



# Carson City Historical Society

## February Newsletter

Note from your Newsletter Editor, Sue Ballew: If you have articles or events you would like in our newsletter, please let me know. We publish at the beginning of each month. I can be reached at [giballew@aol.com](mailto:giballew@aol.com)

The Carson City Historical Society is a 501C(3) nonprofit organization.

### OFFICERS

President, Jeff Loflin

2nd VP, Pub./ Newsletter- Sue Ballew

Secretary & website, David Bugli

Treasurer, Kiyoshi Nishikawa

Membership - Andi Fant

Fundraising- Donna McLaren

Exhibits/Collections, Kat Long

### Adele's fundraising status



We are currently at approximately \$20,000.

### Carson City Historical Society—Message from President, Jeff Loflin

#### Hello CCHS Members,

I wanted to thank all of you that came to our Foreman-Roberts Open House. We had 22 people sign our guest book and 2 people sign up as members. If you missed this event, don't despair! We will be opening the House on the last Sunday of every month. If you would like to volunteer for the next one, please let us know.

We are currently working on a partnership with the Douglas County Historical Society. This partnership would allow members of each Society to attend each other's events for free. Here are the details of the first event given by the DCHS:

#### Special Invite

**"Snowshoe Thompson Chautauqua"**  
3:00 p.m. Feb. 17 – President's Day

The men of the Snowshoe Thompson Chapter of E. Clampus Vitus invite the community to a "Chautauqua of Snowshoe Thompson" presented by Steve Hale. This is a family friendly event so be sure to invite your friends and neighbors. (continued on next col.)

**Location:** Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center, 1477 US Highway 395 N, Gardnerville, NV 89410. Museum opens at 10:00 a.m., arrive in time for the 3:00 p.m. program.

Free Admission. More Information at 775-782-2555.

Thank you, Jeff

More on Snowshoe Thompson,  
page 2

### Board Meeting February 10

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our monthly meeting at the Carriage House this Monday, February 10 at 3:45pm. Please come and show your support!

Jeff

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Open House, Sun., February 23  
from 2 to 5 p.m.

Foreman-Roberts House and Carriage House are open. We are at 1207 North Carson St., Carson City, NV

If you would like to volunteer to be a docent, please let us know. Email me at [giballew@aol.com](mailto:giballew@aol.com).

Dues are due if you haven't already paid. The application is on our website at [cchistorical.org](http://cchistorical.org).



## Newspaper pages discuss payment in ‘chicken fixins’ and information on Snowshoe Thompson (part of the article)

News | April 3, 2008

**Trent Dolan (my brother)  
Special to the Appeal**

### On Snowshoe Thompson

Some of the earliest and most reliable accounts of early Nevada history come from the Territorial Enterprise while it was still being published in Genoa. Carson activity really didn’t exist in any “real news” form. News came by letter through those willing to share information carried overland from the territorial capitol, Salt Lake City. World news came when couriers brought publications from Placerville along the route that U.S. 50 takes today.

When the snow cleared, people like John A. Thompson, (“Snowshoe Thompson”) made their way over the Sierras past Lake Bigler (Lake Tahoe) not by snowshoes, but by skis. The westbound trip typically took two days to Placerville, while the eastbound trip took three days. Thompson, who later died of appendicitis, delivered the mail between those two points and later to Virginia City for 20 years and claimed never to carry a blanket or to get lost. He was also credited for never being paid for his work.



*Snowshoe Thompson,  
courtesy Nevada Historical  
Society*

Not to be different then than now, newspapermen have taken payment in various ways. In tough times they asked readers to come to the rescue.

The publishers had ordered enough paper and materials to keep them through until spring, when overland coaches could bring more.

But in February, 1859, when it snowed, everything stopped, so the paper stopped when they ran out of paper.

“We may as well mention in this connection that for the paper of this present issue, we are indebted to our worthy and esteemed friend, John K. Trumbo. His devotional friendship towards us led him to toil over the snow-clad summit of the mountains with the paper on his back – to the peril of his own life — to do that for us which he has not yet recovered. We would fain express our appreciation of such an act of kindness, and give vent to the emotions of gratitude which we feel towards one whose generous impulses led him thus to exert himself in our behalf.”

So, until the snow went away, the editors took out everything but the basics.

“To the Rescue. – To subscribers in the Valley we would be under many obligations, if they would pay for their paper in any kind of ‘chicken fixins,’ such as pork, beef, flour, potatoes, butter, eggs, ham, bacon, beans — in short, anything that will sustain the inner man, as we are woefully short of grub at this time, and there is none to be had in Genoa, for love or money. Printers, like other people, live by eating, and we have too much confidence in our subscribers after this notice to believe that they will allow us to remain upon short commons; so bring in hour comestibles as soon as possible.”

**Carson City Historical Society**

Mailing address: 112 North Curry St., Carson City, NV 89703

**APPLICATION TO JOIN — Please print out and mail in:**

Standard Annual Dues: \$35.00 for a Family, \$25.00 for an Individual. **Supporting, corporate and benefactor memberships are also available.**

Upon receipt of your check, you will begin receiving our newsletter announcing regular and special meetings, and all Society events.

**Membership Check one:**

**ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:**

Individual member .....	\$25	Family (couple) membership .....	\$35
<b>Golden Anniversary Supporter</b> .....	\$50	Historian.....	\$100
Curator .....	\$250	Preservationist.....	\$500
Curry .....	\$1000	Founder .....	\$5000

TOTAL ENCLOSED.....

Please mail your check and application to: **Carson City Historical Society 112 North Curry St. Carson City, Nevada 89703**  
<http://CCHistorical.org>

**New membership**

**Renewal**

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
E-mail

The Carson City Historical Society is a Nevada nonprofit organization. It is recognized as a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporations (EIN 94-2565777) under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax deductible pursuant to section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.