

News

Calendar

Northern Nevada Schedule

MAY 19 – Women's Works in Progress Workshop, Mills Park, Wungnema Stone House, Carson City, 10:00 a.m. to noon. Important that you RSVP to Cindy Southerland at (775) 882-8956 or e-mail her at pogonip@att.net.

MAY 19 – Pink Tea at Governor's Mansion. 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Governor's Mansion, 606 Mountain St., Carson City. Cost: \$25.00 per person. Period dress welcome. Mail checks to: Mary Anne Convis, 2185 Courtside Circle, Carson City, NV 89703.

MAY 20 – Dangberg Ranch Tour – **CHANGE OF DATE** – The tour of the Dangberg Ranch has been changed! The new date will be Sunday, May 20. There will be two (2) tours of the ranch. Each tour will be limited to 10 participants. The times are 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tour fee - \$5.00/person. Each tour will be approximately 90 minutes. Weather permitting we can do a picnic lunch at the Ranch or go to Sugar Plum in Genoa. At this printing both tours are filled. Contact: Carleen Ernest at 775-787-8779 or e-mail at ccjernerst@sbcglobal.net.

JUNE 17 – Thunderbird Lodge Tour has been cancelled.

JULY 14 - Jean Ford Wildflower Hike. Contact Kay Sanders for details. We will meet in Carson Valley at the Douglas County High School parking lot to carpool to hike location. Call Kay at: 775-747-1740 or e-mail her at: ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

JULY - North Steering Committee Meeting - Date and time TBA.

Southern Nevada Schedule

June – General meeting TBA.

Pink Tea to be Held at Governor's Mansion

First Lady Dawn Gibbons and the Nevada Women's History Project invite members and guests to the Pink Tea honoring those women who worked to gain the right to vote for women in the United States.

The date is Saturday, May 19th, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Governor's Mansion, 606 Mountain Street, Carson City.

The cost is \$25.00 per person. Period dress is welcomed.

Please make your checks to the Nevada Women's History Project (NWHP) and mail to: Mary Anne Convis, 2185 Courtside Circle, Carson City, Nevada 89703.

We continue our tradition of sponsoring these wonderful gatherings and encourage our members to attend and join in the celebration of Women's Suffrage and the women who worked to bring this cause to victory.



Kay Sanders

How Sarah Winnemucca Became Sarah

The question I have most often been asked about Sarah Winnemucca is how she got her first name. I never had an answer – until now, thanks to Marian Leisz. A resident of Placerville and a great granddaughter of California pioneer Hiram Scott, whom Sarah Winnemucca met on her first trip to California as a young child, Leisz was researching her family history. She found a copy of an interview Sarah gave to the *Santa Cruz Daily Sentinel*, on April 15, 1885. Here Sarah clearly states that her namesake was Scott's sister Sarah Cooper, "I was named after Mrs. Cooper; her given name is Sarah, too." Despite some inconsistencies and chronological difficulties, the interview also casts light on a murky period in Sarah's life, the time after her return from California when she says in her book, *Life among the Piutes*, "I will jump over about six years" and next appears in the Ormsby household in Genoa in 1857.

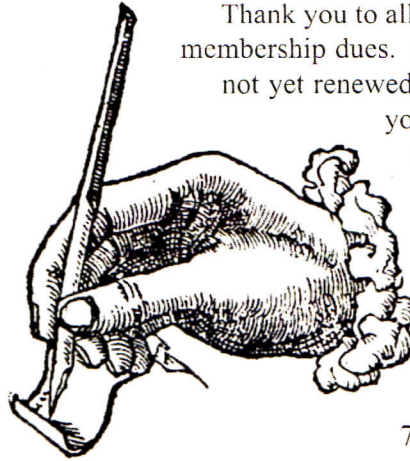
Where was Sarah for those years? In an earlier interview she vaguely mentioned spending some years near Santa Cruz, and Leisz's research provides the specifics. The date is the period encompassing 1854, which Sarah mentioned to the Sentinel. In 1850 Hiram Scott acquired the San Augustine Rancho near Santa Cruz and along

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State Membership Report



Thank you to all who have sent your 2007 membership dues. If you have forgotten and not yet renewed, please do so as we need your support. We are excited to have 17 new and rejoined members on our roster this year. See their names on the last page next to the membership application. If you have any questions about membership, call Betty at 702-254-5875.

Betty Miller,
Membership Chair

Anyone interested in a trip to Washington, D.C.?

During the annual meeting of NWHP at the Women's Memorial in Washington D.C. it was determined we would purchase the stanchion for the Nevada State flag.

By that fall the \$5,000.00 needed had been raised and sent for the purchase.

Some members are now talking about another trip to dedicate the stanchion. We realize this is an expensive trip and not everyone would be interested in going.

If a group decides to go we are looking at next spring, probably the end of March beginning of April. Is this something you might be interested in attending? Please respond to grphoneman@sbcglobal.net at your earliest convenience.

Rose Stuart

How Sarah Winnemucca Became Sarah

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with Sarah Scott, he moved there from Stockton in 1852, soon joined by the Winnemuccas. It appears that our Sarah acquired more from Sarah Scott Cooper than her first name, as she relates in the interview that she was "taught to cook and do housework. Mrs. Cooper and her sister Lucy were very kind in teaching us the ways of white people." Clearly, her initiation into the white world did not begin with the Ormsbys. Sarah recalled incidents, as well as pioneers living in the Santa Cruz area at that time, and the remaining Spanish presence would explain how she learned the Spanish dances and knowledge of the language that she later displayed.

Hiram Scott and Sarah Cooper would be lasting friends to our Sarah. In accordance with Truckee's wishes, Hiram Scott entered Sarah and her sister in a convent school in 1860, then arranged their safe return to Nevada when racism caused their dismissal. Twenty-five years later in 1885 when Sarah came to Santa Cruz to lecture, Sarah Cooper hosted her and held a reception for her.

One of the exciting features of history is that it is never finished. New information surfaces, new perspectives develop, and undoubtedly we can look forward to much that is new on Sarah from the research of Mona Reno and others.

Sally Zanjani and Marian Leisz

State Committee President's Message



The State Committee held the first of its two 2007 meetings in Las Vegas on March 31, where the Southern Region hosted us at their usual meeting place, Marie Callendar's Restaurant. We enjoyed their sumptuous soup and salad bar at lunch, and then were treated to delicious pie when we really needed a snack break in the afternoon!

It is always enlightening when we get North and South members together for official reports that share the activities happening in each region.

The South report showed that they are forging ahead with learning to do oral histories in preparation for fulfilling our long-term State goal of gathering stories of Nevada Native American women to be filed for research. Their biography writers are also busy, preparing material for our website. Their President, Jane Olive, brought to our State meeting the wonderful scrapbooks that have been kept detailing the many activities and events in which they have participated over the years. I must admit that their Northern counterparts were quite impressed!

The Report from the North indicated that they, too, are working on learning to do oral histories and writing biographies for our website. The "Women's Works in Progress" workshops continue, with members who meet together to discuss their writings and researching activities. Participants in the workshop were recently given a tour of the Jean Ford Research Center to learn about material housed there. Holly Van Valkenburgh brought a special scrapbook to show also. See "News from the North" to read about it!

As noted in my last newsletter's column, the State Committee has conducted some business by e-mail. Since that business would not be reflected in any records, we have added to the agenda, and thence, the minutes, a new item. This is noted as "Interim Business (conducted by e-mail since last meeting). Both regions might want to implement this in their minutes as we continue to communicate through cyber-space.

The State Committee spent much of its meeting time going over the revision suggestions for our NWHP guidelines. By the time of this newsletter, all officers, both State and Regional, should have received the approved revised NWHP Operations Guide. If you would like to see a copy I am sure that one may be borrowed from any officer. The Guide will also be filed at the NWHP office in Reno.

Also, by the time of this newsletter, there will be some new officers for both the North and the South Regions. So, I would like to welcome to the State Executive Committee Mary Anne Convis, new Chairman for the Northern Region Steering Committee, and Linda Miller, new President of the Southern Region Executive Committee.

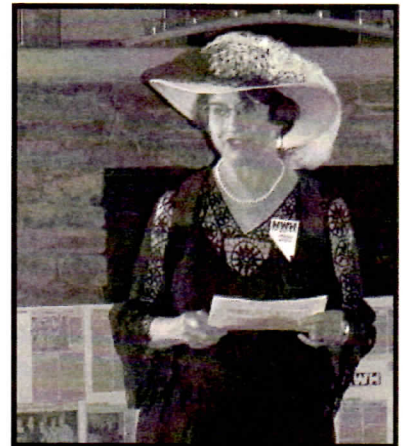
Cherry Jones, State Committee President

Second Annual "Her Story" Luncheon Recap



Sally Zanjani, hostess Karen Benna, and guest Joan Garrett

Karen Benna graciously hosted the 2nd Annual Her Story Luncheon on April 28th at her beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright-style home in southeast Reno. Over 75 members and guests enjoyed tours of her home, a delicious luncheon, and artist and storyteller Kathleen Durham's entertaining show featuring her wonderful handmade "Little People" and their imaginary world of "Underwood". Participants were enthralled with the amazing happenings of the numerous characters who came to life as their stories were vividly described by Kathleen.



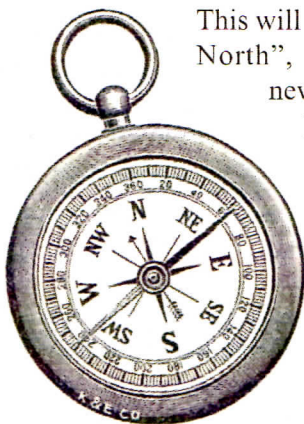
NWHP State President Cherry Jones welcoming participants to the Her Story luncheon

NWHP State President Cherry Jones welcomed everyone to the event and gave a recap of the Nevada Women's History Project's recent activities as well as a brief history of past accomplishments. She encouraged guests to join our organization.

An auction, led by auctioneer Martha Gould, of one of acclaimed basketmaker Mary Lee Fulkerson's creations added excitement to the successful event. Raffle prizes included

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News From the North



This will be my last column of "News from the North", as by the time that you read this newsletter we will have had our Annual Meeting here in the North and there will be a new Chairman for the Northern Regional Steering Committee. But you won't be rid of me that easily—I will still get to come to the committee meetings as a "non-voting advisor". Writing this has always been one of my favorite parts of being Chair of the committee. We have such a big group

that I never got to see you all at one time—in fact there are some of you whom I haven't even met, but this way it seemed as if I could talk to each of you and keep you in the loop of some to the things that happened that aren't always mentioned in other places of the newsletter.

Speaking of "other places", you read in the "State President's Message" (you DID read it, didn't you?) that Holly had brought a special scrapbook to the State Executive Meeting in Las Vegas. It had in it most of the wonderful mini-biographies that were printed in the Nevada Appeal each day during Women's History Month. Now I refer you to Holly's article to find out what she did with the scrapbook! See how everything is connected?

I am delighted to let you know that the Nevada Women's History Project is being honored by the Historic Resources Commission of Reno with a 2007 Historic Preservation Award in the category of "Significant Historic Resource". Thanks to Kay Sanders for pointing out to the commission our accomplishments such as work done for the Sarah Winnemucca statue installed in Washington D.C., as well as our published annotated biography and biographical profiles, as well as the biographies and research material available at the Jean Ford Research Center and on our website. The award will be presented at a ceremony in the Reno City Council chambers on May 9.

Our members continue to promote our organization through lectures and living history presentations. On May 10 Sally Zanjani will be at the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center at 7:00 PM for a lecture and book signing for her new book, *Devils Will Reign; How Nevada Began*. (Of course, I'm not sure how many WOMEN are featured in that book!) Jane Lehrman hosts a television program for the public access channels in Reno, Carson City and Douglas County. At various times in May she will be introducing Dr. Eliza Cook, aka yours truly, who will be sure to plug NWHP and our other speakers after she talks a bit about her life as a pioneer doctor in Carson Valley.

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News From the South

Once again I am an outgoing president of NWHP, Southern Region. The last time I served in this position was in 2000-2002. When I resigned we had just begun work on the as yet unnamed, *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor*, and the effort to erect a statue in honor of Sarah Winnemucca was still in its infancy. Assembly Bill 267 had been passed by the Nevada Legislature just the previous year and the work of financing the project loomed before us all.

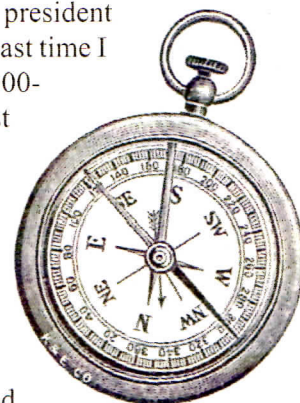
Now, both these projects are completed and we are beginning our efforts to gather more biographies of notable Nevada women. These sketches of lives well-lived will first go on the NWHP web-site and eventually into another volume of biographies. We are organizing and preparing ourselves to do more work on oral histories and transcriptions, particularly of Nevada's Native American women, but others as well. Our Living History projects continue to extend our efforts out into the community as members of this organization attend and speak at the meetings of other organizations. There we promote NWHP and sell copies of *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor*. Finally, we have been updating our local records and scrapbooks, a time-consuming but important job, especially for an organization that focuses upon history.

The work of record keeping and coordinating is being done on the state level as well. It has been a pleasure to work with the women of the State Executive Committee. The e-mails have flown between north and south all year long. I've worked particularly with Cherry Jones and Kay Sanders, Betty Miller and Su Kim Chung, but Carrie Townley Porter, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Grace Davis, Holly Van Valkenburgh and Patti Bernard have all encouraged and assisted me in any way possible. It has been a most pleasant association, and I will miss it.

Here in the Southern Region, we have had a delightful working relationship on the Executive Committee. My thanks go to Mary Gafford, Betty Miller, Doris Drummond, Su Kim Chung and Jean Spiller for their wonderful support and assistance. They have cheerfully supported me in every way possible. I do thank them.

Others who have contributed to the successes of this year include Joan LeMere for her public speaking events and sales of *Skirts*. Thanks are also extended to Wynn Schottelkorb for her work on our organizational scrapbook, to Pat McNutt for steadfastly seeking new officers for the coming year and to Jill Stovall for her many efforts on behalf of this organization and its several committees. It has been a pleasure to work with

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Catharine Sanders is selected as NWHP's Woman of Achievement



On June 6, 2007, our friend and one on the original founders of the Nevada Women's History Project will be honored as a Woman of Achievement at the Nevada Women's Fund Annual Luncheon.

Catharine (or Kay) Sanders was chosen for her tireless efforts to promote the goals of the Nevada Women's History Project. Kay has worn many hats including State Coordinator, Vice-Chair of the Northern Region, Editor of the NWHP quarterly newsletter, Editor of the NWHP website biographies, co-chair of their first conference, and Communications Co-Chair for the northern region. She assisted in obtaining funding for the Jean Ford Research Center. Writing biographies of Nevada women as well as encouraging others to do the same is another of her contributions. Every issue of the wonderful NWHP newsletter is a blessing to our organization and a tribute her many talents.

A generous and caring woman of conviction, Kay Sanders has received other honors for her political and community service contributions.

Kay, a native Renoite, graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno. She and her husband Neil have three sons, four grandsons and one granddaughter. Besides history, other interests include politics, exploring Nevada's beautiful wild areas, and leading hikes.

Alice Downer, Kay Sanders' mother is also a recipient of the Women of Achievement honor from a previous year.

If you are interested in attending the Woman of Achievement Luncheon, please contact Lisa-Marie Lightfoot at 775-851-5677, 775-849-2050 or lightfeet@charter.net. Cost is \$130.00 per person.

Lisa-Marie Lightfoot

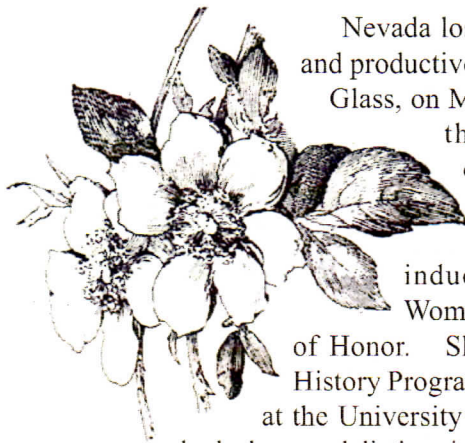
News From the North

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Thank you for allowing me to be your Chair for the past two years. I couldn't think of any other group with which I would rather be affiliated.

Cherry Jones, Chair, No. Region Steering Committee

In Memoriam: Mary Ellen Glass 1927 - 2007



Nevada lost one of its most noted and productive historians, Mary Ellen Glass, on March 17, 2007. During the first NWHP conference in 1997, Mary Ellen was among the first Nevadans inducted into the Nevada Women's History Project Roll of Honor. She began the first Oral History Program in the state of Nevada at the University of Nevada, Reno. She had a long and distinguished career at UNR after obtaining an M.A. in History from that institution. She and her husband, Al Glass, wrote the book, *Touring Nevada*. She also wrote Nevada's *Turbulent '50s*.

NWHP Archivist Carrie Townley Porter wrote, "I feel very privileged to have worked closely with and learned from my friend, Mary Ellen, during my years as an archivist in Special Collections at the University of Nevada Library. She will be missed."

News From the South

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Claytee White as we held meetings for the Oral History Project. We have learned a great deal from her about the techniques of doing oral interviews, and also about the local Native American population from our speakers. A thank you goes out to Bernice Fischer and Terry Jeffers Gialketsis who have generously contributed to several of our events and projects. I do wish to thank the women who have served on our "Telephone Tree." They include Peggy Priest, Joan Dimmitt, Jill Stovall, Blanch Zucker Bozarth and Betty Middleton. Finally, thanks are extended to those who have attended our meetings and supported our efforts in any and all ways. It has been a pleasure meeting and sharing with so many outstanding women.

Dr. Linda Miller has generously agreed to lead us next year. Linda has wonderful background in education, history and organizational enterprises. Knowing the women on our Executive Committee, they will assist her in every way possible. Barbara Davis will join them as Corresponding Secretary. I'll look forward to watching the continued progress of this organization. I'm expecting great things!

*Jane Olive
Outgoing President, NWHP Southern Region*

NWHP-Southern Region Participates in Women's History Month Event



Mary Gafford, Molly Murphy, and Jean Spiller signing copies of "Skirts" book

On Wednesday, March 21st, 2007 the NWHP- Southern Region played an important part in Women's History Month activities held by the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society at the museum which is located at Lorenzi Park. A program entitled "Pioneering Women of Las Vegas Journalism" featured a reception and panel discussion on that topic.

Over fifty copies of *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor* were sold during the reception. They were supplied by Stephens Press and are part of the second printing by that publishing house. Those who purchased books had them signed by NWHP- Southern Region members, Mary Gafford, Mollie Murphy, Jean Spiller and Betty Miller.

Museum staff member Barbara Slivac next directed the attendees to the auditorium for the second part of the program. She introduced program coordinator Lynn Zook, who announced that Gwen Castaldi was going to be honored by NWHP-Southern Region for her years of journalistic service in Las Vegas, NV. Mary Gafford presented Ms. Castaldi with a lovely plaque of metal on walnut wood cut in the shape of Nevada. During the presentation, Mary, who is the First Vice-president of NWHP – Southern Region, explained the mission and 1994 origins of this organization. She also told the audience about the creation of the Sarah Winnemucca Statue for the Rotunda in Washington, DC, the Capital Building in Carson City, and the maquette in Las Vegas City Hall. She concluded by explaining how *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor* came to be written, published by Stephen's Press, and distributed without cost to middle and secondary schools throughout the state of Nevada.

Copies of *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor* were then presented to the honored panelists, Myram Borders, Gwen Castaldi, Mary Hausch, Mary Manning, Jane Ann Morrison, and Liz Wilson Vlamming. These journalists recounted their experiences in this field as they helped open it for women. While admitting each tried to "scoop" the others, they concluded that they were proud of their journalistic contributions. The program was filmed by television channels 3, 5 and 8.

Mary Gafford



Journalist Gwen Castaldi Honored

Women's History Month 2007: Biographies in the Nevada Appeal

Thirty-one biographies of historical Nevada women appeared in the *Nevada Appeal* during March of 2007, Women's History Month. The articles were written by NWHP members and contributors: Holly Walton-Buchanan, Tammy Busick, Sally Wilkins, Beverly McBride, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Laura Tenant, Kay Sanders, Victoria Ford, Terry Bunkowski, Cherry Jones, Patti Bernard, Carrie Townley Porter, Janet White, Sally Zanjani, Mary Anne Convis, Lynn Bremen and Jean Ford.

"Jean Ford," you ask? Yes – several of the biographies she wrote about Nevada women are online, on our NWHP website. The newspaper limit of 400 words was difficult to obtain, but Holly Van Valkenburgh condensed many of the online biographies to meet that size limit.

The *Nevada Appeal* contact was Kelli Du Fresne, who located most of the pictures used in the articles. She was so inspired that she wrote a biography about Annie Martin for the series, which appeared on March 31.

On March 1 – the first day of the series – the *Nevada Appeal* contained the biography of Jean Ford and the article "Exhibiting 100 Years of Influence", about the exhibit at the Nevada State Library and Archives created by Women of Diversity.

All the articles have been collected for display and were at "Herstory" and the Annual Meeting.

Holly Van Valkenburgh

NWHP-So. Region's Meeting A Big Success



Barbara Hodges, Presenter at Luncheon Meeting

NWHP-Southern Region held its first luncheon meeting of 2007 on Saturday, March 3 at 11:30 AM in the Garden Room of Marie Callender's Restaurant, 4800 South Eastern Avenue. Southern Region officers served as greeters for the affair. They included President Jane Olive, First Vice-president Mary Gafford, Second Vice-president Betty Miller, Recording Secretary Doris Drummond, Corresponding Secretary Jean Spiller, and Treasurer, Su Kim Chung. The meeting was called to order at 12 noon. President Jane Olive led the group in a minute of silent meditation for the men and women so ably serving the U.S.A. in Iraq and in other lands. Betty Miller led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

First order of business was a report from NWHP-So. Region Nominating Committee Chair, Patricia McNutt, that the proposed slate of officers for 2007-2008 was as follows: President Linda Miller; First Vice-president Mary Gafford; Second Vice-president Betty Miller; Recording Secretary Doris Drummond;

Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Davis; Treasurer Su Kim Chung. Barbara Davis also volunteered to take charge of the So. Region's Newsletter.

Special thanks were extended to Sandy Frank, hostess of So. Region's Holiday Tea, for her gracious hospitality. Linda Miller and Kim Russell were acknowledged as adding to the event by their Chautauquan portrayals of Helen J. Stewart and Sojourner Truth, respectively.

Among those attending the March 3rd luncheon meeting were Joan Dimmitt, Barbara Davis, Marge Conway, Gwen Den Dooven, Lois Evara, Bernice Fischer, Sandy Frank, Barbara Hodges and her daughter-in-law Nedra, Susan Houston, Linda Miller, Dorothy Huffey, Betty Middleton, Mollie Murphy, Pat McNutt, Dianne Steel, Sally Wathen, and Claytee White.

It was mentioned that Claytee White, who directs the UNLV Oral History Program, is planning an upcoming oral history workshop. Susan Houston, along with numerous other attendees, signed up. Also, Joan Dimmitt was recognized for her recent completion of biographies of educator Mabel Hoggard and of community activist Louise Fountain. Both biographies are slated for inclusion on the NWHP web site and in the upcoming Volume II of *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor*. It was announced that on Wednesday, March 21, both the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society and the NWHP Southern Region would participate in an event in honor of Women's History Month. It was planned to begin with a reception and book signing of *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor* by editors Mary Gafford, Joan LeMere, and Nancy Sansone. The book signing was to be followed by a panel discussion of "Pioneering Women of Las Vegas Journalism."

After a delightful lunch, Barbara Hodges, Churchill County Museum Assistant, presented the program. The title was "Women Who Dared: Thirteen of the Nevada Women Who Owned Cars in 1913." Every one of them was from Northern Nevada. Some were wives of doctors and of ranchers. One was the mother of Anne Martin, a leader of Nevada's Suffragette Movement. This was a very novel and unusual approach to the history of women in this state and was greatly enjoyed by those attending the luncheon.

President Jane Olive concluded the meeting with a reminder that the next So. Region luncheon meeting would be held at the same location on Saturday, May 5th. UNLV's own Caryll Dziedziak will give a presentation on the ERA and Nevada's contribution to the Women's Rights Movement of the 1970's!

Mary Gafford, 1st Vice President

Web Site Biographies and Future Books

At the April 19th meeting of the Education, Outreach and Review Committee, we revisited the NWHP's goals concerning our web site biographies and future books.

We want to share some of our thoughts from that meeting.

WEB SITE BIOGRAPHIES - The primary goal of the NWHP is to collect information and write biographies for the web site, and to accumulate as much source information as possible for our files for future researchers. We welcome all biographies. We want to make our biographical information available to the widest possible audience and that would seem to be through our website.

Submitting biographies for the web site allows our members to continue to their work on the biographies and gives them the

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Featured Historic Nevada Woman:

Charlotte Hunter Arley

Born: April 2, 1912, in Springfield, Massachusetts

Died: March 7, 2006, in Reno, Nevada

Race/nationality/ethnic background: born of Ukrainian Jewish parents who emigrated in 1910

Primary city and county of residence and work: Reno, Washoe County

Major field of work: Attorney

Other role identities: Champion of the underdog

Biography:

On January 30, 2007 the Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association, in conjunction with the Washoe County Courthouse Historical Society, honored the life and work of Charlotte Hunter Arley, a pioneer Nevada woman attorney. A plaque now hangs in the historic courtroom where her most famous case was tried. The "Petticoat Trial" began on June 2, 1952 in Judge John S. Belford's courtroom. The press dubbed it the "Petticoat Trial" because for the first time in Washoe County both opposing attorneys were women. It could also easily have been called "the virgin trial" because it was the first jury trial for Charlotte and her opponent Nada Novacovich and for Judge Belford as well. Charlotte prevailed and her client was awarded \$3,000.00.

Over the twenty years that Charlotte and I were friends, we had many conversations about this trial, her life and her long legal career which she began at the ripe old age of 16 when she entered Northeastern Law School in Boston. She became a lawyer because her father gave her the choice of law or dentistry and she couldn't see herself pulling teeth. She had to wait until 1935 to take the Massachusetts's Bar because she wasn't old enough when she graduated from law school.

Charlotte was a hard worker and never considered any job beneath her. There were times when she worked 2 or 3 jobs. She always had great confidence in her own ability to work hard and to take care of herself. Whenever she was treated unfairly in her profession because she was a woman, she shrugged it off with the explanation that "that's the way things were in those days." She then left that situation and went on to something new. Charlotte had a great sense of humor and a real zest for life. Her love of travel brought her West and she worked in the gift shop at Yosemite during the summers of 1936 and 1937. She then traveled to Canada, Alaska, and finally Hawaii where she married for the first time.

Whenever I would ask her about her husband, Max, she would avoid talking about him and say, "what can I tell you about him? He was a saxophone player. That's all you need to know." Her father had come to Reno to get a divorce from her mother and Charlotte joined him here. She left Hawaii on one of the last boats out before the war.

She didn't plan on practicing law in Nevada when she came to Reno, but she changed her mind and passed the Nevada Bar. She was admitted to practice in 1947. There were three women who passed the Nevada bar that year. Charlotte, Nellie Price and Emily Wanderer of Las Vegas. Charlotte took on an assortment of divorce, personal injury, and criminal cases over the years. Several of these cases were appealed to the

Nevada Supreme Court and Charlotte won her share. She assured me that she "always represented the Plaintiffs because they were the people who needed her the most." To Charlotte, being a lawyer was all about justice and doing the right thing and providing a service to people. Although she did well financially over the years, she always claimed that it was "never about the money." She never had fee agreements with her clients, but they usually paid her eventually when they could afford it.

In Reno she met and married Jacques Arley, the love of her life. She thought that he was very handsome and she loved the fact that he had been in the French Resistance during the war. Charlotte and

Jacques lived in Portland, Oregon for about fifteen years because of his work. After Jacques' death, Charlotte moved back to Reno and resumed her practice.

In 1989 the Northern Nevada Women Lawyers began honoring outstanding women attorneys in the community. Charlotte was the unanimous choice to be the first woman so honored. She continued to serve her clients until she was well in to her eighties. The clerks working behind the counter at the courthouse filing office remember her coming in with her clients and if they couldn't afford the filing fees or occasionally a marriage license fee, Charlotte paid the fees herself. After all, being a lawyer was all about service to people who needed you and service to the legal profession. Charlotte Hunter Arley died on March 7, 2006, just shy of her 94th birthday.

Charlotte was a credit to her profession and contributed so much to the Reno legal community. The community

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NWHP Member Reports on International Women's Day Celebration

On March 8 I was privileged to join in the International Women's Day celebration at the United Nations. The celebration was the culmination of two weeks of meetings and negotiations of the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) on the theme, "Eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against the girl child."

High level panels, government sponsored seminars, and nongovernmental organizations coordinated educational presentations about this theme during the two-week session. The highlight of the meetings was a girl's speak-out, a panel of girls from around the world who shared candidly of the particular issues they personally had to face. A Nepalese girl spoke of being a working girl and how she must allocate her time and energy between attending school and earning her own living. A disabled girl from Armenia told of how handicapped girls are considered to be of no value as they cannot be married in exchange for dowries, so are left abandoned in institutions. A Zambian girl shared her daily struggle with treatment for her HIV-aids. From the Democratic Republic of the Congo, a girl spoke movingly of having been coerced as a child into joining the soldiers, being forced into sex slavery, escaping, and then not being accepted back into her home community. Often, she stated, girls return to their home communities with babies and/or HIV-aids. The girls are ostracized and have nowhere to go. A young girl from Jordan spoke of working with girls in Palestinian refugee camps. A Thai girl talked about advocating for young potential victims of trafficking in her country.

On International Women's Day, a sea of red hats with the slogan, "Stop Violence Against Women and Girls." greeted the speakers. Official statements were made by the new Secretary General, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, the South African president of the Security Council, and the president of the General Assembly. After the official statements, a panel led by Under Secretary Sashi Thoror addressed the theme, "Ending Impunity for Violence Against Women and Girls."

The new Secretary General of the United Nations highlighted why International Women's Day is so important: "It spells out our responsibility to work for enduring change in values and attitudes. It calls on us to work in partnership -- Governments, international organizations, civil society and the private sector. It urges us to work for a transformation in relations between women and men, at all levels of society. It compels us to strengthen every means of empowering women and girls -- from education to micro credits." -Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General.

*Linda Hiebert Sekiguchi, Official International Federation of University Women
delegate observer to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women*

Web Site Biographies and Future Books

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recognition they should receive without having to wait for a book project.

The steps for submission of the biographies will remain much the same as it is presently shown on the web site, with minor changes only.

RELEASE FORM - We've been asked about a release form. And here's the release for the NWHP web site biographies which reads as follows:

I grant the right to the Nevada Women's History Project to edit and reproduce on their web site this profile completed on a Nevada woman. I realize that this profile may be viewed by anyone accessing this web site and might be put to use in other forms. I retain the right of ownership to this profile. I grant the right to use on the web site, my name as signed below. I understand my name will appear as a credit beneath the profile that I am submitting.

FUTURE NWHP BOOKS - The following are some of the guidelines regarding future books.

- Before biographies are included in future books, they must be posted to the web site.
- When sufficient biographies have been collected and a book becomes the goal, biographies will be chosen from the web site submissions.
- Those biographies chosen from the web site will be condensed by web site authors if available, or by others with permission from authors if needed.

Although books are our long range goals, the primary goal is and has always been to get women's biographies up on the web for the general public. The next book is a laudable project that will be an offshoot from the web biographies.

Most of our biography authors write because they want to share information with others and waiting for a book...well, it could take a long time happening.

We want to encourage all our biographers to submit their work for the web site so your information can be shared with others, for well-deserved recognition for your hard work and possible future inclusion in a NWHP book. So if you have a wonderful biography...contact us!

Grace Davis

Jan Cleere Chosen for Roll of Honor



This is the third in a series of biographies of the women selected for the NWHP Roll of Honor and inducted at the State Meeting in Las Vegas in March of 2006. Dr. Marlene Adrian and Eileen Cohen are the other two who were presented at that time.

Jan Cleere was chosen for the Roll of Honor as the author of *More Than Petticoats; Remarkable Nevada Women*. Although she is a resident of Arizona, Jan is a member of the Nevada Women's History Project. She traveled throughout Nevada researching the women she had chosen to feature in her book, and since its publication has returned several times to give programs about the women.

Jan developed a love of history while growing up in Arlington, Virginia, where her family visited museums and historical sites in and around Washington, D.C. and where she "probably saw every Civil War monument from Gettysburg to Manassas".

She worked as a TWA ticket agent for several years, then married and moved with her husband, Bob, to Phoenix. There, her interest in history grew to include the Southwest.

But, as she notes, "With a family business to run and three children to raise, it seemed like anything I did write ended up stuck to the bottom of a peanut butter jar."

After her three children were grown Jan returned to college, finishing with a degree in American Studies with an emphasis on writing. When she graduated, Bob suggested they move to Tucson where she could write full time.

As she explains, "My bag was packed and at the front door the next morning."

Soon she was writing articles for *Arizona Highways*, *Tucson Guide*, *Arizona Garden*, *Chronicle of the Old West* and other magazines.

Remarkable Nevada Women, Jan's first book, was published in 2005 by Globe Pequot Press. It includes short, interesting biographies of 12 women who were born before 1900 and who lived in Nevada. The women included in the book are: Eilley Bowers, Fermina Sarras, Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins, Dat So La Lee, Helen Stewart, Idah Meacham Strobridge, Dr. Eliza Cook, Josie Pearl, Anne Martin, Ah Cum Kee, Maude Frazier and Felice Cohn. There is also a chapter about the Daughters of Charity, who staffed a school and hospital in Virginia City during the heyday of the Comstock.

In 2006 the "Nevada Petticoats book", as Jan calls it, was selected as a Finalist for both the WILLA Literary Award presented by the Women Writing the West, and the Arizona Press Women's Literary Award. Congratulations, Jan!

Jan has since completed *Outlaw Tales of Arizona* for Globe Pequot Press, who will release her *Amazing Girls of Arizona: True Stories of Young Pioneers* this fall.

After running a family business and rearing three children, she returned to school, receiving her degree in American Studies from Arizona State University West. She writes extensively for regional publications, covering topics ranging from travel to capturing elusive pack rats, but her first love is writing the histories of pioneering women whose stories lay dormant for years beneath the desert asphalt.

Cherry Jones

Second Annual "Her Story" Luncheon Recap

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Kathleen Durham, artist and storyteller, introducing one of her "Little People"

Southwest Native American storyteller figures. *Skirts That Swept the Desert Floor* books were sold. Several new members were recruited at the luncheon. Volunteer opportunities were explained to the newcomers.

Many thanks go out to our hostess Karen, North Project Committee members Martha Gould and Carleen Ernest, sign-up table worker Isabel Espinoza, and the many members who contributed salads. Thanks also to Mary Anne Convis for her delicious cakes.

Kay Sanders



Holly Walton-Buchanan and Kelli Du Fresno

In the News:

- Author Sally Zanjani was interviewed by CSPAN about her newest book, *Devils Will Reign: How Nevada Began*, published in 2006. She also was the featured author at a book signing on May 10th at the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center located in Gardnerville.
- NWHP member Eileen Cohen was recently recorded by State Archivist Guy Rocha for the KTVN program "Face the State". In the program she portrayed Hannah Clapp, an early Carson City activist, businesswoman, private school owner, Assembly Committee Clerk, Senate Copy Clerk, and university employee.

Congratulations to:

- Nevada Women's History Project for being awarded an Historic Preservation Award by the City of Reno Historic Resources Commission. Details and photos of the award ceremony scheduled for May 9th at 10:00 a.m. at the Reno City Council Chambers will appear in the August newsletter.

Charlotte Hunter Arley

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recognized those long years of dedication and service when they presented a memorial service in her honor which featured a reenactment of the "Petticoat Trial".

Researched and written by Kathleen Noneman

Sources of Information:

- Conversations over 20 years between Charlotte Arley and Kathleen Noneman.
- Conversations with members of her family including her niece, Alexa Hunter.
- Oral history interviews with Victoria Ford, University of Nevada Oral History Department, 2001.

PLEASE INFORM THE STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR AND YOUR REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP CHAIR OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND/OR E-MAIL ADDRESS. BETTY MILLER'S ADDRESS IS: 2633 LEGEND DR., LAS VEGAS, NV 89134-8810. IN THE NORTH PLEASE ALSO NOTIFY GRACE DAVIS OR CARRIE TOWNLEY PORTER AT: NWHP, 770 SMITHRIDGE DR., SUITE 300, RENO, NV 89502.

Articles for the August 2007 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor, Kay Sanders, no later than July 27, 2007. E-mail her at ksanders@unr.nevada.edu.

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WEB SITE: www.nevadawomen.org

Some NWHP News Contacts

Cherry Jones

E-mail: cljnvquail@charter.net

Kay Sanders

Tel: 775-747-1740

E-mail: ksanders@unr.nevada.edu

NWHP - State Office

770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300 • Reno, Nevada 89502-0708

Tel: 775-786-2335 • Fax: 775-826-6865

E-mail: NWHP@pyramid.net

South: P.O. Box 12184 • Las Vegas, NV 89112-0184

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770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300 • Reno, NV 89502

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Individual Membership: Dues \$25/Year • Student Membership: Dues \$15/Year
Organizational Membership: Dues \$50/Year
Corporate Sponsor: Dues \$250/Year

Name: Individual or Student _____

Mailing Address _____

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Mail to North members - 770 Smithridge Dr., Ste., 300, Reno, NV 89502
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Christiane Brown
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