

In-Situ



SUMMER 2014

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2

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Jeffrey Wedding, NAA President President's Corner

Greetings traveler. Who am I? Perhaps you have met me twixt sleep and wake, in the penumbra of uncertainty you call "unconsciousness." Or perhaps you've met me at a conference. Pretty much the same situation, wouldn't you say? I'm Jeff Wedding, longtime NAA member, Board member, and now President. In my first President's Corner I want to thank my immediate predecessor Craig Hauer, and all of the other past NAA presidents for their service to our organization. I am stepping into big shoes. Hopefully my big feet will allow me to help the NAA without too many stumbles or mouth insertions.

If you are unlike me, you took advantage of a nice long summer vacation. Or if you are like me, you managed to at least not work for a weekend or two and grabbed some local scenery where you could. Stacey (my lovely bride) and I finally managed one Saturday to experience the Black Canyon rafting tour from Hoover Dam down the Colorado River to Willow Beach. That stretch of Nevada sure has a lot of dam history (pun required by Boulder City ordinance), and we even saw a group of bighorns on a canyon wall you wouldn't catch me tiptoeing out on!

Since the weather is warm and hopefully we have all been busy doing at least some recreating, this issue of In Situ will be 'lite fare' as the say on menus. But the next issue should contain details and advance notices about our 2015 annual meeting being planned for Wendover. It will be the first time for the NAA to gather in that border town, and hopefully it will be an adventure well worth the travel. So we'll be checking back in with you

soon. In the meantime enjoy the refreshing cool-down of Fall now heading our way. At least we sure hope so down south! -Jeff



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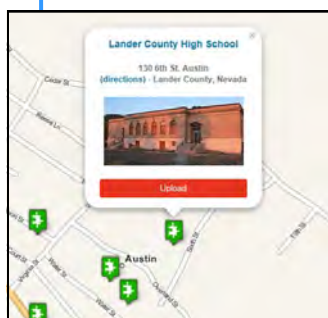


Stacey and President Jeff Wedding having a dam fine time at Hoover.

PASSING OF ROBERT HAFEY AND OYVIND FROCK

It is with extreme sadness that we note the recent passing of two amazing NAA members.: Oyvind Frock and Robert Hafey. Our friends will be missed. If you have a favorite photo or memory of

Bob or Oyvind, please send them to edickey@dot.state.nv.us for inclusion in a tribute that will be featured in the next *In-Situ*. ☞



Wikipedia map of NRHP properties in Austin, NV.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS THAT NRHP SITE?

Wikipedia has developed a free, interactive map showing the location of all properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Though not perfect, it will be appreciated by anyone who has cried into their beer after spending an eternity waiting for the NPS

database to load. A few properties are misplotted. (I'm pretty sure the St. Charles Hotel is not on the Capitol lawn in Carson City). It doesn't show historic district boundaries, and unfortunately it can't toggle over to a "street view." But overall, this will be a very useful tool for researchers. Users can contribute too by adding their own photographs of resources or correcting information.

Check it out: [NRHP Map](#) ☞

JEFF WEDDING, NAA PRESIDENT

It's Not Boring, it's the NAA Board Meeting!

As sometimes happens every fall in even numbered years, the next NAA Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the Great Basin Anthropological Conference (GBAC) in Boise, Idaho. The GBAC conference will be held October 15-18, and information about the conference can be found at www.gbac.whsites.net/index.html.

The NAA Board meeting is scheduled for

Thursday October 16 from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM, in the Emerald Room. The meeting will be listed in the conference program in case anyone who is there forgets. ☞



Other Bored Meetings.
Snore . . .



The NAA Board Meeting!
Fascinating!!!

JEFF WEDDING, NAA PRESIDENT

AWARD NOMINEES SOUGHT

Across Nevada there are persons qualified to be recognized by the NAA. Professionals are bestowed the NAA Lifetime Achievement Award, while the Ting Perkins Award is for avocational archaeologists. Have you ever wondered where the awardees come from? YOU

are the answer! The NAA Board is always receptive to nominees for these two annual awards. If you know of someone worthy, just submit a brief outline or statement of that individual's contributions and activities to Nevada archaeology and send it to the NAA. Board member contact info and the NAA mailing address can be found at our website – www.nvarch.org. ☞



Who will be the next NAA Queen (or King) for a Day? It's up to you!

Mini-Reports:

The History of Battle Mountain

By Dana R. Bennett, PhD



The Town of Battle Mountain, in north-central Nevada, dates its origins to the construction of the transcontinental Central Pacific Railroad across Nevada in 1868 and 1869. It was not, however, built *with* the railroad. The Central Pacific Railroad Company had dubbed its Argenta station, about 20 miles east of present-day Battle Mountain as the primary station to serve Lander County's mines, and a town began to develop there after construction of the tracks continued on to the east. Although nearly directly north of Austin, that location quickly proved inadequate for the nearby and much more active Battle Mountain Mining District. By the end of 1869, the company had dismantled its station, closely followed by potential townsfolk folding their tents, and reassembled it at a spot chosen by Robert McBeth, the district's biggest booster.

Because this relocated station would serve the copper and gold mines in the Battle Mountain district, located a few miles to the south, the railroad company utilized the district's name for the station. For a brief time, the relo-



The 1962 flood covered Battle Mountain. (Photo courtesy of the Battle Mountain Cookhouse Museum)

cated residents sought to bring their town's name with them, but it was too confusing to call the station "Battle Mountain" and the surrounding town "Argenta." By the spring of 1870, after the Central Pacific Railroad developed the initial townsite, the name "Battle Mountain" was firmly attached to both station and town.

This story and many others are featured in the recent publication of a comprehensive overview of Battle Mountain's first one hundred years. I researched and wrote this book, titled *All*



In 1896, Battle Mountain's most influential women belonged to the Ladies Guild. (Photo courtesy of the Battle Mountain Cookhouse Museum)

Roads Lead to Battle Mountain: A Small Town in the Heart of Nevada, 1869-1969, under commission from the Lander County Historical Society. Designed by Nancy Peppin and printed in Reno by Dynagraphics, this book has been designated a Legacy Project by Nevada's Sesquicentennial Commission in honor of Nevada's 150th anniversary of statehood.

Beyond the description of the town's origins, I focused on exploring the people and events that contributed to the development of the town. After the closest mines played out, Battle Mountain did not fade away like so many other Nevada mining towns did. Instead, it continued to thrive as nearby ranches shipped out their sheep and cattle from that railroad station. By the time Nevada's early twentieth century mining boom be-

gan to reinvigorate the industry statewide, Battle Mountain was well-positioned to be a supply hub for the flickering mining camps that flared up and died out within a 50-mile radius of the town.

At the center of robust mining and agricultural concerns, Battle Mountain became a wealthy community in the early part of the twentieth century. Cowboys and miners frequented the busy saloons and stores that lined Front Street across from the railroad tracks; residents enjoyed grand balls and elaborate parades; and children frolicked at community picnics on the banks of the Humboldt River.

In those early years, town leaders dreamt big dreams for Battle Mountain. Located at the intersection of the east-west transcontinental railroad

and the north-south Nevada Central railroad, and serving as a supply center for a large part of central Nevada, Battle Mountain might have fulfilled those dreams. But the geography of that part of the state precluded a direct route to Idaho and limited Battle Mountain's regional economic possibilities and influence. The town remained a small community, somewhat eclipsed by its neighbors, Winnemucca to the west and Elko to the east.

The Great Depression affected the town much as it had the rest of Nevada. The Battle Mountain State Bank closed, causing economic distress for many residents and businesses. Some never recovered. During World War II, national leaders recognized the area as a potentially important location on the air routes across the country, and at Senator Patrick McCarran's insistence, a top-notch airfield was constructed. By the 1950s, Battle Mountain was becoming famous for producing some of the finest turquoise in North America.

In February 1962, the flooding Humboldt and Reese Rivers devastated Battle Mountain. Not only were buildings destroyed and records lost, but the area was declared a flood plain, which continues to make it difficult to construct and renovate buildings in the heart of the old town. In many ways, the town was irrevocably changed by that catastrophic event.

The book concludes at the end of Battle Mountain's first century and as the town was be-

coming a different place. In 1969, one hundred years after its founding, the booming Battle Mountain Mining District was once again shaping the town. Expanding mine operations brought more people to live in Battle Mountain than at any previous point in its history. Yet its economic status as a supply hub was diminishing. Changes in transportation, including the decreased importance of the railroad and the increased effects of Interstate 80, altered the town's relationship in the region, and Battle Mountain was no longer essential to the operation of nearby mines and ranches. It was useful, but it was not essential.

The stories from Battle Mountain's first century, from 1869 through 1969 when it was an essential supply hub in northern Nevada, are captured in *All Roads Lead to Battle Mountain*. Published by the Lander County Historical Society in July of this year, the book also presents a large number of never-before-published photographs of the people and places that comprise the area's history. Proceeds from book sales go directly to the Society, which operates the Battle Mountain Cookhouse Museum. Copies of the book are available from the Museum, which may be found online at www.battlemountainmuseum.com or by phone at (775) 635-8548.



The railroad snow plow stopped at the Battle Mountain depot, c. 1900. (Photo courtesy of the Battle Mountain Cookhouse Museum)



Reports from Chapters and Affiliates:



NEVADA STATE PRESERVATION OFFICE:

SHPO Introduces NRHP Program Manager

By Rebecca L. Palmer, State Historic Preservation Officer

I am starting to believe *I should always use this sentence as a permanent preface to my SHPO report:* It seems that every time I put pen to paper to update your readers on the status of the SHPO, I am writing about some new change occurring or proposed. This message is no exception.

I would like to introduce my new National and State Register Program Manager, Anthony "Jim" Bertolini. Prior to his employment with this office, Jim was the Historic Preservation Specialist for the City of Aurora, Colorado. In his duties for the City of Aurora, he coordinated the City's Certified Local Government (CLG) efforts, coordinated design review, scheduled public hearings, applied the Secretary Standards for Rehabilitation, and performed Section

106 review all while conducting extensive public outreach. Before the Aurora CLG, Jim worked with various National Park Service (NPS) units, revising National Register documentation for Little Bighorn Battlefield and drafting a nomination for the Alpine Visitor Center at the Rocky Mountain National Park. Jim also worked at NPS's Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation in Boston where he authored several Cul-

tural Landscape Inventories. Jim received his Masters in Public History from Colorado State University in 2011. Please join me in welcoming Jim to this great state and its unique resources.


I would like to thank all of our partners in the Nevada Heritage Playing Card project for their contributions to this successful preservation outreach. The guidebook, which can still be accessed at



New National and State Register Program Manager, Jim Bertolini.
This guy knows how to run a railroad!

106 review all while conducting extensive public www.dcnr.nv.gov, has received more than 1,500



views and have been read in classrooms and senior facilities around the state. The decks, with their attractive view of Boundary Peak on the box, have made it around the world to China, Taiwan, and Spain, have been featured in newspaper and magazine articles, and were used to create a Governor's Mansion (see tweeted photo of Governor Sandoval and mansion). In addition, at least 600 citizens walked out the door of our office with this unique memento of the State's Sesquicentennial. 

How *does* he live in that tiny house? Gov. Brian Sandoval stands beside the downsized Governor's Mansion constructed by Jake Winn of the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office.




ARCHAEO-NEVADA SOCIETY:

A New Field Season Starts for the Archaeo-Nevada Society

The Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS) was quiet over the summer, with no general membership meetings. However several members participated in joint CSN/ANS field project out at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park which recorded a youth recreation camp dating from the late 1940s to the mid-1950s. Krysan Williams, Michael Hanson, and Kriste Calle took part in both the fieldwork effort in March of 2014 and assisted in the historical research associated with the effort. Special thanks goes to Kriste Calle who has gone above and beyond in her research, combing the archives of Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, the Boy Scouts of America, the back editions of the local newspapers, and the records of other organizations and facilities to uncover hidden gems of information about the site and the organizations that used it. The Society hopes to conduct fur-

ther fieldwork both at the recreational facility and elsewhere in the park this fall.

The Society has an active meeting slate for fall of 2014. In September Josh van Buskirk of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) spoke about a settlement model he developed based on the data recorded by the BLM during its sample survey of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) west of Las Vegas. In October Anna Osterholtz will talk about evidence of hobbling and physical stress on prehistoric captives in the southern Colorado area. November will see Professor Wil Wilreker of the College of Southern Nevada giving a detailed report on the Spring Mountain Ranch survey to the membership. And in December Paul Buck of Nevada State College will speak on his research involving remote sensing tools. 



COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA:

Summer & Fall Activities at the College of Southern Nevada

by Dr. Kevin Rafferty, Chairman Dept. of Human Behavior



Mess Hall Foundation, Spring Mountain Ranch Youth Camp
(Courtesy Kevin Rafferty)



Bath House, Spring Mountain Ranch Youth Camp (Courtesy Kevin Rafferty)

The Department of Human Behavior has begun the Fall, 2014 semester, by hiring Clara (C.J.) Senif as an emergency hire for the 2014-2015 academic year. Her expertise is in ethnomusicality and linguistics, and she is a welcome addition to the faculty here.

Four weeks into the Fall 2014 semester the department is offering 76 academic sections of anthropology courses; 50 sections of introduction to anthropology; 6 sections of biological/physical anthropology, linguistics, peoples and cultures of the world, anthropology of religion; and a section of survey field school to be conducted in Valley of Fire State Park. Currently 2,100 students are registered for these classes, and we are hoping to corrupt a few of them into declaring as Anthropology majors.

In terms of majors, we have over 150 declared anthropology majors in our two-year associate of arts program, and an active Anthropology Club that supports the anthropology program and provides additional venues for students to be exposed to information and data from the anthropological and archaeological world. The department also has an active relationship with the SHPOs southern Nevada office, with two students having either taken or currently serving as interns for the of-



General Site Map, Spring Mountain Ranch Youth Camp (courtesy Wil Wilreker).

fice. There is also an internship program in effect with the Las Vegas Springs Preserve as well.

In additional faculty news, Professor Wil Wilreker spent the summer in Japan visiting his daughter and soaking in Japanese culture and history. He will be giving at least one public lecture on his experiences this fall. He is also writing the interim report, in conjunction with Dr. Kevin Rafferty, on the fieldwork conducted at the Spring Mountain Ranch State Park in March of 2014. This is being conducted jointly with the Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS).

One site has been focused on so far, a youth recreation camp that was used by both the Boy and Girl Scouts in the late 1940s through the mid-1950s. The site consists of five concrete tent pads, a bath house, a mess hall, and a storage shed, all of which are in a state of some disarray (Photos 1, 2, and 3). It is believed that between the extant physical remains and the archival and historical data available that the site can yield information about some patterns of youth recreational activities that occurred in the Las Vegas Valley during this time period. It is also believed that, given the newspaper and other archival data

available, an historic context on both the Boy and Girl Scouts and scouting activities in the southern Nevada region may be able to be developed.

Dr. Kevin Rafferty will be conducting a small scale survey field school in Valley of Fire State Park in Fall of 2014. The work will involve surface survey of the area southwest of the Atlatl Rock outcrop, which has seen little work in the past. Students will be trained in the basics of survey, site recognition and recording, Section 106 assessment, and other facets of conducting successful archaeological research. When this project is complete, the entire area around and abutting Atlatl Rock will have been inventoried.

The next goal after that is the updating of older site sheets and records from the area, particularly the material from the Shutler surveys in the early 1960s. Rafferty has been writing the prehistoric context for the survey effort undertaken by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area (RRCNCA) west of Las Vegas. He has been assisting Mark Boatwright, the BLM Red Rock/Sloan archaeologist, in this effort. ⚓

**The Nevada Archaeological
Association**

P.O. Box 73145
Las Vegas, NV
89170-3145

**Submit !!!
To the NAA Newsletter**

Submit your mini-reports (max. 5
pages plus references), articles (1/2- 2
pages), chapter reports, pictures,
and upcoming events to:
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IN-SITU

**Happy 150th Birthday
Nevada !!!**



There are lots of sesquicentennial events celebrating the big
1-5-0. Visit nevada150.org to learn more.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2014

OCTOBER 23 6:30 – 7:30 pm: **Frances Humphrey Lecture Series: Frémont's Lost and Found at the Nevada State Museum, Carson City.** Gene Hattori, NSM Curator of Anthropology will show artifacts unearthed at Frémont campsites and share how historic archaeology enhances our understanding of history by revealing information not found in written records. Early arrival recommended; doors open at 6 pm. \$8.

OCTOBER 15-18 The 34th Annual **Great Basin Anthropological Conference (GBAC)** in Boise Idaho. The preliminary schedule and more information is available at www.gbac.whites.net

October 25 9:00 AM—11:30 AM. **Kids Day** at the Lost City Museum, Overton, NV. Enjoy crafts, snacks and tons of fun. \$5, members and children are free.

OCTOBER 31-Nov 1 8:30 am – 4:30 pm: **Free admission to the Nevada State Museum**, Carson City in honor of Nevada's 150th birthday celebration! Free!

NOVEMBER 3-7 **Desert Geomorphology for Archaeologists**, Las Vegas. Five-day workshop presented by the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) and the Desert Research Institute (DRI). Limited to 25 participants so reserve your spot early. For more information contact Tab Britt at 318-521-5641, or tad_britt@nps.gov, or visit ncptt.nps.gov. \$950, student rate is \$750.

NOVEMBER 8 10:00 AM—4:00 PM. **Native American Day at the Lost City Museum**, Overton, NV. Activities include Native American dancers, basket and rug weaving display, native crafts and food. \$5, members and children are free.

2015

MARCH **History Conference** "Thinking Beyond Nevada's Borders." Call the Nevada Historical Society in Reno, NV for more information at 775-688-1190.



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Nevada Archaeological Association

Join the NAA! Just Fill out this form and return to:
Nevada Archaeological Association
PO Box 73145
Las Vegas, NV 89170-3145
Or apply online at www.nvarch.org

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

MEMBER INFORMATION *Please Print*

☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Dr.

Last Name: _____

First Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Country: _____ Postal/Zip code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email: _____

Additional Member Names: _____

(For Family Memberships) _____

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:

1. 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: _____

All members now receive an *In-Situ* newsletter automatically via email if one is provided. Would you like to help us reduce costs and protect the environment by discontinuing your hardcopy mailing? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2014

Membership Category*

- ☐ Regular - \$20
☐ Family - \$25
☐ Student - \$10
☐ Supporting - \$50
☐ Corporate - \$50
☐ Lifetime - \$500

Chapter Affiliation**

(Check all that apply)

- ☐ Am-Arcs of Nevada
☐ Archaeo-Nevada Society
☐ Churchill County Chapter
☐ Elko Chapter
☐ Lincoln County Chapter
☐ White Pine Historical & Archaeological Society
☐ Nevada Rock Art Foundation
☐ Site Steward
☐ None (Member-At-Large)

*Organizations wishing to be affiliated with the NAA must first apply in writing to the NAA Board. The applicant must include a current copy of the organization's bylaws and Code of Ethics. The NAA Board shall review applications at the next scheduled Board meeting following receipt of the application. Affiliated organizations pay dues at the Supporting level.

**Members of the NAA may form local or topical chapters of the Association. Requests for new chapters must be made in writing to the NAA Board, and will be reviewed at the next scheduled NAA Board meeting.



Nevada Archaeological Association
P.O. Box 73145
Las Vegas, NV
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NAA Board Meeting, October 16, 2014 at the
Great Basin Anthropological Conference, Boise, ID

