

# In-Situ



SUMMER 2011

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 3

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Eva Jensen, NAA President

### President's Corner

**O**ur newsletter whiz Liz, informs me there is still about a month of summer left so this would be a good time to finish the summer newsletter. For the folks in the south, there should be a good three months of summer left. You can wait and read your copy later.

#### In the Public Eye

For the President's Corner business, 'Short Version'; an annual meeting, new board members, two board meetings, Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month. For a little longer version you can continue reading, otherwise go right to the good stuff on the following pages. Articles in this edition reminded me of just how important it is to make what we do relevant to the public. While the CRM Reports and the trade journals are vital to our work we cannot forget it is the public that will ultimately decide where limited funding will be spent. Governments are closing museums, and historic parks, and cutting university programs. Non-profits are struggling to help fill the gaps. In deficit reduction climate it is the voters, volunteers, and donors who will ultimately decide archaeology is important . . . or not.



Governor James G. Scrugham (right) and eccentric writer and philanthropist, John Armstrong Chaloner (left), pose by a pueblo during the "Lost City Pageant" in 1925. Courtesy Library of Congress.

The Archaeology Fair and California Trails Days in Elko are great examples of bringing archaeology and history to the public. Artifacts tucked away in museum collection drawers and boxes are just another liability in taxpayer eyes, but Gene Hattori's story about the oversize pestle at Nevada State Museum is an asset when it generates public interest in the past. It was the angry

#### President's Corner, 1

##### Articles

- 3-Corners Conference, 3
- Historic Photos, 3
- Brooks Memorial, 4
- Legislature Protects NV Heritage, 5
- Murphy Awarded, 6
- Safe Traveling, 8
- SNRAA Rock Talks, 9

##### Mini-Reports

- Keystone Headframe, 10

##### Chapter & Affiliate Reports

- SHPO, 13
- Lincoln Co, 13
- Elko Co, 14
- Archaeo-Nevada, 15
- NRAF, 16
- CSN, 17
- Site Stewardship, 17
- Upcoming Events, 18

##### Back Page

- Too **Big** to Handle?

public outcry over vandalism of rock art in Clark County that helped convince state legislators to raise the penalties for vandalism of important historic and prehistoric properties.

### A Lesson from History

In a note from Nevada history, in 1923 to 1927 Governor James Scrugham promoted and supported archaeology excavations. He also recognized archaeology as a potential to increase tourism revenue. In one of the first efforts at heritage tourism for Nevada, the Lost City Pageant brought Hollywood producers and reportedly thousands of visitors to southern Nevada. But, Governor Scurgham was defeated in the next election by a candidate who convinced the voters they should be concerned about 'live cities not dead ones'. Hopefully we will not repeat mistakes. Funding for historic preservation and archaeology is always in question. Make archaeology relevant to everyone or we will lose the past.

### Annual Meeting

Thanks are in order for everyone who helped organize and make the annual meeting happen in fine form as usual. Our Elko County Chapter hosts were most gracious! Donna and Tim Murphy and Terri and John Anderson handled the local arrangements. Greg Seymour organized the program. Jeff Wedding and Sue Edwards orchestrated the auction. Thanks again!!!

Students played a big role in presentations. This year we offered awards for the best student paper and poster and gave a random award for participation. The presentations were outstanding. I want to extend a special thanks to our guest presenters this year. Dana Barton from North Cascades National Park gave a workshop on historic preservation techniques. Kelly Dixon, University of Montana, shared insights on the archaeology of Donner Party camps as the keynote presentation.

### Board Notes

The Spring board meeting was held in Elko at the California Trails center. (Beautiful new facility!) This year Hal Rager, Greg Seymour, and Daron Duke retired from the board. Let's hope their investment portfolios can carry them through without the prestige of being an NAA board member. Thanks for the years of support. We appreciate you!

New board members elected this year are Sue Edwards, Craig Hauer, and Mark Giambastiani. Sue is membership director. Craig Hauer will be overseeing the newsletter. Mark will be working on the annual meeting and getting the student grant reestablished. Returning board members include the usual unusual cast of characters; George Phillips, Treasurer;

Karla Jageman, Web and electronic media master; Liz Russell, Site steward liaison (recently grandmothered); Jeff Wedding, auction affairs designer and by-laws review committee; and Lynn Furnis, secretary of the state of our affairs; and I will strive to keep the crew happy and performing the show to your satisfaction.

We held a summer board meeting at Ft. Churchill State Park on July 16<sup>th</sup>. We were treated to a tour of Buckland Station and had a blast . . . out of the cannon at the fort. Check out the photo of the 'Buckland Gang' on the front veranda. (Veranda is my vocabulary word for this edition). Ft. Churchill is one of the amazing historic parks in Nevada. I hope you will visit and support Nevada's historic state parks in person. For a virtual tour visit <http://parks.nv.gov/fc.htm>

### Archaeology Month Past

Thanks to the board and especially Jeff Wedding, the NAA produced and distributed a great poster for Archaeology Awareness and Historic Preservation Month in May. The theme featured 'Tales of Trails Past'. If you have ideas for next year's poster, theme, or events, send us a note or tell your local chapter. **So long, farewell, until next time . . .** ☺



Lynn Furnis, Liz Russell, Eva Jensen, Karla Jageman and Sali Underwood strike a pose on the Buckland Station "veranda."

## 4th Biennial Three Corners Conference

**D**o you have a kick-arse paper on Southern Nevada archaeology you've just been hankerin' to share? The Three Corners Conference is looking for just such a paper. E-mail your abstract to [three-cornersconference@yahoo.com](mailto:three-cornersconference@yahoo.com). The **deadline for abstracts is September 26, 2011**. The conference will be held on October 29, 2011 at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) campus and is organized by UNLV, the Bureau of Reclamation, the National Park Service, the Lost City Museum, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Forest Service, the Interagency Cultural Site Stewardship Team, and yours truly, the Nevada Archaeological Association.

Here are the rules:

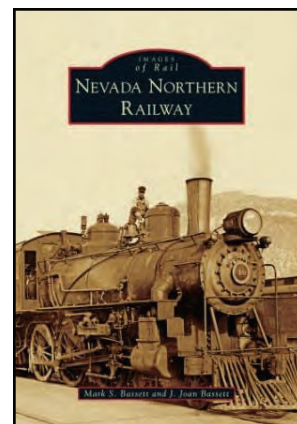
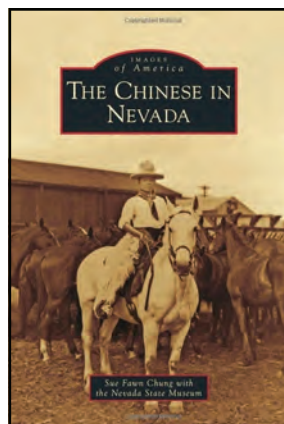
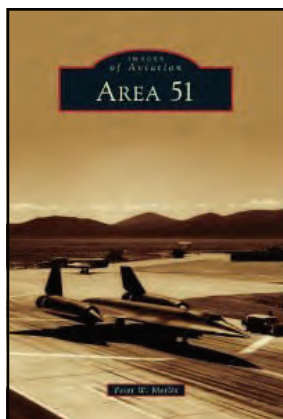
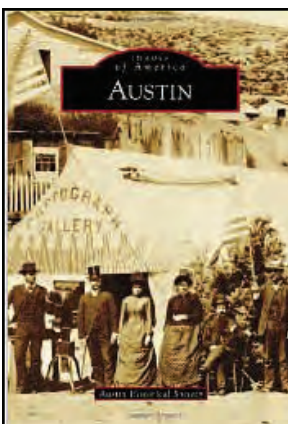
- Presentations are 12 minutes long. (That's it people, 12 minutes, no more.)
- Presentations may be on any anthropological research domain and time period within the three corners region (i.e. southern Nevada, southeastern California, southwestern corner of Utah, and the extreme western portion of Arizona).
- We want pictures! PowerPoint presentations are highly encouraged.



Though not required, three-cornered hats are highly encouraged at the three corners conference. (*Peasant with a Three Cornered Hat* by Adolf Von Menzel, courtesy the Oskar Reinhard Collection.)

- The proceedings of the conference will be published.
- Have fun! ☺

## Historic Photographs of Nevada



**F**our new books by Arcadia Publishing highlight the history of Nevada through historic photographs: *Austin*, by the Austin Historical Society; *Northern Nevada Railway* by Mark S. Bassett & Joan Bassett; *Area 51* by Peter W. Merlin; and *The*

*Chinese in Nevada* by Dr. Sue Fawn Chung & the Nevada State Museum. See "Upcoming Events" (page 18) for details on Dr. Chung's lectures based on her book. ☺



## Memorial Service to Honor Drs. Richard & Sheilagh Brooks

**W**e are deeply saddened to inform the NAA community of Dr. Richard Brooks' death, Thursday evening, June 23, 2011. Richard, as many of you will remember, was an Emeritus Professor of Anthropology, as was his wife Sheilagh Brooks, who preceded him in death in 2008. The Brooks were major figures within southern Nevada archaeology for many years.

Richard's involvement with Nevada archaeology began when he was the assistant archaeologist for the excavation of Tule Springs under the direction of Richard Shutler and C. Vance Haynes between 1962 and 1963. In 1966 Richard was a research assistant with the Desert Research Institute (DRI) as part of the newly formed Nevada Archaeo-



**Dr. Richard Brooks.**

logical Survey. In 1967, a museum was created to showcase DRI in the southern part of the state under Richard's direction. He continued to serve as the Director of the museum following its transfer to become the Museum of Natural History at UNLV. He retained the position of Director until 1981. The Marjorie Barrick Museum at UNLV owes its present existence to the persistence and fund raising abilities of Richard Brooks. In 1968, in addition to Museum director, Richard was

an assistant research professor at Nevada Southern University (now UNLV) as well as remaining director of the Nevada



**Dr. Sheilagh Brooks.**

Archaeological Survey (NAS). Although the name and affiliation of the survey changed several times over the years, Richard Brooks continued to served as director until 1982.

Between 1968 and 1981, both Richard and Sheilagh completed over 44 contract archaeology projects including surveys of the Red Rock area, the Lower Colorado River, and early transmission line surveys.

Richard's work with the NAS, arguably the first modern Cultural Resource Management program in the state, laid the groundwork for future cultural resource management work in Nevada. That program continues operating, now as the Cultural Resources Program at the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies. Upon retirement in 1992, Richard was awarded Emeritus Professor status at UNLV. In 2007, Richard and Sheilagh were both honored by the NAA with the Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Department of Anthropology will hold a **memorial service celebrating the lives of both Richard and Sheilagh Brooks on September 9, 2011**, at the the Sheilagh Brooks Research Laboratory at Wright Hall. See "Upcoming Events" (page 18) for more information on the memorial service. ☸

## Legislature Protects Nevada Heritage

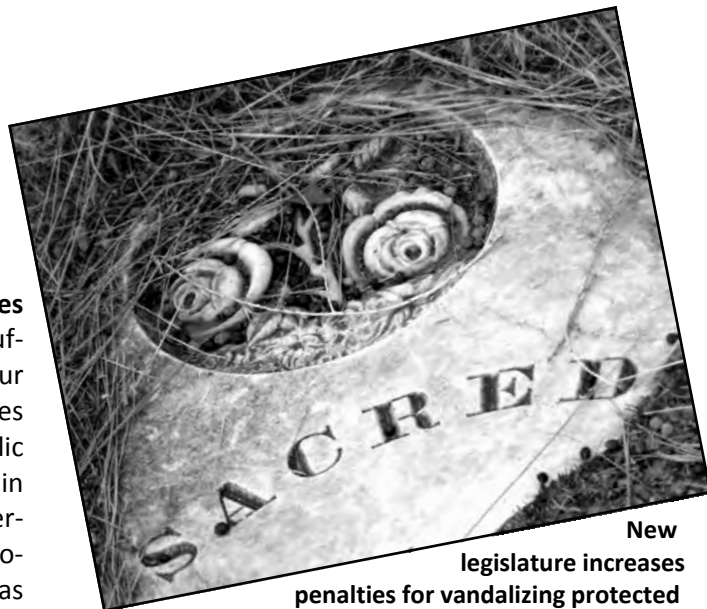
Greg Seymour

**D**espite our current hard economic times where Nevada and many other states are suffering, good things can happen. This session our legislature was able to pass SB 257 which increases penalties for graffiti at “protected sites” on public and private property. Passing overwhelmingly in both the Senate and Assembly and signed by Governor Sandoval on June 10, 2011, it is effective October 1. Senator Valerie Weiner, District 3, (Las Vegas area) was the author of this bill.

“Protected site” means, “A site, landmark, monument, building or structure of historical significance pertaining to the history of the settlement of Nevada; Any Indian campgrounds, shelters, petroglyphs, pictographs and burials; or Any archeological or paleontological site, ruin, deposit, fossilized footprints and other impressions, petroglyphs and pictographs, habitation caves, rock shelters, natural caves, burial ground or sites of religious or cultural importance to an Indian Tribe” (SB 257). SB 257 makes vandalism a felony if the site is protected. Dollar thresholds for damage for this offence dropped from \$5,000 to \$500. Penalties can include a 10 day mandatory jail stay with probation, restitution, up to 300 hours of community service, and substantial jail time.

This new law helps protect our state’s cultural resources on public and private property with similar protections that federal laws afforded us for resources on lands under the US government’s oversight. Similar legislation at the federal level, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act provides penalties for cultural resources over 100 years old on federal lands. Resources not meeting that age threshold are subject to federal vandalism laws. Now private property rights are strengthened through enhanced legal and civil penalties. The property owner would have the option of pressing charges.

For many of us, the allure of Nevada is im-



**New legislature increases penalties for vandalizing protected Nevada heritage sites, such as pioneer cemeteries, petroglyphs, and archaeological sites. Photo by Elizabeth Dickey.**

bued in its rural places. Our collective history is long and rich and can be seen in its many ranches and mining sites, some long abandoned. Prehistoric rock art can also be enjoyed as art, as history or both. One cannot help to wonder about how difficult it must have been to survive, especially during those below zero winters in the Great Basin or the above 100° summers in the Mojave Desert. Our predecessors ranched, farmed, worked and grew families and made decisions which still influence our vision of what Nevada has been and what we will be. For a more urban view, Mid-century modern architecture can act as an anchor for revitalization based on historic preservation combined with fun and funky shops, cafes, and bars. These special places can help us understand our collective heritage.

Heritage tourism brings in outside dollars providing employment across the state. Millions of dollars annually are spent at parks, museums, hotels, restaurants, stores and casinos by visitors to our historic and scenic sites. Did you know that Nevada is home to the Great Basin National Heritage Area? If you don’t believe me, just ask them about heritage dollars in Nevada. These are example of Nevada’s special places where heritage resources deserve our patronage and protection. ☯

## Lifetime Achievement Award Honors Tim Murphy

Eva Jensen, NAA President

Tim Murphy was awarded the Silver Trowel Award at the 39th Annual NAA Conference. The Silver Trowel is presented to professionals that have spent a majority of their professional career working in Nevada, have made outstanding, positive, and lasting contributions to archaeology in Nevada, and have maintained the highest standards of professionalism and ethics in the conduct of his or her career. NAA President, Eva Jensen, commemorated the event with the following speech.

**T**im Murphy has always had a passion for archaeology. His interests began when he was a small boy doing Indian crafts with his mother. Then as a teenager, he was inspired by trips with his grandparents visiting the ruins in Arizona.

ished school and attend two years at Boise State University. He transferred to the University of Arizona and in 1973 received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Anthropology. During the summers while Tim was going to college, he worked for the Boise National Forest on the brush crew, did seasonal

firefighting and became the fireguard at the Dutch Creek Guard Station. He continued doing that, met Donna at the Dutch Creek Guard Station and they were married in 1975. A year later he started as a seasonal archaeologist on the Targhee National Forest. He worked there for two summers and in 1978 he got the job as a seasonal archaeologist on the Boise National Forest, a little closer to home. In the fall of 1979 he helped in an excavation at the Hagerman Fish Hatchery and the next spring he worked on a project for the Idaho State Transportation Department.

In 1980, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) had a permanent position open for an archaeologist in Elko, Nevada.

Tim got the job and quickly, he, Donna and their nine-month old son moved to Elko, bought a house and settled in. As coworkers came and went, Tim saw a lot of changes in the district and survived through them all. Thirty years later he de-



**Tim wields a shovel in style at the Upper South Fork Shelter excavation Elko County, 1985.**

Tim was born in Spokane Washington when his father was working as a ranch hand. They moved a lot and lived in Washington, Colorado, Missouri, and numerous towns in Idaho. The family finally settled down in Kuna, Idaho where Tim fin-



cided it was time for a change and he retired. It was time to gain the freedom to do the archaeology that he was really interested in. He plans to spend more time investigating the significance of fire cracked rock scatters, the importance of small sites, the mystery of the rare antelope traps and other aspects of prehistory in the great Basin.

During his time in Elko, Tim was always involved with the community and public education. He traveled from Elko to Wendover doing numerous presentations to school kids, scout groups and community organizations. In 1991, Tim, along with Fred Frampton and Stanley Jaynes, became the founding members of a local chapter of the Nevada Archaeological Association. With the help of Helen Mortensen and Susan Murphy from the Las Vegas area, the Elko County Chapter of NAA got off the ground.

The group is still going strong today and even though membership fluctuates, many of the original members are still with the group and have become Tim's lifelong friends. They are always there participating under his leadership, whether it be for things like the Archaeology Fair during Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Month, or helping to excavate, build, survey, artistically create, or do fundraising for projects. Some of the notable projects they have undertaken include the Peace Park excavation, the Midas School House exhibit, the Northside School outdoor education exhibit, the Carlin Chinese Cemetery excavation, the Tuscarora Tavern excavation, the Cy Vaughn property survey and testing, and the Spring Creek Mastodon excavation.

While working for the BLM, Tim was instrumental in a cooperative educational project between the BLM and Great Basin College. He worked with various professors at Great Basin College and

one from Northern Iowa University to provide a field school class at Great Basin College for a total of nine years.



**Eva Johnson, Tim Murphy and Donna Murphy at the presentation of the Silver Trowel.**

Tim's diligence in investigating sites led him to a known rock shelter that had never been recorded. He took no time in recording the site and naming it the Bonneville Estates Rock Shelter. A number of testings and excavations yielded valuable information about the history of prehistoric peoples in the Great Basin.

Throughout his years as a professional archaeologist, Tim served as secretary for the Great Basin Anthropological Association, worked with BLM law enforcement to prevent looting on public lands, encouraged others about the significance of small sites, and authored hundreds of Cultural Resource Management reports.

Tim will always have a passion for protecting historic and prehistoric sites whether they are small or large. Until he can no longer hobble around, he'll be out there recording sites and preserving the information held in each little flake scatter, the numerous fire cracked rock clusters and the isolated artifacts scattered across our public and private lands. ⚙

## Safe Traveling in Nevada's Outback

Carl Bjork, Site Stewardship Program West Nevada Region Coordinator



Still smiling, Jeffrey Thelen repairs flat tire #3. Jeffrey is an Archaeological Site Stewardship Program volunteer.

**T**hree flat tires and a dead battery in three, site -monitoring trips and no AAA service truck or help within at least 100 miles. Are you ready for this kind of event in the "Outback" of Nevada? Four times we had a potentially dangerous situation if it wasn't for traveling in a group or being prepared for such an event. And, you don't have to be in the Outback to have an experience that strands you and requires a long walk out.

Let's analyze three events and what options one has if they are traveling alone (one vehicle). Imagine this . . .

**Scenario 1:** You are at the Gate Cliff Shelter site; in a deep canyon without cell phone service; 80 miles from the nearest AAA service truck or Napa Auto Parts store (not open on Sunday or after 5:00 PM) and your battery decides to die . . . this actually happened. Did I mention the last three miles into

the site was a two-wheel track; there were no direction signs at the main dirt road; the sun was setting to the west and it was beginning to sprinkle with snowflakes? Fortunately, when this happened to us, we were traveling as a group accompanied by a Forest Service archaeologist in a separate vehicle. The Forest Service archaeologist drove to Tonopah with the dead battery and returned with a new one. After the installation, the vehicle was on the road again, straight back to Tonopah followed by a USFS vehicle. Now, this was a four-hour, 160 mile

round trip for a new battery. What option would you choose? Travel alone and walk at least 25 miles to Belmont and find a phone. Or, check your battery before you head out and travel with a second vehicle.

**Scenario 2:** You are 15 miles down a dirt road and 50 miles from Austin, the left rear tire on your pickup goes flat. The rear axle is less than six inches off of the ground and you have to retrieve the spare from under the end of the pickup and no one has the ability to use the rod to crank down the spare and the truck jack is too tall to fit under the axle. Using a second vehicle's jack you jack up the truck and after 30 or so minutes someone figures out how to use the spare tire crank. Then it is 50 miles to Austin to look for a place to fix the flat tire. What option would you choose? Walk 15 miles back to the main highway and hope someone will stop to



give you a ride into the nearest town and back to your vehicle. Or, check your spare tire and practice removing it before heading out, and travel with a second vehicle.

**Scenario 3:** You have a flat tire next to a main highway but on a gravel road; the jack doesn't lift the vehicle high enough to install the spare. Other folks in the group have a shovel to dig a hole to fit the installation. What option would you choose? Stand in the middle of the highway and hope someone will stop to help, or hitchhike into the nearest town for help; only 50 miles away. Or, travel with a second vehicle.

So, you have practiced removing your spare tire. You've checked that the spare is full of air before heading out into the desert. You always travel with a proper jack and tools. You've got everything covered, right? Flat tires are easy when the ground is level, but think about being stopped on an incline. Did you bring along a block (a piece of 4x4 wood works well) to hold your vehicle from rolling off of the jack? Did you bring a piece of wood to put your jack on to so that the weight of your vehicle doesn't push your jack into the soft soil?

Scared or a bit fearful about heading out alone into Nevada's Outback; I hope so. Site monitoring in the USFS Austin-Tonopah Ranger District is a great adventure and fun, but it can also be deadly. Check your vehicle, tires, battery, fuel, and safety equipment before heading out. Make sure your safety contact knows where you are traveling and what to do if you don't return home as scheduled. Call your safety contact if you change your plans. Also, check with your regional coordinator for any updates or changes at your sites before heading out. Check in when you get back home.

A little preparation beforehand might just save your life, or at least, a lot of trouble. Have fun and **be safe** in Nevada's amazing Outback! ☸

*Carl Bjork's safe traveling tips were first published in Nevada Pastwatch, the newsletter for the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program.*

## Rock Talks

Anne McConnell

**T**he Southern Nevada Rock Art Association (SNRAA) is now holding its monthly meetings at the REI store in Summerlin area, 710 S Rampart Blvd, Las Vegas (in the Boca Park shopping center near the intersections of Rampart and Alta Drives) from 7:00 to 9:00 pm.

On September 26, SNRAA member Gordon Hamilton, will show us photos of Mount Sterling petroglyphs.

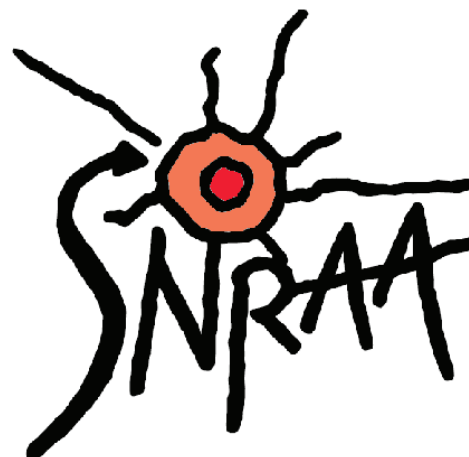
We don't yet have a speaker for October 24th. (If any NAA member is interested in speaking to us, please contact Anne McConnell at [annemuggs@aol.com](mailto:annemuggs@aol.com).)

On November 28, Steve Freers, a long-time friend of SNRAA, will talk about rock art in the Southern California area.

Since the 4th Monday in December is the day after Christmas, we're choosing not to meet.

Our lineup for early 2012 is Pat Barker on Easter Island on January 23rd; Francois Gohier on the Fremont of Utah on February 27th; and Courtney Smith on patterned-body anthropomorphs in southwestern rock art.

Hope you can join us! ☸



## Mini-Report

Scott Phillips

HISTORY OF

# The Keystone Headframe

**W**hen driving up Northern Nevada's State Route 342, between Silver City and Gold Hill you might have noticed a decaying wooden headframe on the right side of the road. A closer inspection reveals the headframe to be precariously balanced over a gaping mine shaft with one of its supporting legs dangling over the shaft.

This unstable artifact of the Comstock mining era is known as the Keystone Mine Headframe and its slow metamorphosis from architecture to archaeology will soon be halted thanks to a project sponsored by Storey County, the Comstock Historic Commission, The Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

Less than ten historic-era headframes remain in the Comstock Historic District. The owner of the headframe appreciates its rarity and historic value and has donated the structure to Storey County, rather than have it collapse.

The Keystone Headframe will be stabilized, moved about a mile to the north end of Virginia City, and rehabilitated according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Though relocation is certainly not the first choice for a historic structure, in this case, it was the only way to fund rehabilitation of the structure before its eminent ruin.



In its new location, the Keystone Headframe will become the centerpiece of the future Virginia City Visitor Center planned to be built at the north end of Virginia City in 2012.

The historic record of the Keystone Mine portrays a unique account of the Comstock culture of the 1930's. The mineshaft under the teetering headframe was, and is still, known as the Keystone Shaft. It was initially driven to the surface using a

winze and raise drilling process from an existing horizontal mining tunnel. In December of 1932, an electric hoist and an air compressor were installed at the mouth of the mineshaft. In order to facilitate the use of the hoist and air compressor, it is likely that a hoist house and the existing Keystone headframe were also constructed at the same time as the installation. Robert "Bob" Montgomery; E.A. Montgomery and Associates conducted this drilling effort and improvements. Eventually, E.A. Montgomery and Associates also took control of the adjacent Justice Mine and joined this mining operation with the Keystone Mine.

Ownership of the Keystone Mine has historically changed hands several times. Subsequent to the completion of the Keystone mine shaft and improvements, E.A. Montgomery and Associates leased the mine to Dayton Consolidated Mines

Company of Silver City, Nevada. Then in 1940, Dayton Consolidated Mines Company purchased the entire mine outright. This change in ownership happened somewhere between 1934 and 1937. The mine continued to operate under the control of this company until October 15, 1942, when the War Productions Board condemned the mine under Limitation Order L 208. This was an effort to conserve labor and materials for production of metals needed during the United State's involvement in World War II. The current owner, Sutro Tunnel Company, eventually acquired the mine. This company currently leases the property to Comstock Mining Incorporated.

Mining operations yielding profitable ore commenced in 1937. Even though the Keystone mine was deemed profitable, the mine was closed in October of 1942. The year of highest profitability



This picture of another Keystone Mine headframe structure (now gone) shows the simple corrugated metal hoist-house, also gone. The photo probably dates to the 1930s or 1940s. Courtesy University of Nevada, Reno, Special Collections.



recorded was in 1940.

Since the closure of the mine, little in the way of maintenance has been conducted on the headframe and other associated structures. The hoist house was demolished, with the remains of the building hauled off to an undisclosed location. A seven-foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire surrounds the mine shaft and headframe to keep curious idiots from falling down the shaft.

The Keystone Mine headframe today is approximately 30 feet in height with a rectangular base. The frame itself is constructed of wooden posts of varying lengths with two sheave wheels towards the top of the headframe. Four vertical wooden posts create the overall height of the headframe. Individual concrete footings exist at the base of most of these posts. One of the posts is currently suspended in air. Apparently the footing and ground support for this post has eroded away into the mine shaft depression. This is a sure sign of the headframe's deteriorating condition. Two additional wooden posts extend north from the top of the headframe to the surface at a 45 degree angle, one of which acts as a ladder to access to the top of the headframe. This is the same direction as where the hoist house used to exist. This associated structure was demolished

some time ago as there are no obvious remnants on site.



**The open shaft of the Keystone Mine is an unnerving sight, especially with the earth eroding beneath the headframe's foundation. Photo by Elizabeth Dickey.**

Thanks to FHWA's financial support and the efforts of NDOT, Storey County and the Comstock Historic Commission, one of the few remnants of the Keystone Mine has narrowly escaped certain destruction. When the headframe is reassembled at the site of the Virginia City Visitor Center, and interpreted with signage, it will stand as a reminder of how close we can come to losing our fragile historic resources and the important role of cooperation between local governments, federal agencies and public citizens to preserve our past. ☺

**Scott Phillips** served three months hard labor as the Cultural Resource Section intern at the Nevada Department of Transportation. He was released for good behavior and returned to the graduate planning program at the University of Nevada, Reno.

## Reports from Chapters and Affiliates



STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

### SHPO MOVING ON UP (TO THE 5TH FLOOR)

By Sali A. Underwood

**S**HPO has moved! Due to the decision to disband the Department of Cultural Affairs, the Historic Preservation Division is now part of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The Carson City office is now located at:

901 South Stewart Street  
Suite 5004  
Carson City, NV 89701.

The phone numbers are the same, but the email addresses have changed to first [intiallast-name@shpo.nv.org](mailto:intiallast-name@shpo.nv.org).

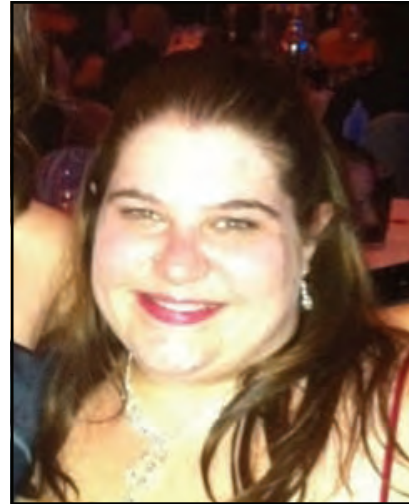
The Las Vegas branch office is scheduled to move in August into the new building for the Nevada State Museum at the Springs Preserve. At the end of the month communications may get a little fuzzy and there may be a new phone number. E-mails will go out to announce any contact changes. My new email address has changed and is [sunderwood@shpo.nv.org](mailto:sunderwood@shpo.nv.org).

In other news around the office, Elyse Jolly

is our new archaeologist, Historic Preservation Fund and Certified Local Government coordinator. Elyse has been working with

Karyn de Dufour on the NVCRIS database and is a familiar face to the office.

With that in mind, SHPO would like to remind you that there are numerous renewable energy projects being reviewed at the office and comments by the public, avocationalist and professionals are encouraged on these and any other projects submitted for review. If you would like to comment on projects please contact Deputy SHPO Rebecca Palmer at [rlpalmer@nevadaculture.org](mailto:rlpalmer@nevadaculture.org).



**Elyse Jolly takes on the Historic Preservation Fund and coordinating Certified Local Governments.**



LINCOLN COUNTY CHAPTER:

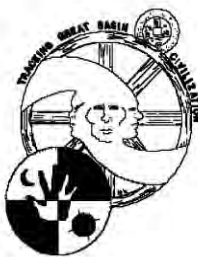
### Picnics on the Way

By Barbara Rohde Secretary/Treasurer

**T**he Lincoln County Chapter has been inactive this summer, but never fear, we will get back to our regularly-scheduled programs and field trips

this fall, starting with the Site Stewards picnic in September.





ELKO COUNTY CHAPTER:

## Archaeology Fair & California Trail Days Celebration

By Donna Murphy, Secretary/Treasurer

**E**lko County Chapter members meet on the first Friday of the month for a brief business meeting and a film. A campout field trip is planned for late August when we will go to the Hickison Petroglyph site.

Spring was a busy time with the NAA conference held here in Elko, the Archaeology Fair and the California Trail Days celebration. ♪ ~ ♪

The replica of a Shoshoni Camp that was set up at the base of a hill at the California Trail Center intrigued a lot of people during the California Trail Days Celebration as it gave people a glimpse of how people were living in the Great Basin when the emigrants passed through on their way to California. The windbreak shelter and wickiup were built by Tim Murphy and Shoshoni Elder, Lois Whitney with help from Gary Koy, the Trail Center Ranger and Shania Cook, an intern at the Trail Center.

Tim and Shania demonstrated how food was boiled and cooked by using hot rocks and they gave the young people some hands-on experience by



**Tim Murphy demonstrates cooking with hot rocks for visitors at the California Days Celebration.**

showing them how to dig roots with a digging stick and grind seeds on a metate.

Other ECCNAA members assisted with the Native Plant Foods and Hunting Tools Exhibit set up inside the Trail Center. Because so many people found the Shoshoni camp to be so interesting, they are planning to make it into a permanent exhibit at the Trail Center. ♪



**Left: Tim Murphy and kids grind seeds in a wind break replica.**

**Right: The wickiup replica was made by Lois Whitney, Tim Murphy, Gary Koy and Shania Cook.**





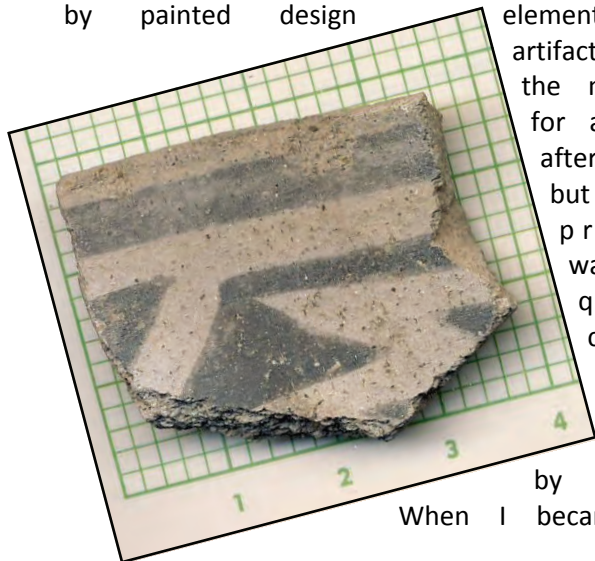


ARCHAEO-NEVADA SOCIETY:

## ANS PREPARES ELWOOD ARTIFACTS FOR CURATION

By Cheryl Martin, Former ANS President

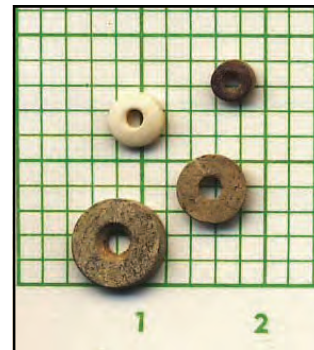
**T**he Archaeo-Nevada Society became involved in the Elwood project back in the late 1980s. After a series of training sessions, members began excavation of Elwood II, Area B, located in Overton, under the supervision of Pat Olsen at the Lost City Museum. ANS members collected artifacts, assigned catalog numbers, labeled artifacts, and conducted various analyses of artifacts, including typing pottery sherds by painted design elements.



The artifacts sat at the museum for a while after that, but the project was not quite considered finished by ANS. When I became in-

involved in 2001, members had regrouped, and efforts were under way to enter the data from the written catalog into an electronic database. We reorganized the artifacts into provenience groups to match the curation system used by the museum and conducted an inventory, updating the database as needed.

New artifact tags were created, and the materials were placed into newly labeled bags and boxes. The collection was officially handed over to Dena Sedar, curator of the Lost City Museum on July 17th. A report on the site is in the works, which will describe the project, the artifacts, and make comparisons between the Elwood site and others in Moapa Valley. Many people need to be acknowledged for their work on this project, but I'm going to save most of it for the report. I think it's especially important to thank Lost City Museum curators Pat Olsen, Eva Jensen, and Dena Sedar for their patience and their confidence in us to complete the project. ☸



## ANS HELPS BROWNSTONE CANYON SURVEY

By Dr. Kevin Rafferty, President

**A**rchaeo-Nevada has been quiet most of the Summer. In May Dr. Kevin Rafferty, President of the Society, and four younger ANS members- Krysan Williams, Michael Fedele, Bryandra Ownes, and Sandy Pataryan- assisted BLM archaeologist Mark Boatwright in a small (300+ acres) survey at the mouth of Brownstone Canyon in the Spring Mountains. The results will be reported at a later date.

The new season begins with a general meeting on September 8th at 7 P.M. in the Englestad Building on the West Charleston campus

of the College of Southern Nevada. The first speaker will be Dr. Paul Buck of Nevada State College speaking about remote sensing work he has been doing in northern Arizona.

All this year ANS will be running joint training sessions with the CSN Anthropology Club for archaeological and ethnographic techniques. A schedule of sessions will be published in the *Archaeo-Nevada Society Newsletter* and on the Anthropology Club website, [www.archaeonevada.org](http://www.archaeonevada.org). ☸



NEVADA ROCK ART FOUNDATION:

## NRAF Partners with Bradshaw Foundation

**T**he Nevada Rock Art Foundation has recently partnered with the Bradshaw Foundation to bring Nevada's rock art to the global audience! To see how the Bradshaw Foundation is helping to promote Nevada's rock art the work NRAF is doing to protect it, please visit: [www.bradshawfoundation.com/nevada/index.php](http://www.bradshawfoundation.com/nevada/index.php)

The Bradshaw Foundation is a privately funded, non-profit organization based in Geneva

that works to discover, document and preserve ancient rock art around the world, and promote the study of early mankind's artistic achievements. The Bradshaw Foundation carries out its work in collaboration with UNESCO, the Royal Geographic Society, the National Geographic Society, the Rock Art Research Institute in South Africa and the Trust for African Rock Art to ensure that the programs achieve maximum impact. ♀



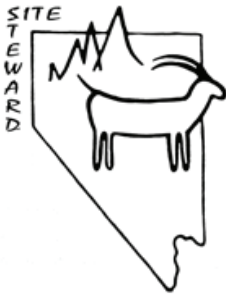
COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA:

## Busy Times at CSN

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

**T**he new semester finds a busy schedule for the Anthropologists in the Department of Human Behavior. In addition to teaching a wide variety of Freshman and Sophomore year courses and advising majors, several have been pursuing individual research and training. Professor Sally Billings participated in a four day pottery workshop in Colorado to enhance her analysis skills and her teaching skills regarding

pottery analysis. Dr. Kevin Rafferty completed a draft chapter for the updated *Archaeological Element* to be issued in December (projected). The subject matter is *Intaglios, Rock Alignments, and Trails*. In addition to this a new course has been added to the department offerings: ANTH 203, *Special Topics in Anthropology* and the Capstone Course for Anthropology majors, ANTH 299, has been revamped and revised. ♀



## NEVADA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

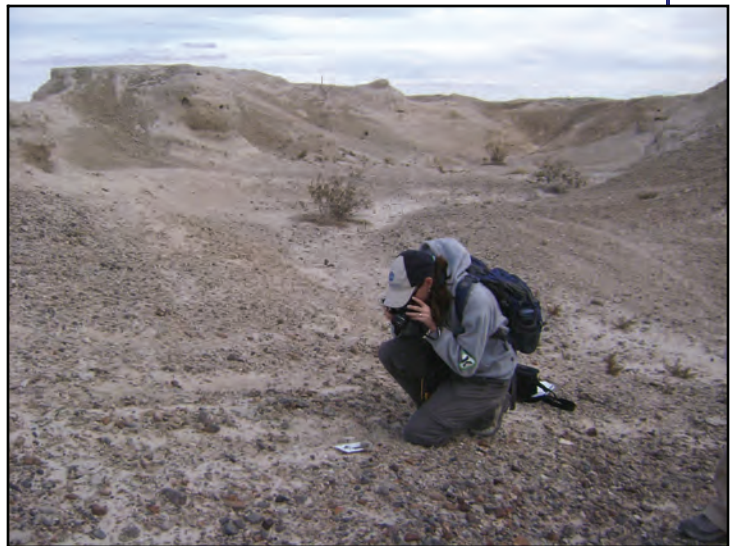
# Site Stewards Now Featured at the BLM Tonopah Field Office

By Sali A. Underwood

**T**he stewardship program keeps on changing and growing. On August 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> we held our first Nevada State Park training specifically for the Tule Springs State Park which includes the location of "The Big Archaeological Dig". Though there are a few archaeological sites (the original camp site for one), the main emphasis will be on the vast amount of paleontological materials that are located within the 318 acre park.

The area is on the National Register of sites and was the center of research trying to link prehistoric man with mega fauna that existed 10,000 to 11,000 years ago. It is where the first application of Carbon 14 dating took place. The park is not open to the public, but suffers from extreme dumping and off road vehicle use that is not only illegal but also a safety concern.

pacts and any activities taking place within the park. We will have more classes as needed and hope to expand the stewardship program



**A site steward photographs eroding fossil material in 2010. Photo by Sali Underwood**



**A fossilized horse tooth from Tule Springs. Site Steward training was held at the Tule Springs State Park. Photo courtesy San Bernadino**

We had a full class of 20 stewards who signed up and were willing to sit through detailed classroom training and meet at 6 am the next

day for a few hours of field training emphasizing access, GPS use, radio use and what the sites look like. The goal is to get reports from these stewards by October informing State Parks about site im-

throughout the parks of Nevada. The Belmont Courthouse and the Valley of Fire are a few of the parks with the most need for site stewardship.

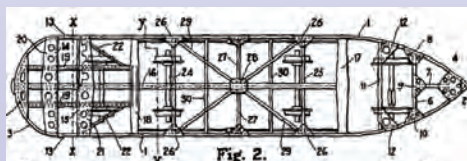
As if it was not exciting enough to get the state parks involved in site stewardship it also looks like the BLM Tonopah Field Office will soon have active site stewards! This is the last BLM district within Nevada to welcome site stewards.

There are more changes ahead (but I will save that for later; databases, more sites, and Clark County, Oh My!). I would like to say thank you to all of the supporters, participants and volunteers involved in this worthwhile program. You are the heart of site stewardship in Nevada! ♀



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sept 9** 1:00 PM. **Dedication and Grand Opening of the Dr. Sheilagh Thompson Brooks Osteology Research Lab.** Wright Hall, 2nd floor, Room 206, University of Las Vegas Campus.
- Sept 9** 2:00 PM. **Commemoration of the Lives of Dr. Richard Brooks & Dr. Sheilagh Brooks.** Barrick Museum Auditorium, University of Las Vegas Campus. Reception to follow at 3:00 PM in the museum lobby.
- Sept 11** 4:00 PM -7:00 PM. **Adventures on the Rocks.** NRAFTs inaugural kickoff party and auction. Sumerlin Lifetime Athletic, 10721 W Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas. Visit [www.nvrockart.org/Adventures.html](http://www.nvrockart.org/Adventures.html) for more information. \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.
- Sept 22** 6:00 PM (Book signing), 7:00 PM (Lecture). **The Chinese in Nevada Presentation & Book Signing by Dr. Sue Fawn Chung.** Nevada State Museum, Carson City. Museum members: Free; Non-member adults: \$8.
- Sept 24** 2:00 PM—3:00 PM. **The Chinese in Nevada Presentation & Book Signing by Dr. Sue Fawn Chung.** Nevada Historical Society, Reno. Free.
- Sept 26** **Abstracts Due for 3 Corners Conference.** E-mail abstracts to [threecornersconference@yahoo.com](mailto:threecornersconference@yahoo.com). Or call Mark Slaughter for more information at 702-293-8143.
- Oct 28** 10:00 AM—6:00 PM Friday through Monday. **Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas, Reopens** to the public at their new location in Springs Preserve. Call 702-486-5025 for more information. General adult admission: \$9.95. Children 18 and under: Free.
- Oct 29** 10:00 AM—4:00 PM. **Ride the National Register Listed McKeen Car** at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City. Adults: \$10; Children ages 4 to 11: \$5.
- Oct 29** 9:00 AM **Three Corners Conference.** UNLV. Contact Mark Slaughter at 702-293-8143 or E-mail [threecornersconference@yahoo.com](mailto:threecornersconference@yahoo.com) for more information.
- Nov 4-6** **Ninth Death Valley Conference on History & Prehistory.** Beatty Community Center, Beatty. Register on-line at [www.dvnha.org](http://www.dvnha.org). \$125.



NEVADA DAY WEEKEND: RIDE THE MCKEEN CAR IN CARSON CITY!

**The Nevada Archaeological  
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# Too **BIG** to Handle?

By Gene Hattori, Nevada State Museum; and Molly Geiser, University  
of Oregon



Photo of the Reno family in 1967. Jean, Ron (holding the pestle), Dick, and Shadow the dog. Original photo by Jean and Dick Reno.

**T**he Nevada State Museum receives artifact collections from former artifact collectors or from their children who have little interest in their parents' collections. These collections pre-date the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979; nevertheless, the specter that the collector unknowingly broke that law or violates a law by possessing artifacts often fosters the donation. In this instance, however, archaeologist Ron Reno donated an extraordinary pestle discovered by his mother, Jean, in 1967 from 26Ch45 below the Lovelock Cave.

This extremely large, truncated tear-drop shaped, pink rhyolite pestle (CM-5847-G-1) weighs 12.5 kg (27 lbs.) and is 66 cm long with a maximum diameter of 13.5 cm. The proximal end flares slightly creating a shallow circumferential trough. The pestle retains pecking scars from final stages of shaping as well as high point grinding. Use wear may be reflected at the distal end by a slight break in profile and its slightly rougher surface.

The museum has several very large pestles and mortars from the Humboldt and Carson sinks. This specimen, however, is clearly oversized, and it exceeds Loud and Harrington's (1929:143, pl. 60d) largest Nevada specimen by about 1.6 kg (3.5 lbs.) and 23 cm. Several alternative hypotheses can explain its extraordinary size, but one suggested by Mona Reno stands out. Given its Lovelock Cave vicinity provenience, it would be well suited for use by the *Saiduka*, the red-headed giants of the Humboldt Sink. ☪



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