



## Historical Society of Dayton Valley

P.O. Box 485 – Dayton, NV 89403 — 775-246-6316

<http://www.daytonnvhistory.org>

### 2013 SPRING/SUMMER UPDATES

VOLUME 10 – NUMBER 1

## *HSDV starts their 26<sup>th</sup> year!!*

### ❖ Dayton Museum's 2013 opening day: St. Patrick' Day weekend

Greeting everyone! It's hard to believe our organization begins its 26<sup>th</sup> year in 2013 with fifteen (15) of our original Charter members among our volunteers today! Listed in alphabetical order our "long-timers" are: **LINDA CLEMENTS, JOHN CROWLEY, LYNN & RUBE ERICKSON, JUDY HARRIS, LARRY MCPHERSON, BOB MILZ, DEL MINOR, GRACE RICCI, NANCY SBRAGIA, LAURA & STONY TENNANT, MAY & RAY WALMSLEY AND KAY WINTERS.** HSDV is very proud of the goals that have been accomplished throughout the years. Through their dedication and persistence members, both early ones and present day, have truly lived up to our MISSION STATEMENT which is: "The Historical Society of Dayton Valley has been established to protect, preserve and promote the historic Dayton Museum as well as Dayton-area history, historic integrity, heritage and cultures for the education and enjoyment of present and future generations." Today, our current bevy of 97 dedicated members continue to volunteer in making the "Future of Dayton's Past" their top priority. *Volunteers do make a difference! Did you know that within the United States the total estimated hourly value of a volunteer's time amounts to \$18.97? Nevada's estimated value is estimated as \$19.00!!*

(Note: Value is based on average wage of non-management, non-agricultural, workers. It does not include the earning power of specialized and/or skilled workers such as Doctors or Lawyers.)

## *Next on our plate...*

### ❖ May Historical Month

The theme for Nevada Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation month this year is **SAVE, PRESERVE and CELEBRATE.** Three old Dayton structures were selected for inclusion in HSDV's lecture series. They are the **DAYTON VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER** (Dayton High School was previously located in this building), **BLUESTONE BUILDING** (currently houses Dayton Justice Court), and **CARSON & COLORADO RR & DEPOT.** Lectures will be presented at the **Dayton Valley Community Center** on three consecutive Thursday evenings at **7:00PM**, as follows:

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>** Reflecting on life at **DAYTON HIGH SCHOOL** during the 1940s-50s. Laura Tennant (1955 DHS graduate) will present a brief synopsis of Lyon County's first courthouse, which was also the High School site. May & Ray Walmsley are going to talk about going to school there. Graduates, David Dull and Marius Kendall, who attended DHS for 4 years in the 1950s will talk about what school was like and the friendship of members of the small student high school – it's very heartwarming. Plus, these guys will add a humorous touch!

**Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** Camille Vecchiarelli is enlightening us on the 1860s **BLUESTONE BUILDING** and those who made it perk, including Dayton's first Justice of the Peace, Merro Winter and our first female Justice of the Peace, Belle Gates. How delightful it is that our lecturer just happens to be the *first female in Dayton's history to have been elected as a Justice of the Peace and only the 2<sup>nd</sup> female to have held that position in Dayton!*

**Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** Linda Clements will give us more wonderful history on the **C&C RR**, its past, present and future. Light refreshments will be offered.

### ❖ State Board on Geographic Names meets in Dayton on May 14th

On May 14<sup>th</sup> their Board meeting will be held in Dayton at **9:30 AM**, Conference Room in the **LYON COUNTY UTILITY BUILDING, 34 LAKES BLVD** (off Dayton Valley Road). An agenda item is an application filed under our name, **Historical Society of Dayton Valley**, requesting to name a site, located in mountains slightly southeast of old town Dayton "**FREMONT LOOKOUT**". HSDV members, **Guy Rocha** (retired State of Nevada Archivist) and **Stony Tennant** are representing HSDV. If the application is approved a second vote has to occur (in September). Then request goes to the US Board on Geographic Names for their approval. HSDV members are taking part in activities relating to this May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting; including hosting SBGN board to box lunches and offering tours of museum and firehouse/jail. Afterwards a caravan (including both their board plus our members) will travel out Fort Churchill Road (via private vehicles) and view the **FREMONT LOOKOUT** site. (HSDV members may sign up and car pool whether or not you attend the morning meeting.) Car pooling details are not yet fully established as they will depend on sign-ups. **Chair for HSDV: Laura Tennant 775-246-3256. HSDV members may buy box lunches for a nominal charge. Order from Mabel Masterman 775-246-4457--- PRIOR TO Monday MAY 6<sup>TH</sup>.**

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### ❖ 2013 - Dayton History School Program

Tremendous thanks go to **Barbara Peck** for being **Chair** and overseeing all details of Dayton History School Program again this year. As in past years this program is presented to all 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Dayton Elementary schools. **Barbara** puts together a time line for each class depicting 86 facts about town history and does narration as she presents it. At second session HSDV members dress as the town's earlier residents and present living histories (circa 1851-1960s). A third portion of the program consists of an all day walking field trip visiting downtown sites including the Rock Point Mill Site, 1865 Schoolhouse Museum, old High School (site of the first Lyon County Court House), the Firehouse/Jail, Carson & Colorado Depot, Pony Express wall, Dayton Cemetery, Bluestone Building and the Birdsall Douglas Mill site (currently Our Park). Helping with prep work for classroom lessons and time lines were **Vicki Kinney, Linda Adams, Laura Tennant, Pat Neylan, Jack Folmar** and **Margy Bethers**. A list of upcoming School Program events and dates, when known, will be posted at the Museum. HSDV members are welcome to join program presentations including the walking field trips taking place during May. Just give **Barbara a call - 775-246-9653** to let her know you plan to attend.

### ❖ June Annual Rummage Sale FRI. June 14<sup>th</sup> & SAT. June 15<sup>th</sup> – C&C Depot

**PLEASE help us any way you can. Our Annual Rummage Sale helps us pay for insurance!**

We need donations of a variety of various items to sell! Also, any time you can spare on Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup> or any time prior to the sale helping with set up tasks would be appreciated. Additional help during the sale on Friday and Saturday would also be WONDERFUL & much appreciated!

**(IF YOU NEED TO STAY "OFF-YOUR-FEET" OR TAKE THINGS "EASY" WE CAN ACCOMMODATE YOU!)** Need someone to pick up your donation? We can arrange that...just let us know!

**Chair: Gretchen Arndt 775-450-9607**

**Co-Chair: Vicki Kinney 775-246-9396**

**SORRY... BUT WE CAN'T ACCEPT  
TVS, COMPUTERS OR OVERSIZE APPLIANCES.**

### ❖ Oodles of Noodles – June 22 & 23

The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce will be holding their annual Oodles of Noodles Festival on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> in Old Town Dayton. HSDV plans to offer **PARKING AT THE C&C DEPOT (contact: Tom Parcels 775-9419)**, tours (both days) of the **Museum (Contact: Pat Neylan 775-246-3527)** and **Firehouse/Jail (Contact: Mabel Masterman 775-246-4457)**.

## ***Looking slightly behind us...!***

### ❖ 6<sup>th</sup> Halloween Pioneer Ghost Walk

Our 2012 event was a great success!! Last October found a whopping **256 "small gremlins"** attending the 6<sup>th</sup> annual walk! Children were given the opportunity to learn about Dayton history, play old time games, view the museum in a fun way... along with wearing their Halloween costumes and receiving

treats! Special thanks to our **2012 Chair: Barbara Peck** and some other special folks in the community who helped us out: **Ruth Small** (sign painting), **Dan South** (for portraying Chester Barton), **Janette Hoffert** (who saw to sign-in table) and **Sharon Atkinson**, President of local Soroptomists, plus 2 of their members. Participating HSDV members included: **Linda Adams, Gretchen Arndt, Margy Bethers, Linda Clements, John Crowley, Carryl DePauk, Jenny Dodds, Jack Folmar, Sheila Hodach, Judy Kent, Gene Kinney, Vicki Kinney, Marty Lewis, Barbara Madison, Donna McElroy, Dave Moore, Pat Neylan, Ted Niemi, Diane Parcels, Tom Parcels, Barbara Peck (!), Andy Sichak, MaryAnn Sichak, Laura Tennant and Stony Tennant**. A special thank you to our Refreshments Committee for overseeing "yummy" treats and "refreshing" beverages available for youngsters & their parents at the *spirited* event! A great evening thanks to all involved. We're doing it again this year!!

### ❖ 2013 Board of Director elections

Nominations opened in September and closed in November. Voting took place during the November general meeting. 2013 board members are as follows:

**President – Vicki Kinney**

**Vice President – Barbara Peck**

**Treasurer – Grace Ricci**

**Secretary – Pat Neylan**

**Directors – Margy Bethers,**

**Donna McElroy & Tom Parcels**

**(non-elected position) Dayton Historian,  
Laura Tennant**

### ❖ 2012 Christmas Party & Awards

It's rumored the 2012 Annual Christmas Party had our biggest attendance ever. We send big thanks to committee members who arranged this festive event for all **76 attendees!** **Committee Chair: Gretchen Arndt**, assisted by **Margy Bethers, Jack Folmar, Sheila Hodach, Pat Neylan** and **Mabel Masterman**. Two awards were given during the party as follows:

### 2012 Gold Nugget Award(s):

**CENTRAL LYON COUNTY  
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
and the**

**LYON COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT**

**Gold Nugget Award** – Established in 2006: May be given to honor exceptionally outstanding HSDV supporters, i.e., a way to honor over and above acts, long standing, and/or notable backing whether or not the person nominated is a member.

### Member(s) receiving

**Laura Tennant 2012 Perpetual Award:**

**JUDY HARRIS**

**and BARBARA PECK**

**Laura Tennant Perpetual Award** – Established in 2004 to honor Laura Tennant: Recognizes a member's outstanding contribution of time, efforts and devotion to helping preserve and/or promote Dayton history.

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## **...Other odds and ends!**

### ❖ **HSDV's Annual Scrapbook Project...**

In March our current scrapbook **Chair Margy Bethers** and her committee presented the completed 2012 Scrapbook! It's truly an eye-catching creative pictorial highlighting last year's HSDV activities. Congratulations! Actually, *double d-o-u-b-l-e* congrats as this was the first year for **Margy** and a **committee** to undertake this annual project. "Helpers" who worked diligently on the scrapbook with **Margy** include **Jenny Dodds, Jack Folmar** (our photographer), **Sheila Hodach, Vicki Kinney, Ted Niemi, Diane Parcels,** and (Margy's friend) **Paula Nesbitt** (plus **Mabel Masterman**, for collecting miscellaneous clippings during 2012 and being their mentor).

**Thanks Margy for offering to head up the Committee for 2013**

*...we're looking for volunteers and a Co-Chair!*

### ❖ **A word about membership renewals...**

With the exception of HSDV LIFE MEMBERS, renewal notifications for 2013-2014 HSDV will be mailed to current members in June (dues go from July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>).

**Membership Chair: Mabel Masterman 775-246-4457.**

### ❖ **Pony Express Territory video**

Nevada Commission of Tourism (NCOT) divides Nevada into various tourism "territories". Dayton is in the Pony Express Territory (PET). Dayton is the site of Nevada's first gold discovery, the state's earliest permanent settlement and stopping-off point (1860-1861) along the Pony Express route. Additionally a segment of the historical Lincoln Highway ran along Pike Street, Main and River Streets. Today, part of the original Lincoln Highway still carries traffic on U.S. Highway 50. Using grant money, the PET Committee is currently in the process of producing promotional videos featuring communities within the territory. They sought our help with overall depiction of Dayton. A steering committee comprised of our members will identify major events and significant sites within Dayton for inclusion. We're favoring a 30 second model designed to be flexible and increase awareness of things Dayton can offer to visitors. (Laura notes the PET committee is working with the Lincoln Highway Association on a June event to help promote this year's 100 Anniversary of the Lincoln Highway, U.S. Hwy 50). Stay tuned for more!

**HSDV Coordinator: Laura Tennant 775-246-3256**

### ❖ **C&C Working Group**

Members of the Carson & Colorado Railroad Depot and boxcar restoration committee are on track with holding their annual Railroading Days, Sept 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> as a part of Dayton Valley Days this year. C&C's **Event Coordinator: Andy Sichak.** **MaryAnn Sichak** will handle advertising and vendor contact. Their Secretary is **Elaine Bergstrom.** Earlier this year the C&C group secured Lyon County Room Tax money to advertise their event in railroading magazines thus alerting RR buffs. Additionally, the C&C group was contacted by **Vern Kyllingstad** with a lead on lumber needed for restoring both the boxcar and depot. Our cost would be basically limited to pick-up and transportation of the lumber. Thank you, **Stony Tennant**, for following up on this for us.

## **...now a word about our Docents!**

Remember hearing "*Idle hands are the devil's workshop*"? Sure doesn't apply to our "never-idle" docents! This past winter they were up-to-their-eyeballs spending many *m-a-n-y* hours updating and improving displays in the museum, catching up on accessioning, which included starting at ground zero working alongside **Stony Tennant** inventorying, cataloging, etc. artifacts contained in the "almost established" JohnD barn (a prerequisite prior to featuring a special barn display of these items). Others tackled improving/streamlining various society forms. An on-going project, reviewing and cataloging over 2,000 books from HSDV's "old library", was completed over the winter. A number of "special" books have been identified. We still need to determine whether they should be used in special displays or dedicated to our future reference library. Have docents been busy or what? Interested in becoming involved? Lots to do! You're just a phone call away. Contact: **Pat Neylan 775-246-3527.**

## **Thank you... and thanks again!**

**Carson Tahoe Marine, LLC  
Capital Roofing  
Starbucks Coffee Com. #9920-Dayton**

## **Welcoming recent members!**

We extend a hearty welcome to our newest members who joined the historical society since our 2012 Fall-Winter newsletter was issued.

Several have become "extremely active" and we're delighted to have new members "on-board"!

**MaryAnn & Andy Sichak - Deanne Salinger - JoLynn Hyde  
Elaine & Don Bergstrom**

## **Warmhearted memories...**

Several members and active supporters recently passed away. As HSDV reflects on their numerous contributions over the years helping preserve Dayton history and heritage we also send our deepest sympathy to their families and loved ones. They shall truly be missed.

**Victoria J. Pradere  
Armond Arnett  
John Westbrook  
Mike Perez  
Darlene Ricco**

### **2013 Board of Directors**

**Vicki Kinney, Pres. – Barbara Peck, Vice Pres.  
Patrick Neylan, Secty. – Grace Ricci, Treas.  
Directors: Donna McElroy, Tom Parcels, & Margy Bethers  
Dayton Historian – Laura Tennant**

**Newsletter compiled by Mabel Masterman - 775-246-4457**