



Nevada State Museum Newsletter

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The 'New' Department . . .

'Cultural Affairs' and Other Legislative Issues

By SCOTT K. SISCO
Interim Department Director

The 120 days of each biennial legislative session bring with them not only a lot of tired and worn out staff, but also changes. We shepherded our 15 budget requests through both houses, steered our seven department-sponsored bills through the process, and tracked, often providing testimony, an additional 34 bills that had a fiscal or policy impact on our various agencies. While the due date for this article beats the final wrap up of the legislative session by about 18 hours, I'll detail what we know at this point. Considering the fact that we entered the session with the requirement to submit a "flat" budget request and subsequently lived the last several months under the threat of imminent budget cuts (\$121 million was the final amount that had to be cut), overall the Department fared pretty well.

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The most prominent occurrence to come out of this legislative session is also the most immediate. In 1993, a reorganization brought together our current agencies as the Department of Museums, Library and Arts. After eight years under that name, the Department has been renamed the **Department of Cultural Affairs**.

Most of the staff of this Department are aware of the various suggestions made during the Governor's fundamental review of State government. Our Department was required to enter the review process from a slightly different perspective than others, as serious consideration was given by the Governor's office to various suggestions to virtually dismantle and "part off" the programs and components of the Department. A little over a year ago, the Department brought most program managers, museum directors and division administrators together to conduct a fundamental review of all aspects of the Department. A great deal of effort was put into analyzing the functions of each of the different agencies of our Department and in what ways they interact with each other. We discovered that, while all of our programs have certain things in common, it is primarily the cultural aspects of what we do that ties us together. This cultural aspect played a prominent role as staff dealt with the issue of consistent problems with Department name recognition. After considerable deliberation, it was determined that the name should reflect the cultural and historical nature of the services provided versus trying to reflect the internal organizational structure. Former Director Michael Hillerby, now Deputy Chief of Staff and Legislative Liaison for the Governor's Office, made the final selection out of the names presented by the staff involved, and our new name was born.

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That same bill also updated the statutes of the Division of Museums and History to create a single system of state museums. The bill combined NRS 381, 381A and 382 through a consolidation of the various duties, powers and responsibilities under the direction and oversight of the Division Administrator. The legislation also removed many inconsistencies between statutes covering the responsibilities of the various institutions, as well as correcting conflicts in those statutes with actual practices in the current organizational structure of the Division and the Department.

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While some state agencies lost staff, this Department is pleased to have gained four positions overall. Sometime after October of this year, the Director's Office will hire a Personnel Analyst who will provide personnel management to all agencies and programs of the Department. The Department of Cultural Affairs was the only Executive Branch department that had absolutely no dedicated personnel management support. It is anticipated that this addition will

provide each of the four divisions with a direct benefit as their fiscal officers will regain a fair portion of time that had been spent with personnel management and personnel records issues.

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The Department also received funding from the Commission on Tourism for the first three positions necessary to get the Boulder City Railroad operation up and running. Two of these positions will start after October of this year, with the third starting next July. Funding was secured for refurbishment of three of the coaches, as well as fuel and operating funding necessary to get this operation off the ground. It is anticipated that in this biennium, the operation will gradually begin providing rides, first on special occasions and eventually working into a regular operating schedule as an excursion train ride attraction. Hopefully the future will provide for a museum building to educate visitors on railroad history in southern Nevada.

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In an unexpected but positive surprise, the Department received word just last week that Senate Finance has amended one of our bills to include a part-time Statewide Monuments Coordinator position. This position will assist in providing program consolidation and coordination of the various entities within the state that are responsible for, or have an interest in, preserving Nevada's various historical markers and monuments. As approved, this change will now increase the staffing levels of the State Historic Preservation Office from the current 1977 established level.

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One additional enhancement request that was funded provides for staff training opportunities for employees or associates of the department regardless of program or funding source. In writing the original request, it was envisioned that staff, programs or divisions would present proposals, and priorities would be set with those providing the greatest benefit to the agency and department given highest priority. One of the proposals already under consideration for the first year is a department-wide staff meeting that would bring employees together away from their normal work environment for an opportunity to learn more about some of our many and varied programs.

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One-shot requests for agencies of the Department include \$1.2 million appropriated over the biennium for the State Library collection development grant funding program, which allows public libraries across the state to enhance their collections. All agencies of the Department that had requested funding for new or replacement computer software and hardware received funding at some level, and the State Library and Archives as well as the Division of Museums and History have received appropriations for new or replacement equipment. Also, the long-requested funding for the conservation lab in the State Library and Archives building has finally been achieved. As of this writing, we've yet to hear if we will receive funding for advance planning to move the Las Vegas Museum to the Las Vegas Springs Preserve facility. This is provided for in the Governor's budget, but has yet to be approved by the legislature.

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Senator Rawson sponsored a bill to create a cultural trust fund to support the arts and humanities. While the funding originally requested was removed from the bill, the trust itself is the first step toward access to an important fundraising tool that will be available to arts and humanities advocates. In both hearings, Senator Rawson took the opportunity to place the possibility of a future appropriation from the State into the record, which could provide additional funding to the arts through this mechanism.

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Other important legislation includes changes within the Comstock Historic District Commission to allow an architect or engineer to serve on that commission, authorization to create a Sarah Winnemucca statue for the National Statuary Hall in Washington D.C., and funding to partner public libraries with school libraries for provision of electronic databases across the WEB, allowing every Nevada citizen access to these important tools. Several other bills being considered in the final days, if approved, are also expected to provide benefit or have an impact on agencies of this Department.

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Some of our successes had more to do with bills that didn't pass than those that did. The Department was able to hold off a bill that would have placed the Nevada State Museum in considerable jeopardy of violating the federal NAGPRA act, and possibly loosing some of our collections to California. A bill to utilize the Carson City Mint #1 coin press to mass produce gaming tokens has been held off as of this point, and a bill which would have drastically weakened the Comstock Historic District Commission was also defeated as the citizens of Virginia City banded together in support of the commission. Various supporters of public libraries were able to amend a bill and remove potential legal problems for public libraries that provide patron access to the Internet. Of course, as they say, it's not over until it's over. Some of these items still have the potential to show up as last-minute amendments to some other bill. We'll continue to monitor the legislation and hopefully our efforts and the various testimonies we've provided will be taken into consideration.

FINAL BILL ACTION - MUSEUMS & HISTORY

A.B. 102	Comstock Historic District Commission	Passed
A.B. 267	Creates Sarah Winnemucca Statue— Washington	Passed
A.B. 456	Mining Gaming Tokens	Failed
A.B. 615	Bond Issue—Las Vegas Springs Preserve	Passed
S.B. 170	Arts & Humanities Trust Fund	Passed
S.B. 248	Supplemental Utilities Funding	Passed
S.B. 365	Creates the Department of Indian Affairs	Failed
S.B. 428	Funding for Nevada Humanities	Passed
S.B. 432	Department Computer Purchases	Passed
S.B. 433	Museums Equipment Purchases	Passed
S.B. 434	Las Vegas Move Planning Funding	Failed
S.B. 457	Dept. Conservation Lab Funding	Passed
S.B. 541	Department Name Change	Passed

Not everything was a complete success for us. We learned some important lessons about attention to detail in preparing budgets. As funding is tight, some mistakes that we made could not get corrected, resulting in funding shortfalls over the upcoming biennium that we will have to live with. We also learned the importance of proper strategy in making changes within our internal operations, so that those who control the checkbook have the right information to support our requests.

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Overall, while we spent a great deal of time at the Legislature in front of various committees, we feel that we fared well. And, while a little tired (well, a lot tired actually!), the Department was able to maintain the economic resources necessary to continue providing the important cultural services that have made this Department great. Considering the economic circumstances, the fact that we grew just a little is quite an accomplishment compared to the outcome for some other State departments.

Again, welcome to the Department of Cultural Affairs!

Views of the Past...

This image made from a glass plate negative shows a Fourth of July parade scene in Eureka, Nevada around 1909. The photographer, C.H. Gorman, captured the photo as the parade participants were parading down main street passing by the two-story brick Eureka County Courthouse as the crowd watches from along the street and from the second-story porch of the courthouse.



This is one of a unique collection of glass plate negatives owned by Richard Penman and his sister Judy Penman. Their father Jack saved the collection from destruction when he worked for a moving company in Reno and a woman whom they were moving was throwing away boxes of glass plate negatives. He asked if he could have them and she told him to take them as she was going to get rid of them. Mr. Penman kept them in the boxes for more than 30 years until his death, when the collection passed to his son and daughter. The Penman's family contacted the museum's history program and asked if we would like copies of this collection. We have received permission from the family to make copies and will keep the collection intact under the name of their father and mother, Jack and Mary Penman.



History Day Winner

Nevada History Day contestant Katey Buffington, Eureka Junior High School, standing next to her exhibit "All Aboard the First American Transcontinental Railway," winner of the First Prize in the Junior Division, Individual Exhibits, and winner of the Frances Humphrey Prize from the Nevada State Museum History Program for the best exhibit. History Day was held at the State Museum on March 4, 2001.

Named for a Nevadan

Desert Peach

By ANN PINZL
NSM Curator of Natural History

This shrub is most noticed early in the spring when its white to deep pink flowers burst forth. It occurs in many places along roadsides, in washes, valleys and on hillsides, either alone or in small groups or stands throughout most of the state (except in the counties on our eastern border: Clark, Elko, Lincoln and White Pine). It is particularly prominent along the east slopes of the Sierra Nevada. It is so striking that hardly a spring goes by without my being asked what those flowers are. Why . . . Desert Peach!

The plant is a rigid, intricately branched shrub usually about a meter in height, sometimes up to two or so meters. It has short sharp, pointed branchlets reminiscent of spines (see photo of shrub in flower) which are densely clothed with flowers about the size of a quarter from late April into May. The fruit start to form in late May.

Often this shrub will have cobwebby accumulations toward the end of its branchlets. Upon closer examination, one will observe a multitude of



caterpillars in them. These are Western Tent Caterpillars, they are found on Desert Peach and other shrubby members of the rose family, and occasionally on currant. The functions of these "tents" are not completely understood, but they do afford the caterpillars protection from predators and may help in moderating temperatures for these moth larvae.



Those who are curious about applicability of names can understand easily enough the "Desert" part, as this is a desert shrub in the western Great Basin, and so doesn't really occur in southern Nevada's Mojave desert. The "Peach" part is not as obvious unless one looks at this plant several weeks after flowering, when little "peaches" form (see photo). These are much smaller than the peaches we normally eat in that they are only 10 or 15 or so millimeters long—and what's more there is no pulp or juicy part to speak of. There's a thin layer of dry flesh under that fuzzy peach colored-skin with, relatively speaking, a huge "peach pit" inside.

The technical name for Desert Peach, *Prunus andersonii*, is also worthy of some examination. *Prunus*, the generic or genus name, is Latin for plum, there are some 400 species of cherries, almonds, plums and apricots in this genus. Think of all these fruits and you can see several similarities in their structure. The *andersonii* part tells, us for one thing, that technical names aren't necessarily Latin (don't think there were many Andersons to be found in the Roman forum of old) but are better described as "latinized". And so *andersonii* is the masculine possessive form of the name Anderson, and this particular Anderson was Charles Lamb Anderson who practiced medicine in Carson City from 1862 to 1867. In earlier days, physicians were very conversant in botany. Anderson was no exception and he collected widely in the Carson City area. He sent samples of many of his collections to Harvard's Asa Gray, a noted authority on North American flora. A physician himself, Gray, in turn, named several plants after Anderson: a clover, a buttercup, a thistle and the Desert Peach.

It is, perhaps, in its role of a showy harbinger of spring that this plant is most appreciated by Nevadans.

Jan's Boutique . . .

Two More First Lady Gowns Added to Collection

By JAN LOVERIN
NSM Curator of Textiles and Clothing

The Marjorie Russell Center is pleased to announce the acquisition of two ball gowns worn by First Lady Idelle Balzar. The gowns are from the 1920s and early 1930s.

Idelle Sinnamon was born in Bridgeport, California and married Fred Balzar in 1907. Fred Balzar was the second native Nevadan to serve as governor. He was born in Virginia City and worked as a miner, railroad conductor and shop owner before being elected governor. He served from 1927 until his death in office, March 21, 1934.

These gowns are in exceptional condition and fill a significant void in our gubernatorial collection. The 1920s gown is a classic flapper style, sleeveless tubular silhouette, and heavily beaded. The exquisite beading incorporates rhinestones into the fleur de lys pattern which wedges the entire garment. The front panel is split with a sensational beaded and rhinestone medallion. The gown is fully lined.

The other garment, much simpler in decoration, is from the 1930s. The fabric is a purple and rose rib weave with metallic threads. It again is sleeveless, similar in drape to the beaded gown, however the skirt is cut on the bias. Both gowns are machine stitched with hand finish work.

In comparing the extravagance of the beaded gown and the relatively simplicity of the purple floral, the significance of the Great Depression and its relationship to fashion becomes apparent. When Fred Balzar was first elected in 1927, the glamour and richness of the beaded gown would be in good taste, however after the stock market crash of 1929,

an austere, simpler, more restrained garment, such as the purple floral would certainly be more appropriate. Mrs. Balzar was obviously conscious of fashion and her role as First Lady.

Collecting and preserving our state's inaugural gowns is an important aspect of Nevada's history. Every First Lady since Ida Pittman (in 1945) has donated their gown to the Museum; it is the early garments which are difficult to find. We appreciate Susan Vargas Burroughs, granddaughter of Idelle and Fred Balzar, and her family for recognizing the significance of these gowns.

Jan's Boutique . . .

Kids Welcomed the Opening of the North Building

On the all-day opening of the North Building, activities were plenty for the younger set, which seemed to enjoy the various activities.



Adults Enjoyed the Opening and the Exhibits

The morning of April 21 opened with the night's snowfall, which melted off before noon.



The Docent Council

By PENNY FAIRFIELD
Docent Council Chairman

Docents have been calling museum members inviting them to volunteer at the Museum. The response has been gratifying. "Thank you" to all members who have offered to serve the Museum in this way. The most pressing need is for help in the Museum Store. Volunteers usually work four hours, one day a week, but the schedule can be adjusted to meet your time constraints. Training is provided. If you have not yet been personally contacted by a docent and would like to volunteer in the Museum Store, please call Joan Bird at 883-4068. For other volunteer opportunities call Kathi Baker, Museum staff, at 687-4810 ext. 222.

Pioneer Communication Traveling Trunks Funded

Nevada Bell, through its philanthropic arm, SBC Communications, funded a grant for \$5,000 to the Museum's History Program to develop educational history trunks as part of the Museum's traveling Trunk Outreach Program. The trunks provide fourth and seventh grade classroom teachers with the opportunity to enhance their Nevada history lesson plans in a unique way—by giving students the chance to learn about the past by seeing, touching and using educational artifacts.

The History Program designed their trunks around the theme of communications. The pioneer communication trunks explore the ways in which development in mailing, publishing, and telecommunications permanently altered the political, economic and social life of Nevada and its people from the mid-1850s to the 1920s. Using original and replica artifacts and documents brings the subject matter to life and include such items as telegraph keys, early telephones, stamps, posters, newspapers, books and more.

The trunks also includes illustrations, photographs, maps and audiovisual aids. The topics covered include: Snowshoe Thompson, early expressman; Overland Mail Route; The Pony Express; The Overland Telegraph; railway express service; early telephone service; construction of the transcontinental telephone line; newspapers; and books. A unique feature of the trunks is Nevada Bell's video, "The Transcontinental Telephone Line: The Final Leg." Using the trunks in the classroom, teachers and students will learn about the importance of communication in the development of our state.

The Nevada State Museum thanks Nevada Bell for their generous gift to develop the educational trunks and Beverly Carlino-Banta, executive director of the Nevada Museums Library and Arts Foundation, for writing and securing the grant for the Museum.

Museums, Ghost Town Tour Set

The Nevada State Museum is hosting a three-day tour of museums and ghost town sites in Nevada and Eastern California on September 28-30, 2001. The tour will cover the following museums: Churchill County Museum, Mineral County Museum, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah Mining Park, and Mono Lake Interpretative Center. The ghost town sites the tour will visit are Belmont, Nevada, and the California State Park at Bodie.

The tour is limited to 38 people with museum members paying \$165 per person based on double occupancy and non-museum member paying \$175 per person double occupancy. The tour cost does not include meals, and items of a personal nature as phone calls, room service, and all museums and ghost town entrance fees. The sign up deadline is August 15, 2001.

To sign up or find out more about the Nevada Museum and Ghost Town tour contact Bob Nylen at 775-687-4810. ext. 239.

A special lecture on the dating of prehistoric rock art will be given by Dr. Alan Watchman on Tuesday, August 7, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Watchman is the Australian Research Fellow at James Cook University in Townsville, Australia, and will be visiting Nevada on a research project. He is one of the world's leading geochronologists, specializing in direct dating of rock art as well as other patinated land surfaces. Dr. Watchman has generously agreed to present a lecture at the museum while he is here. His talk will be on recent advances in the direct dating of rock art. His work has taken him from Australia to Patagonia and around the world, including Nevada, and we can expect to learn about some of the unique pictographs and petroglyphs of other regions.

Rock Art Lecture August 7

A special lecture on the dating of prehistoric rock art will be given by Dr. Alan Watchman on Tuesday, August 7, at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Watchman is the Australian Research Fellow at James Cook University in Townsville, Australia, and will be visiting Nevada on a research project. He is one of the world's leading geochronologists, specializing in direct dating of rock art as well as other patinated land surfaces.

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Coming Events

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

July 24: *Nevada's Ghost Towns and Mining Camps*, by Stanley Paher, writer and Nevada historian.

August 28: *When the Wobblies Shut Down Hoover Dam*: by Guy Rocha, Assistant Administrator of the Nevada State Library and Archives.

These programs are part of the Museum's Frances Humphrey evening lecture series held on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. There is no charge for the programs. The Caroline Street entrance on the north side of the museum complex will be used for all programs. For more information call 687-4810, ext. 239.

Saturday, July 14: *Bats of Nevada and Southwestern North America*, by George D. Baumgardner, Ph.D., Curator of Natural History at the Nevada State Museum. This presentation will begin at 8:00 p.m. at the pavilion in Dayton State Park, Dayton, NV

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NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Wednesday night programs are over for the summer months. The museum hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and the museum is open seven days a week through Labor Day.

The Motor Car operates from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday when the steam train is not operating.

The steam train will operate from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the following schedule:

Wednesday, July 4 (one day only).

Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5.

Saturday, Sunday, and Monday (Labor Day weekend), September 1, 2, 3.

Message From Our Director

Jim Barmore

The Museum's extensive and varied services for the current year are outlined in an annual plan, completed earlier this year. Staff developed the plan to guide decision-making, prioritization, scheduling, and evaluation. The plan shows each of us our place in the "big picture" and the critical role we all have in the success of the whole.

The annual plan represents a challenge. The Museum has all the ingredients for success: dedicated staff, loyal volunteers, supportive administration and board, outstanding collections, great facilities, wonderful location, adequate funding, and a good reputation. We're going to see how close we can come to achieving all our hopes for the year and maximizing public services.

The plan identifies ten major goals and the objectives and strategies necessary for achieving those goals. The following is a shortened version.

1. Collect, preserve, and study objects and information documenting Nevada's diverse natural and cultural heritage.
2. Present Nevada's heritage through effective educational exhibits, programs, publications, and services.
3. Foster community involvement, support, and collaboration to strengthen the value of the Museum and expand resources.
4. Broaden awareness and enhance perception of Museum opportunities to effectively serve existing audiences and reach new audiences.
5. Obtain resources for providing effective and efficient services.
6. Manage resources effectively and efficiently.
7. Provide facilities and equipment necessary for effective and efficient service.
8. Exemplify professionally accepted museum practices.
9. Serve the public in a respectful, courteous, fair, and efficient manner.
10. Promote a collaborative work environment based upon mutual respect, trust, fairness, and courtesy to maximize work effectiveness, efficiency, and enjoyment.

Basque Mini-Exhibit on Display at Galena Creek Park

A traveling exhibit on the Basque culture is on display at the Washoe County Galena Creek Park during the months of June through September 2001. The exhibit will be on display on Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or by appointment by contacting park personnel at 775-849-2511.

The mini-exhibit was done in conjunction with a larger **Amerikanuak! Basques in the High Desert** exhibition which was on display at the Nevada State Museum during the year 1998-1999. The traveling exhibit explores the immigration of Basques to the Americas from their homelands in France and Spain, their role in the livestock industry and other businesses in the desert, their success in maintaining their distinctive culture, and traditional music, dance, sports and games.

The Nevada State Museum History Program has been responsible for getting the exhibit out to many sites in northern Nevada over the last few years. It has been exhibited at Humboldt County Library in Winnemucca, the Elko County Library, the East Ely Railroad Depot, the Eureka Opera House, the Lander County Library in Battle Mountain, the Churchill County Museum in Fallon, the Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center in Minden, the Douglas County Lake Tahoe Branch Library, and the Great Basin National Park.

The traveling and the main exhibit were produced by the High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon, with funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Nevada Humanities Committee, the Oregon Community Foundation, the Idaho Humanities Foundation, and others. For information about hosting this mini-exhibit please contact the history department at 775-687-4810, ext. 239.

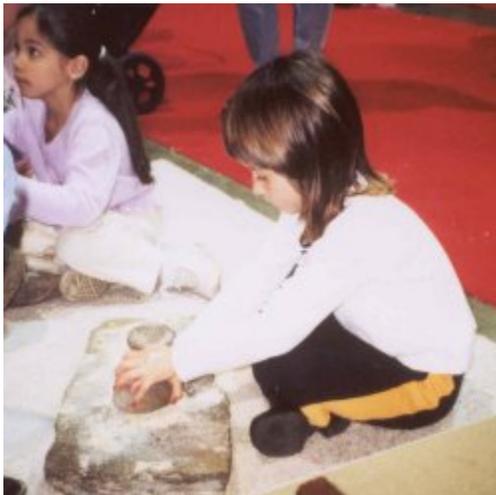
Two Attend Rock Art Conference in Oregon

Sue Ann Monteleone (NSM Registrar) and Alanah Woody (Anthropology Collections Manager) have recently returned from a four day American Rock Art Research Association conference in Pendleton, Oregon. Conference attendees included scholars from South Africa, France, and Portugal, as well as all across the United States. Both Sue Ann and Alanah have done research on Nevada rock art, and Sue Ann wrote her Master's Thesis and Alanah has recently completed her Doctoral Dissertation on the topic.

The keynote speaker for the conference was Dr. Jean Clottes, former consultant to the french Minister of Culture. Dr. Clottes is best known for his work in French Paleolithic painted caves and has several beautiful publications. Alanah had organized a workshop on Rock Art at the Sherwood Elementary School and they both worked with Education Committee member John Palacio to show 80 fifth graders what rock art is all about and helped them to make their own keepsake of the workshop.

Later that evening, a public lecture was given by Alanah at the Blue Mountain Community College, with 90 students and local townspeople in the audience. The remainder of the conference consisted of attending papers presented, some of which will be published in the organization's yearly publication and edited this year by Alanah. And, finally, on the last day of the conference, field trips went out from Pendleton to sites throughout Oregon to allow conference participants a chance to see the local rock art.

Department Participates in Reno's Kids' Fair at Convention Center



On a snowy Spring weekend in April, staff from the Nevada State Museum, the Nevada Historical Society, and the Nevada State Railroad Museum, showed thousands of kids just how much fun museum stuff could be at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. Anita Watson, Education Coordinator for the Division of Museums and History, worked with Jackie Clay, Curator of History for the Nevada Historical Society, and Maria Sanchez, Curator of Education at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, to plan participation by the three institutions.

Lured by the sound of a steam whistle, kids of all ages had the opportunity to pump a railroad handcar and participate in a variety of educational exhibits and hands-on displays.

The NSM Anthropology Program fashioned examples of rock art designs for kids to make rubbings. Anthropology staff Maggie Brown and Rachel Delovio also supervised and explained the process of grinding corn, using authentic manos and metates and dried corn donated by Jim Benson of Benson's Feed.

The "Under One Sky" and "A Wolf's Smile" trunks from the Museum-in-a-Trunk program were on display, and spring was in the air with thousands of colorful butterflies, fashioned by the kids from coffee filters and pipe cleaners. They could compare their butterflies with real specimens provided by George Baumgardner at the Natural History Program. Budding curators had the chance to don gloves and examine history and natural history artifacts. There were also mysterious artifacts to be identified.

The Kids' Fair 2001, sponsored by Raley's, was a tremendous success and provided wonderful exposure for the participating museums.—Anita Watson, Education Coordinator, and Alanah Woody, Anthropology Collections Manager

Books for Summer Reading, Activities

IN GOOD TASTE RENO/TAHOE: *Restaurant Recipe Cookbook and Guide* by Lori Lacey and Sonnie Imes

Insight into the rationale for this cookbook is given in the Introduction: "Immigrants, explorers, adventurers, dreamers, and entrepreneurs have made this area truly cosmopolitan. Nowhere is that more apparent than in the variety of restaurants that reflect this happy amalgam of cultures. But the real hallmark of Northern Nevada-California is the warm western hospitality and small-town friendliness. IN GOOD TASTE can guide you to a restaurant, but it is the good food and genuine welcome that will bring you back again and again."

Each restaurant comes with an overview of what to expect in ambience and specialties. The recipes are inviting in flavors yet are not labor intensive. There are well over 100 recipes. The book design and large print make for comfortable and encouraging use. A conversion table begins the book and a section about the authors ends it.

373 pages \$14.95



ROADSIDE HISTORY OF NEVADA by *Richard Moreno*

Superb focus of interest and comprehensive knowledge of historical Nevada make this book much, much more than what usually passes as a roadside guide.

An excellent "Nevada Chronology" from 1776 to 1996 gives a solid basis for anticipating and understanding events and places in the text. "Nevada: An Overview" provides a compact history lesson from prehistory to such current affairs as nuclear waste dumps. Moreno's writing is scholarly and readable.

This roadside history is divided into 6 sections: 1. Interstate 80: The Emigrant Trail; 2. Reno and the Lake Tahoe Area; 3. US 50: The Loneliest Road in America; 4. US 95 and US 6: The Silver Trails; 5. US 93: The Mormon Trail; and 6. The Las Vegas Area.

Each section includes a road map and photographs. There is a selective Bibliography and an Index.

286 pages \$20.00



SARAH WINNEMUCCA by *Sally Zanjani*

Readers familiar with Zanjani's carefully researched and insightful portrayal of women's place in Nevada history will not be disappointed with this volume. In speaking of his daughter Sarah (1844-91), Paiute Chief Winnemucca's words, "None of us are worthy of being chief but her," are confirmed through the author's sifting of facts from much fiction that has stuck to Sarah over the years.

We are at last given a clearer view of Sarah through her own actions and words and those of reliable sources. This book strives toward truth, and at the end of the day, Sarah shines.

In the Epilogue, Zanjani says, "Win or lose, the causes Sarah championed showed her wisdom and courage. In view of the forces arrayed against her, the losses seem scarcely surprising, and the marvel is that she achieved so much. She gave a voice to the voiceless. She made the plight of an obscure Indian tribe a matter of public concern."

The Notes are outstanding and the Bibliography and Index comprehensive.

366 pages \$29.95



THE SOURDOUGH COOK IN BUCKAROO COUNTRY by *Sharon Hamer Donaldson*

Here we are treated to high country recipes that are easy to assemble, easy to prepare, and more than easy to eat. Facts about sourdough, what it is and how to make and store it, introduce this collection of delicious home-grown and tried-and-true recipes. A sourdough starter packet is included.

Of equal value to original sourdough recipes are the cowboy poems, essays, and photographs of the Great Basin. Sharon Donaldson highlights and delights with some Biographical information interspersed throughout as well as information on Nevada historical sites and settlers.

68 pages \$14.95