitol building. The project has been spirited along by the NWHP, leading enthusiasm throughout Nevada and scampering to raise funds necessary to make it all possible.

Present plans call for the statue to be dedicated in the nation's capital in early spring, at which time a large contingency of NWHP members are expected to be in attendance.

Billie Brinkman

News From The North



Our Northern members have worked so very hard these last 2 months, but boy have we had fun! I think that most of our 123 members have attended at least one of our events since the last newsletter. I have enjoyed seeing so many of our veteran members and meeting our new ones.

Carlene Earnest chaired a wonderful evening honoring Governor and Dema Guinn at the Benna house fundraiser in late September. It was an elegant, well-attended event and raised much needed money for AAUW scholarships and the Sarah Statue Project. My thanks to Carlene and her committee and special thanks to Karen Benna, a member who so generously opens her home to us.

Cherry Jones organized a members-only-private-tour to the State Museum to meet Benjamin Victor and see the Sarah statue followed by a dinner at the Indian Curry restaurant. This was then followed by an evening show at the Brewery Arts Center to see member Jeanmarie Simpson's portrayal of Jeanette Rankin. About 25 members attended this evening. We discovered that most of us were signed up for the Washington D.C. conference for which Kathleen Clemence continues to make plans and arrangements. We now have over 80 people signed up for the 3 day event and many more for the 2 day event. Thank you Kathleen for organizing this second possibility for those who could not attend the full 3 days. You are a gem and we are so lucky to have you in charge of this event.

Isabel Espinoza put together a wonderful event for Nevada Day. Our entry in this year's parade was a decorated candy apple convertible driven by member, Judge Barbara Finley. Wearing a beautiful silver and blue cowboy hat she drove the route with sculptor Benjamin Victor and Adrienne Wahnetah, a descendant of Sarah Winnemucca, dressed in traditional American Indian dress, sitting on the back of the car inviting everyone to attend a reception and book signing at the State Library and Archives following the parade.

And what a reception it was! My thanks to everyone who helped and especially to my husband Charlie Noneman who served wine and cheese all afternoon while answering questions about Sarah's statue and Benjamin Victor. He really is a sucker when it comes to doing favors for Isabel who did a wonderful job organizing this event. Almost 2000 people helped us to celebrate Nevada's 140th birthday by buying over \$2,000.00 in books about her history and gazing in wonder at Sarah's statue.

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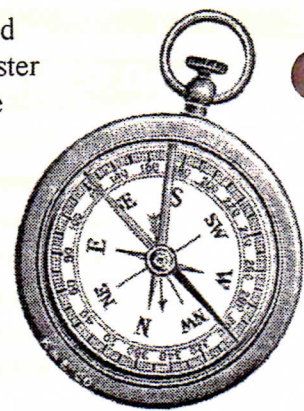
South Adds 17 Members

The Southern Region has added seventeen new members to our roster since the Summer Newsletter. We

are pleased to welcome Bette Ault, Lillian Sondgeroth Davis, Gweneth Den Dooven, Karen Foster, Monica Fuller, Colleen Hall-Patton, Ann Kleinert, Kathleen Lindsay, Alice Long, Jane Macia, Rose McQuade, Jean Migilorato, Emanuel Milligan, Margaret Priest, Sharon Ruyman, Nancy Sansone and Leslie Trayer. Each new member brings her own special talents and we are extremely excited to have these ladies join the Nevada Women's History Project.

Membership renewals for 2005 are due January 1st and should be received by January 31st. Please send you renewal to Nevada Women's History Project, P.O. Box 12184, Las Vegas, NV 89112. If you have any questions about membership or need a membership application, call Kaye Gray at 702-242-6622.

Kaye Gray, Membership Chair



News From The North

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Hundreds of native Americans from local tribes came to pay their respects and to meet the sculptor who was so beautifully portraying one of their own. Seeing their joy and excitement over this event was all the reward any of us will ever need for having worked on this project. Members who helped Isabel set up, work during and tear down for this event were Holly Van Valkenburgh, Cherry Jones, Billie Brinkman, Rose Stuart, Cindy Southerland, Carrie Porter, Jeanne Larson and myself. Our member writers who participated by meeting our guests and autographing books were Sally Zanjani, Dixie Westergard, Anita Watson, Stanley Paher, Mary Lee Fulkerson, Mary Ancho Davis, Eileen Cohen and Patty Cafferata. My thanks also to Jack Davis, Rollie Westergard, and Chuck Fulkerson who acted as hosts with my husband. Scott Cisco and member Sara Jones were kind to open the State Museum and Archives building to us and the public for this occasion. My thanks to them as well. We have had a fun and busy time these last few months. Remember to join us at Mary Anne Convis' house for a party and fundraiser to enjoy her lovely home in Carson City and see her extensive Santa collection. Please let me know if you need transportation for any of our events, and I will make sure that you have a ride. My phone number is 775-853-8393.

Kathleen Noneman, Chair, No. Region Steering Committee

NWHP South Region Meeting Report

NWHP-Southern Region's luncheon meeting was on Saturday, September 11, 2004 at the elegant Golden Steer at 308 West Sahara Ave. The meeting was called to order by President Anne Reck. After a moment of silence in remembrance of the numerous persons who lost their lives to terrorists on 9/11/01, Reck asked Nevada State NSDAR Regent Rosie O'Grady to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

In addition to State Regent O'Grady, guests Colleen Hall-Patton and Kelly Chung were introduced. Recognized as new members to NWHP-Southern Region were Gwen den Deuvan, Karen Foster, Monica Fuller, Susan Houston, Kathy Lindsay, Dr. Jena Migliorato, Peggy Priest, Dorothy Bokelmann, and Nancy Sansone. Then all attendees were invited to socialize as they partook of house salad, entree, and dessert. Marion Bollinger was put in charge of passing out prizes from the drawing.

Nevada State NSDAR Regent presented to NWHP a check of proceeds derived from the sales of Sarah Winnemucca jewelry. Also, Regent O'Grady turned remaining Sarah Winnemucca jewelry over to NWHP-Southern Region to be sold with money going toward their projects.

The program was about a centennial celebration! Yes, Las Vegas is to be 100 years old in May of 2005! Attendees were made aware of the myriad of activities commencing on January 1, 2005 and concluding on December 31st.

Concluding event was installation of NWHP-Southern Region officers for 2004-2005. NWHP State President Joan LeMere conducted the installation. New officers include: President: Anne Reck; First Vice-President: Mary Gafford; 2nd Vice-President: Kaye Gray; Recording Secretary: Patricia McNutt; Corresponding Secretary: Jean Baker, and Treasurer: Sue Kim Chung.

President Reck noted the upcoming NWHP-Southern Region luncheon meeting on Saturday, November 13, 2004 at the Golden Steer. Guest speaker is to be NWHP-Northern Region's own Kathleen Clemence who is a retired Lieutenant Colonel. Kathleen is to speak on the Women in the Armed Forces Memorial located at Arlington National Cemetery. Kathleen personally lobbied the Nevada legislature for \$10,000 to go toward this project. She fortunately attended this historical dedication. What a wonderful program that is going to be!

*Mary Gafford, 1st Vice President,
NWHP-Southern Region*

Western History Association Conference

When I set out from Tucson, Arizona, to attend the 44th Annual Western History Association Conference in Las Vegas held October 13-16, I expected to hear articulate, knowledgeable, and entertaining speakers, and I was not disappointed. In particular, I wanted to meet and hear several NWHP members who had assisted me during the research phase of my book, *More Than Petticoats: Remarkable Nevada Women* (Globe Pequot Press. Release date January 2005). During the conference, several hundred history aficionados listened to and participated in an array of sessions ranging in genres from race and religion, flora and fauna, war and politics, to the future of the West.

The conference, which meets in a different city every October, offered an array of films, tours and events that highlighted the "unique cultural heritage" of Las Vegas. Participants toured and experienced both old and new Las Vegas, Boulder City, Lake Mead, and Hoover Dam, Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area and the Valley of Fire State Park.

The sessions themselves more than met my expectations. NWHP members offered an array of papers and discussions on the past and future of Nevada's women. Two NWHP members, Claytee White and Joyce Marshall-Moore, presented papers in a session entitled Blazing Trails: Community Builders of Las Vegas. Claytee's discussion dealt with "African American Women as Migrants and Community Builders in Las Vegas," while Joyce presented a paper, "Lasting Wave of Talent." Both women represented the NWHP at its finest.

The NWHP session, When Reality Trumps Imagination: True Stories of Nevada Women, was chaired by Kathleen Noneman, Northern Region Chair of NWHP, who added much information to the presentations. Carrie Townley Porter portrayed the

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Featured NWHF Member Biography

Mitsi Johnson



I was born Maria Michelene Curtis in the same year that Captain Kangaroo first aired on television. My father was in the military so our family did lots of moving around the country and the world. I've been a Girl Scout since the second grade. Everywhere we moved there were Girl Scouts and instant friends and local activities. My mother, sister and I were always involved on each Army base.

I'm a graduate of Louisiana Tech University with both my B.A. and M.A. and was a classroom teacher of Mathematics and Social Studies for twelve years. I worked with the Louisiana State Department of Education to create a K-12 Scope and Sequence for Economics Education in the state and traveled extensively throughout Louisiana preparing teachers.

After meeting and marrying a military man, I was once again a gypsy and always a Girl Scout volunteer. After my youngest daughter was born, I was working for a Girl Scout council in Martinsburg, West Virginia, when I met the CEO of Frontier Council in Las Vegas. Her offer was too good and this time it was my fault our family uprooted. We took the two girls and drove for five days from cold weather to wonderful.

I've been working for the Girl Scouts in Las Vegas, Nevada, for over 15 years now and have become very involved in many community building activities in this city like AAUW, Rotary, Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition, NV Federation of Business and Professional Women and especially the Nevada Women's History Project.

I remember the day I was recruited by Jean Ford. She was sitting at my desk and I was in my guest chair and she was sharing her vision of what NWHF would mean for the women of Nevada. It was exciting and she said, "Mitsi, you've got to be a part of this." I was hooked.

From that time to now I've served NWHF by doing regional newsletters, volunteering to staff informational booths and speak to outside groups about our projects, worked on various committees like grant writing, conferences, legislative monitoring and the biographical encyclopedia, and have been elected two separate times to be treasurer for both the southern region and the state.

I am honored to have been included in this issue our state newsletter. I guess after over fifteen years I am a Nevada woman. I'm no longer a gypsy but now "Home Means Nevada" to me.

Mitsi Johnson

Push to Publish

News about the Biographical Encyclopedia

The ladies have been meeting monthly during the fall about the publication of the Biographical Encyclopedia. WE ARE READY! More biographies are being completed, long lost pictures are being found, death dates, birth dates, all of these things are haunting us as we PUSH TO PUBLISH during Las Vegas Centennial Celebration Year 2005. Our meetings are a flurry of activity and busy minds whirring, with ideas who to call, where to go, and what to do. Are we making any progress?

THE PUSH TO PUBLISH! We have publishers who are thinking... we lost our Grant. Sooooo, three weeks ago we sent out 4 letters with a packet to notable people here in Las Vegas asking for funds in the amount of \$10,000 to pay for the costs to publish this 1st Edition of the Biographical Encyclopedia. We have had no replies. Is that good news? We think that it is!! They are thinking... What more can we do?

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA. DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO FUND THIS WORTHY PROJECT FOR US? If so call Joan LeMere at 1-702-456-9242.



NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT NOMINATION FOR ROLL OF HONOR

The Nevada Women's History Project Roll of Honor honors individuals and organizations who have "made a difference" in the gathering and dissemination of Nevada women's history...who have shown commitment and creativity that resulted in tangible contributions of published works, video collections, accessible research data and special services.

The recipients may be deceased or living. A panel of judges is comprised of individuals in the history, library, archives and other professional fields who are familiar with the roles played by individuals or organizations who have played a part in Nevada women's history. This panel makes the decision of which nominated individuals and organizations will be inducted into the Nevada Women's History Project based on information given in this form and, in some cases, interviews with the nominees. Permission of the nominee must be given before consideration, either in writing, via telephone, mail or e-mail.

The recipients of the Roll of Honor are traditionally inducted into the Roll of Honor at conferences held by the Nevada Women's History Project.

Should you wish to submit a nomination, please fill out the remainder of this form and mail it to the Nevada Women's History Office at the below address. Attachments may be included.

Deadline for nominations for the Nevada Women's History Project 2005 Conference is JANUARY 5, 2005. Nominations must be received at the Nevada Women's History office or postmarked by that date.

SUBMITTED BY:

Date _____
Name _____ Telephone number _____
Mailing address: _____ E-mail address _____
(If an organization, name of individual to contact: _____)

NOMINEE:

Name _____ Telephone number _____
Mailing address: _____ E-mail address _____

NOMINEE'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS WHICH MEET THE REQUIREMENTS AS SPECIFIED IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH OF THIS FORM: (Attach additional pages if needed, resumes or other information which may be helpful to the judges.)

770 Smithridge, Drive • Suite 300 • Reno, NV 89502
(775) 786-2335 • Fax (775) 786-8152

A STATE-WIDE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION PROVIDING VISIBILITY AND SUPPORT FOR
THE GATHERING AND DISSEMINATION OF HISTORY ABOUT THE ROLES AND CONTRI-
BUTIONS OF NEVADA WOMEN OF EVERY RACE, CLASS AND ETHNIC BACKGROUND

Benna Reception an Exceptional Success

A warm, windless, sunny day opened another successful Benna Reception. 150 guests were entertained by the exotic music of Sole Jive and the piano styling of Squeek Steele. Our NWHP members informed us. Carrie Porter and Holly Van Valkenburgh presented Helen Stewart and Dr. Jeanne Elizabeth Weir. Anita Watson presented Nevada pioneer Mary Oxborrow. The very entertaining Georgia Hedrick informed us of the many facets of Sarah Winnemucca.

Our guests dined on delicious food from Molly's, sipped wine and watched the magnificent views from the balcony. Governor Kenny Guinn and First Lady Dema Guinn were our guests of honor. They charmed us with their wit and lively conversations. First Lady Dema Guinn surprised us all when she announced that another full size statue would be placed at the state capitol and introduced the artist Benjamin Victor.

Many thanks to our gracious hosts, Karen and Steve Benna for opening their lovely home. What a wonderful way to thank the Guinns, AAUW and the many volunteers who helped make the Sarah project a successful one. The proceeds from this event went to AAUW Wings Project (single mothers back to work), Pine Middle School Tutoring Project and, of course, Sarah Winnemucca Statute Project.

Carleen J. Ernest, Benna Event Coordinator

NWHP State Committee President's Message

On October 16, 2004 your State Executive Committee met in Las Vegas for the first board meeting of this administration. We had an extensive agenda and there were 14 members in attendance. Several of the ladies had flown down from the North along with two representatives from the state of Nevada Cultural Affairs Division. The state of Nevada Cultural Affairs Division representatives came with a plan for the dedication of the 7 foot bronze statue of Sarah Winnemucca which will be installed in Carson City, Nevada. Those of you who will not be able to attend the Washington, D.C. installation will still have an opportunity to celebrate this historic event here in Nevada with us.

After the folks from the state left we directed ourselves to approving the budget for 2005 and the Treasurer's Report. For several hours the ladies worked on the Operations Manual. This is something that has been in the works and needed to be addressed. We finished and voted unanimously to adopt the 2004 Operations Manual with some minor corrections as a guide for our state and regions. Nevada Women's History Project is not allowed to have by-laws as we operate under the umbrella of the Nevada Woman's Fund. If any of you would like to have clarification regarding this, please do not hesitate to ask me.

As I said, the state people were here and they asked us to fund part of their Oasis 2005 Conference which will be held in Carson City, April 5-7, 2005. Now we needed to vote on giving them \$5,000. We did vote and unanimously passed the motion. Sarah will be installed with great pomp and ceremony during the Oasis 2005 Conference with many, many dignitaries present, and I hope a lot of us also.

During our conversations with the people from the State of Nevada, we were told that they own another statue of Sarah Winnemucca that is 3 feet tall. That was very happy news for us all. We proposed that that three foot statue be placed in the Grant Sawyer Building in Southern Nevada, and that the Cultural Affairs Division have a dedication down here in Las Vegas. I was directed by the board to ask the State of Nevada for the three foot statue. That letter has been written and I await their reply.

We voted unanimously to give the Jean Ford Research Grant 2005 to the Sarah Winnemucca Administrative Fund. We voted unanimously to purchase an 18 inch bronze maquette of Sarah Winnemucca from the artist Benjamin Victor for \$2,800. We then voted to sell opportunity tickets on the 18 inch bronze maquette for \$50 each with the number of tickets being limited to 500. The motion passed with only one dissent. Monies generated from the sales will fund our many projects.

On a personal note to my Executive Committee, I must tell you that I have not worked with a more dedicated, hard working bunch of women anywhere in my life. We stayed on task for more than 7 hours without stopping. We worked through our lunch and got the job DONE!! My sincere thanks to each and every one of you that came to the meeting. I can promise you that this was worst and from here on together we can do anything. To our members at large, you all know that without your constant support none of this could or would happen. My sincere thanks for all that you do to support this organization and our mission.

In Friendship, Joan LeMere, NWHP State President

Featured Historic Nevada Woman

Imogene (Jean) Evelyn Young Ford

At A Glance:

Born: December 28, 1929, Miami, Oklahoma (raised in Joplin, Missouri)

Died: August 26, 1998, Carson City, Nevada

Maiden name: Imogene Evelyn Young

Race/nationality/ethnic background: White

Married: Sam Ford, April 5, 1955; divorced 1977.

Children: Two daughters--Janet Lynn and Carla Marie.

Primary county and city of residence and work: Clark County, Las Vegas; Washoe County, Reno; Carson City.

Major fields of work: Community activism, government (legislator), business (tour travel), education, research and preservation (Nevada Women's History Project).

Other role identities: Mentor, role model.

Jean Ford was a wife, mother, and homemaker when she arrived in Nevada without fanfare in 1962. Raised to fill a traditional woman's role, Jean expected nothing more than to find a home where her husband could work as a dermatologist, her daughters could attend school, and she could enjoy a community of friends and neighbors. Fortunately for Nevada, Jean adopted her new state with open arms. First she explored it from the Strip in Las Vegas to the backroads of ghost towns, ranches, mines, and wilderness areas. She camped and hiked with her family, and she grew to love everything about Nevada from its scenic desert vistas to its wildflowers.

Next Jean became involved. In discovering Nevada she saw things that needed to be improved, so she volunteered to help with projects such as preserving Red Rock Canyon as a park and creating the Clark County Library. From volunteer and citizen activist, Jean quickly moved into the Nevada Legislature, serving first in the Nevada State Assembly (1972-1976) and then in the Nevada State Senate (1978-1982). (Between those two legislative terms, she earned a master's degree in public administration from

the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.) Improving the legislative system intrigued Jean, and she fought for openness in government. She supported the Equal Rights Amendment, and after that was defeated, she helped introduce a variety of bills to eliminate discrimination based on sex and to create services for women. Those were just a few of the issues she addressed while serving in the legislature, and her interest in Nevada did not end with her final senate term.

Following her days in the legislature, Jean continued traveling throughout the state and serving Nevada in many capacities from public servant and private entrepreneur to educator. Her list of accomplishments includes:

- Director of community relations for the Clark County Library, 1979-1980;
- Owner of a consulting business and co-owner of Nevada Discovery Tours, 1981-1986;
- Appointed by Governor Richard Bryan to the first Nevada Commission on Tourism and Economic Development in 1983
- Director of Nevada Office of Community Services 1985-1989.



In 1991 Jean temporarily filled the position of director of the Women's Studies Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. When she discovered a lack of information on Nevada women, Jean proposed a statewide campaign to create the Nevada Women's Archives, at the Special Collections Department of the University of Nevada, Reno library. She completed the bibliography to the collection before she died.

Through this work, she became immersed in recovering Nevada women's history, and she discovered many with like interests. By February 1996, Jean had co-founded the Nevada Women's History Project (NWHP), a private, non-profit

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Featured Historic Nevada Woman: Imogene (Jean) Evelyn Young Ford

Organization under the umbrella of the Nevada Women's Fund. NWHP was designed to gather and disseminate information about the roles, accomplishments, and activities of Nevada women from every race, class, and ethnic background who contributed in shaping the state's destiny.

Jean started her life in Nevada as wife, mother, and homemaker. Over the years she expanded her roles to include citizen activist, legislator, businesswoman, public figure, educator, mentor, and role model. Her oral history recounts her developing leadership skills and is part of her legacy to Nevada. It is available at the University of Nevada Oral History Program (UNOHP) in Reno, the University libraries in Reno and Las Vegas, and in all Nevada libraries. Copies can be purchased by calling UNOHP at (775) 784-6932.

(Biographical sketch by Victoria Ford)

Sources of Information:

1. Jean Ford: A Nevada Woman Leads the Way (University of Nevada Oral History Program, Reno, Nevada, 1998)



Western History Association Conference

continued from page 5

First Lady of Las Vegas, Helen J. Stewart wearing authentic period dress. University of Nevada Professor of English, Cheryl Glotfelty, explored the life of Susan Berman, Las Vegas author and murdered mob princess. Sally Zanjani spoke on an always-favorite subject, Sarah Winnemucca. Sally's expertise on Winnemucca means that every time I hear her speak, I learn something new.

Next year, the Western History Association Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, which means I won't have to travel as far, but I hope many of you will join me there. This is a conference all history buffs should put on their calendars.

Jan Cleere, NWHP Member

Annual Nevada Women's History Project Conference

March 10, 2005
Washington, D.C.

Call for Presenters

We invite proposals for presentations at the NWHP Conference to be held in Washington, D.C. on March 10, 2005. The topic is to be on Nevada Women's History. The proposals should be no more than a page in length, accompanied by a resume of the proposed presenter. Send the proposal and resume to NWHP, 770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502 - Attention: Kathleen Clemence, Conference Chair. All presenters will donate their time and talent. Deadline for receipt of proposals is January 1, 2005.

APPLICATION FOR PROPOSAL

Category: Nevada Women's History

Length: 50-60 minutes

Date: March 10, 2005

Name of proposer: _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____

Name of presenter (if different from above): _____

Address: _____

Phone/email: _____

Indicate type of presentation you propose:

- _____ Paper read/summarized by one individual
- _____ Dialogue between two or more individuals
- _____ Dramatic monologue
- _____ Chautauqua performance
- _____ Lecture with slides or video
- _____ Panel presentation/discussion
- _____ Other (describe)

Will you have handouts for your audience? _____

Describe the focus of your presentation in no more than one page in length (please attach to this form).

Trip to Goldwell Open Air Museum at Rhyolite

Three NWHF members – Holly Van Valkenburgh, Isabel Espinoza and Jeanne Larson – accepted the invitation to attend the 20th anniversary celebration at the Goldwell Open Air Museum on October 16 & 17. The museum is located at Rhyolite, the town born as a result of a gold strike in August of 1904, so the occasion was also a celebration of its 100th anniversary.

Driving south through Yerington, Hawthorne, Tonopah, Goldfield and Beatty we retraced the route of the original gold seekers and their families, although in a fraction of their time. We stayed in Beatty and attended the craft fair in celebration of Beatty Days. The Beatty Museum staff were there, so we were unable to actually see the Museum itself.

Saturday afternoon we viewed the film of the creation of the Last Supper statue at Goldwell in 1984. Belgian sculptor Albert Szukalski created the 13-figure statue in a very unique manner – draping models in burlap soaked in plaster, then adding more and waiting until it had shaped to fit the model.



The Last Supper

That evening, we attended the “Last Supper” Fundraising Dinner

and Silent Auction at the Beatty Senior Center. We decided to dress for the occasion. One of the baskets successfully bid upon contained the DVD of “The Last Supper” creation, which was given to the Sarah Winnemucca Statue Sculptor, Benjamin Victor.

The Ghost Rider is another of Szukalski’s sculptures, as is Desert Flower. These two were created in later years, when Szukalski returned to the desert site.

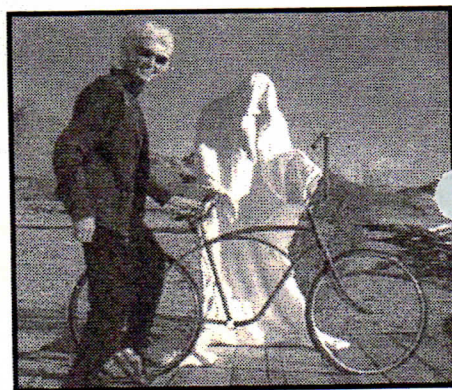
Other statues on exhibit included the kneeling “Lady Desert”, created in 1992 by Dr. Hugo Heyerman. Still there is the pot attached by Jean Ford.

We also visited the ghost town of Rhyolite where we saw the Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad Depot and Tom Kelly’s Bottle House, which are intact. Rhyolite

is unique as a mining town because it was built of permanent materials, not just canvas and wood. This is the first clue that the town planners wanted it to be a lot more than a temporary boomtown.



Dressing up for the occasion.

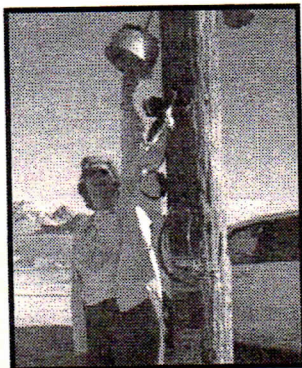


Ghost Rider

Rhyolite and the Goldwell Open Air Museum are just a few miles west of Beatty, on the road to Death Valley. We encourage all of you to take this side trip – take your children and grandchildren to enjoy creating their own “sculpture” at the Children’s Craft Fairs.

The Goldwell Open Air Museum is a 501©3 nonprofit organization created after Albert Szukalski’s death in 2000 to provide for the preservation, interpretation and promotion of the museum site and to

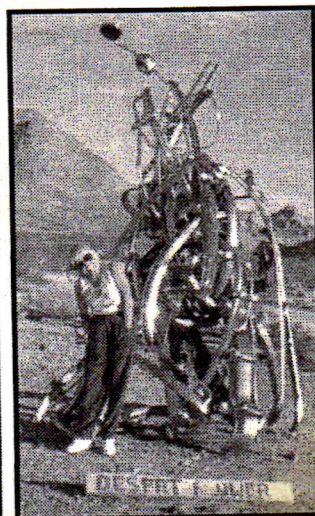
further its cultural activities. For Albert Szukalski, America and the West represented a place of ultimate freedom where he had permission to pursue his artistic vision unfettered by historical precedent or convention. Goldwell remains this kind of place for those who continue to choose to create out here. Visit their website at: www.goldwellmuseum.org.



Jean's Pot



Lady Desert



Desert Flower

Visit
Holly Van Valkenburgh

Announcement:

Fritsi Ericson, President and CEO of the Nevada Women's Fund, has announced her retirement as of December 31, 2004. She was a member of the NWF Founding Board in 1983 and has served as the President and CEO of the organization since 1984. Her replacement will be named before the end of the year. She was instrumental, together with our founder Jean Ford, in bringing the NWHP under the Nevada Women's Fund umbrella. It has been a successful match and we owe a debt of gratitude and thanks to Fritsi for making this relationship possible and for her constant support.

Thanks to:

- Karen and Steve Benna for once again graciously hosting a Home Tour. This successful fundraiser for both the NWHP and the AAUW honored Gov. and Mrs. Guinn for their support of the Sarah Winnemucca Project.

Congratulations to:

Holly Van Valkenburgh for receiving the Nevada Library Association President's Award. It was presented to her at the Nevada Library Association Conference at Lake Las Vegas on August 13, 2004. It was the first time this award had been presented.

Also kudos to Cherry Jones for being awarded a contract to write a history of Alaska women.

Condolences to:

- the friends and family of Maureen Schnitzer, longtime NWHP member who passed away last August 6th in Las Vegas. She served the organization in many ways and worked on numerous committees. We will all miss her.



Articles for the February 2005 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor Kay Sanders no later than January 26, 2005. E-mail her at ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

New & Rejoined Members

continued from page 12

Alice Long
Jane Macia
Mabel Mayes
Rose McQuade
Jean Migilorato
Emanuel Milligan
Margaret Priest
Sharon Ruyman
Nancy Sansone
Carley Sullivan
Leslie Trayer
Barbara Vucanovich
Jack Walters



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 KATHY ALLRED OR CARRIE TOWNLEY PORTER AT: NWHP, 770 SMITHRIDGE DR., SUITE 300, RENO, NV 89502.

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Editor: Kay Sanders



News

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Membership Application

Individual Membership • Dues \$25/Year

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Home Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Organizational Membership • Active Dues \$50/Year

Corporate Sponsor • \$250/Year

Organization _____

President or Director _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Name of Representative to NWHP _____

Mail to NWHP: North members - 770 Smithridge Dr., Ste., 300, Reno, NV 89502

South members - 8109 Bay Pines Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89128-6771

New & Rejoined Members

Bette Ault
Dorothy Bokelmann
Marcia Cuccaro
Lillian S. Davis
Gweneth den Dooven
Jean Estrada
Patricia Fladegar
Dr. Jane Foraker-Thompson
Karen Foster
Monica Fuller
Carolyn Gardner
Colleen Hall-Patton
Peggy Hamel
Joyce Hinton
Nancy Hollinger
Betty Ihfe
Ann Kleinert
Kathleen Lindsay

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