

# Museum Matters

September– October 2019

Volume 42, No. 5



## Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center

1477 US Highway 395 N. Suite B  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-5214

Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

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Email: DCHS@HistoricNV.org

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Dale Bohlman, Vice-President  
Marlena Hellwinkel, Secretary  
Guy Proto, Treasurer

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Curator: Gail Allen  
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*Museum Matters is the official newsletter of the Douglas County Historical Society ©2019*

## Edwin L. Wiegand Ranching and Agricultural Heritage Exhibit



Ground has been broken on the future Edwin L. Wiegand Ranching and Agricultural Heritage Exhibit. And we're now rushing full speed ahead to complete this incredible project. This has been our most ambitious project since the 1995 opening of the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center.

We extend our sincere thanks to the Edwin L. Wiegand Trust and all our DCHS Members and the local community who contributed to the project

We would like to thank everyone who has made this exhibit possible, including all the design and permitting agencies: Three Castle Engineering, Douglas County Planning & Building Department, the East Fork Fire District, The Genoa Company, the State Historic Preservation Office and the Gardnerville Town Water Company. Thanks to their cooperation we were able to process this during an overwhelming busy volume of applicants that inundated the County.

So please pardon our dust (and noise), as we finish up this wonderful exhibit. Be sure to stop by and watch the progress.

### DOUGLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Trustee meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center  
1477 US Highway 395 North, Gardnerville.

Members and friends are always welcome to attend.

3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 17, 2019 – DCHS Trustees' Meeting

3:00 p.m. Thursday, November 15, 2019 DCHS Trustees' Meeting

# Happenings at the Museums



## History Comes Alive!

### Experience Carson Valley's Hidden History on the Genoa Cemetery Tour

Once again, it's time for Douglas County Historical Society's annual cemetery walk, a community favorite since 1996. This year's family-friendly history tour will be held Saturday, October 19, from 3:00 to 5:00 pm., at the iconic Genoa Cemetery, located just north of Genoa at 2396 Jacks Valley Road.

Guides will lead small groups of visitors through the cemetery, providing a history of some of the fascinating and little-known locals buried there, and pointing out outstanding examples of the symbolism of markings on many of the historic grave markers. Actors in period dress will also deliver Chautauqua-style talks about four of Carson Valley residents whose histories have been largely forgotten today, but who nevertheless played significant roles in Valley history.

Actors will include native Nevadan and noted local historian Marlena Hellwinkel, who will portray Jane Raycraft Campbell, a member of one of the early Genoa families whose role in the founding of the Candy Dance is sometimes briefly touched on but whose life story is not widely known. Other cemetery "residents" will be portrayed by Douglas County Historical Society Trustees and volunteers.

Because of the uneven and somewhat hilly terrain, guests are strongly encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes. Tours will depart approximately every 15 minutes, with the last tour leaving at 4:45 p.m.

Tour tickets are Adult \$5, 7-18 \$2, 6 & under free and may be purchased in advance at DCHS office located in the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center, 1477 U.S. Hwy 395 N in Gardnerville.

## Holiday Cookie Decorating with Evelyn Yonker

Join us Saturday, October 5. Evelyn will share her tips and tricks on making make fabulous holiday cookies for your family and friends to enjoy. This is a program geared to adults, but children 12 and up may sign up for the class if accompanied by a parent or guardian. Doors open at noon, program runs from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. \$10.00 General Public, \$5.00 DCHS Members. Enroll Early! Class space is limited.



## Fall Pie Baking Contest Returns Saturday, November 2

We are delighted to announce the return of our Pie Baking Contest featuring fall pies: pumpkin, apple and pecan. Local residents, family and friends are invited to participate. Judging, awards and tasting will be held on November 2, 10:00 a.m. \$5 entry fee per pie. Entry forms will be available the first of October at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center.

# Douglas County Historical Society Heritage Lecture Series

## “THE WEDDING OF THE WATERS”

Presenter-local historian, author and DCHS member David Woodruff

6:30 pm Thursday October 10 (doors open at 6:00 pm)

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center

1477 US Hwy 395 N Gardnerville

\$3.00.....free to DCHS and Alpine County HS members,

Light refreshments



This historic and “over the top” 1937 event, which proclaimed the opening of the new Mt. Whitney to Death Valley state highway, was conceived, planned and executed by Catholic Priest, Father John Crowley of Lone Pine. The three-day pageant included Hollywood cowboys, the governor of California, the famed 20-Mule Team Wagons and even President Franklin Roosevelt. The celebration may well have been the largest ever held in the Eastern Sierra. For more information (775) 782-2555.

# DCHS Volunteers



## Thank You DCHS Volunteers

Super thanks to all our volunteers! What a great day it was at our annual appreciation barbecue at the Courthouse Museum. We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day on the front lawn of our museum.

Kathy Lee (l) and Barbara Gooding (r), two volunteers honored at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic on September 14, 2019, stand beside Volunteer Coordinator extraordinaire Linda Lechien.

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist us with:

- Front Desk
- Tour Guides for our "Genoa Cemetery Tour" We have prepared scripts!
- Bartenders for our Holiday Art & Wine Show
- Holiday Gala: Gallery of Trees, Cookie Shop, Gingerbread Houses.

**Call us at 775-782-2555 for more information.**

*A Legacy for the Eight of Us*  
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during the 1st half of the 20th Century

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## Fourth of July in Genoa

Our compliments to all who helped make the Genoa Americana Celebration a huge success. It was a fantastic Fourth of July for all who attended. Keeping with the tradition set by Arnold Trimmer, Billie Rightmire rang the historic school bell to signal the start of festivities.

## Save the Date!

### Holiday Gala - Saturday, December 7

Santa's Cookie Shop	Gallery of Trees
Gingerbread Houses	Selfies with Santa
5:00 p.m.	Parade of Lights Viewing from the Lawn

*The Douglas County Historical Society seeks to enrich lives by preserving local history and making it accessible to our communities and visitors.*

**Help keep your history alive!  
Join the Douglas County Historical Society**

**Membership Benefits:**

- Free admission to both museums
- 10% discount at Museum Bookstores
- Bimonthly DCHS Newsletter & member updates
- Invitations to special events
- Discounts on special programs
- Volunteer opportunities
- Free admission to our DCHS Lecture Series

**Annual Membership Dues:**

\$30 Individual  
 \$40 Family - Parents & Children under 17  
 \$20 Senior Individual (60+)  
 \$30 Senior Couple (60+)  
 \$ 500 Lifetime Individual  
 \$ 750 Lifetime Couple

Name(s):

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Mailing Address:

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E-mail Address:

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Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Return this page along with your dues to:

Douglas County Historical Society  
1477 US Hwy 395 N, Suite B  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-5214

I am interested in volunteering at the museums. Please call me.

# **Gifts & Memorials**

## **Yvonne Thran**

*The Douglas County Historical Society accepts monetary gifts and memorials in honor of loved ones. Please earmark your donation for a specific purpose, or for our Endowment Fund. To make or discuss a donation please visit our front office. Donations may also be mailed to:*

*Douglas County Historical Society  
1477 US Highway 395 North, Suite B  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-5214*

## **V&T Exhibit Funding Campaign**

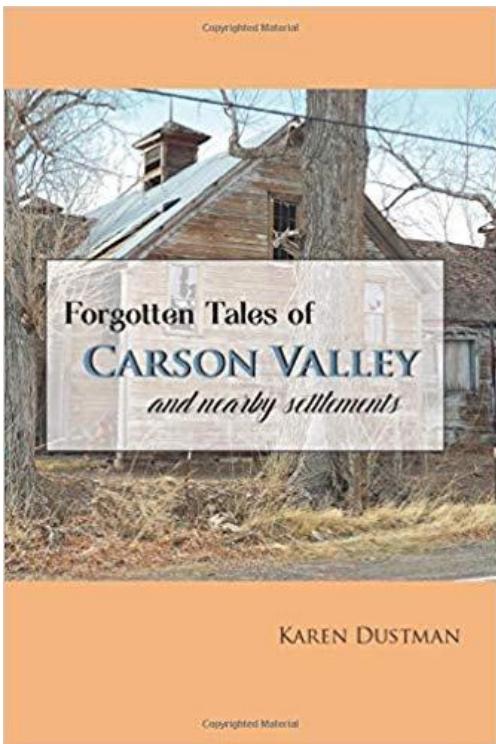
DCHS is seeking V & T related artifacts, ephemera and paraphernalia in addition to cash donations for our new exhibit. If you have an item or donation to contribute, please contact our front desk.

## **DCHS Wish List – Can You Help?**

- White Printer Paper
- Forever Postage Stamps
- Both an eight-foot and ten-foot lightweight aluminum step ladder.



# From the Bookstore



HISTORY COMES ALIVE with Karen Dustman's new book "FORGOTTEN TALES OF CARSON VALLEY AND NEARBY SETTLEMENTS". It is hot off the press and available at the museum bookstore for \$19.95. These true stories, embellished with great old pictures, include unsolved murders, brazen stage robberies and even hints of buried treasure! Whether you're an armchair traveler or back-road roamer this book of the early days in our beautiful Carson Valley is waiting for you to read and enjoy.

Another newly published book to enjoy is by author Nicholas Clapp. "The Outlaw's Violin" at \$16.95, tells the fascinating story of prospector-miner-musician Billy Fraser. The "kid" loved the "strumming of string" of his homemade violin. He roamed the West, including Virginia City and eventually settled in Eureka, NV. An Interesting story and lots of interesting old pictures.

This month children's selection is "Bighorns Don't Honk" at \$7.95. The little ones will love the colorful drawings and the rhyming story about Bighorn Sheep. The grade schoolers will find lots of fun facts at the back of the book to also enjoy.

Stop by and browse our bookstores at both Gardnerville and Genoa.

***Remember! Members of the Douglas County Historical Society receive 10% off their purchases from our bookstores.***

## Please Support Our Friends & Sponsors:

A Wildflower Florist	Genoa Company, Roger A Falcke
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Barbara Smallwood, Realty Executives	Harrah's/Harvey's Resort Casino, Lake Tahoe
Bently Enterprises / Bently Heritage	J. T. Basque Bar & Dining Room
Carson Now!	Jacobs Family Berry Farm
Carson Valley Lion's Club	Main Street Gardnerville
Carson Valley Literary Club	The Record Courier
Carson Valley Small Business Services	Starbucks
C.O.D. Casino, Minden	Three Castle Engineering
Douglas County Elks Lodge # 2670	Tumblewind Antiques
Douglas County, Nevada	Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, Minden
Douglas County High School Class of 62	Western History ALIVE
Friends of Snowshoe Thompson	Woodett's Diner
Gadzooks!	

*Contact the DCHS at 775-782-2555 to advertise in our newsletter or for other sponsorship opportunities.*

# TREASURES FROM THE VAULT



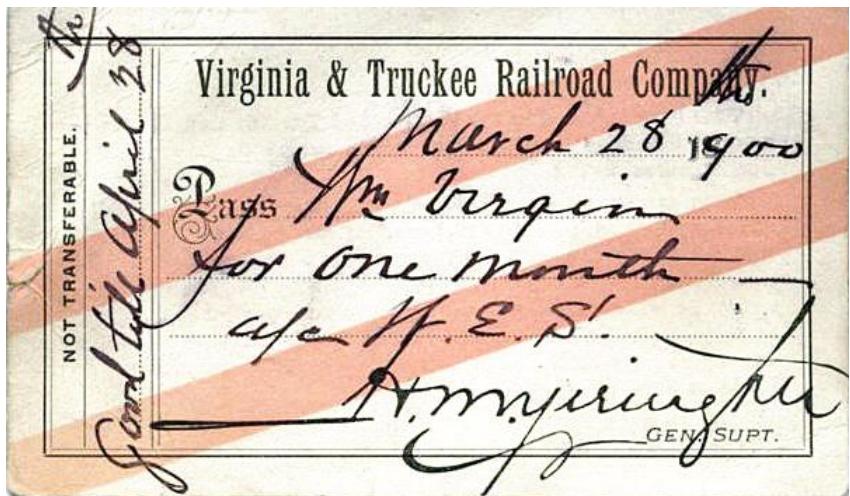
## Virginia & Truckee Railway

Recently, the Douglas County Historical Society received some items related to the V & T. We have some photographs and some paper artifacts such as freight labels and tickets, but we have very few objects that were used on the railway. The most recent donation is a pair of bookends made of rail from the V & T and a hat rack, which had been in part of one of the V & T passenger cars.

These items are particularly exciting to add to our collections as the Exhibit Team is in the process of developing a permanent V & T exhibit at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center. We hope to continue to gather more items to create a diverse exhibit to tell the story of the V & T with special emphasis to the train in Minden and the impact it had on the Douglas County.

With your donations, we continue our commitment to our organizational Mission Statement, which reads, "The Douglas County Historical Society seeks to enrich lives by preserving local history and making it accessible to our communities and visitors."

If you have, any V & T related artifacts that you would like to donate to this future exhibit, please contact the curator, Gail Allen.



## New Basque Related Exhibit Items

This past May, David Park of Park Ranch, LLC, donated numerous items which came from the Overland Restaurant and Bar located on Main Street in Gardnerville. The large exterior sign is now hanging downstairs at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center. The Basque txistu (flute) and tamboril (drum) as well as a large framed map of the Basque country were added to the Basque exhibit in the Main Gallery. There are still a few items we will be adding to the exhibit as time allows.

## Community Exhibit Case

Do you have a collection you wish to share? We are looking for parties who would like to share their photos, collections or memorabilia associated with the history and culture of the Carson Valley vicinity. If you have something to share from casino swizzle sticks, antique mouse traps to old family photos, please contact our front office at 775-782-2555 to reserve a place in our Community Exhibit Case. Each exhibit runs for two months.

Currently on display the Daughters of the American Revolution, John C. Fremont Chapter, has provide a tribute to the patriots of the American Revolution.

CARSON VALLEY MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER  
1477 US Highway 395 N, Suite B  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-5214



DELIVER TO:

*The Douglas County Historical Society  
seeks to enrich lives by preserving  
local history and making it accessible  
to our communities and visitors.*

## Advertise in This Newsletter

Advertising space is available to the community for promoting businesses, services and special events. Not only will you be helping support the Historical Society, but your business will benefit as well. Funds received from this effort help defray costs of printing and postage for this newsletter.

AD SIZE	ISSUE	YEAR (6 Issues)
Business Card	\$10	\$ 50
Quarter page	\$20	\$100

To purchase an ad please contact us at:

775-782-2555

or email your information to [DCHS@HistoricNV.org](mailto:DCHS@HistoricNV.org)

Please give us a call if you wish to sponsor or host a DCHS event or activity.

## DCHS Highlights

*Don't miss a moment of fun*

Family Day: Cookies with Evelyn  
Saturday, October 5

Lecture Series – David Woodruff  
Wedding of the Waters  
Thursday, October 10

**History Comes Alive**  
**Genoa Cemetery Tour**  
**Saturday, October 19**

Family Day - Pie Baking Contest  
Saturday, November 02

Holiday Art & Wine  
Friday November 15 thought Sunday November 17

**Holiday Gala**  
**Saturday, December 7, 2019**