

# In-Situ



WINTER 2011

VOLUME 15, NUMBER 1

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Eva Jensen, NAA President

### President's Corner

**W**e all have holiday obligations. Some include eggnog. As you go about your sipping, wrapping, flying, and singing I just want you to be aware of some critical issues coming up in 2011.

#### Don't Let 2011 be the Year We Forgot Our History!!!

The proposed Nevada state budget has dire consequences for Nevada's heritage. Our support for archaeological and historic resources in Nevada will be absolutely critical. In the proposed state budget for 2011 and 2012, the current (outgoing) governor axed the SHPO, and four state museums. All of these have a critical mission and long history in preserving Nevada's heritage.

In the governor's proposal, funding for the State Historic Preservation Office is **\$0**. That means Commission for Cultural Affairs grants that support saving historic buildings and resources will not be funded. The compliance process for Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will be slowed to a crawl. This will affect everyone involved in the process from proponents to contract archaeologists. Jobs will be lost. The statewide site steward coordination will vanish.

If this budget is approved, four state museums caring for our history for over 75 years will close! The Lost City Museum, the Nevada State Railroad Museum, the East Ely Railroad Museum Depot, and the Nevada Historical Society will lock the doors indefinitely after June 30, 2011. Educational and economic opportunity will vanish as these vital pieces of the heritage tourism industry close. Plans for collections including photographs, documents, historic and prehistoric artifacts, trains, and facilities are uncertain.

These are quality of life and economic issues that affect all NAA members. There will be difficult discussions and decisions in Carson City in the coming months. The new governor and legislature will decide. PLEASE contact your representatives and incoming governor Sandoval about the importance of our history. We

*Lost City will be lost with the new budget cuts. Pattern from an Anasazi bowl displayed at the Lost City Museum.*

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will keep you informed with email alerts whenever possible.

### **Back to Business, as Usual?**

Thanks to everyone who participated at the board meeting in October held in conjunction with the Great Basin Anthropological Conference in Layton, UT. It was one of our best turnouts ever. I like to think it was the earth shattering decisions and riveting discussion that brought the crowd. But, then again, it was more likely that we had the meeting at a restaurant, food always helps. And, it was Rooster's Brew Pub and Restaurant. We did manage to get some business done and make important decisions.

### **Coming soon in 2011:**

The next NAA Annual Meeting will be held in Elko, April 30, 2011. Elko County NAA chapter members are working on arrangements. We will be sending registration and information in early February. Elko is famous for Basque restaurants and good company. It can't get much better than that. The call for papers is in this newsletter. Contact Greg Seymour for information.

The Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month theme for the year will focus on historic, prehistoric, and ethnographic trails. We are working on a new format with more web base information and education promotion throughout the year. We will continue the archaeology month poster and special events for May.

The by-laws review committee will present an updated format based on advice from a professional non-profit consultant available to us at a very reasonable (no) cost. Thanks Jeff Wedding and Stacey. The board will review the proposal and pass along to the membership for voting. We are hopeful that it will be completed this year.

We are reestablishing the student grant program during the next year and will have assistance from University of Nevada Reno professor and former NAA Student Grant recipient Geoff Smith. Please encourage students to present a poster or paper at the meeting in April and to apply for the grant! Details will be posted soon. ☸

### ***Have a Great Holiday Season***

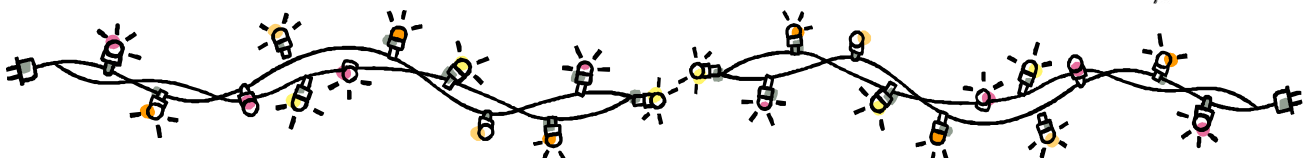
Thank you for your support during the past year.

I will see you all next year.



### **INTERPRETIVE SIGNS INSTALLED AT LAGOMARSINO**

**T**he Nevada Rock Art Foundation, in collaboration with Storey County, recently installed interpretive signs at the Lagomarsino Petroglyph Site. These signs will serve to teach visitors about the history and importance of the site, and inspire them to help preserve Nevada's rock art heritage. ☸



Mike Cannon

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE RECORDING IN COYOTE SPRING VALLEY, LINCOLN COUNTY, NEVADA

**S**WCA Environmental Consultants and the BLM Ely District Office are seeking Site Stewards to continue helping with a Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative project in Coyote Spring Valley in southern Lincoln County. The objective of the project is to assist the BLM with management of archaeological sites around resort developments and future residential developments in the valley.

The next opportunity to volunteer for the project will be in late February or early March, 2011. The exact dates for the fieldwork will be determined sometime in January, and updated information about the project will be distributed at that time.

Participants in the project will work with SWCA's professional archaeologists to help record archaeological sites. The goal will be to provide volunteers with an opportunity to gain experience in professional archaeological site recording methods, as well as a chance to learn about the archaeological record of Coyote Spring Valley. SWCA's research for the project is focusing on Formative period (Anasazi and/or Fremont) occupations, but prehistoric and historic sites of all ages may be recorded (though it is not anticipated that rock art sites will make up more than a very minor part of the project).

The project is expected to last about one week, and volunteers may participate for anywhere from a single day to the full week. Most of each working day will be

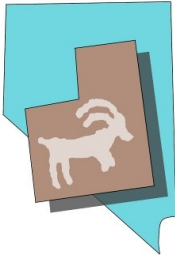
spent in place at a single site, but some of the sites may be located up to a mile from the nearest road, so some walking over uneven terrain may be necessary to get to the sites and back. Participants will help SWCA archaeologists make site maps with GPS units, draw and photograph artifacts and features, and write descriptions of artifacts, features, and site setting.

Temperatures at this time of year should be cool, but participants should be prepared for any type of weather from cold and rain to intense sun. SWCA will provide all necessary archaeological field equipment but volunteers will be responsible for bringing their own food, water bottles (several liters worth), and personal gear such as sunscreen, hat, backpack, and boots. Volunteers will also be responsible for their own transportation to the project meeting place each day, but SWCA will have 4-wheel drive vehicles to take everyone from the meeting place to daily work areas. Finally, volunteers must have completed the Nevada Site Steward Basic Training class prior to applying for the project, and they will be required to sign a BLM Volunteer Agreement.

If you are interested in volunteering for this project, please send an e-mail expressing your interest to Dr. Mike Cannon (Principal Investigator, SWCA) at [mcannon@swca.com](mailto:mcannon@swca.com), or call him at 801-322-4307. Dr. Cannon will then keep you posted on the project schedule and meeting place as those details get worked out.







Rosemary Thomas, BLM

## **DING! DING! ROUND 5 OF THE LINCOLN COUNTY INITIATIVE**

**T**he Lincoln County Land Act of 2000 and Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation and Development Act of 2004 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to expend revenue for inventory, evaluation, protection, and management of unique archeological resources.

This initiative, known as the "Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative," is now accepting suggestions for priorities for Round 5 which will be advertised in August 2011. We are not requesting proposals at this time but are requesting ideas for priorities for informational purposes only.

If you have any ideas for priorities that should be included and that are not addressed in the following list, please feel free to contact Carol Bass of the Ely District Office ([carol\\_bass@blm.gov](mailto:carol_bass@blm.gov)) or Colleen Beck of the Desert Research Institute ([colleen.beck@dri.edu](mailto:colleen.beck@dri.edu)).

These ideas do not need to be developed in detail but they should include sufficient information to identify the type of archaeological resource or the preservation activities needed. We will be accepting ideas from **December 6, 2010 through January 31, 2011**.

Below are priority titles identified in prior Rounds. You can find a detailed description of the priorities at our website, [http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely\\_field\\_office/blm\\_information/special\\_legislation.2.html](http://www.blm.gov/nv/st/en/fo/ely_field_office/blm_information/special_legislation.2.html) please.

Please feel free to comment on these priorities, reword them, or add additional ideas not previously addressed:

- Site monitoring and site stewardship
- Inventory, Analysis and/or Upgrade of Archaeological Collections from Lincoln County
- Historic Mining District Inventory, Evaluation, Protection and Management
- Archaeological Research at Sites Described in the Ethnographic and Historic Literature
- Inventory and evaluate historic transportation

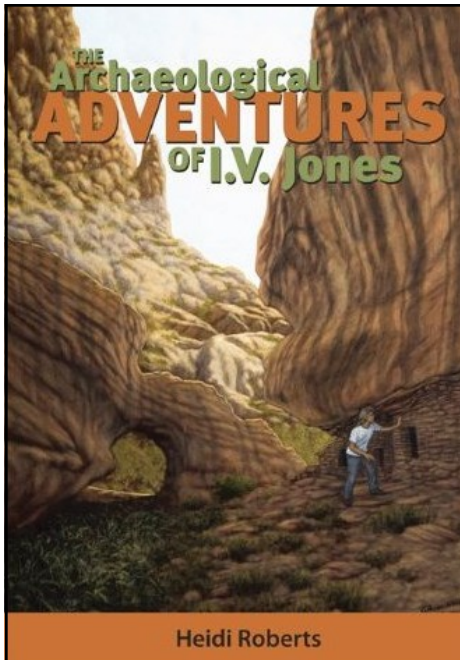
systems for the National Register of Historic Places.

- Inventory, Evaluation for the National Register of Historic Places, and Stabilization Plan for "At Risk" Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites.
- Manage Public Use, Interpret, and Provide Education at a Well Known, Publically Accessible, Archaeological Location.
- At Risk Rock Art and Cave Sites in Lincoln County, Nevada: Document and evaluate rock art sites and caves which are attractive nuisance evidenced by visitation and/or disturbance.
- Damage Assessments of Sites in Lincoln County, Nevada: Document and evaluate the effects of vandalism, other human impacts and/or the impacts of natural processes, such as erosion, on one or more sites.
- Formative (Fremont) Settlements in Lincoln County, Nevada
- Cultural Resources Digital Data Clean up for Lincoln County, Nevada.
- Obsidian Toolstone Source Inventory, Evaluation, Protection and Management
- Areas Designated as Sensitive for Archaeological Resources
- Historic Context for Lincoln County

### **REMEMBER!**

The Archeological Resources Protection Act defines archaeological resources be at least **100 years old**. The Lincoln County Land Act requires that Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative research complies with this definition. In other words, nominations for work at sites less than 100 years old cannot be considered for funding.

Thank you for your interest in this program!



**I**f you haven't read Heidi Robert's new novel, *The Archaeological Adventures of I.V. Jones*, get crackin'. Put down your well thumbed copy of *The Sheik's Innocent Bride* (ahh, you thought no one knew you read that schmutz) and get yourself a real book.

Set in the 1970s, the story is told by I.V. Jones, a 21 year old dig bum navigating the complicated and entertaining world of Utah archaeology. Dr. Don Fowler said the book was a "hoot." What more endorsement do you want?

Our very own, Heidi Roberts has been an archaeologist for a bazillion years and is the founder and president of HRA, Inc. in Las Vegas. ☺



**Lisa Gilbert, BLM**

## TELL ME EVERYTHING YOU KNOW ABOUT ITALIAN CHARCOAL PRODUCERS

**T**he "Carbonari" were Italian and Italian-speaking Swiss immigrants that adapted their old world traditions of charcoal making to Nevada. Charcoal production was essential for Nevada's hungry silver smelters that needed a fuel that burned hotter than wood. Charcoal was later replaced by coal, but not before thousands of acres of juniper and pinyon forests had been cut and burned.

The Egan field office of the Ely District BLM has a multitude of projects that fall within what is considered a Carbonari Complex. If you have any information regarding the Carbonari, I would love to hear from you. I do have information regarding Roberts Mountains but really very little else. My contact information is Lisa Gilbert at 775-289-1862 or email at [Lisa\\_gilbert@nv.blm.gov](mailto:Lisa_gilbert@nv.blm.gov). ☺



*Remains of a Carbonari charcoal producing site near a proposed exploration mining drill site. Photo by BLM Egan Field Office.*

## NRAF CALL FOR PAPERS

**T**he Nevada Rock Art Foundation is now accepting submissions for oral presentations at the 8th Annual Meeting, being held in Eureka, NV in May 2011. Oral presentations will be presented on Saturday, May 21st. Participants are encouraged to submit papers that focus on historic representations in rock art. Visit <http://nvrockart.org/Annualmeeting2011callforpapers.html> for abstract requirements. ☺



# STOP!

## *THERE'S ANOTHER BABBITT HOUSE!*

CREATIVE REUSE OF WARTIME HOUSING FROM THE HAWTHORNE NAVAL AMMUNITION DEPOT

By Ron Reno



*This example from Luning retains original unpainted tan siding, door arrangement, side door, and windows. The front doors were originally wood panel with six lights. This variant has paired front windows. The other variant has a ribbon of three windows on each side of the pair of front doors.*

**A** couple decades ago I was intrigued by a house resting on wheels in front of the Hawthorne Ammunition Depot waiting to move to its new location. It was my first introduction to the housing built in 1941-1942 for the tiny community of Babbitt, which has gradually been sold or transferred off the base for little or nothing.

Over the years these distinctive houses have spread over much of Nevada. Designed to be moveable and easy to alter the interior layout, a classic experiment in creativity has been the result. Starting with identical generic mid-20th cen-

tury duplex housing units (Low Cost Defense Housing, Demountable Type - 300), these structures have proved adaptable for a delightful variety of purposes. A few are derelict specimens exactly as they were obtained, including the auction numbers spray painted on the walls. Many retain the original duplex layout with varying amounts of replacement of materials through time.

Then things start going crazy! Multiple buildings have been joined to form house and garage structures. Buildings have been altered to

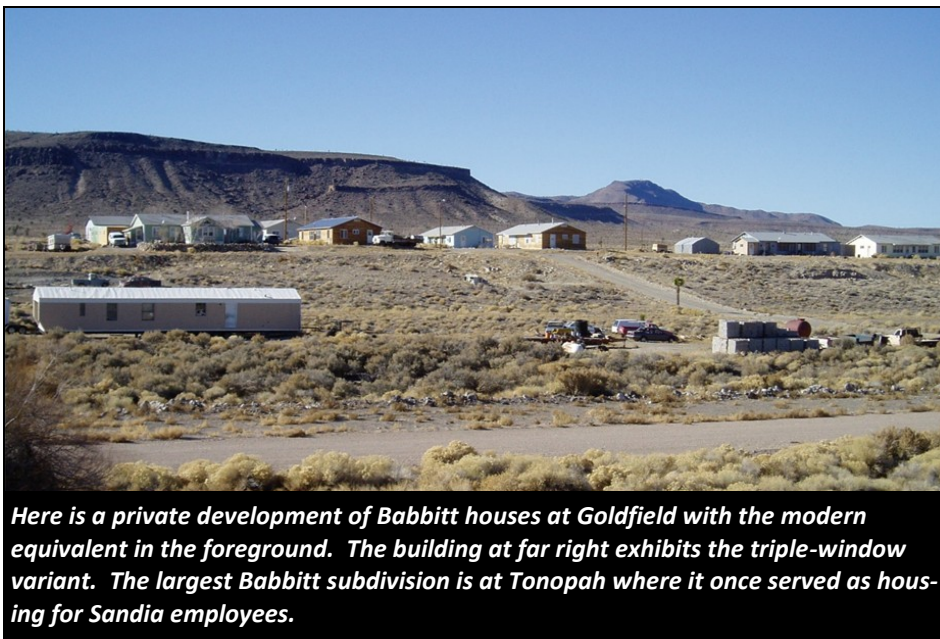


make convenience stores, storage buildings, community centers, churches, fire departments, professional offices, and schools. Frequently individual entrepreneurs purchased a quantity and used them to make their own little planned communities, generally fixing up one house a time. One local house mover lost track of the number of these buildings he relocated for various clients.



The 425 Babbitt houses generally look exactly like modern double-wide manufactured homes in dimensions and roof pitch -- and for the same reasons. The houses were usually transported intact, though in some cases a mover split the entire building down the middle for transport. Door and window placement and materials were all of two similar variants, but these details have

often changed through time following the move off the Depot. The two most distinctive characteristics are an extended eave centered over the two front entrances and the large wooden louvered attic vents which follow the roofline of the gable ends.



So far I have identified or been informed of these buildings in Dayton, Elko, Fallon, Gabbs,



Goldfield, Hawthorne, Lucky Boy Pass, Luning, Mason, Mason Valley, Mina, Schurz, Silver Springs, Round Mountain, Tonopah, Yerington, and at isolated ranches. There is even a report (which I have not substantiated) that several were shipped to Florida!

If you notice any of these buildings, please let me know of their location (street address), preferably with a photo, along with a note about how it is presently being used.

**Ron Reno**  
[rlreno@gbis.com](mailto:rlreno@gbis.com)  
 P.O. Box 550, Silver City,  
 Nevada 89428



*Many Babbitt houses were transferred to the Walker Lake Indian Reservation at Schurz. Most were intended for use as residences but this one was effectively changed into a smoke shop and convenience store. Thanks to a robust truss system, all interior walls could be removed for uses such as this.*



*The ultimate conversion of a product of war. In addition to this LDS church at Luning, the Baptists have turned at least one Babbitt house into a place of worship.*

**Ron Reno**, another archaeologist seduced by the Siren's of architectural history. The rest of you will find these buildings even more interesting once they fall down.





## New Life for an *Old Cabin*

**FOREST SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERS RESTORE A 1920s CABIN AT THE  
HISTORIC RUBY HILL MINE ON THE ELY RANGER DISTRICT**

**By Caine L. Daugherty, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest**

**F**rom August 16 - 19, 2010, the Ely Ranger District of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest completed a stabilization project on a single-room log cabin in the historic Ruby Hill Mining District of eastern Nevada's Schell Creek Range. The cabin dates to the 1920's, a time period when the area saw one of its many mining booms with the discovery of silver and copper deposits deep within the surrounding hillsides. The site is par-

ticularly interesting due to its high elevation setting at over 8,500 feet above sea level.

The project was undertaken in response to vandalism that occurred to the cabin last fall when it was apparently struck by an All-Terrain Vehicle, seriously damaging the structural integrity of the eastern wall. Without stabilization efforts, the cabin would certainly have seen its demise as the wall buckled inward. Public safety

was also in jeopardy as the site is well-known throughout the area and is one of the more frequently visited sites on the Ely Ranger District.

The damaged wall was moved back into its proper alignment and secured by a bracing system created by milled lumber and steel rebar. All corner joints of the cabin were then reinforced with Timber Loc Screws, which should hold all of the logs in place for another 10-20 years. Additional stabilization measures included replacing the tin roof, securing the badly worn window and door frames, and patching the gaps in between the logs with new chinking and daubing made from local materials (logs, branches, dirt, gravel) found on site in an attempt to replicate the original technology used. An interpretive sign discussing the history of the site and the public's responsibility in its preservation was also installed near the cabin. A series of drainage ditches were also dug uphill from the structure in order to divert precipitation runoff around the cabin, instead of washing into and subsequently rotting the base logs.

Joeseeph Gallagher of Historic Preservation Resources, Inc. served as the foreman of the project, while Forest Service archaeologists Caine Daugherty, Eric Stever, Justin Halker, Scott



***Above: The restored cabin, ready to stand another 100 years. Photo by Melissa Mealy.***

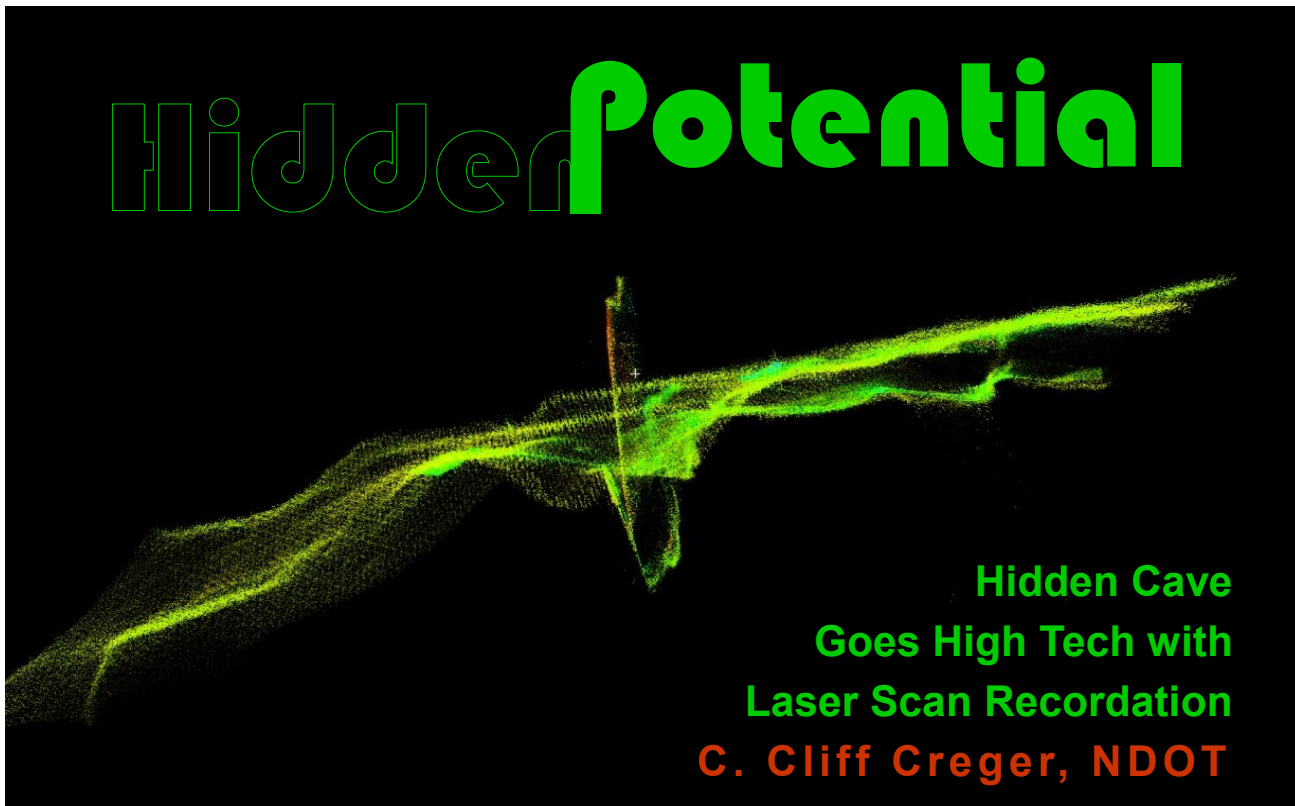
***Previous Page: Joe Gallagher (in cowboy hat), archaeologist Justin Halker (middle) and volunteer Angie Maurer (at right) show how the mud mixin' is done. Photo by Melissa Mealy.***

Schaley, and Melissa Mealy assisted with the grunt work. Three volunteers, Angie Maurer, Deanna Stever, and Emerlene Aragon, also helped out with the project. A good time was had by all and the finished product looked great.

The Forest Service encourages everyone to visit the cabin and learn more about the mining heritage of White Pine County, but would like to remind you to leave it as you found it so that it can be enjoyed by several more generations to come. For more information about the Ruby Hill Cabins please call Caine Daugherty at (775) 289-5119. ☎

***Caine L. Daugherty has worked in Ely as a Forest Service archaeologist for four years. This is his first log cabin rescue, but not the last.***





*This scan shows an atlatl shaft embedded in the wall of Hidden Cave. LiDAR recorded information on the hollow interior of the shaft, 4 inches below the surface.*

**H**idden Cave is one of our nation's national treasures and as such, should be experienced by the people of our nation. However, Hidden Cave has its own limitations. It is remotely located and hard to get into, tours are limited and the cave environment is fragile. The more people that walk inside, the greater likelihood of irreparable damage occurring. Simply, there are only so many people that can see this treasure. The Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office and the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) in conjunction have lit upon a way to record this treasure and show it the people in three dimensions, using LiDAR.

LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) is a radar-like optical remote sensor that emits near infrared to ultraviolet wavelength energy and records the return information. LiDAR has advantages over radar, such as:

- Shorter wavelengths allow detection of smaller objects than radar;
- Objects return more reflection;
- More pulses are emitted in a given period of time; and
- Multiple returns and intensities are registered from a single pulse.

The sensor's position and orientation are used to calculate an x, y, z coordinate for each return, creating a three-dimensional image of the scanned area. LiDAR can only scan line-of-sight, so several set ups are required to get all of the sides of the objects or areas that are being scanned. This results in very large files of millions of points. So many returns are registered that it creates a virtual cloud, known as a "point cloud."

In September of 2010, Hidden Cave was scanned by NDOT using LiDAR, resulting in a full



***Above: Reflectors attached with Duct tape. The reflectors act as datum points for the scanned information.***

***Right: Sean McDaniels sets up the LiDAR scanner at the highest point in the cave.***

***Below: A portion of the atlatl shaft depicted in the scan on page 11.***



three-dimensional scan of the cave, the entrance, and the surrounding hillside down to the parking lot below. The result was a 49 million point "point cloud" of the cave interior alone. NDOT used a terrestrial instead of an aerial LiDAR; terrestrial LiDAR results in many more points registered than aerial LiDAR due to its fixed nature.

Prior to scanning Hidden Cave, the archaeologists and the LiDAR team defined parameters for point density and overall goals of the scan. As a result, the larger portion of the cave was scanned at a general scale and the more detailed sediment facies portion of the cave at a much



higher intensity. The question of density is a balancing act between getting enough points to do the job but not so many points that you create an indistinguishable blob. Our goals were not only to record the cave, but to get some basic sediment details off of the raw points.

Preliminary results show us that using LiDAR, we could distinguish the distinctive Mazama volcanic ash deposit from the rest of the sediments and we could distinguish some of the different sediments with just the intensity returns. As a bonus, scans of the sediment facies picked up minute details of the atlatl shafts that were sticking



out of the sediment facies. To our surprise, we received LiDAR returns from inside the hollow shafts, from four inches deep in the wall.

The goals for the data now are to clean it up and attribute the existing points (nails, tags and signs) on the sediment facies so that those points are readable when inside the three dimensional "point cloud" of Hidden Cave. Once that data is cleaned and attributed, the BLM and

NDOT will be looking to local and national entities to be able to display the data, for example, the Desert Research Institute's CAVCaM and the American Museum of Natural History.

I would like to thank the NDOT terrestrial LiDAR crew of Sean Mc Daniels, Shane Trotter and Dan Clinger; Jim Carter and Susan McCabe from the BLM; and Beth Smith and the Archaeology Section from NDOT.



*This is not a fuzzy photograph of the wall; this is a scan of the wall with each point of information only 3 to 4 mm apart. This image is created from merging multiple scans of the sediment facies. The white Mazama Ash layer is clearly distinguished in the middle of the wall. This scan is not "photo draped"; the colors represent the intensity returns on the points themselves. The "shadow" from the handrail is actually a void in information where the handrail blocked the laser from reaching the wall.*

**Cliff Creger** is the chief archaeologist at the Nevada Department of Transportation.  
He gets to play with all the cool toys.

## *Reports from Chapters and Affiliates*



COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN NEVADA:

### **Anthropology Majors Career Day at CSN**

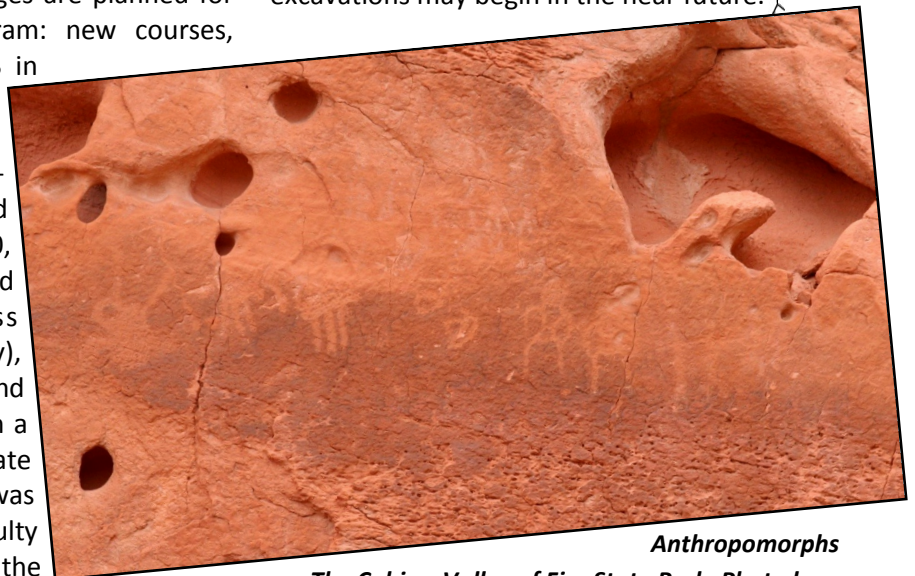
By Dr. Kevin Rafferty, Chairman, Dept. of Human Behavior

**T**he Department of Human Behavior at the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) held its' annual Anthropology Majors Career Day on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at the West Charleston campus. Organized and facilitated by Professor Sally Billings, the seminar was attended by 15 students and the entire CSN Anthropology faculty: Sally Billings, Dorothy Ukaegbu, Josh Levin, Wil Wilreker, Fred Conquest, David Wangsgard, and Kevin Rafferty. Topics discussed included furthering your education, scholarships, anthropology jobs in the business world, academic and CRM archaeology, museum work, and several other topics. It was informative and the students thoroughly enjoyed the event. We hope to be sending this group to four year institutions in the state in the next 2-3 years to pursue their educations in the field of Anthropology.

In other activity, changes are planned for the CSN Anthropology program: new courses, hopefully a new degree (AAS in Archaeology), and further faculty and student involvement in college and community affairs. One such activity is field trips. On November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, The CSN Anthropology Club and the ANTH 202 class (Introduction to Archaeology), along with additional faculty and community members, went on a field trip to Valley of Fire State Park. The purpose of the trip was to introduce students and faculty to and educate them about the prehistory of the southern Nevada

region. Led by Kevin Rafferty, the field trip visited sites situated around Atlatl Rock, Mouse's Tank, and The Cabins, all located in the southern portion of the park.

The CSN Survey Field School is planning further work in Valley of Fire State Park in Spring of 2011. This project will focus on a one and one-quarter square mile area abutting and north of Atlatl Rock. Some of the sites visited by the November 20<sup>th</sup> field trip will fall within the new proposed survey area, so some preliminary photographic work was conducted by the field trip, and already known sites that will need extensive re-recording were noted. When this project is complete, nearly four and one-half square miles of the southern portion of then park will have been inventoried. We are hoping to secure some laboratory space at the parks's headquarters so that test excavations may begin in the near future.



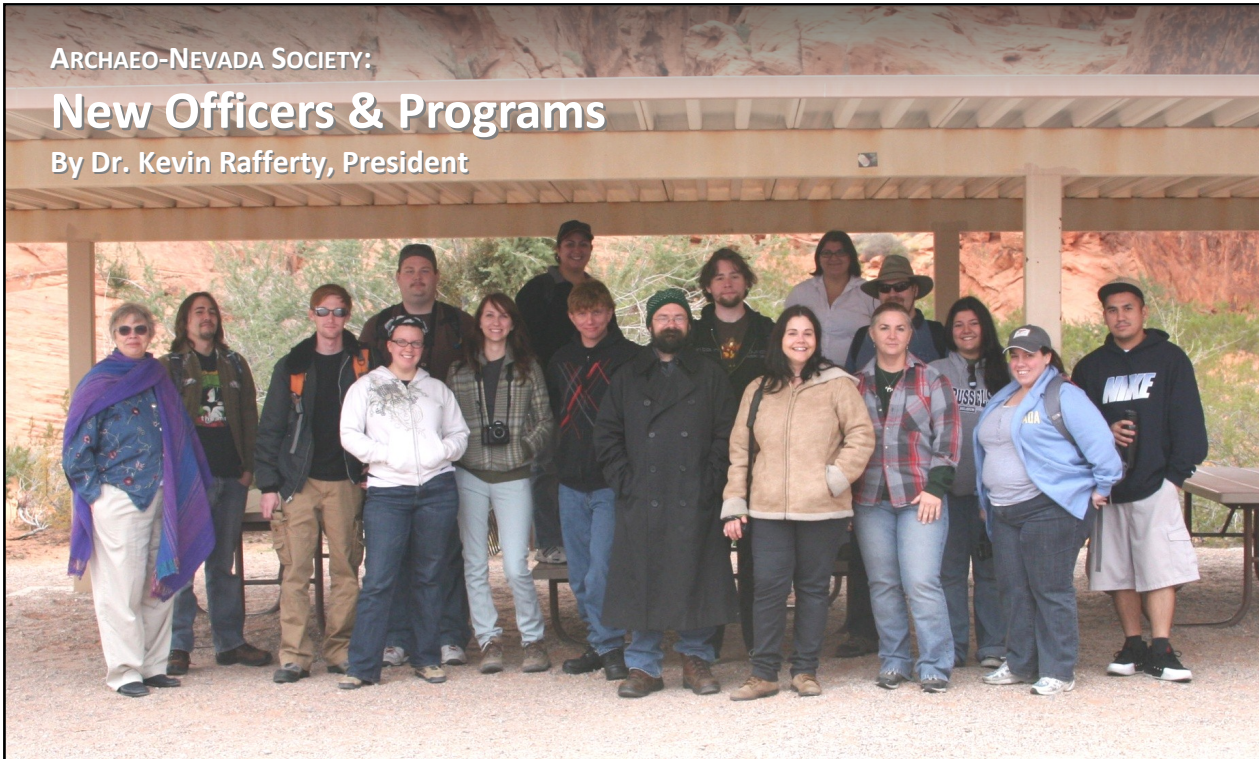
*Anthropomorphs  
near The Cabins, Valley of Fire State Park. Photo by  
Kevin Rafferty.*



ARCHAEO-NEVADA SOCIETY:

## New Officers & Programs

By Dr. Kevin Rafferty, President



Archaeo-Nevada Members joined the CSN Anthropology Club on a field trip to Atlatl Rock.

Photo by Kevin Rafferty.



**T**he Archaeo-Nevada Society has undergone some leadership changes in the last two months. Two new officers have been approved by the membership. Michael Callaghan has been appointed Treasurer, taking over from Chris Bargiels. David Fisher has accepted appointment to be Vice-President of the Society, taking over from Bruce Holloway. The Society would like to thank both Chris and Bruce for their service. The appointments accelerate a trend towards getting newer and younger members involved in the leadership of the Society, something we have been working towards the last couple of years. This will ensure the long-term health and viability of the Society as it heads into its' second half-century of service to the cultural resources community of southern Nevada.

The November speaker was Kelly Turner of the U.S. Forest Service, talking about an ARPA violation she was involved in investigating and prosecuting. Her talk was informative, particularly

to our newer members, regarding the complexities and difficulties in prosecuting violations of cultural resources protection law. December's speaker will be Heidi Roberts of HRA Inc. Archaeology, presenting a version of her famous(?) 'Barbie Massacre' paper. Heidi is a good friend to the Society and we look forward to her presentation on December 9<sup>th</sup>. In January, 2011, Amy Gilreath of Far Western will present a talk on the work she has conducted in the Gold Butte area south of Mesquite, Nevada. The symposium she organized at the October Great Basin Anthropological Conference's meetings was most enlightening and we hope to have our amateur membership enlightened as well.

As usual, if you are in the Las Vegas area, all are welcome to attend the meetings of the Society. Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month, at 7 P.M. in room K-228 on the West Charleston campus of CSN. For further details you can contact Kevin Rafferty at either [kevin.rafferty@csn.edu](mailto:kevin.rafferty@csn.edu) or 702-651-5715. ☎



NEVADA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM:

## Paleontological Resources Join the Stewardship Program

By Sali A. Underwood

**T**hough it has been a fairly quiet quarter, full of end-of-year reports and consistent site monitoring, it has been anything but dull. Work continues on the relational database that will connect both steward information with site information and make my life amazingly easier. The ability to report steward activities, site impacts, hours and mileage donations with speed and accuracy will benefit agency, stewards and the program in general. We hope to have it up and running by spring of next year.

In October I attended the Upper Las Vegas Paleontological Site Stewardship training held by the BLM-Las Vegas district and the San Bernardino County Museum (SBCM). For those not familiar with the Nevada Revised Statute 383.0785 (1.c.) paleontological resources included as part of the stewardship program law passed in 2005. The SBCM's Nevada Paleontological Resource Stewardship Program (NPRSP) is an off-shoot of NASSP and incorporates the training manual and structure and code of ethics but with a greater emphasis on paleontological resources.

The SBCM received a Southern Nevada Interagency Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) grant to conduct this training specifi-

cally for the Upper Las Vegas Wash area. The Upper Las Vegas Wash is located in the northern part of the Las Vegas valley and contains a large amount of mega-faunal remains dating from 16,000 to 10,000 years ago. The area is unique, sensitive and is being considered for a National Monument designation by the National Park Service. Due to the increased recreational use of the area it is ideal for stewardship activities.

Just down the road, the Nevada Archaeological Site Stewardship Program is slated to begin both paleontological and archaeological site monitoring at the Tule Springs State Park. This undeveloped state land contains



*Fossilized faunal bone in matrix. Photo by Dena Sedar Lost City Museum 2010.*

the National Register Site of the "Tule Springs Archaeological Site" where the first radio carbon dating method was used.

As NASSP grows and expands it becomes even more exciting to think of the possibilities for assisting land managers monitor and protect these fragile non-renewable resources. Thank you Nevada Archaeological Association for your help and support even when we stretch the archaeological envelope to include paleontological resources! ☺





STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE:

## The Good, the Bad, and the Really Ugly

By Ron James and Sali Underwood

**M**ay is just around the corner and it is that time of year when requests for events supporting the Historic Preservation and Archaeological Awareness begins. Letters will be sent out soon to remind people to start planning ahead for public events. During these tough economic times it is even more important than ever to come together and educate the public about the importance of historic preservation and archaeological awareness. The cultural community needs our support and what better way to show it than by putting on educational workshops, lectures, tours and fairs full of activities and fun! This year's theme is 'Trails' and Nevada is blessed with many linear features that excite the mind and spirit! Let's make this one of the best Historic Preservation Months on record.

In other Nevada SHPO news, the office is pleased that Sara Fogelquist is back in the office after suffering a work-related injury. She is continuing to assist with National Register nominations when feasible as well as on Section 106 review. And congratulations to The National Park Service (NPS) for completing an excellent nomination to the National Register of Historic Places of the B-29 airplane that rests at the bottom of Lake Mead.

Work is continuing on a Landmark nomination for the petroglyphs at Lagomarsino Canyon in Storey County. The County is using some of its federal funding from the SHPO to support the Nevada Rock Art Foundation as it crafts the nomination.

The SHPO also signed off on the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative contract in September. This \$190,000 contract will conduct data clean-up for the NVCRIS cultural resource database for Lincoln County archaeological sites and surveys in NVCRIS. The project will begin in January 2011 and proceed through September 2013.

In addition, every eight years as part of the SHPO federal grant, NPS requires the state to complete a new historic preservation plan. Our new plan is due by the end of the 2011 calendar year. Initial

of steps have been begun in drafting the new state plan, and there will be an opportunity for the public to comment at a limited number of public meetings throughout the state in the future. Keep an eye out for announcements of these meetings.

Now onto the hard news: The budget submitted to Governor Gibbons calls for the elimination of the Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) effective July 1, 2011. This is in part due to the fact that there will be no sale of state backed bonds for the Commission for Cultural Affairs (CCA) grants. Due to the general cutback of bond sales and because of low interest rates the administration of the CCA grants program in the SHPO was running short of funding as described in the budget for this year. These CCA grants provide the state match for the Historic Preservation Fund Grant from the National Park Service. We have consequently asked for a General Fund increase of our budget from the Interim Finance Committee, which is meeting in mid December 2010. Without the requested increase, the Office would be forced to close in the spring of 2011 because of a lack of state match.

In addition, Congress has not passed our federal grant for the fiscal year beginning in October 2010. There is a concern that Congressional resistance to increasing the national debt limit could result in parts of the federal government to shut down, and this in turn could have a direct effect on our federal grant and the ability of the office to sustain itself. You may view the state budget at [http://www.budget.state.nv.us/FY2012\\_2013AgencyBudgetRequest.pdf](http://www.budget.state.nv.us/FY2012_2013AgencyBudgetRequest.pdf). This is grim news during very difficult times at the state, but things could change. ☹

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### ANNUAL NAA

### CONFERENCE IN ELKO

**T**he Nevada Archaeological Association Conference will be in Elko this year on April 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>. Papers are presented by professional archaeologists, students, and avocationalists on a variety of topics pertaining to the archaeology and history of Nevada. Please submit your abstracts to [gregseymour@nvarch.org](mailto:gregseymour@nvarch.org) by March 15. Abstracts should be 100 words or less and include contact information. ☺

## BOARD AGAIN: REMEMBER ALAMO!

**T**he next NAA board meeting will be January 15, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. in Alamo, NV at Windmill Ridge restaurant on Highway 93. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the Alamo Sinclair station (used to be a Chevron) for a tour of Alamo area rock art sites. Depending on availability and snow levels, we will visit one of the public area sites. NAA members are welcome to join us for the magical mystery tour that could be Crystal Wash, Shooting Gallery, Mt. Irish, or who knows??? Nick Pay from the BLM Caliente field office will join us for the tour. This area has several ongoing archaeological projects funded by the Lincoln County Archaeological Initiative. We will begin our regular board meeting at 2:00 and have lunch at Windmill Ridge. The price we pay for the meeting space is a fabulous lunch. Bring your appetite and cash. They bake the bread right there. For your after-holiday pleasure, Prez Eva Jensen will buy fresh baked cookies for everyone attending. ☺

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jan 15      2:00 PM. **NAA Board Meeting** in Alamo, NV at windmill Ridge restaurant on Hwy 93.
- Jan 22      **Historic Artifact Identification Workshop** taught by Ron Reno. Lost City Museum in Overton. Call 702-397-2193 for more information.
- Jan 31      **Lincoln Co. Archaeological Initiative.** Last day to submit ideas for funding priorities to Carol Bass ([carol\\_bass@blm.gov](mailto:carol_bass@blm.gov)) or Colleen Beck ([colleen.beck@dri.edu](mailto:colleen.beck@dri.edu)).
- Feb-March **Archaeological Site Recording Volunteer Work.** Coyote Springs Valley in Southern Lincoln County. E-mail Dr. Mike Cannon at [mcannon@swca.com](mailto:mcannon@swca.com), or call him at 801-322-4307 for more information.
- March 1      **Abstracts due** for the 8th Annual Nevada Rock Art Meeting. Submit 250 word abstracts to [khopkinson@nvrockart.org](mailto:khopkinson@nvrockart.org).
- March 15      **Abstracts due** for the Nevada Archaeological Association Conference. Send 100 word abstracts to Greg Seymour at [gregseymour@nvarch.org](mailto:gregseymour@nvarch.org).
- March 30-April 3      **Society for American Archaeology Conference.** Sacramento, CA. Check out <http://www.saa.org/> for more information.
- April 29-30      **Nevada Archaeological Association Conference** in Elko! Save the date. More information to follow.
- May 20-23      **8th Annual Meeting of the Nevada Rock Art Foundation.** Eureka, NV. Visit [www.nvrockart.org](http://www.nvrockart.org) for additional conference information.



**The Nevada  
Archaeological  
Association**

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

Submit your mini-reports (max. 5 pages  
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chapter reports, pictures,  
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Carson City, NV 89703

Phone: 775-888-7478  
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# SQUAWK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

By Gene Hattori, Nevada State Museum Curator

**“W**hat the heck  
is this?”

Our former Collections Manager, Alanah Woody “rediscovered” one of the State’s long-forgotten objects in Dr. S. L. Lee’s collection. It’s an ancient, mummified falcon crafted as an offering to the Egyptian god Horus. Horus was depicted in tomb paintings with a falcon’s head and human body and also represented in hieroglyphics as a stylized falcon and as a stylized eye.

Despite nineteenth-century Nevada’s frontier image, Nevadans participated in global, Victorian cultural movements, including Egyptian Revival. Egyptian artifacts were popular with both museums and collectors. One-time Nevadan, Adolph Sutro possessed one of the West Coast’s largest collections of Egyptian antiquities. Dr. Lee’s mummified falcon reflects an interesting specimen from his “cabinet of curiosities.”

Dr. Lee was a well-known Carson City physician and an inveterate Victorian collector. His collection ranges from an arrowhead given to him in 1857 when he was 13 years old to fine Limoges porcelain. It formed the nucleus of the Museum’s Anthropology, History, and Natural History collections. Contact me to see this mummy, [ghattori@nevadaculture.org](mailto:ghattori@nevadaculture.org) ☞



**Figure Caption: Egyptian Falcon Mummy from the Dr. S. L. Lee Collection. Archival sarcophagus fabricated by David Critchfield, Nevada State Museum.**



**Nevada Archaeological Association**

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