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**Newsletter of the Nevada Archaeological Association**

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**Vol. 9, No. 2**

**Summer 2005**

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**From the President**

Steve Daron, NAA President

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Nevada Archaeological Association was held in Tonopah from April 15 through 17 and it was a great success. We thank all those who shared their research by giving papers and bringing posters. It is exiting to learn about the variety of projects and the interesting research going on in Nevada. Special thanks go to the Local Arrangements Chair Sue Rigby and the Program Chair Susan Slaughter for all their hard work and long hours spent organizing the meeting and getting the presenters set up. We would also like to thank the Nevada Rock Art Foundation for sponsoring the Friday night mixer and Heidi Roberts Conservation Archaeology, Inc. for sponsoring the refreshments during the meeting. Another big "Thank You" goes to Mella Harmon and Rebecca Ossa from the SHPO office for the excellent workshop on historic architecture.

The Saturday evening banquet was well attended and no one went away hungry. This years Ting-Perkins recipient was Oyvind Frock. Oyvind's contributions to Nevada archaeology are to numerous to list here. Suffice it to say he is a tireless supporter and advocate for Nevada's cultural resources and exemplifies the spirit of the Ting-Perkins Award. We thank all those who donated items to the auction and brought their check books. Your generosity netted the NAA over \$1800. These funds will be used to support the student grant and

the site steward program as well as various other NAA activities. By the way, if you ever get over to Gallup, New Mexico, stop by Gallup Jewelry and Pawn and thank the owner Bill Keeler for his continuous support of the NAA. He is the one that sends all the amazing Native American jewelry and crafts and this year the NAA netted over \$900 from the items he sent. After the auction, our guest speaker was Ed Stoner from Western Cultural Resource Management. He gave an interesting presentation on the "Big Dig" project. Who would have guessed that all that neat stuff was under the streets of Reno?

**Next Board Meeting**

Steve Daron, NAA President

Don't forget, the next NAA board meeting will be in Austin on July 16. Their will be a field trip to Gatecliff shelter leaving at 8:00 a.m.--rendezvous at the Forest Service campground on Bob Scott summit. The board meeting will start at 2 p.m. at the Forest Service campground on Bob Scott summit, weather permitting. If the weather is bad the meeting will be at the Forest Service office in Austin. We have reserved the campground that weekend for our use. In addition to the regular NAA board meeting, there will be a Site Steward committee meeting on Friday at 1:00 p.m. at the Eureka Forest Service office.

The theme for next year's historic preservation week poster will be old Nevada

houses. NAA members attending the board meeting should search your files, closets, and old shoe boxes (or where ever you keep your photos) for photos of historic and prehistoric houses so we can start working on the poster design. We'll get together after the Site Steward meeting Friday evening either in the camp ground or at some local watering hole suitable for the activity, and start working on the design.

### **WAHOO, IT IS OUT!**

#### ***Nevada Archaeologist: Volumes 20 and 21***

Steve Daron, NAA President

The latest issue of *Nevada Archaeologist* which contains Volumes 20 and 21 and is dated 2005 was published and mailed out in early June. Volume 20 should have been published in 2002 and Volume 21 should have been published in 2003. We hope to get Volume 22 out later this year and Volumes 23 and 24 out next year. This will get us back on schedule. We apologize for the delay and appreciate your patience.

If you are a member of NAA and did not receive the latest issue of *Nevada Archaeologist* containing Volumes 20 and 21 contact Steve Daron by email at [steve@nvarch.org](mailto:steve@nvarch.org) with "Nevada Archaeologist" in the subject line, or send a post card to NAA, P.O. Box 73145, Las Vegas, Nevada 89170-3145. Be sure to include your name and mailing address with your request so we can get it out to you ASAP.

#### **In Memoriam: Mary Kiehl Rusco (1927-2005)**

Margaret Lyneis, Professor Emeritus, UNLV

Mary Rusco, a founding member of the Nevada Archaeological Association and a professional archaeologist and anthropologist for more than 40 years, died

May 23, 2005, in Reno. The NAA recognized Mary with its first Lifetime Achievement Award at its Annual Meeting in Winnemucca April 17, 2004 (*Nevada Archaeologist* 2005: iii-iv).

That same spring, Mary received a Nevada Historic Preservation Award from the State of Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs on May 16. A memorial service and celebration of her life will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Northern Nevada in Reno July 3, 3-6 pm.

Her best known archaeological work includes her study of the Lovelock Chinatown with Eugene Hattori, and her studies at Rye Patch Reservoir with Jonathon O Davis. During her long career, Mary worked for the Nevada State Museum, Nevada Archaeological Survey, Desert Research Institute, and the University of Nevada, Reno. She also worked as an independent contractor, and collaborated with Catherine S. Fowler and Ed Stoner on ethnographic and archaeological projects. Mary also shared her interest and concerns for the contemporary and historic Native Americans with her husband, Elmer R. Rusco, Professor of Political Science, University of Nevada, Reno, and they were frequent collaborators as well.

Mary was born in Topeka, Kansas May 28, 1927. She received her B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, in 1953, and her M.A. from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in 1956.

Mary was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer, who died July 2, 2004. Their daughter, Kathy, and son, Frank, survive them.

### **Am-Arcs**

Am-Arcs members are busy exploring Nevada's archaeology with a

number of field trips. In April, members visited the Dimpled Rock Site near Mustang, where in addition to the rock structures of the site, they also observed a circa 1940 camp site and a couple of isolated historic petroglyphs. In May, 10 members headed south to the Amargosa River, where they searched for stemmed point sites. They recorded one new site on the east side of the river where a number of stone tools were found. They also visited a site in the narrows of the Amargosa River near Beatty. No tools were found, most likely because the site has been repeatedly visited by looters.

Two field trips are slated for June. The first will be to the Dynamite Cave Pictograph site near Fallon on June 18. Members will depart from the Fallon McDonalds at 8:00 a.m. On June 21, a possible summer solstice site, the Archer Site, east of Reno. Members will meet at 10:15 at the Chevron Station at the Mustang Exit on I-80. Bring a chair and a lunch! Call Oyvind Frock at (775) 826-8779 to register for these field trips.

### **Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS)**

ANS field activities typically taper off during the hot summer months. There may be, however, opportunities for lab work and other activities. Please contact Helen Mortenson at (702) 876-6944 or Cheryl Martin at [cheryl.martin@dri.edu](mailto:cheryl.martin@dri.edu) for information on ANS activities.

### **Churchill County Chapter**

Bob Kautz, Kautz Environmental Consultants

The Churchill County Chapter met on April 6 at the newly expanded Churchill County Museum in Fallon to hear a presentation, illustrated by an accompanying video, regarding the Central Pacific Railroad

and other secondary railroad grades, by Larry Hersh, author of "The Central Pacific Railroad Across Nevada 1868 & 1997: Photographic Comparatives." The talk was excellent. The volume is also highly recommended to anyone interested in Nevada railroads or who is interested in the use of comparative photos from different centuries to evaluate environmental and cultural changes to the landscape. The group meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Churchill County Museum at 7:00 p.m.

### **Elko County Chapter, Nevada Archaeological Association**

Donna Murphy, ECC, NAA

Elko County Chapter sponsored a Site Stewardship Training in Elko on May 25th. The presentation by Eva Jensen and Liz Russell was very interesting and inspiring. Everyone enjoyed it and all 10 individuals in attendance signed up to monitor various sites. Six of the Elko County Chapter members attended along with four other interested individuals.

The Elko County Chapter put on its annual Archaeology Fair in honor of Nevada's Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Week. The event was kicked off on Friday night with a presentation by master's candidate, Jill Jensen, from Sacramento State. Jill is studying the antelope traps in Elko County, and she discussed her theories of subsistence strategies and social organization in relation to the antelope drives. The audience seemed quite interested and had many questions.

One hundred and forty-three people attended the Archaeology Fair on Saturday and perused the various exhibits, watched demonstrations, or tried out the hands-on activities. The most popular event was the bead stringing, where little folks were able to decorate an amulet, string it onto a

necklace with beads, and take it home. Thanks to John and Terrie Anderson for bringing that to the event every year. Other hands-on activities included seed grinding with a mano and metate and drilling with a pump drill. Many folks were fascinated with Tim Murphy's Native Plant Food Exhibit consisting of berry cakes, cattail flour cakes, seeds, plants and roots. Many thanks go out to Susan Bradley and Pam Pirtle for helping with that exhibit and answering all the questions. Many folks were equally impressed with the collection of replicated artifacts such as Tim's spears and atlatls in the Hunting Tool Exhibit. Lester Morris was not able to help out this year but Teresa Dixon took over like a pro. A new addition to the program introduced this year was a mock archaeology lab where kids could weigh, measure and analyze various replicated artifacts. They were also able to try a large crossword puzzle and some magnetic puzzles with an archaeological theme. Tim Murphy and Norma Cozby's great grandson Dillon captivated folks for hours with their flint knapping.

The Elko County Chapter donated \$500 to the Elko County Library to replace some of the books at the public county library that were water damaged when the roof leaked during a heavy rain storm. We are recommending various history and archaeological books for them to purchase.

For more information on Elko County Chapter activities, contact Tim or Donna at [murphys@citlink.net](mailto:murphys@citlink.net).

### **Nevada Rock Art Foundation News**

Alanah Woody, Executive Director

The Nevada Rock Art Foundation hosted the American Rock Art Research Association 32<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting in Sparks at the end of May. Rock art researchers (nearly

200 in total) came from literally all over the world to attend the event. Well-known author and rock art scholar Polly Schaafsma was the keynote speaker at the Sunday night banquet. She had also given a free public presentation on the Thursday before the conference, co-hosted by the ARARA Education Committee, AmArcs and NRAF. Friday night events included a reception at the Pyramid Lake Visitor's Center – where a great time was had by all!

This spring, in spite of truly horrible weather, a number of small sites were documented in southern Nevada under the continuing supervision of Jack and Elaine Holmes and Anne McConnell. Work slows down in the summer, but Documentation Training is being planned for the fall and recording work will begin again when the heat subsides a bit. And now that summer's here ... at least it's supposed to be here ... Training is the first order of business for NRAF in the north. Two day Documentation Training is offered in Reno on July 9-10, accompanied by recording in the Dry Lakes area July 8-12. One other session will be slated for Dry Lakes this fall, but the dates are not yet finalized. Reservations are required for both Training and the Dry Lakes Project, so contact [info@nevadarockart.org](mailto:info@nevadarockart.org) for more information. Plans are not yet finalized, however it is anticipated that documentation work will resume at the Lagomarsino Canyon Petroglyph Site in mid-September through mid-October, and a registration mailer will be sent out in the next couple of months. This will be followed pretty rapidly by another recording project at Mt Irish. It is expected that there will be a large number of people who will want to participate on both of these projects, so there will be a limited number of days that each person will be allowed to work. Both of these projects are very important parts of the protection of



these two remarkable areas and the rock art is simply spectacular ... so register early!

The Nevada Rock Art Foundation continues to attract new members and the organization is growing and doing more and more all across the state. New Advisory Council members include Kenny Anderson (Las Vegas Band of the Southern Paiute), Arlan Melendez (Reno-Sparks Indian Colony), and Brian Wallace (Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada) who will lend guidance to all of NRAF's activities as we continue to expand in order to fulfill our mission to document and protect Nevada's rock art heritage. For more information, visit [www.nevadarockart.org](http://www.nevadarockart.org).

### **Southern Nevada Rock Art Association**

The Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA) continues to be active. They are currently working on building a rock art library, which is currently being maintained by Phil and Judy Phillips. Any SNRAA member of good standing can check out library items for a month.

One of the joys of SNRAA membership is the opportunity to visit some of the great rock art sites in southern Nevada. Recent field trips include a January jaunt to Kohta Circus, and March maneuvers at Mt. Schrader.

SNRAA is also continuing with their time honored tradition of guest speakers. In April, Jim Blazik, a National Park Service ranger from Moab, Utah, gave a presentation on Barrier Canyon Style Rock Art. In May, Bernie Jones presented a talk entitled "Mountain Lions and Mythology." This month (June), the guest speaker will be Inge Nagel, a long time member and rock art researcher who is also a member of the Nevada Rock Art Foundation. She will be presenting a talk entitled "Range Creek, Utah."

Upcoming guest speakers include such luminaries as Eva Jensen, Alanah Woody, John Fountain, J. J. Brody, Leigh Marymor, and Courtney Smith. For dates, locations, and topics, contact the SNRAA voice mail at (702) 897-7878, or send e-mail inquiries to [SNRAA@hotpop.com](mailto:SNRAA@hotpop.com).

### **SHPO News**

Alice Baldrica, Deputy SHPO

*News on Proposed Changes to Section 106:*  
As some of you may recall from the last newsletter, the National Parks Subcommittee for the Natural Resources Committee in the House of Representatives is considering amending Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed Section 4 amendment would shift the responsibility of documentation and analysis away from those seeking federal funding for projects to the stewards of historic resources - State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) and other interested parties. The proposed change significantly limits what is currently given consideration under Section 106. In the draft bill, only resources that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or those that have been formally determined eligible for listing by the Secretary of the Interior would be considered under Section 106. These limitations would significantly impact tribal historic resources, most of which are not listed or formally designated. Of Nevada's 322 National Register properties, only 18 listings are prehistoric archaeological sites, fourteen are historic sites and two are segments of nationally significant trails. Only three properties of religious and cultural significance have been listed in the National Register.

During initial meetings to discuss the amendments, James T. Martin, executive director of the United South and Eastern Tribes, which represents 24 tribes from

Maine to Texas, complained that the proposed change to the section 106 process "represents a draconian measure that would strike at the heart of tribal identity, severely undermine the progress made by the tribes in recent years to have our sacred places respected and protected, and would represent the single worst piece of legislation for tribal culture since the infamous General Allotment Act of 1887, which resulted in the loss of two-thirds of tribal reservation lands to non-Indian settlement. He said many tribes don't want their lands listed on the National Register or in other databases for fear of vandalism to artifacts.

Several subcommittee members complained that the NHPA has been used as a tool to thwart development even when properties aren't historically sensitive. "Where is this going to stop?" asked Representative Devin Nunes (R., Calif.), the panel's chairman, noting the relatively few number of properties reviewed that end up being listed on the National Register. "There's got to be a problem here with this process." He also said he circulated the draft legislation "so we can have discussion" on the issues.

Representatives Nunes and Pombo are quite determined to make changes, not only to NHPA but also to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Although the committee was taken by surprise by the tribes and by a letter from the families of the victims of 9/11 (the World Trade Center was considered eligible for the Register and the families concerns taken into consideration in the planning of a new complex), it is assumed Nunes and Pombo will take their Discussion Draft back to the drawing board for minor modifications.

Anyone with an interest in preserving archaeological sites needs to let their congressional delegation know how important it is to retain Section 106 of the

NHPA as it is. The Nevada SHPO prepared a list of sites, with the help of federal and consulting archaeologists, that would not be protected except for Section 106: places like the Tosawihi Quarries, Rhyolite, Cortez, the Kistler Site, the Lake Range Quarry, Dry Lakes Basin, Pahrnatagat Rock Art Site Complex, Massacre Rim Rock Art Complex and many, many others. The Nevada SHPO sent this letter to the National Conference of SHPOs and to the Advisory Council which is assembling a national list.

*Good news with State Legislation:* The Legislature is going home after a grueling session and we need to thank our legislators for passing legislation good for historic preservation and archaeology. Not only did the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Nevada Legislature find funding for worthy projects such as the restoration of the V&T Railroad and the Lear Theater, and reauthorized the Commission for Cultural Affairs to use \$3 million in state bonds per year (up from the \$2 million spent in previous years) on projects to rehabilitate historic structures, it also passed AB 289 creating a site stewardship program within the Nevada SHPO to coordinate site stewardship activities around the state and coordinate with organizations such as NAA and agencies such as BLM and the Humboldt Toiyabe National Forests. That person's duty station will be in a state office in Las Vegas and create a SHPO presence in southern Nevada. The SHPO will have another new, long overdue, position too: a database manager. SHPO hopes to have both positions filled by October 1, 2005. Also passed was SB 81 to afford the same level of protection to cultural resources on State land as would be found on federal land so as to facilitate the transfer of federal land to the State. Penalties for vandalizing all kinds of sites and historic cemeteries have increased.

*Historic Preservation Week:* I talked to a number of agencies and organizations and all of them agreed that a Preservation MONTH was far better than a Preservation WEEK. Members of the NAA and other preservation organizations should consider scheduling events throughout the month of May in 2006 and every year after so we can all attend each other's events.

*Change in SHPO staff:* Mella Harmon, the Nevada National Register coordinator, left SHPO on June 3 to take a position as historian at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno, Nevada. SHPO's loss is the Historical Society's gain and we wish her the best of luck in her new position. SHPO is currently interviewing for another architectural historian to replace Mella, a difficult task as Mella is a hard worker and a pleasure to know.

For more information on any of these topics call Alice Baldrica at 775-684-3444 or e-mail her at [ambaldri@clan.lib.nv.us](mailto:ambaldri@clan.lib.nv.us).

### **Growth of the Clark County Cultural Site Stewardship Program**

Phil Phillips, Clark Co. Cultural Site Stewardship Program

Results from over one hundred twenty site stewards in Clark County's newly-created Cultural Site Stewardship Program (CSSP) reflect the success of site monitoring in Southern Nevada. A class held last May introduced twenty-six new volunteers to assist managers under increasing pressure from a burgeoning population. More than sixteen impacts on cultural sites were reported to land managers by the fledgling program during first two quarters of 2005.

To support the training needs of the CSSP, Dr. Jim Watson will provide field and classroom training to stewards beginning after July. Classroom training is optional and is based on suggestions from

site stewards. One monthly session will be given in Las Vegas and one in Mesquite. Jim is a bio-archaeologist with eight years of field experience in Central America and Mexico. He teaches at the UNLV anthropology department.

An education program is in an infant planning stage through the Public Lands Institute at UNLV. With the supervision of Dr. Allison Brody, a cultural awareness, activities based presentation is being created in collaboration with the CSSP. This will be a volunteer-based activity focused on fifth grade students, their teachers and parents. The activities should be ready by the end of the year.

Finally, the CSSP is increasing the numbers of stewards for historic sites. In one remote area, more than forty mines dating back to the 1800's (some possibly to the late 1700's) lie exposed to an advancing population. The history of each is obscure but is nevertheless occupies a moment in history we want to understand.

### **Site Stewardship Program**

Eva Jensen, Lost City Museum

The NAA site stewardship committee meeting will be held on Friday afternoon at 1:00 to 4:00pm, July 15 at the Forest Service office in Austin. Anyone interested in site stewardship issues is welcome. We especially encourage new regional coordinators to attend. We will discuss program structure, mission and vision, and NAA's role in the growing program; and begin to establish goals for the NAA and the program in Nevada. With passage of a Site Stewardship bill in the Nevada legislature, thanks to Harry and Helen Mortenson, it will be important to establish what role NAA can best fill in this site protection effort.

This spring the NAA Heritage Site Steward program has been busy with

training sessions in Overton, Elko, Winnemucca, and Mesquite. Our primary trainer, Darrell Wade, has been undergoing cancer treatment and is doing much better. Elizabeth Russell, a retired teacher from New York, (a fourth generation Nevadan born and raised in Nevada) has been the primary trainer for these last spring sessions. Elizabeth also has a background in anthropology with 20 credits toward a master's degree before she began her teaching career in the eastern states. Welcome back to Nevada! She is great!

With the three sessions we have trained 36 stewards and agency representatives in the volunteer site-monitoring program. In Elko, Donna and Tim Murphy, and the Elko county chapter of NAA hosted the session. Chapter members and interested community people attended. Tim is preparing a list of sites in his area for monitoring and will be assigning stewards soon.

David Valentine sponsored the session in Winnemucca held at the Humboldt County Museum. Nevada Rock Art Foundation (NRAF) and Am-Arcs members and student conservation workers attended the session and were very enthusiastic about signing up for monitoring assignments. Greg Haynes from the Forest Service attended the session and will be working with some of the Reno stewards to monitor sites on the Forest there. Other BLM archaeologists attending the session in Winnemucca were Peggy McGuckian of the Winnemucca Field Office and Janice George of the Battle Mountain Field Office. We appreciate their support and hope that we can help them out with site monitoring in their areas.

The Mesquite session will be held June 25. Currently, we have 16 people registered. Darrell and Terri are sponsors and trainers for this session.

We will be holding another session October 1 at the Lost City Museum in Overton. Some of the NRAF and Am-Arcs members have expressed interest in becoming trainers for the north areas of the state. Thanks go to Ernie and Nancy Winters. They will be scheduling sessions for the Reno area and points north in the near future. Thanks to all of the Regional Coordinators and agency representatives for your help this past quarter.

### **Newsletter Editor Wanted**

David Valentine, Editor, *In-Situ*

I am retiring from the position of Newsletter Editor after the Spring 2006 issue. If you are interested in assuming the *In-Situ* editorial duties, please contact any board member before the 2006 Annual Meeting.

### **Three Corners Conference Announcement & Call for Papers**

Mark Slaughter, Bureau of Reclamation

Archaeology in the tri-state area of Nevada, Arizona, and California has grown in scale and the orientation of archaeological research has shifted over the last decade. Due to the increase in the number and types of archaeological sites discovered, and their interpretation, there is a need for the regional researchers to present and discuss findings among professionals to promote the development of regional theory, methodologies, and management goals. To this end, the Three Corners Conference is being organized and will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at the campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV).

If you work in the area, please consider participating in the conference. Oral presentations will be 12 minutes. Papers should cover topics and research

themes within southern Nevada, southeastern California, southwestern Utah, and extreme western Arizona. Presentations may be on any research domain and time period within the region. The deadline for abstracts of 75 words or less is September 6, 2005. PowerPoint or slide presentations are highly encouraged. The conference proceedings will be published. Please send abstracts to:

threecornersconference@yahoo.com, or via snail mail:

Mark C. Slaughter/Laurie Perry  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Lower Colorado Regional Office  
P.O. Box 61470  
Boulder City, NV 89006

Additional information can be found on the NAA website: [www.nvarch.org/3corners](http://www.nvarch.org/3corners)

The conference is sponsored by UNLV, Bureau of Reclamation, National Park Service, Las Vegas Springs Preserve, Lost City Museum, Bureau of Land Management, and the U. S. Forest Service.

### NAA Website

Check out [www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org), NAA's official website, constructed and maintained by Web Master, Hal Rager. Feel free to stop by for a visit on your next trip on the cyber highway. The website has 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 2005 issue of *In-Situ* is scheduled for publication in late September. 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 September 10, 2005, via e-mail to: [david\\_valentine@nv.blm.gov](mailto:david_valentine@nv.blm.gov) or [valentine.david@gmail.com](mailto:valentine.david@gmail.com), or by snail mail to P.O. Box 1084, Winnemucca, NV 89446. Photographs are welcome. If submitting electronically to the BLM address, please embed jpegs in a word document. Stand alone jpegs can be sent to the gmail address. Remember, a diverse and interesting *In-Situ* cannot be maintained without member support and participation.

### Call for Papers, 2004 Nevada *Archaeologist*

Eva Jensen and Laureen Perry, 2004 Nevada  
*Archaeologist* Editors

Papers are needed by **August 31** for Volume 22 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. This issue will focus on southern Nevada. Please send your submissions to either: Eva Jensen, Lost City Museum, 721 S. Highway 169, P.O. Box 807, Overton, NV 89040 (email: [eajensen@comnett.net](mailto:eajensen@comnett.net)) or to: Laureen Perry, 126 Spinnaker Drive, Henderson, NV 89015, (email: [lperry@lc.usbr.gov](mailto:lperry@lc.usbr.gov)). Please submit one hard copy and a copy on disc of your paper.

## Flutes and Glyphs and Life Lessons

Eva Jensen, Lost City Museum

**Life Lessons:** *Nothing is as simple as it seems and everything “will require further research.” In a previous article in In-Situ, “Kane Springs Fluted Point and a Short Literary Digression” (Winter 2004, Vol.8, No. 4 pp.12-16.) it appeared as if a Clovis point fragment found in Lincoln County would fit neatly into the existing paradigm with a tidy little stemmed point following obediently right where it belongs in time and space. Life and archaeology were simple.*

*The obsidian Clovis point had a hydration measurement of 9 microns, the stemmed point measured 6.9 microns and therefore a younger date range was expected, as was presumed from the point morphology. Additional artifacts were submitted for hydration measurements and the XRF age estimates were expected to tie petroglyphs on the site to the points in time and space. But as I have learned in life and archaeology..... nothing is as simple as it seems.*

To recap from the previous issue of *In-Situ*, in the spring and fall of 2003, site 26LN251 was relocated in southern Lincoln County. It is between two normally dry washes and a rhyolitic basalt outcrop sits at the south end where the two washes converge. Big horn sheep petroglyphs and a grinding slick are found on the boulders of the outcrop; both are heavily repatinated. Obsidian scatter is ubiquitous in the area and the site shows heavy concentration areas with almost continuous debitage for over 500 meters.

A fluted obsidian point was recovered as well as a stemmed point. The fluted point was identified as Clovis, with edge grinding and bifacial fluting. Both points were submitted for source information and hydration. The age estimate for the fluted point was calculated, using Tom Origer’s induced hydration calibration, as 11,200 years BP and the stemmed point dates to 6,570 BP (Lytle, personal communication, Feb. 2004). Farrel Lytle has done further work in determining calibration with corrections for elevation and temperature variables. With his calculations for local elevation and recorded average annual temperature the local calibration date estimate for the fluted point is 13,800 years BP.

With this information and a handful of artifacts collected in further recording we developed research questions about material preference and X-ray fluorescence (XRF) field methods. The initial questions were:

1. How old is the site?
2. How old are the petroglyphs?
3. Can we correlate XRF dates for the petroglyphs with point morphology and hydration ages?

*“Nothing is as simple as it seems, Lesson #1: The obsidian source names were changed since the last In-Situ article so bear with me.*

The site area is within the 14 million year old Kane Springs Wash Caldera. Two chemically different obsidian sources were identified from nodules collected in the main Kane Springs Wash below the site (Novak 1984; Haarklau et al. 2005). These two source materials are now identified as Kane Springs Wash Caldera variety 1 (KSWC v1) and Kane Springs Wash Caldera variety 2 (KSWC v2) also referred to as Kane Springs. (Haarklau et al. 2005; [www.sourcecatalog.com](http://www.sourcecatalog.com).) In the previous *In-Situ* article the obsidian types were originally identified as Kane Springs, and Kane Springs C or Delamar Mountains source.

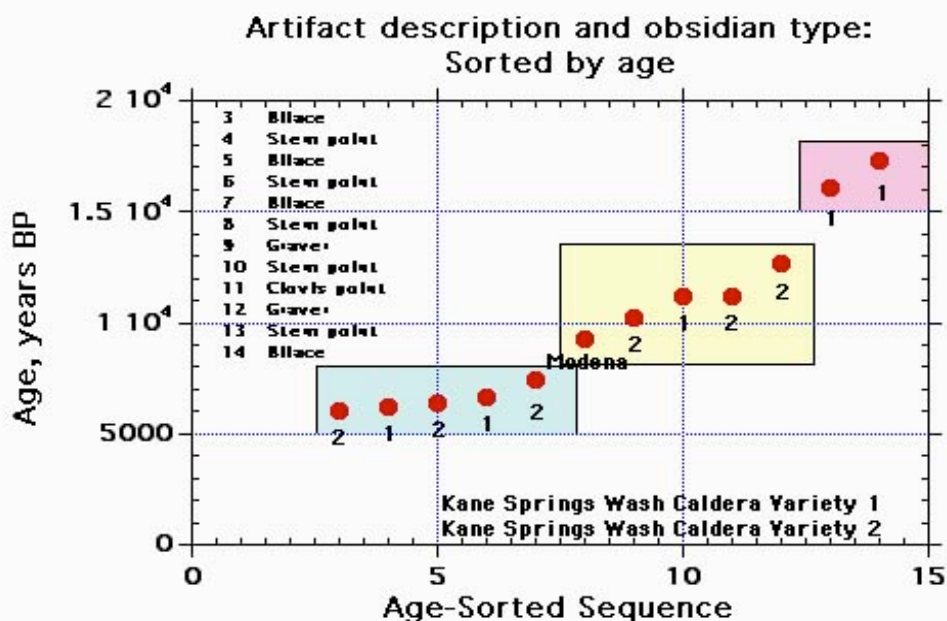
A total of 15 artifacts from the area were submitted to Northwest Research Obsidian Laboratory for sourcing and hydration analysis. Six were Kane Springs Wash Caldera variety 1,



and eight, including the Clovis, were Kane Springs Wash Caldera variety 2 (Kane Springs). One point was from the Modena source over 100 km to the northeast.

Hydration measurements for the artifacts submitted range from 5.0 microns (old) to 11.2 microns (very old). The 5 micron readings were for two artifacts found away from the site proper and are not shown on chart below. The hydration measurements for artifacts from the site range from 6.6 to 11.2. The KSWCv1 range is 7.7 to 11.2 and KSWCv2 is 6.6 to 9.6 microns.

When the calculated dates for the sample are compared there appear to be three clusters of dates. Five artifacts fall in the 6,000 to 7,500 year old range. Five fall in the 9,000 to 12,000 years old range, and two measurements indicate a possible 15,000 year old and older use period.



*Nothing is as simple as it seems, Lesson #2:* The Clovis point had a 9.0 micron hydration reading. There are larger hydration measurements on a biface fragment with a reading of 11.2, a stemmed point with a hydration band of 10.8, and an end scraper with a hydration band of 9.6. All of the artifacts are from surface locations from the same site and the hydration rates should be consistent. The assumption is the Clovis point would be older than the stem point and therefore the hydration band would be larger. The two oldest dates are from the other Kane Springs source material, KSWC v1, and those early dates were also a bit of a surprise

Possible explanation #1: The unexpected measurements may be due to differing rates of hydration for KSWCv1 and KSWCv2. Induced hydration for KSWCv1 could help identify hydration rates and explain the unexpected anomaly in point type/age estimates. Farrel Lytle is submitting material to Tom Origer for that calibration.

Possible explanation #2: Researchers have proposed in some Mojave Desert sites Clovis and stem points co-occur (Warren and Phagan 1988; Willig and Aikens 1988). Warren and Phagan's reported sites with stemmed points and Clovis points identify the stemmed points as the Lake Mojave type. Lake Mojave points are larger and morphologically different from the stemmed points from LN 251, which are smaller and more like Parman and Pinto varieties.

Possible explanation #3: The research laboratories noted when measuring the hydration of the Clovis point and the stem point the diffusion front was vague on both artifacts. “The diffusion front, or the visual boundary between hydrated and unhydrated portions of the specimen, is poorly defined. This can result in less precise measurements than can be obtained from sharply demarcated diffusion fronts. The technician must often estimate the hydration boundary...” (Skinner 2004a, 2004b). Whatever the explanation, the hydration measurements indicate debitage, burin flakes, finished tools, and broken points from 26LN251 are, to quote Craig Skinner “clearly some old material” (Craig Skinner, personal communication, 2004).

As mentioned earlier another part of the project was to provide age estimates of the petroglyphs on site and determine if the glyphs were made near the same time as the Clovis point was. Farrel Lytle used the portable X-ray fluorescence to measure iron and manganese content of the patina of the parent rock and the glyph area. By measuring a fresh break with no repatination on a stone surface from a rock adjacent to the glyph, a comparison of the accumulation on the fully patinated stone and the glyph area can be made (Lytle 2004).

Petroglyphs on the site and others within 1 km of the site area were tested. The rock outcrop at the south end of the site included heavily repatinated big horn sheep glyphs and a grinding slick as well as more recent glyphs that showed little repatination. The age estimated from tests of the old sheep glyph on the site is 9,000 years  $\pm$  2,000. Farrel also measured petroglyphs west of the site. An anthropomorphic figure we dubbed the “skinny man” provided dates ranging from 7,900 to 8,700 BP. Both sets of glyphs could fall within the same time frame and also within the middle range estimated dates from obsidian hydration measured on obsidian artifacts. More precise calculation of petroglyph age requires a patina of known age to calibrate the rate of accumulation. At this point the margin of error is very large. Again, the glyphs are “very old.”

If the Clovis point age estimates from obsidian hydration fall within the calculation provided by Origer of 11,200 years ago and the Old Sheep glyph falls at the high end of the 2000 year margin of error added to the 9000 year old date (11,000) years ago, they are close. As the XRF field measurements continue, data gathered may reduce the margin of error. For now it is possible, but unlikely, that the Clovis point and the petroglyphs were created at the same time, however they do fall easily into an Archaic time frame. It will require further research to determine whether the Clovis point makers or the stem point makers were also the petroglyph makers. To determine whether the Clovis point makers and the stem point makers were the same people or used the Kane Springs obsidian at the same time.... you guessed it ‘will require further research.’

*My philosophy of life and archaeology: They would not be interesting if they were simple.*

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**Farrel Lytle with XRF measuring petroglyph.**



**Old Sheep petroglyphs measured.**





**Skinny Man petroglyph.**



**KSWCv1**

**11.2**



**KSWCv1**

**10.8**



**KSWCv2 9.6**



**KSWCv2 9.0**

**Obsidian types and hydration measures**

**NAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**Boulder City, Nevada, January 22, 2005**  
*Suzan Slaughter, NAA Secretary*

Board Members Present: Steve Daron, Alice Baldrice, Eva Jensen, Hal Rager, Suzan Slaughter, and Dave Valentine. Board Members Absent: Daron Duke, Ted Goebel, and Darrel Wade. Other NAA members present: Anne DuBarton, Renee Kolvet, Alan Simmons, George Phillips, Mark Henderson, and Yolanda Henderson.

- A. The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm at NPS Headquarters in Boulder City
- B. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the October 2004 board meeting were approved.
- C. Presidents Report: Tom Flanagan has moved out of state leaving a vacancy on the board. It was agreed that the position will remain open until the election at the Annual Meeting in April.
- D. Treasurers Report: Treasurer, Eva Jensen reported that as of years end, 2004, the NAA bank account had \$12,463.40. Total income for 2004 was \$11,773.32 and total outflow was \$8,227.16. At the Great Basin meeting in October 2004, \$240.00 in memberships and \$115.00 worth of journals and promotional items were sold. For site stewardship training for Sloan Canyon the BLM donated \$500 to the program
- E. Secretary's Report: No report.
- F. News Letter Editors Report: Dave Valentine reported that he mailed out 168 copies of the last issue at a cost of \$432.00. He is currently soliciting material for the next issue to come out in March. Deadline for submission is March 10 and the newsletter is slated to be sent out on March 15, 2005
- G. Membership Secretary's Report: Membership Secretary, Daron Duke was not in attendance.
- H. Web Master: Hal Rager reported that a web page for the site stewardship program is being constructed and will be linked to the NAA web site.

Clearing house for projects: Alice Baldrice would like to see the NAA web page functioning as a clearing house for pending projects with possible impacts to cultural resources. The purpose is to update members about any projects we may want to comment on that will impact cultural resources. This feature should encourage public comment from individual members and NAA as an organization. There should be a link on the web site providing information on who to address comments to, dates and times of public outreach meetings, such as the Sloan Canyon EIS. Alice advised that the legislature is meeting soon and we need to find out which bills are on the slate and if there are bills we should be supporting. Hal Rager will put up a link to the current Nevada State legislation page. Dave Valentine suggested we should compile a list of persons interested in attending hearings and meetings. In order to disseminate information quickly we should add email address to membership forms giving the ability to send news flashes via email to members regarding upcoming public outreach hearings and bills before the legislature

- I. Report by Chapters and Affiliated Organizations
  - AmArchs. Janet Shultz was not in attendance; however, she contacted Steve Daron via voice mail - the chapter is holding monthly meetings and field trips.
  - Archaeo-Nevada – Helen Mortenson has spoken with Alice Baldrice. The chapter is working on the Elwood collections and meeting regularly.
  - Churchill County – According to Dave Valentine, the Churchill County chapter is starting up again in February.
  - Elko County – No report
  - White Pine – No report
  - Lincoln County – No report
  - SHPO – Alice Baldrice brought up the ongoing discussion of the Professional Organization. It was agreed we should discuss this at the annual meeting, possibly as the topic of a round-table discussion. Two grants have been awarded to NAA for poster and site stewardship program. SHPO is sponsoring the Oasis Conference April 5-7 2005 in Carson City. Among topics to be addressed are artifact identification, site stewardship and cultural and heritage tourism.
  - The Department of Cultural Affairs sent notices for Archaeological Awareness Week inviting people and groups to host events
- J. Old Business
  - 1. Nevada Archaeologist
    - a. The 2002 issue. Editor Steve Daron reported that the issue will be finalized by the annual meeting. He is getting estimates on printing costs.



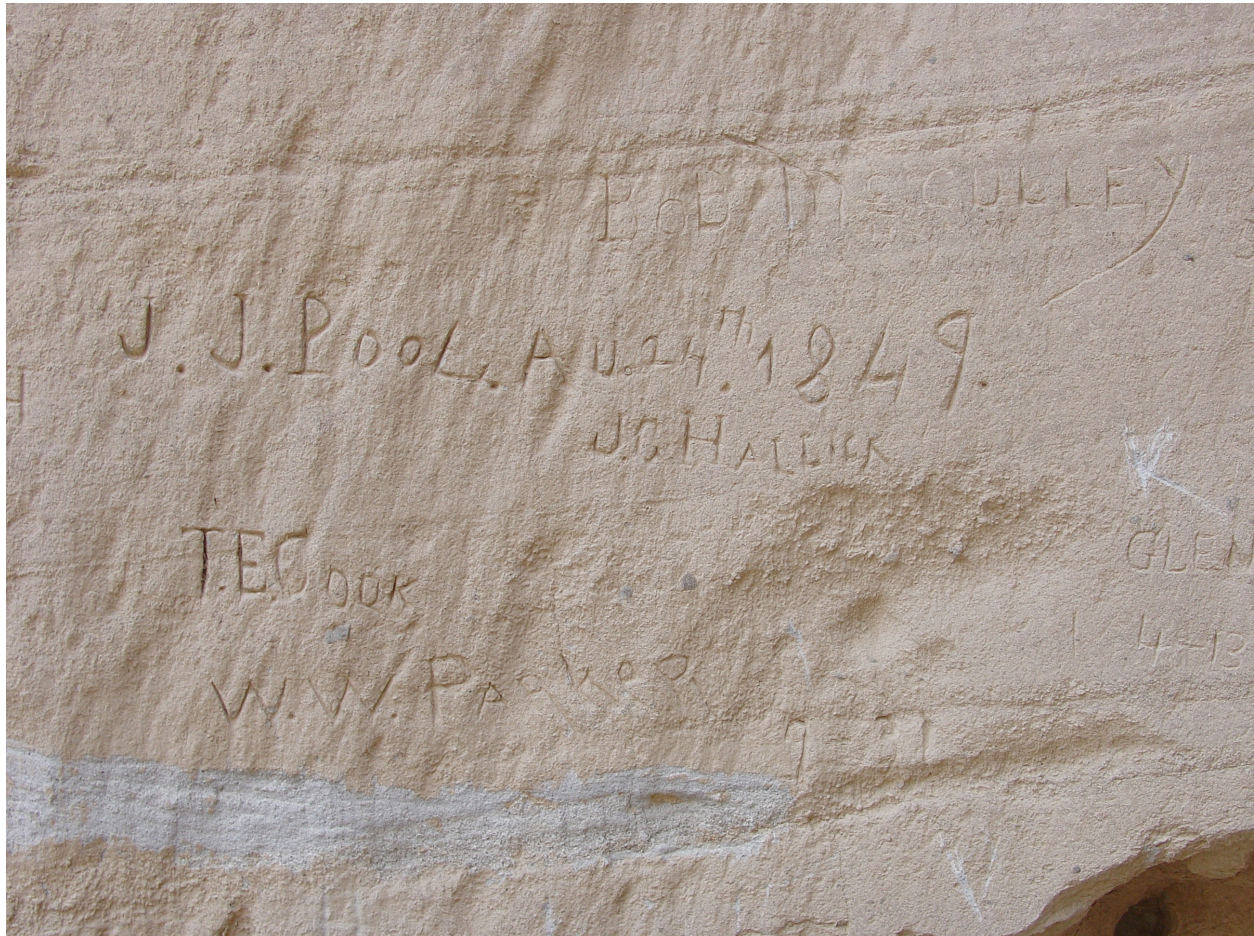
- b. The 2003 issue. Editor Rene Kolvet reported that she has all the papers together and the issue should be out at the same time as the 2002 issue. After some discussion it was agreed that the 2002 issue and 2003 issue be bound and distributed together.
  - c. The 2004 issue edited by Eva Jensen and Laurie Perry is focusing on Southern Nevada. One paper is in hand and another promised.
  - d. The 2005 issue, edited by Geoff Smith and Linsie Lafayette, is still in the early stages. A call for papers has been issued and all are urged to submit and get the word out to colleagues.
- 2. Ting Perkins award to be awarded to Oyvind Frock. We need to find someone to write up a bio on Oyvind.
- 3. Lifetime achievement award: The NAA would like to award this to Margaret Lyneis. Eva Jensen volunteered to contact Margaret.
- 4. 2005 Annual Meeting:
  - a. Local Arrangements: Local Arrangements chair, Sue Rigby, could not attend the meeting but forwarded a report through Steve Daron. Arrangements for the workshop and board meeting and the Friday Night Reception at the Tonopah mining park are finalized. Sue is soliciting volunteers among the members to help set up tables and food for the reception. The conference at the convention center is set. We need to give the pizza parlor a heads-up about the number of pizzas we will need for the noon roundtable discussion. The Banquet arrangements are also on track. A power point set up will be provided by George Phillips and a backup by HRC. Steve Daron offered to provide a laptop computer dedicated to power point presentations. Dave Valentine will provide a slide projector backup and Eva Jensen volunteered to provide an overhead projector if needed. It was agreed that the merits of founding a professional organization to replace the defunct Nevada Council of Professional Archaeologists (NCOPA), should be the topic for the round table discussion. Alice will take the lead on organizing the round table.
  - Guest Speaker: Ed Stoner has been suggested as the guest speaker at the banquet. Alice will approach him.
  - A \$50.00 donation will be made to the Tonopah Mining Park for hosting the Mixer on Friday
  - T Shirts: Daron Duke has researched the cost of the shirts and has come up with a quote of \$465.00 for 65 shirts. Anne DuBarton and Dave Valentine volunteered to come up with a design.
  - Bandanas with the NAA logo will cost 2.50 each with a \$10 set up charge.
  - Auction: Yolanda Henderson noted that the best selling items at past auctions have been books and journals and jewelry has not sold well.
  - It was agreed that Mark Henderson should continue memorializing the meeting on video. He taped the last two meetings and has them archived on DVD.
  - b. Program Chair. Suzan Slaughter reported that three abstracts have been received. She will have a call-for-papers in the mail to all members next week.
- 5. Special Publication Series. Renee Kolvet has been having difficulty getting historical information on the NAA. She has spoken to various founding members and apparently the old records have been lost or destroyed. She will try to get oral histories from early members of the NAA.
- 6. Student Grant: Information has been sent out.
- 7. Occasional Papers – Ted Goebel is looking for people to review papers
- 8. 2005 Nevada Archaeology Historic Preservation Week
  - a. Poster: How many posters we need to produce was discussed. Last year 1,067 posters were distributed.
  - b. Brochures: Eva Jensen is producing brochures.
  - c. Fund Raiser - \$1,950 has been promised for posters and brochures, \$500 from the BLM. Federal monies must be kept separate for the purpose of the SHPO matching grant
- 9. Promotional Materials: A banner and logo items were discussed.
- 10. Site Stewardship Report:
  - a. Eva Jensen distributed the Site Steward Committee Report. Training sessions have been conducted for 30 volunteers affiliated with the Friends of Sloan Canyon and 14 at the Lost City Museum. In November an annual awards appreciation picnic was held in Kershaw Ryan State Park. Future training sessions are planned with a goal of involving more people from the northern part of the state.

- b. Mark Henderson has drafted a Group Volunteer Services Agreement for the Site Stewardship program. Steve Daron made a motion to front \$2,000 to float the Site Stewardship Program until other funding is acquired. Site steward Bruce Holloway's employer will donate \$500.
- c. A regional coordinators meeting is scheduled for Feb 4

K. New Business

1. The role of NAA in public education was discussed. Geocaching is becoming a problem for historic resource preservation. Geocaching often involves ATV traffic, and vandalism (intentional or not). How this problem could be handled was discussed. It was suggested that we draft a letter outlining problems and encourage sensitivity to geocaching web sites and we should develop a position statement on geocaching.
2. Three Corners conference addressing current research in the Mojave Desert.
3. GBAC – In 2006 will be held in Las Vegas. Heidi Roberts is handling local arrangements.
4. Next meeting will be held on April 15 at the Forest Service Office in Tonopah in conjunction with the annual meeting.

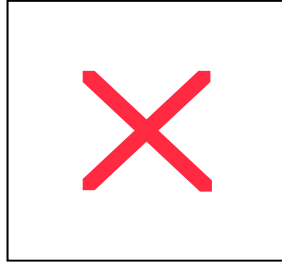
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.



Emigrant Glyph along the Applegate Trail. Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area

# CALL FOR PAPERS!

## *2005 Nevada Archaeologist*



Linsie M. Lafayette and Geoffrey M. Smith  
Editors, *2005 Nevada Archaeologist*

We are currently soliciting submissions for the *2005 Nevada Archaeologist*. The theme for the 2005 edition is *Northern Nevada across Time*, so any articles about the archaeology, anthropology, history, or paleontology of the region will be accepted. Submissions are due by August 31, 2005.

Please mail your submissions to:

Linsie M. Lafayette and  
Geoffrey M. Smith  
308 G Street  
Sparks, NV 89431

Please direct questions to:

[linslaf@hotmail.com](mailto:linslaf@hotmail.com) or [geoffrey\\_smith@hotmail.com](mailto:geoffrey_smith@hotmail.com)

## Questionnaire on the Formation of a Professional Archaeologist Organization

Alice Baldrice, Deputy SHPO

A round table discussion was held at the annual meeting of the Nevada Archaeological Association on April 16, 2005. The discussion focused on whether or not to create a new professional organization of archaeologists and how it would relate to NAA. Such an organization could be useful in developing and proposing a replacement to the IMACS site form to state and federal agencies; collaborating on historic contexts; developing more effective means of recording specific kinds of sites and treatments; and resolving database issues. No group consensus was reached on creating a professional organization and nothing is being proposed at this time with the exception of a questionnaire we are asking NAA members to complete and return to Alice Baldrice at the Nevada SHPO at [ambaldri@clan.lib.nv.us](mailto:ambaldri@clan.lib.nv.us) or fax to 775-684-3442 or snail mail to 100 N. Stewart Street, Carson City, NV 89701. We ask that you consider the following questions:

1. Should there be a professional organization for archaeologists?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If the answer is no, why not? \_\_\_\_\_

2. If you answered yes to #1, where should it be located?

A separate entity apart from NAA \_\_\_\_\_

As a committee inside NAA \_\_\_\_\_

3. If you answered no to #1, should NAA form working groups to address technical issues posed of site recordation, evaluation and treatment and other issues, with all NAA members invited to participate?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Other suggestions: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and contact information (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

This questionnaire will be distributed via email and snail mail to other archaeologists not part of NAA – please feel free to make copies and distribute to others.