

# In-Situ



FALL-WINTER 2011

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 4

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### Eva Jensen, NAA President President's Corner

**Happy New Year! Please remember to renew your membership for 2012.**

Rather than wishing you a wonderful holiday season (future tense), I hope you **had** a wonderful holiday season (past tense). I planned to use an electronic reminder to keep me up to date but I am slow to incorporate tech devices and innovations into my life.

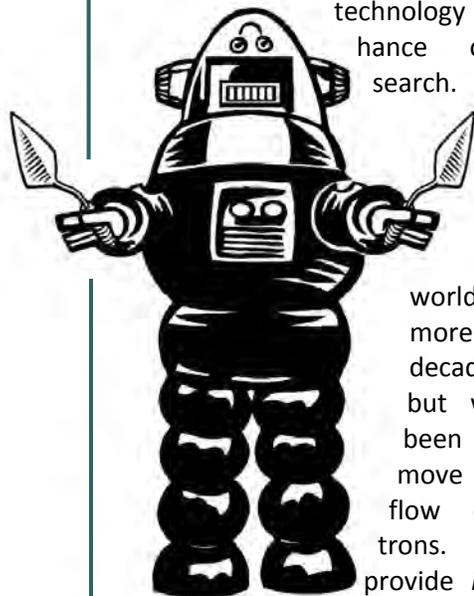
#### At the Speed of Archaeology.....

No Siri artificial intelligence for me yet. And if you are wondering, yes, this is my awkward attempt to transition into a message for this installment of *In-Situ: Technology*. Articles in this issue offer information about incorporating and using

technology to enhance our research. For the

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The future archaeologist?

electronic format and are on the verge of providing electronic access to *Nevada Archaeologist* journals. Also coming soon, Pay Pal for our minimal commerce division, with the opportunity to subscribe membership and perhaps even purchase new items for next year's cyber Monday shopping frenzy. We will keep you posted on progress.

#### Revisiting the Golden Marshalltown

At this point I have to admit, as an archaeologist, I have always been more comfortable with ancient technology. Because my mind works in illogical ways I will provide this road map to my point: 1.) When I feel behind in the technology curve I just want to go play in the dirt. 2.) Then I think about dirt archaeology and understanding human culture. 3.) Then I think about Kent Flannery's *American Anthropology* article, "The Golden Marshalltown: A Parable for Archaeology for the 1980's." (Some of us remember it as required reading in undergraduate classes.) 4.) Yearning for the simpler non-techno past I went to the internet to see if I could find the article again. The article begins, "This is a story about archeological goals and rewards, and no one should look for anything too profound in it." According to Google there are "about 1,540,000 results" in

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a search for “Golden Marshalltown”. A million and a half seems profound. Granted, some of the hits are for “golden stainless steel pool trowels” and “Golden Retriever puppies for sale in Marshalltown, IA”, but a fair number pay homage to an article printed on paper 30 years ago. 5.) The article that defined my paradigm of how to study ancient culture is available for me to read in an electronic version instantly. I read it again for the first time in PDF format. ([Golden Marshalltown PDF](#)). 6.) The POINT, we are inextricably linked with the technology of our time and our technology is a huge part of our culture. We cannot divorce ourselves from our technology when we study culture of a different time. 7.) The REAL POINT: I have a primal fear that I will drop the Kindle in my bath water and loose my connection with human culture.

#### On to Board Business as Usual

The last board meeting was held in Tonopah on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Some of our contingency stayed at the



Tonopah’s Mizpah Hotel was the tallest building in Nevada until 1929. (Photo courtesy [mizpahhotel.net](http://mizpahhotel.net))

newly re-opened Mizpah Hotel and had evening libations in the hotel bank safe. They assured us they would open the vault to bring us more drinks. This is a beautiful historic hotel, nicely renovated, with a café that provides an organic food menu with specialty wines from the owner’s winery in California. As always, I encourage NAA members and

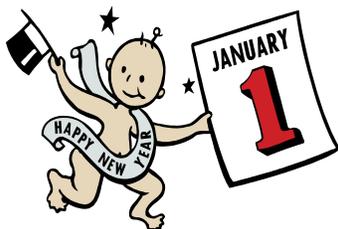
friends to support the preservation of historic Nevada landmarks like the Mizpah.

The next board meeting will be held in Boulder City in January 21, 2012. We will have a field trip to a local area site and will post information for the meeting place and time on the web site at [www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org)

#### Annual Events

The next annual meeting will be held at the Eureka Opera House in Eureka, NV April 27 – 28. Registration material will be sent later this month. Mark Giambastiani is the program chair and will be collecting abstracts for papers. Hope to see you there. ☺

## 2012 New Year’s Resolutions



- Eat more organic whole wheat donuts.
- Give more Dutch rubs.
- Renew my membership to the NAA!**

It’s easy, it’s fun and all the good-looking archaeologists are doing it. Start the year off right by renewing your NAA membership. Check out the last page of the *In-Situ* for a membership form. Need more forms to give to your friends? No worries, more are available on-line at [nvarch.org](http://nvarch.org).

## Ready, Set, Go Volunteer at the State Museum!



Volunteers Alyce Dickson and Ginger May examine a basket during last year's tour guide training.

**C**liff Dunseth, Chair of Friends of the Nevada State Museum (NSM), loves being a tour guide. "It helps me stay in touch with young people, keeps me busy, and benefits the community," he said. Dolores Jackson, NSM's "best dressed gal on wheels," adds, "I'm proud to be a part of the museum's ongoing success. The programs are ex-

tremely well done; they keep the children's interest and provide questions to build on. The interaction with other volunteers is also quite rewarding."

"Most of our volunteers are seniors because they have the time and want to give back to the community." Deborah Stevenson, Curator of Education, said. "However, we've had some delightful teens working as tour guides also." In fact, one young man who started volunteering as a teen just entered graduate school and plans to specialize in Museum Education. Experience as a tour guide at NSM looks great on a resume. Volunteering helps young people develop confidence, skills in public speaking, and teamwork."

If you are interested in learning more about the docent program at the Nevada State Museum contact Deborah Stevenson at [dstevenson@nevadaculture.org](mailto:dstevenson@nevadaculture.org) or 777/687-4810 x 237. ☎

### NSM Tour Guide Training

January 10-11 and 17-18, 2012

#### Topics include:

- **Native American oral histories** with guest speaker JoAnne Peden, *Judge Guild: Museum Founder and Visionary* by Curator of History, Bob Nysten,
- *The History of Firearms* by Roger Arthur,
- *Nevada's State Animal Symbols* by Dr. George Baumgardner, Curator of Natural History,
- and a field trip to the **Dayton Museum**.

For a complete training agenda or to register, contact Deborah Stevenson, Curator of Education: [dstevenson@nevadaculture.org](mailto:dstevenson@nevadaculture.org) or 777/687-4810, ext. 237. For a sneak preview, [click here](#).



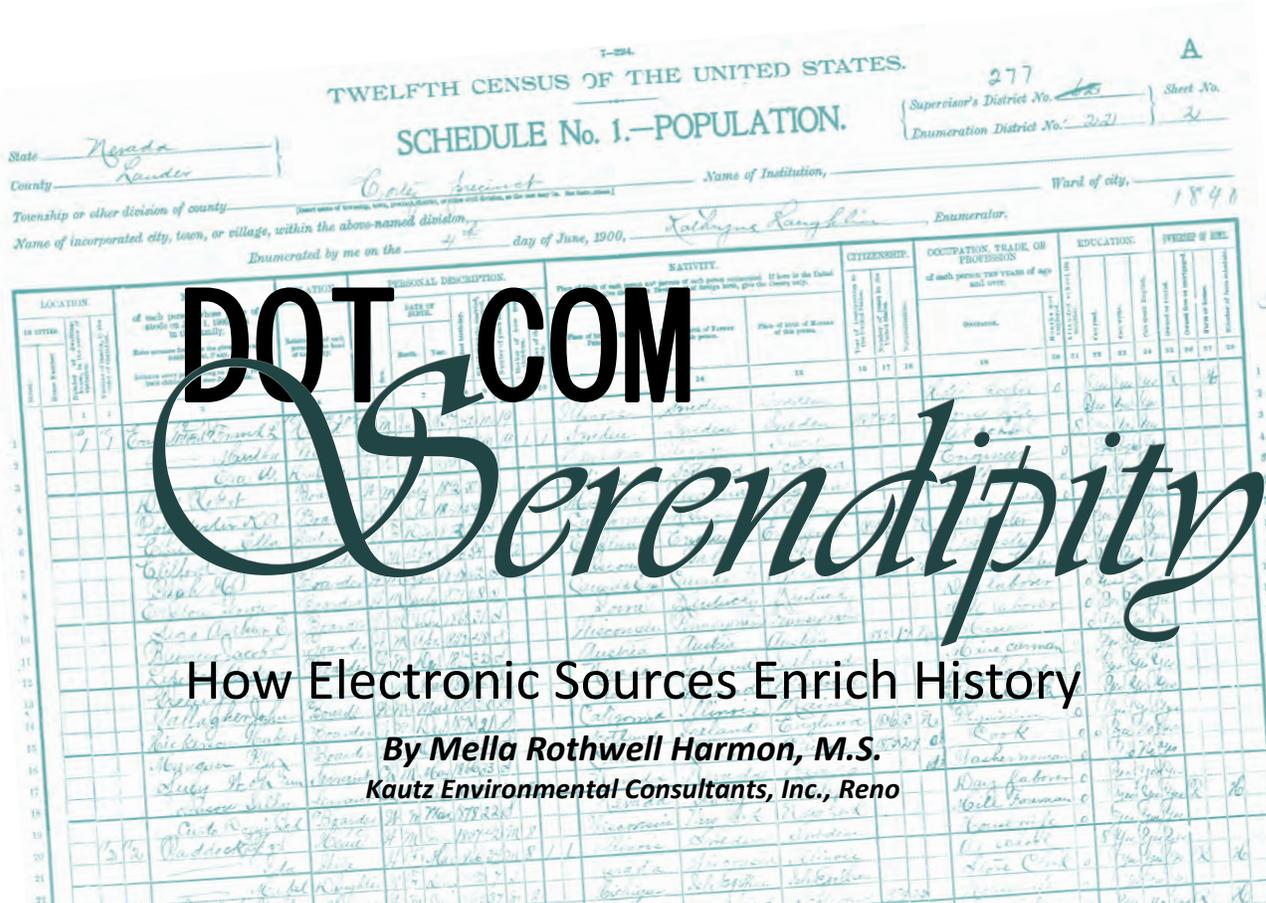


**Dear Collective Brain,**

I need help identifying an artifact. It's from a historic dump that appears to date to the early 1940s. It contains domestic items, but also has items that may indicate it is from a commercial garage (high percentage of motor oil cans, plus dipsticks, vulcanizer platens, etc.). Can anyone tell me what this thing is?

Stumped,  
Cheryl Martin  
(Harry Reid Center)

**Know what it is? Found something weird? Send your erudite answers and puzzlers to the *In-Situ* at [edickey@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:edickey@dot.state.nv.us).**



# DOT.COM Serendipity

## How Electronic Sources Enrich History

By Mella Rothwell Harmon, M.S.  
Kautz Environmental Consultants, Inc., Reno

**T**he Internet has opened up new avenues for conducting historical research about people, places, and events that inform our work as cultural resource professionals. While care should be taken to understand the origin and assess the accuracy of Internet sources, data found on the World Wide Web can yield useful and often surprising results. In addition, the ability to search names and keywords can reveal connections that might be difficult to discern through traditional documentary research methods. These newly revealed connections, particularly having to do with the people who occupied the sites and buildings we study, enrich our understanding of human activity.

Recently, the subscription services [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) and [Newspaperarchive.com](http://Newspaperarchive.com) provided unexpected information that allowed us to a fresh look at the ethnic make-up of a population of a remote early-twentieth-century mining site in central Nevada. While we can discern the ethnicity of some

people by their names, that is, they are obviously of Italian or Chinese origin, some names do not provide such clues. It was by means of the census records (both federal and state) available at Ancestry.com that we learned—much to our surprise—that in 1910, the assayer in a tiny mining boomtown in remote Central Nevada was a black man named Henry Berry, whose fa-



The oldest Berry girls, aged 4, 6, 8 and 9 in 1910, might have played with a marble such as this. Photo courtesy Kautz Environmental Consultants, Inc.

ther and uncle had come to Austin, Nevada during the Civil War. Berry's name alone would not have led us to this fact. Through these records, we were able to trace Henry and his family to our project area and beyond. By 1910, Henry had married a woman listed in the record as mulatto, and together they had seven children, whom we could then trace—because of information available on Newspaperarchive.com—into the 1940s.

We know from other documents, such as the townsite plat, the location of the assayer's office where Berry served. Archaeological survey of the site turned up the expected assaying-related items, but also children's toys. We could verify the presence of the Berry children from the records on Ancestry.com, and remarkably, we even know the names and ages of the little girls who might have played with the toys left behind.

Henry Berry was not a newcomer to his job as assayer. Before moving to our project area about 1907, we discovered Mr. Berry had been the assayer in the important Cortez mining district in 1900. With him in Cortez at that time were his sister Marie, who worked as a nurse, his widowed mother, and another sister Hattie, her husband Harry Robinson, and their four children.

Through name and keyword searches on Newspaperarchive.com, we learned many more details about life—and the mining business—in our project area. Not only were we able to follow members of the Berry

family to Winnemucca in the 1940s, but we also read about the ebb and flow of other people in and out of the area as new mineral discoveries were made and new techniques were used. Notably, we found the colorful account of the last three people living in the town in the mid-1950s (a widow, a crusty miner, and a bartender).



**This baby bottle, or one like it, might have been used to feed the Berry babies, of which there were three under the age of three in 1910. Photo courtesy Kautz Environmental Consultants, Inc.**

Certainly, cultural resource professionals have long been able to collect sufficient information to assist our work through traditional methods. However, the readily searchable on-line sources—notwithstanding the vagaries of these records—can reveal details that deepen our understanding of human activity. Take as an example this engaging quotation by a placer miner from the October 11, 1941 *Reno Evening Gazette* found on Newspaperarchive.com: “I make it a habit of always using a Hills Brothers coffee can when I clean up. At Triplett Gulch I started with a one pound can, but before the job was finished I was using one holding four pounds.” In two sentences, we learn that mining in 1941 was lucrative for a single placer miner using minimal technology, and we have a possible explanation for the presence of coffee cans at the site.

I am not suggesting that on-line sources will or should replace tried-and-true documentary research methods. However, the

Web sources can provide important details that might otherwise go undetected. ☪

Cyber search guru, **Mella Rothwell Harmon**, did not invent the internet, but if she had it would have been better.

# Tag You're It!

## Geotagging Archaeology & Artifacts

Date & Time: Wed Dec 7 13:57:16 PST 2011  
 Position: 11 S 6  
 Altitude: 5909ft  
 Azimuth/Bearing: 060° N60E 1067mils (True)  
 Elevation Angle: +23.3°  
 Horizon Angle: -00.9°  
 Zoom: 4X  
 Corral



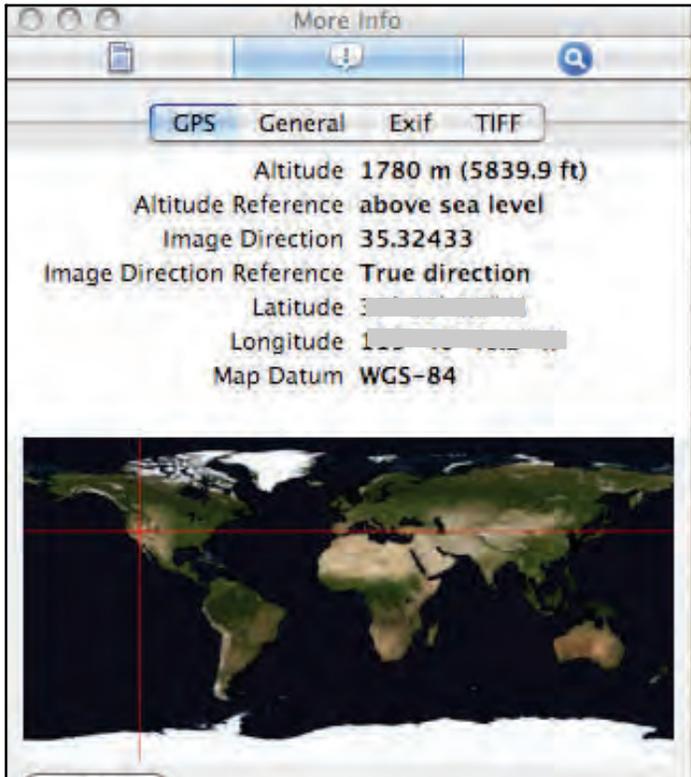
By Robert L. Hafey

**A**s the old saying goes, “a picture is worth a thousand words” could never be so true as it is today, especially if it is “geotagged” A good example would be all of the information contained on a picture using the Theodolite Application used on an iPhone 4.

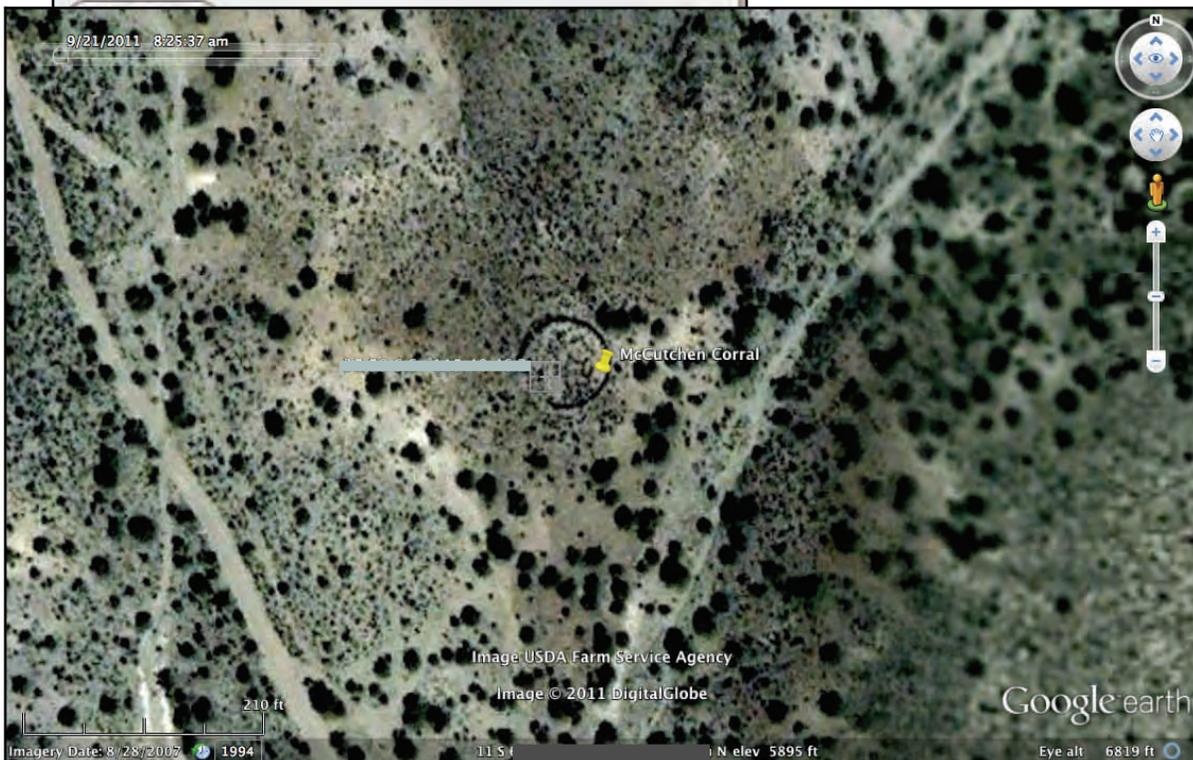
One of the main goals of on-site curation is to be able to leave all artifacts in-situ after curation and yet have a complete catalog of all artifacts found on a site. Materials used in this process are:

1. iPhone 4 using the Theodolite Application with geotagging capabilities,
2. MacBook Pro laptop computer and
3. The Topo Maps Application.

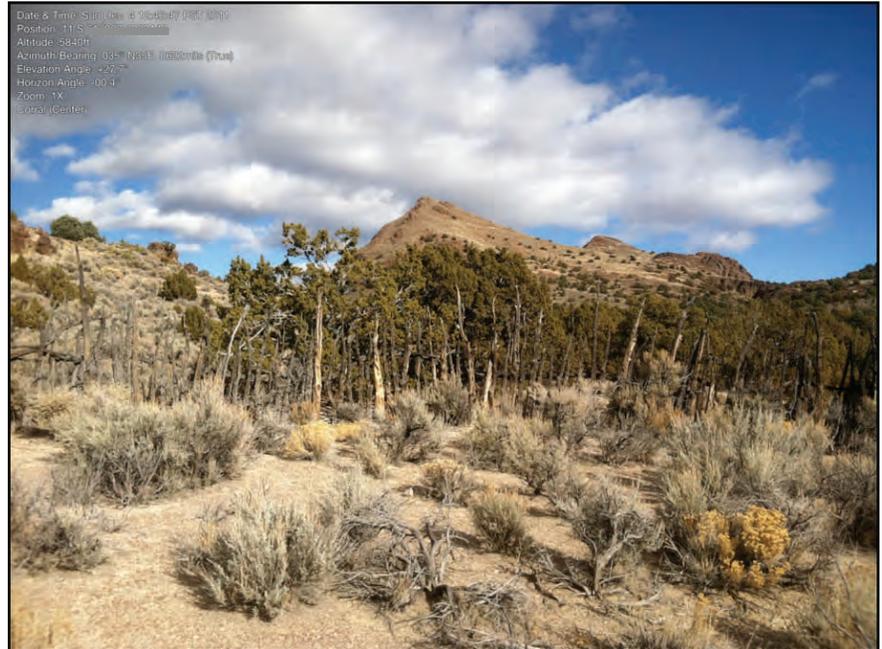
The picture above is of the McCutchen Corral at 4X from a mountain above it. The “geotagging” is present in the upper left of the photo and in the metadata file of the picture. The “Position” UTM data is the UTM of the position from which the photo was taken, and taken from a compass heading of 60°.



The data (UTM's or Lat/Lon) are set as preferences by the user in the "preferences options" in the Theodolite Application. When selecting the photo, the figure on the left is brought up where you can check the (Locate) button which will reveal the position in Google Earth as pictured below.



In this particular case the photo taken from the center of the corral was selected for the GPS illustration. Note the geotagged information in the upper left corner of the illustration.



As you can see (or can't see) from the photos of the above artifacts the geotagged information is very difficult to read; however, it is in the metadata of the photograph and can be brought up.

At the time of taking the photographs it is recommended that you use the Topo Maps application to make actual waypoints of each of the features or artifacts. 📍



**Robert L. Hafey** never geotags on his iPhone while driving. If you have questions, contact him by e-mail at: [hafeyrobertlouis@yahoo.com](mailto:hafeyrobertlouis@yahoo.com).

## Reports from Chapters and Affiliates



**ARCHAEO-NEVADA SOCIETY:**

### **EDUCATION & SERVICE**

By Kevin Rafferty, ANS President

**T**he Archaeo-Nevada Society has just concluded an educational and enlightening Fall meeting season. There have been a number of interesting talks, the most recent being that of Dr. Debra Martin on institutionalized violence in the prehistoric Southwest. There have also been talks about brothels in Lincoln County, and research being conducted in the Arizona Strip area. The society President, Kevin Rafferty, presented several talks at Liberty High School in Las Vegas about the archaeology of the Mojave Desert,

reaching over 700 students with a message about prehistory and archaeological preservation. Finally, over 15 members of the Society have volunteered to assist Bureau of Land Management Red Rock archaeologist Mark Boatwright in sample surveys in the Red Rock area. The project will last three years and involve thousands of acres of land. The Society is excited to get back into service for the archaeological community and assist professionals with both manpower and time in the field and the office. ☪



**COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA:**

### **COURSE REWRITES AND A NEW JOURNAL**

By Kevin Rafferty, ANS President

**T**he Department of Human Behavior at CSN is in the process of revamping courses in the Anthropology curriculum. This involves tweaking course descriptions and rewriting learning outcomes. The department hopes to have all courses revamped by the end of the Spring semester, 2012, and add several new courses: Internship in Anthropology, Archaeological Laboratory Methods, and Ethnographic Methods, among others.

The most exciting news is the publication of a new electronic journal, called *Four Fields- Journal of Anthropology*. It will be published once a year, and it is designed to showcase the research of both faculty and students. The first issue is available and contains four articles, two by faculty and two by stu-

dents. It has been distributed to all Anthropology departments in the Nevada System of Higher Education, Las Vegas contracting firms, federal agencies, and several colleges and universities in Arizona, Utah, and California. We hope that it continues to grow and improve. Special thanks go to Professor Sally Billings, who served as the primary editor and driving force behind the journal. Also serving on the editorial board are Professors David Wangsgard and Wil Wilreker, and student Michael Roche II. If anyone wishes a copy of the journal please contact Dr. Kevin Rafferty at [kevin.rafferty@csn.edu](mailto:kevin.rafferty@csn.edu). ☪

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

## NATIONAL REGISTER & LANDMARK NOMINATIONS IN THE WORKS

By Sali A. Underwood



The Morelli House, built in 1959, is a classic example of Las Vegas mid-century architecture. It was the home of Antonio and Helen Morelli. Mr. Morelli was the musical director for the Sands Hotel. Photo by Rex Windom, courtesy of the Morelli Collection, Special Collections Department, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

**T**he Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (NVSHPO) is working with the National Park Service (NPS) to achieve the listing of the McKeen Motor Car as a National Historic Landmark (it will be the 8<sup>th</sup> landmark listed for Nevada). The National Historic Landmark Committee for NPS recommended the nomination for listing, and the document is being forwarded to the Advisory Board for the National Park System for its meeting in May or June 2012 (Ron James is chairman of the committee and a member of the board). In addition, the Carson City Historic District has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The State Advisory Board for Museums and History has recommended listing of the Morelli House, which is managed by the Junior League of Las Vegas.

The League moved the house from its origi-

nal location and now uses it as office space and an interpretive center. Though the National Park Service prefers not to list moved resources, the League saved the house from demolition and other mitigating circumstances warrant the nomination. NVSHPO has forwarded the nomination on to Washington, D.C. for consideration as a National Register site. Should the SHPO realize the goal of having this resource listed, the League deserves and will welcome congratulations from all!

The NVSHPO is continuing to focus on scanning paper records and improving the online statewide archaeological database (NVCRIS) to expedite the review of critical development projects. The updated version of the database was released this quarter. An architectural database, essential to the development of Nevada's urban areas, is available internally and is expected to be externally available within the fiscal year.

The office is also engaged in a comprehensive review of historical marker texts. Most of the roughly 260 markers are more than 30 years old and are in need of updating. Until funding can be obtained, the updated texts will be available online in February 2012 for review and eventual implementation. Ⓞ



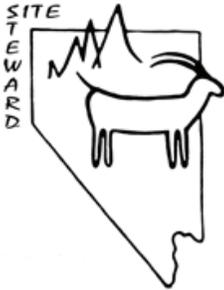
#### ELKO COUNTY CHAPTER:

## Join Us!

By Donna Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer

**E**lko County Chapter members hold their monthly meetings on the first Friday of the month in the training room at the Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital. We usually have a brief busi-

ness meeting and updates from members on their activities. Each month we try to have a presentation or show a video from the Exploring Nevada Series presented by the Nevada Department of Cultural Affairs. ☺



#### NEVADA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

## Eight New Stewards Protecting Resources

By Sali A. Underwood

**I**t has been an extremely busy quarter! In October eight site stewards that were trained in August were assigned and introduced to 23 known paleontological localities (VM-2011-25) and one archaeological site (26CK68905) located at Tule Springs State Park in Las Vegas. Josh Bonde, a UNLV Paleontological Ph.D. student, volunteered to assist with the assignments and site introductions. In October a total of 38 hours and 246 miles were donated to the Nevada State Parks from this site stewardship activity.

Also in October the Nevada Council for Historic Education held a Native Americans in Southern Nevada Seminar for 40 teachers from the Clark County area. NV-SHPO-LV taught a workshop on the Archaeological Resource Preservation Act (ARPA) with a hands-on activity on how to do determine if a site has been impacted by an ARPA violation on an artificial site.

In November the Cultural Site Stewardship Program annual picnic was held at the National Parks Service Lake Mead Recreation Area with about 60 volunteers and agency representatives in attendance. Also contractor Dr. Samantha Rubinson

started at the LV-SHPO office to assist on the completion of the NASSP relational database and entry



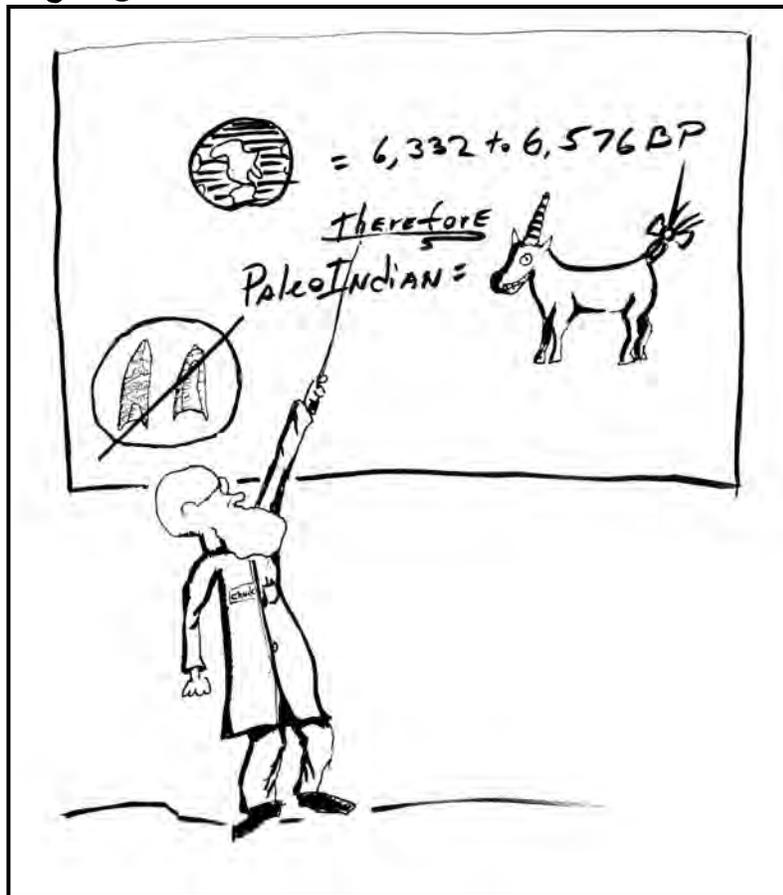
**Site stewards have been assigned to sites in Tule Springs State Park in Las Vegas. Stewardship training will be offered here next quarter. Photo by "AlishaV", 2008.**

of site stewardship data.

Next quarter basic site stewardship training will be offered for Tule Springs State Park, and in the Reno area. Site stewardship refresher training will also be taught in Clark and Lincoln Counties for existing site stewards and a workshop on historic artifact identification will be held in the Carson City area for active site stewards. For more information on these opportunities, contact Sali Underwood at [sunderwood@shpo.nv.gov](mailto:sunderwood@shpo.nv.gov). ☺

# Flying Bezoars

By Steve Stearns



The GOP presidential candidate's understanding of prehistory.

## UPCOMING EVENTS 2012

- Jan 21 NAA Board Meeting**, Boulder City. Open to all NAA members. Meeting time, meeting location and field trip destination will be posted on the NAA website, [www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org).
- Jan 26** 6:00 PM refreshments, 7:00 PM informal program. Reception and sale for nature photography exhibit **My Nevada II, by John King**. Nevada State Museum, Carson City. Free.
- Feb 14 Deadline for submitting Historic Preservation and Archaeological Awareness Month events** to SHPO. This year's theme is the 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act. Submit events to Sali Underwood at [sunderwood@shpo.nv.us](mailto:sunderwood@shpo.nv.us) or by calling (702) 486-5011.
- April 27-28 NAA Annual Meeting** at the Eureka Opera House, Eureka. Contact Mark Giambastiani for information on submitting abstracts, [mark\\_giambastiani@nvarch.org](mailto:mark_giambastiani@nvarch.org).
- June 22 & 23 7:00 PM. Annual Organ Concert in the historic Music Room at Scotty's Castle**, Death Valley National Park. Seating is very limited, call 1-800-478-8564 x 10 to be placed on the advance mailing list to be notified when ticket sales open.\$40.

## 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:

NAA Newsletter  
c/o Elizabeth Dickey  
1105 West Sunset Way  
Carson City, NV 89703

Phone: 775-888-7478  
E-mail: [edickey@dot.state.nv.us](mailto:edickey@dot.state.nv.us)

Hundreds of Good-  
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[www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org)





# Nevada Archaeological Association

[www.nvarch.org](http://www.nvarch.org)

## 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

### MEMBER INFORMATION *Please print*

Mr.    Ms.    Mrs.    Dr.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Member Names:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CHAPTER AFFILIATION *Check all that apply*

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

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

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

### 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 *In-Situ* electronically if an email is provided. Would you like to help us reduce costs and protect the environment by discontinuing your hardcopy mailing?  Yes



Nevada Archaeological Association  
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