

Carson City Historical Society

1207 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV

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

November 2021

A Message from Sue Ballew, President:

Welcome, November! We've had some very successful events in the past few months. Now we are looking forward to more in the new year.

Kat Long and her exhibit committee are working on a fashion show exhibit from past to present with more secrets and surprises to come which will be held in the Foreman-Roberts House. A tentative opening date is February 13, 2022.

We will be having our CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday, December 5, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Bliss Mansion. Cost per person is \$35.00. Checks can be mailed to Carson City Historical Society, 112 North Curry, Carson City, NV 89703. There will be music, entertainment and lots of Christmas fun and election of officers.

2021 Officers:

Sue Ballew, President
Liz Cain, 1st Vice President
Travis Legatzke, 2nd Vice President
David Bugli, Secretary
Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Treasurer
Andi Fant, Membership
Kat Long, Exhibits
Donna McLaren, Facilities

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CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Carson City Historical Society sends you warmest holiday greetings and best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

Our Annual Party and 2021 Membership Meeting will be held on

Sunday, December 5th

The Bliss Mansion

Wear something from the past that you can tell a story about



\$35.00 per member payable by check or cash in advance to:

Carson City Historical Society
112 North Curry Street
Carson City, NV 89703

Upcoming events:

Christmas Party--December 5, cost \$35 per person

Board Meeting – December 13, 2021, at 3:45 p.m. at the Carriage House. Please comply with COVID guidelines and wear a mask.

Zoom Lecture:

There will not be a Zoom Lecture in December.

January 13, 2022, Chris Pattison on the “Sutro Restoration Project.”

Fashion Show

Tentatively planned for February 13, 2022 in the Foreman-Roberts House.

Our last Zoom lecture was November 11 on “Rehabilitation of Historic Windows.” This was an excellent lecture and helpful in our attempt to restore one of the Adele’s top story windows that was donated to us.

“Rehabilitation of Historic Windows”

Historic wood windows are valuable character-defining features of a building, worth retaining for architectural and environmental reasons. In the "Rehabilitating Historic Windows" presentation, professionals and Carson City Historic Resource Commission members Michelle Schmitter, Mike Drew, and Lou Ann Speulda-Drews, explored the history and nomenclature of sash windows.

They discussed evolution of historic designs and construction methods, reviewed endemic problems that lead to deterioration and explored possible maintenance and repair techniques to extend sustainable service life. The presenters discussed the benefits for retaining, rather than replacing, historic wood windows. The audience learned how to maintain wooden windows with storms and how they can surpass modern window application in energy

efficiency, while maintaining the original character of an older home. Mike Drews demonstrated how to care for wooden windows and common problems that often lead homeowners towards replacement rather than repair.

The presenters:

Michelle Schmitter has over 25 years of experience in the field of Historic Preservation. Michelle meets and exceeds the National Park Service qualification standards for architectural historian, works within the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and has extensive technical experience with multiple preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, and reconstruction projects.

Michael Drews is the Principal at Great Basin Consulting Group, LLC, a cultural resource firm specializing in cultural resource inventories, predictive models, and National Register evaluations. He has served on the Carson City Historic Resources Commission under appointment by the County Board of Supervisors since 1989 and is intimately familiar with preservation of the historic built environment, effectively promoting historic values, and the intricacies of implementing local and federal grants.

Lou Ann Speulda-Drews grew up in Oregon's Willamette Valley and graduated with BS and MA degrees from Oregon State University, majoring in History and Anthropology/Archaeology. She also took classes at the University of Oregon’s School of Historic Preservation and Architecture. Lou Ann has been working for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) since 1995 and travels widely throughout the five western states and the Pacific as part of her regional responsibilities, focusing on historical

archaeology and historic architecture. As part of her responsibilities for USFWS, Lou Ann has participated in the rehabilitation of buildings that included repairing original wood frame windows.

After a hiatus of several years, the CCHS resumed a monthly lecture series in January 2021. Most lectures are presented on Zoom on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Some past lectures are also available on the Carson City Historical Society's [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) page. Additional information about the CCHS is available on its webpage, [CCHistorical.org](https://www.cchistorical.org).

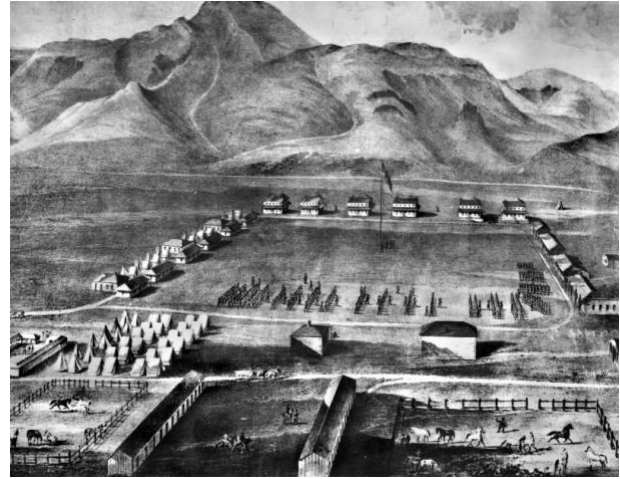


Photo caption: Michelle Schmitter, Mike Drews, and Lou Ann Speulda-Drews discussed "Rehabilitating Historic Windows."

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in the browser bar when you make an Amazon purchase, then search and/or select **Carson City Historical Society** as your nonprofit, and you're all set! A percentage of your purchases automatically comes back to help fund CCHS. Every little bit helps. Because of the COVID pandemic we have not been able to do fundraisers and have not had income other than dues. I would like to thank our Treasurer Kiyoshi Nishikawa for setting up AmazonSmile for us.



Fort Churchill in 1861

Diary from Fort Churchill

(The Pyramid Lake War had already happened. Soldiers are set up at Fort Churchill to help defend the communities from Indians on the warpath. Some of the families have joined their husbands there.

My Mom, Dorothy Dolan, found these diary pages a long time ago, but I don't know where they came from.

Mrs. Chapman is the author of the diary. She has a 10-month-old baby and is living at Ft. Churchill with her husband. *Sue Ballew*).

Fort Churchill today



January 1, 1861. New Years' Day was spent exchanging calls. They visited Mrs. Captain Moore.

January 2, 1861. Mr. Chapman took dinner with the officers at their mess.

He was Officer of the Day. Mr. Brewer called and commented on having lunches from which all men, even the master of the house, were excluded. Mr. Brewer disapproved.



Fashions from the Fort

Worked on a calico dress. Stayed up until 12:00 as is usual when Mr. Chapman is Officer of the Day. Paid the commissary bill of \$17.50.

January 3. Reading Stephan's Travels in Central America. Mr. Chapman reads aloud while she sews. Mr. Chapman is planning on going to Virginia City to have a tooth extracted. He has been given some footage in a mine.

January 6. The "Pony" passes. South Carolina has seceded from the Union. Sat up reading "Harpers." Broke three needles on the sewing machine. "I can use my ten fingers much better than one machine."

January 8. There is a fight between a drummer and a bugler which causes some excitement at the post. Reading a magazine with articles on insects, the Croton aqueduct, and Washoe.

January 11. Pedro takes care of Arcadia. Reading Miliner's End of Controversy. Mr. Chapman Officer of the Day. Arcadia is now 10 months old. Everyone is waiting anxiously for the "Pony" and someone

borrow a pair of opera glasses to look for it. One Pony rider has perished in the snow. Made a delaine dress (a lightweight dress of fabric of wool or wool and cotton made in prints or solid colors). Captain Hendrickson called this evening.

January 16. Sewed all day. One of Mr. Chapman's soldiers has typhoid fever. Reading The Life of Aaron Burr.

January 17. Called on Mrs. Moore. Missing a carving knife which had been left outside—suspect it was stolen by an Indian. She adds a quote from Longfellow.

January 19. Quotes more Longfellow. Trying to find the geographic location of Arcadia.

January 20. Finished Milner but will read it again. Mr. Chapman attended a miners' meeting. Mr. Chapman thinks he will resign. Mrs. Moore takes daily rides.

January 21. Played backgammon with the Dr. and others. Mr. Chapman writes to Mr. Scott to ask his advice about resigning.

January 22. Have made seven gowns in two weeks on the machine. Made jelly. Holland comes (to fix the machine?). The steward is trying to get eggs for the sick man (Mr. White).



More of Fort Churchill today

January 23. Mr. White is dead. Mrs. Moore walks and rides every day. Walks to the stables, with the baby in a carriage. All the officers are going to see some horses. Mr. Chapman is thinking of buying.

January 24. Walked to the Sutler's store and the ice house. Mr. Bethel gave the baby a paper of candy. An Indian was shot this

morning and was found to have the lost carving knife. White was buried with military ceremony, including fife and drum. Made ginger cake.

January 26. Walked to the river which was frozen. Had a snowball fight. Didn't manage to hit Mr. Chapman.

January 27. Went for a drive in the morning. There was a grand parade of all the companies, formed in one line across the parade.

January 28. The companies are drilling today. Polished the stove, windows, etc.

January 29. There is a possibility Mr. Chapman will get a commission from Alabama. Mr. Bethel made a French call (a very short call).

January 30. Mrs. Moore called with the Captain. Mr. Brewer showed off his horsemanship on the post. The telegraph isn't working.

January 31. Called on Mrs. Moore, who is always busy. Includes some criticisms of Stephens Travels.

February 1. Rides with Mrs. Moore and the Doctor. Mrs. Moore is very timid, especially about crossing sirens.

February 2. Went to the library with Mr. Chapman. Takes out History of the Reformation. Alton Locke, and Yeast, the last two being novels (by Charles Kingsley). Made sponge cake. Had company in to eat nuts and raisins.

February 3. Trying to curtail expenses, cutting butter from the mess.

February 4. Spent the whole day stoning raisins to make mincemeat. Had a headache.

February 5. Mr. Brewer and four others called. They stayed until they were called to the Sutler's to have oyster supper. Mr. Chapman went with them.

February 6. Went for a long ride along the "Pony" road. It has been one week since the last mail. Had a toothache.

February 7. Captain Hendrickson called. Mr. Bethel's store was robbed. The money was left, but several shelves of supplies were taken.

February 8. The mail came. There is a letter from Mrs. Adams at Ft. Crook. Dr. Volume (spelling?) sent some photographs to Mr. Brewer. Gave the mess a receipt for pickle for beef.

February 9. Saw Mrs. Moore. She was doing some worsted work. She was ill and in bed, but very well dressed in a robe of brilliantine (shiny dress fabric) with embroidered sleeves on her chemisette. Her parlor tables are loaded with beautiful things – statues, vases, books, and all kind of trinkets. While she was visiting with Mrs. Moore, Pedro rode the baby around the parade.

February 10. Mr. Chapman has a toothache in a tooth he just had plugged. Mr. Smith, the quartermaster's clerk, brought a duck from the Humboldt which was cooked for dinner.

February 11. Toothaches. Dr. visited Mr. Chapman in the afternoon. Mr. Bethel sent only one pound of starch instead of the six ordered – maybe he thinks they don't have any money to pay for it, but they have already paid.

February 12. Two ambulances are sent to Carson to pick up a party of men and women coming to the Fort for a party given by the officers in their mess.

February 13. Spent the day making ice cream and cake for the party. Six women came with the party. She decides not to go at the last minute. Mrs. Moore wore light blue silk with matching ornaments.

February 14. Called on the ladies. Rode with Mrs. Van Winkle. Lt. Smith accompanied them. There was a parade of all the companies. Everyone went to Mrs. Moore's after the party last night.

February 15. Most of the guests have gone, but two ladies remained behind, much to

Mr. Brewster's disgust. Walked to the bake house and saw the dough rising along each side of the room in pans. Saw the water wagon which is filled by a pump.

February 16. Went for a ride with the Dr. and young lady. There is some speculation the Dr. is falling in love.

February 17. In the house all day. The ladies went walking and called on Mr. Smith. Captain Hendrickson is confined to his room with some illness.

February 18. Made macaroons and jelly cake. Most of her cooking is cakes and desserts.

February 19. Called on the ladies and found the officers there. A ledge was struck at the mine. Cut out some shirts.

February 20. Ladies called in the evening.

February 21. Worked with the sewing machine all day.

February 22. Miss Anne returned to Carson with Lt. Smith, Captain Moore, and Mr. Bynum. Mr. Bethel was elected recorder and made \$20.00 recording claims.

February 23. The ore from the mine is mostly copper. The ladies went riding, Miss Eliza on horseback and Mrs. Moore in the carriage. "A new guardhouse is being erected. Heretofore a large tent or canvas house had been used as a temporary prison."

February 24. Reading the Reformation.

The Dr. is in love with Miss Eliza. He spends all day with her playing chess and quoting poetry.

February 25. Worked with the sewing machine.

February 27. There was some amusement today when Mr. Chapman jumped Captain Hendrickson's claim. Captain Hendrickson was irritated. Miss Eliza has a candy pull in the evening. Spent the day ironing since the washerwoman was sick. Mr. Chapman will certainly resign.

February 28. Mr. Chapman brought in a sample of silver ore. Captain Moore and Dr. Smith are back from Carson.

March 1. There are rumors of a silver mine about 60 miles away.

March 2. She shows Mrs. Moore how to make ratafias (alcoholic beverage used to make biscuits). Takes over her own almonds and other ingredients (unspecified). A miner fell down the shaft this morning and broke a leg. Mrs. Moore sends over some apples.

March 3. Mr. Chapman is Officer of the Day. Declined the offer of a picnic. The Dr. has Miss Eliza smitten. Gentlemen called in the evening.



Fort Churchill in the Fall