49TH ANNUAL MEETING
March 6-8, 2020
Pahrump Nugget Hotel and Casino
Pahrump, Nevada

Program and Schedule/Location of Events

(All events are located in the Conference Center at the Pahrump Nugget Hotel and Casino except for Bowling Event and Field Trips)

**Friday, March 29**

8:30-3:00 Meeting Registration

9:30-11:45 Workshops

9:30-10:30 Workshop 1: National Historic Trails - History and Compliance
Lee Kreutzer and Jill Jensen

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-11:45 Workshop 2: Ceramic Identification Workshop- Southern Nevada Ceramics
Karen Harry and Daniel Perez

11:45-1:15 Lunch

1:15-1:30 President’s Welcome and Program Chair Introduction
Mark A. Giambastiani and Victor Villagran

1:30-3:30 Silent Auction Bidding

1:30-3:30 Afternoon Presentations

1:15-1:30 Azorean Portuguese Influence in Lander County, Nevada
Sean McMurry, Ashlee Younie, and Mary Ann Vicari

1:30-1:45 Results From Summer 2019 Data Recovery at the Frémont Howitzer Site, Mono County, California
Jackson C. Mueller

1:45-2:00 The Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative LCAI
Jake Hickerson

2:00-2:15 A Peculiar Lithic Assemblage from a Small Habitation Site on the Shivwits Plateau
Kara Jones, William Willis, and Elizabeth Shikrallah
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>2:15-2:30</td>
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| 2:30-2:45| *Preserving and restoring historic water infrastructure on the North Well Field at the Springs Preserve*  
Nathan Harper and Tom Lucas |
| 2:45-3:00| *Las Vegas Springs Preserve Project: Preliminary Report on the 2019 and 2020 Seasons*  
Andrew McCarthy, Nathan Harper, Leilani Lucas, and Tom Lucas |
| 3:00-3:15| *What? Is this Sand?*  
Haley Dougherty and William Willis |
| 3:15-4:00| *An Arrow with a Wooden Projectile Point from Pahranagat Valley, Lincoln County, Nevada*  
Mark A. Giambastiani, Mike Drews, and Gene Hatttori |
| 4:00-4:30| NAA Open Membership/Board Meeting                                      |
| 4:30-6:30| NAA Mixer                                                             |
| 8:00-10:00| NAA Bowling Event (Nugget Bowling Alley)                               |
Saturday, March 30

8:30-11:30  Meeting Registration

9:30-3:00   Silent Auction Bidding

10:00-11:30 Morning Presentations

9:45-10:00  NAA Announcements

10:00-10:15 Data Recovery at Poodle Mountain and an Investigation of the Poodle Mountain Obsidian Quarry, Western Washoe County, Nevada
Mark A. Giambastiani and Bridget R. Wall

10:15-10:30 "Take a Blue Gander at This!"
David Valentine

10:30-10:45 Possible Paleoindian Geophyte Use in Hawkysy Walkysy Valley, NV/OR
Erica J. Bradley and Geoffrey M. Smith

10:45-11:00 Break

11:00-11:15 An Update on UNR’s Research with the Little Steamboat Point (LSP-1) Assemblage from Warner Valley, Oregon
Geoffrey M. Smith

11:15-11:30 Hello and Goodbye: A Remembrance of Laureen Perry
Susan Edwards

11:30-1:00 Lunch

1:00-3:00 Afternoon Presentations

1:15-1:30 Haskett Younger Dryas Lifeways in Oregon and Beyond
Richard Rosencrance

1:30-1:45 Reintroducing the Pleistocene Archaeology of Tule Springs
Daron Duke and Sarah K. Rice

1:45-2:00 Archaeobotany of the Connley Caves, Oregon: Human-Plant Dynamics during the Younger Dryas
Katelyn McDonough (2019 NAA/Am-Arcs Student Grant Award Winner)

2:00-2:15 Diachronic Variability in Prehistoric Land use in the Northern Great Basin
Denay Grund

2:15-2:30 Characterization of the Erosion Problem at Lost City: Towards UAS Gully Erosion Monitoring
JD Lancaster, Tatianna Menocal, and Megan Stueve
2:30-2:45  
**Drought Refugia of Soldier Meadows Valley, Humboldt County, Nevada**  
Andrew Hoskins, Erik Martin, Chelsea Karthauser; Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

2:45-3:00  
**3-Minute Session**

*Terrible Poems of Beautiful Places: A View From The Silver State*
Jackson C. Mueller

*What did you just say to me?*
Andrew Hoskins

*Valley Fever: Know Your Risk!*
Sean McMurry

3:00-3:15  
**Break**

3:15-4:00  
**Keynote Address – Fifteen Years of Stumbling Around: A Settlement Pattern Model for Valley of Fire, Clark County, Nevada**  
Kevin Rafferty

4:00-4:30  
**NAA Membership Business Meeting/Board Elections**

4:30-6:30  
**Poster Session and NAA Social**

*When Graffiti Becomes History: Japanese Inscriptions in Lehman Caves, Great Basin National Park.*  
Joan Bernardi

*A Regina Music Box Disc from the TS Ranch, Dunphy, Nevada*  
Mark A. Giambastiani (Great Basin Consulting Group)

*Crystal Wash: An LCAI Project*  
Lauren Veach and Sara Rickett

6:30-10:00  
**Banquet Awards Dinner**

7:30-8:00  
**Presentation of NAA Silver Trowel and Ting-Perkins Awards**

8:00-10:00  
**NAA Live Auction**
The Nevada Archaeological Association

**Sunday, March 8**  
**Field Trips** (sign-up sheets at the Meeting Registration desk)

**NOTE THAT DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS AT 2:00AM ON MARCH 8!!!**

**10:00 am-1:00pm**  
**Field Trip 1 – Old Spanish National Historic Trail  Emigrant Pass Field Trip**

By the time Frémont named and travelled “The Spanish Trail” in 1844, Emigrant Pass (though not yet so-named) was established as the major pack trail and later wagon road between Resting Springs and Stump Springs, which were distanced as per the tradition of 22 to 24 trail miles between camps. Because of Emigrant Pass’s constricted topography and its position between two known springs and pasturages in the otherwise waterless Mojave Desert, perhaps no other route segment on the Old Spanish National Historical Trail is as useful as a reference to seek archeological evidence of use of the trail for westward pack mule freight and eastward mule and horse drives between 1829 and 1848.

Join us as we explore Emigrant Pass, soak in the scenery, and talk Trail! The turn off from the Old Spanish Trail Highway to the parking area is unpaved and uphill. The hike from the pull off to the overlook is short (~300 feet), slightly uphill, and unpaved.

**10:00 am-1:00 pm**  
**Field Trip 2 – Red Rock Canyon Field Trip**

Red Rock Canyon was designated as Nevada's first National Conservation Area in 1990. Located just a few miles west of Las Vegas it encompasses 195,819 acres within the Mojave Desert. Red Rock Canyon is an area of worldwide geologic interest and beauty. It features a one-way 13-mile scenic drive, hiking and trails, plants and wildlife, geology, camping, cultural resources and much more.

Annette Neubert, archaeologist for the BLM Red Rock/Sloan Field Office will be putting on a special guided tour of the Red Spring/Boardwalk and Flat Iron sites. Tour attendees should meet-up with Annette at the Red Springs parking lot at 10:00 am. Vehicle pass fees will be waived for tour attendees.

**9:00 am-1:00 pm**  
**Field Trip 3 – Keane Wonder Mine and Mill Field Trip**

In Dec. 1903, two men from Ballarat—one an out of work Irish miner named Jack Keane and his partner, a one-eyed Basque butcher named Domingo Etcharren were prospecting for silver. They had been working on a particular ledge for several months but were unsuccessful. Jack Keane, quite by accident discovered an immense ledge of free milling gold by the work site and named the claim the Keane Wonder Mine. Since this was Keane’s first strike in 8 years of desert prospecting, it is not surprising that he named it the "Wonder" mine.

Death Valley National Park Mining Historian and AML Program Lead Jeremy Stoltzfus will be leading the tour. Tour attendees should meet Jeremy at the Keane Wonder Mine at 9:00 am. The tour will take approximately 1 hour for the short tour and approximately 4 hours for the extended tour. There is a maximum of 30 people for this tour. A vehicle pass for Death Valley National Park is also required for this tour. The NAA has purchased 10 vehicle passes. If interested in this tour please see the registration desk for a vehicle pass.

From 1907 to 1912 the Keane Wonder Mine produced nearly a million dollars in gold. Today it's one of Death Valley's National Park's most visited historic sites. This tour will begin at the lower tram terminal with a talk on the mine's history. Afterwards, there will be an optional, guided hike to the upper tram terminal. This strenuous hike will be three miles roundtrip, with 1500' of elevation gain and descent.
See you in 2021 for the 50\textsuperscript{th} NAA annual meeting… in Tonopah!
Announcing the
Steve Daron Memorial Student Travel Grant

The NAA and the Nevada archaeological community experienced a tremendous loss with the passing of long-time NAA member and former president Steve Daron. In honor of Steve’s tireless support of students, the NAA has established the Steve Daron Memorial Student Travel Grant.

This grant will serve two purposes. First, it will allow the NAA to provide a limited number of FREE hotel rooms for students who are attending the annual meeting. Second, the grant will fund travel costs for students who are awarded the NAA/Am-Arcs Student Research Grant to assist them in attending the next NAA annual meeting and a future Am-Arcs meeting (in Reno) at which recipients are required to present.

While we miss Steve dearly, we hope that combining encouragement of students with preservation of Nevada’s cultural heritage will preserve and honor Steve’s exceptional legacy in some small way.
NAA 2019 SILVER TROWEL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Silver Trowel is presented to professionals who have spent most of their career working in Nevada, have made outstanding, positive, and lasting contributions to Nevada archaeology, and have maintained the highest standards of archaeological professionalism and ethics. This award was created and first presented in 2004.

MARK C. SLAUGHTER

By Jonah Blustain

Mark C. Slaughter received his B.A. in History from Missouri State University in History and then earned an M.A. in Anthropology from Eastern New Mexico University. During his graduate coursework, he taught multiple classes in prehistory and lithic technology.

Beginning in 1990 and 1999, Mark moved from academia to work as a Principal Investigator and Project Manager for SWCA in Arizona and Texas. The majority of his work centered on Pima and Maricopa Counties. Between 1996 and 1998, Mark served as President of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society. Late in 1999, he moved to Geo-Marine as the Southwestern Regional Manager where he managed an interdisciplinary team across Southern Nevada and the Southwest US. Although knee-deep in NEPA, Mark still found the time to organize conferences and publish heavily. He has authored or contributed to dozens of processional papers, given over forty professional talks, and has authored untold numbers of technical reports.

However, Mark is best known for his work as an archaeologist for the Bureau of Reclamation out of the Lower Colorado Regional Office which he began in 2004. He states that he has been fortunate to work some of the best archaeologists in southern Nevada over his long career. Mark is one of the founding members of the Southern Nevada Agency Partnership, and is the lead for the Cultural Resource Team. Mark and the team host the biennial Three Corners Conference and four times published the presentations with the NAA. In addition, Mark, with help from many others, was able to sponsor and fund the Prehistoric Context of Southern Nevada study. Right now, Mark is working getting Mesa House nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Throughout his career, Mark’s hard work and diligence has been recognized repeatedly. Mark has been awarded the PWR Regional Directors 2009 Preservation Team Award, multiple Preserve America Steward Awards, an Environmental Achievement Award, and has received a Certificate of Commendation by former Senator Harry Reid.

Throughout his extensive career, Mark Slaughter’s work on the prehistory of the desert southwest has laid the cornerstones for rising scholarship in the area. Additionally, his penchant for serving in professional organizations has fostered cooperative relationships between professionals and the public and provided learning opportunities for junior scholars. His efforts and contributions have been extensive, his service exceptional, and he truly deserving of the Nevada Archaeological Association’s Silver Trowel Award.

PAST SILVER TROWEL AWARD RECIPIENTS

2019 Willian “Billy” Clewlow
2018 James “Pat” Barker
2017 Kevin Rafferty
2016 Donald Hardesty
2015 Eugene M. Hattori

2014 Robert G. Elston
2013 Bobbie McGonagle
2012 Claude N. Warren
2011 Tim Murphy
2010 Alice M. Baldrica

2009 Don and Catherine Fowler
2007 Richard and Sheilagh Brooks
2005-2006 Margaret Lyneis
2004 Mary K. Rusco
NAA 2019 TING-PERKINS AWARD

Originating in 1982, the NAA Ting-Perkins award is presented for outstanding avocational contributions to archaeology in Nevada. The award honors Dr. Peter Ting (first President of Am-Arcs in 1967 and head of the Nevada Archaeological Survey) and Fay Perkins (in 1924 brought “El Pueblo Grande de Nevada” to the attention of Governor James Scrugham and became curator of the Lost City Museum [1952-1956]). This year we have two recipients of the Ting-Perkins Award for outstanding avocational contributions to Nevada archaeology. The NAA is proud to recognize Don Johns as the recipient for 2019.

KARL OLSON

By Jonah Blustain

Karl Olson appeared one day wandering in the Black Rock Desert. He was found by Leah Bronstead, an archaeologist for Death Valley National Park who coerced him to come to the Park as a cultural resource volunteer. During his years there, he surveyed petroglyphs, found sites based on spotty written records, and monitored contractors during the installation of a pipeline at Scotty’s Castle. Additional duties included climbing mountains when Leah wanted to know “what was up there”. His tireless efforts and drive did not go unrecognized. He was given the 2011 George and Helen Hartzog award for Outstanding Volunteer Service in the western US. Later, Karl developed a case of wanderlust and in 2013 moved six miles down the road to become the Bureau of Land Management’s Site Host for the Rhyolite Historic Townsite. His determination, passion for western history, and ability to manage hordes of marauding tourists have proven essential to preserving the townsite and keeping it operational. In 2017, the BLM awarded Karl the Heritage Hero Award for his efforts in Rhyolite. His continued service to the people and history of Nevada remain unmatched.

PAST TING-PERKINS AWARD RECIPIENTS

2019 Don Johns
2018 Ken and Karen Hopple
2017 Allen Metscher and George Phillips
2016 Keith Stever
2015 Jean Myles
2014 Bob Hafey and Loretta Watson
2013 Elizabeth Russell
2012 Anne Carter
2011 (No award)
2010 (No award)

2009 Donna Murphy
2008 Ann McConnell
2007 (No award)
2006 Jack and Elaine Holmes, Darrell and Terri Wade
2005 Oyvind Frock
2004 Charles Brown
2003 Farrel and Manetta Lytle
2002 Phil Hutchinson
2001 (No award)
2000 Helen Mortenson
1999 Don Hendricks
1996-1998 (No award)
1995 Grace Burkholder
1994 Jean Stevens (Posthumous)
1993 Steve Stoney
1992 (No award)
1991 Norma and Herb Splatt
1983-1990 (No award)
1982 Jean Myles
The Nevada Archaeological Association

STUDENT AWARDS

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT COMPETITION

The NAA first offered a competitive student research grant in 2013. This student research grant competition provides students – either graduate or undergraduate – with the opportunity to apply for funding for research that pertains to the archaeology of the Great Basin or American Southwest and has implications for the prehistory or history of Nevada. Beginning in 2018, NAA established a partnership with Am-Arcs of Nevada to expand the grant. Applicants are required to submit a cover letter; current vita; 1,000 word description of the proposed research, clearly documenting research questions or goals, materials, methods, and significance to archaeology in Nevada; a budget with narrative; and a letter of recommendation from the student’s advisor, emphasizing the student’s ability to conduct independent research. The awardee is required to present research findings at the following NAA annual meeting and at a future monthly Am-Arcs meeting (in Reno). The awardee is also offered an opportunity to publish in NAA’s peer-reviewed journal, Nevada Archaeologist.

Congratulations to the previous NAA Student Research Grant Recipients!

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Katelyn McDonough*</td>
<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Daniel Perez*</td>
<td>UNLV</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Sophia Jamaldin</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>Anna Camp</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Andrew Hoskins</td>
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<td>2014</td>
<td>Amanda Rankin</td>
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<td>2013</td>
<td>Tim Ferguson</td>
<td>UNLV</td>
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*Joint NAA/Am-Arcs Student Research Grant Recipient

STUDENT PAPER AND POSTER COMPETITION

We love students, especially those who share their research with us! The NAA awards $150 to the top student paper and the top student poster presented at the annual conference. To be eligible, a student must be the lead author, but co-authored submissions are acceptable. If two or more students are co-authors, the prize money may be split. Best of luck to this year’s competitors!
Laureen Perry retired as the Regional Archeologist for the Mid-Pacific Regional Office with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 2018. As a well-respected archaeologist and a mother of four, she enjoyed mentoring and guiding others through their careers and life. Laureen began her career with a Bachelor’s in Biological Sciences from San Jose College, took a break from academics to raise her daughters, then continued her academic path by completing her Master’s degree at UNLV in 1998 in Anthropology with an Archaeology emphasis. She enjoyed the outdoors, sewing, reading, pottery and Disneyland, and had a special interest in Native American culture and historic preservation. Her research and expertise extended beyond the Sierra Nevadas, Great Basin, and our Mojave Desert, where she always felt her spirit was most at home. Her career played a huge role with her daughters, who were able to grow up enjoying and respecting the outdoors. Her beautiful smile, quick-witted sense of humor, love and support is greatly missed by her family, friends and colleagues.
NAA 2019 WORKSHOP AND PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS

FRIDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1:
National Historic Trails - History and Compliance
Lee Kreutzer and Jill Jensen (National Trails, National Park Service)

The core purposes of national historic trails are historic preservation and public use and enjoyment. This workshop aims to equip attendees with the background knowledge of how the National Historic Trails came to be, what the National Trail System Act provides for, and how land management agencies have put the Act into practice. If attendees wish to continue the discussion in a field setting they are encouraged to sign up for the Sunday morning tour to the Old Spanish National Historic Trail Emigrant Pass High Potential Site.

Workshop 2:
The Nevada Site Stewardship Program: Where We are and Where We are Going
Karen Harry and Daniel Perez (University of Nevada Las Vegas)

Karen Harry and Daniel Perez will lead a hands-on workshop covering the ceramics of southern Nevada. Emphasis will be placed on ceramics from the Virgin Branch Puebloan culture, though Paiute and Patayan ceramics will also be covered. Attendees will learn how to identify various ceramic types based on their paste, temper, and surface attributes, as well as (for painted ceramics) their design elements. Examples of typed ceramics will be made available for examination, and participants will be able to try their hand at classifying sherds.
Possible Paleoindian Geophyte Use in Hawksy Walksy Valley, NV/OR
Erica J. Bradley and Geoffrey M. Smith (University of Nevada, Reno, Reno)

Paleoindian sites in the Great Basin are frequently associated with relict lakes and wetlands but poor preservation has made understanding the range of foods that groups consumed at such locations difficult. Recently, McGuire and Stevens (2017) proposed that geophytes, including cattail, were an important dietary item based on the abundance of flake tools in early assemblages. They argued that flake tools reflect the production and maintenance of digging sticks – tools that were necessary to access the edible underground storage organs of cattail and other geophytes. Recent research at 35HA840, a large Paleoindian site located on the margins of a small lake basin on the Nevada-Oregon border, offers an opportunity to test McGuire and Stevens’ hypothesis. Based on the morphologies of the flake tools at 35HA840 and the frequencies of flake tools at other wetland sites, we find support for the importance of geophytes to Paleoindian subsistence.

What? Is this Sand?
Haley Dougherty and William Willis (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

During the Summer of 2019, the UNLV Shivwits Research Project investigated site AZ A:15:104 on the Shivwits Plateau. This site consisted of multiple features, one of which was fully excavated. Collection units were placed around the various features in order to see if there were any differences in their associated artifacts. This paper discusses the ceramic variation across the site as well problems found in classifying these ceramics within the traditional Virgin Branch typologies. We suggest, that for at least the Shivwits Plateau region, new ceramic type variants may be needed to better understand the ambiguities within Virgin Branch ceramic production.

Reintroducing the Pleistocene Archaeology of Tule Springs
Daron Duke and Sarah K. Rice (Far Western Anthropological Research Group)

Tule Springs is the common name for an extensive paleontological locality north of Las Vegas, Nevada, and is now the site of the new Ice Age Fossils State Park, set to open in autumn 2020. In 2018, Far Western conducted a cultural resources survey of the park’s 315-acre footprint, which encompasses much of the seminal “Big Dig” project of 1962-63. The Big Dig was important for several scientific achievements, but the much-advertised attempt to demonstrate the contemporaneity of people and Pleistocene megafauna failed remarkably, and Tule Springs was consigned by most archaeologists to a blighted dustbin of would-be “pre-Clovis” sites. An updated review demonstrates a record that is comparable, if not better than, that observed at other widely accepted such localities in the desert west. In this paper, we detail this record and resituate Tule Springs in the discussion about human experience in the Great Basin at the Pleistocene-Holocene transition.

Hello and Goodbye: A Remembrance of Laureen Perry
Susan Edwards (Desert Research Institute)

The last couple of years have not been kind to southern Nevada’s archaeological community. 2018 saw the passing of two longtime NAA members, Lake Mead Park Service archaeologist Steve Daron and Mark Boatwright, the Bureau of Land Management’s National Conservation Area Archaeologist for Red Rock and Sloan. Don Hendricks and Russ Avery, both enthusiastic and dedicated members of the Archaeo-Nevada Society, died early in 2019. And then there is the most recent loss to our archaeological family — Laureen “Laurie” Perry, Bureau of Reclamation Archaeologist, NAA member, and friend and colleague to many of us. Today, I offer a brief personal remembrance of Laurie along with an opportunity to honor her memory and contributions to archaeology.
An Arrow with a Wooden Projectile Point from Pahranagat Valley, Lincoln County, Nevada
Mark A. Giambastiani (Great Basin Consulting Group), Mike Drews (Great Basin Consulting Group), and Gene Hatttori (Nevada State Museum)

During a recent field check of a rockshelter recorded in the 1970s – and looted sometime in the last few years – a wooden-tipped arrow was inexplicably found on the floor of the shelter. To our knowledge, no other discoveries of wood-tipped arrows have been reported from Nevada.

Data Recovery at Poodle Mountain and an Investigation of the Poodle Mountain Obsidian Quarry, Western Washoe County, Nevada
Mark A. Giambastiani (G2 Archaeology) and Bridget R. Wall (G2 Archaeology)

Recent data recovery work was conducted at 7 prehistoric sites in the Poodle Mountain Wilderness Area. As part of the BLM’s treatment plan, G2 archaeologists were also allowed to map and collect raw obsidian samples from Poodle Mountain, a source which has been referred to in archaeological literature as “Unknown B” or Buffalo Hills. Excavations targeted a small rockshelter and a variety of open habitation and quarry/workshop deposits.

Diachronic Variability in Prehistoric Land use in the Northern Great Basin
Denay Grund (University of Nevada, Reno)

Hawksy Walksy Valley is a small pluvial lake basin along the Nevada-Oregon border. It contains a rich record of human occupation spanning the past 13,000 years. For the past two summers, crews from the University of Nevada, Reno’s Great Basin Paleoindian Research Unit (GBPRU) recorded thousands of obsidian tools in the basin, including hundreds of projectile points that collectively represent the entire chronological sequence for the region. In this paper, I present the results of a pXRF analysis of those artifacts to understand when and from where occupants of Hawksy Walksy Valley obtained toolstone. I then compare the results to similar assemblages from adjacent valleys to situate Hawksy Walksy Valley within the broader context of northern Great Basin prehistory.

Preserving and restoring historic water infrastructure on the North Well Field at the Springs Preserve
Nathan Harper and Tom Lucas (Springs Preserve/SNWA)

With the formation of the Las Vegas Valley Water District in 1954, the LVVWD began an aggressive campaign to modernize water infrastructure in the North Well Field, current site of the Springs Preserve. This presentation highlights the preservation efforts undertaken to restore and protect the historic water infrastructure like well derricks, pump stations, settling basins and spring houses originally built by the Las Vegas Land and Water Company. What steps did the LVVWD take to modernize the system and what lessons can be learned in the preservation process? We discuss three recent projects and outline work planned for the coming year.
The Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative LCAI
Jake Hickerson (Bureau of Land Management, Basin and Range Monument)

The Lincoln County Land Act of 2000 (LCLA) and the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, Development Act of 2004 (LCCRDA) authorize the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to dispose of certain public lands within Lincoln County, Nevada. This legislation resulted in the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAI) that effectively implements the funding of archaeological projects. As of the close of 2019, the LCAI has had eleven (11) annual rounds that will have funded 65 projects for over $10,000,000. Among other things, these projects have provided inventory, evaluation, protection, educational outreach, and enhanced management of the unique archaeological resources in Lincoln County. The presentation offers the opportunity to learn more about this program, provide information on how to fund your archaeological projects in Lincoln County, Nevada and gives an overview of a selection of previous projects.

Drought Refugia of Soldier Meadows Valley, Humboldt County, Nevada
Andrew Hoskins, Erik Martin, and Chelsea Karthauser (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.)

Soldier Meadows valley in the northwest arm of the Black Rock Desert presents one of the most spring-dense basins in northern Nevada. Since 2014, Far Western has conducted more than 2000 acres of survey across the valley including most of the Soldier Meadows Area of Critical Environmental Concern, a warm spring-brook habitat housing the endemic and endangered Desert Dace minnow. Prehistoric cultural assemblages in the valley span the Paleoarchaic through the Terminal Prehistoric as native populations targeted productive and persistent wetland resources. Due to the consistency of hydrologic features, the valley likely served as a refugia when persistent drought such as the thermal maximum of the Early and Middle Holocene, and Medieval Climatic Anomaly of the Late Holocene diminished resources in adjacent, less-watered valleys and highlands.

Characterization of the Erosion Problem at Lost City: Towards UAS Gully Erosion Monitoring
JD Lancaster, Tatianna Menocal, and Megan Stueve (Desert Research Institute)

The Pueblo II period Main Ridge site is within Pueblo Grande de Nevada (Lost City), a loosely defined series of Virgin Branch Puebloan settlements in Mohave Valley. Originally recorded as a community of 44 houses (roomblocks) by Harrington in the 1920s, Main Ridge now consists of only 20 intact or partially intact houses due to the effects of intensive gully erosion. This project uses unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) remote sensing to understand gully erosion and its future impacts at the site. Aerial imagery of Main Ridge’s site features, gully networks, and catchment areas was acquired to build high-resolution surface models using photogrammetric methods for predicting the locations and rates of erosion at the site. Preliminary results indicate UAS remote sensing is an appropriate and cost-effective tool for measuring erosion and design of mitigative erosion control methods to lessen the impacts of gullying at Main Ridge.

A Peculiar Lithic Assemblage from a Small Habitation Site on the Shivwits Plateau
Kara Jones, William Willis, and Elizabeth Shikrallah (University of Nevada, Las Vegas)

UNLV Summer 2019 excavations investigated a small habitation site on the Shivwits Plateau in Arizona with an unusual lithic assemblage. This assemblage includes 31 bifaces, 20 projectile points, and an assortment of flake tools. This collection is unique when compared to other small habitation sites. A reworked arrow point amid an obsidian debitage scatter, as well as series of bifaces and biface fragments may be indicative of specific tool production. This concentration of obsidian in addition to the biface assemblage is perplexing within the occupation timeline of the Shivwits Plateau. Some have hypothesized that the Virgin Branch Puebloans (VBP) are not descended from the eastern Puebloan groups, but rather are descended from Great Basin groups after adopting agriculture. Alternatively, this could be due to trade between VBP groups. This paper explores this borderland lithic assemblage by seeking to address these hypotheses of cultural origins and production patterns.
Characterization of the Erosion Problem at Lost City: Towards UAS Gully Erosion Monitoring
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Andrew McCarthy (College of Southern Nevada), Nathan Harper (Springs Preserve/SNWA), Leilani Lucas (College of Southern Nevada), Tom Lucas (Springs Preserve/SNWA)

A collaborative project investigating the Las Vegas Springs Preserve began in the spring of 2019, involving archaeologists from the Las Vegas Valley Water District (LVVWD), the College of Southern Nevada (CSN), University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) and the Archaeo-Nevada Society (ANS). The results of the survey and excavation of this prehistoric and historic site as well as the artifacts and ecofacts recovered from this project have served as part of fieldwork and laboratory courses for students at CSN. In spring 2020 the surface collection, geophysics and excavation continued as part of a collaboration between LVVWD, CSN and ANS and is ongoing at the time of this presentation. This paper provides a preliminary report on the results of the 2019 and 2020 seasons, the subsequent analysis of the finds, the integration into previous investigations of the site and the strategy for the current and future work on the site.

Azorean Portuguese Influence in Lander County, Nevada
Sean McMurry, Ashlee Younie, and Mary Ann Vicari (SWCA)

Portuguese immigration to the United States was relatively small when compared to that of other ethnic groups, but it played an important role in Nevada’s history. In the nineteenth century, most Portuguese immigrants came not from Iberian Portugal but from Portugal’s Atlantic islands, mostly the Azores. Azorean Portuguese immigrants were tempted West by mining and railroad work, but in Nevada, they engaged most frequently in cattle ranching. A recent SWCA project in Lander County revealed significant Azorean Portuguese influence in that area, which will be explored in this paper.

Results From Summer 2019 Data Recovery at the Frémont Howitzer Site, Mono County, California
Jackson C. Mueller (Western Cultural Resource Management, Inc.)

In 1843, John C. Frémont of the U.S. Topographical Engineers led an expedition westward from Missouri with the goal of identifying additional routes to California and Oregon. Among the expedition’s equipment was a 12 pound mountain howitzer, ostensibly brought for protection. Trapped by a storm in the Sierra Nevada mountains in January of 1844, Frémont was forced to abandon the howitzer and its fate has been the subject of debate ever since. The Frémont Howitzer Recovery Team, over the past three decades, has conducted data recovery at the location of the howitzer’s abandonment; this paper details recent work at the site, artifacts recovered, and potential for future recovery work.
Haskett Younger Dryas Lifeways in Oregon and Beyond
Richard Rosencrance (University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History)

Taken together, the Connelly, Paisley, and Cougar Mountain caves in Oregon have one of the most robust Paleoamerican archaeological records in North America. Through new excavations and research on museum collections, a detailed view of Younger Dryas (12,900 – 11,600 cal BP) lifeways in the northwestern Great Basin is emerging. Common artifact technologies such as Haskett projectile points, eyed bone needles, and braided cordage at sites less than 50 miles from one another unquestionably link the people who visited these sites. In this paper, I present some of our most recent work on Younger Dryas archaeology in Oregon with a particular focus on the Connelly Caves. I will discuss site distribution, lithic technology, toolstone use, and radiocarbon dating at both the inter- and intra-site levels. I then consider this record against the rest of the Younger Dryas record in the Great Basin to formulate hypotheses about colonization and interaction that ultimately provokes thought about what we still have to learn.

An Update on UNR’s Research with the Little Steamboat Point (LSP-1) Assemblage from Warner Valley, Oregon
Geoffrey M. Smith (University of Nevada, Reno)

UNR’s Great Basin Paleoindian Research Unit (GBPRU) excavated the LSP-1 rockshelter between 2010 and 2015 and recorded a rich record of human occupation spanning the Holocene. That record consists of a well-preserved faunal assemblage, obsidian tools and debitage, and textiles including sandals and baskets. These items have been the subject of several MA theses and preliminary reports; however, our work with the collection is moving toward its final stage: a synthesis and complete reporting of the LSP-1 record. Here, I provide an update on that work and highlight some recent notable findings about how and when groups used the rockshelter.

"Take a Blue Gander at This!"
David Valentine

I’m somewhat known for the unfortunate decision to embark on a research program trying to identify what sizes of small cans were used to package condoms in the mid-20th Century. This research lead to a number of interesting rabbit trails, including the fact that diaphragms were also packaged and sold in cans. This paper will provide a brief history of the diaphragm and show examples of diaphragm cans and associated paraphernalia as distributed during the 20th-century. A few examples of possible diaphragm cans found in the archaeological record are also illustrated.
Valley of Fire has been an archaeological region of southern Nevada that should have been a main focus of research for the last century. Oddly enough, aside from some project specific work (Shutler and Shutler 1962; Warren 1982), some amateur and academic efforts, and some limited CRM related efforts, little work of a formal nature had actually been done since the 1930s. That began to change early in this century. Since 2003, the College of Southern Nevada Survey Field Schools have conducted seven field surveys in the southern Valley of Fire, recording over 100 sites of all ages and cultural affiliations. Using the data from the field school, the previous efforts in the park, and information found in the SHPOs data archives (NVCRIS), this talk is an attempt to make some sense of the material and put forward a preliminary model to explain the distribution of sites in different time periods in the southern portion of Valley of Fire.

3-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS (In alphabetical order by author)

What did you just say to me?
Andrew Hoskins (Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.)

From jargon to colloquial metaphors, this introduction to common fieldwork slang will have you talking like a real shovel-bum in no time!

Terrible Poems of Beautiful Places: A View From The Silver State
Jackson C. Mueller (Western Cultural Resource Management, Inc.)

This paper presents a series of poems discussing life and fieldwork conditions in small towns across northern Nevada.

Valley Fever: Know Your Risk!
Sean McMurry (SWCA Environmental Consultants)

Valley Fever rates have been increasing in recent years. Valley Fever is an infection that occurs as a result of inhaling fungal spores that grow in undisturbed soil in California’s Central Valley and across the American Southwest. Symptoms include cough, fever, chest pain, and fatigue. As people who spend large amounts of time outside and who regularly work with soil, archaeologists are at increased risk for contracting Valley Fever. This presentation will present a (brief) overview of the disease and tips for prevention.
POSTER PRESENTATIONS (In alphabetical order by author)

When Graffiti Becomes History: Japanese Inscriptions in Lehman Caves, Great Basin National Park
Joan Bernardi (The Great Basin Institute)

In 1885 Absalom Lehman discovered a karst cave near Baker, Nevada. From its discovery until the 1940’s people have left their mark on this natural wonder. They used carbide lantern smoke, charcoal, ink, pencils, and more to inscribe their names deep within the farthest passages of the cave. Who were these people? What were their stories? Eiichi Muranaka and Takeshi Ban stood out from the plethora of names. These Japanese natives living in the United States before, during, and after WWII reveal an important part of not only the local history of the Great Basin, but of the global history of wartime in the United States. Research continues on these inscriptions and on the many other stories left in and among the speleothems of Lehman Caves.

A Regina Music Box Disc from the TS Ranch, Dunphy, Nevada
Mark A. Giambastiani (Great Basin Consulting Group)

Every once in a while, we find a completely random artifact on survey. Such items often lead us in research directions we never anticipated. In this case, a piece of historic automatic music technology gives us the opportunity to explore a unique form of late nineteenth-early twentieth century entertainment.

Crystal Wash: A LCAI Project
Lauren Veach and Sara Rickett (SWCA Environmental Consultants)

Southwick Landscape Architects and SWCA were awarded funding through Round 10 of the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative (LCAI) to prepare a public use site plan (Plan) and associated environmental assessment (EA) in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for the Crystal Wash Petroglyphs Site. In the 523-acre project area, SWCA recorded 22 sites (17 prehistoric, three historical, and two multicomponent) during the survey, including the eight previously recorded sites located within the project area, all of which were found and updated during the inventory. This poster also discusses the different field methods used to document rock art with digital photography.