

Carson City Historical Society

Roberts House Museum & Wungnema House © August 2007



September 23 at 3:00 p.m. "Membership Meeting and Membership Drive" to be held at the home of Gary, Jennifer and Josie Cain, 412 N. Curry. Come visit the home of West Wall Militaria and hear the history of the Hyman Olcovich Home *BRING AND FRIEND .. BRING A NEIGHBOR* RSVP TO SUE AT 882-5694 (Photo Hyman Olcovich House from CCHS archives)

Announcing...

Wednesday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Guy Rocha will speak on

"Might is Right:

The Rise and Fall of the Comstock Miner's Unions"

Carson City Library, 900 North Roop Street

Lecture is free and open to the public!!



Most Nevadans have heard of the great gold and silver discoveries that sparked Westward migration in the 19th century, and led to the settling of what would become Nevada. Much has been told of the fortune of silver and gold ore extracted from the Comstock Lode that turned the humble mining town of Virginia City into an economic force that helped build San Francisco. Massive fortunes were made and lost virtually overnight, and countless individuals went from rags to riches to rags again. Recent generations have grown up with the popular TV series Bonanza, whose heroes led lives of adventure, galloping to and from their fictional hometown of Virginia City. And yet, in all the color and drama, one story has been largely neglected with regard to the laborers who toiled underground (text provided by Guy Rocha). Come and hear their story!



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

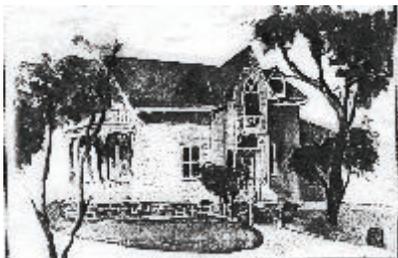
President Foundation
Fred Stanio

Vice Presidents CCHS:
Janet Perry and Dorothy Dolan

Vice President Parks Foundation:
Jo Saulisberry

Treasurer CCHS and Parks
Foundation: Chuck Saulisberry

Secretary CCHS and Parks
Foundation: Susan Matthes



Please support your Historical
Society!

President's Comments

Dear CCHS Members:

The last event for August will be on Wednesday, August 29 at 7:00 at the Carson City Library. The topic will be:

**"Might is Right:
The Rise and Fall of the Comstock Miner's Unions"
By Guy Rocha**

We are indeed fortunate to have the State Archivist to speak for our group and the public as well. His talks are always fascinating and his historical research superb.

There is a rumor going around that the Carson City Historical Society has enough funding to start building the proposed "Carriage House" before the end of the year. Fred Stanio has been heading up this project and been meeting with the architect and the City. Looks like a go folks. So start savings up your extra \$ for our interior needs. If you see Fred around, please tell him thanks. He's done such a great job!

Next, I have some bad news and some good news... First the bad news... Our Tea Ladies have decided to quit. They did such a wonderful job... And did it for 6 ½ years -- working Saturdays and Sundays, cooking, organizing, decorating, creating and then waiting on us. The Roberts House just won't see the same without their wonderful teas.



If you see them, please say "thank you." We will miss them very much. (Pictured above are from right to left: Sharon Barclay, Karen Grundy, Janet Perry and Patty Temple. Photo from CCHS archives).

Now for the good news... The Roberts House Museum is now a member of the "Merchant Association" and on the wine walk. So, if you'd like to switch gears, sign up, buy your "Wine Walk" glass and see all the businesses on the wine tour, taking a taste of wine at each location. Its the first Saturday of each month and starts at 1:00 p.m. The Roberts House is featuring photos done by Charles Lynch of Carson City in about 1904 for sale, \$25 each. Horse drawn carriages will take you to the door. Again, Fred Stanio, aka Hank Monk and his wife Sandi will be there to greet you and tell you about the Roberts family and their home (as well as to assist in pouring the the wine).

The Carson City Historical Society is getting bigger and better, and suffering a few growing pains along the way. Our next Board meeting is September 10 at 7:00 p.m. At the Roberts House. You are always welcome. *Cheers and good health ... Sue Ballew, President*

The Story of Annie Griffin Roberts (Part III)

The Story of Annie Griffin Roberts, Part III

by Sue Ballew



Annie Griffin Roberts lived in old Washoe City across the way from Ellie Bowers, the Washoe Seeress. Mrs. Roberts would take her children and travel to see Eilley. The rumors about Eilley being unable to write may have been true as Annie Roberts wrote letters for her. Eilley in return provided the most delightful refreshments on her visits served in "cups made of silver bullion."

Annie describes the house as she saw it... "On entering the rooms to the left were the front and back parlors. Everything in the rooms was very elaborate as the interior furniture was from Paris. The drapes ... Were from Brussels... Money was no object. Off these rooms was the library where there were many busts of poets. The front room to the right was Mr. Bowers' bedroom. At the head of the stairs was the silver closet... The first room on the second floor was the billiard room..."

Annie took her youngest son at that time, Richard to see Eilley. Richard had been born with a "cull" over his face. Eilley told Mrs. Roberts that Richard would have special powers one day...

Indeed he did.

There will be more to come in the September newsletter about Richard and his impact on the family once they moved to Carson City.

(Photo of Bowers Mansion from picture given to CCHS by Daun Bohall. Excerpts from Annie Griffin Roberts story provided from CCHS archives.)



Pictured above is James Doane Roberts that hangs on the wall at the Roberts House.

100 Years Ago "Celebrates His 82nd Birthday"

A number of friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Roberts, the occasion being the formers eighty-second birthday and "Jim" was the recipient of the congratulations of his friends and they are legion. Jim Roberts is one of the real pioneers of the state and has made his home in this city for half a century where he is universally known and respected, and those who gathered at his hospital home yesterday could hardly believe that their apparent young and happy host had passed the eighty-second mile stone along the road of life.

Mr. Roberts is one of the few exceptional men and if appearances count for anything has many more years of life ahead of him.

(The home of James Roberts is now the Roberts House Museum, 1207 N. Carson in Carson City. Article from Carson Appeal August 1907.)

Roberts House Museum to have New Name and New Signage, Your Input Needed

The Carson City Historical Society has received grant funds from the City for new and bigger signage on the Roberts House. The historical register has been changed due to new/old information and research done by Guy Rocha. The house was initially built by Solomen Foreman, a surveyor, in 1864 and, it was sold to James D. Roberts in 1867. The House was moved to Carson in 1874, remaining in the Roberts family.

Here is the proposed signage:

Historic Foreman-Roberts House Museum

Built 1863-64, Washoe City, NV
Moved to this site November 1874
Home of Carson City Historical
Society

Carson City Historical Society
Founded 1969

The Foreman-Roberts House
Built 1863-64, Washoe City, NV
Moved to this site November 1874

Carson City Historical Society
Founded 1969

House built in 1864 by Foreman.
Purchased by James D. Roberts
1867. Roberts moved house to this
site in 1874

Please call me with your suggestions and/or ideas 882-5694 or e-mail me at giballeg@aol.com.

Parks Foundations Nominations Sought

The Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks and Recreation, is requesting nominations of individuals and organizations and businesses to be recognized for their contributions to Carson City's park and recreation. The selected names will added to Memorial Wall at the entrance to the Pony Express Pavilion. The Parks Foundation is accepting nominations until August 31st for:

Organization of the Year
Business of the Year
Volunteer of the Year
Volunteer of the Years.

Please send your nominations to
The Parks Foundation, 181 Heidi
Circle, Carson City, NV 89701.

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

Reflections of Carson City presents...

**"Might is Right: The Rise and Fall of the Comstock Miners' Unions, by Guy Rocha, Nevada State Archivist
on Wednesday, August 29 at 7:00 p.m. At the Carson City Library, 900 North Roop**

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? _____