



# Mint Edition

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

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## Message from the Director Smaller Fish to Fry



Jim Barmore looks forward to enjoying more moments like this in his retirement.

Time to start a new chapter. After 16 years at NSM and 35 years in museums, I've decided to retire the first of July.

I'm leaving some big challenges. Staffing is insufficient for exhibits, education programs, collections, and custodial work. Six positions were lost during the recession. Funding was never restored. A new building is needed at the Indian Hills Curatorial Center to secure collections. Some collections remain at risk in substandard storage areas. Future collecting is in jeopardy.

But overall, the museum is in good shape. Foremost, it has a strong team of collaborative and committed staff, Friends, and volunteers to keep the museum moving forward and help the next director get up to

speed. The museum's reputation and public relations are positive. Residents and tourists love this place. A strong community base positions the museum for more private-sector fundraising, necessary for development. General care and security of collections are up to standard. The museum is ready for accreditation review in 2018. This will continue the tradition of

### IN THIS ISSUE:

1. [Message from the Director](#)
2. [Editor's Note](#)
3. [Nevada Stories: Glenn Lucky](#)
4. [Frances Humphrey Lecture Series](#)
5. [Skip That, Not This!](#)
5. [Blue Star Museum](#)
6. [Coin Show Update](#)
7. [Farewells and Welcomes!](#)
8. [Store Spotlight](#)
8. [Contact the Museum](#)

Above: Fort Churchill State Park

accreditation since 1972. Plans are in motion to expand the Indian Hills Curatorial Center, critical for assuring the long-term care and security of Nevada's state and federal collections. Programs and services are well established. Facilities are enhanced. Infrastructure is in place for a major changing exhibits program. The museum's traveling exhibit, Finding Frémont: Pathfinder of the West is poised to begin a national tour, a first for state museums. Revenues are strong. Membership is increasing.

I see a new chapter for the museum. A new director will bring fresh energy and perspective. The museum will continue to lead heritage preservation and education in the state. I'm hopeful leadership will find ways to remove barriers holding the museum back. The museum has so much more to offer Nevada residents, students, and tourists. It can contribute more to diversifying tourism and the economy. The museum has a proven track record of success. A little investment will reap big returns.

I'm honored to serve as a temporary steward of such a special place. I will hold dear the memory of working with committed and collaborative people, driven by our educational mission and public service. Thank you and farewell.

Jim Barmore



The Barmore family with *Cymbospondylus petrinus*. From left to right: Garett, Kade, Linda, and Jim Barmore. (photo: Jeanette McGregor)

## Editor's Note

by Mary Covington

Six months on the job, three staff retired or moved on, jackhammers and road crews on the streets, crazy wind for months, weather that slingshots from freezing to a furnace blast... and yet inside the museum it remains an oasis of calm.

Students come in to do research, state agencies request facts and figures on buildings and public figures, community members call our curators with questions about plants & animals, archeology and Native American artifacts, and state & local history. Docents and volunteers welcome and educate visitors with experience and enthusiasm. As I walk through the galleries I see children's eyes light up, sparkling with new knowledge.

The world may be rushed and hectic outside, but inside the museum you can **think**. You can learn and enjoy at your own pace. It is a nice environment and I love working here! So take a moment from your busy life and visit us. Remind yourself that summertime can still be the lazy, languid time that it is supposed to be.





# Nevada Stories: Glenn Lucky

*Our Nevada Stories: Objects Found in Time* is on exhibit in the North Changing Gallery. Learn about the state symbols and Nevada minerals. Discover a beautiful historic quilt and the first known specimen of the North American Ice Age Cheetah, plus original American Indian art, and artifacts of historic value to people and communities. Currently we are featuring Glenn Lucky's Trike.

Glenn Lucky rode this custom built 18-speed tricycle across the United States in a 100 day endurance test from Nevada's Capital to the Nation's Capital to raise awareness and funding for cerebral palsy research. Along the way, he visited children's hospitals and collected donations to help patients. During his life, Lucky has raised tens of thousands of dollars to benefit multiple charities. "Still riding at 63, Glenn is an inspiration to so many. We are grateful to have his historic tricycle in our collection and for the opportunity to help tell his story," said Bob Nylen, the museum's curator of history.



Glenn Lucky

Come in to the museum to learn more about Lucky's amazing journey. For information about cerebral palsy and to learn how you can help, go to [United Cerebral Palsy \(ucp.org\)](http://UnitedCerebralPalsy.org).



Photos: Jeanette McGregor

Above: Glenn Lucky's custom trike that he rode from Carson City to Washington D.C. in 1988. The trike is on exhibit in the North Changing Gallery.

# Frances Humphrey Lecture Series

Join us on the last Thursday of each month from 6:30 – 8:00 pm.

Doors open at 6:00 pm.

## July 28, 2016

*Beyond Nature's Light* by Abe Blair

Many grand vistas and unique geologic features occur in Nevada and eastern California. Through careful study of a scene and extensive knowledge of his medium, Abe Blair captures the mood and power of natural scenes many never see. Abe will discuss his art and what he does to capture such intriguing images. "As an artist choosing to work in the medium of photography, I am always trying to push the limits of my cameras, whether film or digital. I am traditional in my method, working to get the image correct in the camera without building one in the computer. This makes every finished image a personal success, each with a life and soul of its own." – Abe Blair

Contact: George Baumgardner:

[gbaumgardner@nevadaculture.org](mailto:gbaumgardner@nevadaculture.org) or  
775-687-4810, at ext. 236.

## August 25, 2016

*Gold Dredges: The Land Leviathans* by Rick Martin.

An in depth presentation of the origin, operations and economics of giant land based gold dredges from the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to their decline mid-century, and limited operations in the 1980-1990s. Photographs, early films, and personal experiences will offer unique insight into these massive mechanical marvels and the men who built and operated them. Rick Martin is the Senior Health and Safety consultant at the Tesla Gigafactory construction site, and his 40 + year career includes Law Enforcement, Fire Service, Emergency Medical Services, and Mining Safety Management. He is working on three books for publication, on the history of the Carson River mills, on early logging and deforestation of the Sierras, and on the history of giant gold dredges of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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775-687-4810, at ext. 245.

## September 22, 2016

*The Fort Churchill eBay Collection*

by Gene Hattori, PhD.

Nevada State Museum curators are frequently asked to identify rocks, animal bones, antiques, and artifacts. In 2015, Fort Churchill State Park staff brought in a small collection of historic artifacts that was privately purchased on eBay and then immediately donated to the park. This collection was advertised as being recovered from Fort Churchill sometime prior to its 1957 entry into the Nevada State Park System. Gene Hattori, Curator of Anthropology, will discuss what this collection was comprised of and how he evaluated the artifacts and collection to verify their association with this Civil War era fort occupied between 1860 and 1869. Gene Hattori has served as Curator of Anthropology at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City since 1999. He earned his master's degree (1975) and his Ph.D. in anthropology from Washington State University, Pullman (1982), and a Bachelor of Science degree in zoology from the University of Nevada, Reno (1971).

Contact Gene Hattori:

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775-687-4810, at ext. 230.





# Skip That, Not This!

Get out of the heat and dust and get into the cool sanctuary of the museum. Construction, pipes, dust, orange cones, and endless detours have been a fixture of daily life in Carson City for a while now. Exciting infrastructure improvements will greatly enhance this community, but if the noise and dust are starting to get you down, we can help! Come inside and enjoy the quiet, air conditioned environment so rich in history and fascinating stories. Viewing the Natural History specimens, the minerals and fossils, the sagebrush sandals and Native American baskets, and historic dioramas along with so many other wonders provides a great distraction and a neat way to stretch out the fun of summer while keeping your brain engaged.



There's no construction in the Devonian Sea and the only traffic in the Ghost Town is Ol' Jenny (and she's as friendly as can be)!

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When you go through AmazonSmile and select your favorite non-profit, 5% of each purchase goes to support your organization.

We are a  
**Blue Star  
Museum**  
[arts.gov/bluestarmuseums](https://arts.gov/bluestarmuseums)

Our museum is proud to be part of Blue Star Museums, a national appreciation program to thank our military families for their service and share with them America's cultural treasures.

Blue Star Museums offers free admission to active duty military, including Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marines, National Guard, and Reserve members, with up to five family members.

Blue Star Museums is a collaboration among the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, the Department of Defense, and more than 2,000 museums across America. The program runs from Memorial Day, May 30, 2016 through Labor Day, September 5, 2016.

# Cancellation of Carson City Mint Coin Show

by Jim Barmore, Director

The Nevada State Museum in Carson City will no longer present the Carson City Mint Coin Show. The event will not take place August 19 and 20, 2016. The situation is not expected to change in the foreseeable future.

Historically, the coin show was held at the museum. This required use of three galleries. The museum began hosting major changing exhibits to give visitors a way to experience more stories and collections about Nevada's heritage. During the state's sesquicentennial, the museum opened the very successful Finding Fremont exhibit. The exhibit overlapped coin show dates. Galleries were needed for this important exhibit and statewide celebration. As a result, the show was moved to the Carson City Nugget across the street. The Nugget was a very generous sponsor. Although this allowed continuation of the show, most coin dealers were not happy with the move. They preferred having the show at the museum. The show continued at the Nugget for two more years.

The coin show will not return to the museum. After the Fremont exhibit closed, galleries were needed to store collections transferred from an off-site warehouse. This was necessary to improve the care and security of artifacts and to maintain accreditation. In the future, when galleries are no longer need for collections, the museum will resume hosting major changing exhibits. Such exhibits are critical for visitor engagement and developing revenue and attendance. The museum can no longer commit to clearing out galleries for a two-day event.

Historically, a small part of the coin show was held outside. Coin dealers were located in the museum's parking lot under canopies. This is no longer a feasible option. An outdoor setup alone accommodates only a small number of dealers, not enough for a worthwhile show. Logistics and security for an outdoor event

require considerable staff time. All coin displays are moved into the museum at night and then reassembled the next day. The museum has fewer staff now.

Priorities have changed. Less staff time is available to manage the show. The museum holds responsibility for major collections. Most are in storage. The museum is focusing more resources on improving the care and security of collections to make sure they are conserved for future generations.

The Downtown Coin Club stepped up to help the museum the past few years when the show was held at the Carson City Nugget. We've enjoyed a wonderful partnership. But, they are not in the position to take over the show on an ongoing basis.

The Carson City Mint Coin Show was successful for many years. Audiences enjoyed enhancing their coin collections. They learned about numismatics, the mint, and the Comstock. The museum thanks coin dealers for their support. But, the time has come to explore new ways to engage audiences in understanding and celebrating these important parts of our state's history.





# Welcome to the Newest Members of the Nevada State Museum!

Basic	Marty and Linda Martin
Lynda Barron	James & Barbara Murch
Bob & Jean Bondiatt	Janet Prowse
Ida Cole	Marla Schroeder
Dana Escalante	Roxanne Steinman
Edward Fincel	Robert Trotter
Vikki Anne Ford	Lynn Weaver
David and Susan Gehringer	Don Works, Sr.
Kurt Kucharek	Donny & Monica Works
Kathleen Long	Rose Works

Thank you for enhancing your support of the museum by upgrading your membership level:

Contributing	Basic
Betty & Jim Hulse	Paul Ackerman
Sustaining	Judy Colgan
Peggy O'Hearn	Patrick A. Glancy
Darla & Jonathan Garey-Sage	Charlene Rodman
	Jim Sasso
	Janie E. Young

# Farewells and Welcomes!

And, as you read earlier, James Barmore is retiring as the Director of the Nevada State Museum, Carson City. His tenure has been filled with many highs and lows. Jim has steered us through the recession while continuing to focus on high standards in every aspect of the museum. Enjoy your retirement Jim, we will miss you greatly! A national search will begin shortly for a new director.

This month we also say farewell to our maintenance specialist, Clint Fuller. He leaves us to return to Chester, CA to be near his children and grandchildren. We miss him already, but certainly are pleased to see him so happy!

Peter Barton announced that Daniel P. Thielen has been appointed as Museum Director at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City. The appointment is effective Tuesday, July 5. Dan previously held the position of Curator of Education at the museum several years ago and will bring his years of museum experience to the Director's position. Please join us in welcoming Dan back to NSRM and all of our museum families!

The national search for a director for the Nevada Historical Society has come to a successful conclusion. We are delighted to report that Dr. Catherine E. Magee has accepted the museum director III position, effective July 19, 2016. Dr. Magee brings over a quarter century of experience with museums and cultural organizations and much enthusiasm for the Society's future.

## Already a member?

Please remember to give us your email so we can make sure you receive the latest news on upcoming events and activities. Contact Mary W. Covington at 687-4810 ext. 224, [mcovington@nevadaculture.org](mailto:mcovington@nevadaculture.org)

## Not a member?

If you would like to become a member and receive all the benefits of membership, fill out and send in the form below. Click [HERE](#) for the Museum Membership Form.



Photo: Jeanette McGregor

## Store Spotlight: Volunteer Judy Miller

Judy's sister, Linda Wrubel, encouraged her to volunteer at the Museum Store a year and a half ago. "It's the first time I've ever worked retail and I really enjoy it!"

The people make all the difference. "Working here is a great opportunity to meet people from all over the world and hear their stories."

Contact Store Manager Charmain Phillips to volunteer for half-day shifts: 775-687-4810 ext. 244

## Visit the Museum

600 North Carson Street  
Carson City, Nevada 89701-4004

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

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



[www.museums.nevadaculture.org](http://www.museums.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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Division of Museums and History  
Peter Barton  
Division Administrator

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 Cora Johnson, Chair at [cora28\\_99@yahoo.com](mailto:cora28_99@yahoo.com).

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](http://www.nevadaculture.org).

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

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