

Carson City Historical Society

& Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks and Recreation

Foreman-Roberts House Museum & Wungnema House

October 2013 Newsletter - David Bugli, Interim Editor

Carriage House Construction Commencing

The Carriage House work is progressing. Staff from the Dept. of Parks & Recreation worked in the smoke from the Rim Fire in late August to relocate irrigation pipes and other utilities before the foundation excavation began.

In the first photo is the new configuration of irrigation pipes near the southwest corner of the Foreman-Roberts House. Kenny Fraser and his crew from Parks & Rec had to do some pretty interesting reconfiguration of irrigation lines and other underground infrastructure, much of which was under the footprint of the new Carriage House. With a site like this in a historic area, there are often surprises underground, including abandoned sewer lines, massive tree roots, and footings for long forgotten outbuildings.



In the second photo, organization member Paula Cannon is standing on the entryway to the Foreman-Roberts House kitchen, seemingly "supervising" the

Parks & Rec fellows who are working on the irrigation system. Because of the complexity of the construction, the utilities to the Foreman-Roberts House had to be turned off for a number of weeks.

By the end of September workers had dug a hole (third photo, looking east). While they were removing dirt, some artifacts were found, probably in the area where the Roberts



family had their outhouse.



Pictured above are two bottles and a shard from a porcelain plate, near a credit card-size library card placed to indicate relative size. These were among some of the objects found at the site.



The maker's mark on the plate, "Edward Clarke//porcelain opaque//Tunstall," tells us the pottery was made by one of the North Staffordshire Potteries in the UK sometime between 1865 and 1877. The mark used by the pottery firm is derived from the English Royal coat of arms. The fact that this mark was used probably indicates that the manufacturer had supplied goods to the Royal family for a period of at least five years, a sign of prestige.



Finally, here is a picture taken Oct. 23 of the west stem wall, looking south from Corbett St. A new ADA-compliant ramp will be built between the Foreman-Roberts House kitchen and the Carriage House, serving both structures, whose entrances will be facing each other on the same elevation.



The Carson City Historical Society (CCHS) is located at the Foreman-Roberts House Museum, 1207 North Carson St., Carson City, Nevada. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 1864, Carson City, NV 89702-1864. The CCHS and the Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks and Recreation (Park Foundation) are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and maintain the Foreman-Roberts House Museum and the Wungnema House.

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Carson City Parks & Recreation Awards Ceremony

Tuesday, November 12, 2013

The Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks and Recreation (FBCCPR) will present Special Recognition Awards for year 2013



attend this free, outdoor event.

The awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Volunteer of the Years - Scott Tully, who has an impressive, sustained record of donating his time and expertise for recreation programs.
- Volunteer of the Year - Richard Tieben, who donated his time and talents to rebuild the historical Pierini Oven House at the Korean War Veterans Memorial Park/Riverview Park.
- Organization of the Year - "Let Them Be Kids," founded by Ian and Gina Hill, assists the Aquatics Center Staff in providing a swimming lesson program geared toward children who have been diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum.
- Business of the Year - Resource Concepts Incorporated (RCI) has provided expert professional services to the Parks & Recreation Department in the areas including effluent water monitoring, civil engineering, natural resource management, outdoor recreation planning, and agricultural consulting for many years.

Each recipient's name will be placed on the monument in Mills Park. The selection of award recipients is a cooperative effort among the Carson City Parks & Recreation Department, the Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks and Recreation, and the Carson City Historical Society. In addition, the names of Bonnie K. Dietrich, Rolf A. Johnson, and Jeffrey L. Scott will be added to the Wall of Memory. For more information, call

recipients in a brief ceremony on Tue., Nov. 12, at 4:30 p.m. at the monument at the entrance to the Pony Express Pavilion in Mills Park. The public is invited to

David Bugli at 775-883-4154 or Jo Saulisberry at 775-841-5570 or go to CCHistorical.org.

Annual CCHS/FBCCPR Christmas Party at Bliss Mansion Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013

Our Christmas party will be Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013, at the Bliss Mansion from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and we will be very pleased if you will come. If you haven't been inside the Bliss, then this is your opportunity. If you have visited the Bliss, then you know what a marvelous venue it is. We thank our friends, Steve and Cyndy Brennenman, owners of the Bliss Mansion, for sharing this wonderful venue with us again.

We are sure to have a festive holiday afternoon with food and entertainment. Cost for this event is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Please send your check made payable to Carson City Historical Society, P.O. Box 1864, Carson City, NV 89702 before December 5, 2013.

Third Thursday Lecture Series

Several lectures have taken place since the last newsletter came out in early June. These lectures are presented by the CCHS in cooperation with the Carson City Library.

On June 20, Sally Whipple Mosher Mooney presented a lecture called "**On the Sunnyside of Life,**" based on her book by the same name, at the Carson City Library auditorium. Her book is a fascinating collection of short stories about life on an isolated cattle ranch, Sunnyside Ranch, in eastern Nevada, where she grew up.

On July 18, Tom Henderson presented a free "walking lecture" on the "**History of Trees in Carson City**" at the State Capital Grounds. Many of the Eastern ornamental trees planted by George Washington Gale Ferris, Sr. (father of the inventor of the Ferris wheel) in the late 1800s still adorn the Capitol grounds. Before the walking lecture, Lee Ann Keever showed a video at the Carson City Library auditorium. She and others produced the video when she was head of the Shade Tree Council. The video contained historic information about the architecture of early Carson City and how trees were used in in the early

days. The present head of the Shade Tree Council, Kyle Horvath, introduced Ms. Keever.

On Aug. 15, about 60 people attended "**Nevada State Prison: A History.**" The lecture was held at The BRIC (Business Resource Innovation Center). It was a tight fit with all those people, but the presenters, who are co-authors of the recently published book, *Nevada State Prison*, kept the audience attention with fascinating facts. The book relates the history of Nevada State Prison (NSP), which was founded in 1862, before Nevada was "battle born." The authors are shown here on the steps of NSP. They are, left to right, Curt Thomas, Jennifer E. Riddle, Stacy L. Branham, and Sena M. Loyd (who was recently selected as the new Director of the Carson City Library). The audience seemed particularly interested in the mechanics of the execution process. (In 2014 we intend to present a lecture about the efforts by the Nevada State Prison Preservation Society to preserve the prison as a museum.)



On Sept. 19, Mary Fischer presented "**Carson City's History in Motion**" at The BRIC. She discussed the various artistic vignettes at each of the gateways and interchanges of the Carson City Freeway/Bypass. Residents and visitors of Carson City may be familiar with the large eagle sculpture at the north end of the Bypass introducing southbound travelers to the Eagle Valley. Vignettes along the Bypass to the south, as far as Fairview Drive, relate to the history of Carson City.

No more "Third Thursday" lectures are planned for this year, but we are working on plans to have lectures in 2014 about train photography in Carson City, Reno politics in the 1930s, Great Basin Indians, and other subjects. These events will be posted on our website (CCHistorical.org) and announced in the papers. If you have suggestions for future lectures, please

contact David Bugli at 775-883-4154 or send an e-mail to DCBugli@aol.com.

Garden & Historic House Tour

The "Down the Garden Path" Garden and Historic House Tour was June 22. We netted over \$1200 for the event. The tour featured 9 locations, including the Bliss Mansion. The final destination at 4:30 was a reception for all attendees in the garden at 214 W. King St. There people had an opportunity to speak with several experts in the plant and gardening fields, including David and Julie Ruf from the Greenhouse Garden Center, JoAnne Skelly from the UNR Co-operative Extension, Tom Henderson from Healthy Trees, and David Zhart, the "Bee Man." The Mark Twain Garden Club had unique bird feeders for sale at the reception. A lovely flower painting was donated for a raffle prize. We want to thank all who opened their homes and gardens for this event.



Flea Market/Yard Sales

by Mary DeFelice



Yard Sale Customers Enjoying a Sale

There were two sales this year: July 6 with 12 vendors and August 17 with 13 vendors. Darlene Larkin sold donated items with the proceeds going to the Society. Many thanks to Nina Spradlin, Jim Capistrant, and Sue Ballew for the wonderful donated items and to Darlene Larkin, who sold the items, making her salesperson of the year.

Many of the vendors this year were folks who have participated at the sales

for many years. It's enjoyable to spend the day in the park with these folks and to see customers who have been coming to the sales for years.

The two sales earned the Society close to \$600. Many thanks to Paula Cannon, Nina Spradlin, and Sharon and Richard Baldwin for help with keeping Foreman-Robert's house open for display, helping with advertising and for help before and during the sales.

Carson City Historical Society Hosted Ice Cream Social

Our annual Ice Cream Social was Aug. 3, at the Foreman-Roberts House Park. The Millennium Bugs provided musical entertainment. The event was on the first Saturday of the "Jazz & Beyond: Carson City Music Festival."

Membership

If you would like to become a member of CCHS & FBCCPR or if you need to renew your membership, please send a check to Chuck Saulisberry, Carson City Historical Society, P.O. Box 1864, Carson City, NV 89702-1864. Membership is based on the calendar year. Single membership is \$25 and family membership is \$35. Membership includes our newsletter plus an opportunity to attend many historical events.

We want your e-mail addresses

We'd love to get your e-mail address so we can notify you of special events, so please send **your name and e-mail address** to DCBugli@aol.com. Also, if you would prefer to get your newsletter by e-mail only, please write, "Send me my newsletter by e-mail only," in your message. It will save us a little bit on printing and postage cost.

Editor's Note

This was originally going to be a September newsletter. Oh, well! When things go according to plans, newsletters are published each January, April, June, and September. The deadline for submitting articles is the 15th of the month before newsletter publication, so please get me your January newsletter material by Dec. 15.

-David Bugli

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P.O. Box 1864
Carson City, NV 89702-1864



Some Upcoming CCHS/FBCCPR events:

Tues., Nov. 12, 4:30 p.m. - Presentation of Special Recognition Awards in Mills Park
Sun., Dec. 8, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. - Annual Christmas Party at the Bliss Mansion

**Application to join Carson City Historical Society
& Foundation for the Betterment of Carson City Parks & Recreation**

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

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

Chuck Saulisberry
c/o Carson City Historical Society
P.O. Box 1864
Carson City, NV 89702-1864

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____