



Mint Edition

Newsletter of the Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Nevada Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs

Summer 2013
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Carson City Mint COIN SHOW & FAIR AUGUST 23-24

The Carson City Mint Coin Show & Fair is scheduled for August 23-24, 2013. The show and fair are one event and will take place concurrently. The coin show will locate across the street in the Carson Nugget Ballroom, 507 N. Carson Street, and the coin education fair will occur at the museum, 600 N. Carson Street. The location change is due to the need for gallery space to construct and house a major exhibit, Finding Frémont: Pathfinder of the West, coming in 2014. Our event partner is Downtown Coin Club.

The event will host 26 dealers, offering numismatic expertise, free appraisals, raffle prizes, and coin sales at the Nugget. Come to the education fair for lectures and kid's activities; learn about the history of the CC Mint, Civil War Tokens, ancient coins, the collecting of vams, coin grading and more. Families can enjoy guided tours of the mine exhibit, handling artifacts from



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Above: Gold Panning is a winner with everyone who tries their hand. Our staff and volunteers have become quite skilled over the years and are excellent instructors!

Left: Museum volunteer, Ron Roberts, shares his expertise in foreign coins with a young numismatist.

Grandma's Trunk, participating in a rock and mineral lab, panning for gold, and making a rubbing of Carson City Mint design coins. See Coin Press No. 1 in action and purchase your commemorative medallions!

Special ½ price admission of \$4 gets you into both locations for one day; kids and museum members are always free. Hours: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm Friday and 9:30 am - 4 pm Saturday.

Approximately \$4000 in raffle prizes are offered. Prizes include a one ounce doré silver bar (\$505 value), a coin package worth \$500, Morgan silver dollars, Men's and Women's Aurista coin watches, and silver commemorative medallions, such as a MacKay Silver and Nevada Day Commemoratives minted on Coin Press No. 1. You do not

Lower left: 26 dealers provide free appraisals and coins for sale.

Right: Discover the fascinating world of ancient and modern coins with educational displays by the Reno Coin Club.

Photos: Jeanette McGregor



2013 Coin Show & Fair Sponsors

Gold Sponsor: Carson Nugget

Silver Sponsors:

Nevada Magazine, Numismatist Magazine, Nevada Appeal, Reno Gazette Journal, Downtown Coin Club, Northern Nevada Coin, Vams and More, Gus's Coins, and Comstock Mining Company

Sponsors:

Reno Coin Club, Coeur Mining, S & T Coins, Bruce Braga Rare Coins, Camelot Party Rentals and Friends of the Nevada State Museum.
Event partner: Downtown Coin Club



need to be present to win. Drawings held throughout the day both Friday and Saturday, August 23-24. The Grand Prize Drawing is 3 pm Saturday.

Raffle tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

Out of town residents: please mail your check to Attention: Deborah, Nevada State Museum, 600 N. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701. Minimum raffle ticket mail order is \$10. Be sure your name, address, and phone number are clearly indicated.

For more information contact dstevenson@nevadaculture.org or call 775/687-4810, ext. 237.

Frémont's Contributions to Natural History: An Interview with George Baumgardner, Curator of Natural History:

John C. Frémont was known for his boldness as an adventurer, pathfinder, and topographer, but he also possessed a keen interest in the natural sciences, right?

The fact that he went out there and came back is important. He opened up a lot of the West. Whether or not he was the first, he popularized it. His explorations in 1843 led him to the Great Salt Lake, of which little was known, and may have given the Mormons the idea of settling in that area. He was the first to tell Easterners about what is now known as the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (after the Paiutes showed it to him).

What kind of plant discoveries did Frémont make?

Early in his career Frémont learned to collect and preserve plants and he was one of the first explorers of the West to conduct such activities. During his expedition to the Great Basin and into California in 1843-44, Frémont collected 1,400 specimens. Unfortunately many were lost due to the rigors of the journey. In one case a mule carrying plants rolled down a hillside in the Sierras. Another time, crossing the Kansas River in flood stage on the return trip, many specimens were destroyed. Despite such losses Frémont's contribution to the botany of the West is considerable.

At least 32 different taxa that were considered new when he collected them are still valid. Many of these specimens bear his

name in some fashion. From his 2nd expedition, the descriptions of 12 new taxa were coauthored by John Torrey of the Smithsonian Institution and Frémont. At least 18 additional taxa have Frémont as part of their scientific name. Examples include the Frémont cottonwood tree (*Populus fremontii*) (see below) and the flower *Dalea fremontii*. Other well-known plants associated with Frémont include single-leaf pinyon, greasewood, shadscale, four-wing salt brush, incense cedar, desert peach, and snow plant.



Message from the Museum Director

by Jim Barmore

We're back with a bang, so to speak!

On July 1st museum hours were extended from four days a week to six: Tuesday through Sunday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. We were closed three days due to recession cut-backs. Now we're only closed Monday. We're back!

In celebration, we're rolling out the Frémont cannon. No, we can't shoot it off. You won't really hear a big bang. But, you'll see something special. The cannon is now mounted on a replica Mountain Howitzer carriage. For the first time, 169 years later, you can see how the cannon appeared on the 1843-44 Frémont expedition before it was abandoned in nearby West Walker River Canyon. Some experts contend the museum's cannon is the original Frémont cannon. Others question. Regardless, this is a special occasion, offered for a limited time. The cannon and carriage will appear in the museum's Dema Guinn Concourse for a limited time and return to storage August 10. Don't worry, the cannon will re-appear in 2014 with the opening of our Nevada 150 exhibit, Finding Frémont: Pathfinder of the West.

You can enjoy the museum's additional hours. You can get a sneak peek preview of the cannon. You can see our latest exhibit, Our Nevada Stories. You can look forward to celebrating our state's 150th anniversary and learning the fascinating story of Frémont's expedition through Nevada. Stop by and see us. You'll have a blast.



UPCOMING:

Frances Humphrey Lecture Series

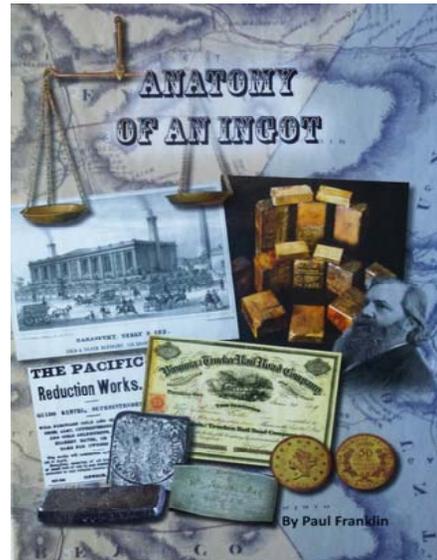
IF YOU GO:

WHAT: *Frances Humphrey Lecture Series: Gold at a Silver Mint: How the 20th Century Gold Mining Boom Affected the Carson City Mint*, program & book signing by author and scholar Fred Holabird; “kick-off” event for 2013 Carson City Mint Coin Show and Fair.

WHEN: August 22, 2013
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Early arrival recommended; doors open at 6:00 pm

ADMISSION: \$8 adults, children 17 and under & museum members are FREE.

CONTACT: Deborah Stevenson:
dstevenson@nevadaculture.org



IF YOU GO:

WHAT: *Frances Humphrey Lecture Series: Anatomy of an Ingot*, lecture and book signing by Paul Franklin.

WHEN: September 26, 2013
6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

ADMISSION: \$8 adults, children 17 and under & museum members are FREE.

CONTACT: Deborah Stevenson:
dstevenson@nevadaculture.org



Photo: Loren Irving

IF YOU GO:

WHAT: *Frances Humphrey Lecture Series: Following Frémont* by photographer Loren Irving, retraces the footsteps of John C. Frémont by taking a new look at the journey of his Second Expedition of 1843-44; Loren revisited Frémont’s actual campsites and captured the mood through stunning imagery that closely parallels Frémont’s journal entries

WHEN: October 24, 2013
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

ADMISSION: \$8 adults, children 17 and under & museum members are FREE.

CONTACT: Deborah Stevenson:
dstevenson@nevadaculture.org

2013 Fall Tour Guide Training

For more information, contact Deborah Stevenson: dstevenson@nevadaculture.org or 775/687-4810, ext 237

Day 1: Tuesday, September 17, 2013

- 9:00 am: Welcome by Claudia Vecchio, Director, Nevada Dept. of Tourism & Cultural Affairs, Peter Barton, Administrator, Division of Museums & History, and Jim Barmore, Museum Director
- 9:30 am: Introductions and Education Mission by Deborah Stevenson
- 10:00 am: Break
- 10:30 am: *Oh Johnny & the Frémont Howitzer Recovery Team Discoveries* by John Wilusz
- 11:30 am: Q and A: the Frémont Cannon
- 12:00 pm: Potluck lunch; *Safety orientation* by George Baumgardner, Safety Officer
- 1:00 pm: *Who was John C. Frémont* by Bob Nysten, Curator of History
- 2:00 pm: Break
- 2:30 pm: *History outreach with Grandma's Trunk*, overview by Liz Guyer, Museum Volunteer
- 3:30 pm: Training ends for the day

Day 2: Wednesday, September 18, 2013

- 9:00 am: *Frémont's Lookout* by Guy Rocha
- 10:00 am: Break
- 10:30 am: *Frémont and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe* by Ben Aleck, Pyramid Lake Museum
- 11:30 am: How to use a compass
- 12:00 pm: Lunch on your own
- 1:00 pm: *U.S. Army Topographic Engineers* by Bob Nysten, Curator of History
- 2:00 pm: *Rocks and Minerals* by Martin Jensen
- 3:00 pm: Training ends for the day

Day 3: Tuesday, September 24, 2013

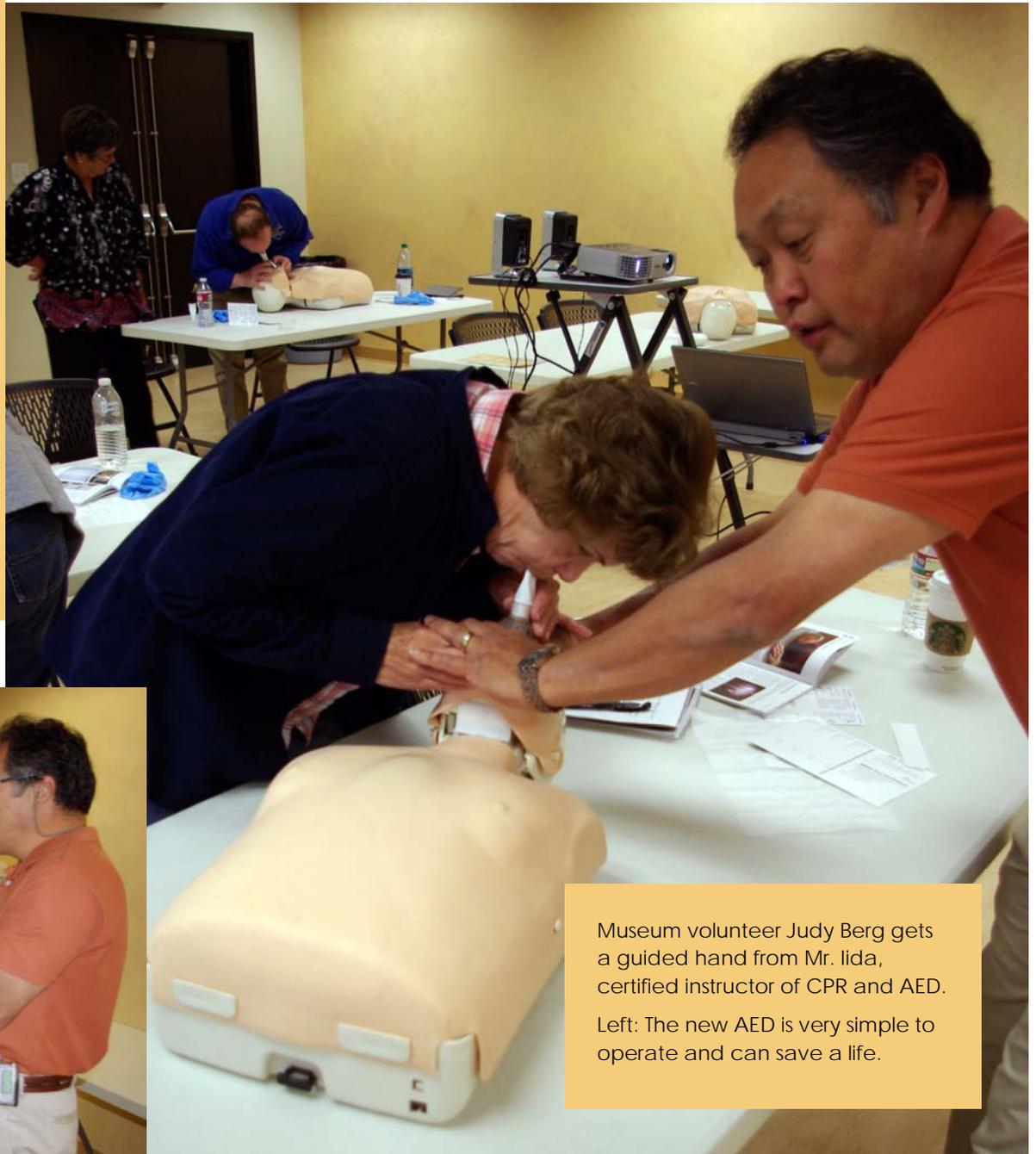
- 9:00 am: *Logistics for new volunteers; mentoring with experienced guides*
- 10:00 am: Break
- 10:30 am: *Frémont's Plant Discoveries* by Pat King, Museum Volunteer & George Baumgardner, Curator of Natural History
- 11:30 am: *Finding Frémont: sneak preview* by Ray Geiser, Exhibits Manager
- 12:00 pm: Potluck
- 1:00 pm: *Kit Carson Live: Explorations of the Western Frontier* by Dick Clark
- 2:00 pm: Break
- 2:30 pm: *Laudable Leaves* by Margee McCafferty & Pat King, Museum Volunteers
- 3:30 pm: Training ends for the day about 3:30 pm

Day 4: Wednesday, September 25, 2013

- 9:00 am: *Storytelling techniques for all ages*
- 10:00 am: Break
- 10:30 am: *Our Nevada Stories: Objects Found in Time*, exhibit overview
- 11:30 pm: Lunch on your own
- 1:00 pm: *How to Avoid Burnout: Stress Reduction Strategies That Work* by Deborah Stevenson
- 2:15 pm: Break
- 2:30 pm: *Under One Sky*: new outreach program by Liz Guyer, Museum Volunteer
- 3:30 pm: Congratulations! You have completed 21.5 hours of training.

Life Saving Measures

Staff and volunteers attended an excellent course taught by Mel Iida this June. After the Friends of the Nevada State Museum generously donated the funds for purchase of an automated external defibrillator (AED), arrangements were made to learn how to use it. Mr. Iida's thorough and professional presentation gave valuable knowledge on just what to do in an emergency. We would like to thank the Friends of the Nevada State Museum and Mr. Iida for helping to make the museum a safer place.



Museum volunteer Judy Berg gets a guided hand from Mr. Iida, certified instructor of CPR and AED. Left: The new AED is very simple to operate and can save a life.





2013 Triple-A All-Star Game Medallions

by Robert Nysten, Curator of History

For the first time in their history, the Reno Aces hosted the Triple-A All-Star Game and activities July 13-17, 2013. Commemorating this event, the museum minted two hundred .999 fine silver one troy ounce medallions on historic Coin Press No. 1. The special limited edition medallions served as a gift for participating players and executives from Triple-A clubs around the country. The medallions featured the famous "CC" mint mark, which connects them to the Silver State's rich mining heritage.

Nevada has an interesting baseball heritage. Two early employees of the Carson City U.S. Mint introduced baseball to the community of Carson City. These baseball pioneers put together a match series with the Virginia City Baseball Club, declaring the winner State Champion of 1869. They played two games and the Carson Silver Stars won both. The scores are hilarious by modern standards: 81-31 in Carson, and 54-16 in Virginia City. Hurrah for the home team!



Left to right: Eric Edelstein, Chief Operating Officer, Reno Aces Baseball Club, Ken Hopple, Chief Coiner, and Rich Parr, General Manager of the Reno Aces, standing in front of Historic Coin Press No. 1 on June 28, 2013, displaying one of the newly minted All-Star medallions.

Our Nevada Stories continues in the North Changing Gallery. Be sure to see it!



Matt and Barbara Bush (*below, with Curator of Natural History, Dr. George Baumgardner*) of South Carolina recently visited the Nevada State Museum to see a display of the spectacular example of Nevada's Precious Gemstone they kindly loaned us. This beautiful piece of Virgin Valley Fire Opal can be seen in *Our Nevada Stories: Objects Found in Time*. The Bush's were very pleased with the display and again expressed their appreciation to the museum for providing a way for the people of Nevada to enjoy their specimen.



Shift Into High Gear: Museums on the Open Road to Recovery

This theme sets the stage for the Nevada Museums Association's 2013 annual conference October 16 – 18. Presentations, sessions, and workshops will help museums regain full speed after slowing down during the long recession. The theme appropriately ties to the conference host, the National Automobile Museum in Reno. For more information about NMA and the conference, please go [here](#).

The Nevada State Museum and Friends of NSM actively support the Nevada Museums Association's efforts to enhance professional standards, networking, and advocacy for all museums in the state.

Jim Barmore
Director



Summer Interns

by Sue Ann Monteleone, Museum Registrar

The history office has had two great interns this summer – Jennifer Johnson and Cassie Douglas. Both are local northwest Nevada students attending universities in the central and northern Midwest. Ms. Johnson volunteered to learn more about museums after volunteering last summer at a museum in Reno. Ms. Douglas is enrolled for credit as a museum intern through her university and is giving the Nevada State Museum 70 hours of work. Both interns have done a wonderful job helping history catch up accession records and label and store objects. In some of our storage areas this has called for heroic efforts. *(Above right: Cassie with headlamp)*

Internship programs benefit the museum and the students – the museum gets exceptional help with collections work and the interns experience the complexities of record keeping and collections care in a real-world museum.



Watch Your Fingers!

When Randy Spiker of Carson City learned that we design and manufacture everything for our exhibits right here in the basement of the museum., he offered to donate precision machinery for making picture frames that he had from his old business. Not only did he give the Exhibits Program these excellent tools, he spent a day teaching Exhibits Preparator, Dave Shipman, how to use them. Our deepest thanks go out to Mr. Spiker for giving us the ability to make exceptional frames faster and with more accuracy than ever before.

Left: Exhibits Preparator, David Shipman, cutting frame material on the "chopper."



Our Museum Store carries an excellent selection of Nevada books, T-shirts, jewelry, and unique gift items.

Visit the Museum

600 North Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4004

Open 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Wednesday through Saturday
Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years

Members	Free	Memberships:	\$20 senior
Children (17 & under)	Free		\$35 individual
Adults	\$ 8.00		\$60 family



www.nevadaculture.org

The Nevada State Museum in Carson City is an agency of the Division of Museums and History within the Nevada Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs. The museum engages diverse audiences in understanding and celebrating Nevada's natural and cultural heritage.

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Nevada State Museum
Jim Barmore
Museum Director

The Friends of the Nevada State Museum, a 501(c)(3) private nonprofit organization, supports the museum through volunteer assistance, fundraising, and advocacy. For information contact Tina Davis-Hersey, Chair at 775/671-2364.

The Nevada State Museum publishes the *Mint Edition* newsletter for the purpose of highlighting museum exhibits, education programs, special events, and collection activities.

The publication is available online at www.nevadaculture.org.

Museum members receive the *Mint Edition* as a benefit of membership if they provide an email address.

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