



In-Situ



Newsletter of the Nevada Archaeological Association

Vol. 8, No. 2

Summer 2004

The 33rd Annual Conference

The NAA's 33rd annual conference was held in Winnemucca, Nevada, on Friday, April 16th through Sunday, April 18th. The conference was well attended with 74 people attending.

The conference started out with Friday workshops. A basketry workshop taught by Dr. Catherine Fowler was held at the Humboldt County Museum. Twenty avocational and professional archaeologists attended the workshop to learn the mysteries of warp and weft.

The NVCRIS workshop for professionals was held at the Bureau of Land Management's Winnemucca Field Office. Mike Drews and Eric Ingbar of Gnomes and Alice Baldrice of the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, updated government and contract archaeologists on the progress of the State's archaeological site and inventory Geographic Information System.

A board meeting was also held at the Humboldt County Museum Friday afternoon. After the board meeting, a Friday night mixer was held. Many thanks are due to SWCA Environmental Consultants and the Nevada Rock Art Foundation for hors d'oeuvres and hosting the bar during the social mixer.

Paper presentations started at 8:20 on Saturday morning in the West Hall of the Winnemucca Convention Center. HRA,

Conservation Archaeology, treated the attendees to a continental breakfast.

Saturday was a cold windy day, ideal for staying indoors and listening to people give presentations and to view posters.



Annual meeting participants enjoying Robert & Gigi York's poster on Slings. Photo courtesy of Robert York.

A roundtable discussion was held at noon to discuss the continuing development of site steward programs. Stay tuned for developments on the site stewardship program.

A general meeting of the NAA membership was begun around 3:30 pm. After a few announcements, and discussion and voting on updating the bylaws a new Board of Directors was elected.

Saturday evening's events were held in the Convention Center. Dinner was served buffet style and no one went away hungry. Charles Brown was presented

with the Ting-Perkins Award for his many contributions to Nevada Archeology, including discovering Charlie Brown cave and turning over the baskets from it to the Nevada State Museum.

This year, the Nevada Archaeological Association launched a new award for professional archaeologists; the Silver State Trowel lifetime achievement award. It was presented to Mary Rusco for her many contributions to Nevada Archaeology and Ethnography.



Charles Brown, on left, and Steve Daron pose after the presentation of NAA's Ting Perkins Award for Avocational archaeologists. Photo courtesy of Dee Holzel.



Mary Rusco, on right, receives the Silver State Trowel Lifetime Achievement Award from Steve Daron and Dr. Margaret Lyneis. Photo courtesy of Dee Holzel.

The auction was a great success again this year, generating a \$1,000 for the organization. We would like to thank all those who donated items to the auction; without your generous donations the auction would not be possible. We would also like to thank Mark Henderson for doing a great job again this year as auctioneer and his lovely assistants Lisa Gilbert and Yolanda Henderson (Mark's Angels) who modeled the jewelry and delivered the goods.



Action Auctioneer Mark Henderson busy raising money for the NAA's coffers. Photo courtesy of Dee Holzel.

Our guest speaker for the evening was Dr. Ted Goebel from the University of Nevada Reno. Ted gave a presentation on his continuing excavations at Bonneville Estates Rockshelter. The rockshelter has well stratified deposits dating back to Paleoindian times, and is yielding much information pertaining to Nevada's earliest inhabitants.

A field trip to visit sites along the Idaho State road was held Sunday morning, in spite of snow, rain, and wind.

Fifteen hearty souls braved the bad weather and visited home stations, swing stations, ruts and other features associated with this old stage road. The NAA gives many thanks to Mark Ennes for sharing his expertise and leading the field trip.

**NAA General Business
Meeting of 2004**

Steve Daron, NAA President

The 2004 general business meeting of the Nevada Archaeological Association was held at 3:30 pm on Saturday, April 17th, during the 33rd annual conference held in Winnemucca. The agenda consisted of two important items, changes to the Bylaws and election of a new Board of Directors.

Several changes were proposed for the NAA Bylaws including increasing dues, simplifying the dues structure, and several changes to formalize how the organization does business. All but one of the proposed changes passed. The revised Bylaws are attached.

The next item was election of a new Board of Directors. Two board members announced that they were retiring from the board. Ten individuals were nominated for the nine available positions. A closed ballot election was held and the following individuals were elected: Steven Daron (National Park Service), Daron Duke (Far Western Archaeological Consultants), Tom Flanigan (U.S. Forest Service), Ted Goebel (Professor, University Nevada, Reno), Eva Jensen (Lost City Museum), Hal Rager (Las Vegas Valley Water District), Suzan Slaughter (Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies), David Valentine (Bureau of Land Management), and Darrell Wade (Avocationalist).

The general business meeting was adjourned and the newly elected board

went into executive session to elect officers. The new officers are:

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| President | Steven Daron |
| Treasure | Eva Jensen |
| Secretary | Suzan Slaughter |
| Membership | Daron Duke |
| In-Situ Editor | David Valentine |
| Web Master | Hal Rager |

From the President

Steve Daron, NAA President

The 33rd annual conference held in Winnemucca was a great success with over 80 attendees. I would like to thank David Valentine, Local Arrangements Chair, and Roberta McGonagle, Program Chair, for a job well done. It takes a lot of time and hard work to put together a conference and they pulled it off without a hitch. I would also like to thank Dr. Catherine Fowler for doing the basketry workshop and Dr. Ted Goebel for being our Saturday night speaker and updating us on his research on the Bonneville Estates Shelter. We could not have had a successful conference without the support of the Nevada Rock Art Foundation and SWCA Environmental Consultants who sponsored the Friday night mixer and HRA Conservation Archaeology who sponsored the Saturday morning continental breakfast. I'd like to extend a big thank you to Mark and Yolanda Henderson for running a successful auction, to those who donated items, and to those who bid on and purchased all sorts of stuff. It was great fun and brought in needed financial support to the NAA. Special thanks goes to Bill Keeler of Gallup Jewelry and Pawn, over the years he has sent dozens of pieces of Native American jewelry at reduced prices and some outright donations. His support has made the annual auction a great success. Last but not least, I would like to thank all those who gave papers and

poster at the conference and shared their research with us.

I hope everyone was able to participate in some aspect of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Week. There were dozens of activities sponsored by avocational organizations and federal, state, and local governments. The NAA and Archaeo-Nevada cosponsored a lecture by Dr. Tim Canaday on Operation Indian Rocks. This was a two year, multi-agency ARPA investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of five individuals for looting several archaeological sites in Nevada and California. The NAA also participated in the Southern Nevada Cultural History Fair at the Desert Demonstration Gardens in Las Vegas. The Cultural History Fair was started by the NAA several years ago and has grown substantially over the years. It is now sponsored by the Las Vegas Water District and the Desert Springs Preserve and has an attendance of over 2,000 people.

I am sad to report that Oyvind Frock and Laureen Perry, two dedicated and hard working NAA Board members, announced that they were retiring from the Board. Laurie has been on the Board and been Membership Secretary since 2001. She has also taken the lead the past two years on getting the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Week brochures printed and making sure the brochures and poster were mailed. Oyvind Frock has been on the Board since 1995 and has been Treasurer of the NAA since 1997. Oyvind has gone above and beyond the call to serve the organization. He has kept the financial records of the NAA meticulously; he has filed our tax returns, and tracked the organizations income and expenditures with great care. He has won praise from the SHPO office for his tracking and documentation of the grant the NAA receives annually to produce and distribute

Archaeology and Historic Preservation Week information. We thank Oyvind and Laurie for their hard work and dedication to the NAA and hope they stay active in the organization for years to come.

Fall Board Meeting

Steve Daron, NAA President

The next NAA Board of Directors meeting will be held on July 17 at 2:00 pm in the office of Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc. Their office is located in the old Gold Hill bank building in the town of Gold Hill just south of Virginia City. We are trying to put together a Saturday morning tour of ongoing archaeological work in the Virginia City area. When we get it worked out we will post the information on the NAA web site (www.nvarch.org). As always, we encourage all interested members to attend.

Call for Papers, 2003 Nevada Archaeologist

Renee Kolvet, 2003 Nevada Archaeologist Editor

Papers are needed for the 2003 edition of the *Nevada Archaeologist*. Articles on any aspect of Nevada or Great Basin archaeology, anthropology, history, or paleontology will be accepted. Please send your submissions to Renee Kolvet, 1113 Endora Way, Boulder City, Nevada 89005 or via e-mail to rfcorona@aol.com.

Call for Papers, 2004 Nevada Archaeologist

Eva Jensen and Laureen Perry, 2004 Nevada Archaeologist Editors

Papers are needed for the 2004 edition of the *Nevada Archaeologist*. We know that there is interesting work going on out there pertaining to the archaeology, ethnography, history and paleontology of Nevada and the neighboring regions that

you need to report. Please send your submissions to either Eva Jensen at the Lost City Museum, 721 S. Highway 169, P.O. Box 807, Overton, NV 89040, e-mail eajensen@comnett.net, or to Laureen Perry, 126 Spinnaker Drive, Henderson, NV 89015, e-mail lperry@lc.usbr.gov.

Am-Arcs of Nevada

Oyvind Frock, Am-Arcs

During the past three months our field trips have been to these areas:

April: Peter Ting pebble mounds, Guru Lane and Adobe Charlie's Boat on Winnemucca Lake. All three sites are in the Gerlach area.

May: As part of Archaeological Awareness Week, we walked the last remaining trace in Nevada of the Jim Beckwourth Trail and looked at an adjacent portion of the Three Flags Highway. This was the original name for U.S. Hwy 395, since it ran from the Mexican border to the Canadian border.

Our second trip for May was a tour of Little Petroglyph Canyon in the Ridgecrest Area. As usual on this tour, people are overwhelmed by the thousands of glyphs and run out of film.

Our monthly meetings have been averaging 30-40 attendees due largely to the topics and speakers arranged by Dr. Dave Rhode of the Desert Research Institute. We are in our annual summer meeting hiatus. The meetings will resume in September.

Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS)

Archaeo-Nevada and the Nevada Archaeological Association sponsored a guest speaker on May 14 as part of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Week. The speaker was Dr. Tim Canaday.

Tim was the lead archaeologist on the Indian Rocks ARPA Task Force, a multi-agency group that investigated looted archaeological sites in Nevada and California. Over the last two years, the Task Force has been successful in prosecuting five individuals for damaging fourteen archaeological sites under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Tim has some amazing stories about some of the individuals that were prosecuted.

For information on ANS, contact Mark Rosenzweig at (702) 233-9424.

Elko County Chapter News

For information on ECC activities, contact Donna Murphy at (775) 738-6269, via e-mail at murphys@citlink.net, or by visiting their website at www.elkoarchaeology.org.

Nevada Rock Art Foundation News

Alanah Woody, Executive Director

The NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION continues to grow and record rock art sites all across the state! Work resumed at Lagomarsino in Storey County in May and another 100 panels were recorded in spite of snow thanks to a great crew under the leadership of Ralph & Cheryl Bennett and Dianne Jennings. In addition, new signs have been placed at the site to deter would be "landscapers." Also in the north, a multi-year project for BLM has begun recording the rock art at Dry Lakes just north of Sparks. The first part of the project will also provide data for a Master's Thesis being written by Signa Pendegraft at the University of Nevada Reno under the direction of Dr. Ted Goebel.

Kirk's Grotto in the Gold Butte area of southern Nevada was also recently

recorded by volunteers under the direction of Jack & Elaine Holmes (who were recipients of SHPO recognition for their service to Nevada during Archaeology Awareness Week) and Anne McConnell, with almost 200 panels recorded. Thanks to the heroic effort of 25 NRAF volunteers (including lots of new ones and lots of the 'regulars'), the work was completed in record time and with no special problems ... other than trying to photograph inside the Grotto with only inches of space and very little light! Unfortunately the site had been hit by vandalism just prior to the start of the project – we just need more eyes and ears out in the desert! That's one reason why NRAF is so strongly committed to the Site Stewardship program. The next training will be in Mesquite July 10th and in Reno July 24th with support from the BLM Ely Field Office and instruction by Darrell Wade. Contact info@nevadarockart.org if you're interested in being a part of the solution!

And in other NRAF news, July is the month of Artown in Reno – a month long celebration of the arts. Not wanting to be left out, Carolyn Barnes Wolfe, NRAF member and owner of Silver State Gallery in Reno, has generously offered to host an art show by NRAF member/artists and other artists who use rock art to inspire their work! A generous portion of all sales during the month of July will be donated to NRAF and artists from all over are participating. There will have an opening reception on Thursday July 1, from 5:00 to 8:00pm – when you can meet the artists and mingle with others who love rock art! It should be a very exciting event so mark your calendars now! The exhibit will run the entire month, closing on July 31. The Gallery is at 719 Plumas St, Reno with hours of: Tues. thru Sat., 11-6 pm - Hope to see you all at the opening reception!

Report from the SHPO for June 14, 2004

Alice Baldrice, Deputy SHPO

In 2003, the Keeper of the National Register added 18 properties in Nevada to the National Register of Historic Places, the Secretary of Interior's listing of the nation's most important historic properties. The majority of these listings result from property owners contacting the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) seeking to recognize their properties because they would like Tax Act benefits, changes in local zoning that would benefit their properties, or qualification for various grants. But overwhelmingly, owners want the recognition that they live or work in a place important in Nevada history or architecture. Some of the properties listed in 2003 include the Austin Cemetery, Nevada Central Turntable outside of Austin, the Mary Lee Nichols School in Sparks, the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Fallon and the Field Matron's Cottage in the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony in Reno. In 2004, listings included an amendment to the boundary of the Sloan Canyon Petroglyphs in Clark County to include a much larger area within an existing National Register district nomination. With the assistance of experienced technical divers, Nevada's, the S. S. Tahoe, a scuttled vessel in the waters of Lake Tahoe, was also listed in 2004. A complete listing of properties for both State and National Registers of Historic Places is found on the SHPO web site at www.nvshpo.org. The lists are updated within a week of new designations.

Few archaeological sites are ever listed on the National Register although should an agency desire spending the time and effort in preparing drafts, the SHPO would be happy to process the forms. Unfortunately, listing takes time to do the research that many professionals do not

have. Instead, many archaeological sites are left unevaluated or, should they lie within areas of project effect, their eligibility is determined by consensus between the agency and the SHPO. In 2003 the SHPO and agencies determined 160 properties, mostly archaeological, eligible for inclusion in the National Register and judged an additional 706 not eligible. Agencies decided to defer determinations of eligibility on 163 properties because data was insufficient for decision making and the properties were not located in areas that would be affected by undertakings. In 2002 the SHPO and agencies determined 281 properties eligible for listing in the National Register; 964 were deemed ineligible; 247 sites were left unevaluated. Lists of eligible properties are maintained in hard copy and in the SHPO Paradox project log for each fiscal year.

In the case of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), a state protocol with SHPO allows qualified BLM offices to make unilateral determinations of eligibility (or non-eligibility) on resources discovered in exempt projects that staff is qualified to review. The SHPO has not yet received the annual report from BLM for 2003 but can report that for 2002, 49 sites were considered ineligible for listing and 33 were considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register. BLM has provided information to SHPO in hard copy.

On another note, the numbers of people attending events around the state during Historic Preservation/Archaeological Awareness (HP/AA) Week are being reported. Not everyone has responded yet, but those that did indicate that over 3,300 people participated in HP/AA Week activities. The Southern Nevada culture history fair at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve drew in 1,500 folks. Seven hundred eighty-six

attended events on the Comstock, and 175 people participated in walking, bicycling, and bus tours in Reno put on by the Historic Reno Preservation Society. Three hundred people attended the Spring Wings Bird Festival in Fallon, with 138 participating in the Archaeology Fair in Elko. More than 60 folks attended the opening of a new wing at the White Pine Public Museum in Ely.

If you have any questions about SHPO programs, please call me at (775) 684-3444 or e-mail me at ambaldri@clan.lib.nv.us.

Site Stewardship

Darrell Wade, NAA Board and Nevada
Heritage Site Steward Program

Thanks to the persistence of some federal land managers, and some equally dedicated museum archaeologists, the state of Nevada has a rapidly growing group of volunteers patrolling our public lands. The Nevada Heritage Site Steward Program, initially formed in December of 2002, has quickly become a substantial presence at cultural sites in Lincoln, White Pine, and Clark counties. The trained group of site stewards, now over 120 strong, is preserving and protecting historic and prehistoric sites for the BLM, the Forest Service, The Lake Mead NRA, and the Bureau of Reclamation.

Training sessions are being planned now for the Winnemucca-Battle Mountain area, as well as Elko. Those sessions will be scheduled for August or September. Volunteer trainees attend a full day training class, covering ethics and confidentiality, site and artifact identification, federal laws, safety in the field, and other subjects. After completing the class, the volunteers are assigned a site, and visit the site with an archaeologist from the appropriate agency. Their responsibilities include checking their site

for any natural or human impacts, taking photos, and reporting to their archaeologist sponsor and regional coordinator. Currently, the program has five regional coordinators that oversee the program details, and handle most of the communications with the archaeologists. Stewards are expected to visit their sites at least four times per year, and complete a site form. Stewards can also monitor Wilderness areas, look for noxious weeds, check condition of fences, report damaged signs, and watch for wild horse herds and critical wildlife species.

Eva Jensen, archaeologist for the Lost City Museum in Overton, assists in the presentations at training classes. Eva is a specialist in pottery types and styles, and conducts the training on site and artifact identification.

Already, results have been seen. There is less looting due to the presence of monitors in previously unwatched portions of our public lands. Upon detecting looting or vandalism, trained site monitors have notified the area Law Enforcement Officers (LEO). The LEOs have performed crime scene investigations and made arrests, all due to monitors discovering recent activity at sites. Previously, this activity by criminals would have gone undetected for months or years. There is now less looting due to the presence of volunteers observing activities on our public lands.

Site Training sessions will be held in the coming months in Overton on June 5th and October 9th, in Mesquite on July 10th, in Carson City/Reno on July 24th and in Winnemucca on August 28th. Sessions at other locations will be scheduled, as requested. If you are interested in these sessions, contact Darrell Wade at dwade@mesquiteweb.com. Darrell and Terri Wade are the Training Coordinators

for the Nevada Heritage Site Steward Program.

Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA)

SNRAA's May meeting was on Thursday the 20th at 7:00 PM in the Las Vegas Paiute Tribal Center. The guest speakers were Don Christensen and Jerry Dickey. They talked about assigning style names to rock art.

The June meeting was at the Las Vegas Library. Phil Phillips presented a slide show he calls *A Walk in the Park* that displays his photographs of unique pictographs in the Grand Canyon Esplanade.

For more information on SNRAA activities, visit the SNRAA voice mail at (702) 897-7878 or e-mail them at SNRAA@hotpop.com.

White Pine Historical and Archaeological Society (WPHAS)

For information on WPHAS and its activities, visit their website at: www.webpanda.com/white_pine_county/historical_society/index.html.

NAA Student Grant

The first ever NAA Student Grant has been awarded to Geoff Smith, a University of Nevada Reno Master's student. The grant of \$1,000 will be used by Geoff to source obsidian from Paleolithic sites in his study area of the Black Rock Desert region. Congratulations Geoff!

New Publications

Bob Vierra, Trails West

Trails West is looking to increase the visibility of our publications. There are two publications by Trails West that

should be of interest to archaeologist working in Nevada.

The two volumes are:

- 1) *A Guide to the California Trail: From the Raft River to the Humboldt Sink and the Greenhorn Cutoff*, 229 pages. Published in 2000. Cost is \$29.95.
- 2) *A Guide to the Applegate Trail, the South Road to Oregon*, 211 pages. Published in 2004. Cost is \$29.95.

Orders for these volumes can be placed by contacting Richard Brock (editor), 4025 Black Trail Drive, Sacramento, CA 95823-4427, (916) 424-2429, or by e-mail at dicbee@earthlink.net.

NAA Website

Check out www.nvarch.org, NAA's official website, constructed and maintained by our very own Web Master, Hal Rager. Feel free to stop by for a visit on your next trip on the cyber highway. The website lots of useful information, such as how to order your very own NAA mug or back issues of *Nevada Archaeologist*. It also contains links to other related web sites.

Fall Newsletter

The Fall issue of *In-Situ* is scheduled for publication in September 2004. If you have anything you want included, such as mini-reports, requests for information, announcements, letters to the editor, book reviews, etc., etc., send it to Dave Valentine by August 27, 2004, via e-mail to david_valentine@nv.blm.gov, or by snail mail to P.O. Box 1084, Winnemucca, NV 89446. Photographs are welcome, but if making electronic submissions, please submit separate jpeg files for the photos. A diverse and interesting *In-Situ* cannot be

maintained without member support and participation.

Upcoming Conferences

The 77th Pecos Conference will be held in Bluff, Utah, August 12 through 15, 2004. Opening reception is at Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding, Utah August 12. Field reports, symposia, and poster sessions on topics of southwest archaeology will be held Friday and Saturday in Bluff. The second annual Leupp Kiln Conference will run concurrent with Pecos and will feature experimental firing of traditional and replicative pottery. The Pecos Conference offers wonderful field trip experiences on Sunday. Registration and information can be found at:

http://www.swanet.org/2004_pecos_conference/

The 29th Great Basin Anthropological Conference (GBAC) will be October 14-16, 2004, in Sparks, Nevada at John Ascuaga's Nugget. Information and the first call for papers are available at: www.csus.edu/anth/Great%20Basin/GBAC%20announcement.htm. The deadline for individual papers is July 1. For additional information about the program and local arrangements please contact David Zeanah at zeanah@csus.edu.

The next Plains Anthropological Conference will be Oct. 13 - 16, 2004 at the Sheraton Billings Hotel in Billings, Montana. For more information visit their web site at <http://www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/plainsanth/>.

Nevada Tool-Stone

Joe Moore, NDOT

Joe Moore is trying to update his 1994/1995 XRF report *Tool-Stone Sources of the Great Basin*. If and when the update is complete, limited distribution copies will

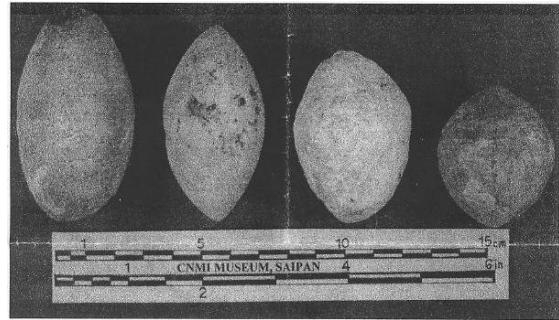
include map locations and geographic coordinates. If you have source information (obsidian, chert, or other knappable material that would be of interest to Great Basin archaeologists) that you think he should know about, contact Joe at: jmoore@dot.state.nv.us, or Joe Moore, Archaeologist, NDOT ENV, Annex Room 3, 1263 S. Stewart Street, Carson City NV89712, or (775) 888-7479

Request for Information: Missile Casting Slings and Slingstones
Robert and Gigi York

Many folks are familiar with the weapon that David used to slay Goliath, but might not be aware that the sling was a weapon used throughout the world, including the Great Basin. Lovelock and Humboldt caves have yielded examples of slings; the oldest known examples north of Mexico.

Shaped stone and clay projectiles were often used with a sling. Robert and Gigi York are looking for examples of possible slingstones or missiles from Great Basin archaeological collections. Often times, these missiles may have been misidentified as sinkers, net weights, charmstones, lemon stones, unidentified stones, or clay objects. If you have any information, please contact Robert & Gigi York, P.O. Box 1201, Laramie, WY 82703. Phone:

(307) 742-3054. E-mail: rgyork@wyomail.com.



Examples of slingstones.

Archaeology Trip

Canyons Incorporated is offering an archaeological trip along the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho this August 22-27th. Dr. Max Pavesic, of the Idaho State Historical Society, will be leading the trip assisted by Lisa Whisnant.

The trip will visit Northern Shoshone (Tukudika or Sheepeaters) sites along the river, including rockshelters, hearths, pit houses, hunting blinds, cache pits and pictographs.

A trip down the Middle Fork includes running some exciting rapids, and the opportunities for enjoying the great outdoors and seeing wildlife are endless. The cost of the trip is \$1,350 per person. For more information contact Canyon, Inc. by phone at (888) 634-2600 or via e-mail at info@CanyonsInc.com.

Summer Solstice and Petroglyph Interactions

Jeanne Howerton, SNRAA

Summer Solstice is nearing and many of us like to check sun and petroglyph interactions at this time. Here is some astronomical information which gives the dates when we could most accurately find sunrise and sunset solar markers. Noon marker would not be affected.

Officially, summer solstice is measured with respect to the center of the sun, not the rising or setting of the sun: those times are measured from the upper limb of the sun, at the first and last rays of the sun. The Native Americans would not have known about the center measurement, thus would not have used our traditional June 20 to mark their petroglyphs. They would use dates when the sun's first or last rays reached their northern-most progression.

We usually say we have five days around solstice to do our checking, but the time frame is even wider than that. A person can make more accurate sunrise observations up to two weeks before solstice, and more accurate sunset observations up to 10 days afterward. This would make subtle differences in the light play and it would be interesting to see if it would make some interactions more accurate. This won't be good for noontime observations: they should still be made close to June 20. Below is a chart with the local sunrise and sunset times for Las Vegas.

| Date | Sunrise | Sunset | Day |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| June 1 | 5:25 am PDT | 8:21 pm PDT | Tuesday |
| June 4 | 5:24 | 7:53 | Friday |
| June 7 | 5:23 | 7:55 | Monday |
| June 10 | 5:23 | 7:58 | Thursday |
| June 13 | 5:23 | 7:59 | Sunday |
| June 16 | 5:23 | 8:00 | Wednesday |
| June 19 | 5:23 | 8:01 | Saturday |
| June 20 (Solstice) | 5:23 | 8:01 | Sunday |
| June 22 | 5:24 | 8:01 | Tuesday |
| June 25 | 5:25 | 8:02 | Friday |
| June 28 | 5:26 | 8:02 | Monday |
| June 30 | 5:27 | 8:02 | Wednesday |

Old Tom and Geographic Information on the Frontier

Wayne Valentine, Land Surveyor and Professional Engineer

The founders of our country were remarkable people. When or where else in world history do we find such a collection of creative, inventive, effective humans? Inspired by the ideas of individual freedom, limited government, and self-determination, this group remains unparalleled. Washington, Paine, Franklin, Hamilton, Madison, Ross, etc. are suitably recognized for their contributions to the country's beginnings, in scientific, political, social, governmental, and educational realms.

Old Tom, a surveyor and a member of that bunch, was surely a genius. He invented or proposed a remarkable number of firsts. He is remembered for many of them; currently in focus is his instigation of the exploration of the young nation's new frontier, the bicentennial of which is now being celebrated across our land. The exploration of the Louisiana Purchase opened up the West, with its enormous resources, to settlement.

Selling public lands to private citizens was one stroke of the founders' genius. Land sales were first proposed in the Continental Congress in 1784 to accomplish several things, among which were to regulate expansion of the country and acquire revenue for the treasury. The program serendipitously created a whole new class of citizen landowners who would become the core of economic and political stability for the nation, the "middle class."

The system of land identification for disposition was Tom's creation. Prior methods involved selecting desirable lands and carving them willy-nilly out of the whole, thus creating ownership conflicts by virtue of complex boundaries, and leaving the less-desirable areas for uncertain disposal. But Tom had a better idea. Tom proposed cutting up the lands for disposal into regular shapes, including some "less good" with the "good" as chance would make it, thus stabilizing form, quantity, and boundaries, and simplifying public records for taxation. And so the "rectangular system" of public land survey was established in 1785.

The scheme was tried, improved, and in 1796 a new government office, the Office of Surveyor General (later the Government Land Office) was created to undertake the monumental job of subdividing the public lands. But not just subdividing. In addition to merely running lines and setting corners, Tom gave the surveyors another important duty, in effect the task of mapping, sampling, and classifying the lands and resources.

Early surveyors were obliged to note not only measurement and corner data in their field books, but also more. "You will be careful to note in your field book rivers and creeks . . . kinds of timber . . . ponds . . . stone quarries . . . coal beds . . . peat . . . uncommon natural or artificial productions such as mounds, precipices . . . minerals, ores, fossils, etc., quality of the soil and situation of all mines, salt lick . . ." (Instructions for Deputy Surveyors, 1815).

Later (1831) instructions added towns, villages, settlements, forges, factories, gins, and roads and tracks to the list of things to be noted. Still later (1843), instructions were added to describe "the face of the country whether level, hilly or mountainous", and classify soil "whether first, second, or third rate or unfit for cultivation" and the locus of "bottom lands." The 1850's saw the addition of "tracks of tornadoes or hurricanes" and "waterfalls and mill sites, and metalliferous ores and diggings." Other items to be noted were "organic remains, petrifications, natural curiosities, ancient works of art such as mounds, fortifications, embankments, ditches," etc.

And so from Tom's beginnings evolved a virtual system of transects of geographic information, nominally at one-mile intervals running in cardinal directions. These were examined by knowledgeable professionals, recorded and platted (mapped). Big chunks of the

West were so covered. The records they created are today a valuable resource for archaeology and history, reflecting the state of the country as of the date of survey. And surveys are still underway! Can you imagine any other government program so old yet still extant, so important and wide spread, so successful and so unrecognized?

“Yeah, right!” some may say who have found some such records unreliable. Unfortunately, as in all human endeavors, it seems that some of this work was compromised, especially that performed by the contract system of surveys in the late 19th-century. Early surveys were made in the vanguard of settlement, on the frontier, under often trying circumstances of weather, environment, hostile natives, lack of supplies, and for comparatively low pay. Speed was the focus. Other considerations, such as attention to fidelity, were often secondary.

Can one easily discern the quality of observations and measurement? Comparison of field conditions, air photos, or modern mapping with old plats and field notes will give clues. Look for obvious topographic discrepancies such as missing streams, roads, or absence of “calls” (notations in the field notes) for other salient features. Check the notes to see how long it took to survey the township, and see if the time is reasonable (remember this work was done mostly on foot). Notes and plats showing “40-80” dimensions only, i.e. no topo calls between section and quarter section corners, are often suspect. And not all surveys were done in the manner prescribed, by actually running each line in the directions required. Some were “stubbed in,” others established by off-line traversing through easier terrain, still others by only partial coverage. Records in such cases may be partially unreliable, with the omitted areas sketched in. Unfortunately, some surveys were simply fraudulent and completely unreliable.

But where done conscientiously, the survey records remain a valued resource for both historic and prehistoric studies. Strangely, this conception and initiation of the first systematic, scientific, extensive, comprehensive, sampling of geographic resources and curiosities in the world is not well appreciated. It was, in fact, a nascent Geographic Information System (GIS). We owe a debt to Old Tom (Thomas Jefferson, that is).

BYLAWS OF THE
NEVADA ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Revised April 2004

ARTICLE I: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Nevada Archaeological Association (NAA) is to preserve Nevada's antiquities, encourage the study of archaeology and to educate the public to the aims of archaeological research.

ARTICLE II: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

This organization will be comprised of the general membership and the elected governing body, known as the Board of Directors (hereafter called the Board).

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: All persons signing the Code of Ethics of the NAA shall become members upon payment of annual dues.

Section 2: Membership in the NAA is for the calendar year in which the dues are paid.

Section 3: Membership categories are Student, Regular, Family, Supporting, Life, and Corporate. Each member shall receive all of the NAA regular publications for the dues year and shall have one vote in the proceedings of the association.

Section 4: Honorary members shall be elected on a majority vote of the Board on recommendation of any member of the NAA. Each honorary member shall have full privileges in the association, which shall last their lifetime.

Section 5: Dues for the above memberships shall be set by the Board and voted on for approval at the annual meeting by a majority of those present. The dues are currently set at the following:

| | | | |
|---------|----------|------------|---------|
| Student | \$10.00 | Family | \$25.00 |
| Regular | \$20.00 | Supporting | \$50.00 |
| Life | \$500.00 | Corporate | \$50.00 |

Section 6: Membership cards will be issues to all dues paying members of the NAA.

Section 7: Each corporate member shall assign one individual to cast its vote at the proceedings of the association.

ARTICLE IV: PUBLICATIONS

Section 1: The NAA shall publish a journal entitled “Nevada Archaeologist” and a newsletter entitled “In-Situ”.

Section 2: The existing Board shall act as the editorial board for NAA publications.

Section 3: The Board shall appoint an editor from the general membership for each publication. The editor of each publication will be an ex-officio member of the Board and shall serve at the discretion of the Board.

Section 4: Individuals or institutions may subscribe to the publications of the NAA without privileges of membership. The annual subscription fee shall be determined by the Board.

ARTICLE V: ELECTIONS

Section 1: Members of NAA shall be elected to the Board by a majority of the members present at the annual general meeting.

Section 2: Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by appointment by a majority vote of the Board.

ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The elected Board shall consist of nine members. A quorum shall be five elected members.

Section 2: The Board can take action in the name of the Association without the necessity of contacting the General Membership.

Section 3: The Board shall report its actions to the General Membership

Section 4: The elected Board shall meet immediately following the annual general meeting to elect a President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Membership Chair, and a Newsletter Editor. These offices shall have terms of one year. The out-going President shall be the presiding officer at this meeting.

Section 5: The President shall act as chief officer of the NAA and will preside at all meetings. The President may appoint another Board member to assume his or her duties when necessary.

Section 6: The Treasurer shall keep records of all financial transactions of the NAA and shall keep the books to date and ready for compilation, a review, or an audit at any time.

Section 7: The Secretary shall act as corresponding and recording secretary for the NAA and will produce minutes for all meetings. Minutes will be sent to each Board member in a timely manner. A summary of the Board approved minutes will be published in the newsletter.

Section 8: The Membership Chair shall be responsible for maintaining the current membership list, for mailing annual renewal notices, for receiving dues, for forwarding the dues to the Treasurer, and for sending membership cards and the annual journal.

Section 9: The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for producing and distributing the newsletter of the NAA.

Section 10: A Board member may be elected to more than one office.

Section 11: The Board may appoint an Executive Secretary from the membership of the NAA. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for receiving and forwarding mail addressed to the NAA to the appropriate NAA officers. The Executive Secretary shall also maintain NAA archives at an appropriate host repository with the State of Nevada. Furthermore, the Executive Secretary will maintain all back issues of NAA publications and distribute such publications as directed by the current policy of the Board.

Section 12: The NAA shall request the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer to designate an archeologist from his or her staff to be a non-voting ex-officio member of the NAA Board.

ARTICLE VII: FINANCIAL MATTERS OF THE NAA

Section 1: The Board shall have the power to approve disbursements of funds.

Section 2: All monies of the NAA shall be kept in a federally insured financial institution in the State of Nevada.

Section 3: All checks shall be authorized by two signatures, those of the Treasurer and the President or the Secretary.

Section 4: The Board may have an annual compilation, review, or audit of the financial records by a certified public accountant or other qualified person.

ARTICLE VIII: MEETINGS

Section 1: A meeting of the general membership shall be held annually as scheduled by the Board. Additional meetings may be scheduled by the Board.

Section 2: Any member of the NAA may attend any meeting of the NAA.

Section 3: A majority of members attending the annual meeting shall be sufficient for the adoption of any motion. No proxies will be recognized.

ARTICLE IX: COMMITTEES

Committees shall be appointed by the President of the Board and shall act on the direction of the President of the Board as needed to conduct the affairs of the NAA.

ARTICLE X: CHAPTERS

Section 1: Members of the NAA may form a local or topical chapter of the Association in order to further the purposes of the NAA on a local level or a topical interest.

Section 2: Members wishing to form local chapters shall petition for such status at a regularly scheduled annual meeting of the NAA. The petition shall include the proposed Chapter's Bylaws, Code of Ethics, and membership list.

Section 3: The members of NAA present at the annual meeting shall, by a majority vote, approve or deny the petition.

Section 4: All members of a local Chapter are encouraged to become members of the NAA and must sign an NAA approved Code of Ethics.

Section 5: The membership year for local Chapters shall be the calendar year.

Section 6: Membership lists shall be sent to the NAA Membership Chair following annual renewal and changes in the membership list. Membership cards for NAA will be issued by the NAA Membership Chair.

Section 7: Each local Chapter shall send a copy of their minutes and all publications to the Secretary of the NAA.

Section 8: The local Chapter recognition may be revoked in the same manner with which the Chapter was formed.

Section 9: Topical Chapters will include the President (or designee of the President) of the NAA as an ex-officio member of the governing body of the chapter.

Section 10: The NAA Board may upon receipt of petition for chapter status grant conditional status to the petitioners. Such conditional status shall remain in effect until the next annual meeting where the NAA members present may by a majority vote approve or deny the petition.

ARTICLE XI: AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

Section 1: Am-Arcs of Nevada and Archaeo-Nevada may continue to affiliate with NAA as long as the purpose and ethics are compatible with those of NAA. If Am-Arcs of Nevada and/or Archaeo-Nevada pay dues to the NAA at the Supporting level as set in Article III,

Section 5 of these bylaws, they will receive one copy of all NAA publications for year in which dues are paid

Section 2: Organizations wishing to be affiliated with the NAA must first apply in writing to the NAA Board. The application must include a current copy of the organization's by-laws and the organization's Code of Ethics. The organization must enforce its Code of Ethics among its membership.

Section 3: Affiliated organizations must pay dues, except for Am-Archs and Archaeo-Nevada, annually to the NAA at the Supporting level as set in Article III, Section 5 of these bylaws. The first year's dues must accompany the application for affiliation.

Section 4: The NAA Board shall, at their first meeting following the receipt of an application for affiliation, either deny or grant conditional affiliation for the applying organization. If the NAA Board denies conditional affiliation, the applicant may appeal the NAA Board action to the membership at the NAA Annual Meeting where the NAA members present at the annual meeting may accept or deny the applicant's affiliation by majority vote.

Section 5: If the NAA Board grant conditional affiliation to the applicant, such affiliation will only be in effect until the NAA members present at the next NAA Annual Meeting shall by a majority vote approve or deny the applicant organization.

Section 6: If the applicant organization is denied affiliation the applicant may reapply by the same process outlined in Section 2 through 5 of this Article. The NAA will promptly return dues paid by any applicant organization denied affiliation upon request by a denied applicant.

Section 7: Each affiliate shall receive one copy of all NAA publications for the year in which dues are paid.

Section 8: The affiliate recognition may be revoked by majority vote of the NAA members present at any NAA Annual Meeting.

Section 9: Each affiliate shall send a copy of their minutes and all publications to the Secretary of the NAA.

Section 10: Each affiliate shall provide a copy of any changes in the organization bylaws since the previous NAA annual meeting to the NAA Board for review.

Section 11: In the case of an affiliate that does not require members to annually sign the affiliate's Code of Ethics, NAA encourages affiliate organizations to take measures that would require such annual individual action from individual affiliate members.

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENTS

Section 1: An amendment to these Bylaws shall be accomplished:

a. at any regular meeting of the NAA by: 1, a member of the NAA verbally proposing an amendment, or by written suggestions to the Board, and 2, the proposed amendment being approved by the majority of the membership in attendance.

b. through a mail campaign by: 1, a written ballot to the membership, and 2, a majority of the membership voting to approve the amendment.

Section 2: The membership shall be notified in writing when any amendment to the bylaws of the NAA shall become effective.

END OF BYLAWS FOR THE NAA

CODE OF ETHINCS
NEVADA ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 14, 1990

The purpose of the Nevada Archaeological Association (NAA) is to preserve Nevada's antiquities, encourage the study of archaeology and to educate the public to the aims of archaeological research. Members and chapters of the NAA shall:

1. Uphold the purposes and intent of the NAA.
2. Adhere to all antiquities laws.
3. Seek the advice, consent, and assistance of professionals in archaeology and/or history in dealing with artifacts, sites, and other material relating to antiquities.
4. Assist professionals and educators in accomplishing the objective of the NAA.
5. Be a personal envoy of the NAA and responsible for conducting themselves in a manner so to protect the integrity of the artifacts, sites, or other materials.