

# In-Situ



## **Newsletter of the Nevada Archaeological Association**

Vol. 10, No. 4 Winter 2006

#### PRESIDENTS CORNER

Greg Seymour, NAA President

I hope everyone has had a happy holidays and the New Year has started out good. The Board and I would like to wish everyone the best during this next year. Speaking of new years, membership dues need to be mailed soon. Membership for the NAA expires at the end of the calendar year. Because we are an all volunteer organization. your dues go to important thing such as the support of the site stewards. We also support State Historic Preservation Office with developing and distributing the poster and calendar of events for the Nevada Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month. Your dues support the annual conference and publication. This year we have decided to produce a proceedings volume to include the papers presented at the conference rather than requesting papers separately for a stand alone volume.

Speaking of the annual conference, there is good news! We have selected a location for our annual conference on April 20, 21 and 22, 2007. It will be in Ely, Nevada at the Postal Palace, the site of the historic Ely

Post Office. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Place in 2005. We have reserved rooms at the Hotel Nevada and the Lucky Seven Motel in the downtown area. Please ask for the conference discount at these two hotels when reserving your rooms. Mark and I are still working out the details (see Mark's addition to the newsletter). We would like to extend the length of the sessions to 1 ½ days this year. We plan a session in honor of Alvin McClane. As many of you know Alvin passed away this year. He made many important contributions, not only in archaeology, but in many other fields such as geology, biology, and spelunking.

The NAA will have the site steward coordination meeting and the NAA board meeting that weekend. We are planning a mixer on Friday night. Dinner and the auction will be following the conference! We are still working out details for a possible workshop and tours. Again, please see below for the request for speakers. As exact details become available, we will be sending out a flier and posting them on our website.

## **Next Board Meeting**

The winter Board and Site Steward meeting will be held in Beatty on Feb 2 and 3 at the Beatty Community Center. The Site Stewards will meet on Friday afternoon at 1PM. The Board meeting will be on Saturday at 2:00 PM. There will be a tour of interest on Saturday morning. The tour topic has not yet been decided.

## NEWS FROM AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

# **Am-Arcs**Oyvind Frock

Our field trips are on hold until the weather warms around April. Our monthly meetings continue on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Many of our programs are presented by students who have received funds from our group. Our annual December holiday dinner meeting had 51 members registered and another auction had been scheduled. The money from this goes into our student scholarship fund. Officers for 2007 are: President: Hal Oxner, Vice President: Connie Douglas, Secretary: Mary Gregory, Treasurer: Robert Leavitt.

## Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS)

For information please contact Helen Mortenson at (702) 876-6944 or Cheryl Martin at <a href="mailto:cheryl.martin@dri.edu">cheryl.martin@dri.edu</a> for information on ANS activities.

## **Churchill County Chapter**

Bob Kautz, Kautz Environmental Consultants

The Chapter meets the first Wednesday of each month at the Churchill County Museum beginning again in March. Over the last four months, members have been entertained by the following presentations. In August, Danielle Risse gave presentation "The Carson on Chinatown," in September Barbi Malinky gave a talk on the "Archaeology of Mt. Hope, Eureka County, Nevada,". October, Danielle Risse gave a talk on, "A Prehistoric Hunting Landscape in Storey County, Nevada," and in November. Monique E. Kimball gave a talk entitled, "Creating the Gardens of Nevada through Ditches Large and Small."

# Elko County Chapter, Nevada Archaeological Association

The Elko County Chapter meets on the second Friday at 7:00pm at a variety of locations. Due to scheduling conflicts times may change. Please check each month for locations and changes in schedule. For further information contact Donna Murphy at <a href="mailto:murphys@citlink.net">murphys@citlink.net</a>.

# **Lincoln County Chapter**

Liz Russell

Our October meeting featured a slide presentation by Carl Wilson. He showed us his photographs of the petroglyphs in the Icebox Canyon area (also known as Cowboy Camp). It was decided to forego the November meeting and everyone planned to attend the annual Ely Region Site Stewards Recognition luncheon. It was held on November 10 in Alamo at the Windmill Ridge Restaurant. No meeting was planned for December because our regularly scheduled date interferes with too many holiday plans.

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

Alanah Woody, PhD, RPAExecutive DirectorNevada Rock Art Foundation

The Nevada Rock Art Foundation has had a busy fall. The Little Red Rocks project was completed just before Thanksgiving, with forty-eight NRAF members coming from Oregon, California, and Nevada to work on this important project. Five rock art sites on private property, previously identified by SWCA as Eligible for the National Register were documented. Only two of the five sites remain in good condition, with a third which might be characterized as "moderately impacted." Two of the sites (both afford the easiest access) have been hit hard, one of which is the most badly vandalized site anyone has ever seen. Over the years, the site has become a favorite for locals to "come and party." In the process, trash and spray painted graffiti is everywhere and large bonfires have been built inside rock shelters to the point that a heavy layer of soot now covers once beautiful, deeply engraved petroglyphs and paint ball spatters now cover unique pictographs. The vandalism began in the 1980s but in more recent times, the level of destruction has reached an appalling level. As depressing as it is, we remain hopeful that the newly created Little Red Rock Site Stewardship program will help to curtail these illegal and destructive behaviors.

In the case of Little Red Rocks, the SHPO program works with private land owners to protect sites on their lands and NRAF is also closely involved in the monitoring effort. NRAF continues to support the program of both the SHPO & Clark County Site Steward programs — many of our members are monitoring sites all across the state ... and some of them aren't even rock art sites!! NRAF members Joanne Murray, Carl Bjork help in the northern and western parts of the state, and Anne Carter helps Coordinate in Lincoln County.

Farther north, work at Lagomarsino is in its fourth field season and we're getting very close to completing our initial goal of documenting the rock art on Storey County property (the site is completely surrounded by <u>private property</u> – some of which also has rock art). The second major on-going project in the northern region has been Dry Lakes, where Signa Pendegraft worked on her thesis research for three years and now NRAF will continue to work on additional sites in the area. This fall the fabulous site known locally as "Gooney Bird" – named for a distinctive water bird-like motif, was documented. It's one of the more remarkable sites in the Dry Lakes area and remains rich with associated rock rings and ground stone, some of which even has rock art on the grinding surface. There are several more very large sites left to do, as well as a large number of smaller sites, and with the continuing support of Peggy Waski and Jim Carter of the BLM Carson Field Office, NRAF will be out there again in 2007-2008.

And the NRAF Lecture Series included Jane Kolber discussing her twenty-odd years of work at Chaco Canyon and artist Janet Lever-Wood discussing the rock art of Baja. This was augmented by a special presentation by rock art scholars visiting from China. They spent several days in the field observing NRAF documentation techniques, and then thrilled everyone with a presentation on the rock art of Mongolia. The rock art is beautiful and very diverse as you would expect in such a large country, and in many ways looks familiar to us in the Great Basin. Some of the rock art is very ancient but also shows clearly the influence of Buddhism and Islam in some of the more recent rock art.

2006 was a busy year and NRAF documented a lot of rock art and worked hard to help ensure the preservation of rock art throughout the state through our program of aggressive public education and encouraging everyone to get out there and do something to help in the process of protection.

#### **SHPO News**

Alice Baldrica, Deputy SHPO

## Re-authorization of the Historic Preservation Funding

On December 9, the U.S. House of Representatives passed S. 1378, a bill drafted by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), to provide appropriations authorization for the ACHP and the Historic Preservation Fund. The House action clears the bill to go to President Bush for signature. Of importance to the broader preservation community is inclusion of language extending the deposit into the Historic Preservation Fund of receipts from outer continental shelf oil and gas leases through 2015 at an annual rate of \$150 million.

The original authorization bill had been introduced in the Senate by Sen. James Talent (R-MO) on July 11, 2005, and was passed by the Senate on September 29, 2006. The House had previously passed a similar bill, H.R. 5861, which contained several provisions relating to Section 106 and the Certified Local Government program. Last minute negotiations focused on whether the House or Senate bill would be the final vehicle for re-authorization. In the end, the House accepted the Senate version. This is good news – at one point a House draft had circulated that would have only considered effects to listed National Register properties, not eligible properties. Alice M. Baldrica Deputy SHPO

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.

## Site Stewardship Program

Sali Underwood

As the State Site Stewardship Coordinator I would just like to send out a huge THANK YOU to all of the people who have helped me in my first year. I have learned so much and I owe it all to the very patient people I work with everyday. There are so many people that are involved in the working of the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program all of which deserve recognition.

Who to start with? Like I said, there are so many. I would like to thank first of all Alice Baldrica, Ron James and the State Historic Preservation Office staff for giving me the chance to be the state coordinator of such a great program. Both Ron and Alice have been unbelievably supportive, appreciative and trusting in my abilities. Then there is Eva Jensen, Mark Henderson, and Steve Daron and the Nevada Archaeology Association who I see as the surrogate founding members of the program. Without their help and acceptance I would not have gotten very far – Thank you for everything you have done, and continue to do, to support this very worth while program.

The archaeological agency representatives that scrape, bend, and squeeze their budgets and time until the Site Stewardship program fits can't go without mention. Tom Burke, Jim Carter, Dave Valentine, Mark Henderson (again), Nate Thomas, Sue Rigby, and all of the Clark County Heritage Resource Team (CCoHRT) especially Mark Boatwright (who seems to have endless energy to be actively involved in the many activities associated with the Nevada Program), I would like to thank you for all of your support and commitment to the program. You

make the sacrifices' necessary for this program to exist so that it can help to protect the cultural resources on Public Land.

As the Program Manager for the Clark County Cultural Heritage Program, George Phillips can't go without mention. I have pestered him to the point where I am sure he is fed up. But George is too much of a gentleman to tell me to go away and find out on my own. He has always been there and has always been helpful. It is a joy to work with you George. Thank you for everything you do.

All of the volunteers who participate in the program should be listed, but unfortunately there is not enough room for all 400 plus names. For without these dedicated people there would be no Site Stewardship Program. To all of you, thank you for your patience, dedication and understanding when I don't quit get it right the first (ok even the 2<sup>nd</sup> time). I wish I had half of your stamina and a quarter of your seemingly endless energy! How do you do it?

Regional coordinators do the lion's share of work in the Nevada Program. People such as Joanne and Don Murray in the Northwest, Carl Bjork in the West Central, Jill Jensen in Elko, Mary Sorenson in White Pine, Anne Carter and of course Liz Russell in Lincoln and White Pine counties wear multiple hats. These wonderful people have supported the Site Stewardship Program without fail. They are instrumental in making sure that things get done and are passionate about preserving cultural resources in the State of Nevada. Without their dedication I would be up a creek without a paddle. Thank You.

It has been a wonderful year full of learning new things and meeting new people. Thank you for accepting me into the extraordinary world of the Nevada Site Stewardship Program. I am looking forward to an exciting new year and already have several training classes lined up (see below). Contact me at: <a href="mailto:saunderw@clan.lib.nv.us">saunderw@clan.lib.nv.us</a> or (702) 486-5011 for more details.

Date	Training	Time	Place	
January 20, 2007	Little Red Rock Stewardship Training	9 am	NSM Lorenzi Park	
February 3, 2007	NV State Basic Training	8 am	Beatty	
March 3, 2007	GPS Training – Ely BLM	open	Ely	
March 24, 2007	NV State Basic Training	9 am	Carson City/Reno	
May 5, 2007	NV State Awards Event	open	Fallon	

# SOLICITATIONS, EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# CALL FOR PAPERS 2007 Meeting of the Nevada Archaeological Association

This year's NAA meeting will take place March 16-17, 2007 in Ely, Nevada. We encourage all meeting attendees to present a short paper on any interesting work they are currently doing (or have done) pertaining to the archaeology, history, or ethnohistory of Nevada. On the heels of last year's successful meeting, we would like to increase the number of presenters and provide an even more informative and thoughtful session. We need more input from northern and eastern Nevada! Graduate students are particularly urged to present summaries or discussions of their research in what will be a friendly, low-stress meeting environment. Each presenter will be allotted 20 minutes.

There may also be a special session this year dedicated to Alvin McLane – so for those of you who knew Alvin well, or have a particular interest in rock art and other topics Alvin was fond of, we strongly encourage you to participate in this year's meeting.

Please send abstracts of your papers (no more than 150 words) to Mark A. Giambastiani, Program Chair, no later than February 2, 2007. You can e-mail your abstract (in Word or Word Perfect format) to <a href="mailto:mgiam@asmaffiliates.com">mgiam@asmaffiliates.com</a>, fax them to (775) 324-9666, or send them standard mail to Mark A. Giambastiani, ASM Affiliates, Inc., 120 Vine Street, Suite A, Reno, Nevada 89503. Please contact Mark by e-mail or by phone (775) 324-6789 for details concerning abstracts or papers.

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

# Society for Industrial Archeology36th Annual Conference

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, June 7-10, 2007

The SIA invites proposals for papers and poster sessions to be presented at the Annual Conference on Saturday, June 9, 2007, in Philadelphia, PA. Poster sessions can be works in progress. Presentations on all topics related to industrial archeology and bridges are welcome.

Papers about industries in the Philadelphia/Camden region are encouraged. All papers and poster sessions should offer interpretation and synthesis of data.

<u>Presentation Formats</u>: Proposals may be for individual papers, themed papers filling a 90-min. session, or organized 90-min. panel discussions (formal commentator optional).

Proposal Formats: Each proposal must include: 1) title; 2) a 500 word abstract with a detailed discussion of points, findings, or conclusions to be presented in hard copy and electronic format (Word or Word Perfect); 3) résumé for the including presenter(s), postal address. telephone/fax, and e-mail; 4) a list of visual-aid requests. A panelorganizer should submit all paper proposals as a group, accompanied by a title and a brief description of the theme or purpose. If any of these items are missing, the proposal will not be considered. Presenters are encouraged to consider transforming papers into an article for IA: The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology. No conference proceedings are published. Deadline for paper proposals: February 15, 2007. Send copies of all proposals to: Fred Quivik, Program Chair, SIA 2007 Paper Sessions, 715Vernon Road, Philadelphia, PA 19119; (215) 849-1478 (phone and fax);Quivik@usfamily.net (720) 279-8860

#### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**2007** Nevada Archaeologist David Valentine, 2007 Nevada Archaeologist Editor

Papers are needed for Volume 25 of the *Nevada Archaeologist*. This issue will focus on the Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon region of northwestern Nevada. If you have research pertaining to the archaeology, ethnography, history, or paleontology of the area that you need to report, please send your submissions to: David Valentine, P.O. Box 1084, Winnemucca, NV 89446 by **February 14, 2007**. Please submit one hard copy and an e-copy of your paper. If you have questions, Dave can be reached <u>via e-mail</u>: or by phone at (775) 623-1766 (w) or (775) 625-1604 (h).

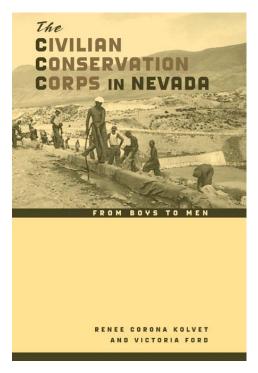
# Oregon-California Trails Association, California-Nevada Chapter Spring Symposium "Gold is Where You Find It"

April 21-22, 2007 Miner's Inn Convention Center & Siskiyou County Museum Yreka, California. For more information contact Bob & Cherie Evanhoe 530-842-5563 or email yreka98bob@sbcglobal.net

# The Civilian Conservation Corps in Nevada: From Boys to Men by Renee Corona Kolvet and Victoria Ford

University of Nevada Press is proud to announce the publication of a new book on the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) in Nevada by Renee Corona Kolvet and Victoria Ford. *The Civilian Conservation Corps in Nevada* is based on extensive research in private manuscript collections, unpublished memoirs, CCC inspectors' reports and other records, government documents, newspapers, and other sources, as well as on interviews with CCC veterans and personnel. The book also includes period photographs depicting the Nevada CCC and its activities. This is the first comprehensive history of the Nevada CCC.

Renée Corona Kolvet is an archaeologist with the Bureau of Reclamation, Lower Colorado Region. Victoria Ford is the communications specialist for the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.



# **NAA Membership Renewal Time**

Daron Duke Membership Chair

**Hello all!** It is again time to renew your membership to the NAA. The last few years have been ones of growth as your interest and volunteerism have brought new vitality to our little organization. Addition of the Site Steward program and Nevada Rock Art Foundation represent important steps forward that greatly enhance our ability to protect, preserve, and understand Nevada archaeology. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continuing support and participation. Renew today

## **NAA Website**

Check out 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.

## **Spring Newsletter**

Suzan Slaughter

The Spring 2007 issue of *In-Situ* is scheduled for publication in late March. If you have anything you want included, such as mini-reports, requests for information, announcements, letters to the editor, book reviews, etc., send it to Suzan Slaughter, via e-mail to: roses4@unlv.nevada.edu, or by snail mail to 1208 Nelson Court, Boulder City, Nevada 89005. Photographs are welcome. If submitting electronically please embed jpegs in a word document. Stand alone jpegs can be sent to the email address. Remember, a diverse and interesting *In-Situ* cannot be maintained without member support and participation. All comments, complaints and suggestions are welcome.

# PROJECTS, ARTICLES, MINI REPORTS

## **Abandoned Mines in Clark County**

William G. White Statistical Research

Historical-period mines represent tangible evidence of past mineral-resource discovery, exploitation and extractive technology that financed and provided necessary minerals that fed the needs of a young industrial nation. Sourdough miners, their mines, and rowdy mining camps were often the precursor elements in the settlement and development of the American West, as well as its romantic folklore and history of the bygone era. Today, the physical features evident upon landscape, unfortunately, pose a safety risk to the casual user and a variety of problems for federal land-managing agencies. There are hundreds of orphaned or abandoned mines in Clark County, thousands across the state. Many of these high-risk mines are scheduled for permanent closure using various methods.

Statistical Research, Inc., under contract with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, and National Park Service, has recently completed the documentation of 346 high-risk mine features for the purpose of Section 106 evaluation. Found in isolation or associated with mine complexes on federal-managed lands, the features consist primarily of dangerous adits and shafts. The features were identified in six principal Clark County mining districts including the Alunite, Charleston, Crescent, Eldorado Canyon, Goodsprings, Searchlight.

Over a two month period, five archaeologists, under the direction of William White, survived windy and freezing conditions, broken vehicles, flat tires, impaled cactus thorns, ticks, bruises, strenuous ascents and descents, motel/casino rooms, and restaurant food. All came away from the fieldwork with a new appreciation of the stark reality and hardships endured by the nineteenth-century miners in their quest for mineral wealth in Clark County. In the most basic of interpretations, each identified mine feature reflects a failed or successful, albeit temporary, relationship between geological nature and human behavior.



# FWS Receives Funding to Restore Railraod-tie Cabin at Corn Creek, Desert NWR Lou Ann Speulda-Drews, US Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received funding from the Southern Nevada Public Lands and Management Act (SNPLAMA) to restore the Railroad Tie Cabin at the Corn Creek Station on Desert National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Located about 30 miles north of Las Vegas, the Corn Creek Station is the headquarters for Desert NWR.

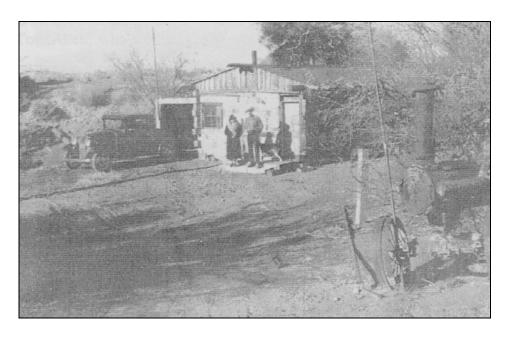
The springs at Corn Creek have drawn people for thousands of years. During the historic period the station served as a ranch and stage stop, and by 1906 the Las Vegas & Tonopah Railroad (LV&TRR) was stopping near the Corn Creek Station. The LV&TRR ceased operation on October 31, 1918 and in 1919 the tracks were torn up and stacked at regular locations along the old railroad bed. Local ranchers hauled ties to their property as a serendipitous source of lumber for buildings, fence posts, foundations, and many other uses (Warren in Roberts et al. 2003:78).

The cabin at Corn Creek was constructed after 1919 since it used railroad ties from the defunct LV&TRR. The use of this unique construction material represents a vernacular architectural style directly associated with Nevada's historic development. This building type is found within short distances of several of Nevada's RR-routes and reflects the brief historic period when railroad speculation and construction was following the booming mineral discoveries in Southern Nevada. The cabin also suggests a practical solution for needed building materials in a treeless desert environment. The cabin is a contributing element of the Corn Creek Campsite National Register District (26CK2605).

The small one-story, gable roof cabin (15' 4"x 26' 4") is constructed with railroad ties for the walls and floor joists. Unlike a log cabin, the railroad ties are stacked rather than notched at the corners. Spikes secure the ties together. The foundation ties are set on stone footings. The interior of the cabin is divided into two rooms. Originally the roof was metal, but at a later date, a new roof was built over the metal roof, raising it slightly and extending it over the gable ends.

Funding through the SNPLMA grant will be used to repair the building so that it is safe for public access. Exterior repairs include replacing deteriorated RR-ties (along the foundation), improving the foundation-footing by adding additional footing stones, and removing the non-original wood roof and repairing the original metal roof. Interior repairs include replacing the flooring, repairing broken windows and repairing doors. Additionally, the interior needs to be cleaned of packrat droppings and closed off to rodents. Interpreting the history of the cabin will follow the restoration efforts.

Restoration began in November when the wood roof was removed, revealing the original metal roof. Clearing the interior is an on-going project. Work will continue this winter and spring. If you would like to work as a volunteer on this project please contact Kathleen Sprowl at 702-879-6110 or Lou Ann Speulda-Drews at 775-861-6335.



Railroad Tie Cabin, ca. 1936, Corn Creek Complex (Worts collection, in Roberts et al. 2003).



Railroad Tie Cabin at Corn Creek Complex, Desert NWR (FWS 1994-RR-1).

## **Musings on a Pot Hunt**

David Valentine

I completed my Master's thesis on an Overseas Chinese placer mining site in Pershing County, Nevada known as American Canyon. Although I recorded many pieces of Chinese material culture, the thesis was more about Chinese architecture and mining technology (Valentine 1999). I did as much research as I could to make a (hopefully) decent thesis, but I still have interest and unanswered questions about the site and the area, and so I am always on the lookout for more information.

Recently, while searching through back issues of the Lovelock newspaper for research on another project, I stumbled across an article pertaining to American Canyon. The article (Lovelock Review-Journal 1963) was about a married couple and their teenaged daughter (Paula) from Caldwell, Idaho who were visiting friends in Imlay, Nevada. The family wanted to some metal detecting and was also interested in Chinese placer sites. The friend obligingly took them to American Canyon, and they spent some time detecting around the site of the old "Joss House." The article indicated they found, dug up, and collected an old Chinese incense burner with Chinese characters on it, fragments of what they believed was a gold scale, and several old bottles that still retained their corks.

At first, I was angry. Damaging archaeological sites is a crime, and how dare these people loot "my" site? After thinking about it for a while, though, I decided in this case it probably wasn't a crime. Although it was after the passage of the Antiquities Act, that law only covered things that were at least 100 years old. In 1963, Chinese activity in American Canyon was at most 79 years old. The metal detecting also took place well before the passage of the National Preservation Historic Act the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), and in the 1960s many State and Federal officials looked upon that sort of activity as a legitimate recreational pursuit.

I remember how upset my own sainted mother was when ARPA was passed because it meant the end of her bottle hunting pursuits. Apparently historic looting activities are like arthritis: you don't have to like it and it can put a definite crimp in your style, but once you have it, you have to live with it. That of course does not mean that you have to live with modern looting, and educational and law enforcement activities should be pursued with vigor.

I also decided that there was a potential silver lining to this cloud. To my knowledge, not many Chinese incense burners have been found in archaeological sites. Maybe I could locate the family, and maybe they would allow me to photograph and document the artifacts from the site? So I "googled" the family name and city of residence. Sadly, this lead to an obituary. The missus had passed away in 1999, five years after her husband. This was no dead end, though; as the obituary also had Paula's married name and city of residence. Returning to Google<sup>TM</sup>, I quickly had an address and phone number.

After many attempts to contact Paula by telephone, I finally connected. I explained to her that I was an archaeologist with research interests in American Canyon. I told that I had seen the newspaper article about their visit to American Canyon, and that I would like to see the artifacts that they took from the site.

Paula remembered the trip, but hadn't seen the incense burner for a very long time. She believed that her father had sold or traded the burner away to another collector. She also had no idea of what might have happened to the scale and bottles. She did, however, remember that they had also dug up a large pot. The metal detector found it because an upside-down metal pan was being used as a lid. She remembered the pot was at least half full of decaying pine nuts. They discarded the heavily corroded pan and the rotting pine

nuts, but had kept the pot. Her mother was living with an older sister, Sally, when she passed away, so the pot was now with Sally, who lives in Mesquite, Nevada. The woman obligingly provided me with Sally's phone number and promised me that she would contact her about my interest in the pot so that any future contact from me would not come as a surprise. It was therefore a relatively easy thing to take a short detour to Mesquite after the 2006 Great Basin Anthropological Conference in Las Vegas, and arrange to visit the pot at Sally's house.

While a congenial hostess, Sally is a frail woman with some health problems. She had the pot on a high shelf, and was unwilling to let me take it down as she was

concerned that it might be dropped and broken. She did supply a short step ladder so that I could try to get a better photograph. Sally does not have much of an interest in history or archaeology and did not participate in her parent's activities. She is, however, keeping the pot as a remembrance of her mother.

The pot is a large utilitarian brown ware pot known as a globular jar (Wegars 1999) (Figure 1). The jar has small ears near the rim for use in securing a lid. These types of jars were often used to import food from China. They were also often re-used for a variety of storage purposes. The pot was broken after its removal from American Canyon, but was also carefully mended.



The globular jar sitting on a high shelf in its current Mesquite home.

While an interesting artifact, I was also intrigued by the reported contents. This was the first time I had heard of pine nut use by Chinese. I perused my modest library in an effort to see if any pine nuts use had previously been reported on sites in the United States. Most of what I found was faunal analysis, but I did find a few studies that included information on floral remains (Greenwood 1996; Honeysett and Schulz 1984; Kent et al. 1987; LaLande 1981). These studies found evidence of a wide range of fruits and nuts eaten by Chinese.

Many of these foodstuffs were definitely imported from China, but others that could have been grown in the United States. No pine nuts were mentioned in any of these studies.

Anderson (1988: 13, 83) indicates that pine nuts were a part of the Chinese diet, and have been since antiquity. Pine nuts, in addition to being a tasty food, are also believed by the Chinese to increase one's life span since evergreens are long lived (Anderson 1988: 168). So the Chinese residents of American Canyon recognized

pine nuts as a desirable food. The next questions that came to mind are they imported from China, or were they Nevada nuts? If from Nevada, were they purchased from Native Americans, or gathered by Chinese residents?

Not having the actual nuts for study one can only speculate. While the jars were used to import food, they were also commonly re-used for storage, so the use of the jar does not provide any satisfaction. There is some evidence of Chinese and Native American interaction in the area, such as a flaked piece of glass found in American Canyon (Valentine 1999: Appendix A) and a Piute woman and her daughter living with a Chinese miner in

nearby Spring Valley in 1880 (United States Census Manuscript 1880). The nearest piñon pines are at least 15 miles away, but the Chinese were a frugal people and used to walking (Wegars, personnel communication, 2006). Obviously, more research is needed!

In conclusion, one has to recognize that looting of archaeological sites was not always recognized as a criminal activity, and that it has been going on as long as people have had an interest in the past. While such activity is no longer, and can no longer be, condoned, some information and new research avenues can be squeezed out of this past activity by talking to the participants or their heirs and examining their collections.

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Sojourners in the Oregon Siskiyous: Adaptation and Acculturation of the Chinese Miners in the Applegate Valley, Ca. 1885-1900. Master's thesis, Interdisciplinary Studies, Oregon State University, Corvallis.

Lovelock Review-Miner (Lovelock, Nevada)

Mill City Ghost Camp Visitors Dig up Chinese Artifacts in American Canyon. *Lovelock Review-Miner* 15 August 1963: 6.

United States Census Manuscript

1880 Spring Valley, Indian Township, Humboldt County, Nevada.

Valentine, David

1999 Historical and Archaeological Investigations at 26Pe2137: American Canyon, Pershing County, Nevada. Master's thesis, Department of Anthropology and Ethnic Studies, University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Wegars, Priscilla

1999 Chinese Artifact Illustrations, Terminology, and Selected Bibliography. Prepared for the Chinese and Japanese Artifact Workshop, Society for Historical Archaeology, Salt Lake City, Utah.

## Paddled, Pinched, and Scraped?

Eva Jensen Lost City Museum

Do you have a temper? Do you see Lino lines or Sosi solids? Do you have a gray, white or an orange, red? Do you have a strong eversion to your rim? Sherd or shard? These and other questions were matter for discussion in a December pottery workshop. (You knew I was talking about pottery of course.) Nevada site stewards joined Utah Color Country and Arizona Strip site stewards for a workshop in St. George, arranged by Utah steward Barbara Jolly. NAA archaeologists were invited to teach the workshop. Due to the popularity of the event we will be repeating the workshop January 27<sup>th</sup> in Overton.

The goal of this workshop is to give stewards an opportunity to learn more about the pottery they might see at sites they visit and to understand the wealth of information archaeologists can coax from the sherds. Details like manufacture technique, vessel form, rim shape, finish, design style are all clues prehistoric about the past. manufacture technique (paddled, pinched, & scraped) gives clues of what cultural group made the pottery. The shape might indicate the how the pot was used. Painted design styles and rim eversions are used to "tell time" with pottery.

Photographs, provided by Greg Seymour, from the Bureau of Reclamation type collection he and Laurie Perry prepared, illustrate close-up what clay and temper look like in broken pottery. Sherds and whole vessels from the Lost City Museum give stewards a hands-on look and feel of finish and manufacture techniques as well as temper and painted designs. Identifying pottery types is difficult, and the best

advice for stewards is to take notes, use basic descriptions, take photographs, draw pictures, and ask questions.

Site stewards are a great asset for the land managers. When requested, well informed and trained stewards may be able to assist managers with other duties. Dawna Ferris-Rowley, a BLM Assistant Manager in St. George, calls on stewards to help in recording and data recovery projects in her area in Southwestern Utah. Dawna, a long time NAA member, archaeologist, and former Nevadan, has been working with volunteers to create the Color Country site steward program. Stewards recently assisted Dawna with excavation prior to stabilization of an historic homestead. Dawna and Barbara hosted the tri-state pottery workshop in December.

The NAA and Lost City Museum will be hosting the January workshop. For those who are registered, just a reminder that the "second round" of the Pottery Identification Workshop will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 am until 2 pm at the Old Logandale School in Moapa Valley just north of Overton. The address is 3011 North Moapa Valley Blvd (Highway 169) in Logandale. If you haven't done so already, please contact Eva at the address below to confirm your registration.

For those of you in the greater Great Basin, north of the 39<sup>th</sup> parallel, when it comes to pottery, just say "brown or gray" and move on to the finer points of debitage. I've heard rumors of a lithic workshop for stewards in northern Nevada later in the spring? Dave Valentine may be pitching pointers about points.

# Fernley Swales Cleanup David Valentine

On the morning of October 7<sup>th</sup> of this year, some 20 folks met outside of the Truck Inn, a truck stop/casino on the edge of Fernley. They were a rather motley bunch, consisting of employees of the Truck Inn and members of the Fernley Parks and Recreation, Fernley Preservation Society, Fernley Tae-Kwon Do's Green Team, and California/Nevada Chapter of the Oregon-California Trails Association (CA/NV OCTA), which happens to include a few archaeologists-Leslie Fryman, Peggy McGuckian, and David Valentine. The purpose of the gathering was an annual trash cleanup along a segment of the California Emigrant Trail known as the Fernley Swales. The swales are deep wagon ruts cut through sands dunes and lake sediments on the edge of the Forty Mile Desert by emigrant wagons. There is also a segment of the original Central Pacific Railroad, abandoned in 1902 after a rerouting of the line. The swales are particularly well preserved in this area, except for the trash. OCTA became involved in the area a number of years ago when the Bureau of Land Management was selling land around Fernley. OCTA was concerned that the relatively rare trail traces would be lost through development if the land sale was to proceed. In an effort to preserve the trail traces, a conservation easement on the swales became a part of the land sale. Ever since then, OCTA members continue to show their interest in preserving the swales by sponsoring an annual cleanup. OCTA has also been successful in recruiting allies, such as the Truck Inn employees and the Fernley Tae-Kwon Do's Green Team, to assist them in the cleanup.

The cleanup is a necessary event. Like many towns, Fernley has a slob component, folks too lazy or cheap to properly dispose of their trash, that makes a bad habit of desert debris dumping—and they really dump. From 9:00 a.m. to noon, the twenty toiled, loading three flat bed trailers and three trucks full to the sideboards with trash. Fernley Waste Management allowed CA/NV OCTA to dump for free, so many folks worked until 1:00 p.m. unloading garbage. The trash included a wide variety of automotive, yard, and household trash; construction debris; and some large items like old refrigerators and an exercise machine. If any Nevada Archaeological Association members are interested in helping for the 2007 cleanup, contact Tom Fee, CA/NV OCTA events coordinator at Tomfee3@aol.com. He'll be sure to remind you when the next even rolls around—and don't forget your gloves!



Here's a rare site—Dave Valentine actually working!



Peggy McGuckian (Winnemucca BLM archaeologist) and Leslie Fryman (CA/NV OCTA Preservation Officer) discussing punishments for any lousy dumper they catch!



Patty Knight (CA/NV OCTA member) giving the exercise bike a whirl before giving it the heave-ho!

The trailer in the background has about half a load.

All photos courtesy of Steve Knight, CA/NV OCTA President.

## IN MEMORIAM

## **Alvin R. McLane 1934-2006**

Alvin McLane passed away on October 18, 2006 in a Reno hospital. It's just not possible to study rock art or even to visit rock art sites anywhere in the state and not find Alvin's footprints there. Happy is the day when a colleague could say, "I told Alvin about a rock art site that he's never been to!" and then Alvin would move heaven and earth to get to the "new" site as soon as he could and add it to his impressive collection of site files. He was meticulous in his data collection, impeccable in his record keeping and had the best innate geographical sense of anyone most of us have ever known. He had a natural GPS



in his head, and you could always rest assured that when he put a "dot on a map" that it was in the right place.

When you asked Alvin for directions to a site he would recount every bump and fork in the road, every potential location to search for archaeology or caves along the way, and describe in detail any rock art or other archaeology that you'd find when you got there. Alvin didn't share site information with many people, he appropriately guarded site locations with great care, but once you were trusted enough to get directions from him, you felt like you had somehow passed a special test and could feel justifiably proud.

Alvin called Nevada his home for nearly 50 years, and he spent those years walking the length, breadth, and yes even scaling the heights, of the entire state, because rock art wasn't his only interest. Alvin climbed mountains, publishing "Silent Cordilleras" in 1978; he explored and meticulously mapped caves; and he even retraced the 1844 route of explorer John C. Frémont to Pyramid Lake. He recently became something of a television celebrity when he and his dog, Petroglyph, appeared regularly on the KNPB program "Wild Nevada." He was recognized in 2004 by the Governor and the Bureau of Land Management for his many, many contributions to the archaeology and history of the state of Nevada. The Nevada Rock Art Foundation awarded him the "Alvin McLane Award" in 2004 at the Great Basin Anthropological Conference in recognition of contributions to rock art research by a professional archaeologist and the "Lifetime Achievement Award" in 2006 at the NRAF Annual Meeting in Tonopah.

Alvin spent every waking moment doing what he loved best - exploring, and he did it right to the very end. Only days before he died, he was in eastern Nevada with his long-time friend and fellow explorer, Oyvind Frock, showing pictograph sites to Jon Harmon who is refining digital enhancement techniques for pictographs. Although few of us will even make as great a contribution as he did, we can all feel proud that as NRAF volunteers we too are doing something important that will help to secure Nevada's rock art for the future, a fitting tribute to our friend and colleague, Alvin McLane.

Alanah Woody, Phd, RPA Executive Director Nevada Rock Art Foundation

# Nevada Archaeological Association, Board of Directors Meeting Baker, Nevada July 15, 2006

David Valentine, Secretary

Board Members Present: Greg Haynes, Eva Jensen, Hal Rager, Suzan Slaughter, Liz Russell, Greg Seymour, and David Valentine.

Board member absent: Daron Duke and Mark Giambastiani

Ex-Officio Members Present: George Phillips and Sali Underwood.

Others Members Present: Carl Bjork, Joanne Blalack, Steve Daron, Teagan Dornbush, Bob Hafey, Nancy Hall, Nola Haynes, Mark Henderson, and Yolanda Henderson, and Joanne Murray, (and Piñon the dog).

- A. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm in the Park Service's Resources Building at the new Great Basin National Park visitor's center by President Greg Seymour.
- B. Seymour asked for a round of applause to acknowledge Steve Daron's prior service as president. This was enthusiastically delivered.
- C. Previous Meetings Minutes. The minutes from the past two board meetings were discussed. Amendments for the April 7 minutes were proposed, including: correcting the spelling of Alvin McLane's name; including Efstathios Pappas' name as the winner of the student grant; adding the distribution of the Site Stewardship money; adding that the Train-the-Trainer's training was held; and that Sali and George are ex-officio members. During the discussion Bob Hafey asked why the poster cost so much, and he was informed that it was due to the increased cost of distribution. No changes were required for the April 8 minutes. Liz proposed that the minutes for April 7 be accepted as amended and that the minutes for April 8 be accepted as is. Eva seconded. Motion passed.
- D. President's Report. Greg indicated that he is pleased that the board has enough confidence in his abilities to choose him as president.
- E. Treasurer's Report: Eva presented the board with copies of a written treasurer's report. She indicated that the NAA lost money on the poster and brochure due to the brochure going to a multi-page format. She suggested that we could ask for more money from the various donating agencies next year. As of July 13, 2006, the NAA had available assets of \$8,689.81.
- F. Secretary's report: None
- G. Newsletter Editor's Report: Suzan said that she mailed out 159 copies of *In-Situ* at a cost of \$318.40. She has some difficulties in e-mail reminders, and some formatting problems in a contribution from Bob Hafey.
- H. Membership Report: Daron Duke was not present, but submitted a report to Seymour, who distributed copies. There has been a slight increase in membership. We need to do more to increase our membership by marketing to students, contracting firms, and agency archaeologists. To date, recruitment has been pretty passive and we need to get more aggressive. Seymour indicated that he will get more active with UNLV students, and that Daron will do so at UNR. We need to get out more brochures about the organization. The annual poster is not an appropriate recruitment medium.

- I. Webmaster's Report: Hal indicated website visitation has increased to 35-60/day. Posting is due soon. Valentine requested that a back issue order form for the *Nevada Archaeologist* be added to the site. He will send a copy to Hal for posting.
- J. Chapter-Reports:

Am-Archs: No report.

Churchill County Chapter: No report.

White Pine Historical and Archaeological Society: No report.

Lincoln County Chapter: Liz Russell indicated the chapter is very active. They have run out of presenters, so are planning on alternating between meetings with presenters and meetings that are purely social. A committee has been formed to find more presenters. The next event is a pot-luck, Wed., July 19<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at Kershaw-Ryan State Park.

Archaeo-Nevada Society: Seymour said that Cheryl Martin is no longer president—that position is now held by Helen Mortensen.

Elko County Chapter: Various members had information that the chapter is active. They recently submitted membership checks.

Nevada Rock Art Foundation: Joanne Murray reported the NRAF annual conference was held June 9-11 in Tonopah. Fifty to sixty members attended. The next event will be a pot-luck and recording project at Soldier Meadows Ranch. The NRAF speaker program is still going, with monthly presentations at the South Meadows library.

SHPO: Sali told us that we need to start gearing up for preservation month next year. What kind of publicity do we want? Kudos are due to Laurie Perry for sending information to Preserve Nevada about the Brigham Whitmore house. The paper work for the historic preservation grants are due December 1 for posters and site stewardship.

K. Old Business: *Nevada Archaeologist*: Eva reported that she and Laurie have all the promised papers and will start reading them. They have nothing ready to go to Anne McConnell yet. Seymour volunteered to assist with getting things moving. Geoff Smith and Lindsie Lafayette have four out of six articles edited for the '05 journal. Greg Seymour will talk to Heidi Roberts about the '06 journal. Valentine reported he has one submission, and has been pestering Billy Clewlow and several UNR students about additional papers. It was suggested that he contact Alice Brannigan for a submission. It was proposed that the '08 issue be non-thematic, perhaps using proceedings from a conference, since the quality of the papers from the last meeting were excellent and there was success in publishing the proceedings from the Three Corners Conference. It was suggested that someone talk to Mark Giambastiani about doing this, and Greg Haynes volunteered to assist. Someone suggested that since we are so behind in the journal that we shouldn't worry about the order in which they come out—just get some published. The NAA needs to start budgeting for journal printing costs. Bob Hafey had questions about formatting, and he was directed to the submission guidelines in the front of the past journals.

'07 Annual Meeting: Greg Haynes requested that he be removed from the conference committee. He suggested that we contact the Carson Valley Inn in Minden. There is a nice museum in Minder that could be a location for a mixer and they are receptive. The board suggested a new committee of Daron Duke and Alanah Woody.

Special Publication: Need to contact Anne DuBarton and Renee Kolvet about this. Suzanne will contact Anne.

Occasional Papers: Ted Goebel has assumed editing, but is busy with his move to Texas.

Preservation Month Poster: Eva suggested a theme of Travel the Past. Greg Haynes suggested one on Logging Nevada. George Phillips said that water sources will soon be a hot topic with the proposed pipeline from White Pine County to Vegas. Liz moved we go with the transportation theme. Haynes seconded, and it was passed. Material will be gathered the same way as the last poster, with submissions from members, museums, etc.

Preservation Month: Eva mentioned that there were some difficulties with distribution with a lot of people making last minute requests for additional material. Seymour said that we could use more advertising in newspapers. He also mentioned that the Culture History Fair at the Springs Preserve was moving more to art, and that we need a new venue that the NAA should run. Eva suggested that the NAA get funding from round 8 of SNPLMA—we need more grants since the costs for the poster and brochure are increasing. The multi-page brochure is easier to read, but cost \$2,036. Seymour suggested that we need to reach an agreement with a printing company for a discount—Alpha Graphics printed 238 copies of the 3-Corners Conference proceedings for \$3,400 with a color cover. There is no guarantee for increased donations.

Site Stewardship: The program is actively training new stewards. George has recently held trainings, and a new training is scheduled for Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> in Carson City with 38 folks signed up. They are working on standardizing the manual. The program needs more trainers. Check in/out procedures need to conform to the agencies policy. ID cards are needed, as well as certificates. The program wants to sell T-shirts to raise funds. Eva indicated that grant money is incoming, but not in hand yet. Seymour moved that the NAA set aside \$2,500 for site stewardship expenses included T-shirt purchases and site steward pins. Eva seconded, and the motion passed.

2006 GBAC: The GBAC will be Oct. 19-22. Barb Roth from UNLV is the program chair and Heidi Roberts is the local arrangements chair. The board suggested that we have a table on Friday and Saturday to sell stuff and recruit new members. Seymour, Anne Carter, George Phillips, Sali Underwood and Steve Daron all volunteered to man the table.

## L. New Business:

Board Insurance: The approximate costs for liability insurance are \$1,000 to \$1,200/year. Insurance for a single, special event, such as the annual meeting, is roughly \$300/year. It was asked if a vote on this expense should be put to the general membership. It was decided that the board vote was most likely. Eva moved that we set aside up to \$1,500 for board insurance and \$500 for event insurance. Valentine seconded, and motion passed.

Journal Sales: The gift shop at the Nevada State Museum in Lorenzi Park wants to sell back issues of the journal. The board had questions concerning this—if the museum sells the journal, will they store it? Do we provide the museum with a discount, or do they mark-up the price? If the museum in Lorenzi sells the journal, should the museum in Carson City sell copies as well? Sali will do a full inventory to see what we have and talk to Harvey, the gift shop manager for the museum in Vegas.

Greg indicated that the Springs Preserve will buy a full set of the journal.

The board also wanted to know if we should scan the back issues as PDF files and sell them on disc. Valentine will talk to Tom Burke about how the BLM scanned their culture resource publications, and will also talk with Gene Hattori about what the museum did.

Cheryl Martin from the Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS) wanted to know it they could scan the journal and post it on their web site. The board decided against this, as journal sales are a source of income for the NAA. We should link our web sites together. If people wanted back

issues, they could download the order form off our site. They could also access back issues of *In-Situ*. Linking the sites would also increase exposure for both the ANS and the NAA.

Three-Corners Conference Proceedings: Issues of the Proceedings have been donated to the NAA for distribution. One-hundred ninety copies were printed at a cost of \$16/each. We will sell them for \$25, which gives us a 20% profit to cover costs next time. If there are no more Three-Corner Conferences, then the money should be used to publish something else. The NRAF wants to post two articles from the Proceedings (NRAF Preservation Strategy and the Archaeology of Sloan Canyon) on their website. After some discussion it was decided to allow them to post non-printable/non-downloadable copies with a link to the NAA website so interested persons could buy a copy. Seymour will write a letter to the NRAF of the board's decision.

Geocaching: The NAA board needs a position statement. Suzan will head a sub-committee. They will check the Arizona Site Steward's position. The position will take an educational stance—geocache responsibly without damaging sites. A copy of the paper will be sent to the Federal agencies in Nevada.

- M. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be during the GBAC. Sali will check on having it at Lorenzi Park. Other potential meeting sites include a DRI Conference room or in the UNLV Anthropology Dept. The potential times will be on the 19<sup>th</sup>, with a stewardship meeting at 1 p.m. and the board meeting at 4 p.m.
- N. Nancy Hall informed the board that there will be a comment period for road designations at Gold Butte. It will start in mid-August and run for 45 days. Greg Haynes also mentioned that the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest is working on OHV programs and we should watch for public comment opportunities for them.
- O. Preserve Nevada has a notification list for Federal agencies. NAA needs to get on the same lists, which link into the state clearing house. Seymour will talk to Alice Baldrica about this.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.



# Nevada Archaeological Association

www.nvarch.org

□ Ms.

☐ Mr.

MEMBER INFORMATION Please print

☐ Mrs.

□ Dr.

# **Membership Application**

Join the NAA! – just fill out this form and return to:

Nevada Archaeological Association PO Box 73145 Las Vegas, NV 89170-3145

New Member	☐ Renewal

Last N						Additional Member Name	5.	
	Last Name		First Name	First Name				
Addre	ess							
City			State Z	Zip	<del></del>			
Home	Home Phone Email							
CHAPTI	ER AFFILIATION Check all	that app	oly		MEM	BERSHIP CATEGOR	Y	
	Am-Arcs of Nevada		Site Steward			Regular - \$20		Family - \$25
	Archaeo Nevada Society		None (Member-at-Large	e)		Student - \$10		Life - \$500
	Churchill County Chapter					Supporting - \$50		
	Elko Chapter					Institutional - \$10		
	Lincoln County Chapter					Corporate - \$50		
□ White Pine Historical & Archaeological Society					Affiliate - \$50			
<b></b>	□ Nevada Rock Art Foundation					Benefactor - \$1,000		

## **CODE OF ETHICS:**

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:

- Uphold the purpose 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 materials relating to antiquities
- 4. Assist professionals and educators in accomplishing the objectives of the NAA
- 5. Be a personal envoy of the NAA and responsible for conducting themselves in a manner so as to protect the integrity of the artifacts, sites, or other material

I hereby agree to abide by the Code of Ethics of the Nevada Archaeological Association.

Signature:	Date:
olgilatare.	