



Wow! You have *that* here?

Special Collections and University Archives

By Melanie Robbins, '06MA. Photos by Jeff Dow.



On old cassettes, spindles and wire recordings, in historical books and leather ledgers, in handwritten letters and black and white photographs, lies the unpublished history of northern Nevada and the Great Basin.

The Clarence & Martha Jones Special Collections & University Archives, located on the third floor of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, is home to such an impressive collection of historic records, artifacts, photographs, books, manuscripts and documents that researchers consider it a little slice of heaven.

Bernard Mergen, '59 (English) professor emeritus of American Studies at George Washington University, says, "The University of Nevada, Reno Special Collections is the richest repository of Nevada history materials in existence, and I cannot imagine that any book about the state and its people could be written without consulting its holdings."

Mergen is an award-winning author currently working on a book on the history of Pyramid Lake inspired by his childhood in Nevada. He has used the University's Special Collections Department to research his last three books:

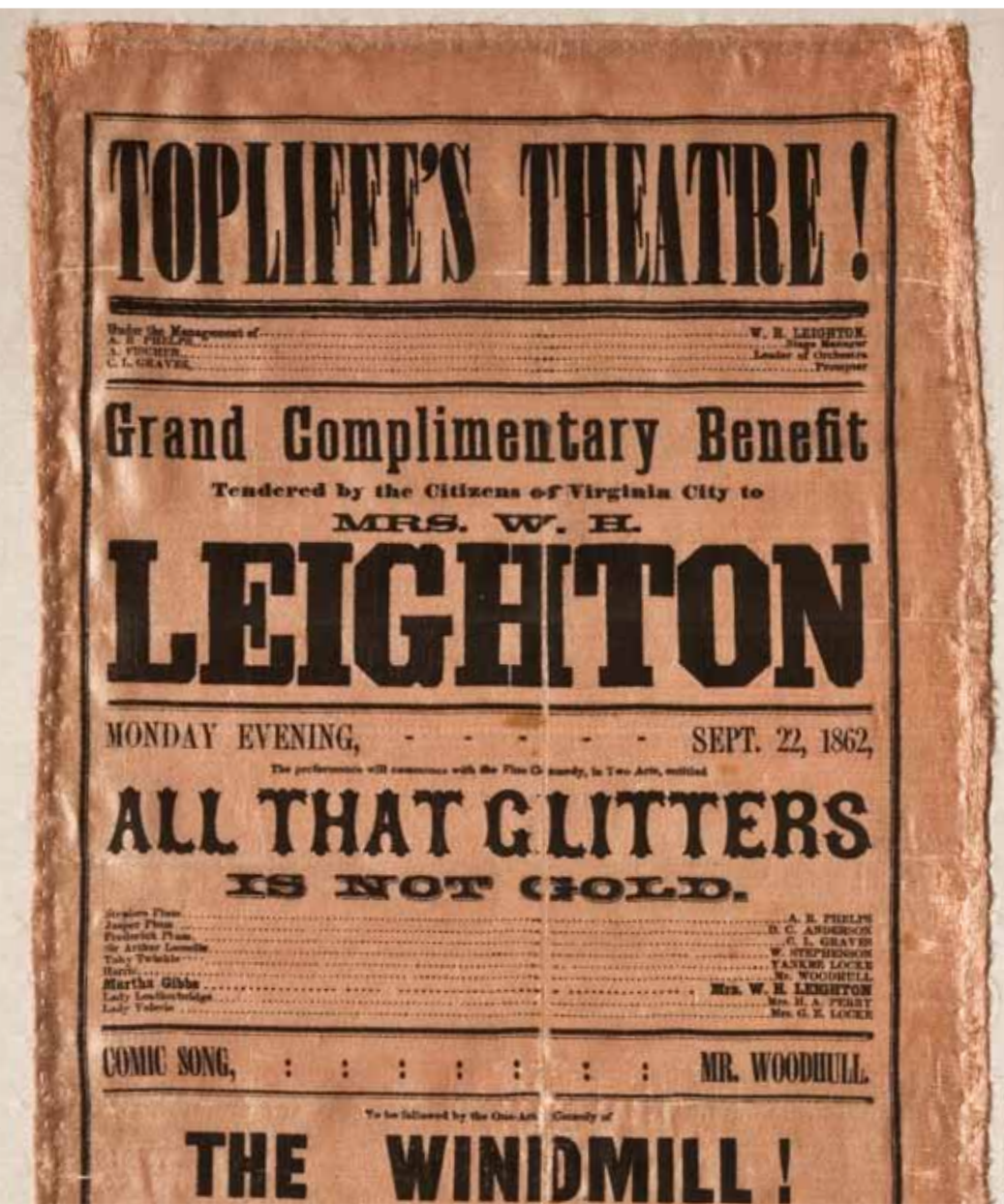
"I used the James E. Church Papers for a chapter in *Snow in America* (Smithsonian Institution Press, 1997) and the records of the Fleischmann Atmospherium/Planetarium for a section in *Weather Matters: An American Cultural History* (University Press of Kansas, 2008)," he says.

Snow History won the Ullr Award from the International Ski History Association and

A treasured rare book in Special Collections, the Nuremberg Chronicles, printed by Anton Koberger and published in 1493. It is a history of the world beginning in biblical times and is one of the earliest and most lavishly illustrated books produced after Johannes Gutenberg invented the printing press and revolutionized publishing. The Special Collections copy is one of the seven hundred to one thousand copies printed in German. It was donated from the personal library of Edgar J. Marston.



TOP LEFT: Mike Smith, Tom Cook '63 and Kelly Bland '91 inspect stereocard viewers—which were popular in the United States from the 1860s to the 1940s—during the Special Collections White Gloves event June 7. In addition to hosting special events such as White Gloves, Special Collections hosts exhibits twice a year to allow the public access to the treasures in its vaults. LEFT: 1862 poster printed on silk for the Topliffe's Theatre in Virginia City, the earliest known Nevada imprint. ABOVE: A five thousand-year-old clay Sumerian tablet, which is a receipt for a boat in the cuneiform script.



Weather Matters won the Louis J. Battan Award from the American Meteorological Society.

Mergen adds: “For my book in progress, tentatively titled, *At Pyramid Lake*, I have used several record groups in Special Collections: the Robert Leland Papers, the Mary Bean Papers, the Lorenzo Creel Papers, the Friends of Pyramid Lake Records, and several others. It would be impossible to write a history of Pyramid Lake without these collections.”

Arielle Gorin, a doctoral candidate in history at Yale who visited Special Collections in August on a “fact-finding mission” to help clarify the topic of her dissertation, says “Special Collections has a lot of compelling



An account book from the years 1859 and 1860 belonging to Nelson Brobant, in which he logged repairs of mining equipment in the Comstock Lode area. Familiar local names of miners Bowers and Winters appear on these pages.

material related to U.S. West history—particularly fraternal organizations, miners' personal correspondence and some court records—and I will certainly spread the word to others in my program.”

Her area of focus is the social and legal history of the post-Civil War American West, especially as it relates to mining towns and camps. She has recently become interested in the role of fraternal organizations such as the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Freemasons and Knights Templars, in the legal and institutional development of the mining West.

In addition, Gorin says the librarians were “wonderfully helpful and genuinely interested in my work.”

Professor Mergen summarizes the value of these unique library resources to young scholars such as Gorin:

“The archives and special collections of every major university are the place where young scholars get their first practical experience in



Keeping busy at the Knowledge Center

Since opening in August 2008, things have been humming at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center:

- Close to four million visitors have entered the 295,000-square-foot, four-story building.
- Librarians have given some 800 instructional sessions, helping visitors better use the center's resources.
- More than 425 guided tours have been conducted.
- @One has printed an average of 450 posters a month.

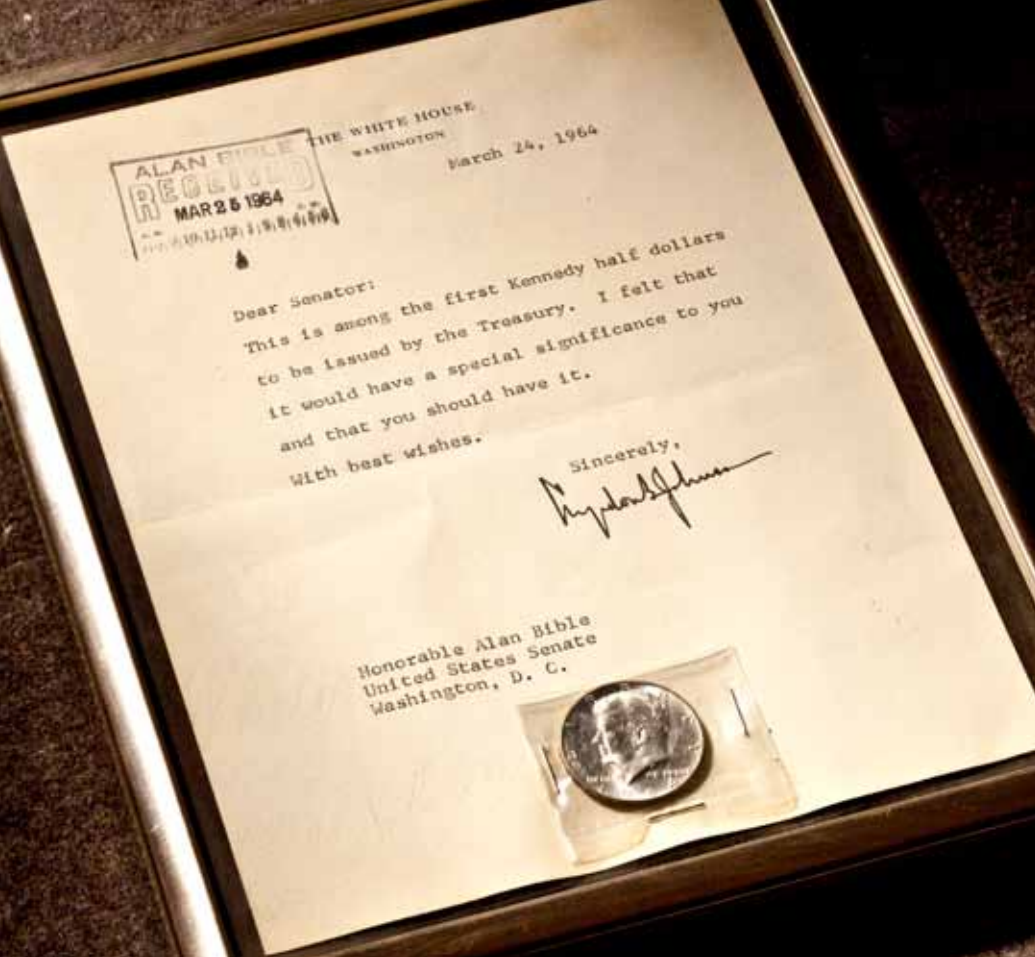
Dean of Libraries Kathy Ray stands next to reproductions of Ghiberti's "Gates of Paradise" panels, which grace the entrance into the Clarence & Martha Jones Special Collections & University Archives. The originals were completed in 1336 for the famous Florence Baptistry.

Honors and Awards

The Knowledge Center has garnered awards and recognition, as well as high-profile, international visitors due to its unique, innovative design that makes the building more than just a traditional library of books, but also a plugged-in place where students and faculty can produce, share and extend knowledge, and engage in collaborative learning using the latest technologies:

- *Southwest Contractor* magazine honored the Knowledge Center project with its "Best in Design and Construction Award" in Nevada for the best project in higher education, December 2008.
- Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams' audio/visual installation—which uses an all-fiber HD distribution system throughout the building—was chosen by judges as a 2009 PRO AV Spotlight Award Winner in the category "Best Education AV Project." The award winners were featured in the July 2009 issue of *PRO AV*, as well as in *ARCHITECT* magazine, which is read by 65,000 practicing architects and design professionals working on non-residential projects.
- *School Construction News* included an article on the Knowledge Center: "Off the Shelf—High-Tech Library Ushers in the Digital Age at University of Nevada," January/February 2009.
- *Nevada Libraries* had a four-page spread "At Home in the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center," June 2009.
- The Knowledge Center was included on the itinerary for foreign journalists in Reno to cover the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in May 2009.
- The Center for Basque Studies and Basque Library, which is within the Knowledge Center, was dedicated July 24, 2009. The dedication coincided with the annual convention of the North American Basque Organizations held on campus in the Knowledge Center, the 50th anniversary of the first Western Basque Festival held in Reno in 1959, and the 20th anniversary of the University's Zenbat Gara Dance Troupe, whose members have served as ambassadors and mentors for the Basque culture and dance groups throughout the American West. The president of the Basque country has since visited the Basque Library.
- *Choice* magazine featured the Knowledge Center on the cover of its September 2010 issue. *Choice* reaches almost every undergraduate college and university library in the United States.

—Angela Bakker



LEFT: A 1964 letter from President Lyndon Johnson to Senator Alan Bible, which includes a gift of an uncirculated Kennedy half dollar, can be found in the Alan H. Bible Senatorial Papers. RIGHT: An abandoned Bible found in 1849 hidden in a cave along the Lassen Trail on the Emigrant Trail route to California.

humanistic research. Scholars I know in literature and history and even in political science and policy studies work closely with librarians and archivists to teach students about the challenges and limitations of primary materials. A collection of unpublished materials is like a laboratory to a chemist, a stratum of Devonian shale to a paleontologist, or the night sky to an astronomer.”

In addition to the invaluable primary source materials available in Special Collections, the staff librarians are experts in their fields and, echoing Gorin’s appreciation, Mergen says they are among “the finest special collections librarians I have worked with in 50 years of research. They know the material, they take an interest in a researcher’s project, and they think creatively about how the collections can be augmented and used.”

Gorin adds that the librarians foster an environment conducive to research: “As a researcher, I appreciated the more low-key and relaxed atmosphere; little things like getting your materials quickly, being able to check out more than one box at a time, having less red tape to

navigate, and so on, really make a difference.”

Special Collections is staffed by Donnie Curtis, head of Special Collections; Jacque Sundstrand, manuscripts and archives librarian; Betty Glass, Special Collections librarian and University archivist; and Kim Roberts, library assistant. Together, they have served more than 50 years at Nevada.

Special Collections and University Archives is one department with two focuses: Special Collections’ materials pertain to the history and cultures of Nevada and the Great Basin, while University Archives preserves the history and records of the University, in documents, photographs, books and memorabilia.

The overall scope of the holdings is wide and

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—Bernard Mergen '59 (English), professor emeritus of American Studies, George Washington University



Jeffrey R. Rodefer Family Library Endowment boosts College of Business collections

Jeffrey Rodefer '85 (finance and accounting) says that some of the best years of his life were spent at the University of Nevada, Reno. Named the 2010 Volunteer Lawyer of the Year by the State Bar of Nevada, Jeff has kept close ties to his alma mater as an active supporter of University academics and athletics.



Intrigued by the promise of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center, Jeff made a naming contribution together with his sister, Terri Rodefer '91 (marketing and economics), in support of the Knowledge Center during the capital campaign. He is now extending his support of the University with a gift to benefit both the College of Business and University Libraries through the Jeffrey R. Rodefer Family Library Endowment, which will add to collections in business management, finance, economics, and other topics of interest to students and faculty of the College of Business. The gift will also name the Jeffrey R. Rodefer & Family Group Study on the fourth floor of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.

Jeff earned his *juris doctorate* degree in 1998 from Willamette University College of Law in Salem, Ore., and began his legal career with the Nevada Attorney General's Office, where he spent 13 years, including eight as counsel to the Nevada Gaming Commission and the state Gaming Control Board. He last served as assistant chief deputy attorney general. The Las Vegas resident is a member of the State Bars of Nevada, California, Colorado and Oregon and is vice president of legal affairs for Boyd Gaming Corporation, which has casinos in Las Vegas, Atlantic City, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana and Mississippi.

To learn more about supporting the University Libraries, please contact Millie Mitchell, director of development, (775) 682-5682 or mimitchell@unr.edu. For more information about supporting the College of Business, please contact Kristen Kennedy, '98, director of development, (775) 682-6940 or kristenk@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

World Without End by San Francisco book artist Julie Chen from the acclaimed Book Arts collection within Special Collections.

includes more than 200,000 photographs—many of which are digitized and accessible to anyone via the Internet—more than 20,000 volumes of historical, rare and artists' books; primary research manuscripts, including correspondence, diaries, financial records, reports, membership rosters, bylaws, minutes, subject files, architectural drawings and legal papers. In addition, Special Collections holds thousands of audio recordings, some made on obsolete devices such as the wire recorder, which used a magnetic recording technology dating back to 1878 that essentially used piano wire to record sound. When magnetic tape became available in the late 1940s and early 1950s, wire recorders rapidly fell into disuse.

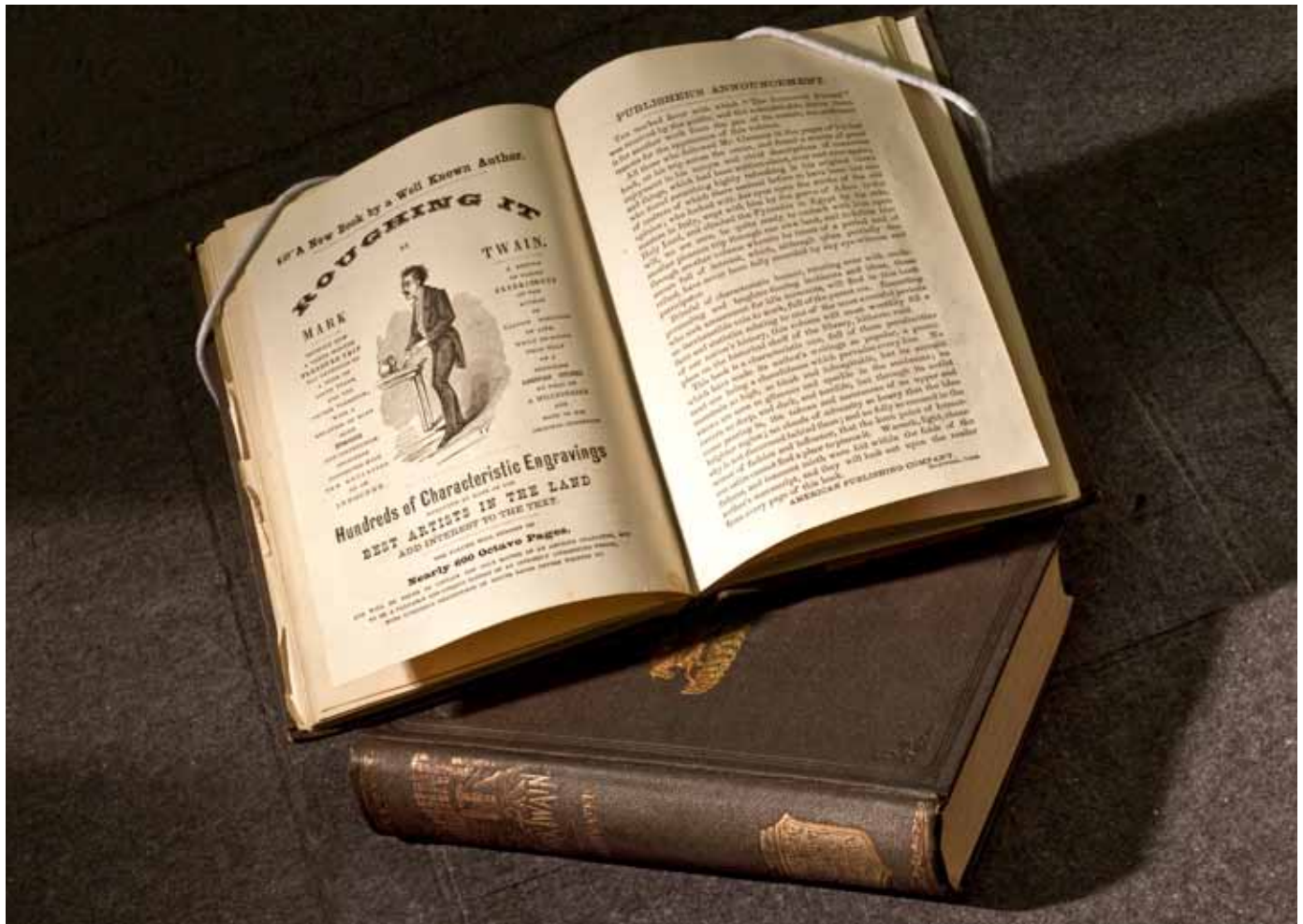
"Audio and video materials provide a special challenge," says Curtis. "The original analog tape on cassettes or reels will not last forever, nor will wire recordings, and the equipment to play some of the older formats is obsolete or becoming obsolete. Quality conversion to digital formats is expensive, but it must be done as soon as possible."

Once the material has been digitized, the

challenge, Curtis adds, is to maintain and refresh the digital files so that they do not degrade or become obsolete. "Digital preservation is a new and important area for archives."

Special Collections also maintains an art collection, which is largely digitized and available online. The collection features work by Western artists, including Maynard Dixon, Theodore Waddell, Will James and Lorenzo Latimer. [Editor's note: Maynard Dixon is the artist whose painting, *The Rider*, graces the cover of this issue.] There is also extensive work by prominent northern Nevada artists such as Craig Sheppard, Robert Caples, Hans Meyerkassel and James McCormick. University Archives is the official depository for items such as Board of Regents' meeting minutes, retired administrative files, student organization records and publications, including *Sagebrush* and *Artemisia*, college catalogs and hundreds of photographs of University life dating back to the 1870s.

Betty Glass notes with regret that there is much University history that is being tossed out: "What makes me cry in the night is hear-



A book salesman's sample, containing a prospectus for Mark Twain's *Roughing It*. Underneath is a first-edition copy of the book, 1872.

ing that someone has seen old maps or photo albums or other material in campus dumpsters. Although we are in the digital age, there are still a great many University records, photographs and other memorabilia in campus storage rooms, closets and offices that are part of the University's history. With the reorganization efforts and mergers of recent years, entire departments and other campus units are in danger of becoming invisible if none of their records are preserved in the University Archives.

"My wish would be that anyone on campus who is about to clear out old records, stashes of campus-related photographs, etc., would think of University Archives and contact us so that we can determine whether any of the material should be transferred to the archives."

The librarians who tend and care for these often unique, rare and fragile materials take great care with them. Jacque Sundstrand

explains that all materials are kept in a secured, monitored storage area not accessible to the public. Manuscripts and other fragile materials are kept in technologically advanced, humidity-controlled storage enclosures. All materials are removed from acidic enclosures and placed into acid-free folders and containers when possible during the preparation process in order to ensure a good environment for long-term storage. "Most important," she adds, "is making sure that our users, as well as staff, know how to properly handle the materials when they come in. We spend time with each researcher in telling them about the correct way to use them and take their notes without damaging them."

Curtis adds: "Our purpose is to provide access for the researchers of today in ways that will protect our original material for the researchers of tomorrow. Digitizing photographs and manuscripts can reduce the handling of

originals and make them available to remote users, but for long-term and reliable access, it is important to keep the original paper manuscripts and photographic prints and negatives in as good a condition as possible."

Among the items lovingly stored by Special Collections is a handwritten, signed letter by Sarah Winnemucca, the influential Northern Paiute writer who worked throughout her life to develop understanding between white settlers and her people. In the letter, written during the 1860s in delicate, cursive script on paper now yellowed by time, Winnemucca implores "all good Christians" to help elder Paiutes, George and his wife, in their old age.

Another unique letter held by Special Collections is one from Robert Laxalt, one of Nevada's most heralded authors and founder of the University of Nevada Press. On Jan. 15, 1954, he writes to his book editor, saying:

"I'll have those beginning chapters to you



Special Collections manuscripts librarian Jacquie Sundstrand consults with Arielle Gorin, a visiting graduate student from Yale.

fair soon. Things got crowded up a bit lately, and as of next week, I'm donning the wage shackles again. This independent writing is too precarious, both locally and nebulous nationally. I'd hoped that darn novelette might pull us out for a few months, but I guess not."

Laxalt was working on a novelette called *Rimrock*, which had started out as a short story. His agent thought that additional chapters might appeal to the publisher, but that didn't work out.

The *Book of the Oath* is a prized University Archives item. The large, blue leather and silver-bound tome with 100 vellum leaves was commissioned in 1920 to receive the signatures of all members of each University of Nevada graduating class. By signing, graduates indicated that they had taken the solemn civic pledge inscribed at the beginning of the book. The pledge includes swearing "lifelong loyalty to the shaping ideals of American civilization

... liberty ... equality ... and justice" and that each classes' generation "shall bequeath an even better and nobler civilization than came to it." The last group of students to sign the

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Betty Glass, Special Collections librarian and University archivist

oath was the Class of 1964.

Sundstrand adds that the librarians "love to hear from users that their article or book is being published after they have come in and used our collections."

The importance of Special Collections and University Archives to the campus and community cannot be understated, says University President Marc Johnson: "The libraries, special collections and archives of our University make accessible to our faculty, staff and students, as well as the public we serve, all the primary sources of our campus and state history. The preservation mission of these University entities provides a social good of the highest order. Without the wide array of historic holdings and the artistic acquisitions that make up our special collections, archives and libraries, the richness of the intellectual and historic life of our region would be greatly diminished. They provide us all a compelling

Elusive information at your fingertips

By Warren Lerude

The University of Nevada Archives and Special Collections are a treasury of historical information about our state and our relationships with the West, the nation and the world. Writers, scholars, historians and the citizenry at large rely deeply on the availability of this information.

I am writing a biography of Nevada's celebrated author Robert Laxalt, and I could not do so without the detailed research I have conducted in the archives and Special Collections through the invaluable



help of the knowledgeable staff. Deep research is mind-bogglingly difficult. The archives and Special Collections staff has set up a system that quickly puts otherwise elusive information quickly and thoroughly at the fingertips of a writer.

For instance, the Robert Laxalt Papers are on file in 26.5 cubic feet of material located in 33 boxes. These include manuscripts and notes from Bob Laxalt's published and unpublished newspaper and magazine journalism and fiction and non-fiction books. The entire story of Bob's founding of the University of Nevada Press is preserved in the archives and Special Collections. It would be a historical and literary tragedy if this vital information about our state and one of its most gifted writers were not preserved and available at a moment's notice for those of us who care enough about Nevada to research and write about the people who, like Bob Laxalt, have actually created and lived our history as it happened through their notable efforts.

Additionally, Bob Laxalt's papers chronicle unique information about his important personal involvement in his brother Paul's historic campaigns for and service as lieutenant governor, governor and U. S. senator for Nevada, which can be found nowhere else. Paul Laxalt's own unique papers, different than Bob's, are of extraordinary value to our state and nation.

A visit to the archives and special collections and their accomplished staff is a joy for those of us who are dedicated to telling our state's stories fully and accurately.

—Warren Lerude, professor emeritus, Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism, is the author of *American Commander in Spain*, published by the University of Nevada Press, 1986, and *Pulitzer Prize winner for Editorial Writing*, 1977.



The Basque Library

The Basque Library and the Center for Basque Studies are located on the third floor of the Knowledge Center. It is considered the leading library on Basque topics anywhere outside of the Basque Country. It was founded in the late 1960s under the auspices of the Basque Studies Program by then coordinator, William Douglass, with the help of Robert Laxalt and guidance of Jon Bilbao. It serves as an English window into the Basque world by gathering everything published in English about the Basques. It also strives to offer the best published works pertaining to Basque topics in Basque, Spanish and French.

The library is comprised of hundreds of journals from the 19th century to the present, periodicals about Basque issues in paper and electronic formats, collections of photographs donated by professional photographers and by individuals, hundreds of videos and DVDs created by and about Basques and the Basque Diaspora, and audio recordings created by the Center for Basque Studies, as well as those donated by individuals. The Library houses manuscript collections donated by Basque individuals, families and organizations such as the Western Range Association, containing records of Basque sheepherders in the American West. Another example is the Huarte Jauregui Archive, containing important research materials on Basques in the Spanish Civil War. The library also houses hundreds of pamphlets, objects and posters related to the Basque Diaspora, all of which can be viewed within the library.

—Donnie Curtis, head of Special Collections and a subject specialist for Basque Studies

and enriching way to measure the changes we experience today with the historic treasures from yesterday.”

DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library

In addition to Special Collections, other campus libraries hold collections of unique and historical materials. For example, the Mary B. Ansari Map Library in the DeLaMare Science and Engineering Library houses the largest map collection in Nevada, containing more than 140,000 maps. Located in the Mackay Mines Building on the north end

of the historic Quad, DeLaMare also holds approximately 1,200 active journal subscriptions and 100,000 volumes of monographs, bound journals and government documents in the fields of earth sciences; chemical, civil, computer, electrical, geological, mechanical, metallurgical and mining engineering; computer science, chemistry and physics.

DeLaMare serves as an active hub for those who work in mining and high-tech industries in the state.

Diane Lightwood, DeLaMare's circulation manager and a veteran of the mining industry herself, describes her experience since she was hired four years ago: “Pretty much if you take

a directory of the mining industry in the state, over the years they've all been in here.”

DeLaMare has approximately 22,500 square feet on four floors, with 100 computer workstations located throughout the public areas of the building.

Tod Colegrove, DeLaMare director, says that when members come in from their communities of practice across the state, they have full access to the collections of the library, including digital collections specifically licensed by the library such as GeoRef, the most comprehensive database in the geosciences. And, they are encouraged to get involved in discussions with students from their discipline.

“It’s a huge value for a student studying a program such as geology or mining engineering to be able to forge connections directly with people actively working in their chosen field,” Colegrove says. “You just can’t buy that kind of exposure for our students and faculty.”

Another indication of use, according to Colegrove, is the fact that more than 158 printed maps were checked out of the library over the summer, even though the campus was on break.

The library’s digital map collections also are well-travelled sites. “Nevada in Maps,” www.delamare.unr.edu/maps/digitalcollections/nvmmaps, was developed by DeLaMare’s emerita maps librarian Linda Newman. The site includes historical maps from the Nevada Historical Society, the Nevada State Library and Archives, and other state agencies, totaling more than 4,000 digitized maps that date from 1750 into the 20th century.

The “W. M. Keck Earth Sciences & Mining Research Information Center,” <http://keck.library.unr.edu>, houses topographic, geologic, elevation and agriculture maps, a host of satellite imagery, as well as road maps, historic highway and tourist maps, and other geoscience and mining databases. Both sites are regularly “harvested” by Google and others pulling authoritative content for their users. The next time you pull up a map or high-resolution image of the state in Google Earth, keep in mind that the imagery likely originally



Savitt Medical Library

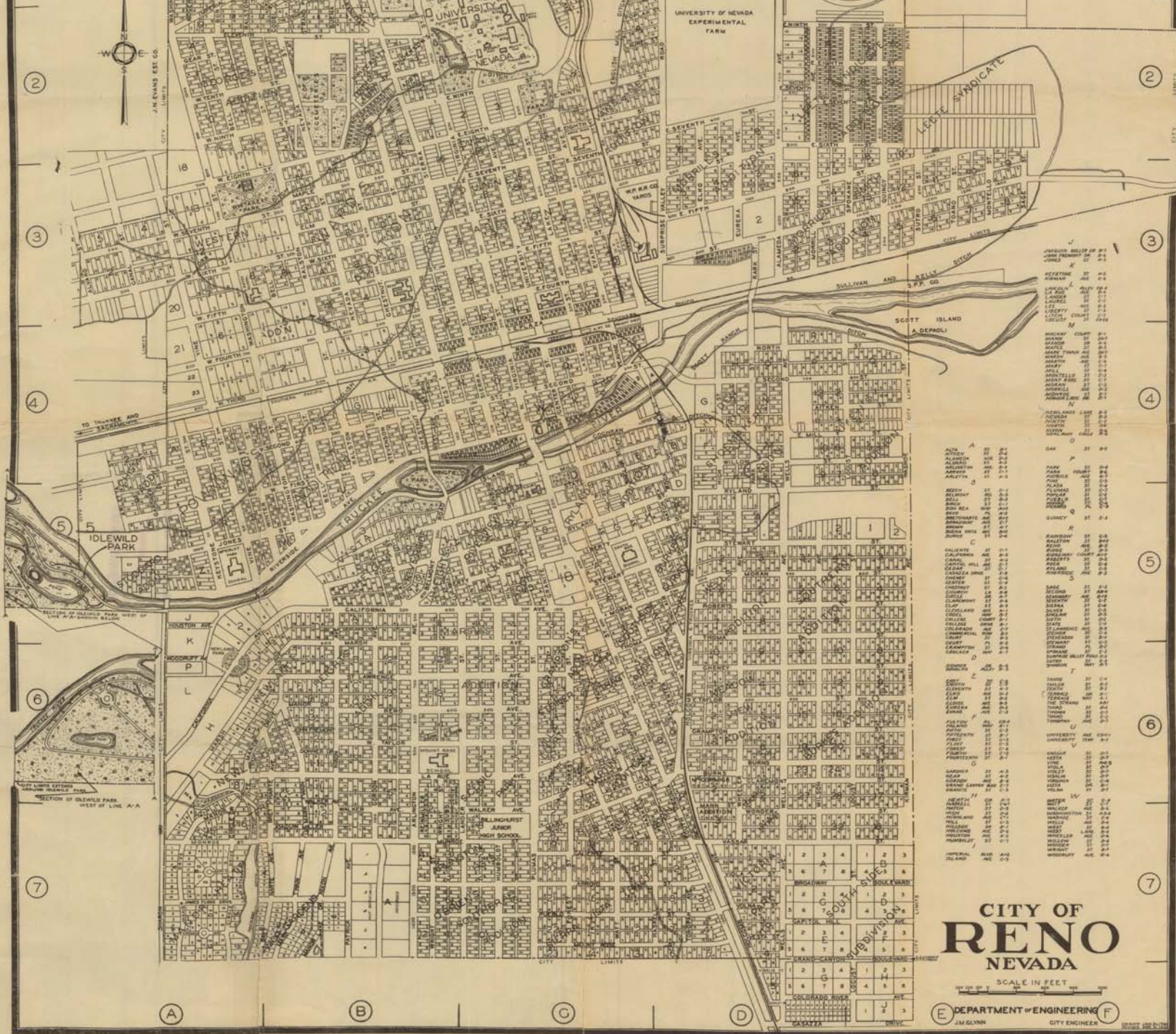
The Savitt Medical Library was established shortly after the University of Nevada School of Medicine evolved from a two-year to a four-year, degree-granting program in 1978. It is Nevada’s only publicly funded academic medical library.

While the physical facilities present a comfortable and supportive environment for study and research, perhaps the library’s most valued contribution to medical education and patient care is the online gateway it provides to the array of health-related databases, e-journals, online textbooks, and clinical decision-making tools that health care providers rely on to support best practices. As the pathway to quality information grows increasingly complex, the library has focused its efforts on teaching medical students, residents and care providers effective strategies for navigating the online health information environment.

Designated by the National Library of Medicine as a State Resource Library, the Savitt Medical Library maintains a commitment to delivering training and support to Nevada’s health professionals to facilitate easy access to reliable biomedical information. The library also partners with a variety of agencies and organizations in outreach projects to advance the integration of information technology into the practice of health care and to improve public access to consumer health information.

—Terry Henner, Savitt Medical Library director

School of Medicine students Patrick Delaplain '10, Camron Wipfli '10 and Venkatachalam Veerappan study in the Savitt Medical Library.



Special Collections holds this map of the City of Reno in 1931, showing the Truckee River with the city's neighborhood blocks on both sides, irrigation ditches, railroad routes and street names. The map has been digitized and can be found online.

came from DeLaMare. The map sites are operated jointly between DeLaMare, Special Collections and @One of the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center.

The DeLaMare library was named after Grover Whitby "Dee" DeLaMare, who was a 1938 mining engineering graduate of the Mackay School of Mines. During his 60s, Dee found that he enjoyed exploration geology even more than he did mining engineering, and subsequently made several important

discoveries, among them the Preble ore body on the Getchell Trend in 1972 and, in 1981, the Dee Gold Deposit, one of the 12 major ore bodies in the Carlin Trend, near Battle Mountain in north-central Nevada.

Paintings, historical printed works, and artifacts of significance to the fields of mining, geology and engineering can be found throughout the building. DeLaMare also has some beautiful, but strangely acquired, gold-plated drinking fountains. Originally,

brass-plated drinking fountains were ordered to match the drinking fountains that were already in place in the restroom foyer just outside of the Keck Museum. The supplier sent gold-plated drinking fountains by accident, but allowed the library to keep them at no extra charge.

—Angela Bakker contributed to this article

LOOK ONLINE
For additional photos, documents and links from Special Collections visit:
www.unr.edu/silverandblue

Donations accepted!

Special Collections and University Archives will gladly consider accepting items related to northern Nevada, including:

- Photo albums and scrapbooks relating to University of Nevada college days, especially:
 - Interior shots of Nevada campus residence halls and buildings
 - Informal snapshots documenting campus events, celebrities, "campus life"
 - Emblems, logos, programs, paper-oriented memorabilia
- Diaries, letters and scrapbooks documenting life in Nevada
- Unpublished family histories of northern Nevada families
- Photographs, albums and home movies that document local places and events, as well as ordinary life; documentation of local ethnic and lifestyle diversity, including alternative groups, such as hippie communities and Burning Man.
- Business and organizational records, especially from the founding years
- Paper-based souvenirs of important events in Nevada history
- Audio and video of local content that has research value
- Nevada-oriented ephemera such as pamphlets, brochures, calendars, etc. that might be obscure; hand-drawn maps

Special Collections Department generally does not accept:

- Photos of landscapes that are not identified, unidentified people, pets, travels outside Nevada
- Books, unless they are extremely rare and valuable or on Nevada topics, but published privately or with limited distribution
- Art, unless it is by a well-known Nevada artist who is not already well-represented in our collection
- Family history if it does not relate to Nevada
- Items that pertain primarily to southern Nevada and Clark County.



Special Collections librarians Betty Glass, Donnie Curtis and Jacque Sundstrand.

How you can help Special Collections

While the University provides the operating funds for maintenance of the libraries, it cannot furnish all of the support needed for Special Collections, especially in these difficult economic times.

Much of what Special Collections holds is due to the generosity of many individuals over the years who have donated personal or family papers, organizational papers, treasured books, photographs, maps and other unique materials. Most donated items need to be organized, cataloged, and may require preservation, which requires staff time. Although much of the material has been donated, unique items and collections occasionally become available for acquisition only through public auction or private sale, and the Special Collections budget is currently not sufficient to make such acquisitions. We rely on the generosity of donors because:

- Increasing access to unique materials requires increased investment in acquisition, preservation and digitization.
- Underwriting for strategic positions adds important value to Special Collections' many treasures.

The following is a partial list of gift opportunities to assist Special Collections with its important work:

Cataloging, Digitization and Preservation Funds: High priorities for Special Collections support. In particular, funds are needed to catalog and digitize the papers of Senator Paul Laxalt to make them available for researchers on campus and across the globe. (*Gifts from \$1,000 – \$25,000+*)

Part-time Photo Curator: Continue with the more complex aspects of processing of photographic collections. (*Gift of \$6,000 per year*)

Acquisition/Enrichment Fund: Purchase select works, materials, manuscripts, artists' books and the like that become available on the open market. Currently, funds are sought in particular to acquire the papers of Sam Davis, noted Comstock-era newspaper publisher and writer, and the business papers of the Newlands/Sharon families. Collections significant to Nevada history often become available for purchase unexpectedly, with a short window of opportunity. (*Gifts from \$1,000 – \$25,000+*)

Student Assistant Funds: Students gain valuable practical experience while working in Special Collections, and at the same time provide much needed support for cataloging and digitization projects. (*Gifts of \$15,000 per year for graduate assistantship; \$4000 per semester for undergraduate students*)

Alf Doten Project: Alfred "Alf" Doten was another of the famed Comstock-era journalists. His diary is a treasure trove—79 leather-bound volumes from 1849–1903. Special Collections priorities include digitizing the original diaries and making them available on the Web along with complete transcriptions. (*Gifts of \$5,000 – \$50,000*)

Special Collections Endowment: These help build long-term continuous support for Special Collections. (*Gifts of \$10,000 – \$2 million, a goal to provide self-support for Special Collections*)

—Donnie Curtis, director of Special Collections