

Docents Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 6

Historical Society of Dayton Valley

July 2008

Docent doings

By Patrick Neylan

The Docent meeting on June 25 was well attended and very productive. The coverage for the Museum during July was determined, and even started into August. The responsibility for this is part of our commitment as Docents. There are dates in August, September, etc., that need to be filled. We are a large enough group that working together we can keep the Museum experience available to the entire community without being a burden to any of our members.

The determined dates and coverage are elsewhere in this newsletter. To those of you who cannot attend the Docent meetings (usually the last Wednesday of the month, 10:30 a.m. at the Museum; July's meeting is scheduled for the 23rd) feel free to call or email me and we can work you into the schedule. Many hands make light work.

We also discussed the route of the Carson & Colorado Railroad from Mound House to Dayton and its relationship to Highway 50 and the Manly Johnson freight road in Daney Canyon.

Anyone wishing to hike on the right of way can find it just south of the Chocolate Factory on Highway 341 as you head toward Virginia City. Contact Bob Wallace or myself for the exact starting point. Great hike and a wonderful learning experience. We have photos showing the four routes: Manly Johnson, Carson & Colorado Railroad, old Highway 50 and the current Highway 50. All can be seen from the

same vantage point.

Maybe a little closing the barn door after the horse is out, but for our education, the Nevada State Historical Society, at their museum off North Virginia Street in Reno, has in its Changing Gallery, thru November, a exhibition of "The New Deal in Nevada." Check it out. I intend to.

Questions, comments, suggestions, ideas, anything that affects the Docent program, large or small, this could include compliments! Please contact me. We have a large group doing a lot of great work and making incredible headway. Be proud to be a part of it, and come forward to help make it better. Dayton deserves the best, and that is all of us!

Thanks for all you have done.

[Contact Pat Neylan at 246-3527, or via email: virginiacitypat@sbcglobal.net -Ed.]

Docents visit Buckland Station, Fort Churchill

By Donna McElroy

For those members who attended the trip to Fort Churchill and Buckland Station, I just wanted to tell you the outcome of our donation to the ranger who gave us our tour. It was decided that a monetary donation would not be appropriate as a gift for Ranger Wren. I had collected monies from several of you for this purpose. I did use the money to purchase one

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of our shirts from the Dayton Historical Museum and a tote bag depicting our logo and the soon to be restored depot and sent them to Ranger Howard Wren along with a "Thank You" card for our tour. Thank you all for your donations. I am sure that he will enjoy the items, and they will help to let people know about our museum and Dayton.

Carson City State Archives

Our next adventure will be to the state archives. I will be making arrangements for a trip to the state archives in the near future. Please stay tuned for further information on this upcoming activity.

[One additional trip you may want to be aware of is scheduled for July 18 on the Virginia & Truckee Railroad. This special trip has yet to be posted on the Railway Reflections web site (a check was made about 3:00 p.m. on July 2), but several people have advised that this trip will run, most likely after the 4:00 p.m. trip to Gold Hill and return. As soon as information is posted on their web site, an email message will be sent to all those with email addresses. -Ed.]

Docent Meeting Notes for June 25

By Gail Chulick

Ruby asked docents to sign up to sit the museum. Docents are needed to work weekends in August.

Docents must be dues-paying members of the Historical Society. Gail will update the docent list by August. The list will indicate which docents have access to the museum with the

new lockbox system. Anyone needing museum access may contact one of the indicated docents.

Donna is organizing a fund-raising committee. Please call Donna if you are interested in being on this committee.

Donna is investigating a tour of the Nevada State Archives for docents.

Donna read aloud an article from the Nevada Appeal about the Historical Society's nomination for a community service award. This prompted a conversation on ways to make people aware of the museum. Tom Parcels will look into fabricating some type of "to the museum" signs for Old Town.

Pat shared experiences and pictures of his hike along the Carson & Colorado rail bed from Dayton to Moundhouse.

Tom Parcels told of reading a book which mentioned a Dayton doctor. In 1862-1863 Dr. Walcott Steel treated injuries from the Indian Wars.

