



# Carson City Historical Society

Roberts House Museum & Wungnema House © May 2007



Pictured above are Thurman, Annie, James and Josie Roberts (and faithful dog) in front of their Roberts House Home in Carson City, Nevada. This photo was scanned from a blue print photo from the collection of Noreen Humphries. Want to know more about Annie Griffith Roberts and how she came to America? See inside...

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UPCOMING EVENTS: ---"Through the Garden Gate" Home Tour, Sunday June 3. ---Membership meeting at Tahoe Ridge, dinner, wine tasting and tour of Van Sickle Ranch on June 10. ---Lecture by Susan James on Julia Bulette at Carson City Library on June 28. MORE INSIDE





# President's Comments

Dear CCHS Members:

Thanks so much for the great response and for paying dues for this year. There are still a few folks out there we haven't heard from. So please remember to pay your dues if you haven't already. We need your support in so many ways.

We have lots of events coming up. Starting in June, our first event is "Through the Garden Gate" Home/Garden Tour which will be June 3. The starting time is now noon and it will end at 5. The next bit of good news is that we have dropped the prices to \$10 per person (because gas is so high). To top it off we have four new locations: the Adams House, The Smail House and two new garden only locations -- one is the Hansen/Martino garden on North Nevada and the Hardest-Ballardino garden in Lakeview. I've seen both gardens and they're gorgeous. Below is a sneak preview of the Hansen/Martino garden. Its even more beautiful in color.

The next event is our Annual Membership Meeting to be held at Tahoe Ridge Winery on Sunday, June 10. Cost for tour of Van Sickle Ranch, wine tasting and buffet dinner is \$20 (This is member only cost). Reservations must be in to Jan Perry by JUNE 1, 884-1448. You are urged to bring a friend, nonmember fee is \$25, unless they join, then its \$20.

The last event for June will be on June 28 and will be at the Carson City Library at 7:00 p.m. Our speaker will be Susan James and the topic "Julia Bulette." Susan has done extensive research on Julia's life. This lecture is free and open to the public.

We are continuing to meet with City staff regarding building of the Carriage House. We are currently in need of an additional \$20,000 to complete the first phase. If any of you would like to donate to the cause, your donation is a tax deduction. Again, thanks to Fred Stanio for all his hard work on this project.

The first yard sale of the season is this Saturday, May 19. Roberts House Parks will be full of customers and vendors... So please come and have fun!

In other news, we are currently updating the inventory... To date Susan Matthes has spent 35 hours on the project. We've accumulated lots of antiques over the years, and that is why we are building a Carriage House, so we have room to expand. I want to thank Susan for the many hours she has put in (and I think Paula Cannon has spent many hours also). So thank you both.

I look forward to seeing you at our many events.

Cheers and good health,

Sue Ballew, President

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Remember  
June 3 is the Victorian Garden Tour from noon to 5, 9 locations. Cost of ticket \$10 per person. Tickets are available at the Carson City Convention Bureau, Greenhouse Garden, White Cat Antiques and Roberts House, day of tour.

June 10 is the Annual Membership Meeting at Tahoe Ridge Winery. Cost of wine tasting, buffet dinner and tour of Van Sickle Ranch is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Please bring a friend. See flyer inside newsletter and make reservations with Janet Perry at 884-1448

June 28 is the lecture on Julia Bulette done by Susan James at the Carson City Library at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public.



The Carson City Historical Society is located at the Roberts House Museum, 1207 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 1864, Carson City, Nevada 89702. The Carson City Historical Society and the Parks Foundation are a 501 ( c ) 3 nonprofit organization and maintain the Roberts House Museum and the Wungnema House

For questions: call Sue at 882-5684

### OFFICERS

President CCHS  
Susan J. Ballew

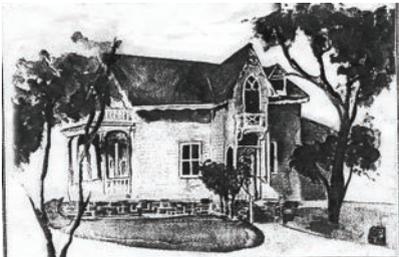
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Secretary CCHS and Parks  
Foundation: Susan Matthes



Dues are due for  
2007.

Please help support your  
Historical Society!





## The Story of Annie Griffin Roberts



The Story of Annie Griffin Roberts

by Sue Ballew

Introduction -- So much is left unwritten and untold about any lifetime. We just gather bits and pieces and imagine the rest. And so it is with Annie Griffin Roberts. But if it weren't for a young girl who lived next door to Annie Roberts by the name of Ruth Lindsay, none of what I am about to tell you would be known.

Annie Griffin Roberts was born November 11, 1844, in Liverpool, England. Her father's name was James Griffin, and her mother's name was Annie Malion. Both were born in England. She lived in the Roberts House 50 years until her death February 17, 1927. She was 83 when she died of cerebral apoplexy. She is buried in Lone Mountain Cemetery.

Here are a few bit of information I have been able to gather:

She was 8 years old when her brother went to England to get her and bring her to

America. He took her with him when he returned. On his way to California, he left her with relatives in New Orleans where she had a Governess.

She was 16 when she entered California. She entered the Notre Dame Convent in San Jose in 1860. She was a well educated young lady. She stayed in San Jose for two years and went with her brother to Virginia City on the stage.

The stage was owned by the Pioneer Stage Company in San Francisco and went through through Yanks [now Tallac] and through Kingsbury Grade in Genoa. She lived in Virginia City, and worked for her Uncle Griffith for a while. Her uncle was doing well, and she stayed there and worked.

She met her husband James Doan Roberts in Virginia City. They were married and went to live in Washoe City. James leased a big hotel with about 50 rooms called the "Lake House" that burned down and James Doan lost a \$8,000 investment. They found another place, a two story home and boarded travelers in the upstairs rooms.

She had nine children, including a set of twins. There names were J. L. Roberts, born in 1864; Richard Lee Roberts, born in 1865; J. V. And James D. Roberts twins, born in 1866;

George V. Roberts, born in 1867; Mary E. Roberts, born 1870; Charles "Little Charley" Roberts, born 1871; Josephine Roberts, born 1875; and Thurman Griffin Roberts, born 1881. Two of her children were born in Carson City. Many of my children died when they were very young and are buried in Washoe City. The children that lived in our house in Carson City were Richard, Mary, Josie and Thurman.

In 1872 Washoe City was closing up and they had to move. James found a lot in the Rice and Peters subdivision that they could lease and so they moved along with their house to Carson City.

They have a few pictures that were taken by a passing photographer. Here is our home with fruit trees planted around the house. The house is still on the skids from the railroad car that it was transported on.

There in front of our house is Annie Roberts and her daughter Josie, who worked for Governor Sparks. (To be continued in June)





Carson City Historical Society  
P. O. Box 1864  
Carson City, NV 89702



"Through the Garden Gate" Home/Garden Tour, June 3  
Membership Meeting at Tahoe Ridge Winery, June 10

Application to Join Carson City Historical Society

Membership for Single \$25, for Family \$35

Please fill out the attached application and send with check to:

Carson City Historical Society  
P.O. Box 1864  
Carson City, Nevada 89702

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

What events are you interested in \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer as a docent to some of our events. If so, what events are you interested in? \_\_\_\_\_

