

# MUSEUM MATTERS

May / June 2017

Volume 40, No. 3



## Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center

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

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

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### DCHS OFFICERS

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Dale Bohlman, Vice-President

Linda Lechien, Secretary

Lisa Tucker, Treasurer

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Linda Lechien

Bill Lemons

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Pat Maebe

Rick Towner

Lisa Tucker

**Director:** Cindy Rogers

**Collections Manager:** Gail Allen

**Bookkeeper:** Doris Hofer

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newsletter of the Douglas County  
Historical Society ©2017

## SPRING LUNCHEON



Our annual Spring Luncheon, The Romance of Wine, was afforded a special treat by a performance from by the high school choir, The Douglas Dynamics. We are always so honored to have the youth of the community participate in our programing. The lunch in itself, consisting of a salad and dessert buffet (Cookies! Cookies! Cookies!), plus complimentary wine, was a great feast insuring one-and-all were filled to the max. We also wish to extend special thanks to Troy Philips from Battle Born Wine for his presentation on The Romance of Wine, including his many amusing personal stories regarding his adventures and sometimes misadventures while touring European vineyards. Of course we couldn't do it without our many volunteers: Brenda Ball, Joanne Blessing, Robert Braun, Beverly Giannopoulos, Mary Glass, Mary Kammann, Carol Kristy, Marlena Hellwinkel, Linda Lechien, Joe Lynn, Dennis Little, Patty Maebe, Anita Marshall, Debbie Nye, Mary Orr and our behind the scenes support crews! Special thanks go to Dee & Dave Bauer and Bill & Terri Sweeny for their donation of wine for the event.

### DOUGLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Trustee meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month in the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center, Gardnerville.

4:00 p.m. May 18, 2017

Save the Date: our Annual Membership Meeting and election of trustees will be held Thursday, May 18, 2017, immediately after the Trustee Board Meeting. Have you voted? See Page 7

The June meeting will be Thursday, June 15 at 4 p.m.

## DCHS At-a-Glance

### Family Day:

First Saturday, May 6, 2017  
Young Chautauqua Performers 1 p.m. at CVM  
Free Admission

### Story Telling

First Sunday, May 7  
Nancy Raven & Dennis Little  
Doors open 1:00, Program at 2:00 p.m.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Lecture

May 11, 2017  
Jim Bertolini with SHPO  
On obtaining Historic Building Status  
Doors open 6:00, Lecture at 6:30  
\$3 General Admission, DCHS Members Free

### Lion's Club Mother's Day

#### Pancake Breakfast

9:00 a.m. to Noon, Sunday, May 14, 2017

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Lecture

June 8, 2017  
Frank Tortorich to speak  
on Snowshoe Thompson  
Doors open 6:00, Lecture at 6:30  
\$3 General Admission, DCHS Members Free

## Save the Date!

### Carson Valley Barn Tour

Saturday, June 17, 2017

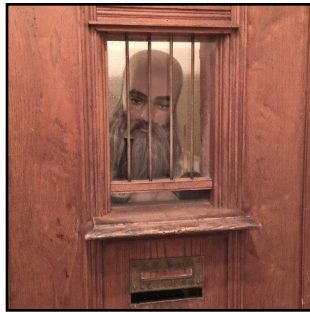
### Gardnerville Town Tour

Saturday, September 9

*DCHS Members receive special discounts  
to these and many other events.*

## Director's Note...

April has been a busy time for our volunteers. Preparing to open the Courthouse Museum for another season has brought a flurry of activity. Volunteers on the Exhibit Team have cleaned the exhibit areas. We have had several training sessions for the volunteers who will be handling the day to day operations at the Courthouse Museum. We are so happy to report that there are many new volunteers who have joined the work force. And of course, we could not operate the museums without our returning host of faithful workers. More training is scheduled for docents who will be conducting tours at the museums.



This is the time of year when we see many school children come through the museums on field trips. They are curious and interested in the exhibits and ask the docents some very good questions. They do find the mannequin in the Post Office at the Courthouse Museum very creepy!

We have had two ladies in our volunteer staff form a new committee; the Kitchen Committee. They have been hard at work cleaning and organizing the kitchen downstairs at the Carson Valley Museum. It is looking great! We are asking for donations to help pay for some new cabinets and new dishwasher for the kitchen. The cabinets will be in addition to what we have now. The old dishwasher is not working and needs to be replaced. If you want to help, please call me or send your donation clearly marked for use to cover these expenses in the kitchen.

Looking ahead, we are hoping to find members/volunteers who are interested in participating in the Carson Valley Days Parade. We are making plans to have a tractor or horse pulled wagon and need riders. We will also need walkers who will dress up and hand out brochures to the crowd. If you are interested in having fun in the parade, please let me know. We would be so happy to have you!

*Cindy Rogers, Director*



# Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast

9:00–Noon, Sunday, May 14

Full Breakfast  
\$7.00 PP



***Music by Ted Nagel's Rolling Thunder!***

**Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center**  
**1477 US Highway 395, N., Gardnerville, NV 89410**  
**Please Visit Our Website for the Latest News:**  
**HistoricNV.org**





## Second Thursday Lecture Series



Our April lecture was filled with both good and bad news. Though we were disappointed that late winter storms prevented our originally planned speaker, Frank Tortorich to arrive safely from Placerville, we were delighted that Chautauqua performer Steven Hale was able to make a last minute appearance as Snowshoe Thompson. Hale's portrayal of Snowshoe Thompson kept the audience entranced with tales of delivering winter mail and life in early Carson Valley. It was a great reminder of what an interesting legend we have in our valley to call our own.

Now that the winter snow (hopefully) has passed we are pleased to report that Frank Tortorich, author of John A. Snowshoe Thompson, Pioneer Mail Carrier of Sierra, will return as our June 8 speaker.

Keeping with May being "Historic Preservation Month": Jim Bertolini from the State Historic Preservation Office will speak on May 11 regarding the ins and outs of historical preservation and what it takes to achieve having a building designated as an historic structure.

Do you remember this building? Follow us on Facebook and our website as we explore more on the topic of historic preservation throughout the month of May, see article below.

*Our Second Thursday Lecture Series are held at the Carson Valley Museum. Doors open at 6:00 and the lecture starts at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$3 at the door, but is free to DCHS Members.*



## May is Historic Preservation Month

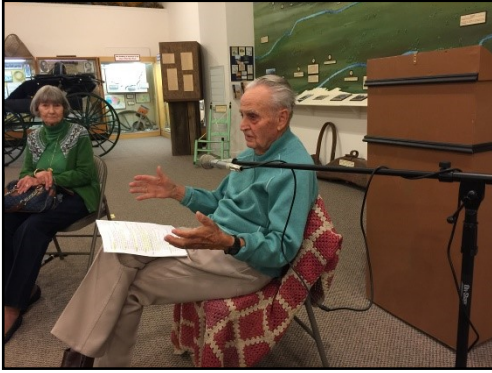


In 1973, the National Trust for Historic Preservation designated May as Preservation Month. In recognition, DCHS will present thirty-one days of social media reflecting on what we have gained and lost in Carson Valley and the surrounding community including the issue facing virtually every city in America, "What should be done with old buildings?" The very nature of growth dictates that as structures age and no longer meet the needs of the community they are demolished to make way for new and 'improved' buildings. Over the following thirty days we will explore the ins and outs of historic preservation. What should be saved? What can be saved? Should it be saved? But most of all, we are pleased to start with "What has been saved" including a building special to us, the old Douglas

County High School, enrolled March 9, 1992, on the National Register of Historic Places.

Our friends and members can follow our social media postings on our Facebook Page at Douglas County Historical Society. If you are not on Facebook you can also visit our website at [www.HistoricNV.org](http://www.HistoricNV.org)

# Happenings At Our Museums



## Storytelling at the Carson Valley Museum

Nancy Raven has introduced a new monthly program at the museum, Storytelling. From anecdotes and folklore to family history, you never know where the story will go. The program kicked-off last April. Shown is Ron Lange sharing his recollections of high school football, amusing incidents at school and post war life in Carson Valley.

Storytelling is scheduled for the First Sunday of the Month. Doors open at 1:30, program begins at 2:00 p.m. and it's free admission. Every family has a story to tell and we hope you will share yours with us. If you would like to be included as speaker please contact Nancy Raven at 775-782-4119

## DCHS Attends Nevada Museum Association's Advocacy Day

DCHS Trustee Linda Lechien is shown discussing our museums and programs with guests at Museum Advocacy Day hosted by the Nevada Museum Association at the V & T Railroad Museum in Carson City. Guests included members from the Nevada Legislature and many other advocacy groups. Museums from throughout the state were in attendance, including Elko and both the Neon Museum and Mob Museum from Las Vegas. Important as it was to present our issues and concerns to our elected representatives, it was equally beneficial (and fun) discussing day to day operational "problems" with our peers. We were pleased that most of the people in attendance were aware of both of our museums and many of our programs.



## Young Chautauquans

As part of our Young Chautauqua program, McAvoy Layne addressed the class in his persona of Mark Twain. Demonstrating the skill and finesse needed to intertwine a story, the class was transfixed by stories shared, particularly the yarn of *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*.

Our students performed at the Genoa Cowboy Festival and are scheduled to present their final performance of "People Who United the States" at Carson Valley Museum on Saturday, May, 6 at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free and light refreshments will be served.

## Las Vegas Students Visit Our Courthouse Museum

It was a pleasure to open the Courthouse Museum to accommodate the Fourth Grade Class from the Liberty Baptist Academy of Las Vegas. The school group was on a history tour of Nevada which included watching the legislature in action and stopping at other Carson City museums. Docents Mary Kammann and Rosanne Coburn led the attentive group through the facility as part of our Youth Field Trips to the Museum Program.

Would you like to serve as a docent? It's fun and rewarding. We offer docent training to interested parties throughout the year. Please contact the front office for more information on being a docent or other volunteer opportunities.





# DOUGLAS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S BARN TOUR

## Saturday, June 17, 2017



Plans are now underway for this year's "Barn Tour Fundraiser" to be held on Saturday, June 17 from 9:00AM until 2:00PM. This year's Barn Tour will feature some of Nevada's oldest and most historic timber frame barns. These barns represent the ranching and agricultural history of Carson Valley and the struggle of early settlers to turn the sagebrush covered land into the beautiful green valley we enjoy today.

The Historical Society's goal is not just to raise funds but to educate and show the benefit and importance of preserving the history of those early settlers and historic structures.

These fundraisers contribute to operating both of our museums. Tickets will go on sale in May, \$20.00 for DCHS members and \$25.00 for non-members.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist on the day of the tour (Approximately 3 hours). If you can volunteer call (775) 782-2555 or (775) 392-2175. We would appreciate your help.

*Barns shown top to bottom: Holden, Jubilee and Dangberg*

## Capital Improvement Campaign

We are pleased to report that progress continues on our capital improvement campaign, "Preserving the Past – Securing the Future." As a temporary fix our volunteers filled the cracks in the Carson Valley Museum Parking Lot with asphalt cold patch. Some were over eight inches wide! Now in cooperation with the Town of Gardnerville's summer crack sealing program we hope to finish this project before the end of the month.

Thor Teigen, Senior Vice President – Branch Manager, from Wells Fargo Advisors stopped by the museum the other day to lend a hand in the removal of the debris that had fallen off of the flagpole surround. We were pleased to find that concrete base is in good shape and it was only the commemorative bricks (safely stored away for the moment) and slate siding that was in serious disrepair. It will be an on-going project throughout the summer to restore the surround.

We have many more projects in the works. Some simply requiring volunteer labor, others require serious monetary investment. For more information on our capital campaign or if you would like to assist with simple painting projects, light building maintenance and repairs, please contact Cindy at the front office. And now that the weather has turned warm, we'll be hosting tailgate parties after a day of work at the museum. Volunteers at all levels are the life blood of our museums!



# Trustee Elections 2017

There's still time to vote! The Nominating Committee has put forth four nominations to fill the four vacancies on the 2017-2019 Douglas County Historical Society's Board of Trustees. The nominees are: Dale Bohlman, Guy Proto, Rick Towner, and Lisa Tucker.

## BIOS

**Dale Bohlman** is a 3rd generation Carson Valley resident and served as Gardnerville's Postmaster from 1970 to 1990. Dale also served on the Gardnerville Town Board from 1972 to 1975 including over twenty years of service on the Gardnerville Town Water Board. Dale has been a long time supporter and member of the Historical Society and is currently serving his first term (2015-2017) as a DCHS Trustee.

**Guy Proto** has been a Douglas County resident for 7 years. He was a prior vice-president of the board and a trustee for 3 years. While a Trustee Guy served as the chairperson of the Endowment, Planning and Finance Committees, and also served as a member of the Fundraising and Human Resource Committees. Guy is currently serving on the Carson Valley Barn Tour team for 2017.

**Rick Towner** is a twenty year resident of Douglas County, and a DCHS members since 2014. Rick serves at the front desk as a museum docent. Rick also assists with audio visual and building maintenance. Rick comes from a background in commercial banking operations.

**Lisa Tucker** is a business woman with thirty-five years experience and is originally from the Bay Area. She moved to Carson Valley in 2001. Lisa is currently serving her first term (2015-2017) as a DCHS Trustee and Treasurer to our board.



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## BALLOT: 2017/2019 DCHS Board of Trustees

Vote for four:

- ☐ Dale Bohlman
- ☐ Guy Proto
- ☐ Rick Towner
- ☐ Lisa Tucker

### Voting Instructions:

You may use this page, a copy of this page, or you may pick-up a ballot at the Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center. Fill out your ballot and seal it in an envelope. We have blank envelopes at the museum office. When you bring your ballot in your name must be marked off the list of active members. You may return your ballot during normal office hours 10:00 to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Anonymous ballots will not be accepted. All ballots are due before 4:00 p.m. Thursday, May 18. Should you choose to mail your ballot to the museum, be sure the name on the return address matches your membership name.



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

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

#### **MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS:**

Free admission to both our 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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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

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

Join online at [www.HistoricNV.org](http://www.HistoricNV.org)  
or return this page along with your dues to:

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

## **Presidents Message**

There are several rewarding aspects in working for the Historical Society. The first is the sense of accomplishment in knowing your effort helps fulfill our mission statement, *"The Douglas County Historical Society seeks to enrich lives by preserving local history and making it accessible to our communities and visitors."* We have two fine museums which are a showcase for our community.

The second aspect is working with our volunteers. We have a great group of people who are truly dedicated to keeping our doors open and our museums in tip top shape. With such a dedicated group of people "Work Parties" are often just that, a fun day of accomplishments and a party combined.

A third aspect which one might not recognize is best defined as, "who needs a gym membership when you work at a museum!" Contrary to images of dark, quite buildings that only require an occasional dusting of the artifacts, a museum is anything but that. I'm still amazed at how many volunteers and duties are involved in operating our facilities. And as always, if not already a volunteer we hope you will consider joining our crew.

*Dennis Little, DCHS President*

## **Gifts & Memorials**

We gratefully acknowledge memorial donations made in the name of:

**E-ann Logan**

The Douglas County Historical Society gratefully 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:

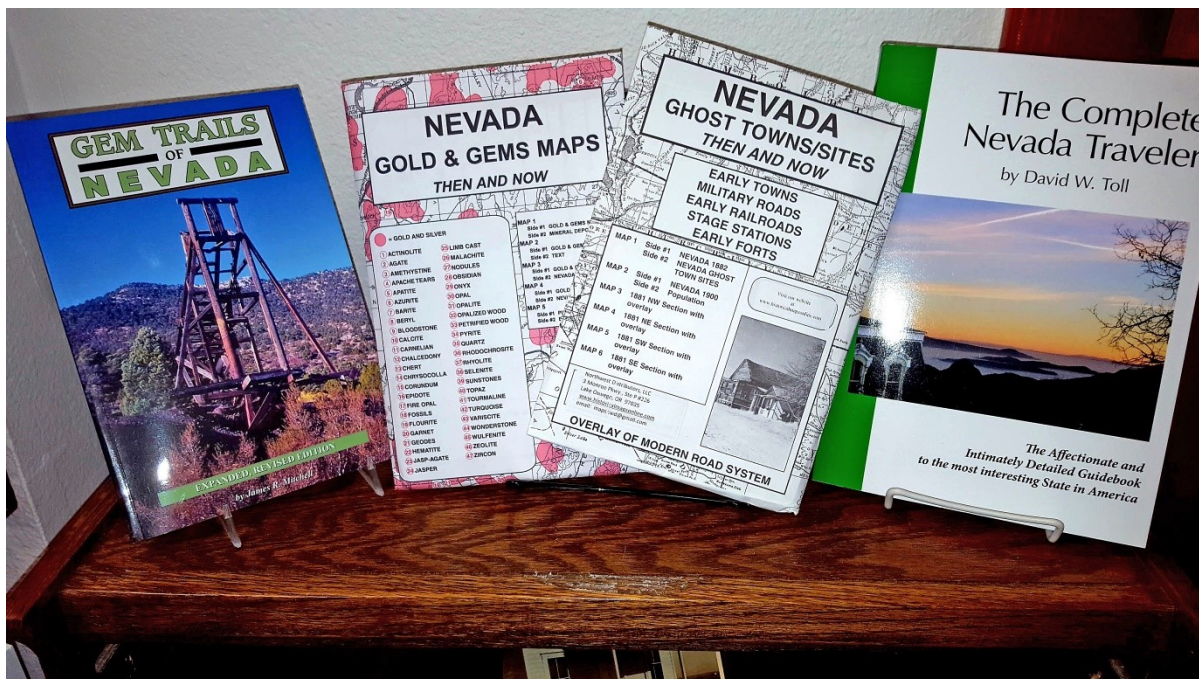
Douglas County Historical Society  
1477 US Highway 395 North, Suite B  
Gardnerville, NV 89410-5214

*Your contribution helps keep the rich legacy of  
Douglas County alive.*



# GREETINGS FROM OUR BOOKSTORE

*One of the last Brick & Mortar bookstores in Douglas County*



**NEVADA** – Along with History, featuring interesting books about our state is another main objective of our museum bookstores. Our featured books and maps this month will hopefully encourage you to take a trip or two this spring, right here in our State of Nevada!

We have sold *The Complete Nevada Traveler* by David Toll for many years and at \$20 is an interesting and detailed guidebook to take on any Nevada trip.

Pick an area, say Elko, and you will find interesting facts, and have a map of the area. There will also be information on suggested areas around Elko, like Lamoille and Carlin, with things to see and do like museums, shopping, night life as well as great pictures and interesting facts about the area.

Or, are you wanting an adventure in “Gems”? *Gem Trails of Nevada* by James Mitchell is a guide to over 75 of the best gem, fossil and mineral collecting areas the Silver State has to offer. At \$12.95 this is also a book we often sell when folks are contemplating a new hobby, or want to make sure they haven’t missed an area with gem possibilities. The pictures and maps are often in color and fantastic just to enjoy from your armchair.

If you are a map lover, we sell two “Then and Now” maps that are sure to please. *Nevada Gold and Gems Map* has 5 maps with 47 different minerals/gems identified on the maps, a great accompaniment to the *Gem Trails* book. The other is *Nevada Ghost Town/Sites* with 6 maps of early towns, forts, and railroads. Several of these maps have overlays of the modern road system. Places to go see.....or just enjoy thinking about what those long ago days in Nevada were like. Have Fun!



DREW AGUILAR, CPA  
OWNER

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Barbara Smallwood  
“Committed to our Community”



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1511 Highway 395 N  
Gardnerville, NV 89410

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# Treasures From the Vault

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I was speaking to a member of Douglas County Historical Society and they related a conversation they had with a friend who had lived in Douglas County and attended high school in our wonderful Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center building, then the Douglas County High School. In speaking about the museum and our growing collection, our member's friend said, "I heard that the museum in Gardnerville was full and they didn't want any more donations." It took me by complete surprise that anyone thought that DCHS was not actively collecting items related to our local history.

Almost every month, on the morning of the first Thursday, a group of dedicated volunteers and staff meet to review items which have been brought to us. These items are considered for addition to our permanent collection or for use in our exhibits. We never know what we will be seeing each month but, so far this year, we have received several documents from 1890 through 1920, advertising items from Perry's Dry Goods, a two-piece, 1890s era dress, and Douglas County High School memorabilia from 1958 – 1972. And this is but a small sampling of the items we have received.

While we do not have an unlimited space to store artifacts, we are continuing to change and add to existing exhibits in the CVMCC and the Courthouse Museum, Genoa. A permanent Douglas County High School exhibit has been created on 'Main Street' downstairs in the CVMCC. There was a World War I exhibit in the CVMCC. It was in the window to the right of the reception desk. This window will be used as our rotating exhibit area, so look for changes in it about every six months. In mid May, that World War I exhibit will move to the Courthouse Museum, Genoa and remain there until the end of the season in October.



As we add artifacts to our collection, the Exhibit Team is able to develop new exhibits. It is by continuing to accept artifacts that we can tell the story of our community. We are grateful to all of our donors who have chosen to preserve the history of Douglas County by donating their treasures to the Douglas County Historical Society. With these artifacts, we are able to have a visual and interesting way to help tell our history.

We are very grateful for the many volunteers who offer their time and skills to work with the Douglas County Historical Society collections and exhibits. Volunteers are vital to our organization and make it possible to fulfill the DCHS mission. There are a variety of opportunities available at DCHS including working with exhibits, researching artifacts, and transcribing documents written in cursive. If you have an interest in working with the collections or exhibits, please call or email me. I can be reached at 775-782-2555 or you can email me at [curator@HistoricNV.org](mailto:curator@HistoricNV.org).



Top: An advertising card for Levi Strauss stamped with Perry's Dry Goods

Bottom: Photo of the 1972 Douglas County High School Boys' Basketball Team, Nevada State Champions, celebrating at John Ascuaga's Nugget with Bertha the elephant.

*Gail Allen, Collections Manager*



Douglas County Historical Society

# Historic Barns of Carson Valley Barn Tour

Saturday, June 17, 2017

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

**\$25 Per Person / \$20 DCHS Members**



Includes: Tour of Six Historic Timber Frame Barns  
Free Ice Cream Social following the tour  
Free Admission to the Courthouse Museum in Genoa and  
Carson Valley Museum & Cultural Center in Gardnerville.

**Tour is Self Guided**

Tickets may be purchased at the locations below or call (775)782-2555

Carson Valley Museum, 1477 Hwy 395 N., Gardnerville  
Courthouse Museum, 2304 Main Street, Genoa

**[www.HistoricNV.org](http://www.HistoricNV.org)**



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AD SIZE	ISSUE	YEAR (6 Issues)
Business Card	\$10	\$ 50
Quarter page	\$20	\$100
Half-page	\$35	\$175
Full-page	\$70	\$350

To purchase an ad please contact us 775-782-2555 or email your information to [DCHS@HistoricNV.org](mailto:DCHS@HistoricNV.org)

Ads should be camera ready and/or provided in jpg or pdf format