



# The Goldfield Historical Society

## Newsletter, Goldfield, Nevada

John Ekman, President  
www.goldfieldhistoricalsociety.com

3rd Quarter 2025, Issue No. 53  
Joan Sieber, Editor

A warm welcome to our new members:

Bob & Kim Aria, NV  
BJ & Heidi Hayner, CA  
Dianna Hunt, OR  
Bruce Keniston, MA  
Bob Malmstrom, NV  
John Richard Stone, NV

**REMINDER**—There was a bit of miscommunication about when the Goldfield Historical Society meeting was going to meet. It was decided to change the meeting date to the **first** not the second Monday of each month – same time. However, July turned out to be the second Monday because of schedules. In the future, it'll be the first Monday of the month.

**High School Update** – At the 9/25/24 Commission for Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation (CCCHP) Board Meeting, they voted to fund our FY 23-24 Metal Cornice/Soffit Replacement Project with a reduced grant amount of \$212,650.50 (original request of \$231,901.60). Due to a State Historic Preservation Office personnel shortage, we're still waiting for the State funding agreement/covenant documents to be sent. Once these are signed and recorded, we'll be able to start work.

At the 6/25/25 CCCHP Board Meeting, they voted 4 to 1 to reimburse us the remaining \$50,727.00 in funds that we had expended from our Buildings Account over and above what the CCCHP had originally granted us on our FY 21-22 High School Roof Replacement Project.

At the 7/31/25 CCCHP Board Meeting, they voted unanimously to award us the difference between our originally-requested amount of \$231,901.50 and the subsequent award of \$212,650.00 for our FY 23-24 Metal Cornice/Soffit Replacement Project, or \$19,251.10.

### Donations—

**David & Karen Cullens** presented us with another \$300 donation over the past quarter. Thank you so much for your continued generosity.

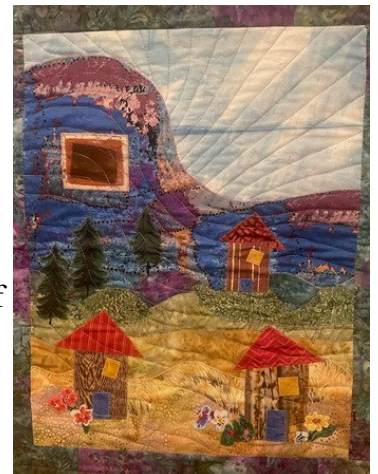
The **Central Nevada Racing Association** gave us a check for \$250.

Restoration of the South-facing window in High School Room 3, funded by **Patricia Cafferata**, has been completed. The sash, sill and case-ment are now done and trim painted. It was in worse shape than we thought and took longer than expected to repair. Next to be restored will be the remaining unre-stored windows on the West side of the School, using the Centerra grant money. Thanks Patricia. It is very much appreciated.



Photo by Jim Price

**Kathy Kelley-Kean** - donated the quilted wall hanging, to the Society. It represents miner ca- bins and Columbia Mountain. Thanks for thinking of us Kathy.



**Colvin Square**—The Square was officially dedicated with a ribbon cutting on August 5, 2025. The Square now has a new shade structure and stage. These were very much in use during Goldfield Days. The Goldfield Main Street's new Goldfield map and brochure is printed and available around town. You can also view it on their website: [www.goldfieldmainstreet.org](http://www.goldfieldmainstreet.org)

Photos by Jim Price



**Goldfield Days**— Once again, we had a successful Goldfield Days. Thanks to **Steve and Jeri Foutz**, and **Adrianne Beard** we netted \$980 from the High School Tours. The Poker Walk gave us \$1,300 minus \$500 for the prizes. Our sponsor did not come through this year. We'll be looking for a different one for next year.

**Grand marshal**— One of our members and the person who started the Burro Express, **Peggy Carrasco** was named Grand Marshal. Well deserved—Congratulations Peggy.

**Poker Walk Winners**—1st prize—**Sue Dudenhofer**, 2nd prize **Erin McMurtrie**, 3rd prize, **Ethan Ashe** and Worst Hand, **Carter Ashe**.



Sue Dudenhofer



Erin McMurtrie



Ethan Ashe



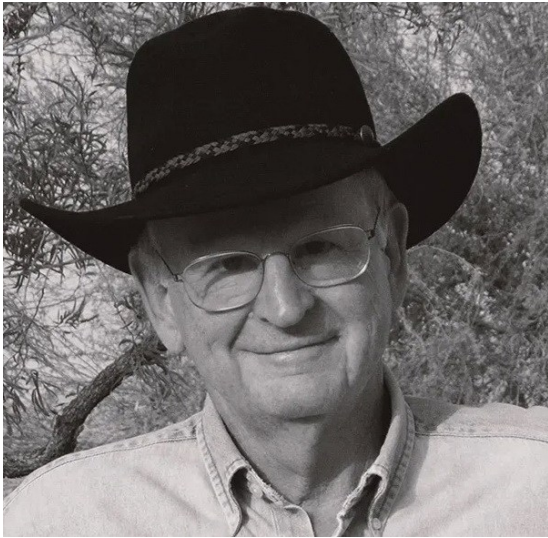
Carter Ashe

Photos by Edie Koepnick



John Ekman, Edie Koepnick, Joan Sieber, & Jim Price personing the Historical Society table.





It is with great sorrow that I report that **Nicholas Clapp** has passed away. He was a great supporter of the Goldfield Historical Society and a treasured friend. He is survived by his wife, Bonnie. I'm sure many of you will remember them as they were frequent visitors to our home. We had many good times together and cherished memories. You can read more about his incredible life at:

<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/tv/tv-news/nicholas-clapp-dead-documentarian-indiana-jones-1236335169/>

I've copied just a few paragraphs from the above website about some of his life's work:

"Clapp served as an editor in 1968 on the ABC series *The Undersea World of Jacques Cousteau* and produced and directed 1971's *The Great Mojave Desert*, a one-hour special for National Geographic and CBS. He went on to win more than 70 awards for his documentary work.

In a quest that began in the early 1980s, Clapp led expeditions to Arabia with a team that included space scientists and geologists to search for the lost, gold-filled city of Ubar that, according to the Koran, sunk into the desert as a result of God's wrath upon its sinful people. His team would spend four years digging before locating Ubar in what is now Oman, and that made for a 1996 PBS documentary and a 1998 book, *The Road to Ubar: Finding the Atlantis of the Sands*. The piece described him as "a modern-day Indiana Jones."

Books he authored included 2001's *Sheba: Through the Desert in Search of the Legendary Queen*; 2007's *Who Killed Chester Pray?: A Death Valley Mystery*; 2012's *Gold and Silver in the Mojave: Images of a Lost Frontier*; 2015's *Virginia City: To Dance With the Devil* and *Old Magic: Lives of the Desert Shamans*; 2017's *Bodie: Good Times & Bad*; and 2019's *The Outlaw's Violin*.

We also lost a Life member of the Society, **Daniel Leo Potter**. He passed away June 29, 2025 in Battle Mountain, NV. He was 83. He worked in a mill and later as an equipment operator for Duvall/Battle Mountain Gold. He survived a serious accident in 1973 that nearly killed him. Once he recovered he continued to work at the mine until it shut down and he retired. He had a large family, married with lots of kids, grandkids and great grandkids.

He came to visit Goldfield a couple of times and during one visit we had a scheduled Society meeting. Edie, a long time friend, brought him to the meeting as a guest. He was so impressed that a town with so few people were so invested in preserving town history that he joined the society. And he loved getting the newsletters.

His grandfather and great uncle lived in Goldfield. Family lore says he hauled freight for the mines. His son, Delwin, told Edie that he was proud of his membership and that the Society Lifetime Member plaque was hung on his wall.

I also just found out that **Don Wolcott** passed away in August. I only saw him during Goldfield Days but he was always supportive of the Historical Society. He was known as the "Tonopah Kid". He generally participated in the Liars Contest and usually won. He will be missed.

**Street Signs**—New street signs have been appearing around town which is a welcome sight.

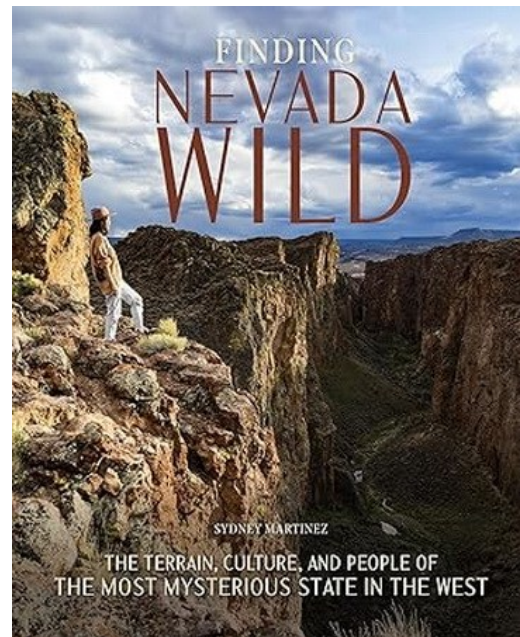
**Rachel Holt**, Commissioner for District 1 secured a Community Development Block Grant for this project. It is much appreciated.

**Birthday Spooktacular**—This event is put on by Goldfield Main Street. It will be held in the Colvin Town Square on October 18th from 1pm-4pm. There'll be pumpkin carving, raffle, tours and more. Check it out.

**Nevada Christmas Tree**—For the first time, Nevada will provide the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. It's a 53 foot red fir and will be harvested from the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. It will be harvested in late October and will do a whistle stop tour across the U.S. the first two weeks of November. Then it will be installed, decorated and lighted in early December.

During Goldfield Days, ornaments to decorate for the tree were provided at the Colvin Town Square.

**Tonopah Mining Park Soiree**— **Edie Koepnik, John Ekman and Brenda Gleffe** represented the Goldfield Historical Society at this event this year. Lots of people stopped by to hear about what we're doing in Goldfield.



**Sydney Martinez**—Sydney is a member and Director of the Goldfield Historical Society. She has recently written a book titled "Finding Nevada Wild", pictured above.

"Written from the perspective of someone who has researched, visited, and experienced many of Nevada's defining places, *Finding Nevada Wild* features chapters devoted to various interests and activities. Vivid photography accompanies personal stories and practical guidance to show why Nevada should be at the top of everyone's must-experience list. "

Her book tour dates/places/times can be found at her website: [findingnevadawild.com](http://findingnevadawild.com). You can go there for further information.

Looks like a great read and perhaps a Christmas gift.

**Monthly Meeting**—The next meeting of the Goldfield Historical Society will be on October 6, 2025 at 7 p.m. Please attend if possible.

Please let me know if your e-mail or address changes, so that I can update the membership list and you'll continue to receive our newsletter. For those who continue to receive a printed newsletter, if you can provide an e-mail address we would appreciate it as it would save us money on postage to send you the newsletter by e-mail.

If you have any comments or suggestions regarding the newsletter, please send them to Joan Sieber at [jcsie@pacbell.net](mailto:jcsie@pacbell.net).

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