

## Our Mission

To provide visibility and support for the gathering and dissemination of history about the roles and contributions of Nevada women of every race, class, and ethnic background.

## NWHP's First Teacher of the Year Award

Jeff Hinton was chosen as the first recipient of the Nevada Women's History Project Teacher of the Year. He currently teaches U.S. and world history at the Northwest Career and Technical Academy in Las Vegas. The criteria for the award included

a lesson promoting Nevada women's history in the classroom, plus recommendations from colleagues.

Jeff did a comparative study of pioneer women in Rhyolite and Las Vegas, focusing mainly on Gladys Fulkner and Helen

Stewart. His study examined the hardships endured by women as well as how the women took leadership roles in their community. His students also were encouraged to investigate Nevada women selected from the Southern Region's book, *Skirts that Swept the Desert Floor*.

Selection Committee member Mary Gafford said: "Jeff carried out in detail the required objective of the award to the fullest degree... A myriad of educational learning resources were made available... This shows that he is aware of the importance of covering the wide spectrum of learning techniques available." Committee member Holly Van Valkenburgh pointed out that his application was "well-planned and focuses on 'features and characteristics

of life in early Nevada' through the lives of two southern Nevada women....Utilizing the lives of women, especially one in each town, was the means of personalizing the quest for his students..." Other committee members

included Doris Drummond and Lisa-Marie Lightfoot. Jeff will receive a \$500 check at the May 2<sup>nd</sup> luncheon meeting of the Southern Nevada Women's History Project.

The award contest was announced by letter throughout Nevada, as well as being posted

on the Web sites of both the Nevada Women's History Project and the Nevada Council for History Education. If this state award is to continue, we need additional funding. Please consider contributing to this award.

Dr. Linda Karen Miller, Chair  
Teacher of the Year Committee



Teacher of the Year Jeff Hinton with Holly Van Valkenburgh and Linda Miller

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2008 Roll of Honor  
Winners

Caryll Dziedziak  
&  
Dr. Joanne Goodwin



## Caryll Dziedziak: 2008 Roll of Honor

Caryll Dziedziak, Assistant Director of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was placed on the 2008 NWHP Roll of Honor. Ms. Dziedziak began her work on behalf of Nevada women's history as an undergraduate at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where she double-majored in History and Women's Studies, graduating *magna cum laude* in 1998. During that time, Ms. Dziedziak worked extensively with the newly-formed Nevada Women's Archives in the UNLV Libraries, where she first acquired and then processed numerous archival collections, resulting in the creation of "finding aids" that have helped make the history of women in southern Nevada much more accessible to researchers locally, nationally and internationally. She also served in an advisory capacity to the Nevada

Women's Archives for many years.

In 1999, Ms. Dziedziak co-founded the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) with Dr. Joanne Goodwin, and has been a dedicated advocate and organizer for its valuable work. In addition to her many administrative duties, she has conducted oral histories of notable Las Vegas women such as Harriet Trudell, Dorothy Eisenberg, Nancy Houssels, and Renee Diamond. These oral histories, published and available through WRIN, are a valuable new resource for researchers interested in a variety of subjects (politics, education, the arts) and demonstrate the impact that women have had on the history of Las Vegas. She has not kept her findings to herself: She has given many presentations on this research to women's groups across the West.

Ms. Dziedziak is currently

completing her doctoral dissertation in History at UNLV, in which she is focusing on the impact of the ERA campaign in Nevada. She is breaking new ground with this research and her work in this area will prove invaluable in adding another rich layer to the growing volume of historical work on Nevada women's history. Although much of Nevada women's history has focused on the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, Ms. Dziedziak's research will be unique in that it considers the contributions of an historical event of the very recent past.

Caryll Dziedziak has contributed invaluable research to the growing body of knowledge about Nevada's women, and we hope that she continues to be such an amazing asset to our organization in particular and to Nevadans in general. Congratulations, Ms. Dziedziak!

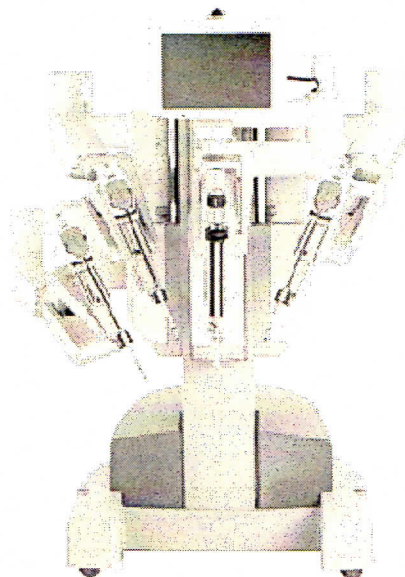
Su Kim Chung

## NWHP Annual Meeting and Luncheon

**Saturday, June 20 – 11:30 to 1:30 (\$30)**  
**Silver Oak Country Club**

**Dr. Karen Abbott**  
**Da Vinci's Robotic Surgical System**

Nevada Women's History Project welcomes Dr. Karen Abbott at our Annual Meeting and Luncheon on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Abbott, a member of NWHP, will tell us about the da Vinci Robotic Surgical System. The da Vinci robot enables a surgeon to perform complex operations using a minimally invasive approach. This system combines the skills of a surgeon with computer-enhanced technology and robotics.



Dr. Abbott is a Reno obstetrician and gynecologist as well as an urologist. She received her medical degree from the University of California at Davis and did both her residency requirements in San Francisco: the surgical program at the Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and her OB-GYN residency at Mt. Zion Hospital.

We invite NWHP members, guests, and prospective members to attend our luncheon at the Silver Oak Golf and Country Club, located at the north end of Carson City. Send your check for \$30, made out to NWHP, to the NWHP office, attention Holly Walton-Buchanan, 770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502-0708 no later than June 6. Questions: call 772-2086 or 787-8779.

Carleen Ernest



## Dr. Joanne Goodwin: 2008 Roll of Honor

Dr. Joanne Goodwin, Director of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada (WRIN) at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, was placed on the 2008 NWHP Roll of Honor. Her long list of accomplishments that led to this honor have been evident ever since her arrival at UNLV in 1991, where she began collecting, preserving and disseminating the history of women in Nevada, particularly southern Nevada. A number of her research projects and initiatives resulted in major contributions such as the publication of oral histories of notable Las Vegas women, the creation of the southern branch of the Nevada Women's Archives, and the co-founding (with Caryll Dziedziak) of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada at UNLV.

Dr. Goodwin's dedication to preserving the history of women in southern Nevada is embedded in her numerous publications, presentations, oral histories, grants, awards and fellowships. Her work has been vital in so many areas. In particular, the oral history projects

she has sponsored on women in entertainment, gaming, and women of color have proved invaluable in preserving the history of an oft-forgotten segment of Las Vegas' past. With each oral history interview she has conducted or guided through the auspices of WRIN, Dr. Goodwin has also made an effort to gather archival materials from the interviewee, thus providing valuable historical materials for the Nevada Women's Archives at the UNLV Libraries.

Her leadership and advocacy of WRIN have also served to establish a valuable clearinghouse for research and educational opportunities for Nevada women of all ages. WRIN's goals are to stimulate new research, communicate new research and theory, and coordinate existing research. To that end, Dr. Goodwin and other WRIN staff have produced and place on-line numerous biographies of Nevada women not found elsewhere, in addition to publishing hard copies of oral histories of notable southern Nevada women. WRIN also

worked with the University of Nevada, Reno to produce the Status of Women in Nevada report in 2004. In addition, since 2003, she has sponsored the NEW Leadership Nevada program -- a leadership-training program for college women modeled on a program run by the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University. The significance of WRIN's contributions can also be seen in the fact that in Fall 2005, WRIN was accepted as a member of the National Council for Research on Women (NCRW) -- a prestigious network of over 100 leading U.S. research and policy centers that help create more equitable opportunities for women and girls.

Dr. Goodwin's many valuable contributions to the gathering and disseminating of women's history in Nevada certainly impressed the judges. We Southern members are very proud that she has been placed on the Nevada Women's History Project Roll of Honor. Congratulations, Dr. Goodwin!

Su Kim Chung

## Successful International Women's Day Dinner

Thanks to all the support from NWHP and our partners---AAUW, Nevada Women's Lobby and Delta Kappa Gamma---- we had a sold-out crowd of over 150 participants in Carson City on March 8 at the International Women's Day Dinner. We enjoyed Holly Van Valkenburgh's entertaining portrayal of Anne Martin and heard an inspiring keynote address from Frankie Sue Del Papa. The Northern Region's contribution to the raffle was a basket of children's books donated by Past President Cherry Jones, which was well received. And to top it all

off, we raised over \$3500 for women's programs and scholarships for the seven Nevada public colleges and universities. See you all in March next year in Reno!

Donna Clontz



Holly Van Valkenburgh as Anne Martin

## Potpourri

NWHP member Donna Clontz was recently



named a board member of the year by the Human Services Network, a nonprofit organization focused on networking, issue advocacy, and professional development. Donna is a Girl Scouts board member, who pointed out that the Scouts "teach leadership skills to girls in the community....and provide a chance for girls to get together and become strong women, especially in places where there aren't a lot of choices." (RGJ, 2/17/09)



## Northern Region Calendar

**May 21 (Thursday):** Women of Achievement Luncheon, Nevada Women's Fund, Grand Sierra Resort, Reno. Carla Christofferson, co-owner of the WNBA Sparks, will be honored. Seating begins at 11:30. Guest speaker, honoree presentation, and luncheon: \$100. Contact Nevada Women's Fund at 775-786-2335 for reservations.

**June 20 (Saturday):** Annual Northern Region Luncheon Meeting for members, prospective members, and guests, 11:30-1:30, \$30. Silver Oak Golf and Country Club, 1251 Country Club Drive, Carson City (north end). Guest speaker: Dr. Karen Abbott, Urogynecological Surgeon. Topic: The Da Vinci Surgical Robot. Contact Holly Walton-Buchanan ([mtjudah@aol.com](mailto:mtjudah@aol.com)) for details. Checks must be sent in by **JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>** to confirm your reservation: NWHP, 770 Smithridge Drive, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502.

**July 3-6 (Friday through Sunday):** Alice Huler Ramsey Re-Enactment on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her amazing drive across the U.S. Her 1909 Maxwell auto will be on display. For further details, contact Kathy Noneman at 853-8393.

**July 18 (Saturday):** Annual Mountain Wildflower Hike to Winnemucca Lake. Moderate. Host: Kay Sanders (747-1740). Starts at the ranger's station on Kit Carson Summit on Highway 88 at 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch, snacks, water, Sierra Nevada wildflower guide; wear hiking boots and layers of clothing in case of weather changes.

**August 15 (Saturday):** Historic Snow Sheds above Donner Lake. Hiking and lecture host: Tammy Buzick (747-8849). Moderate hike/lecture/lunch. Other contacts: Grace Davis (853-3200) and Patti Bernard (826-3612). Time TBA.

## News From the North

I recently had occasion to visit Washington, D.C., and visited the Sarah Winnemucca statue in the Capitol Visitor Center. Because it was spring break for students, lots of families were there, and it was all I could do to not say to them, "Let me tell you about Sarah." Seeing her statue there made me very proud of our organization and its contribution to our nation's capital.

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Annual Pink Tea celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in the historic rooms of the Governor's Mansion. Some of the NWHP members came in costume as First Ladies from Nevada's past.

Mary Anne Convis  
North Region Chair

**Ed. Note:** The beautiful Classical Revival structure on Mountain Street was designed in 1909 by George Ashmead Ferris, 1859-1948, who also designed Reno's four Spanish Mission-style elementary schools and the El Cortez Hotel. His son Lehman "Monk" designed the ATO House, three Reno high schools, and the 1960-era Nevada Legislature Building. Further details are available in Holly Walton-Buchanan's book, *Historic Houses and Buildings of Reno, Nevada: An Architectural and Historical Guide*, Black Rock Press, 2006, 2007.

(Calendar continued)

**November 7 (Saturday):** Save the date on your calendar for the Second Annual Authors' Luncheon: Mysteries for All Ages. Popular author Robyn Carr will be keynote speaker; panel discussion on how authors develop characters and create series of books. Time and place TBA. More information will be published in the August newsletter.

PLEASE INFORM THE STATE MEMBERSHIP  
CHAIR AND YOUR REGIONAL MEMBERSHIP  
CHAIR OF ANY CHANGES IN YOUR  
ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND/OR  
E-MAIL ADDRESS.

STATE: BETTY MILLER, 2633 LEGEND  
DRIVE, LAS VEGAS, NV 89134-8810.

E-MAIL: [beteldon@msn.com](mailto:beteldon@msn.com)

NORTH: GRACE DAVIS, 14145

SADDLEBOW DR. RENO, NV 89511-6730.

E-MAIL: [kandgdavis@pyramid.net](mailto:kandgdavis@pyramid.net)

SOUTH: JOAN LEMERE, 4755 S. PEARL  
STREET, LAS VEGAS, NV 89121-6007.

## Archive Project

Each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to about 2:00 p.m., "Team Porter" meets at the NWHP office to work on the NWHP archive project. Team Leader Carrie Porter works with volunteers Mona Reno, Rose Stuart, Caroline Giufurta, Jacki Falkenroth, Margee Richardson and Marilyn Dousharm in the laborious process of weeding out duplicate reports and files and saving any unique correspondence. Some records go back to the beginning of NWHP.

Carrie is a professional archivist with many years of experience with several organizations. The work is carried out according to the Approved Records Retention Schedules. Once the sorting is finished, the remaining records will be a valuable, permanent resource. Recently, one part of the project was completed: the files concerning the Sarah Winnemucca Project were sent to their permanent home in Carson City.

Marilyn Dousharm



## News From the South

Two workshops were held in Las Vegas in April highlighting the NWHP book, *Skirts That Swept The Desert Floor*. Stephens Press, the book's publisher, hosted a Nuts & Bolts Writing Workshop at the East Flamingo Public Library. Stephens Press editor Carolyn Hayes-Uber stated that the book was one of her favorites.

The other workshop, for writers, was sponsored by the Henderson Writers Group at Sam's Town, on April 17-18-19, 2009. A cocktail party hosted by Stephens Press honored NWHP members Mary Gafford and Nancy Sansone and about 15 other attendees for having had a book published by their publishing house. Interestingly, Nancy Sansone has written a romance novel with certain chapters alluding to such locations as Pahrump, Nevada, and surrounding areas. We wish Nancy the best of luck in finding a publisher.

In the Las Vegas Review-Journal's article about our Southern Region Gala Celebration on March 21<sup>st</sup>, NWHP member and Boulder City native Mimi Rodden was mentioned as the author of her new book, *Boulder City, Nevada: Images of America*.

Finally, our Recording Secretary, Beverly O'Connor, has resigned, and Barbara Davis has been appointed to take her place on our regional board.

Mary Gafford

Southern Region President

## NWHP Financial Update

Since 2001, the NWHP has received several grants from the John Ben Snow Memorial Trust. The current grant (\$8,000) began in December 2007. This grant funds our Web site, phone charges in the state office, oral history equipment, transcribing costs, and Web technician fees. Web site costs include our annual Internet service charges and domain fee.

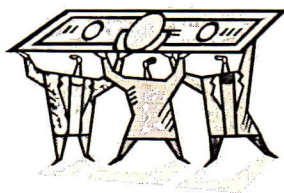
If we continue to incur expenses in 2009 at the same rate as we have in the past, the grant funds should last until mid-2010, based on our current average monthly Web site expenses of \$220 to \$250. However, some of these costs are already rising. Once the grant funds run out, all of the Web site costs will be paid by the state account.

In addition to the Web site expenses, food and room rates for events, supplies, newsletter production, and mailing costs have all increased in the past year. These ex-

penses are paid for by dues and the funds we raise from events.

Questions have been raised about our recent \$5.00 a year dues increase. The State Committee, at its meeting last September in Las Vegas, voted to approve the increase beginning January 2009, based on the already rising costs and anticipation of more increases, as was explained to the Committee. The consensus was that a modest increase in dues is the most responsible way to cover our increasing costs and fund our organization after the John Ben Snow grant runs out.

Kay Sanders and  
Linda Wyckoff



## Southern Region Calendar

**May 16 (Saturday):** Helldorado Parade, Clark County's Centennial Celebration

**June 3 (Wednesday):** Barbara Davis will host the Bio Committee meeting, during which Mesquite Club President (and NWHP member) Betty Rumford will be recognized for providing us with copies of the original biographies of their club's past presidents, dating back to 1911. The club is the oldest Las Vegas women's club, and Helen J. Stewart once served as its president.

**Answers to "Test Your Knowledge of Women's History" on Page 11.**

10. Jane Addams (1860-1935)
9. Toni Morrison (b. 1931)
- (1908-1991)
8. Eva Bertrand Adams
- 2005)
7. Shirley Chisholm (1974-
6. Rosa Parks (1913-2005)
- 1908)
5. Hannah Clapp (1824-
- (1875-1955)
4. Mary McLeod Bethune
3. Nancy Lopez (b. 1957)
- 1962)
2. Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-
1. Alice Paul (1885-1977)

### Some NWHP News Contacts

Dianne Steel

E-mail: [JudgeSteel@cox.net](mailto:JudgeSteel@cox.net)

Holly Walton-Buchanan

Tel: 775-772-2086

E-mail: [mtjudah@aol.com](mailto:mtjudah@aol.com)

NWHP — State Office

770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300, Reno, NV  
89502-0708

Tel: 775-786-2335 - Fax: 775-826-6865

E-mail: [NWHP@pyramid.net](mailto:NWHP@pyramid.net)

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



## Featured Historic Nevada Woman: Kathryn L. Marbaker Tubb

**Also known as** "Shotgun Kittie"

**At a glance:**

**Born:** November 15, 1886

**Died:** March 20, 1957

**Maiden name:** Marbaker

**Race/nationality/ethnic**

**background:** Caucasian

**Married:** 1st, Robert Tubb - 2nd,

Jesse Wiley - 3rd Charlie Kilgore

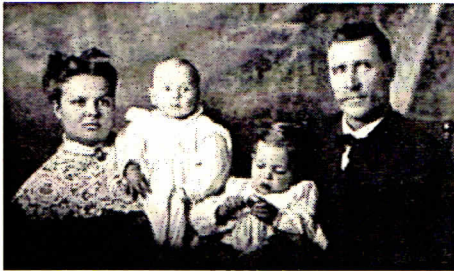
**Children:** Four sons

**Primary city and county of**

**residence and work:** Ash Meadows,  
Nye County, NV

**Major fields of work:** Rancher,  
Proprietor of boarding house/brothel

**Other role identities:** Hotel cook,  
poker player, expert markswoman,  
wife, mother



Kathryn L. Marbaker was born near Stevensville in Bradford County, Pennsylvania, on November 15, 1886 (or 1885) to Edward Marbaker Jr, born in 1847 and Almeda Wage, also born in 1847. Her middle name was either Luella or Lucille--her father called her by one name and her mother by the other. She was also known as Kittie or Kitty (spelling varies). Her father was a farmer and had served in the Union Army during the Civil War. Edward and Almeda were married about 1865, and by the time the 1880 census was taken they already had eight children. By 1900, Almeda and Edward Marbaker appear to have been divorced.

Almeda then married a man named Russel Gibbs. By 1910 Edward Marbaker had also remarried, to a much younger woman named Lulu.

Kittie had at least some elementary education and was able

to read and write. She did not appear to be living at home with either parent by 1900, when she was fourteen years old, and may have been at school or employed elsewhere. Family legend tells that at about the age of sixteen, Kittie left home and advertised herself in a Philadelphia newspaper as a mail-order bride. Thirty-four-year-old Robert (Bob) M. Tubb (11-15-1868 - 4-24-1944) responded to the ad and the couple were married around 1904. He was a freighter from Texas passing through Pennsylvania.

It is not known where Kittie and Bob Tubb first settled. Their first two children, Leon (1905-1979) and Robert (1906-1980), were born in Crown King, Arizona (Territory). Bob had apparently been running freight lines from Crown King to Las Vegas. On a layover in Las Vegas he found a piece of property to the northwest that appealed to him, and the small family headed west in a covered wagon, arriving in the Ash Meadows, Nevada/Death Valley Junction, California, area about 1907.

Although the "Lila C" borate deposit had been discovered near Death Valley in 1882, it was not mined until 1907 when the Tonopah and Tidewater Railroad (TTRR) built a seven-mile spur to the mine, making ore transport financially feasible. Bob Tubb filed a homestead claim on the land between the mainline and the spur at Death Valley Junction (south of the present town) and built a saloon, grocery store, hotel, and brothel. Living quarters for the family were just north of the present town site. He worked hard and his businesses prospered. Kittie ran the store, served in the saloon, cooked for the boarding house residents, and took care of the women in the brothel.

In 1908, Kittie took the TTRR

to Los Angeles to give birth to their third son, George (1908-1962). By 1909, Bob had planted fruit trees and grain on their 340 acres at the Junction. He ran a pipeline ten miles from Crystal Springs in Ash Meadows, Nevada (now a natural preserve/wildlife refuge) to supply water to his crops. Apparently the pipe broke that same year and he was unable to fix it in time to save the crops. Later he was forced to abandon the pipeline altogether as it was illegal to transport water over the state line unless it was free-flowing.

The fourth Tubb boy, Danny (1909-1941), was born prematurely under a tree at the Junction. Bob and Kittie were living in a tent house near where the present-day Amargosa Opera House building now stands. The new baby was quite small and Kittie is said to have kept him in a cigar box and fed him with an eyedropper. Always sickly and fussy, at the age of four Danny Tubb developed a paralysis thought to be due to polio and was crippled for the rest of his life.

In 1915, the "Lila C" played out and the Death Valley Railroad (DVRR) was built to provide a spur line to the Biddy mine four miles further. The ore concentrator at the old mine was brought to Death Valley Junction, houses were moved into the now lively mill town and additional structures were built.

Bob Tubb established the first school in Death Valley Junction in 1915. One report claims that when the new, young, single teacher arrived in the Junction to take up residence in the quarters offered by the Tubbs, Kittie sent her packing because she didn't belong in the rowdy brothel and saloon environment. Soon after, several factors caused the Tubb businesses to fail. Ironically, the newly



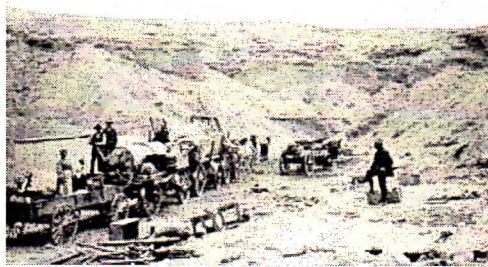
appointed school authorities did not approve of the Tubbs running a brothel so near the school. By 1916 when Inyo County went "dry," Tubb had closed his saloon and brothel and moved them over to Ash Meadows. He continued to hold a claim to his property at the Junction and still operated a business there until the borax company bought him out in around 1923. Kittie took up ranching in Ash Meadows and continued to ranch and farm there on and off until her death in 1957. Kittie and Bob Tubb would eventually divorce and marry other people, but continued to live in close proximity.

Kittie earned the nickname "Shotgun Kittie" because she never went anywhere without her shotgun. It was always within reach - in the house, in the car, or in the outhouse, and she even carried it with her into the bars in Beatty, where no one challenged her. She was apparently an excellent shot and legend has it that she once waited for three geese (another version says five) to line up just right and then nipped their heads off with a single shot.

On one occasion, two burglars are reported to have come onto Kittie's property in Ash Meadows to steal something, and Kittie shot one of them in the leg and captured the other, tying them both up. She apparently took them water, but wouldn't waste any food on them until someone came from Tonopah with a wagon to take them to jail. At night, visitors out looking for frogs sometimes followed a ditch from the nearby Ash Meadows tourist lodge. Kittie could hear them coming and knew exactly where the ditch crossed onto her property and they would be frogging on her land. At that point,

she started shooting at them in the dark.

The shotgun was also an essential part of dinner preparations. One visitor, reportedly a game warden from Pahrump, was sitting on the porch with Kittie. She gave him a choice of duck, goose or chicken, for dinner. When he didn't reply immediately, she declared, "Well, all right, we're having goose!" BAM! She picked a goose off the nearby lake, the dog retrieved it, and Kittie plucked and gutted the bird right on the porch without ever leaving her chair.



Kittie married again several times after her divorce from Bob Tubb, but the marriages did not last long. Her second husband was named Jesse Wiley and the third, Charlie Kilgore, but although Kittie used the names of her husbands briefly, she always went back to calling herself Kittie Tubb when the marriages were over.

Kittie worked as a cook in various hotels and cafes from Death Valley Junction to Beatty, Nevada. She also raised horses on her ranch at Ash Meadows, Nevada. In her later years, she became something of a tourist attraction because visitors to the nearby brothel or the tourists from Death Valley Junction would stop and talk with her as she sat on her front porch. Many also wrote to her, sending postcards

from their homes all addressed to "Shotgun Kittie."

Besides having a violent temper, Kittie was reported to be a very observant and vigilant woman, always checking out the area around her car, and frequently finding coins, once even a diamond ring. She was said to be a very spiritual person, although she did not follow any organized religion. She also had her own system of medical remedies that included liberal use of topical kerosene for wounds and urine for superficial skin conditions.

Throughout her life Kittie was very overweight, but always was able to move rapidly when necessary. She also had a reputation for emptying a considerable number of liquor bottles into herself. At the end, she succumbed to complications of her obesity (280 pounds on a 4' 11" frame). She became quite ill during a severe flood, and had to be taken to the hospital in Tonopah where she died on March 20, 1957. She was buried in the cemetery in Tonopah alongside Robert Tubb Sr., her sons Danny and Robert Jr., and two great-grandchildren.

The Tubb home and family heirlooms were all burned to the ground in the early 1970's. Little survived the fire, but the family still has a few old photographs and plenty of legends. The National Park Service finally purchased the Tubb property in 1997 as part of the newly created Ash Meadows Wildlife Refuge.

*(Researched and written by Judy Palmer and Robin Flinchum; edited by Janet E. White)*

*(Photos courtesy of Nancy Tubb Petersen, Kittie's granddaughter.)*



## Review of Sally Zanjani's Latest Book - "Devils Will Reign: How Nevada Began"



*Devils Will Reign: How Nevada Began*, transports the reader into the mid-1800s when Nevada was still terra incognita on

most maps and adventurous, hardy men and women traveled to this pristine part of the Far West. Zanjani recounts the tales of their lives, how they impacted the area and paved the way for others to follow. From the early miners to the Mormons, Indians, emigrants, ranchers, desperados, profiteers, politicians - all played a role in the creation of our state. She does a

magnificent job of weaving their stories into the national and regional events of that time in our nation's history.

Zanjani describes the ferocious dissension between Mormon and non-Mormon settlers. Orson Hyde, who arrived in Carson Valley in 1855 to organize a Mormon settlement, is quoted as saying, "It is necessary for a strong force to be here. The country is worthy, but Devils will reign unless we get in so thick that there is no chance for them." The sad tale of the Grosh brothers, who could have struck it rich but died instead, takes one into the chaotic world of miners.

The reasons why Nevada became a territory in 1861 and just three years later in 1864, a state, are fascinating. Zanjani relates Nevada's early history with a social

emphasis, making dry dates and historic occurrences come alive. Her book should be required reading for students of Nevada history.

Zanjani's work also appeared last fall in an anthology edited by Cheryll Glotfelty, and published by the University of Nevada Press. Her short story "Making History" had originally appeared in 1994 in *New Trails*, edited by John Jakes and Martin H. Greenberg.

Zanjani is currently working on her 10<sup>th</sup> book, which documents the life of Helen J. Stewart, a southern Nevada pioneer. We look forward to the newest addition to Zanjani's repertoire of excellent story-telling about our fascinating Nevada women.

Kay Sanders

## West Charleston Library Location For Gala Celebration of Nevada Women's History Month and Clark County Centennial Celebration

At the invitation of NWHP-Southern Region member and Master Librarian Denise Gerdes of the West Charleston Library, an all-day Gala Celebration of Nevada Women's History Month and Clark County's Centennial was held on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Clark County Commissioner Lawrence Weekly presented a proclamation in honor of NWHP's founder Jean Ford (see photo at right showing State President Dianne Steel, Mary Gafford, and Dr. Linda Miller holding the framed document). The proclamation is to be placed in the Jean Ford Room at East Flamingo Library.

President Dianne Steel spoke on the origin of NWHP, which was video-taped by Dr. Marlene Adrian, Director of Women of Diversity, Inc. (copies will be given to Jean's two daughters and to the Jean Ford Room).

Other Southern Region members who participated in the

morning program included Mesquite Club President Betty Rumford, GFWC- Regional President Mary Ann Hantout, and past Nevada State NSDAR Regent and current President of Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims Joan Dimmitt.

After lunch Dr. Linda Miller performed a Chautauquan presentation of Helen J. Stewart. Other Southern Region members who participated in the afternoon activities were Joan LeMere, aviatrix Marie McMillan, and Mimi Rodden. Dr. M. Adrian did a video presentation on famous Nevada women, while Dr. Miller

(Continued on page 9)





## RGJ Featured 22 Historic Women in March

For the third year in a row, biographies that appear on the Nevada Women's History Project Web site, [www.nevadawomen.org](http://www.nevadawomen.org), have been condensed and printed in a northern Nevada newspaper. This year the Reno Gazette-Journal Neighbors Section editor chose to feature 22 Nevada women during the month of March, National Women's History Month.

Working with Web site editor Kay Sanders and Donna Clontz, authors of the original biographies agreed to condense their works to 250 words – not an easy task. When the original authors were not available, NWHP volunteers, including Marcia Cuccaro, Liz Riseden, Nancy Oakley, Kay, and Donna, wrote the shortened versions. Photos were found for all but one of those chosen.

In order of appearance, those featured were: Louise Aloys Smith, Josephine Reed Pearl, Teresa D'Alosio Knight, Edna Nevada Catlin Baker, Jean Sybil McElrath, Joanne de Longchamps, Martha Letcher Gottschalk, Jesse Callahan Mahoney, Idah Meacham Strobridge, Sallie Maria Ruperti Springmeyer, Lillian K. Malcolm, Caroline Elizabeth Heinzer Aufdermaur, Edna Crauch Trunnell Eddy, Frances Gertrude Friedhoff, Mary Aileen Norton Evans, Viola Annie West Goldsworthy, Hazel Baker Denton, Bird May Wilson, Carrie Ellen Willis Wilson, Martha Gruss Barlow, Wuzzie Dick George, and Mary Stoddard Doten.

Last year the Reno Gazette-Journal ran 25 biographies. In 2007 the Nevada Appeal featured 30 historic Nevada women.

Responses to the articles have been favorable. Awareness of the history of women in Nevada has been stimulated and we hope that this increased awareness will result in more people doing research and writing about the many Nevada women whose tales are waiting to be told.

Many thanks to all of you who participated. We invite members and interested others to work on producing new biographies to showcase in March 2010 once again in celebration of National Women's History Month.

Kay Sanders

**Articles for the August 2009 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor, Holly Walton-Buchanan, Ph.D., no later than July 23rd, 2009. E-mail her at: [mtjudah@aol.com](mailto:mtjudah@aol.com)**

(Continued from page 8)

did a video presentation on Sarah Winnemucca. Donna Andress, who spoke on her book on Eldorado Canyon, is not a So. Region member, but we are working on her!

The GOOD News: Master Librarian Denise Gerdes has invited NWHP-Southern Region back next year to celebrate accomplishments of other famous Nevada women. Mark your calendar: Saturday, March 27, 2010. And lunch just MIGHT be served!

Mary Gafford

### SOUTHERN REGION MEMBERS

Mark Your Calendar: Saturday,  
March 27, 2010

For More on Famous Nevada  
Women

## STATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Thank you to all of you who have sent in your 2009 membership dues. The total number of individual members statewide now stands at 226. We are happy to welcome ten new individual members this year. We have 28 clubs and libraries that are organizational members. We would like to welcome a new corporate sponsor: Cynthia Picket, MSW, LCSW, LADC, Inc. If you know of anyone who might have forgotten to renew their membership for 2009, please encourage him/her to do so. It is easy to forget dues to organizations that have different fiscal year dates.

Betty Miller

## New & Rejoined Members

Ana Maria Asahara

Lynn Bremer

Jamie Dyga

Denise M. Gerdes

Mary Beth Heavrin

Karen Lampus

Jane Lincoln

Beverly McBride

Lucina Lea Moses

Jeanne Williams



## Oral History Training

NWHP members held their second of three trainings on March 7, 2009 in Reno. The first training was held on January 17, 2009, and addressed topics such as the basics of conducting oral histories, interview ethics and types of recording equipment. Twenty-two individuals attended this first training.

UNR Oral History Director Dr. Mary Larson leads all of the trainings, which are geared to individuals simply wishing to learn techniques on oral histories for personal use to the additional trainings necessary for our UNR-NWHP Oral History partnership

that was described in the February 2009 newsletter.

The second training, held on March 7<sup>th</sup>, aimed at helping participants in obtaining a higher skill level for conducting oral histories, specifically project design, interview style and oral history final products. Participants included Patti Bernard, Mary Ann Convis, Nancy Cummings, Grace Davis, Carleen Ernest, Jackie Falkenroth, Mary Lee Fulkerson, Carolyn Gardner, Martha Gould, Marian LaVoy, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, JoAnn Peden, Carrie Porter and Helen Studwell.

The third and final training will

be held May 14<sup>th</sup> in Reno. The final outcome of this training will be the formulation of a general matrix that NWHP oral historians will utilize to identify women who through some aspect of their life experiences can provide valuable historical perspectives on major topics and time segments of women's activities and/or accomplishments through out Nevada.

Both organizations will provide a typed transcript as well as an audio version of each oral history training session to researchers and other interested members of the general public.

Patti Bernard

## Lincoln Workshop

### Battle Ground Nevada: The Lincoln Bicentennial and Nevada Statehood

The Nevada Council for History Education received a grant from the "Teaching with Primary Sources" program sponsored by the Library of Congress at the University of Northern Colorado at Greeley. The grant funded two teacher workshops on how to use the Library of Congress Web site. Our Nevada theme -- *The Lincoln Bicentennial and Nevada Statehood* -- allowed the teachers to learn how to find primary source materials on Lincoln and Nevada statehood.



William Peck as Lincoln

Each participant received five pamphlets on Lincoln, a Nevada coin set, a Nevada flag and Nevada pencil, in addition to lunch and materials.

Dr. Linda Miller, Jeff Hinton and Dr. Christy Keeler were the trainers for the program held at the new library of the College of Southern Nevada on February 28. Living history interpreters included William Peck from California (Abraham Lincoln) and Bob Nylen, Curator of History of the Nevada State Museum in Carson City (Senator William Stewart). "Senator Stewart" shared his recollections of President Lincoln and the role of the Pony Express. As the state coordinator for the Lincoln Bicentennial, Nylen also discussed his recent trip to Washington, D.C., to celebrate the Lincoln Bicentennial.

A similar program was held April 11 at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno. Living history interpreters Wally Earhart (Abraham Lincoln) and Bob Nylen

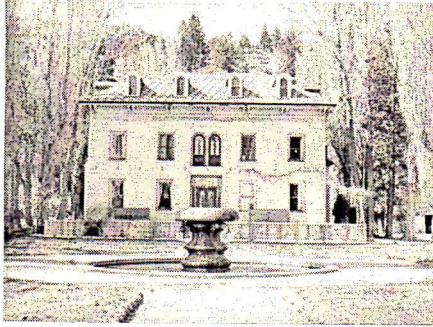
(Senator Stewart) accompanied Paulette Grune, who discussed Victorian manners and dress. Jeff Hinton and Dr. Linda Miller were the trainers for the afternoon program, in which the participants learned how to use the Library of Congress Web site. NWHP member Holly Van Valkenburgh, was a participant. She was also on the NWHP Teacher of the Year Award selection committee, which had just chosen Jeff Hinton as the winner. After watching Jeff in action, Holly announced: "That's why Jeff is the NWHP Teacher of the year!"

Dr. Linda Karen Miller





## Remembering Bowers Mansion

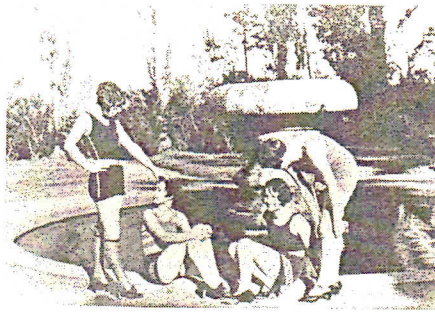


Bowers Mansion

Most Nevadans know the story of Eiley Orrum Bowers and her famous mansion in Washoe Valley. We learned in school how she made her fortune on the Comstock and, together with husband Sandy Bowers, built the magnificent house and furnished it with fine European furniture only to lose it all in a court house auction in 1876. Since then, Bowers Mansion has gone through several transformations, including use as a resort operated by Henry

Riter for 40 years. Since 1946, it has been a public park. Now as the Mansion is approaching its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Washoe County Parks Department is researching its history and gathering information, memories, and photographs to be part of a commemorative display. NWHP members are requested to contact Tammy at 747-8849 or [tbuzick@charter.net](mailto:tbuzick@charter.net) about contributing to the project.

*Tammy Buzick*



1920's baths at Bowers Mansion

## Test Your Knowledge of Women's History

This new section will draw from a series of rather tough questions about famous – and infamous – women in American history, gathered from the National Women's History Project Web site ([www.nwhp.org](http://www.nwhp.org)) as well as our own Nevada Women's History Project Web site ([www.nevadawomen.org](http://www.nevadawomen.org)). In case you need to check your responses, the answers are found on page 5.

1. What woman wrote the first version of the Equal Rights Amendment (1923)?
2. Who was the first "First Lady" to develop her own political and media identity?
3. Which Mexican-American woman was the leading money winner in the Ladies Professional Golf Association for many years?
4. Which African-American woman founded Bethune-Cookman College, established the National Council of Negro Women, and served as an advisor on minority affairs to President Franklin D. Roosevelt?
5. Who organized Nevada's first private school and was the first instructor and librarian at the new University of Nevada (1887)?
6. Who was the woman who refused to give up her seat to a white man on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama, in 1955, thus sparking the civil rights movement of the following decade?
7. Who was the first African-American woman elected to Congress?
8. Which Reno, NV, woman became the second female Director of the U. S. Mint (1961-69)?
9. Which African-American woman won the Nobel Prize for Literature?
10. Who opened up social work as a profession for women, and who also won the 1931 Nobel Peace Prize for her anti-war organizing work?

*Holly Walton-Buchanan*

## NWHP Leadership

### Northern Region

#### Steering Committee:

Mary Anne Convis: Chair  
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Kay Sanders: Communications Co-Chair  
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot:  
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Holly Van Valkenburgh: Research Historian

### Southern Region

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Dr. Linda Miller: Past President  
Barbara Senninger: Parliamentarian

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(775) 786-2335 • FAX (775) 826-6865  
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E-mail [NWHP@pyramid.net](mailto:NWHP@pyramid.net)

Visit the Nevada Women's History Project Online at [www.nevadawomen.org](http://www.nevadawomen.org)

### Membership Application (Calendar Year)

Individual Membership: Dues \$30/Year • Student Membership: Dues \$15/Year  
Organizational Membership: Dues \$50/Year • Corporate Sponsor: Dues \$250/Year

Name: Individual or Student \_\_\_\_\_

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

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

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

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Mail to NWHP: North members – 770 Smithridge Dr., Ste. 300, Reno, NV 89502  
South members - 4755 S. Pearl St., Las Vegas, NV 89121-6007

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