

# MuseNews

July - September 2008

A quarterly publication of the Churchill County Museum Association

## Attendance . . .

June . . .	1126
July . . .	983
August . . .	857

**Nevada:** Dayton, Dunn, Elko, Fallon, Fernley, Gabbs, Gardnerville, Goldfield, Hawthorne, Las Vegas, Lovelock, Overton, Reno, Round Mountain, Silver Springs, Sparks, Sun Valley, Virginia City, Wadsworth, West Washoe Valley, Yerington.

**United States:** Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

**Foreign Countries:** Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden.

## Comments . . .

*Carson Desert exhibit is a favorite of mine.* -- Fallon

*Scout leader biking across America.* -- Germany

*I really love the typewriter (in the Children's Discovery Room). It's awesome.* -- Reno

*This is a great museum! Best stop so far along Hwy 50!* -- California

*A long, long way.* - Boegel, Germany

*The shoe tree was cool. A long drive!* -- New Jersey

*Worth the trip from Massillon.* -- Ohio

*My Mom helped make the mosaic in 5th grade.* -- Italy

*Comparing rocks to our silver chunk.* -- Nevada

*10 Columbia River Young Marines.* -- Washington

## CCMA Receives Donation from Freeman and Norma Morgan Trust

By Jane Pieplow, Museum Director

As most of our local museum members know, the CCMA Board of Trustees was a recent recipient of \$231,000 from the Freeman and Norma Morgan Trust. This money was donated with the stipulation that it be used for capital improvements of the buildings and grounds. What a generous gift from this couple who were very active in our community for many years!

I was never fortunate enough to know Freeman Morgan, but Norma began volunteering at the museum even before I arrived 15+ years ago. Norma came faithfully each week and assisted with our oral history program and in cataloging books for the museum's research library. These volunteer positions came naturally to her, as she had been head librarian at the Churchill County High School for many years before her retirement. Norma continued to volunteer at the museum up until a few years ago when health problems no longer allowed her to get around easily. When Norma passed away on February 1st of this year, the couple's trust went into effect and a share of those funds came to the museum.

The CCMA Board has begun to list capital improvement projects that still need to be completed at the museum, in accordance with the trust guidelines. Some of the projects on that list include:

An new entrance to the museum that will be more visually appealing and will help conserve energy.

New lighting and ceiling paint in the museum's main room.

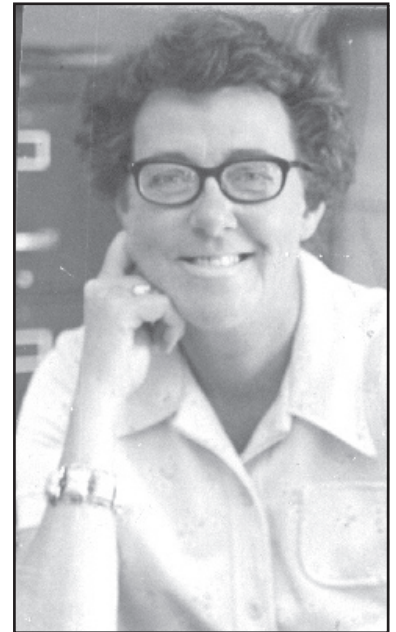
A decorative fence around the Woodliff Building to replace the old chain link/barbed wire fence, plus some landscaping along Tolas Street.

Complete bathrooms and radiant floor heat in museum addition.

Add insulation to the outer walls of the original museum building.

Add solar panels to the West Annex and main building addition.

With funds in hand to accomplish some of these improvements, it is with great appreciation that the CCMA Board of Trustees accepts this donation from the Freeman and Norma Morgan Trust!





## From the Director:

With the good news of the donation from the Freeman and Norma Morgan Trust still creating a buzz around the museum, we can't neglect preparations for our upcoming public events for Fall!

By the time this newsletter reaches our members, the Teacher's In-Service Program will already be in progress. Classes began on September 16 with this year's topic covering historical aspects of Fallon's beginnings in 1908. The Tuesday night lecture series has also begun with many

of the evening lectures sharing Fallon's history with the audience during the city's centennial celebration. The remaining list of public lectures is reprinted in this newsletter. We hope you can attend some of these interesting talks!

Thank you to so many of our loyal members for renewing their memberships for 2008-2009! Membership dollars help fund public programs and exhibits and the printing of *In Focus*. We could not accomplish all we do without your support.

Speaking of exhibits, two new exhibits are being created in the main room of the museum. Museum Assistant Barbara Hodges had created an exhibit entitled "Recording Sound" and installed it in a small changing exhibit area in the main room. After six months that exhibit has been retired and a new exhibit featuring fashions from a variety of decades of the last century will be taking its place. The CCMA Board of Trustees has accepted so many new pieces of clothing into the collection the last few years that the staff members felt it was time to display some of the new pieces. The exhibit should be complete by the end of September so stop by and view some wonderful vintage clothing.

Another exhibit under construction is one that will focus on agriculture in Lahontan Valley. Current exhibits lead the viewer from Churchill County's prehistoric history to the time of the Newlands Project, and this new display will continue the timeline by showing viewers the results of the irrigation project in our area. The history of alfalfa, the cattle industry, dairying, cantaloupes, and more will be exhibited for our many out-of-town visitors and newcomers to Churchill County to view. We expect to have this exhibit completed by early 2009 and are excited about sharing yet more aspects of Churchill County history with our visitors.

"Thanks for asking 'Heart of Gold Quilters' to do part of the Centennial Quilt." -- Fallon. This message was written in the museum's guest book about one month ago, referencing the hard work done by museum staff and local quilters in completing the Centennial Quilt. The quilt displays in fabric over thirty of Fallon's historic landmarks. It is on display at the museum and an image of the quilt can be purchased in poster form in the Museum Store. Stop by to take a view.

This column contains lots of news and means lots of projects for museum staff members – and we like it that way! If you are local members, attend one of our evening programs or stop by to see the progress on our new exhibits.

Until next time — *Jane*

## Nevada Centennial Ranch . . .

The Kallenbach-Ormachea-Sherman ranch, presently operated by Marie Ormachea Sherman, has been awarded the prestigious Nevada Centennial Ranch award by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. To qualify for the award, the ranch or farm must

*continued on page 3 . . .*

## Thank You . . .

We have new "thank you" for this newsletter, some can be found here and others are scattered throughout these pages! Many of our friends have donated one kind of service or another on projects that wouldn't have been completed without their assistance. A great big "thank you" to:

CC Communications employees **Aaron, Nick, and Larry** for moving a large tufa rock into position in our Deseree Walker Memorial Children's Garden.

**Gary Rothery and Mike Nolan** for assisting Exhibits Assistant Tom Bartel in moving large items around the Woodliff Building.

Volunteer **Jack Scheuermann** for continuing to clean and repair artifacts brought into the collection.

## Time to Renew Your Membership!

Thanks to the many of you who have already renewed your memberships for the 2008-2009 year. We appreciate your continued support!

*Benefits to you from Museum Association membership:*

1. A 10% discount on store items
2. A 20% discount on items at our Fall Sale during November and December
3. A copy of our *In Focus* publication
4. Quarterly issues of *MuseNews*
5. Preview invitations to museum special events

*Your membership dollars provide funds that bring new exhibits and new public programs to the museum!*

# Recent Acquisitions . . .

Donna Cossette, Registrar

## July – No Accession Meeting

**August – Churchill County Museum:** 2007-2008 CCM Communications Telephone Directory, Newspaper, “Pride of Our Future, A Tribute to the Class of 2008,” DVD of the Churchill County High School 2008 Graduation Ceremony; **Gwen & Bill Warren:** Wooden Insulator, Square Nails and Rams Head Hook on Wood Block; **Sarah Hodges:** Cattle Vaccination Needle and Leather Case, Tatting Pattern Books, Hot Iron Transfers, Montgomery Ward Catalog; **Mamie Buhlig:** Vest, Sash; **Linda Moore:** Fallon Pamphlet, “Welcome Guide to Nevada,” Needlepoint Pattern of the Nevada State Seal; **Pat Boden:** Martini Shaker, Ceramic Plates & Cup Sets; **Kathi Willson:** Necklace, Bracelet, & Earrings; **Elmo Dericco:** Quilt from the Fallon Antique Auto Club Centennial; **George Clark:** 800+ Postcards of Towns on the Lincoln Highway, Research Material Regarding Lincoln Highway; **Paul Bitler:** Two Reunion Books from The 85<sup>th</sup> AC&W Reunion – Fallon, NV June 2-3, 2004, Uniform from Vietnam War, Car Water Bag; **Dawna Johnson:** Doll w/Yellow Dress, Doll from Chinatown c. 1930, Doll w/Red & Black Checkered Dress, Doll w/Red Dress, Doll w/ Blue Dress, Umbrella, Sailor Doll, Toy Clock, Shaving Cup, “Blue Goose” Cigar Box, Cedar Box w/Lock, Cedar Box to hold Recipes, 6 Hot Pads, Ration Books, “Kellogg’s” Pep, Model War Plane Series, Score Pad, “Game of Five Hundred,” Chopper & Bowl, Cedar Box & Caps (for cap gun), Glasses, Toaster, Ovenware Bowls, Stoneware Sanito Bowl, Stoneware Bowl, Lux Clock, Jefferson Golden Hour Electric Clock, Clear Wax Sandwich Bags, Tracing Paper, Coupons, First National Bank of Nevada “Christmas Club Pass,” Dennison’s Oblong Baby Pads, 18 Small Collapsible Cups, Beaded Purse (image of butterfly), Lucky Strike Cigarette Tin, Warranted Sterling Silver Salt/Pepper Shaker, Six Pens, Two Men’s Sleeve Holders, Ink Pen Eraser, Small Pipe, Victor Half-Tone Steel Needles, Fountain Pen, Compact, Toy Ball in Cup, Key Case by Buxton, The Pledge of Allegiance Plaque, Silver Compact, Silver Cigarette Case, Pin, Pocket Knife, Monogrammed Pocket Knife J.M.D., Silver Compact, Two Sets of Miniature Playing Cards, Baby Buggy Cover; **Bene Bommies:** Two 1873 Nevada Legislature Photographs Mr. Hill and Mr. Allen.

**September - Dawna Johnson:** White & Blue Purse, Silver & Cloth Purse, Black Pumps, White & Blue Pumps, Brown Pumps, Drawstring Purse, Mink Collar, White Fur Collar, Three Matchbooks, Penney’s Denim Jeans, Two Denim Jackets, Matching Bread Box, Flower & Sugar Cans, Electric Sandwich Grill, Nevada Plate, Two Teething Rings, Box of Finger Wave

Clips, Car Fan w/Instructions, Bamboo Flute, Tatting/Lace Needle, Fingernail File, Bronze Baby Shoe, Aluminum-ware Drainer, Permanent Curlers, “Wit Wip” Stir Stick, Order Card for Milk, Meat Carving Set, Two Pickle Forks, Two Butter Knives, Potato Peeler/Grater, Tong w/Wooden Handles, Dough Blender, Cheese Cutter, Potato Masher, Ladle, Serving Spoon; **Andrea Rossman:** Laser Disk, *The Misfits*, c. 1990; **Donna Cossette:** Two 1930’s Necklaces, Necklace, 1986 Fallon’s First Annual Hearts of Gold, Cantalope Festival Pin, 1990 Fallon Cantaloupe Festival Pin, United States Census 2000 Shirt, Pen/Pencil Set & Neck Strap, Little Orphan Annie Doll, Three Pez Dispensers, Chinese Calendar, Golden Rice Bowl Restaurant, Girl Scouts Brownie Patch, Five Letters from Santa by the Frontier Pharmacy, Nine Trade Cards; **T.R. Prettyman:** Black Cumberbund, Two Black Clip-on Bow Ties, Man’s Black Silk Handkerchief; **Carolyn York:** 1890 Book, *The Law of Personal Property*; **Danielle Mariezcurrena:** 1940’s First Aid Kit; **Fred Anderson:** Booklet, *Teacher’s Guide to Earth Science The World We Live In*, 1967-68 Grade Book, CCHS Class Reunion Program, Newsletters for the *Greenwave Flash*, Two Handouts of School Population of Ch. Co. Past, Present and Predicted Future, Proposed Churchill County Salary Schedule, Newspapers, E.C. Best Junior High School, *The Cougar Chronicle*, Thirteen Panoramic Photographs of E.C. Best Junior High School Students; **Carol Colip:** Pink Slip, Two White Slips, Black Slip, Pink with Black Lace Slip, Pink Baby Doll Nightie, Two White Camisoles; **Karen Houdesheldt:** Full Set of Silverware in Wooden Case, Nutri-Tonic Crème Shampoo Jar& Lid; **Janice L. Hamilton:** Lorgnette Eyeglasses, Ivory Hair Tweezers, Locket w/Hair, Leather Trunk, Black Hat Feather, Mink Collar, Fox Stole, Woman’s Collar, Green Slip, Green Lace Dress, Blue Corset, Green Dress w/beaded design, Tan Stockings, Green Handkerchief, Black Cloak, Orange Western Shirt, Dark Blue Silk Drawstring Purse, Oriental Design, Black Silk Drawstring Purse, Floral Design, Beige Sheer Scarf, Pink Satin Long Gloves, Sheer Lace Jacket, Beige Top, Pink Dress, Green Sheer Dress Black Cape, 1900’s Black Top/Bottom Dress, Silver Hair Brush, Leather “Flexible” Hair Brush, Three Straight Razors, Black Boot Covers, Flag Scarf, Silver Buckle (belonged to Annie Butterfield Pierson), Seven Fans, Woven Purse, Green Beaded Drawstring Purse, Purple Beaded Drawstring Purse, Two Metal Beaded Purses, Small Clutch Purse, Mesh Purse with Floral design, Large Brass Safety Pin, Pale Pink Wooden Glove Box (Owned by A. Pierson), Nine Button Hooks, Parasol, Portrait Album & Stand.

### BECOME A MEMBER OF THE CHURCHILL COUNTY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION

Memberships help the Churchill County Museum by providing funds to publish *In Focus*, aid in artifact conservation and help expand historical programs for the community.

#### MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- A copy of the annual journal *In Focus*
- Discount of 10% on nearly every item in the Museum Store (20% during special sales)
- Special notice of all Association events and activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES	New	Renewal
Jr. Member (21 & under)	\$ 15.00	_____
Senior (60+)	\$ 20.00	_____
Individual	\$ 25.00	_____
Family	\$ 30.00	_____
Wagonmaster	\$ 50.00	_____
Pioneer/Business	\$ 75.00+	_____
Homesteader	\$ 100.00+	_____

Note: Memberships are renewed annually. The membership year runs from July 1 until June 30.

Mail your check to: Churchill County Museum • 1050 South Maine Street • Fallon, NV 89406 • FAX: 775-423-3662

## In Focus Issue and Museum DVD . . .

By now, CCMA members should have received their copies of Volume 21 of *In Focus*. This issue focused on Fallon's centennial year and the CCMA Board of Trustees is very grateful to Mayor Tedford and Fallon's City Councilmen for covering the costs of printing 5,000 copies of this volume! City of Fallon utility customers are also receiving a copy of *In Focus* and museum staff members hope they enjoy reading about the history of their city!

In addition to thanking the City for their monetary donation to this year's edition, *In Focus* co-editors Michon Mackedon and Jane Pieplow would like to thank writers Jo Stark O'Toole, Chris Hansen, Gloria Mills Taylor, and Museum Assistant Diane Gauthier-Novak for writing articles for the volume. Their only compensation is receiving a few extra copies of the book, small compensation for the time spent researching and writing their articles!

Research is exactly what Museum Assistant Barbara Hodges did when she gathered names of city residents

from the 1910 Federal Census. Since Barbara is a certified genealogist, this kind of work was an easy but time consuming task for her to undertake. Of course, many familiar names did not appear on this 1910 list as it did not cover those living in the county. This list may appear in next year's volume so stay tuned.

The last two "thank yous" are to Museum Research Curator Bunny Corkill and Photograph Curator Andy Rossman. Bunny was the researcher behind many of the articles and Andy researched most of the photographs used in this issue. Thanks to everyone involved in this effort.

The other item that was mailed with *In Focus* this year was a DVD produced by the museum to honor the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Churchill County Museum in our community. If you are not a member of the CCMA or you would like to receive more copies of the *In Focus* book or the DVD, both are available for sale in the Museum Store. *In Focus* books are \$10 each and the DVDs sell for \$7.

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## Nevada Centennial Ranch, con't . .

meet the following criteria: It must have belonged to the same family for at least 100 years, and must be a working ranch or farm with a minimum of 160 acres, OR -- if less than 160 acres -- must have gross yearly sales of at least \$1,000. The program was instigated in 2004 and has honored nearly thirty ranches across the state. (Due to state budget cuts the program is presently at a standstill.)

The Sherman ranch was first established by Marie's grandparents, George Casper [1872-1928] and Margaret Kallenbach [1876-1935], who had come to Lahontan Valley in 1905, upon the completion of the Newlands Reclamation Project. At that time they rented the Charley Allen ranch on Allen Road. They purchased the Centennial property located on Testolin Road, Fallon, on 04 January 1908 from Clarence Larsen. Kallenbach's daughter, Marguerite Lucille [1906-1980], and her siblings, grew to adulthood upon the property which was famous for its apple orchard. Marguerite was married in the early 1930s to Thomas Ormachea [1896-1986] a native of Alava, Spain. To this union six children were born: Marie, Dolores [1932-1989], Thomas [1934-2007], Margaret [Privett Venturacci], Julia [Mori], and Lois [Gonzales].

The Ormachea family also ran 4,000 head of sheep and 1,200 head of cattle on the Clan Alpine Ranch and Bell Flat east of town for many years; later moving their cattle to the Cottonwood ranch. Upon the death of her father, the ranch went into Marie's ownership. Marie and her husband Raymond Thomas Sherman [1927-1987] became the parents of two daughters, Tammy [Kenny Lee] and Virginia [Guy Fowler]. Rounding out this pioneer family are four grandchildren: Tommy Lee [Nora Hunt], Flint Lee, Casie and Olie Fowler.

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## Deseree Walker Memorial Children's Garden . .

Bob and Shirley Walker donated funds to provide us with a garden as far back as 1998. At that time the garden was near the Woodliff Building with flowers and plants displayed in raised beds. Last summer's renovation of the museum's parking lot and subsequent installation of stamped concrete around the Woodliff Building left the garden disheveled, to say the least!

Thanks to the hard work of Education Curator Karen McNary, her husband John, and Exhibits Assistant Tom Bartel, the garden is now back in order and looking better than ever. Bob and Shirley donated more funds this year toward the purchase of flower bulbs and new soil and plants were purchased from the Flower Tree Nursery.

A small "thank you" ceremony was held for the Walkers on September 15 when staff and board members thanked them personally for their continued interest in this area of the museum's grounds. Thank you, Bob and Shir-

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## Quilts on Exhibit Until October

The newly-formed Nevada Quilt Guild will be hosting a quilt exhibit in the museum's Dodge-Fitz Changing Exhibit Gallery beginning September 21, running through October 21. This group has plans for a larger 3-day quilt show in May of 2009 and is looking toward an even bigger show in 2010. Call Kathleen Flanagan-Lower at 423-1938 for more information.

Stop by to view some beautiful quilts!

## Museum Hosted Nevada Museums Association Annual Conference . . .

Way back in the fall of 1993, about a year into Jane Pieplow's time as Museum Director, Fallon was the host city of the Nevada Museums Association's (NMA) Annual Conference. NMA is an organization made up of museum professionals from across the state representing museums large and small. Annual conferences rotate from north to south and then mid-state, so eventually the conference returned to Fallon and museum staff members were happy to show off our facility in 2008!

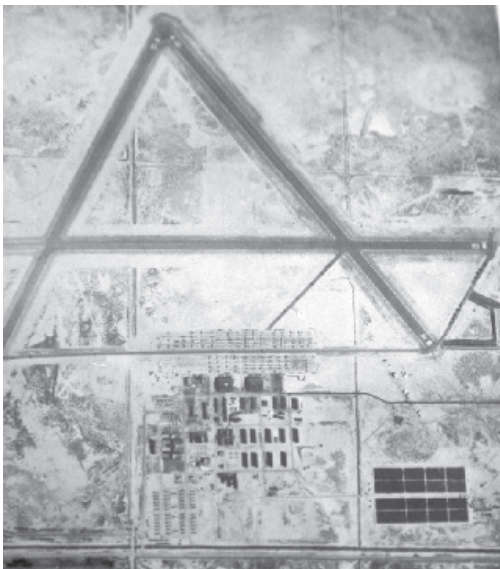
In 1993, sessions had to be held at the Fallon Convention center for lack of space at the museum, but fifteen years later it was different story and the Dodge-Fitz Changing Ex-

hibit Gallery was the scene of much activity October 1-3.

In addition to all-day sessions on October 2, entertaining events at the conference included dinner at the Churchill Arts Council's Barkley Theater, a trip through Lattin Farm's corn maze, dinner in the City of Fallon's newly-restored old post office, music by *Harmony 5* (who entertained the group in 1993 as well), and field trips to Stillwater Marsh and Hidden Cave. We were pleased to host this great group of museum professionals in Fallon and to show off the advances our museum has made over the years.

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## Fall Lecture Series Events for October . . .



### Tuesday, October 7: *Naval Air Station Fallon -- a History*

We break from the Fallon Centennial theme this week to allow Zip Upham, Public Affairs Officer at NAS Fallon, to recount the history of the Naval Air Station in Churchill County.

### Tuesday, October 14: *Maine Street Facts and "Then and Now"*

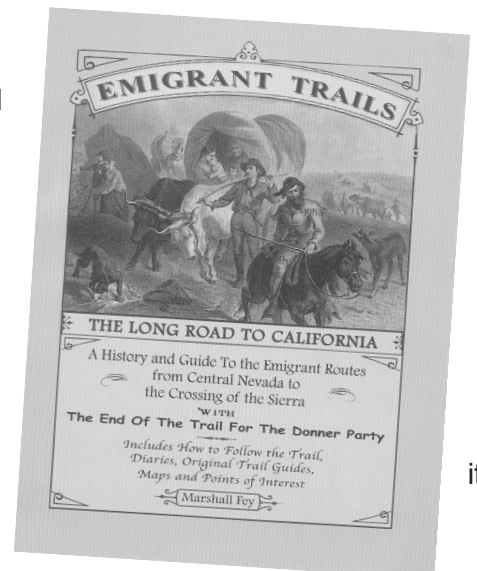
What changes has Maine Street seen since 1908? Photo Curator Andy Rossman will share its changing face in her Maine Street program. Also featured is a photographic essay of "Then and Now" scenes from around Fallon by Museum Research Curator Bunny Corkill.

**Question for the evening:** "You know you're a Fallonite if . . ."  
How would you complete this

sentence? Share your comments at the program and they may appear in a column in the *Fallon Star Press*! If you can't wait until October 14, send your thoughts to [research@ccmuseum.org](mailto:research@ccmuseum.org).

### Tuesday, October 21: *Emigrant Trails, a History and Guide*

Local historian Keith Mulcahy will retrace the path of several emigrant and freight routes through Churchill County. Using the new book, *Emigrant Trails* as a source, Keith will guide the audience along these routes. Purchase the book that night and take with you on your next backroads adventure.



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## Contributors . . .

The Churchill County Museum thanks the following people who have sent memorial contributions in memory of their friends and loved ones. Our "Memorial Book" is a perpetual "In Memory" and is enjoyed daily by our visitors:

Ed and Norine Arciniega, Phyllis Baker, Connie Carlson, Charlene Currie, Merton and Paula Domonoske, Doris Dwyer, Bob Getto, Jr., Roberta Hettinger, Jim and Margaret Perazzo.

## Memorials . . .

The Churchill County Museum has received memorials in the memory of the following people during this past quarter:

David Banovich Sr., Ronald Lane Cornu, Beverly Jean Born Ferguson, Patrick John "Duke" Gonzales Jr., Samuel Ray Guazzini, Bruce H. Hardin, Curtis A. Kinseth, Stephanie Tolas Lewis, Margaret Joan McLaughlin, Margaret "Jeanie" Low Nelson.

## In Memoriam . . .

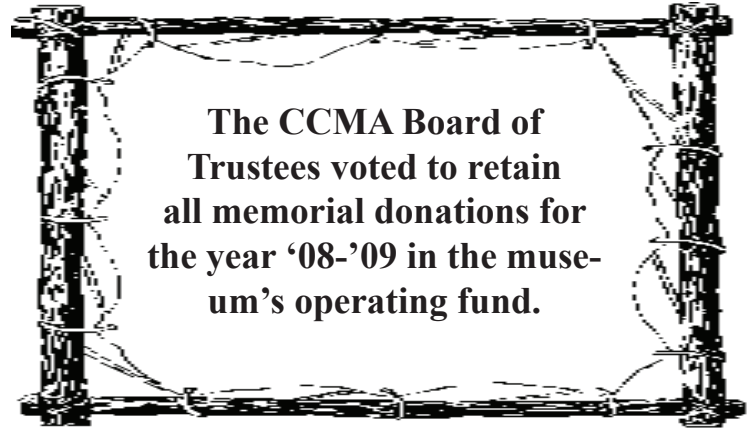
Museum staff members were saddened by the news of Kathi Wilson's passing on September 14. Kathi had been a volunteer at the museum for many years, assisting with numerous children's programs including "Trips Into the Past." When she retired from teaching a few years ago she continued to volunteer, most recently as a Melendy family "ghost" in our 2007 ghost walk held at the Fallon Cemetery.

Our condolences to her family and friends. She will be missed.

## Churchill County Museum & Archives

Churchill County Museum Association, Inc.  
1050 South Maine Street  
Fallon NV 89406

*Return Service Requested*



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### Churchill County Museum Association Board of Trustees

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**Registrar** - Donna Cossette  
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