Fallon Mansion Tour

Heidi Englund arranged a wonderful tour with the Fallon Historical Society on Saturday, September 18, 2010. We were gracefully greeted by Debbie and Donna in a wonderful gazebo at the Churchill Vineyards located at the historic Frey Ranch in Fallon, Nevada. We gazed at the lovely surroundings and the grape arbor that covered the driveway. To the right of the ranch house is the cook house where many dinners were cooked and served. The tour of the ranch house began at the entryway that skirted past a sunny porch and office space. Architectural changes had been made to improve the flow of the house. We went up a stairwell entering the game room above the carport where ping pong and fooze ball were played.

The tour continued to the grapevines where we learned that the plants came to the vineyards in Model Dairy cartons and were then transplanted into the rows that we saw.

The bottling barn was our next stop. Pitting, straining, and bottling are done here. FYI, white wine is strained extra well with red wine having some sediment left in it. Wine is cured in oak barrels that cost from $700 to $1,000. The oak barrels last about three years and are then discarded. As we meandered through the bottling room, we were introduced to the family still and the brandy barrel where we shared the delectable aroma of brandy. Brandy will be ready in about two years.

Next we went to the Churchill Winery Grapevine covered driveway

Douglass Mansion. Andrea Rossman, photography curator for the Churchill County Museum, was our tour guide for the Mansion. Inside the blue walls

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set off the window seats wonderfully. The home had once been a doctor's office and hospital and later a bed and breakfast. The upstairs is now being renovated with the rooms painted with many flowers and unique architectural details.

We then drove to the Churchill County Museum where an outside mosaic wall was made by local school children in 1976. Many long-time residents love to tell the story of how the mosaic was made.

Lunch was a nice salad with a deli-style sandwich that was made by the Maine Street Café, Fallon’s favorite restaurant. The Maine Street Café, located at 810 Maine Street, offers their delicious focaccia from their bakery.

Andrea Rossman presented a power-point presentation on some of the famous Fallon women. Highlighted were:

- **Margaret Bartel** who was known for her Fairview Mining Company and the Allen Hotel.
- **Alice Towle Young (1896-1934)** who was a Nevada Assemblywoman from 1922 to 1924. Assemblywoman Towle worked with child labor laws and children’s rights bills.
- **Eva Adams (1910-1991)** from Wonder, Nevada, was a teacher and worked for Senator Pat McCarran as a buffer for most of his business matters. She is credited with the saying that “A woman must dress like a queen, act like a lady, think like a man, and work like a dog.” Miss Adams was appointed in 1961 by President Kennedy and reappointed by President Johnson in 1966 as the director of the U.S. Mint. She was the second woman to be director of the U.S. Mint.
- **Minnie Nichols Blair (1866-1972)** was an activist and rancher who dreamed of owning her own ranch. Mrs. Blair owned the Atlas Ranch in Churchill County known for its turkeys and cattle. She also opened the Spud-nut shop to sell potato doughnuts. She was instrumental in bringing electricity and plumbing to the local Indians.
- **Anna Rachel** was an independent woman of Rawhide who was interested in mining. Known for her spunk, “this lady does what she wants to do” said her daughter-in-law. While in Rawhide, she was approached by two long-haired men who wanted water. She refused their request and they left. Later it was found that one of these men was Charlie Manson. Her refusal to give them water probably saved her life. Although she never discovered her big bonanza, she was an early example of a Nevada woman who made her own choices in life.
- **Laura Mills (1886-1972)** was a photographer, teacher, taxidermist, civic leader and writer. She loved taking

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(Continued on page 3)
Message From
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Chair

Hello all!

First, special thanks and welcome to Chris and Lori the new co-editors of the Nevada Women’s History Project (NWHP) Newsletter. Please thank them and help them in this huge and very important task for our organization. The newsletter continues to be an important part in keeping our members informed and for sharing women’s history.

Second, I want to let everyone know that the NWHP office was closed from September 20, 2010 until mid-October for remodeling. Our parent organization, Nevada Women’s Fund, decided it was time for an office make-over with new paint and carpeting—compliments of the landlord and NWHP was included. NWHP member Carrie Porter organized the temporary move with the support of Kay Sanders and her Jean Ford Research Center Committee (JFRC). Mary Anne Convis and other members are graciously storing NWHP materials in their homes until our office space is operational again. Although this was not our plan, the steering committee decided this was the perfect opportunity to make changes to the office and position the JFRC for the future. I see an office open house in the near future!

Third, on November 6th, the third annual NWHP Writers Event was held. The speakers, writers and the event organizers produced an exceptionally high energy event—thank you to Kathy Noneman and her committee for their hard work. Since the last newsletter, NWHP members enjoyed: a beautiful “Pink Tea” at the Governor’s Mansion—compliments of Isabel Espinosa and Mary Anne Convis; a lovely NWHP Annual Meeting at the Gold Hill Hotel—compliments of Marcia Cuccaro; the Annual Jean Ford Wildflower Hike—compliments NWHP naturalist Kay Sanders and a wonderful Fallon event—compliments of Heidi Englund. Thank you to all those event organizers for your talents and the gift of your time.

Please check out the NWHP website (www.nevadawomen.org) for the new “First Ladies” section. It is very exciting and members Patti Bernard, Grace Davis and Marcia Cuccaro have worked hard on the research and development of this new project. If you want to be a part of any of our many programs or projects, committees or fundraisers, please call me at 775-849-2050 or email me at lightfeet@charter.net and I will facilitate the perfect opportunity to get just a little more involved.

Please let me know if I’ve missed something important to share or forgot to thank someone for their efforts or support. NWHP is staying strong. We are seeking and supporting other history connections and building membership locally and in other Nevada communities. We hope that you and yours are managing this very challenging financial time in our state and nation. Have a beautiful fall and the happiest of holidays.

Lisa-Marie Lightfoot

(Continued from page 2)

children on field trips to teach that the wild is just “the wild”. Laura Mills Park in Fallon is dedicated to her.

- **Wuzzy George**, a member of the Northern Paiute tribe, was instrumental in the preservation of “the way of the old ones” and was known for her basket weaving.

- **Margaret “Peg” Marean Wheat** was an author, geological surveyor, cave sitter, anthropologist, and photographer.

Lori Edwards
August Castle Peak Area Wildflower Hike

Ten NWHP members and friends enjoyed a mid-August hike to view wildflowers still in full bloom, in the Castle Peak area off I-80. This hike had been postponed for a month due to snow lingering in high areas of the Sierras. Our hiker party was happily greeted about half way up the trail by slopes of yellow senecios, lupines, larkspurs, columbines, asters and monkeyflowers, to name a few.

We were surprised by the large number of hikers heading out, a few of whom were carrying large packs for camping out overnight. The view of the peak, 9,103 feet at the top, with craggy, volcanic rocks predominant, was an interesting backdrop to our lunch stop just below the ridge leading to the peak.

Our hiking group consisted of Donna Clontz, Kathy Drake, Carleen Ernest, Isabel Espinoza, Brian Ashleman, Art Hakes, Kathy and Charlie Noneman, Kay Sanders, and Jan Walker.

As usual, we talked about taking another hike in the fall to enjoy the fall colors in the high Sierras. Nothing definite has been planned, but if we do, our members will be notified.

Kay Sanders

Taking a break from the hike are: Brian Adelman, Isabel Espinoza, Kathy Drake, Donna Clontz, Kay Sanders, Jan Walker, Art Hake, and Kathy and Charlie Noneman.

Obituary

Please take a moment to remember Betty Karen Ilfe from Carson City, Nevada. She passed away on August 5, 2010. Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, she moved to Carson City in the early 1940’s. Betty lead a lively and fulfilled life. She had a wide range of interests that included hosting class reunions and she was active in the Carson City Red Hatters. A memorial service and celebration of her life was held September 23, at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church. Betty performed a Chautauqua of the Harvey Girls.

A loss of any kind is easier when it is shared. Please let membership know when a loss occurs.

Please Note

Sponsors of NWHP events need to fill out attendance sheets to submit to Heidi Englund for our records.
Membership Report

Thank you to all of our individual members, supporting clubs and corporate members for your ongoing support.

Our membership includes:
- Individual Members 134
- Organizations 10
- Corporate Members 1
- Honorary Members 10
- Honorary NWF Members 33

We are pleased to welcome our new or rejoined members.

Grace Davis

New & Rejoined Members

Ana Maria Asahara
LySue Burkhamer
Neal Cobb
Nancy Cummings
Dianna Maria De Borges
Joyce Desteefanis
Doris Drummond
Lori Edwards
Christine Hoesch,
James McCormick
Diana Monfalcone
Debbie Smith
Angie Taylor

Treasurer’s Report

August 31, 2010
At the end of August, 2010, the Nevada Women’s History Project has $26,760.77 in the bank account. This year’s Pink Tea was profitable so thanks go to Isabel Espinoza for organizing it. Our net income for the year so far is $1,532.83 but our largest fundraiser, the November Author’s Luncheon, is still to come so we are expecting the yearly income to be higher.

Linda Wyckoff

Use of Member or Postal and E-mail Addresses

Use of these addresses shall be limited to:
- Notification regarding NWHP Events and correspondence regarding NWHP business
- Members addresses shall

under no circumstances be shared with individuals outside the NWHP and organizations other than NWHP.

Save This Information for Missing Newsletters

For missing printed newsletters, please contact Grace Davis @ 853-3200 or kandgdavis@pyramid.net.

For missing digital newsletters, please contact Marcia Cuccaro @ 883-1454 or vergato1@sbc.global.net.

One of the most common problems with the digital newsletters comes when an email address is changed.

New Column

Tips from Grandma...(or tips from the past)

Submit your hint, recipe, home remedy, home cleaning ideas, words of wisdom, love life advice, holiday tradition, or anything that might have been used in the past to edwardsqueenbee@yahoo.com. There has been a suggestion for a Nevada Women’s History Project cookbook. You may send your recipes to the above E-mail. Suggestions for a catchy name are also appreciated. Thanks
Eliza Cook was born on February 5, 1856, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Her parents, John and Margaretta Cook, had migrated from Birmingham, England, to join the Mormon settlement there. When Eliza was a child, her mother took her and her younger sister, Rebecca, and left Salt Lake City. They settled first in Soda Springs, Idaho, where Margaretta took in boarders. From there they moved to White Pine County, Nevada and then, in 1870 when Eliza was 14 years old, they settled in Sheridan, Nevada, where Eliza's uncle, John Cook, already resided.

Margaretta and her two daughters all worked. Margaretta sewed and took in washing, and the girls worked for families in the Carson Valley. As there was no school in the valley, the girls often borrowed books from the families for whom they worked. Eliza happened to read a little in a home doctor book and from that time on wanted to study medicine.

She got her chance to do so during the winter of 1879 and 1880, when she was hired by Dr. H. W. Smith, of Genoa, to nurse his wife through a particularly bad case of puerperal fever. He noticed her interest in his medical books and her natural way with her patient, and suggested that she study medicine. When she said she didn't know enough, he answered, "Oh yes, you do." Eliza studied with Dr. Smith for 6 months, and then entered Cooper Medical College in San Francisco, which later became Stanford Medical School. In her class of sixteen students, she was one of five women. She received her degree in 1884 and returned to Carson Valley to practice, making her home and office with her sister, Rebecca, and her brother in law, Hugh Park.

After practicing medicine for several years, and delivering babies from Genoa to Markleeville, Dr. Cook went back to school. She attended the Women's Medical School of Philadelphia during the 1890 1891 school term, then did graduate work the following summer at the Post Graduate Medical College of New York.

Armed with both a medical degree and graduate schooling, Dr. Cook opened an office in Reno, in November of 1891. However, after about six months there, she returned to practice in the Carson Valley, for, as she said at the time, she had never seen a place that suited her as well.

Not only did Dr. Cook practice medicine, but she was also very active in community affairs. When she was just 14 years old, she had joined The Band of Hope, a temperance organization for youth. Later, she became a member of The Good Templars, and was very active in the Women's Christian Temperance Union. She attended the state WCTU convention in Carson City in 1892, and served that organization as state president from 1896 until 1901. She lectured in both Genoa and Reno on "The Need for Plain Living."

Dr. Cook was also a strong supporter of women's rights. As she wrote, "My first protest against the prevailing social order came when a child" (Continued on page 7)
between eleven and thirteen I read in the third chapter of Genesis: 'Thy desire shall be to thy husband and he shall rule over thee.' That man should rule over woman was to my mind unjust. I went to my mother with my protest and she told me the husband's rule was right only when it was a righteous rule. That silenced my tongue for a time but not my mental protest."

In 1894 she wrote a letter to the Reno Gazette listing eleven reasons why she was in favor of women having equal voting rights with men. It was also printed in the Genoa Courier. She attended the meeting at McKissick's Opera House in Reno in October of 1895 to form the Nevada Women's Equal Suffrage League. There she was elected a vice president, along with Hannah Clapp, of Carson City. After her term was over, she became president of the Douglas County Equal Suffrage League, and continued to serve both organizations by circulating petitions, writing to legislators, and publishing letters in the newspapers. Again, in her own words, "During all this time my protests against the injustices of our socio economic system never ceased. I was a member of The Women's Suffrage Association and of The Women's Christian Temperance Union; circulated petitions for the former, talked on both subjects when opportunity offered and made myself very objectionable at times, I've no doubt."

In the spring of 1901, Dr. Cook took a year off from her medical and community responsibilities. She traveled abroad with a companion, visiting such places as the British Isles, Europe, Egypt, the Holy Land, Constantinople, and Greece. On her return, she spoke about the trip to many interested groups.

Dr. Cook continued to practice medicine from the home of her sister and brother-in-law until she had a small house built for herself in Mottsville and moved her office there in 1911. She retired from the medical profession in 1921, at the age of 65. After her retirement, Dr. Cook continued to do her own gardening and housekeeping. She was known for her excellent cooking and sewing. She was devoted to her nieces and nephews, and the whole family called her "Auntie." She read voraciously, and subscribed to many periodicals, including the Scientific Monthly, the Survey Graphic, the New Republic, the Nation, and the Pathfinder.

Dr. Eliza Cook died in her sleep on October 2, 1947, at the age of 91. She was found lying on her bed with her hands folded across her chest. On her bedside stand was a handwritten "Outline of My Life."

Dr. Cook considered herself to be the first woman doctor in Nevada. Even though she received her Medical Degree in 1884, she did not receive her Nevada medical license until April of 1899, as the state did not begin issuing them until that year.

Researched and written by Cherry Jones. Edited by Janet E. White.
The Old 1862 Ranch

This land was originally owned by Samuel S. Wright and James A. Barker. Sierra County tax records show that this parcel was 40 acres in size and had improvements worth $125.00. Their tax bill for 1866 was $3.66.

Wright continued to have an interest in the property for the next 20 years, although he changed partners, adding H.H. Bence. The size of this ranch increased until 1888, when they sold it to Caesar Ramelli. At this time the ranch was 160 acres and was taxed $26.05.

The Ramelli family owned the ranch until well into the twentieth century. Sometime in the 1940s the ranch was then sold to the Aldalbe family. Charlie Aldalbe and his family lived here for the next 30 years. There is an interesting legal story about the Aldalbes: since Charlie was a cattle rancher and did much of his business in Nevada, when he and his wife divorced, he was declared a Nevada resident and she was declared a California resident, all while living together in this house!

After the Aldalbe's sold out, the ranch was used by the Green Gulch Ranch for ranchhand accommodations. In the 1990s this ranch sold to Sam Jaksick and George Brown, who wanted to subdivide it into small one acre parcels. Sierra County rejected that proposal and allowed them to subdivide it into rather large acreages.

Jim and Jan Loverin purchased the property in 1984 and with their son Will, have lived here since 1986. We continue to cherish this lifestyle and love this property.

We have been very fortunate to meet surviving members of the Ramelli and Aldalbe families, who have provided us with sketches and photos of this property. Coincidentally, Samuel Wright was the director of the U.S. Mint in Carson City and Jan Loverin works for the Nevada State Museum, which is located in the U.S. Mint building.

We do have a website, which is through localharvest.org - once there type in The Old 1862 Ranch and our page will come up.

Jan Loverin

Jan Loverin has kindly opened her home and ranch for tours. A tour of the property will be planned soon....

Jean Ford Committee Members

Kay Sanders, co-chair, has been diligently working at the Jean Ford Research Center, with co-chair Carrie Porter. Included in the committee are Patti Bernard, Karen Brin-koetter, Grace Davis, Jackie Falkenroth, Nell Fozard and Margee Richardson. Thanks for all the hard work.

Kay Sanders
NWHP Partnering with StoryCorps

Our NWHP organization partnered with the national StoryCorps Mobile Oral History Tour, May 5th in downtown Reno. StoryCorps was launched from the Library of Congress on May 19, 2005 and is sponsored by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and NPR. Its mission is to collect oral history interviews at each month-long stop in various communities throughout the United States. The current section of Northern Nevada citizens were recorded during that time.

NWHP chose four individuals from the Reno/Carson City area as representative of Northern Nevada women. They were:

- Carolyn Carlon- First policewoman hired by the City of Reno Police Department. She was the first woman to complete the same strenuous physical police training requirements as her male counterparts. Carolyn was interviewed by NWHP member Cynthia Pickett.
- Gertrude Gottschalk-Carson City community activist and founding member of the Young Democrats in Nevada (1937). She was interviewed by Mark Gottschalk.
- Marjorie Sill-Reno Resident, environmental activist and a leader in the Nevada Conservation movement. She was interviewed by Shaaron Netherton.
- Kay Winters- Carson City community activist and founding member (1952) of the Carson Tahoe Hospital Auxiliary. She was interviewed by Patti Bernard.

Martha Gould, retired Head Washoe County Librarian and community and statewide-activist, also participated in the StoryCorps oral history program. She was interviewed by Sara Culver.

All of these women are long time residents of their communities and even after their professional retirements, have continued to be actively involved in community projects.

NWHP volunteers also participated in the day’s activities by registering participants and answering queries of the general public who stopped by the informational booth located alongside the trailer. They were Patti Bernard, Marcia Cuccaro, Martha Gould, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Kathy Noneman and JoAnne Peden.

Patti Bernard

Third and Final Oral History Training

The third and final Oral History Training was held on Saturday, May 22nd at the new UNR Knowledge Center (library). UNR Oral History Director Alicia Barber directed the training for a group of sixteen participants. Information included a review of important questions to be considered before any oral history project is begun and a review of the final draft of the NWHP Oral History Matrix that was generated at the May 2009 training. Alicia concluded with a wonderful overview of examples of various history organizations’ digital programs which are currently online. Sites such as the Worcester Women’s History Project http://www.wwhp.org/ and the Washington Women’s

(Continued on page 10)
Women of Achievement Award Nominee, Holly Van Valkenburg

Every year, NWHP participates in the Women Of Achievement event hosted by our parent organization Nevada Women’s Fund. Our nominee last May was member Holly Van Valkenburg. Read her award submission below:

I met Jean Ford when she was teaching the Travel class at Reno Business College and I was the Librarian. She invited me to participate in the initial meeting of the Nevada Women’s History Project and our association continued. It was certainly an exciting time!

During the years I have been the Chair of the North Steering Committee, the Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Program Chair. I served on the State Board as Project Review Chair and am currently in that position.

Patty Cafferata and I created the “Letters from Nevada’s Daughters” Project which is now “Telling My Story”. Women of Nevada are encouraged to provide information about their lives in the 20th and now 21st centuries for future histories of Nevada.

Currently I am on the committee to create a video about Jean Ford and the NWHP. I am also involved in gathering information about all the Women of Achievement awardees to put their information on our webpage.

I worked in libraries as a college student and began my professional career as an elementary school teacher, then a school librarian, academic librarian and public librarian. I now reside in Carson City where I am the Consulting Librarian for the Nevada State Library.


I was born in New York City, raised in Boulder, Colorado and spent 20 years in northern Wyoming on my way to Nevada, arriving in 1988. For many years I was very active in the American Association of University Women and am currently active in the Nevada Library Association, the Grassroots Lobby and the Capital Red Hatters. My favorite sport is white water rafting and, of course, I love to read!

If you would like to nominate a NWHP member for the NWHP’s Woman of Achievement award, please contact Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, 775-849-2050, lightfeett@charter.net.

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History Consortium http://www.washingtonwomenhistory.org provide examples of the many ways that our organization might choose to highlight materials and oral histories. Participants included Martha Gould, JoAnne Peden, Nancy Cummings, Kathy Noneman, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Grace Davis, Marcia Cuccaro, Lynn Bremer, Charlene Foley, Lori Edwards, Sue Smith, Sharon Netherott, Karen Brinkotter, Chris Hoesch, Margerie Sills and Patti Bernard.

Patti Bernard

Noteworthy News Clip From the Past

WASHINGTON, Feb.15—Women of America wrote the final chapter in the history of their struggle for the ballot tonight, when the memorial statue of the three great suffrage pioneers—Susan B Anthony, Elizabeth C Stanton and Lucretia Mott was formally installed in the Capitol rotunda. Delegates representing every State in the Union and more that fifty national Women’s organizations took part in the ceremonies.

Miss Jane Addams of Chicago was presiding officer. Mrs. Cara Bard Field of San Francisco delivered the presentation address and Speaker Gillette Accepted the statue in behalf of congress. Following the unveiling of the statue, the delegates costumed to represent the various States filed in a processional past the statue and placed floral offerings at its base.

Published February 16, 1921

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Annual Meeting—Gold Hill, Nevada

The NWHP annual meeting and lunch took place June 12th at the Gold Hill Hotel, in Gold Hill, NV.

On a perfect Nevada spring day, twenty-three members attended the meeting/luncheon which was chaired by President Lisa-Marie Lightfoot. The slate for officers for the coming year was unanimously approved. 2010-2011 officers are: Chair – Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, First Chair – Marcia Cuccaro, Treasurer – Linda Wyckoff, Secretary – Patti Bernard, Membership – Grace Davis, Programs – Heidi Englund, Archives – Carrie Porter, Project Review – Holly Van Valkenburgh, Jean Ford Research Center – Kay Sanders, Web Master – Lisa Marie Lightfoot, Newsletter – (vacant)

Washoe County Assemblywoman Debbie Smith was our guest speaker. She discussed how she became involved in local politics beginning with PTA and education which ultimately led to her decision to run for Washoe County Assemblywoman in 2000. She served for two years and was defeated in 2002. In 2004 she was again elected to the position of Washoe County Assemblywoman. She discussed the difference in reactions when men and women are faced with defeat. She discussed the issues of motherhood and how they intersect with the demands of political campaigning and political office. She encouraged women to be part of the political process and she addressed a myriad of questions from our members.

Holly Van Valkenburgh gave an update on the Jean Ford Project. Videographer, Gwen Clancy, gave an update on the Pink Tea Project. Guest Dianna Marie DeBorges related her interest in Sarah Winnemucca and provided information about her Sarah Winnemucca Chautauqua presentations. She would be available to do a presentation for the NWHP in the future.

Marcia Cuccaro

NWHP
Leadership
Steering Committee:
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot: Chair
Marcia Cuccaro: First Chair
Mary Anne Convis: Past Chair
Patti Bernard: Secretary
Linda Wyckoff: Treasurer
Holly Van Valkenburgh: Project Review
Heidi Englund: Programs
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot: Webmaster
Christene Hoesh and Lori Edwards: Newsletter Editors
TBD: Marketing and Publicity
Grace Davis: Membership
Education, Outreach and Review
Kay Sanders and Carrie Porter: Jean Ford Research Center
Carrie Porter: Archivist

Articles for the February/March, 2011 newsletter are due to Newsletter Editor, no later than January 25, 2011.
E-mail her at: edwardsqueenbee@yahoo.com

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