

Way to Go

NDOT received a letter of thanks from the Nevada Rock Art Foundation for Location Division chief geodesist **Dave Hamlin**, geodesist **Gary Ballew**, and Environmental Services archeologist **Cliff Creger**. They met with representatives of the foundation in Reno to discuss methods to map and preserve the "Court of Antiquity," an important petroglyph site adjacent to I-80 east of Sparks. The site is in the process of being surveyed and mapped using aerial photography and ground-based LiDAR (3-D laser scanning). It will also be enclosed by protective fencing. NRAF President Don Fowler wrote: "We very much appreciate the interest and professionalism that Gary, Dave and Cliff are bringing to the project."

Our maintenance crews are on the scene quickly when duty calls. Winnemucca Police Lieutenant Rick Waldie sent a letter of thanks for NDOT help when a collision blocked a major street in town. Flooding had closed what would have been the detour route.

"The speed in which **Winnemucca NDOT** employees opened another route, and then assisted with traffic control in several locations during the closure was instrumental in our department being able to work with NHP, EMS, the sheriff's office and others to remove the trapped driver and investigate the crash promptly. The roadway

was opened only two hours after the crash. Again, it was NDOT making sure that the roadway was cleared of hazardous debris from the crash. Please extend my thanks to all of the NDOT people who helped."

As always, the most heartfelt thanks come from those who were helped the most. Our **Freeway Service Patrol** in Las Vegas and Reno often arrives within minutes of an incident. Dacia Weese was forced off the road on US-95 and her vehicle went into a spin. Going across three lanes of traffic will scare anyone, but the motorist also had two children aboard. **Jason Candhill** of the FSP calmed the driver and children, called the Highway Patrol and assisted in turning the car the right direction on the freeway.

Dan Stafford, also of the Las Vegas FSP, helped a stranded and frantic motorist trying to get to her sick daughter in Los Angeles. A disabled car on the side of the road meant a woman had to take a plane, and her scramble to leave town included borrowed cab fare to get to the airport. "Dan Stafford went out of his way and made a very stressful and difficult time a very positive one by allowing me to get home that night and hold my baby in my arms. Your service should be applauded and so should Dan for everything he did for me," wrote Jenifer Bennett.



PASSING THROUGH—Hard charging Crew 374 in Winnemucca has made several improvements over the years on US-95. School bus driver Celeste Bennett appreciated the pass throughs created around cattle guards so young ones won't have to negotiate the metal bars. She sent a letter of thanks to Assistant District Engineer Dave Lindeman. From left are Supervisor Todd Goodale and maintainers Kirk Allred, Gus Duncan, Debbie Trakas, Martin Gusky and Jim Arbonies. Two who worked on the project but are not pictured are maintainer Cindy Cameron, who is now with Crew 341, and construction aide Mike Kizorek. This pass through is located at Delaney Lane on US-95 north of Winnemucca.

New Faces at NDOT

- Benjamin Craig, Carson City
- Mike Freeman, Carson City
- Jeremiah Kaniaupio, Las Vegas
- Jacob Kiersch, Las Vegas
- Monty Lowe, Carson City
- Ronnie Marwin III, Carson City
- Sally Nicholson, Carson City
- Brian Shanahan, Austin
- Mathew Smith, Ruby Valley
- Matthew Sturm, Carson City
- Ben White, Carson City

Farewell To...

- Bob Adams, 30 years, Elko
- Philip Cammarata, 30 years, Reno
- Angelo Caswell, 13 years, Carson City
- Edward Crockett, 14 years, Mina



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Scott Rawlins Moves Up to Director's Office

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR—Scott Rawlins has moved up from project manager overseeing several jobs in southern Nevada, including the Boulder City Bypass, to his new position.



Scott Rawlins has been appointed the assistant director for engineering, moving from another responsible position as the project manager for several southern Nevada projects. Rawlins succeeds Ruedy Edgington, who retired and took a job as a consultant.

"I'm excited about being involved in all of the NDOT projects and being able to support the engineering staff," he said. "I want to see our program proceed as efficiently as possible."

Rawlins was the project manager for the I-515/Beltway Interchange in Las Vegas, the Boulder City Bypass Project, the I-515 Corridor Study, and is the lead Nevada person for the Hoover Dam Bypass Project.

The I-515/Beltway Interchange project has been a major part of Rawlins' career at NDOT. In 1997, when Clark County asked NDOT to manage construction on the last section of the Beltway, Rawlins was a designer on the project. Later he was promoted to project coordinator, and finally project manager.

"The whole process was interesting," Rawlins said. "I saw it from the early environmental assessment to completion of design, bidding and construction." The Beltway Interchange was fully opened to traffic in 2005.

Early on, Rawlins was commuting to Las Vegas once a month or so, but as projects and responsibilities grew he was spending one or two days a week there. Now that the Hoover Bridge is under construction, Rawlins will stay as the Nevada project manager and Bill Crawford will remain as head of the structural management group.

The Boulder City Bypass is another project that has seen progress, with the southern "D" route chosen in December of 2005 and the project proceeding with two design phases.

Rawlins is a department veteran of 12 years who started with NDOT as a staff I associate engineer under Roger Corkhill, since

retired. After only three months on the job he was promoted to supervisor II design engineer. Since then he has been responsible for developing projects from planning through environmental studies, final design and construction: more than \$2 billion in transportation improvements.

With all of that, a repaving job is one of his most memorable. "When we were going to overlay the Las Vegas Strip I met with casino owners and their property managers. I went into their executive offices twice to address their concerns. I had to meet the challenge of maintaining Nevada's lifeblood of tourism with a paving machine moving at three miles per hour in front of their properties.

"We had great construction crews and we didn't get one complaint from the property owners."

Engineering runs in the family. Rawlins' father is a retired 36-year veteran of Caltrans. Rawlins worked three years for Caltrans as a summer employee while attending the University of Nevada, Reno, studying engineering and playing catcher for Nevada's baseball team.

Seminars Help Small Businesses



During the past 18 months, more than 39 small business owners in Nevada participated in the Nevada Entrepreneurial Development Program, sponsored by NDOT. Business Innovations Plus taught the program. The curriculum included four seminars covering such topics as doing business with public and private entities, bid estimation and preparation, and plans and specifications. Roc Stacey (left) and Rudy Malfabon (right) of NDOT congratulate graduate Rutherford McKinney of McKinney Construction.



Ron Blakemore Designs Tribute to War Dead

DESIGN/BUILD—Builder Steve Ryckebosch and designer Ron Blakemore were part of the cooperative effort to create the memorial. The plaza at Powning Park showed the power of a community coming together in a common cause.

American sacrifices in the Middle East are commemorated in a new monument in downtown Reno that was dedicated on Memorial Day. The NDOT connection is that Ron Blakemore, chief landscape architect, designed the memorial to Nevada service members who died in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Located across the street from the Pioneer Theater and diagonally from the Washoe County Courthouse, the monument is a 10-foot tower of stone with panels of black granite engraved with names. The stone seating area will direct people to the names and monument, with their backs to downtown Reno and bustle of the street.



PAST AND PRESENT—Lloyd Larson, who flew 32 missions over Europe as part of the 457th Bomber Group during World War II, is flanked by members of a Nevada Air Guard honor guard.

“The memorial will have flowering cherry trees with pink blossoms, which is a symbol of rebirth and renewal,” Blakemore said. “The top will have a beacon, a symbol of way finding and homecoming. The monument will be engraved with the names of those who died and their military branch.”

Blakemore said the military provided the names of all Nevadans who died in Middle East conflicts and will be updated.

The idea for the memorial came from afternoon talk show host Bill Manders on KOH Radio who asked for volunteers to design and build a memorial. Blakemore came up with a half dozen ideas and in meetings with Manders and builder Steve Ryckebosch a design was selected.

After Blakemore designed the memorial, the plans were submitted to the City of Reno for approval. The site is Powning Park, which had an earlier memorial and perpetual flame to fallen service members. The flame, eight new flagpoles, and a statue of Civil War General Jesse Lee Reno are incorporated into the new design.

Blakemore finds similarities between his work in landscape architecture and the memorial. “This is something that will benefit



RENO'S MEN—Civil war re-enactors put on their dress uniforms to honor Civil War General Jesse Lee Reno whose statue was dedicated on Memorial Day.

a large number of people who want to pay tribute to these fallen heroes from Nevada. Landscaping also provides a great public benefit by improving plazas, downtown areas, streets, highways and parks.”

The landscape architect said he hasn't lost any family members in the Middle East, but he feels the cause is important. “I served six years in the Nevada Air Guard and I have a great deal of



FLAG RAISING—VFW members raise the Stars and Stripes to begin the Memorial Day ceremony.

respect and fondness for military people. I wanted to give back to Reno for giving so much to me during my professional career.”

Hundreds turned out for the dedication ceremony on Memorial Day. It was a time to honor all veterans, from the Civil War to the present. Civil War re-enactors showed up in uniform, as did veterans of World War II, Vietnam and the Middle East.

CONGRESSIONAL THANK YOU—Brent Boynton of Congressman Jim Gibbons' office presents a certificate to Ron Blakemore for his work on designing the monument.



SPONSOR—In 1919, during the original convoy, Firestone's pneumatic tires did not bog down like the vehicles with solid rubber tires. The Bridgestone-Firestone Company is again a sponsor of a transcontinental caravan, 87 years later.

AASHTO Caravan Celebrates Milestone

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the interstate highway system. President Dwight D. Eisenhower created the interstate highway system with the stroke of a pen in 1956. You will be hearing a lot more about the historic beginnings of the modern interstate



PARTICIPANT—Sunny Schust of AASHTO (left), is welcomed by Sue Klekar, division administrator for the Federal Highway Administration at the National Auto Museum.

system throughout the year. The American Association of State Transportation Officials is commemorating the event with a cross-country caravan. Starting in San Francisco on June 16, the caravan's first stop was in Reno, where a press conference was held at the National Auto Museum.

A lot of media attention is expected for the caravan, including local newspaper and television coverage. The Public Broadcasting System is planning a documentary on the impact of the highway system: “People, Places, Traffic: 50 Years of Interstates.” The documentary will explore the history, current conditions and the future of the interstate system.

AASHTO's web site (aashto.org) has information about the 50th anniversary, including important milestones and historic photos.

The web site is part of AASHTO's year-long observance of the interstate highway system's golden anniversary. It would be hard



WELCOME—State Senate Majority Leader William Raggio welcomes members of the AASHTO convoy at the National Auto Museum on June 16.

to overstate the significance of the interstates in unifying the nation and providing mobility to its citizens.

Over the next year the web site will expand to serve as a clearinghouse of anniversary activities in various states. Most of the activities will take place along the I-80 caravan route, but events will be held across the country.

A caravan is entirely appropriate way to celebrate the interstate system, and is deserving of being the anniversary's centerpiece. Eisenhower witnessed the need for a national highway system in 1919, when as a lieutenant colonel in the Army he helped staff a coast-to-coast convoy of 81 military vehicles. The 1919 journey was a long and difficult trip—62 days of heat, breakdowns, mud, bridgeless river-crossings, and rough roads. Where bridges did exist, the heavy military vehicles often broke through bridge decks.

With 3,251 miles to cover between Washington, D.C., and San Francisco, the convoy set a record pace—58 miles a day at about 6 mph. On today's interstate a motorist can easily cover in an hour the distance the 1919 military convoy needed a whole day to traverse.

The AASHTO caravan is scheduled to complete the San Francisco to Washington, D.C., journey in 14 days: June 16 through 29.

PHOTO TIME—Julie Maxey of NDOT welcomes Merrill Eisenhower Atwater to the convoy celebration in Reno. Atwater's great-grandfather, President Dwight D. Eisenhower, signed the legislation creating the Interstate Highway System 50 years ago.

