

CULTURAL DIVERSITY AT THE WILBUR D. MAY MUSEUM

Two multi-cultural celebrations, filled with fun events for the whole family, are planned for the month of November. On November 4th, the museum will host an Artists' Opening Reception from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the May Gallery featuring a group, Multicultural Art Exhibit, expressing different cultures and world views. Come for the reception and stay for the music provided by Silver Winds flute duo!

Join us November 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. to celebrate with music, dance, storytelling and foods of the many colorful ethnic groups that live in our community. Multicultural performers will entertain families at this day-long celebration. Museum staff will also offer special "crafts for kids" to ensure that their day is a memorable one! **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**

AAM Workshop on Writing a Collections Management Policy

AAM is pleased to offer "Best Practices in Collections Stewardship: Writing a Collections Management Policy" to be held January 12-13, hosted by the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco, CA. The workshop will be led by John Simmons, Collections Manager, Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center and Director, Museum Studies Program at the University of Kansas, and Elizabeth Merritt, Director, Museum Advancement & Excellence of the American Association of Museums. Agenda and registration form are available at <http://www.aam-us.org/getinvolved/learn/stewardshipseminar.cfm>. Registration is limited, so it is recommended you register before the closing date of January 5th, 2007. This seminar is based on the new AAM best-seller by Mr. Simmons, "Things Great and Small: Collections Management Policies" and is the first comprehensive view of the topic, complete with sections from sample policies. The book and seminar were developed in collaboration with the Registrar's Committee of the AAM.

Nevada Museums Association
c/o Denise Sins
National Automobile Museum
(The Harrah Collection)
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The Nevada Museums Association newsletter is published quarterly. Submissions and questions can be directed to:
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AAM FY 2007 APPROPRIATIONS

Advocacy Update for Museums!

Throughout 2006 AAM has been regularly communicating with museum advocates about development of the FY 2007 appropriations process and funding levels affecting museums. AAM now has updates to meet with museum advocates on the appropriations activities Museum Advocacy Team® members were alerted to on June 26, 2006.

Despite the lack of a budget resolution, both the House and Senate are operating under spending caps this year, making it more difficult for appropriators to find money to increase spending on federal programs to support museums. Appropriators have moved forward to mark up a number of spending bills. **The House has voted on 10 of its 11 appropriations bills. The House vote on the last remaining measure, which funds the Institute of Museum and Library Services (the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill), has been indefinitely postponed by the Republican leadership.** Current speculation holds that this bill will not be considered until after the November elections, though advocates may remember the full House Appropriations Committee approved of the President's recommended 13% increase for the Office of Museum Services at IMLS. For posting about the committee's activities or for contact information to thank your members of Congress on the committee for supporting this increase, visit the House Appropriations Committee website at <http://www.appropriations.house.gov/>.

The Senate recently began its appropriations process. The Senate Appropriations Committee agreed on the recommendations of the Interior Subcommittee for level funding for the National Endowment for the Arts at \$124.4 million and the National Endowment for the Humanities at \$141 million. AAM, Museum Advocacy Team®, and other arts and humanities advocates sought to have the committee support an additional million for each agency, which had already been approved by the full House in mid-May. The full Senate is expected to take up the interior appropriations measure, H.R. 5386, this month. **When the House and Senate versions of the bill are in conference, AAM will communicate with museum advocates on efforts to have lawmakers accept the higher level of recommended in the House bill. For more information, see previous MAT alerts or contact AAM at mat@aam-us.org.**

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President's Message

As your newly elected President, I want to thank the membership for the honor of serving on the Board. Your Board consists of 1st Vice-President Mark Hall-Patton, Cannon Aviation Museum and Clark County Museum; 2nd Vice-President and Membership, Vanya Scott, Atomic Testing Museum; Treasurer, Summer Kay, Fernley public school teacher; Secretary Jeannette MacGregor, Nevada State Museum; Newsletter Editor, Denise Sins, Curator, National Automobile Museum; State Representative/Field Services, Michelle Schmitter, consultant; and Past President, Steven High, Nevada Museum of Art. We all look forward to the next two years.

As I mentioned during the business meeting at the conference, NMA is now positioned with the Department of Cultural Affairs in seeking legislative approval of a regrating program. If the proposed budget is approved, NMA will receive \$100,000 for distribution through Nevada Humanities. They will work under our guidelines for administration and selection of regrantees. The position paperwork will be available on the website. The Board will be working on the details of this program throughout the next several months. As you may remember, Sandra Harris and Steven High introduced this idea and formulated a position paper for your approval in 2003 at the conference in Virginia City.

In a similar vein, the American Association for State and Local History is working on an initiation to secure federal formula grants for states in support of museums. AASLH is seeking resolution of support from other national, regional, state and local museum service organizations. They are asking NMA to indicate by resolution our commitment to move this effort forward by joining as a member of the Coalition Committee. This program parallels IMLS's library program. To find out more details, go to the advocacy section of the AASLH website, www.aaslh.org.

Once again, I want to thank Chair Amy Oppio and the Program Committee, host Nevada Museum of Art, keynote speaker Brian Hockett, and session presenters for producing an outstanding conference. I am certain all attendees returned to their museums with new insights, approaches and tools for addressing issues gleaned from the excellent sessions and from networking with other museum professionals.

Next year's conference will be held at the Atomic Testing Museum in Las Vegas. The Board will be using your evaluations from this year's conference in selecting a theme and sessions suggestions at our Board meeting in October. Please contact us with any other ideas and interests.

Pest Management Course in October

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a low-toxicity method of controlling pest infestations. In museums, IPM has become the standard method of treating incoming collections and monitoring collection holdings. This course defines IPM, discusses how infestations occur, helps you identify your risks, provides feasible mitigation strategies, discusses the different techniques of treating infested materials, and helps you complete an IPM plan and monitoring schedule tailored for your institution. The course covers insect, rodent/mammal, bird, bat and mold infestations. Other infestations will be covered according to student needs. Pest identification and eradication are covered.

Instructor Gretchen Anderson co-wrote *A Holistic Approach to Museum Pest Management*, American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) Technical Leaflet 191 in 1990. She established the Science Museum of Minnesota's Conservation Department in 1989 after conservation internships and courses at Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The American Museum of Natural History, the Smithsonian's Conservation Analytical Lab, the Canadian Conservation Institute, Getty Conservation Lab and the Minnesota Historical Society. At the Science Museum, she established a rigorous IPM program and continues to experiment with least-toxic pest control techniques. A member of the American Institute for Conservation and the Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections, Ms. Anderson lectures and presents workshops on preventive conservation, IPM and practical methods and materials for storage of collections. She is committed to increasing public understanding of the role of conservation in preservation, both inside and outside of the museum.

Support for this course is provided by Bio-Integral Resource Center (BIRC) in Berkeley, California. BIRC is a nonprofit organization offering over 25 years of insight, experience and leadership in the development and communication of least-toxic, sustainable and environmentally sound Integrated Pest Management (IPM) methods. BIRC has worked with local, state and national agencies in devising programs of scientific research. The course will last for six weeks. The course format is self-paced through 8 sections. The instructor will be available at predetermined intervals throughout the course. This course will include on-line literature, slide lectures and student/teacher/group teacher dialogue. Dates: October 2 to November 10. Cost: \$395. Location: www.museumclasses.org. Class limit, 20 students.

2007 Conservation Assessment Program Applications Available This Fall

The Heritage Health Index, a comprehensive study of the condition of U.S. collections, found that 75% of small museums and historical societies need a condition assessment of their collections. Are you one of them? If so, the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) can help!

CAP is designed to help small to mid-size museums of all types, from art museum to zoos, obtain a general assessment of the condition of their collections, environment and historic buildings. Following an on-site assessment by a conservation professional, the museum receives a written report recommending priorities to improve collections care. This report assists museums in educating staff and Board members on preservation practices, creating long-range and emergency plans, and raising funds to improve the care of their collections.

The FY2007 CAP applications will be mailed on Friday, October 6, 2006, to museums on the CAP mailing list and will also be available on Heritage Preservation's website at www.heritagepreservation.org. The postmark deadline for applications is December 1, 2006. Eligible participants will be accepted into the program on a first-come, first-served basis. Heritage Preservation's CAP is supported through a cooperative agreement with the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Nevada Northern Railway East Ely Complex, Locomotives and Rolling Stock Recognized as National Historic Landmark

On September 27, 2006, Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne announced the designation of the Nevada Northern Railway East Ely yard complex, locomotives and rolling stock in Ely, Nevada as a National Historic Landmark, acknowledging it as “the best preserved, least-altered, and most complete main yard complex remaining from the steam railroad era.”

National Historic Landmark status is the highest recognition accorded by our nation to historic properties possessing “exceptional value or quality in illustrating and interpreting the heritage of the United States.” Since the program began in 1935, fewer than 2,500 properties nationwide have achieved NHL designation. Moreover, only a handful of designations represent the nation’s railroads: The Baltimore and Ohio Transportation Museum and Mount Clare Station in Maryland; Colorado’s Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad; Pennsylvania’s East Broad Top Railroad; and the Union Pacific depot in Cheyenne, Wyoming, the last of the grand, nineteenth-century depots remaining on the transcontinental railroad.

The Northern Nevada Railway complex at East Ely thereby joins an elite company of historic places with an irreplaceable legacy and national significance extending beyond local, state and regional boundaries. “Among all railroad sites anywhere in North America,” notes William L. Withuhn, Curator, History of Technology and Transportation, Smithsonian Institution, “the Nevada Northern Railway complex at East Ely is - no question in my view - the most complete, most authentic, and best cared-for, bar none. It’s a living American treasure and a stand-out one.” He further elaborates that the East Ely site is “a precious piece of Nevada’s heritage and, just as important, a step back in time into an all-important era in American history and our nation’s cultural heritage.”

Mark Bassett, Executive Director of the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, attributes the survival of the complex, locomotives and rolling stock to both its remoteness and the vision of local residents. “When the railway closed in 1983, had it been located anywhere else, the track would have been torn out, equipment scrapped or sold, and the buildings razed. The only thing left would be fading photographs and memories.” Instead, the fifty-six acre complex, its sixty-six structures, along with locomotives, rolling stock and corporate records survive as “a window on life in the last century - a place where time stopped. For the past twenty two years, explains Bassett, people with vision have worked to save the railroad and complex. Their work has paid off. Today, steam, locomotives 40 and 93 are back into service. Coach 5 and Baggage/RPO 20 are still in service carrying passengers as they have been for the past century. A person can purchase a ticket at the original ticket window, board the original passenger cars and leave Ely behind the original locomotive heading out on the original track.”

“The reason this is possible is because people recognized the importance of this piece of Americana. At one time, innumerable towns across America had a railroad complex like the one in East Ely; almost all have disappeared - bulldozed to the ground and covered over by shopping malls. People with vision believed that his museum was a national treasure deserving preservation.” This week’s announcement designating the site as a National Historic Landmark, and coinciding with the centennial of the railway’s arrival in Ely on September 29, 1906, validates their conviction.

For more information, please contact the Nevada Northern Railway Museum at 1-800-407-8326 or 775-289-2085, or visit the website at www.nnry.com for photos and an electronic copy of this release.

RESEARCH PROJECT EXAMINES ATTENDANCE AT CULTURAL EVENTS

In November of 2005, the Wallace Foundation released a report relating to why people attend cultural events. “The Diversity of Cultural Participation: Findings from a National Survey,” a 48-page report based on a national survey conducted by the Urban Institute, explores the widely varying motivations and expectations people have when they attend different types of artistic events.

Taking a broad and inclusive definition of culture, the survey asked a random sample of 1,231 Americans (a 45% response rate) about their participation patterns, motivations and experiences. The survey was administered in the summer of 2004 and investigated people’s year-long arts involvement as well as their perceptions about the most recent event they attended, providing valuable information about what people want out of each artistic discipline.

The study’s central conclusion was that “participation in arts and cultural events is not monolithic, though it is frequently discussed and acted upon as if it were. For instance, most people who attend museums say they are strongly motivated by a desire to learn something new. This is not true of those who attend music performances or plays, for whom a primary motivation is to socialize with friends and family.”

The Wallace Foundation, based in New York, commissioned the project as part of its effort to help arts groups build and sustain their audiences. For more information and to download a PDF version of the report, visit the Wallace Foundation website at www.wallacefoundation.org and go to the Arts Participation section of the site’s Knowledge Center.

Vicki Cassman Accepts New Position

Vicki Cassman has left the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and has accepted a position as the director of undergraduate art conservation studies at the University of Delaware, 303 Old College, Newark, DE. 19716. Her email address is vcassman@udel.edu. Her new phone number is 302-831-8092. Vicki predicts the Las Vegas community will need to put pressure on the Department of Anthropology to offer museum studies courses in the future. She wants to wish the Nevada museum community the best!

Native American Day

Southern Paiutes from the Moapa area and Native American tribes from the surrounding states will gather at the Lost City Museum on November 18, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. to share their spirit of dance, drums and song.

Our museum grounds will make your spirit come alive. We will provide the singing, dancing, drumming, arts, crafts, food and much more. Please attend and show your appreciation to the Native American guests who will be here to share their talents and trades. There will be demonstrations you may participate in, story tellers you can listen to and of course you can stroll through our wonderful museum and learn of the Anasazi people that walked here many years ago. We look forward to your visit. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for anyone over 65, children and members are free. For more information, call 775-687-8323 or on the web at www.nevadaculture.org.

Calendar of Events and Exhibits in Nevada

OCTOBER 2006

Nevada State Railroad Museum

October 19 to 22, 2006

The 35th Annual Railroad History Symposium

October 22, 2006, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Steam Train Rides

October 29, 2006 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Steam Train Rides

10:00 to 2:00 p.m. **Capital City Community Band playing in Gibson Park**

6:00 p.m. **Halloween Express Train** - 1st time ever!
For more information, please call 775-687-6953.

Nevada State Museum & Historical Society Las Vegas

Through March 12, 2007 *Meditations on Nature: Macro Photography by David Lancaster* For more information, please call 702-486-5205 x 227

NOVEMBER 2006

Nevada State Museum

Ongoing: *¡Viva la Revolución!: Money of the Mexican Revolution*, a bilingual exhibit on loan from the American Numismatic Association Money Museum, is on display in the Changing Gallery through January 17, 2007.

November 4, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

El Dia de Muertos (Day of the Dead) a multicultural celebration, lecture by Dr. Carlos Romo, sugar skulls, paper crafts, displays, and more! Co-sponsored by the Latino Parents Committee, Carson City Citizen Outreach and Hispanic Services. For more information, call Deborah Stevenson at 775-687-4810 x 237. Se habla español.

November 17, 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours in Anthropology, featuring *Great Basin Basketry Archaeology of the Carson City Mint* and *Santini Incised Stones*. Natural History Curator's tour also available, featuring *Plants and Animals of Nevada*. For reservations, call Deborah Stevenson at 775-687-4810 x 237.

November 17, 10:00 a.m. to noon
and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1 by volunteers Ken & Karen Hopple in the historic Mint Building. For more information, call Bob Nysten at 775-687-4810 x 239.

November 28, 7:30 p.m.

Frances Humphrey Lecture Series, Personages of the Mexican Revolution and Their Coinage, bilingual presentation by Don Bailey and Joe Flores, sponsored by the Reno Coin Club. Free for members. For more information, call Bob Nysten at 775-687-4810 x 239.

Nevada State Railroad Museum

November 8, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. **Wednesday Evening Program: China Steam** by Bill Kohler

November 24 & 25, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Steam Train Rides** For more information, please call 775-687-6953.

Lost City Museum

November 18, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. **Native American Day**. For more information, please call 702-397-2193

Calendar of Events and Exhibits in Nevada, *continued*

National Automobile Museum

The Harrah Collection

November 9, 2006 through April 16, 2007 *Hot Rods: "Cool" on Four wheels*
Built for speed and designed for attention, they are simply the coolest rides on four wheels. **Opening reception, November 9, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** Raffle drawing. For more information, please call 775-333-9300

November 9 to May 6, 2007

Time Capsule: The Back Roads of Northern Nevada This exhibit is a time capsule, photographed along the back roads of northern Nevada in 2005 by artist Robert Cinkel.

November 13 & 14

AARP Driver Safety Program, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. A refresher course for those over 50 years of age. Receive an insurance discount when you participate in this class. For more information or to sign up, please call 775-786-3509.

Wilbur D. May Museum

November 4, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. *Multicultural Art Exhibit opening reception*

November 11, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Multicultural Celebration featuring music, dance, storytelling and foods of many nations. For more information, please call 775-785-5961.

Clark County Museum

November 18 through January 14, 2007 *Celebrate the Season, 1940-1960*. Anna Roberts Parks Exhibit Hall, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Adults \$1.50, children/senior \$1.00. A nostalgic look at mid 20th century America featuring family traditions, the holiday shopping frenzy and popular gifts, along with the many traditions that originated in the 1940s, 50s and 60s.

November 10 to January 15, 2007

Heritage Street Holidays, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Adults \$1.50, children/senior \$1.00. Step into the holidays past on Heritage Street where the restored historic homes will be in old time trim. Travel back in time to the 1920s, 30s, 40s and 50s to enjoy the trees, ornaments and household decorations that made the holidays glad for southern Nevadans. For more information, call 702-455-7955.

December 2006

Lost City Museum

December 2, *Holiday Open House*, 8:30 to 4:30 p.m. FREE. Light refreshments will be served while soft music plays for guests' listening pleasure. A raffle will be held at 2:00 p.m. for select merchandise the Moapa Valley merchants have donated. You do not have to be present to win.

Nevada State Railroad Museum

December 6, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. *Wednesday evening program* To Be Announced.

December 9 & 10

Santa Train, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free rides for all!
For more information, please call 775-687-6953.

Nevada State Museum

December 29, 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. *Demonstration of Coin Press No. 1* by volunteers Ken & Karen Hopple in the historic Mint Building. For more information, call Bob Nysten at 775-687-4810 x 239.

December 29, 10:30 a.m. to noon
and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Behind-the-Scenes Tours in Anthropology, featuring *Great Basin Basketry Archaeology of the Carson City Mint* and *Santini Incised Stones*. Natural History Curator's tour also available, featuring *Plants and Animals of Nevada*. For reservations, call Deborah Stevenson at 775-687-4810 x 237.

Hot Rods: "Cool" on Four Wheels

The National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection) will be celebrating its 17th anniversary on November 9th, 2006, with two new exhibits. Hot Rods: "Cool" on Four Wheels celebrates the street rod phenomenon with six beautiful examples of the "coolest" rods in town! Come and see "Nobility," a hot little black and pink number, a hot red roadster with leaping yellow flames, a stunning pearlescent pink cabriolet, 1932 and 1933 wild roadsters and a luscious Ford Coupe, all in one fantastic show. This exhibit will open November 9, 2006 and run through April 16, 2007. Opening reception is at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, November 9, 2006. The annual raffle drawing for a Corvette will take place that evening as well.

TIME CAPSULE - The Back Roads of Northern Nevada

This exhibit is a *Time Capsule*, photographed along the back roads of northern Nevada in 2005 by artist Robert Cinkel. The pictures capture the past through a visual timeline of structures and landmarks still standing today. Many are already threatened by time, and all will undoubtedly fall victim to decay or progress in the years that lie ahead. From these images a common threat emerges...the influence of the automobile on the fabric of our lives. This exhibit will open November 9, 2006 and run through May 6, 2007.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM AT THE MUSEUM

A refresher course especially designed for drivers 50 and older. This program qualifies for auto insurance discounts for those 55 and older who take the course. Learn defensive driving techniques; find out how to cope with age-related changes in your vision, hearing and reaction time; get an insurance discount; DON'T MISS OUT! \$10 per person. Class is limited to 30 people. The class takes place Monday and Tuesday, October 23rd and 24th from 1 to 5 p.m. You must register in advance. Call (775)-786-3509 to sign up.

THE 35TH ANNUAL RAILROAD HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

The V & T and Beyond: Nevada Railroads in the 1st Decade of the 20th Century - The decade that ended in 1910 was filled with momentous events for Nevada Railroads. The V & T extension to Minden, and the railroads around Tonopah, the Western Pacific, Nevada Northern and the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake all were built during these years. Each will be a presentation topic, as will Reno streetcars and Southern Pacific's relocation of its shops to Sparks. The banquet program will feature a presentation on Clark, Harriman and the San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake. A Sunday bus tour in Reno, with stops at the N-C-O Depot and ReTrac projects, is planned. The symposium is scheduled for October 19, 2006 to October 22, 2006 at the Nevada State Railroad Museum, 2180 S. Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89701. For more information, please call 775-687-6953.

Halloween Express



Trick or treaters of all ages are invited to ride the first ever Halloween Express at the Nevada State Railroad Museum on Sunday, October 29, 2006, beginning at 6:00 p.m. The train rides will have ghostly entertainment. There will be activities in the Depot, ranging from Pin the Tail on the Black Cat to the creepy, crawly remains of "Hal O'ween." Bags full of goodies will be given to kids at the end of each train ride.

Online Exhibit Fundamentals Course in November

Nearly every museum develops exhibits, but how can we improve communication with visitors while taking care of our objects? Exhibit Fundamentals explores exhibits from idea to final installation in a variety of settings. Topics include exhibit theory, the role of the museum's mission, creating a timeline, accessibility and script writing. Also covered are design elements, installation techniques, object safety and security, visitor safety and evaluations. Each student develops an exhibit plan for his or her museum. Instructor: Lin Nelson-Mayson. Dates: November 6, 2006 to December 1, 2006. Cost: \$395.

Location: www.museumclasses.org.

RESOURCES... Techsoup.org/stock, a great place for nonprofits to get software and hardware at very affordable prices. Here's another one...www.shopformuseum.org, an online marketplace that gives the member institution a percentage of all sales. You even get a percentage back from your own online purchases!

TIDBITS... August 30, 2006, in the showroom of the Suncoast Hotel and Casino in Summerlin,

Nevada, fifteen women from all over the state vied for the title of Ms. Senior Nevada. Elizabeth Rassiga representing Austin, Nevada and Leland House (soon to open as a Women and Children's Museum) danced the Can-Can and strutted her evening dress to win 3rd runner-up. "Thrilled with third," Elizabeth will be dancing the 22nd of October at a fund raiser in Mesquite to benefit the Senior Center in that city. Needless to say, she'll also be cheerleading for the new museum along with the smallest, oldest town on the Loneliest Road in America...Austin, Nevada.



Elizabeth in costume

Humboldt Museum...The town of Winnemucca once had a thriving Chinese community of 400. Wonderful remnants remain of this historical period that disappeared in 1955. The boyhood memories of James R. Chew, along with exquisite Chinese artifacts and his original sketch of his birthplace are now on display at the Humboldt Museum. For more information, contact Pansilee Larson at 775-623-2912.

Sierra Business Council...The Sierra Business Council is a nonprofit association of more than 500 business, agencies and individuals working to secure the social, environmental and financial health of the Sierra Nevada region for this and future generations. Visit their website at www.sbcouncil.org.

Lyon County Museum News ~ A recent addition, *The Portuguese in Mason Valley*, tastefully designed by Board member Elsie Brower, consists of handwork, photographs and memorabilia depicting the lives of many local pioneer Portuguese families.

News of note is the present concrete construction project at the Museum's entrance, including an updated entryway and handicap accessible walkways. Funds for the renovation were made possible by a gift from the late Calmer Johnson in honor of his wife Enide, a past president of the Museum.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE : JANUARY 15, 2007 for January-March events

Courtesy of Tom Dyer,
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas



Nevada State Museum Promotes Bilingual Program and Exhibits

The Nevada State Museum (NSM) in Carson City is embarking on a new adventure in multicultural programming: bilingual (Spanish/English) exhibits, programs and audio tours! According to Museum Director Jim Barmore, "NSM strives to make the museum relevant and enjoyable for all groups. This fall, we're unveiling a package of special activities highlighting Latino heritage." These programs complement NSM's mission to "engage diverse audiences in understanding and celebrating Nevada's natural and cultural heritage."

November 2, 2006, NSM celebrates *El Dia de Muertos* or Day of the Dead. This fun family event features sugar skulls, cut paper designs, folkloric figurines, exhibits and a lecture.

A bilingual (Spanish/English) exhibit entitled *¡Viva la Revolución! Money of the Mexican Revolution* is on display at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City from November 2006 through mid-January 2007. *¡Viva La Revolución!* Traces the individuals and events of the Mexican Revolution through the medium of money. The exhibit features coins, paper money, military decorations and numismatic material from 1910-1920, a turbulent period in Mexico's history. The exhibit, sponsored by the Reno Coin Club and Bretzlaff Foundation, is on loan from the American Numismatic Association (ANA) Money Museum. The Nevada State Museum's history program contributed a section on the role of Latinos in Nevada history.

Don Bailey and Joe Flores served as consultants for the ANA Money Museum's exhibit, *¡Viva la Revolución!* and are the authors of the exhibition catalogue. Bailey and Flores will present *Personages of the Mexican Revolution and Their Coinage*, a bilingual (Spanish/English) program and book signing from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2006.

In cooperation with Sandpail Productions, NSM is producing bilingual audio tours for the exhibits *Nevada: A People and Place through Time* and *Under One Sky: Nevada's Native American Heritage*. Jim Barmore says, "We know our regular visitors will enjoy these new programs. We hope to see some new faces too! For more information, contact 775-687-8-4810 or visit www.nevadaculture.org.

Course Announcement...Museum Artifacts: How They Were Made, How They Deteriorate, October 16 through November 24, 2006. Cost: \$395. Location: www.museumclasses.org.

By learning to understand the materials and the processes used to make objects, participants in this class are better prepared to decide how to care for their collections. Though every object is unique, items made of the same material share similar characteristics. Participants will examine two objects that represent all materials found in our museums. Through an in-depth analysis of these two objects and their components, they will explore all possible objects found in any museum. The two objects, an Aleut Hunting Hat and an Art Deco Fireplace, use every organic and inorganic material used to create every object a museum might collect.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Balance is \$13,254.23

GREAT BASIN NATIONAL HERITAGE ROUTE

Finally, after years of effort, the Great Basin National Heritage Route Act passed both houses of Congress! It has taken six years of grass roots activities for the Great Basin Heritage Area Partnership to achieve this formal recognition of the national significance of the history, landscape and archeology within the area that consists of Millard County, Utah and White Pine County, Nevada. As of October 11, 2006, the locale has been designated an official National Heritage Area.

Attractions within the Heritage Route include most notably the Nevada Northern Railway Museum that achieved National Historic Landmark status this month and the Topaz Museum in Millard County, that is seeking National Historic Landmark status. Also within the Heritage Route are Great Basin National Park, miles of classic Great Basin scenery, wildlife refuges, important sources of the labor industry tied to mining and railroads, and communities of Shoshone, Southern Paiute, and early pioneers.

After completing a management plan, the legislation provides for up to one million dollars a year for a ten year period for preservation, interpretation and marketing within the Heritage Route. All projects require a 50% match to apply for funding.

The management entity consists of Board members from both counties, the Ely Shoshone Reservation and the Duckwater Shoshone Reservation. Nevada representatives on the Board are Jerry Meyers of the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Virginia Terry of the Ely Renaissance Society, Dan Braddock of the White Pine and McGill Drugstore Museums, David Tilford, Chairman of the Great Basin National Park Foundation and Delaine Spilsbury of the Ely Shoshone Tribe. The current president is Denys Koyle. Tonia Harvey of Baker was the first president of the Board and remains involved as grant writer. Cindy Nielson, Superintendent of Great Basin National Park is the Heritage Routes liaison with the National Park Service Western Regional Office in San Francisco.

News From Friends of Midas

Friends of Midas is building a virtual museum. A website is under construction which will allow visitors to take a narrated tour of Midas, the old jail, cemetery and the historic school that was destroyed by fire. Many of the artifacts and photographs which were on display in the school museum will be included. Many other features are included and the unique composition is being directed by Ben Tedore, a freelance web designer and a Macintosh Network Technician for the University of Nevada, Reno.

The historical information which is presented on the website comes from one of two Friends of Midas publications. *A Century of Enthusiasm, 1907-2007*, *A History of Midas, Nevada*, authored by Dana R. Bennett and designed by Nancy Peppin will be available in time for Midas to celebrate its centennial year. Copies will be available to libraries, museums and historical groups, compliments of Newmont Mining.

A second publication entitled *Still Cookin' After All These Years, 1907-2007* will contain recipes, quips and quotes from the many people who have been a part of this old mining camp over the last 100 years. Loree Blanton of Loree Graphics is designing this publication. It will be ready in time for holiday shoppers.

If you would like more information, we welcome your inquiries and comments at www.friendsofmidas@yahoo.com.



ONGOING EXHIBITS AT THE NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Locomotive Stories of the V & T ~ The exhibit tells the story behind the mighty locomotives that powered the Virginia and Truckee Railroad. The exhibit uses sixteen models crafted by George L. Richardson as the backdrop for a series of stories about the historic railroad's locomotives that once served northern Nevada and the Comstock. In addition to the model locomotives, the exhibit also contains historic photographs of the locomotives at various stages of their careers. Other interesting artifacts on display include the sextant and leather-covered notebook used by I. E. James while he was surveying the route of the V & T Railroad in the 1860s.

Teaching Nevada History with Railroad Models ~ During the coming year, the Nevada State Railroad Museum will present several model railroad exhibits telling the story of Nevada railroads in the 20th century. An HO-gauge model railroad is being constructed at the museum by Carson City Railroad Association members. Scenery on the layout will depict a generic Nevada landscape as a backdrop for trains of any era. It will operate on weekends with a variety of trains to represent specific eras or themes. These are the first of several upcoming NSRM exhibits that will portray Nevada's 20th century railroad history. Exhibits will remain in place for six to nine months. Some may stay longer. The objective of every exhibit, operating or static, will be to reveal railroad history through railroad models.

Temporary exhibit: Still a World Apart: Visual Profiles of Contemporary Railroaders ~ Runs July 1, 2006 through December 31, 2006. The Center for Railroad Photography & Art highlights the human side of modern railroading in the western states, a last frontier where some people run trains or maintain track in all weather at all hours of the day and night, while others spend their entire job shifts in front of computer screens. The photographs date from the 1970s, beginning with the passenger train transition to Amtrak, to today. They come from urban and rural settings throughout the west. The workers themselves are the focus of these photographs. The Center, with support by the North American Railway Foundation, has created exhibitions across the country, telling the public about the past and present importance of railroads in their own communities.

More On-Line Museum Classes ~ Preservation Environments: Preservation Environments is essential for anyone considering a new building or expanding or retrofitting an old one. Participants learn about methods for controlling temperature and humidity and the advantages and disadvantages of each. Preservation Environments does not try to turn museum professionals into engineers, but it does equip them with the vocabulary and basic knowledge necessary to represent the interests of the collection with facilities engineers and maintenance professionals. Learn when and how to monitor, how to read psychrometric charts, how to determine the environmental control capacities of your building and where the future might lead museums. Location: www.museumclasses.org. Cost: \$395. Dates: November 14 through December 8, 2006. Instructor: Ernest A. Conrad.

Disaster Planning II: Writing a Disaster Preparedness Plan ~ Are you ready for the unthinkable? A written disaster-preparedness plan is not only a good idea, its also a requirement for accreditation. Instructor Terri Schindel reviews and provides input as participants in Disaster Planning II write plans that outline the procedures to follow in various emergencies. The completed plan prepares museums physically and mentally to handle emergencies that can harm vulnerable and irreplaceable collections. The course is scheduled so you will complete a disaster-preparedness and response plan before hurricane, tornado, fire and flood seasons. Location: www.museumclasses.org. Cost: \$395. Dates: November 6 to December 15, 2006.