

**CHOLLA Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, November 14, 2006, 1:00 - 3:30 pm**  
**Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center**

In attendance: Barbara Slivac (NSMHS), Ellen Leigh (Atomic Testing Museum), Stacy Irvin (Mojave Max), Kathy August and Laverne Dickey (Red Rock RCA), Amy Page (Las Vegas Natural History Museum), Lola Henio (Sloan Canyon NCA), Margie Klein (Nevada Department of Wildlife), Chris Leavitt (Clark County Wetlands Preserve), Kitty Heckendorf (Clark County Museum), Marcella Posthuma and Sandra Greer (MP King ES), Allison Brody (Public Lands Institute), Ellen Anderson and Amanda Rowland (National Park Service), Wilesha Daniels (Conservation District of Southern Nevada), Ivy Santee (NDOW), Mary Weisenmiller (CCSD), Ivy Santee, (Angler Education NDOW), Amy Shulman and Sarah Felker (Mirage Dolphin Habitat)

**News and MORE**

- Sloan Canyon RCA – tours are going well; programs for children and adults in conjunction with the tours are also scheduled. A Powerpoint on the petroglyphs has been prepared and several Paiutes are willing to do programs including two people who will speak on ethnobotany.
- FYI: Noted Paula Garrett of the UNLV Arboretum will do ethno-botany programs in the schools.
- Red Rock RCA – reported on the Albuquerque Interpreters Conference (which will be coming to Las Vegas in 2010). She was most interested in a hands-on/interpretive learning research project at Humboldt State which indicated the affective learning is improved with hands-on activity.
- **Mojave Max Workshop PDE is scheduled for Jan. 13 and 20. AZ and CA is to be included this year.**
- Clark County Conservation District has printed 2007 calendars (18,000) and will distribute them through the schools. They are developing Environmental boxes to be sent to the schools through the DRI – Reno office.
- **Teacher Training at the Lake Mead Hatchery for Trout in the Classroom is scheduled for Jan. 6, 2007.**
- Dept of Wildlife (Margie Klein) is now doing wildlife presentations in the schools.
- Mirage Dolphin Habitat totes are completed for K-1 and 2-3 (two for each level) and are booked for the school year, two week loans. Totes for 4-5 are in progress. Another Teacher Day is scheduled for March and the Science Methods class with UNLV is continuing.
- Marcella gave a rave review to the Civil War re-enactment at Spring Mountain Ranch.
- At LV Natural History Museum, there are many new staff and the Cultural Corridor has a 6 week schedule of events.
- **Amy Page's RPDP class has been re-scheduled for January 20 and February 3, 2007 Using Inquiry and Object Based Learning to implement Benchmark Standards**
- Clark County Museum Guild has a new and successful fundraising event – Halloween trick/treat in the houses drew 5000 people. **The Native American Festival is scheduled for March 30 – April 1, 2007** At the Wetlands, 30 teachers have had training for spring fieldtrips.
- Lake Mead Field Notebook is now published and copies given out to CHOLLA. It is not a stand-alone activity book – each page relates to one of the 13 field trips offered. NPS is also doing additional work in classrooms before field trips – video and powerpoints, to prepare students and teachers.

On the question of presentation to the CCSD Board, Amy and Missy feel a statement on the value of field trips and a meeting should be pursued. A committee of volunteers will work with them on it. Amy also reported on discussions with Natalie. There is not to be a price hike, there is no threat to field trips and the exception list will probably go away at some point. Amy, Ellen Anderson and Missy are continuing work and discussion on ways to arrange hiring of buses.

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Mary Weisenmiller distributed proposal and registration sheets for **Nevada State Science Teachers Association and Southern Nevada Mathematics Council joint conference January 26-27, 2007**. She also advised that a booth would probably get lost among all the vendors there with their give-away books and other commercial stuff. Mary is organizing the Science sessions for elementary schools as double sessions – two 80 minute segments. She recommended that we propose doing a session with the first 80 minutes the content/discussion part and the second 80 minutes organized to showcase what CHOLLA members have to offer.

Subject suggestions – trunks, totes, backpacks; diversity of programs and ties to curriculum; outdoor classroom tips for school sites; survival tips for field trips; roundtable discussion by CHOLLA experts. A committee of volunteers to do the proposal and details – Kathy August, Amy Page, Amanda Rowlands, and Barbara Slivac. Catherine Muir of LVSP volunteered also via email on 11-15-06. Forms are available at [www.snvmath.org/conference](http://www.snvmath.org/conference) and were also posted on CHOLLA by Mary.

After the meeting, the new exhibits at the visitor center were visited and commented on.

**Next meeting:**

**January 9, 2007, 1:00 – 3:30, Atomic Testing Museum Exhibits, new programs curriculum**