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NEVADA STATE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Including News of Nevada Historical Society

Nevada State Railroad Museum • Nevada State Museum & Historical Society • Lost City Museum

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Nevada State Library NUMBER 4

State Legislators

JUL 13 1985

Approve Plans for Museums

Documents Section

By **SCOTT MILLER**

Administrator, Department of Museums & History

The 1985 Legislative Session may well be remembered as one of the most important and controversial sessions for the Department of Museums and History since its creation in 1979. The session was important because of the endorsements and funding we received for several new programs recommended by Governor Bryan in the executive budget. Also of importance was the passage of Senate Bill 116 which makes major revisions in the internal structure of the Department and provides the Board of Trustees with authority to develop policy on several issues which affect all the State-sponsored museums. The controversy centered around a decision to implement an admissions fee at the State Museum in Carson City.

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Perhaps the easiest way to present the overall picture is to evaluate the individual agencies in light of the funding provided for their programming. By far the most successful agency was the Virginia & Truckee Railroad Museum which, as of July 1st, has been renamed the Nevada State Railroad Museum. In addition to changing the agency name, both houses of the Legislature endorsed the five year development plan which will culminate in a railroad theme park and museum. The proposed development includes a blend of State and private funding plus several major material donations, all of which will be used to complete five major projects during the coming biennium.

The State, in cooperation with Carson City, will finance a new paved access road at the intersection of Highway 395 and Fairview Drive. This was the most critical of the agency's requests since without the road none of the other projects could have proceeded. The access road will have a stoplight system at the intersection which will facilitate easy access to the property.

The Legislature also funded the track laying project that includes approximately one mile of trackage which forms a large circle with several spur lines connecting the main buildings. Engineering work is already ongoing and the

grading and bed construction will begin sometime this fall.

Perhaps the most satisfying project which the Legislature funded was the continuation of the restoration program. The money provided will allow the museum to develop operational passenger vehicles which will be used for tourist rides once the new track is in place. Over the past several years a Fleischmann Foundation grant made possible the immaculate restoration of several old V&T cars and engines. The State funds will be used to augment the restored museum quality pieces with several less ornate but more functional "people carriers."

All of these projects will be dovetailed with a new privately funded interpretive center which will house the restored equipment. The park will include an operational depot, a station master's house and water tank. The new interpretive center will eventually house the gift shop, offices and a research room along with railroad exhibits. The depot area will serve as a point of departure for train rides and eventually for living history programs.

All of these efforts are scheduled for completion next summer and if all goes well the new Nevada State Railroad Museum and Park will celebrate its grand opening on the 4th of July 1986.

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas will soon have its own Director. Our lawmakers saw fit to concur with the Governor's recommendation and created the position which will have administrative control over our newest State museum. This action opens the door for more rapid development of the Las Vegas facility as well as providing for the much needed direction which only an in-house position can supply.

The Las Vegas Museum has also received a much needed "one shot" appropriation for purchasing equipment. When the museum was constructed there was very little equipment provided for in the furnishings budget and this

(Continued on page six)

Awards Banquet Honors Howard Hickson and Past Board Members

The Board of Trustees of the Department of Museums and History held its annual awards dinner at the Ormsby House in Carson City on the evening of May 24th. After a delicious dinner, Bill Wright, Chairman of the Board, presented appreciation plaques to past Board members Joe Guild, James Hulse, Hugh Shamberger, and Bryce Wilson.

The highlight of the evening was the announcement of the Board's 1985 Annual Award winner, Howard Hickson of the Northeastern Nevada Historical Society and Museum in Elko. The announcement was greeted by a loud round of applause from the audience. Chairman Wright introduced C. J. Hadley, Editor of *Nevada Magazine* and a close friend of the award recipient, who addressed the gathered group citing Mr. Hickson's accomplishments and noting some humorous incidents that have transpired during their friendship. Mr. Hickson introduced his guests, his wife Terri, C. J. Hadley, Thelma and Jim Calhoun, former NSM Director, and Ann and Walter Long, former Director of Exhibits at the Museum. He noted that it was especially rewarding to be recognized by a group of his peers in the museum field.

The evening's events ended with the presentation of a historic film and talk on the 1897 Corbett-Fitzsimmons boxing match by Phillip Earl of the Historical Society.—
Judy Hendrix, Assistant Director, NSM



Howard Hickson, left above, is being congratulated by Board Chairman Bill Wright upon receiving the Board's 1985 Annual Award. At the left are former Board members with their plaques, from left, James Hulse, Hugh Shamberger, Bill Wright, Bryce Wilson, and Joe Guild III.—Newsletter photo

'Nevada Buckaroo' Display Opens at NHS

"Nevada Buckaroo" opened June 19 in the Nevada Historical Society's Changing Gallery in the museum at 1650 N. Virginia Street, Reno, with a delightful reception. Originally conceived by the Nevada State Museum, the exhibition depicts the lifestyle of the cowmen of the Great Basin. We have added photographs and artifacts from the Historical Society's collections. This show will run through December, and we will be scheduling interpretive programs in connection with it for the fall. In the Downtown Gallery, in the Reno-Tahoe Visitors' Center, 135 N. Sierra Street, the show "Fire Lads and Lassies: Smoke Eating in Northern Nevada" continues through the summer.

We are very pleased to welcome our newest staff member. Cheryl A. Young assumed the duties of Assistant Director of the Nevada Historical Society on July 1. Her principal responsibilities are editing the *Quarterly* and other forthcoming publications as well as taking care of the artifact collections. For the past four years Mrs. Young has been in the Manship House Restoration in Jackson, Mississippi, a component of the Mississippi State Museum system. She has also been assistant editor of the *Mississippi State Archaeological Quarterly*. We are very happy Cheryl has joined us.

NHS Docent Council Receives Tax-Exempt Status from IRS

The Nevada Historical Society Docent Council recently received notification from the San Francisco office of the Internal Revenue Service declaring it a tax-exempt organization. This will now permit the docents to engage in limited fund raising activities supporting selected programs of the NHS.

Barbara Harmon, Docent Council training director, packaged a bus tour May 7 to the Nevada State Museum and Bowers Mansion for 24 Council members. Bob Nylen, NSM Registrar, planned and coordinated the behind-the-scenes glimpse of the Carson City facility. Explaining their work to the group were Doug Southerland, Director of Exhibits; Ann Pinzl, Curator of Natural History, and Amy Dansie of the Anthropology staff. Returning to Reno, the group stopped at Bowers Mansion for a private tour conducted by Betty Hood, who has long played an active role in the restoration of the building and the acquisition of its furnishings.

Commencing Oct. 1, the fifth NHS docent training class gets underway. On the following seven Tuesday afternoons (1-3 p.m.), training will continue at the NHS. This year's class will be restricted to fewer than 20 individuals. Training Director Harmon urges an early sign-up for members wishing to expand their awareness of Nevada's unique history. Docents then share their knowledge with groups visiting the museum and its Changing Gallery. For details, please call 789-0190.—*Frank Brown, NHS Docent Council*

Upcoming in the fall is Folk-Faire '85, our annual celebration of Nevada's popular arts and crafts. Again this year it will be held in conjunction with "The Great Reno Hot Air Balloon Races," Sept. 7-8 at Rancho San Rafael. The new Wilbur D. May Museum will host our exhibits. So, set your alarm clocks real early, come and enjoy the balloon ascents and then join us in exploring how our predecessors lived.

In the last issue we inadvertently omitted the name of one of the early authors in the *This Was Nevada* series—Richard C. Datin, now Curator of the Nevada State Railroad Museum. Sorry, Dick!—*Peter L. Bandurraga, Director, Nevada Historical Society*

Lost City Celebrating 50th Year with Traveling Exhibit

The year 1985 marks the 50th anniversary of the Lost City Museum. This anniversary is being recognized in several ways by the museum staff. A special 50th anniversary edition of the Lost City commemorative medallion in a limited quantity is being produced in both silver and bronze. The medallion should go on sale by September.

An exhibit recounting the history of the museum will be on display at Lost City from September through December. This exhibit will consist mostly of old photographs and memorabilia. At the same time, the museum will be featured in *Nevada Magazine*. A small reception will be held in November to commemorate the anniversary.

In addition, a traveling exhibit explaining the Lost City prehistory will tour the state beginning July 21 at the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko. A complete schedule of the tour includes:

1985

Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko 7/21 thru 8/21
Humboldt Museum, Winnemucca 8/23 thru 9/23
Churchill County Museum, Fallon 9/25 thru 10/25
Nevada Historical Society, Reno 10/27 thru 11/27
Nevada State Museum, Carson City . . . 11/29 thru 1/10/86

1986

Valley of Fire State Park, Overton 2/17 thru 3/17
Nevada State Museum &
Historical Society, Las Vegas 3/19 thru 4/19
Lyon County Museum, Yerington 4/21 thru 5/21
Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah 5/23 thru 6/23
White Pine Public Museum, Ely 6/25 thru 7/25

Lost City Museum Schedule of Exhibits

June 1 thru Aug. 31—"The Desert—The Land Between the Mountains," a photo exhibit by Gary Adams of Las Vegas.

Sept. 1 thru 30th—Watercolors by Joyce Burke of Mesquite.
—*Kathryne Olson, Curator, Lost City Museum*

Genoa Courthouse

Museum Offers Look at Past

By **MARY SETTELMEYER**
Newsletter Editor
Carson Valley Historical Society

The Genoa Courthouse Museum is a stately, four-square edifice, overlooking scenic Carson Valley in Douglas County. It was built in 1865 of brick kilned in Genoa. It was the Douglas County Courthouse from 1865 to 1916, at which time the county seat was moved to Minden. From 1916 to 1956 it was occupied by the Genoa Elementary School. In 1969 the building was leased by the Carson Valley Historical Society from the State of Nevada and used as a mini-museum. In 1971 the state deeded this property to the historical society. The grand opening of the Genoa Courthouse Museum was June 3, 1978.

Those beavers, who had hearts for history, were the wonder workers, They tell the whole story.

The vision of a museum began in 1961 when a little band of women, descendants of pioneer families, enthusiastic about the unique history of Carson Valley, organized the Carson Valley Historical Society. The purpose was to collect and preserve papers and documents of historical value. This collection, known as the Van Sickle collection, is in the Douglas County Library in Minden for public use.

The drive to acquire the abandoned Genoa Courthouse was begun in 1967 when Jack Wood was president of the Society. The late Lois Stodieck Jones, an artist, and a native of Carson Valley, visited the disreputable structure with its 23 broken windows and declared, "It's an historic building and worth salvaging." Architect Ed Parsons, AIA, after a thorough inspection, echoed the opinion, "It's structurally sound—worth restoring." It was sound! It survived two earthquakes and a fire.

In 1969 the building was leased as a temporary museum. Volunteers rolled up their sleeves, scraped, scrubbed, patched and painted. Lois Jones was appointed by the Society as restoration chairman. She assumed, with determination, the responsibilities as curator, director and accessions registrar. Jim and Gerry Lawrence, valley artists, assisted with manual labor and advice on exhibit details. Arnold Trimmer, a Genoa old timer, was a walking library on facts about the original building. Hans Jepsen, whose father was county clerk-treasurer when Genoa was the county seat, had knowledge of how things were in those days: He was also the Society's first treasurer.

Grace Dangberg, who spearheaded the founding of the Society, was a motivating power in the restoration. She contributed much financially. Profits were donated from her books, "Carson Valley," "Conflict on the Carson," and others. In 1976 Eva Scarselli, with her matchless enthusiasm, became director of the museum, assuming responsibility for business affairs. She had a flair for publicity, writing letters, newspaper articles, ads and appeals for



Among the many displays at the Genoa Courthouse Museum is a replica of an old-time kitchen.—Newsletter photo

funds. Everyone everywhere became aware of the restoration project.

During the arduous ten years of restoration, presidents Wood, Johnson, Heise, and Storke, with other men and women, gave unstintingly of time, expertise, and brawn.

Funding was from various sources: The National and State Bicentennial Commissions, State of Nevada, County of Douglas, The Fleischmann Foundation, local organizations, memorial gifts, and miscellaneous fund-raising projects.

Two new exhibits, arranged by Curator Walter Long, attract visitors: the agriculture exhibit and the V&T Railroad display. Space was made available with the addition of the annex in 1982 under President Jack Crawford's vigorous guidance.

One of the popular exhibits is the dungeon-like jail,

complete with an authentic ball and chain. Another is the blacksmith shop, a very complete display of a shop once located in Millerville. There's a buckaroo room and a replica of a stamp mill; a post office with a postmaster; a clerk's office with a clerk, and the courtroom has a properly gowned judge. There's a schoolroom with kids and teacher; there's a kitchen, serving as a reminder of the days when the building was a schoolhouse and lunches were served. The Indian room, with its basketry and the diorama by Curator Long, captures much attention as do the doll and fancy-work exhibits. Fascinating is the Ferris Wheel display. George Ferris, the inventor, was a member of a local family.

Visitors have come from all fifty states and many foreign countries. For the first showing of exhibits in 1969, 500 registered; 1970, 2000; 1978, the year of the Grand Opening, 7800; 1984, over 12,000.

The 1985 summer attractions will include paintings by local artists, photo shows, musicals, a fancy quilt display, and the Meyer-Kassel exhibit.

Docents welcome visitors daily from 10:00 to 4:30—May to October.

Historic Photos of Southern Nevada Sought

The Nevada State Museum and Historical Society in Las Vegas is actively seeking historical photographs from the southern part of the state. The collection was recently enhanced by a gift from the Las Vegas News Bureau, containing many photographs of Las Vegas, Lake Mead, the Test Site, and entertainment figures, dating from the 1950s. They have also acquired some rare photographs of Goodsprings mine activity in the 1930s and of the Westside section of Las Vegas in the 1940s. If you have any photographs of southern Nevada that could be shared, donated, or copied, please contact the Museum at 385-0115.

NSM To Unveil Plaque Honoring Thomas Wilson

On July 26 at 4:00 p.m., the Nevada State Museum will be holding an unveiling ceremony for a bronze plaque which will hang in the Museum in memory of Thomas Cave Wilson, longtime Reno advertising executive and historian. Mr. Wilson was a member of the Nevada State Museum Board for 25 years from 1956 to 1981. He also served as a member of the Joint Board of Trustees of the Department of Museums and History from its inception in 1980 to his untimely death in April of 1984. The Museum has received many donations in Mr. Wilson's memory from the multitude of friends who grieved at his passing.

For further information about the ceremony, please contact Judy Hendrix at the Nevada State Museum, Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89710, or telephone 885-4810.

New Officers Installed By NSM Docent Council

The Docent Council of the Nevada State Museum held its 14th annual installation of officers on Wednesday, June 5, 1985 at a luncheon at D'Anello's restaurant in Carson City with 38 members and guests present. Docent Mary Crawford conducted the installation ceremony. The new officers for the 1985-86 year are: Elizabeth Davis, chairman; Mildred (Babe) Delich, vice chairman; Ursula Daines, recording secretary; Corinne Childers, treasurer; and Margie Gibson, corresponding secretary.

The Council was formed in the spring of 1972 for the purpose of offering volunteer service to the Nevada State Museum. During the past docent year there were 5565 hours of volunteer work registered in all departments of the museum. Gift shop sales increased 13% during this period.—*Gloria Gunn, NSM Docent Council*



New NSM Docent officers are shown with Ellen Couch, outgoing chairman. From the left, new officers are Margie Gibson, corresponding secretary; Mildred Delich, vice chairman; Elizabeth Davis, chairman; Ursula Daines, recording secretary; and Ellen Couch. Missing was Corrine Childers, treasurer.—*Newsletter* photo

Legislators Approve Museum Plans

(Continued from page one)

appropriation will help correct many of the shortfalls.

The Vegas museum will also receive some additional closed circuit camera equipment which will extend the security monitoring system in and around the building.

LOST CITY MUSEUM

The Lost City Museum was given funds for developing a traveling exhibit which will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the original adobe museum built by the Civilian Conservation Corps. The exhibit will form a part of the overall celebration of the completion of Hoover Dam which will be held in September of this year.

Lost City also received funds to purchase a micro computer which will allow the museum to tie into the Department's computer network. Once on line the machine will facilitate collections data transfer between Lost City and the other museums in Vegas, Reno and Carson City.

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

The Nevada State Museum in Carson City will receive a complete electrical overhaul and an upgraded security system. The old U.S. Mint building was found wanting during a recent fire inspection and the Legislature funded the overhaul. Because of the upheaval associated with this project the museum will probably be closed to the public for a month or more. However, this time period will also allow us to carry out several renovations in the history and earth science galleries, so hopefully it will all be worthwhile.

Carson City was also fortunate to have a half time security position added to the personnel roster. The new position will be of great value in maintaining our in-house security during peak visitation months.

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In Reno, the Historical Society has received funds for buying books for the library and also for conservation supplies and instructional material. This precedent was a major step forward for NHS since none of these categories had previously been considered by the Legislature. The money will provide for an increase of library collections and substantially increase the agency's ability to care for its manuscript and photo collections.

The funds for educational supplies will be funneled into the ongoing production of educational units which are used by seventh and eighth grade classroom teachers as an aid in Nevada History classes. These units are produced by the Curator of Education on subjects ranging from Nevada symbols to the history of mining on the Comstock. They are then distributed to all seventh grade classrooms throughout the State free of charge. I believe this to be an excellent investment in Nevada's educational system which is made possible by a very small sum of money.

CARSON CITY'S ADMISSION CHARGE

Finally, the new admissions charge should be addressed as to what it means to our members and how it may affect our future activities. Starting July 1st all of the visitors at the Carson City Museum who are 18 and older and *not* museum members will be charged 50 cents for admission. This is due to a Legislative action which took place during the last few weeks of the session. The museum is expected to generate \$96,000 revenue from this action in each year of the coming biennium.

I think it is important to explain how and why this has come to pass. First, when the subject was raised, everyone in this Department, including our trustees, stood adamantly against the idea as has been the case for the last five or six Legislative sessions. In the past, our efforts to prevent such a move were successful at a very early stage of discussion. In general, there was no fiscal imperative great enough to cause the Legislature to seriously consider an admission charge. We have nonetheless had to fight the issue many times and always on the basis of how drastically a fee would detract from our attendance and act as a counterproductive move to expanding the State's tourism and cultural activities.

This time around there was not only a strong fiscal consideration facing the Legislature but also an increase in the number of Legislators who believe in user fees. The other major consideration in all of the discussions was that both houses of the Legislature had by then agreed to fund *all* of Governor Bryan's recommendations for this department. This had never happened before and it was particularly impressive considering the level of expansion which several of the agencies were recommended for.

In the end the decision was reached by the Board of Trustees, on my recommendation, that the proposal not be allowed to become a politically divisive issue and to accept the action. In many ways this was a result of having fought against the idea for so long based on abstract statistics and unproven contentions that we would suffer substantial cuts in attendance. In other words, we are tired of fighting and now we're going to prove if this really is a bad idea or if there is life after admission charge.

The admissions controversy aside, I want to advise all of our members and supporters that throughout the budget preparation and Legislative session this Department received unprecedented support from our Governor and Legislators. With rare exception the Assembly and Senate concurred on our budgets and supported the various bills which we submitted for action. I would in particular like to single out the Senate Finance and Assembly Ways and Means committees, both of which gave us the solid backing for plans to develop and expand the State's museums. When you have the chance let them know you appreciate their concerns.

Railroad Museum Opens 6th Season

Under clear skies over 2,300 people attended the four-day opening weekend of the Virginia & Truckee Railroad Museum. Many of the visitors came to see not only V&T engines No. 22 and 25 operate on Sunday and Monday (Memorial Day), but the restored rolling stock including the nearly completed V&T coach No. 4. The large turnout was due primarily to the appearance of polemicist Travis T. Hipp who broadcast his talk show live over Carson City's KPTL from the Museum Sunday morning. Interviews with the writer, "Friends" president Jim Clark, noted author Ted Wurm, V&T railfans Ron and Bernie Allen, Chris deWitt of Short Lines Enterprises and others did little to stop the flood of visitors. The crowd that descended upon the Museum on Monday was no doubt drawn by the fine color shot of our restored engines that appeared in that morning's *Reno Gazette-Journal*.

As in the past, the occasion prompted a number of people to donate some of their fine and historic keepsakes to the Museum. Among the prized items received are two 1870 period ledgers delineating property owners of Carson City lots, a bond issued by the Nevada Short Line, a set of original maps and drawings used to illustrate the recently published *The Silver Short Line* book, old postcard scenes of Carson Valley, a brass V&T switch key, a scale model of a locomotive, and a box full of old railroad rule books and manuals, plus two brakeman's lanterns—all from a retired Southern Pacific engineer who once worked on the Mina Branch as well as the N-C-O.

Like a friend in need, several members of the "Friends of the V&T" were on hand during the busy two days polishing, firing and running the engines. Other "Friends" acted as a ground crew to see that people and machines were aware of each other. Once again Margie Gibson stood behind the gift counter providing hundreds of answers and items to the public. Former Museum registrar Dorothy Paulsen

stopped by for a brief visit—only to be recruited to help a beleaguered docent for two days. Many thanks to Margie and Dorothy, Jack Gibson, Jim Clark, Cary Henderson, Bob Nysten, Bob Middleton, Bob Thill, Tom Davis, Loren Jahn, and others who made the opening weekend a great success.

The following weekend was not nearly as hectic when the Museum hosted two tour groups sponsored by the Central Coast Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. We fired up the *Inyo* and rolled out the V&T equipment to the delight of some 54 members and guests who traveled from San Jose and the bay area.

While V&T coach No. 4 awaits the final restoration touches, mainly the installation of its dark green seat cushions, the crew of Short Line Enterprises is engaged in restoring the tender of the *Glenbrook* locomotive to its as-built appearance in 1875. It was only a month or so ago that most of the new and old, finished and unfinished parts were scattered about the shop. And since then those wood and iron items have been re-assembled. The tender should be completed by mid-July and will take its place behind the unrestored engine in the Museum.

Just days before the Museum opened, an old Carson City home was jacked up and moved about a mile south on U.S. 395 to a site adjoining the Wabuska depot at the railroad museum. As the long-time residence of the late Louis Nelson, the one-story building was donated by Carson contractor Gary Leibhard and the Nelson Estate. Future plans call for its usage as the station agent's house. Another donation and a very welcome one, too, came in the form of a fire hydrant and all the necessary fittings from Western Nevada Supply of Sparks. It was recently installed next to the depot currently being restored by Museum crews.—*Richard Datin, Curator, Nevada State Railroad Museum*

Showing at NSM from July 17 until Aug. 20 is the premier Nevada 85 photography display. Many local area photographers have their work on exhibition, including this picture, "Debris, Old V&T Boxcar." Best of Show Award Black & White, taken by James Gilmore, NSM Exhibits Technician/Photographer.



Acquisitions Listed For April and May

Acquisitions by facilities of the Department of Museums and History for the months of April and May are listed as follows:

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

Gaming Control Board, Carson City—2 Japanese fans with holders; 2 salt and pepper shaker sets; blouse; scarf; wicker baskets (set of 3); linen table cloth with 6 matching napkins; blouse with tie belt; small printed table covering; change purse; salt and pepper shakers in wooden storage box; wooden display stand; 2 silver plated engraved dishes. **Mrs. Roger Peterson, Minneapolis, Minn.**—1920s green beaded dress. **Mr. Joseph C. Gullid III, Reno**—Gift presented to Judge Clark J. Guild in honor of the Judge's 80th birthday by the staff of the Nevada State Museum on March 13, 1967; made in the shape of the State of Nevada, out of native Nevada materials: wood base is mountain mahogany from Elko County, stone is aragonite from Cloverdale, NV, the official Nevada State Museum seal is cast out of silver. **Dorothe A. Thill, Carson City**—Shawl, ca. 1840s; fan; small purse; 4 pieces of jewelry; mother of pearl card case; Democratic National Convention (San Francisco, June 28, 1920) guest gallery ticket.

Edith Kit Kilidzle, Virginia City (donated in the name of Edith Palmer of Palmers County Inn)—Engraved colored print of the "Great Auk" Alca Impennis, engraved and coloured by R. Havell, 1836. No. 69, plate CCXXL. **Judge Ray, Carson City**—Ormsby County Death Certificate of Record ledger, July 1893 to December 1896. **Phyllis Walsh Estate, Reno**—Collection of miscellaneous hats; misc. documents; woman's veterans uniform. **John F. Hill, Escondido, CA**—Commemorative souvenir medal from the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight, Carson City, Nevada, March 1897.

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Milt Palmer, Las Vegas News Bureau—50 photographs depicting southern Nevada from the 1950s to the present: topics include the Nevada Test Site, Lake Mead, Las Vegas city growth, and entertainment figures. **Paul Hughes, Victorville, CA**—Historic photographs of Goodsprings and Sandy Valley including rare glimpses of Goodsprings mines and of its school. **Mrs. Marion Challenger, Palo Alto, CA**—2 nurses uniforms worn by public health workers during World War II in Las Vegas; photographs of Blue Diamond and the westside section of Las Vegas in the 1940s. **Paul Hughes**—Photographs of early day Goodsprings. **Harvey Fuller**—Two books on gaming tokens.

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Duana Lampa, Carson City—32 photos of Dayton from family album of Polly Wilson. **John Sanford, Reno**—Collection of NHS Papers, Reports & Quarterlies. **Louie Gardella, Reno**—Copy of *Minetto Family History*. **Ron Bommarito, Genoa**—Letterbook of Kentucky Mine records (1890-1897); menus from Yerington restaurants; microfilm copies of Sutro Tunnel Company records (1875-1876); printer's paste-up of 1964 Harold's Club calendar. **Mrs. Delbert Russell and Dee Boskle, Reno**—Copy of autobiography of Lucian Neal Anderson. **Warren Richardson, Reno**—5 stock certificates from Nevada mining companies. **Hermine Giroux Franbe, Mesa, AZ**—Business records, photographs and miscellaneous documents of Dr. Edward David Giroux. **Charles S. Watson Jr., Director NORA, Carson City**—Records of the Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association, 1958-1985.

LOST CITY MUSEUM

Sylvia J. Moon—Enamel coffee pot; pair scissors; 8 horse shoes; 16 railroad spikes; 22 large nails; horse harness with blinders.

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Wendell P. Hammon, Sacramento, CA—Southern Pacific RR pocket time table; Carter Brothers purchase order dated May 10, 1887. **Mr. and Mrs. Norman E. Iverson, Apple Valley, CA**—V&T Ry. C.O.D. check; 2 V&T excess check-record stubs; V&T passenger way bill booklet; scrip charges for excess baggage, based for collection and arrangements for checking on trans-continental scrip; Supplement No. 2 to Western Territory Baggage Tariff No. 25-3; United States Railroad Administration, Western Baggage Tariff No. 4; Supplement No. 3 to Western Territory Baggage Tariff No. 25-3; Western Passenger Bureau, Special Supplement No. 3; general baggage rules; U.S. Railroad Administration, Western Passenger Bureau Supplement No. 2; 3 newspaper clippings; V&T general passenger department letter to all agents signed by S.C. Bigelow; misc. V&T agent's local excess baggage check stubs; 27 misc. letters and documents pertaining to V&T; V&T baggage ledger from May 1904-June 1917. **Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Colquhoun, Reno**—Cast iron coach threshold plate; 5 paper items relating to the V&T; 6 postcards; and the loan of faded 5x7 photo of Colquhoun family. **Duan Bohall, Carson City**—86 prints made for the museum at no charge of Guy L. Dunscomb photographs. **Glenn Lane, Redlands, CA**—One inch to one foot scale model of caboose No. 14, model used in movie *Union Pacific*. **State Senator Donald Mello, Sparks**—Brakeman insignia; 3 Southern Pacific coat buttons. **Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Carrington, Carson City (donation made in memory of Edward C. Peterson)**—V&T mechanical department ledger, contains the timekeeper/payroll records of the V&T mechanical department during the period from February 1874-June 1876. **Nevada Forklift Inc., Reno**—Used Plymouth switch engine Model DLB serial #271383-A.

Union Pacific Railroad, Elko—35 manuals on operation and maintenance of various models of diesel locomotives; agreement Western Pacific and Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Emp.; Pyle-National Co. steam turbines & turbo generators; Troubles of

'Discovery: Light & Color' To Open in Vegas Sept. 27

Spinning color disks, mirrors, prisms, lenses, colored spot lights, and polarizing films are but a few of the "artifacts" being assembled by the Las Vegas exhibits department in preparation for the new Changing Gallery exhibit, "Discovery: Light and Color." The exhibit is being co-sponsored by the Las Vegas Museum and the Discovery Children's Museum and will be previewed at the annual NSM&HS Membership Reception scheduled for Sept. 27. A striking departure from the history exhibits ordinarily scheduled in the Changing Gallery, "Discovery: Light and Color" will consist of eight or more hands-on discovery exhibits which will provide children of all ages with the opportunity to explore various properties of light and color through interaction with the exhibits.

This unique exhibit is the first step in a cooperative effort between the Las Vegas facility and Discovery Children's Museum. The Discovery museum is an outgrowth of joint venture between the Allied Arts Council of Southern Nevada and the Junior League of Las Vegas to establish a hands-on arts and science museum for children of southern Nevada.

Electrical Equipment, H.E. Stafford, 1940, McGraw Hill, N.Y.; Association of American Railroads wheel and axle manual 2/1951; Locomotive Equipment Western Pacific Railroad; Rules for Inspection Assn. of American Railroads 7/1957; Code of Rules Assn. of American Railroads 7/1964; interchange rules Assn. of American Railroads 1964; national electrical code 1971 AANS; McMaster-Carr supply catalog 1985; service publications index for locomotives 1/1971; the "AB" freight brake equipment 10/1936 Westinghouse Air Brake Co.; locomotive control static voltage regulator 1/1964; Pole-line Dist. Comp. Inc. catalog No. 102; Graybar general catalog No. 106; Hoesch rerailling unit parts manual; Martindale equipment for better maintenance catalog 7/1955; railway speed recorders and indicators D-135 18th edition; same 14th edition; master parts catalog No. 90 series 567 diesel engines; piston, ring sets 567 & 645 engines; train call/release reports Western Pacific; Woodward control bulletins; replacement parts price book GM locomotives; service bulletins General Electric 1962 to 1971.

Terri Clark, Carson City—Color reproduction of drawing of V&T engine No. 1 Lyon on trestle, drawing done by Dean Millman; railroad calendar of the D&RGW; railroad calendar of UP; railroad calendar of SP; menu of "The Spaghetti Depot," Oakland, CA; railroad place mat; reproduction of sketch by George Mathis for Sierra Mountain RR Club, for occasion of 1963 Feather River Ry. Express excursion; D&RGW poster of "Evolution of Steam Power on the Rio Grande by Decades," 1970; poster reproduction of painting by Thomas Hill of the "Driving of Last Spike, May 10, 1869"; poster reproduction of the North Pacific Coast Railroad. **Francis A. Guido, San Mateo, CA**—100 copies of V&T issue of *Western Railroader*. **Mrs. Frances M. Humphrey, Reno**—2 pilot record books of Carson City, 1860s. **Albert Kenny, Carson City**—Model of W&A Railroad engine; V&T spike; Michigan Central Railroad daily statement of cars on hand, 1913. **Lee and Betty Hobold, Carson City**—Framed document of Nevada Short Line Railway trust deed, dated 1914. **Guy Dunscomb, Modesto, CA**—Misc. RR photographs, to be copied and then returned to lender. **Ted Wurm, Oakland, CA**—Original maps prepared for book *Silver Short Line*: Reno, Mound House, Minden, Carson City, Virginia City, V&T complete; equipment drawings for book: locomotive No. 11, caboose No. 9, car No. 51; enlarged photograph used for book title page: train at station, Carson City; 12 file folders of material used in research for *Silver Short Line* and other published items; 7 photographs. **William and Gertrude Salisbury, Everett, WA**—Misc. collection of railroad hardware. **Clarence W. Worden, Sun Valley**—Box of misc. track material from Rhyolite; SP item; SP handbooks on safety, rules, regulations, train handling, etc.; white flag for WP; mining bucket found at Virginia City mine; spikes from misc. railroads; oil burning lamps (2) on SP; long oil can. **Mr. and Mrs. Harold Tracy, South Lake Tahoe, CA**—21 photographs of Carson Valley and Carson City. **Mark Eldredge, Carson City**—V&T switch key; telegraph cable terminal box. **Lela Clark, Reno**—Framed poster of V&T engine *Inyo*. **Gary Liebhard, Carson City**—Donation of Louie Nelson's home in Carson City, moved to Railroad Museum next to Wabuska station.

NSM NEWSLETTER

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER is published bimonthly in mid-month in July, September, November, January, March, and May by the NSM-Carson City Decent Council. This issue edited by Jack Gibson. Mailing by Jan Buchanan. Please address all communications to Newsletter, Nevada State Museum, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710.

Gift Shop Offers Summer Reading

Reviewed by **MARY CRAWFORD**
Docent and Retired Librarian

The Nevada State Museum Gift Shop offers many books for your summer enjoyment. Remember that books have a 15% discount to all members of the Nevada State Museum, Nevada Historical Society, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Lost City Museum, and Nevada State Museum & Historical Society. The Gift Shop now accepts both Visa and Mastercard and books can be ordered by mail or phone. There is a postage and handling fee of \$1.00 for the first book and 50 cents for each additional book on one order. Order by mail: Nevada State Museum, care of Lynn DeVita, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710, or phone Lynn DeVita at (702) 885-4810.

HISTORY OF NEVADA. By Russell R. Elliott. *University of Nebraska Press, 1984. Line drawings by Jack Brodie, illustrations, appendix, sources, maps, and index. Paperback, 450 pages, \$15.00.*

This book was originally published in 1973 and is a truly "best of its kind" history book of Nevada, and there are many footnotes to the text. The author had a grant from the Desert Research Institute's Committee for Research Planning in the Humanities. The outstanding fact of this book is its readability. I suggest that if you are interested in another history of Nevada, you look at this one, just any page and you may find, like I did, that you cannot put it down. The illustrations are relevant, and I particularly enjoyed the notes for each chapter in the back of the book. The tables in the appendix are a good source of information on Nevada. This is an excellent book.

THE WILD SHEEP. By John Muir. *Outbooks, 1977. Pamphlet, 32 pages, \$1.00.*

The material reprinted here comes from an illustrated article in an 1881 edition of *Scribner's Monthly*, a national magazine of that period, and later it was incorporated as a chapter in Muir's book, *The Mountains of California*, published in 1901. Muir thought the wild sheep were secure in their "highland castle" and had been instrumental in getting Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks established to save them, but by 1901 he reassessed his position and said, "Few wild sheep, I fear, are left hereabouts. . . ." The editor, William R. Jones, hopes this pamphlet will stimulate sentiment for this four-legged mountaineer, and thus encourage support for programs to save it. I also enjoyed reading John Muir's text, and seeing the old illustrations so much that I plan to read more of John Muir.

NSM&HS Cougar Exhibit Opens

The Mountain Lion *Felis concolor* exhibit opened at the Las Vegas Museum on July 4. The lion, donated by Dr. and Mrs. Reuben Jones, Las Vegas residents, is shown against a photo mural of Mt. Potosi in the Spring Mountain Range. The new exhibit will be featured in the Hall of Biological Science where it will join the Desert Bighorn Sheep island, a long-time gallery favorite.

THE MURDER OF JULIA BULETTE. *William R. Jones. Outbooks, 1980. Pamphlet, 16 pages, \$1.00.*

The murder of Julia Bulette took place in Virginia City on January 20, 1867. Julia had been a favorite of the miners, also a contributor to the various civic causes of the city, so when at last her murderer was found, tried, convicted, and hung, virtually the whole town turned out for the final event, described as "a fine hanging" and "the most gala to date in Nevada." This pamphlet is a reprint of the life and confession of Julia's murderer, John Millian, in 1868. This booklet represents another interesting glimpse of history.

SARAH WINNEMUCCA of the Northern Paiutes. By Gae Whitney Canfield. *University of Oklahoma Press, 1983. Hardback, 307 pages, \$19.95.*

Sarah Winnemucca was a self-educated Paiute Indian woman who sparred with Indian agents, local politicians and the United States government to try and improve the living conditions and education of her people. She wrote her autobiography, *LIFE AMONG THE PIUTES*, she helped to establish the Peabody Indian School south of Lovelock, and she made many speaking engagements coast to coast on behalf of her people. The author has done an extensive job of researching material of uncollected letters, newspapers and official documents of the period. Sarah has never achieved the attention of the public as did Pocahontas and Sacajawea, but perhaps this readable book will help her attain the recognition she deserves for her tremendous efforts for brotherhood, human rights and peace between the races. The author says after reading Sarah's autobiography she was intrigued by her personality and sense of purpose. There is a good reading list and index. Many pictures and maps are included and this book is a fine addition to Indian history about an extraordinary individual who was a traditional Indian woman and yet a liberated Indian activist.

Costa Rican Lepidoptera Studied

George T. Austin, NSM&HS Department of Natural History, spent most of the months of December and March in Costa Rica studying butterflies. This research was carried out primarily in association with the Department of Biology, Stanford University, in a preliminary survey of the effects of forest fragmentation and edge on butterfly species diversity. These studies may lead to a future long-term study in the area. In connection with this field work, Mr. Austin returned with approximately 4,000 specimens; analysis of the data is in progress.

Next Newsletter Deadline

The next deadline for the *Nevada State Museum Newsletter* will be August 23. Mailing will be made on September 16. Please address all communications to Newsletter, Nevada State Museum, Capitol Complex, Carson City NV 89710.

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We value the support of all our members and will continue to provide quality educational services at each institution. Please encourage others to join us in developing a state-wide system of culture and education for Nevada. Our membership is our strength and everyone will benefit by our growth.

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- The Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas
- The Lost City Museum, Overton/Moapa Valley

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