

Historical Society of Dayton Valley

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<http://www.daytonnvhistory.org>

SPRING 2016

Volume 13 – Number 1

*Is April really “mostly gone”...
with May now creeping up on us?
Seems weather is acting like its spring!
How did we manage to sneak out of 2015
and right into 2016 so fast!
Maybe we simply lost track of time,
'cause, as you can see, the later part of 2015 was
a productive “fun-filled-year” & we’ve already slid
into another busy one!
Read on for “fast updates” about 2016’s
upcoming “front burner” activities....plus a word
or two about those from late last year!*



**“BLAZING” ... hot off the
press
“bell-ringing” news!**

ADDITIONAL \$136,000 FOR RESTORATION OF OUR 1881 C&C RR DEPOT!

On Thursday, April 14, Linda Clements and John Crowley spent the day at the biennial grant hearings for the state Committee on Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation. The depot restoration committee (Linda, John, and Stony Tennant), working in a partnership with building owner and applicant Lyon County, submitted our grant request last December.

There were 11 grant applications for a total of \$950,000 available, so we knew that our funding had serious constraints. Nine requests were from organizations with paid staff—high school in Mesquite, Pioneer Hotel in Elko, Keil Ranch Adobe in North Las Vegas, Stewart Indian School, Whittell Boathouse, Ely’s city hall, Reno’s Pioneer Center, and both the McGill Depot and East Ely yards. Only one other applicant, Goldfield high school, was from an all-volunteer organization.

The hearing was a nail-biter, with at least one member clearly preferring the “professional” proposals. Four committee members and one substitute were from southern Nevada, with the sixth hailing from Incline. Nonetheless some members totally “got” the small community experience and argued passionately for us, complimenting our hard work in Dayton.

In the end we received \$130,000 from CCCHP for the next phase of depot restoration—funding reduced by \$6000 at the last minute.

However, Linda’s impassioned pleas did not fall on deaf ears. (Prepare for a complex explanation....!!!) First the head of the State Historic Preservation Office proposed that any unused administrative funds be reverted to our project, up to \$6000. This passed with the funding motion. Then the presenter from the Whittell Boathouse stood up, thanked the committee for their funding, and then figuratively took off his Whittell hat. He explained that there were some funds left in the now-closed charitable “Foundation 36.” He said Foundation 36 would guarantee to provide any balance of the \$6000 not reverted to us by SHPO. Linda expressed profound thanks.

So while some people continue to undervalue Dayton, we are making inroads. No one else received the special acknowledgement and cooperation from SHPO or from a private Foundation. Linda believes it will continue to be easier to improve our level of respect in subsequent funding cycles.

And the bottom line is that we received \$136,000 for the next phase of depot restoration.

(“Submitted synopsis” was greatly appreciated!)

2015-Kay Winters Day!

Late last year one of our long time Dayton residents, **HSDV Charter and Life Member, Kay Winters** was honored by Lyon County Commissioners when they proclaimed December 3, 2015 a special day in tribute to her community service over the years.

Kay and her late husband, JohnD, purchased their Dayton ranch property in 1951 and wintered their cattle there. In 1965 they built their Dayton house. Fifty+ years later, **Kay** still resides in the ranch house located on the original property.

Over the years **Kay’s** been involved in a large variety of community activities including; **Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4-H Leader for 15 years, representative for American Field Service and her family hosted the first Rotary exchange student** who was from Australia. She became director for **Dayton’s Parks and Recreation** and was instrumental in the establishment of **“Our Park”** and the catalyst for making **Dayton State Park** a reality. In 1972 **Kay** represented Lyon County as **Lyon County’s Bicentennial Chair**. She was awarded the **1987 President’s Metal**, and the **Distinguished Nevadan Award in 1989**. We are so very proud of Dayton’s lovely “nonagenarian” **Kay Winters!** She has given so much of her life bettering our community.

Thank you and Congratulations **KAY!**

2015-HSDV Award Honorees

Congratulations! 2015 Award Recipients were honored during our December Christmas Party.....

GOLD NUGGET:

Jack Folmar

LAURA TENNANT PERPETUAL AWARD:

**Lynne & Rube Erickson &
Marty Lewis**

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Established in 2015.....
“Joe Ricci, Sr. Posthumous Award”

Established last year, this award is a way to recognize and honor society members and/or supporters for their contributions to society goals.... and who, unfortunately, have passed away.

Joe Ricci, Sr., a Charter Member of our organization, is one of those. A Dayton native born in the original Ricci Ranch house (still present on ranch property today), **Joe** attended Dayton schools and played on the High School basketball team. During his lifetime took on a variety of matters having a potential to cause detrimental harm to efforts in preserving Dayton's past.

Had it not been for Joe's committed intervention and unwavering influence while serving as a Lyon County Commissioner, Dayton's historic old High School building on Pike Street, built in 1918 using the foundation from Lyon County's original Court House (which burned to the ground in 1909) the humble old High School would have been demolished by the County.

Today this old building proudly serves town residents as their Dayton Valley Community Center.

This is a very special award. In recognition of **Joe's** efforts, HSDV designated the award be known as the **Joe Ricci, Sr. Posthumous Award**. Because the award is so unique HSDV members decreed there is no requirement to bestow the honor yearly.

Joe's widow, **Grace**, is also a Charter Member. She turns 89 years young this year! **Grace** served as our Treasurer for 29 years and opted to step down at the end of last year. All of us are beholden to both **Joe** and **Grace's** long time dedication. We also thank **Grace** for keeping our financial records so scrupulously accurate over the years, thus keeping us out of trouble!

Keeping current events in mind....!

Dayton Museum is now open for 2016



Hours: open every **Saturday: 10:00 am to 4:00 pm**
Sunday afternoon: 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

For State of Nevada Archaeological Awareness and Historic Preservation Month the Museum also be open daily **weekdays from 11:00am to 3:00pm month of May!**

Additionally, during **May (only)** there will be **2 special exhibits** on display at the Museum!

- #1) Miniature sized working farm equipment and tools made by western artist, Stony Tennant, and**
- #2) antique postcards from Pat Neylan's collection.**

(Interested in being a docent? Call Pat Neylan 775-246-3527)

***“Images of America - DAYTON” book...
Autographed copies for sale at the Museum!***

HSDV helps Sutro School Rededication!

What an honor for **Laura Tennant** to have the privilege of organizing Sutro School's Rededication held at the school on March 24, 2016, in conjunction with their 20th Anniversary.

Additionally, both **Laura** and **Jack Folmar** were on hand to sell and autograph their new Arcadia Publishing book **Images of America - DAYTON Photo Book**. Other area non-profits having a presence included Comstock Foundation for History and Culture.

Celebration activities included **dedication of a time capsule cornerstone** and an **Academic Fair where student works were displayed**. A **silent auction was also held**. Thanks to **Jack for overseeing HSDV's static photo display and the slide show depicting Dayton history**.

Several HSDV members volunteered to help support **Laura** and **Jack**, even contributing extra historical ambiance by wearing “early-period-clothing” at the event! We thank our following members for all their help, support and enthusiasm:

**Alice Folmar, Kathy & Duncan Lee, Pat Neylan,
Gloria Manning, Mary Ann & Andy Sichak,
Johnye Saylor and Stony Tennant.**

Lyon County Recognizes National Volunteer Week-April 10th to 16th

National Volunteer Week, an annual event beginning in 1974, recognizes and celebrates all volunteer's efforts whether at local, state and national levels. National theme selected this year was “**Celebrating Service**”.

Lyon County has numerous individuals and groups who unselfishly give so much of their time, talents, services and resources to the betterment of our community.... HSDV is just one of them! Lyon County recognized efforts of community volunteers by having proclaimed April 10th to 16th as **Volunteer Week for Lyon County**. Were you aware that HSDV's volunteers have included Lyon County officials like *former County Commissioner, Bob Milz*, and *current County Commissioner Ray Fierro*? Kudos to all wonderful volunteers!

Dayton History in Schools-/May

We all say “thank you” to **Barbara Peck** for having developed and presenting a history program highlighting Dayton's rich past to all 4th grade Dayton school children once a year, for so many years even after she retired! This year **Barbara's** program (with a slight change) is being carried on by a dedicated helper, **Vicki Kinney**. Historical presentations are to made in all 3 grammar schools. **Vicki** tells us characters from Dayton's past will recount, using a “living history format type timeline”, their role in days of yore!

Interested in helping with out with these presentations???

Vicki would love to hear from you.....
775-246-9396 or via email - elko50vk@gmail.com

HSDV's 2016 Historical Lecture Series

EACH MAY THE STATE OF NEVADA HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE DECLARES THE MONTH AS “HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND ARCHAEOLOGY AWARENESS MONTH”. THIS YEAR'S THEME IS **“OUR LEGACY, OUR FUTURE: THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT.”** HSDV extends an invitation to the public to attend four free May lectures presenting Dayton history.

**Dayton Valley Community Center, 170 Pike Street,
on Thursday “HSDV 7:00 pm Lectures” begin at
7:15 p.m. Refreshments will be served.**

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May 5: Steven Saylor *reminisces about former residents*, “Louie the Indian” and Ray Darrough, “Indian Medicine Man.”

May 12: *Story of saving the 1862 Bluestone Building* by a panel of people involved, including, Judge Ed Johnson, Margaret Maloney, Lois Storrs, Lee Vecchiarelli and others.

May 19: Karen Howe: *Whispers from the Past* – a look at the Dayton Cemetery, its History and the importance of preserving our past.

May 26: *No lecture* – Memorial Day weekend.

June 2: Linda L. Clements: History and stories remind us why we should save the 1870 Union Hotel, it was once a famous Nevada landmark and is now the most endangered historic building in Nevada.

HSDV's 9th Annual June Rummage Sale

Location: Carson & Colorado Depot
Highway 50 and Main Street

Fri. & Sat. – JUNE 17TH & 18TH
START COLLECTING ITEMS NOW!!



Please help us any way you can! Our Annual Rummage Sale helps HSDV pay insurance. Look through your cabinets, closets and garages!! We need a good variety of items to sell. No rummage? “Helping out” before the sale and during the event would be most appreciated! Please call Gretchen!

Flexible days and hours can be accommodated!!

Chair: GRETCHEN ARNDT- 775-450-9607

(Sorry but NO TV's, computers or oversize appliances!)

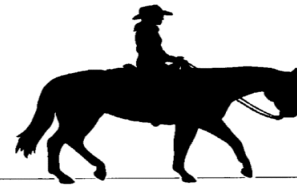
May 28th – Handicraft Workshop
Saturday afternoon starting at 1:00 pm

@ Dayton Museum



First workshop project scheduled for this year is to make a **small pillow coverlet using a novel quilting technique known as “yo-yos”!** Most of the supplies you'll need are **likely** to be available at the workshop; however check with Gretchen to be sure!

Hosted by: Gretchen Arndt - 775-450-9607
June 2016 Pony Express “re-ride”



The riders will travel on the original Pony Express Trail 1,966 miles through the states of California, **Nevada**, Utah, Wyoming, Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas and Missouri. The riders travel 24 hours a day and the mail delivered in 10 days, just like it was in 1860-1861. **Moon is going to be 90% full!!**

This year the re-ride starts from the west heading east.

It's anticipated the rider will be passing through **DAYTON “around” 4:00 PM ?? – THURS. JUNE 16TH.**

For additional information and to view updated event schedules:

www.nevadaponyexpress.org
(Click on “2016 Pony Express re-ride”)

Oodles of Noodles Event - June 25 & June 26

Sponsored by Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce their annual Festival is held in old town Dayton. Festival celebrates Dayton's Italian and Chinese heritage and features a noodle-tasting contest (on Saturday ONLY) judged by the public. Awards are presented to the winning “chefs”. HSDV participates by showcasing our Schoolhouse Museum, Firehouse/Jail and also having activities at the C&C Depot. Want to volunteer to help the society out during the event?

Contacts for Museum: Pat Neylan 775-246-3527;
F/J Lead Docent: Mabel Masterman 775-246-4457;
C&C Depot location: Duncan Lee 775-771-9206.

A hearty welcome...

Members joining since the Fall/early Winter 2015 newsletter!

Volunteers are the heart of our organization!

Marion Holton - Sara Decker Ning

Rita Selmi - Theresa Woods

Comstock Foundation for History and Culture

Shannon Ludington – Arlene Haber

Katrina Hedlesky & John Gibson

Members get a 15% discount on gift shop purchases!

Loneliest Highway in America
30th Anniversary – July 1, 2016

Would you believe it's been 30 years since LIFE MAGAZINE proclaimed a stretch of **US 50 east of Dayton to Ely** the “**Loneliest Road in America**”? The moniker used in their July 1986 story has drawn much notoriety! Nevada Department of Transportation has even provided signage for this section of US 50 noting it's designation as the **Loneliest Road in America!!**



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Yep...Dues are almost due!

A word about 2016-2017 upcoming membership renewals....

In June most of us will be receiving membership renewal notices from **Membership Chair-Vicki Kinney**.

Memberships run from July 1st through June 30th of the following year. After having been the same price for the past 10 years we found it necessary to slightly adjust current membership and renewal fees, effective with 2016-2017 renewals.

One request though... if you have a new email address, would you please be sure to include it on your renewal and mail form back to **Vicki** as soon as practical? Thanks!

Ongoing "Tie-Plate" Fundraiser

The "Tie-Plates" we are using for this fundraiser were manufactured for the C&C Railroad by the V&T shops, circa 1890. **Railroad Depot Committee (RRDC)** received a donation of approximately 1700 tie plates from member **Bernie Allen**. As they are individually purchased we are having them engraved and money will go towards a fundraiser for HSDV's C&C Depot restoration. Donor has option to have a 2 line message (up to 40 alphanumeric characters) done for a \$100.00 donation or a 3 line (up to 60 alphanumeric characters) done for \$150.00 donation engraved on the tie plate.

Engraved plates will then be "spiked" to ties located on Depot grounds track, thus making this a permanent display at Depot.

Contact: John Crowley 775-246-0505

RRDC Committee Chair: Duncan Lee 775-771-9260

Other follow-up "this-n-that".....

2015 Halloween Haunted Event

Co-chairs, Lynne Ballatore and Gretchen Arndt praised our numerous volunteers and noted we had another successful Halloween happening. The event, spread throughout old town, featured hay rides, living history vignettes presenting Ghostly early Dayton Pioneers, old fashioned children's games (such as bean bag toss, etc.), and refreshments at the Museum. Special kudos to all "spirits" (whether in costume or assisting in other ways) for making the night so memorable: **Narrators: Laura & Stony Tennant; Actors: Julian Ballatore-South, Dan South, Joy Hanssen, Gloria Manning, John Crowley, Phyllis King, Lynne Ballatore; Various "Staff" workers included: Linda Clements, Melanie Wilhelm, Marty Lewis, Barbara Madison, Carol Oehler, Carol McKim, Colin Crowley, Nancy Sawyer, Ray Fierro, Sheila Hodach, Shirley Kagel, Vicki Kinney, Gene Kinney, Gene Ray, Donna Ray, Johnye Saylor, Duncan Lee, Mabel Masterman, Pam Ambercrombe, Elaine Bergstrom, Don Bergstrom, Mary Lewis, Jack Folmar,**

Brad Winters, Mike Workman and several Lyon County workers who volunteered.

2015 Annual Christmas Party

December 4th Christmas Party and Award Presentations event was indeed a delightful again last year! The "professional looking" table decorations were hand made by committee members. A nice hot, tasty buffet dinner catered by **Dayton High School Culinary Arts** was excellent and really "hit the spot"! Thanks to **Chairperson-Gretchen Arndt;** and **Various "Helpers"** including **Lynne Ballatore, Dan South, Linda Clements, John Crowley, Colin Crowley, Tim Crowley, Nami and Emily, Sheila Hodach, Phyllis King, Duncan Lee, Kathy Lee, Barbara Madison, Gloria Manning, Carol Oehler, and David Palmer.**

Kudos to enthusiastic DOCENTS!!

During the winter months, when the Museum is closed, our docents remain active. This year is no different! At the first of the year they really hit the floor running as accessioning of artifacts continues. In 2013 our society opted to implement newer suggested statewide accessioning practices and policies including computerization of artifact records. After the Museum having been closed over the holiday season enthusiastic docents and volunteers worked together to clean, scrub and spiffy it up prior to our yearly March opening. Outside grounds around the (C&C Depot, Firehouse/Jail, as well as the) Museum got additional "tender love and care" after our long cold, wet weather which was followed by an early spring, prompting weeds to grow! Interesting how, after winter, the outside areas often need as much attention as the interiors.

Interested in becoming a Museum docent? Come join with the 5 or 6 who are in the process of being trained. We all are thanking **Mary Ann Sichak** who worked up a wonderfully complete official Museum training manual for us to use. It will be easily handy and accessible on Museum computer. You're just a phone call away!

**Docents: Pat Neylan 775-246-3572, OR for
outside maintenance work "opportunities" contact:
Phyllis King 775-546-3725**

In our thoughts.....

Sadly, three society members have passed away recently. They worked diligently towards preserving Dayton history, historic integrity, heritage and culture.



Del Minor

Tom Parcels

Virginia Schwall

We miss them immensely, memories of them are very precious. God Bless.

2016 Board of Directors

Gloria Manning, President

Mabel Masterman, Vice President

David Dukleth, Secty. – Lynne Ballatore, Treas.

**Directors: Duncan Lee - Bernie Allen - Stony Tennant
Historian, Laura Tennant - Museum Curator, Pat Neylan**

Newsletter compiled by Mabel Masterman - 775-246-4457