

CHOLLA Site News and Updates

September 2007

Atomic Testing Museum

CHOLLA Representative: Ellen Leigh

September 29 - Opening of How to Photograph an Atomic Bomb and Lecture
September 12, 13, and 14 - Nevada Museums Association Conference at ATM
September 29 and 30 - Nevada Council for History Education at Springs Preserve and Lost City Museum

Las Vegas Natural History Museum

CHOLLA representative: Amy Page

Museum is booking field trips and programs. We are currently offering the Learning Safari (Grades 2 – 6), Early Explorers (Grades PK -1st), Science Sleuths (Grades 4 and 5), and Underwater City Classroom Trunk and Outreach (Grades 2 and 3). We are in the process of developing new programs as well as beginning an expansion project and gallery overhaul or Prehistoric Life.

With a \$500,000 award from the state and nearly \$100,000 from IMLS, The Museum is planning to begin two large construction projects in 2007: Enclosing the patio for a Life along the Nile, 4,000 square foot exhibit exploring the similarities of Ancient Egyptian settlement with early settlement in Southern Nevada & A complete renovation of our Prehistoric Life gallery.

Stay tuned for some exciting updates on the International Polar Event: Polar-Polooza coming to the Las Vegas Natural History Museum in April.

Nevada State Museum

CHOLLA Representative: Barbara Slivac

Nevada State Museum & Historical Society News

The museum has a new name: Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas. This will become truly official probably in 2009 when the new building at the Springs Preserve opens. Building and exhibit plans are completed, more or less, and work continues.

Program and exhibit news:

Friday, September 7, 2007 5:30 – 7:00 pm Exhibit opening reception

INTERWOVEN: Visions of the Great Basin Basketmakers

On exhibit September 7 through November 18, 2007

Saturday, September 8, 2007, 2:00 pm

Basket making Demonstration

Eileen Brilliant, Member, Great Basin Basketmakers

Wednesday, October 24, 2007, 6:30pm *Classic Las Vegas Program to be announced* Reception 5:30-6:30pm

Friday, December 7, 2007, Exhibit opening reception: 5:00 – 6:30pm

THE ART OF NATURE: Images from the Wildlands of Southern Nevada

On exhibit December 8, 2007 through May 30, 2008
6:30pm A program by Sharon Schafer "The Art of Nature: Images from
the Wildlands of Southern Nevada"

NNREC

CHOLLA Representative: Dan Allison

Nevada Natural Resource Education Council (NNREC) activities of interest to southern Nevada educators:

Facilitator Training: NNREC will offer a combined facilitator training for Project WILD/Aquatic, Project Learning Tree, and Project WET within the year, with partners NDOW, NDF, and NDEP. It may be in concert with the OPTS conference, if it is not too crowded at that time, or at another time. Please let us know what works for you, your colleagues, and the teachers you work with - weekday, weekend, all at once, spread out, etc. The workshop will be 15 hours. Once we set dates, times, and location, we'll ask you to help us market the workshop.

Lamoille Institute for Educators (LIFE) 2008: NNREC is deciding whether to hold the 2008 week-long summer professional development experience called LIFE. Please take a look at the general information at <http://nnrec.org/profdev/life/index.shtml>, and the 2007 archive, and let us know whether you think you would participate yourself, or your colleagues, of it this is something you could help us market to teachers. The 2008 theme will be either forests and fire, or wildlife.

Red Rock Canyon Interpretive Association

CHOLLA Representative: Aaron Leifheit

With the summer heat, we have been doing most of our programming in the Spring Mountains, with the exception of some moonlight hikes. In that same line, we have also finished up a number of youth, senior, and special Ed. camps in cool Kyle Canyon. As the school year starts up, things will get busier, as I will begin our first year of elementary school classroom programs.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

CHOLLA Representative: Ellen Anderson, Amanda Roland

Gearing up for the new school year by moving into the electronic communication phase. Moving away from hard copy teacher packets to e-mails and attachments, etc., but the best news is thanks to Joyce King's advice, Amanda met with Lynette Stevens at Vegas PBS-Channel 10 KLVX to arrange for streamlining our field trip video for classroom access thru their system. What that means is we no longer have to deal with those old funky VHS tapes, which we have given to each school library. Vegas PBS also digitized our video, so now I have a DVD master for copying.

Lake Mead Education is working with our Vegetation Specialist in a pilot

High School program relating to a soils restoration project. That will begin in October and run through the school year, involving the Global Studies class from Silverado High School. Wilisha Daniels got us connected with the teacher, Don Curry, and we hope to also involve Wilisha's group, the Conservation District, in some component of the project. More later on that as it is still evolving!

Clark County Museum

CHOLLA Representative: Kitty Heckendorf

Our current exhibit - "Still Crazy!"

125 Years of Southern Nevada Quilts" Featuring Historic Quilts of the Clark County Museum, runs through November 4, 2007.

Our Guild Building is to be moved onto a foundation within the next week! Still much work to be done before it can be occupied but at least it will be off the steel and on a foundation.

We have received a grant to assist with the siting of the Candlelight Wedding Chapel, so perhaps it will be sited within the year.

The Guild is busy with Halloween plans! The "Ghosts and Goblins of Nevada's Past" program promises to be better than ever this year. There are plans to Haunt the Boulder City Depot as well as the Ghost Town. Returning, of course, the carnival games, trick or treat on Heritage street, costume contest, and spook alley, those "eyeballs" and "guts" are sure slimy! Bring your little ones in consume and ready to "trick or treat", on Saturday, October 27th, or Sunday, October 28th, between 4:30-7:30 with the grounds closing about 8:30PM. Your youngsters will go home with more candy than the \$2 admission can buy anywhere.

Las Vegas Zoo

CHOLLA Representative: Robert Wantroba

With the start of school and my co-leader's loss of her husband, I've been trying to get the words together for your report. Well here it is short and sweet.

Did you know that the Las Vegas Zoo has:

1. The only family of Barbary Apes in the United States.
2. A breeding pair of Fossas out of the 27 currently in zoos in the United States.
3. Both a Chinese (400 on the Earth and only 209 in captivity) and American Alligator.
4. A Malaysian Tiger (70 in captivity in the world).

We have lesson plans on our web site that are accessible to teachers. We are currently looking for wildlife art work to add to our CCSD art wall.

We also have our own Explorer Troop #855, which works with the zoo staff

to educate students.

Vanderburg Rainforest Biosphere

CHOLLA Representative: Bill Gilluly

The Rainforest Biosphere is applying for a Toyota Tapestry Grant to cover the materials and transportation requirements of a project focused on a biodiversity study combining scientists and knowledgeable experts with citizen volunteers.