

**NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY**

Joe Lombardo | Governor
Daniel Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

Jen Roger | Director
600 N. Carson St
Carson City, NV 89701

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Jen Roger, Director
Nevada State Museum Carson City

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026

Quarterly Report
Natural History

Staff presented educational programming during Curator's Corner on Nevada pollinators, participated in Pollinator Palooza, and represented the program during the Gala, reaching an estimated 125 participants. Significant progress was made on the Modern Mining exhibit through field research, photography, and narration production for the new adit diorama, while approximately ten days were devoted to researching and organizing content for upcoming Natural History exhibits. During this period a previously published article coauthored by Dr. Baumgartner was downloaded worldwide 52 times

Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center

During the second quarter of 2026, the Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center continued to support the museum's mission through public engagement, collections stewardship, exhibition development, and ongoing research. The Center prepared and submitted the Nauman Grant application to support future collections initiatives and provided significant support for exhibitions and loans. Staff completed preparations for the *Riveting America 250* exhibit, coordinated the visit of *Levi Strauss & Co.* historian Tracy Panek, mounted a University of Nevada, Reno baseball uniform for both Curator's Corner and loan to the Nevada State Archives, and prepared a Fortuny dress for exhibition. Research and collections projects remained a major focus throughout the quarter. Staff provided research assistance to the Nevada Historical Society, advanced the *Fashionable Nevada* publication through editing, planning meetings, and the addition of three new entries, continued work on the museum's historic flag collection, prepared a dress form procurement for future exhibition needs, and completed routine grounds maintenance at the facility. Staff also participated in all Program and Collections Committee meetings, ensuring continued coordination and support for museum initiatives.

Anthropology

This quarter was busy for the Anthropology program due to April Van Wyke's absence and a HVAC construction project at the Indian Hills Curatorial facility. Rachel and Anna prepared for the construction by working with volunteers to protect collections. Staff worked on updating and closing out loans (e.g., BIA, Loren Huddleston, Richard Hughs, UNC, and Valley of Fire State Park), fielding research requests, completing condition reports for objects that came off exhibit, assisted volunteers with processing the Swallow Marsh Shelter collection, inventoried the documents and objects transferred from the History



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program, and processed two collections (total 23.5 cubic feet= \$12,420) for curation. Anna and Rachel both rotated shifts between the Curatorial facility and the Museum to provide access to the HVAC construction team. Anna worked on research requests from the public (e.g., basketry, stone tool, stone effigy identification) and research requests from the Tribes (e.g., object identification, providing information about archaeological sites and collections), did several behind the scenes tours, and updated Antiquities permits (~10) and Curation Agreements (~3). Both Rachel and Anna prepared for Curator's Corner presentations for NSMCC's summer programming.

NAGPRA Report/Activities

Anna and Rachel responded to NAGPRA requests from BLM, Nevada (e.g., Unionville Soldier), BLM California (Loyalton Rockshelter), NAS Fallon (NAGPRA holdings curated with NSMCC), and UNR (transfer of Loyalton Rockshelter to NSM).

Anna and Jen held consultation for repatriation of ancestral remains meeting with Chairwoman Cathi Williams Tuni (Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe) and Rochanne Downs (Cultural Lead for Fallon Paiute Shoshone Tribe).

Anna and Jen held consultation for repatriation of ancestral remains meeting with William Enos (THPO for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California) and Sarina Shaw (THPO Administrative Assistant).

June 11, 2026 – Anna and Jen held consultation for repatriation of ancestral remains meeting with Shawn Collins (Tribal Monitor Program Representative for the Te-Moak Tribe) and his wife, Salene Collins, and two people that work for ERM Heidi Shaw and Ashley Ginther.

Email correspondence took place regarding consultation with Betty Aleck (THPO, Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe), Linzey Scott (THPO, Walker River Paiute Tribe), Riley Bonta (THPO, Lovelock Paiute Tribe), and Mihon Ebon (THPO, Renos Sparks Indian Colony).

Registrar

During this reporting period, significant effort was dedicated to preparing the Lower Middle Gallery, Basement History Collections, and Indian Hills storage facility for upcoming CIP. With the assistance of a Manpower employee and two volunteers, PastPerfect records were added and/or updated. Ongoing collaborative work also included supporting Jan's book research and assisting Ann Wolfe in identifying artifacts for an upcoming exhibition at the Nevada Museum of Art.

Education

During the fourth quarter, the Education Department continued its strong pattern of growth, serving a combined 2,102 students through field trips at both the Nevada State Museum, Carson City and the Nevada State Capitol, while also engaging 1,308 adults through educational tours and programs. These numbers reflect the continued expansion of the museum's educational outreach and demonstrate a sustained upward trajectory in public engagement. Beyond on-site programming, the Education Curator expanded the museum's community presence by participating in outreach events at Reno Aces games and presenting Curator's Corner as part of the museum's Wednesday summer public programming. The department also partnered with the Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City to co-host a weeklong Teacher Institute in June, led by Tara Auld, runner-up for Nevada State Teacher of the Year. The institute brought together 15 educators to explore history through a STEM lens while strengthening connections between local teachers and the educational resources and programming available at both museums.



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Gift Shop

Retail sales continued to show strong growth during the fourth quarter, generating \$74,503.74 from 4,389 items sold, an increase of \$8,462.51 in revenue and 229 additional items sold compared to the same period last year. Medallion sales remained essentially flat, with 356 medallions sold for \$29,795.00, just two fewer than the previous year. The inaugural Mint Gala on May 2 successfully launched a new annual fundraising tradition, netting the museum approximately \$18,000 with expenses just over \$12,000, despite weather and event logistics limiting museum store traffic that evening. Pollinator Palooza on June 13 was another highly successful event, welcoming more than 200 visitors, featuring 22 local vendors, and generating \$2,626.94 in museum store sales.

Coin Press No. 1 Program Report

Here is information about the two outside projects on Coin Press No. 1 during Q4 of FY 26:

Nevada Elk's Association 100th Anniversary Medallion:

\$3,000 (\$330 Press Set-up-less Admission Fees Paid for Demonstration & \$2,670 Strike & Capsule Fees)

Belmont Courthouse 150th Anniversary Medallion:

\$6,104.07 (\$500 Press Set-up & \$5,604.07 Strike, Capsule & Shipping Fees)

Membership Program Report

The Nevada State Museum Carson City closed out FY26 Q4 with steady, reliable membership activity that reflected both ongoing loyalty and a healthy stream of new supporters.

Throughout the quarter, the museum welcomed 46 new members, renewed 159 existing memberships, and generated \$14,550 in total revenue—demonstrating stable growth and continued community support.

Exhibits

During the second quarter, the Exhibits Department made significant progress on four major exhibition projects while supporting museum operations and public programming. The America 250: Riveting America exhibit was completed and installed **two weeks ahead of schedule**, while development continued on the Modern Mining, Natural History Nocturnal Diorama, and Scales exhibits through fabrication, media production, field research, and collaboration with the Nevada Division of Minerals and other partners. The department also expanded visitor accessibility by implementing bilingual QR code interpretation and audio tours.

Facilities

The Nevada State Museum Facilities Department had a productive fourth quarter, completing essential maintenance, repairs, and preparations across all three museum locations. The department also supported multiple Capital Improvement Projects, including HVAC replacements at the Marjorie Russell Clothing & Textile Center, gallery fan-coil replacements, Topsy HVAC installation, and the museum's fire, security, and lighting retrofit project.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

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NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Catherine Magee | Director
1650 North Virginia Street
Reno, NV 89503

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Catherine Magee, Director
Nevada Historical Society

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Nevada Historical Society On The Go! Off-site events

Awarded City of Reno Historic Preservation award for the *NHS On The Go!* Programs May 14, 2026



Shery, Kristina, Debra receiving City of Reno Award



Knights of Pythias Cemetery Tour



*NHS program Nevada's Age-Old Question:
Dayton vs Genoa*

- Writers' Wednesday hosted by community partner Knights of Pythias
- Nevada History lecture series and American Gaming Archives Fireside Chat series hosted by community partner Sierra View Library
- High Noon with Neal Cobb hosted by community partner Washoe County Library System
- Docent Council Lectures hosted by community partner KNPB
- Community event invitations from community partners this quarter:
 - Our Story, Inc./Northern Nevada African American Firefighter Museum Anniversary, Reno Aces Education Days, Celebrate Washoe Day, Silver Stage Elementary/Middle Career Fair, Folk Fest
- Special program this quarter:
 - Knights of Pythias Cemetery Tour

Standing room only program highlight: Nevada History Panel Discussion - *Nevada's Age-Old Question: Dayton vs Genoa*

Continued positive feedback: Easier access with better locations, parking availability, like appreciate what NHS offers to the community, enjoy swag provided by MARCOM

NHS Membership Highlights from Long Island, NY:

They belong to various museums and historical societies across the nation and said the NHS has one of the most active and engaging program schedules of them all. They love the variety of topics and the fact that we are out in the community providing opportunities for visitor enrichment. The husband feels that the NHS gives a “great bang for our buck”. He compared us to the Historical Society in Long Island and said they rarely offer programming and when they do they charge additional fees for it. He thanked us and said please continue doing great things.



Our Story, Inc./Northern Nevada African American Firefighter Museum Anniversary Event: NHS Staff Sarah and Docent Martha



Reno Aces Education Days reaching 11,000 participants over three days: Docent Denise and NHS Staff Debra

Building Projects

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025. The Research Library closed to the public on May 9, 2025. Occasional research library users scheduled when construction allows safe access.

- HVAC and Roof replacement CIP projects 21-M52 & 23-S01-4 continue. The projects began on October 7, 2024, and remain incomplete
- The Security, Life Safety, Electrical, Seismic Retrofit, Envelope Maintenance, and ADA upgrades CIP projects (23-M10, M16 and S02) began May 12, 2025, supposed to conclude July 2026. Revised end date May 2029

Construction Preparation and Monitoring

All NHS team members move and protect collections for construction. All NHS team members monitor construction workers working in NHS collection areas.

NHS docents assist staff with construction preparation projects including equipment assembly, collections cataloging, and rehousing

Collections Storage

The NHS is no longer able to collect Nevada's history due to insufficient collections storage space. In addition to this, at the end of January 2025 the NHS lost over 3000 sq ft of free collection storage space. In an emergency collections move, all the collections were moved to temporary storage at the end of January 2025.

Catherine continues to look for 3000 sq ft collections storage for these collections, the price per square foot for leased space for collections is estimated to be between \$0.76 - 1.41sf. When an appropriate location has been found, Catherine will be requesting funds from DMH Board controlled monies to pay for the yearly lease.

Staff Activities

The NHS staff fulfilled 351 individual research requests this quarter

The NHS staff met with 395 on site visitors this quarter

NHS hired new Facility Supervisor

History Curator Activities Summary:

Shery continued to work on *Gilded Age* exhibit and plans for exhibit gallery reinstallation

Shery continued her work on the NMA board

Shery began working with the City of Reno doing a community survey for the Powning District

Shery continues to work on public engagement via social media, newsletters, and scheduling programming

Archivist and Collections Technician Activities Summary:

Sarah continued working with UNR, Nevada Museum of Art, Nevada State Library and Archives to digitize collections, particularly those with obsolete formats (U-matics, Beta, floppy disks)

Sarah continued working with docents and volunteers to process archival materials

Sarah continued her work as a board member for Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board

Sarah and Theresa continue to add data to Nevada Archives Navigator, an NEH grant-funded project in collaboration with the Nevada State Archives to create a discovery portal that enables the public to search for collections from multiple institutions

Sarah and Theresa continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections

Collections Manager/Registrar Activities Summary:

Debra continued working with docents and volunteers to process artifact materials

Debra continued working with docents, other NHS and DMH staff, and volunteers at off-site collections

Debra continued work on loan requests for the Nevada Museum of Art, Nevada State Library and Archives, and the Barry Art Museum

Education Curator Activities Summary:

Kristina continued to work with MARCOM

Kristina continued work with the STORYQ app for virtual programming

Kristina continued to schedule off-site educational programming

Kristina continued to coordinate docent programming and collections work

Kristina continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections

Administrative Assistant/Store Manager/Membership Coordinator Activities Summary:

Ramit continued working at off-site events selling memberships and store merchandise

Ramit continued working on membership, budgets, and store needs

Ramit continued working with docents, other NHS staff and volunteers at off-site collections

Director Activities Summary:

Catherine interview by KOLO for an update on the construction projects

Catherine continued to work with Nevada System of Higher Education and DTCAIT on the fiber optic installation

Catherine continued working on the CIP projects

Catherine worked on budget documents and loans

Catherine attended the NSLA directors conference

BUDGET SUMMARY

Revenue/Expenditure Comparison Narrative:

Ramit, Administrative Assistant and Store Manager, fulfils special orders for the Museum Store and sells memberships and merchandise at off-site events.

MUSEUM STORE

Museum Store Sales Narrative:

Ramit, Administrative Assistant and Store Manager, fulfils special orders for the Museum Store and sells memberships and merchandise at off-site events.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025. We typically increase membership during onsite events. We had 6 new memberships and 62 renewals.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

Due to construction projects, the NHS closed to the public on January 1, 2025

NHS held 13 free offsite and virtual programs with a total of 409 attendees. (April 154, May 96, June 159)

We participated in 7 community events this quarter with a total attendance of 13,386. (April 4375, May 8411, June 600)

FUND RAISING

Narrative

We received \$20,643.97 in donations this quarter

Docent hours: 1183.5 hours

Total volunteer hours donated this quarter: 1183.5 hours

Total value of donated time: \$35,446.00

* based on accepted rate of \$29.95/hour



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY
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LOST CITY MUSEUM
Tracey Sprague | Director
721 S. Moapa Blvd.
Overton, NV 89040

LOST CITY MUSEUM

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Tracey Sprague, Director
Lost City Museum

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects:

The Lost City Museum did their annual repairs of the historic pueblos and pithouse, along with other minor repairs/maintenance around the interior of the museum. The staff also replaced some of the failing parts of the irrigation system.

The Lost City Museum is also making arrangements to update the cabinets and fixtures in the museum store. Final plan should be executed in Fall 2026.

Staff activities:

Curator Ray Robbins left the museum at the end of April 2026, and his position was filled by Anthony Graham at the end of June 2026. Anthony is a recent PhD grad from UNLV's history department. Ray is greatly missed, and we are happy to have Anthony filling the curator of exhibits role.

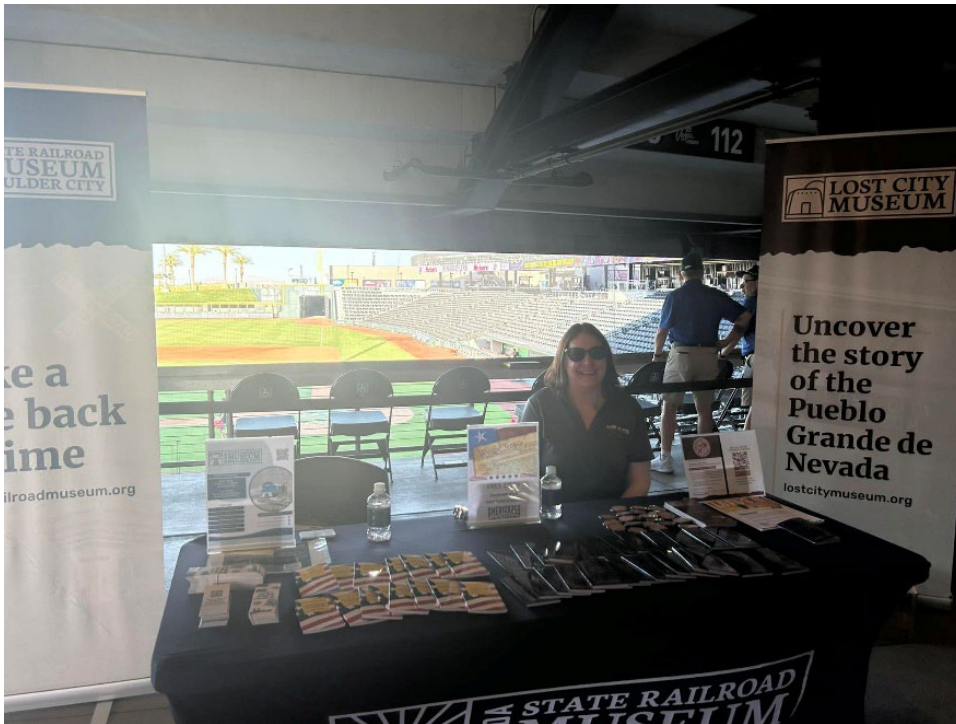
Outreach:

4/4/2026 Atlatl/lithics hafting workshop, in conjunction with SHPO (7 participants)

4/25/2026 Jr. Ranger Day - Lake Mead – 575 engagements



6/2-6/7/2026 - Aviators Game for America 250 -1585 engagements



6/30/2026 - Fox 5 spot for Forensics Camp

Museum programs

April 11 – A Century of Lost City exhibit opening and talk (48 attendees for whole day, 22 at reception)



April 25 - Lithics workshop with Justin Demaio (7 participants)



June 14 – Lords of St. Thomas Book Signing (10 participants)

MUSEUM STORE

Expenditures:

April 2026 - \$3,380.18

May 2026 - \$1,821.37

June 2026 - \$23,415.82 (\$20,197.47 was salary)

Sales:

April 2026 \$8071.60

April 2025 \$9809.09

Average sales per quest - \$7.65

May 2026 \$5062.91

May 2025 \$8553.93

Average sales per quest - \$6.93

June 2026 \$6928.08

June 2025 \$8553.93

Average sales per quest - \$11.91

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

April 2026 – 5 total

May 2026 – 4 total

June 2026 – 2 total

Total membership sales for FY2026: \$2,940

ATTENDANCE

May and June saw a major shift in attendance compared to FY2025. 481 less comparatively. April saw 153 more, making the total difference for the quarter of -328 compared to FY25.

Total Population Served

April -1055

May - 731

June - 576

Free tours:

April – One final school group of the school year - 90 students/10 chaperones

April – Girl Scout troop – 18

June – Nevada Blind Children's Foundation Summer camp – 17

Paid tours:

April and May – three Adventure Photo tours (11 guests + 3 tour guides total for all three tours)

May – Bus tour of Seniors – 41

May – Covette Club tour – 11

June – Travel Nevada – 12

June - Mormon History Group tour – 29

June – Motorcycle club – 10

FUNDRAISING

No major fundraising during the quarter except the standing in-house guest donations from our donation boxes.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

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NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Christopher MacMahon | Director
601 Yucca Blvd.
Boulder City, NV 89005

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, BOULDER CITY

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Christopher MacMahon, Director
Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects:

1. **Visitor Center:** construction on the visitor center reached substantial completion in June with contractors finishing small details identified in the punch list walk-through. Exhibit fabrication and installation is on-going and will wrap at the end of August. The museum will have a soft opening of the facility on September 5, followed by the grand opening ceremony at 9:00am on Saturday, September 19. We hope to see you all there.
2. **Display Pavilion ADA upgrades:** this project has completed final design, and Public Works is preparing to bid the project. The project will add an elevated platform with an accessible ramp through the center of the display pavilion so that guests are better able to view the interior of the rolling stock displayed. New interpretive signs will be created with this project to ensure compatibility for guests with visual impairments. All text will also be added to our app to serve as an e-reader as well as translation into supported languages. Construction is anticipated to start in January 2027 and take approximately 2 months.

Museum Programs

With the arrival of summer, activities in Boulder City slow down. The museum continued rail bike operations through June when it became too hot to safely operate. Train rides operated through Independence Day weekend before being suspended for summer.

In conjunction with NSMLV and Lost City, staff from NSRMBC facilitated an outreach table for America 250 during a Las Vegas Aviators homestand June 2-7 reaching 1,585 individuals. Staff distributed copies of the Constitution and provided information about Nevada's museums.

Due to lack of educational and guest service staff, the museum has reduced its hours of operation to 5 days per week closing on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. When the visitor center opens, museum staff will be hard pressed to provide a minimum level of service to guests across the entire campus, and the number of school tours will be reduced to only when staff can manage. These reductions in service will remain in place until such time as educational and guest service staff are approved.

Staff Activities

The museum is happy to welcome Kyle Johnson as our new groundskeeper, and Steven Marin as our new custodian. Both have jumped right into their roles and are valuable additions to our team.

The full-time museum store manager, and part-time (19 hours per week) museum attendant are in the final stages of the on-boarding process, and we hope to announce those individuals at the September meeting.

Donations

Nothing to report.

MUSEUM STORE

Museum Store Sales Narrative:

Due to low stock the museum store was closed in May and began the transition to the new visitor center where it was re-stocked with the funds approved for the new store. The store will re-open to the public September 5.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

The museum has been working with the Friends of the Nevada Southern Railway to integrate digital memberships into Anchor for both membership sales and database management, as well as seamless integration into ticket sales for their member benefits.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

The museum has seen a steep decrease in international tourists over the past year. Canadian, British, German, and Australian tourists were regulars in the past, but are noticeably absent this year. The museum also saw a drop in visitation during Spring 2026, particularly as gas prices rose and fewer people were willing to make the drive to Boulder City. While we had a strong fall and Christmas season, overall, visitation was down for the first time since the pandemic.

The museum saw 33,358 train riders, 4,458 rail bike riders, and 36,761 visitors through the display pavilion in FY26.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor

Daniel P. Thielen | Administrator

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Sean Pitts | Director

1100 Avenue A

Ely, NV 89301

EAST ELY RAILROAD DEPOT MUSEUM

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Sean Pitts, Director
East Ely Railroad Depot Museum

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026

BUDGET SUMMARY

See Division provided information.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance remains close to last year's numbers. We continue to meet the needs of visitors who are seeking a more informative experience than the train ride. any of our visitors are spending noticeably longer within the museum, indicating a deeper interest. It is not uncommon to have visitors stay with us for up to an hour to get the answers to their questions.

FUND RAISING

No action in this area.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

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NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM

Daphne DeLeon | Director
2180 S. Carson St.
Carson City, NV 89701

NEVADA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM, CARSON CITY

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Daphne DeLeon, Director
Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report for FY26 Q4 to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects

None to report

Staff Activities

Staff:

Charlie Cross has been hired as the new Restoration Shop Supervisor (CMO) at the Nevada State Railroad Museum. Charlie brings years of experience from the Union Pacific Railroad, the Durango & Silverton, the "Slim Princess" restoration project, the Grapevine Vintage Railroad, and the Nevada Public Utilities Commission. Charlie's first day was Monday, May 11.

Programming Updates:

History:

The Museum's participation in the Nevada State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRB) grant program started with virtual training and an in-person visit by the Archival Consultant and SHRB staff. The Museum started surveying its archival collections and is on schedule to meet the grant's deliverables: complete the survey of the Museum's archival collections and produce at least one collection-level finding aid by December 31, 2026.

In May the History Curator and Director visited the East Ely Railroad Depot Museum to review possible transfers of materials to the Carson City Museum.

Education:

This first Nevada Museum Teacher Institute was conducted June 22-26, 2026. In collaboration with the Nevada State Museum Carson City, 13 secondary teachers attended. Teachers received instruction on the creation of Project-Based Learning (PBL) units and were provided with in-depth tours and presentations on the Museum's collections. Two participating teachers selected the Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City for their fall field trips and visits.

Established educational programming continues to gain traction.

Children's Programs

Field Trips: 16 (653 students)

Whistle Stop Stories: 209 participants

STEAM Sundays: 136 participants

Adult Programs

Behind the Rails Lecture Series: 74 participants

Restoration Shop: Annual Safety meetings were conducted on April 18th and May 22nd. Volunteers are required to attend to renew their steam and motor car crew certifications. Shop staff prepped equipment for train and motor car operations.

Outreach/Events:

The 2026 Train/Motorcar Ride season started with Eggstravaganza (April 4-5, 2026). A total of 920 tickets were sold. This was an increase in visitors from 2025. The season has started off with an increase in visitors. It appears that the Museum's daily organic social media posting is having a positive impact.

Historic Steam Train Rides: 1,425

Historic Motorcar rides: 461

New Instagram followers: 1,000

New Facebook followers: 3,600

Follow the Museum on Instagram @nvsrmcc and Facebook.



Figure 1 Instagram Post: Restoration Work on Inyo Locomotive.

Museum staff also participated in tabling at several Reno Aces Baseball games.

MUSEUM STORE

Store sales have picked up with the start of historic train/motorcar rides. The Store Manager is planning purchases for the Museum's 4th of July event – Star Spangled Steam Up!

ATTENDANCE

As with revenues, attendance numbers are traditionally lower because of the suspension of train/motor car rides. Numbers predictably increase once the train/motor car season starts in April 2026 with Eggstravaganza.

FUND RAISING:

None to report.



NEVADA MUSEUMS & HISTORY

Joe Lombardo | Governor
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NEVADA STATE MUSEUM

Josef Diaz | Acting Director
309 S. Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89107

NEVADA STATE MUSEUM, LAS VEGAS

Date: September 11, 2026

To: Board of Museums & History

From: Josef Diaz, Interim Director
Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas

Through: Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History

Re: Quarterly Report to the Board of Museums & History
April 1, 2026 – June 30, 2026

GENERAL MUSEUM ACTIVITIES

Building Projects

- N/A

Staff Activities

History and Material Culture

Josef Diaz, Curator

Activities summary:

- Our new public program monthly lecture series, *Common Threads* is off to a great start.
- The current exhibition, *The New Deal in the New West: On the Road in Nevada with Arthur Rothstein* continues to draw visitors. The show will travel to Carson City in October 2026.
- Research and exhibit development continues for the exhibit, *Setting the Stage: In the Footsteps of Domiguez and Escalante*.
- We continue to develop with the Centennial Commission to open an exhibit in City Hall. It will feature the museum's Paiute dictionary along with material culture. It opens on August 13.

Natural History

Richard Gawne, Curator

Activities summary:

- Significant progress was made on the construction of our insect arcade system, which will play a crucial role in our scientific exhibits and outreach efforts in the coming years. This project employs single-board computer technologies in a novel manner and will allow us to present visitors with a multi-modal sensor experience that promotes education and retainment of knowledge through the use of visual and tactile feedback systems.

- Research was conducted at the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity. Of specific note, R. Gawne was able to image and access specimens of the moth *B. betularia* that were previously collected in Nevada. Among other things, these specimens provided coordinated data that will allow us to locate and trap this species in the coming years, thereby building our collection, and helping to advance scientific and public understanding of this well-known species.
- Insect collection efforts have continued and have resulted in the acquisition of specimens from many orders. The preparation and identification of these specimens will be completed by R. Gawne and longstanding volunteer John Dooley. A joint insect collection trip was also completed w/ staff from Wetlands Park.

Manuscripts, Photographs, Research Library

Kassidy Whetstone, Curator

Activities summary:

- Processed, described, cataloged, digitized, and published 694 historic photographs to the online catalog. This was heavily completed with the help of volunteers.
- Processed, described, cataloged, and published 6.25 linear feet of archival manuscript collections (2 collections).
- Fulfilled 36 researcher reference requests. This includes in-person research appointments and library visits, telephone inquiries, and email inquiries. Materials accessed involved manuscripts, microfilm, books, maps, photographs, and newspapers.
- Completed 2 photo orders for use in local documentaries, exhibits, and community projects. This increases library outreach and exposure to museum collections, while promoting more photo use and access.
- Worked with the Nevada Preservation Foundation to determine ownership and control of the Hugh Taylor Collection. These meetings solved legacy confusion about ownership and determined that NSMLV was the owner of the collection until shown otherwise.
- Partnered with the Estipona Group to promote library photo digitization project. This piece highlighted photos from the collection, explained the process and importance of digitization, and noted an open call for volunteer assistance.
- Tabling events at Ice Age Fossils State Park Nevada Fossil Day event, 11th Annual Paleontology Art Contest celebration, at the Friends of Avi Kwa Ame annual celebration at Walking Box Ranch (WBR) in Searchlight. Showcased education collection materials, discussed museum projects, and promoted upcoming events and activities.
- Represented NSMLV in the quarterly Southern Nevada Agency Partnership (SNAP) inter-agency meeting in Boulder City, NV to discuss cultural resources and heritage among public government agencies in Southern Nevada.
- Met with Nevada State Archivist Cyndi Shein. Gave a tour of the library, discussed ongoing projects and areas for potential collaboration.
- Performed outreach with Jordan Canal at local elementary and junior high schools. Presented on the museum, collections materials, careers, and opportunities.
- Visited the Nevada Northern Railway Museum to see museum space and collections materials.

Collections and Registration

Holly Piper, Curator of Collections

Activities summary:

This was a very busy quarter with numerous ongoing projects. A major focus during the month of April was the implementation of a new set of environmental dataloggers to modernize the museum's temperature and humidity monitoring. In May, the highlight of the month was the National Showgirl Day proclamation event, which six showgirl costumes displayed on mannequins had to be prepared for. Work in June was more varied, with a returned loan, maintenance of several exhibits in the permanent gallery, and preliminary preparations for several small upcoming exhibits.

- **Loans**

- Outgoing loan returned by Clark County Museum of 26 objects related to Women's History in Nevada
- Loan inquiries– created and formatted item lists with photographs of relevant loan objects for future potential outgoing loans to the Atomic Museum and to the Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City

- **Collections**

- Continued inventorying work being done on Folies Bergere showgirl costumes with an intern, 35 costumes inventoried between April-May.
- With interns, processed 41 accessioned items, photographed, condition reports, descriptions and entries on Past Perfect.

- **Exhibits**

- With Exhibits department, performed maintenance on Permanent Gallery exhibits in need of attention including reshelving a taxidermy lizard, reshelving a rock from a geologic display, and dusting and resealing a taxidermy tortoise. After the earthquake on 6/4, inspected the gallery for any damage.
- National Showgirl Day – worked with Exhibits dept. to prepare 6 showgirl costumes for display during the National Showgirl Day proclamation event on 5/21. Selected costumes, dressed mannequins, arranging display of mannequins, monitoring exhibit during the event, taking down mannequins, undressing them, performing condition assessments on costumes.
- Preliminary planning for upcoming Langston Hughes exhibit case, Fantasy showgirl costume change out, and loan to City Hall.

- **Tours/Outreach/Trips**

- Tabled at a Walking Box Ranch event with 3 objects from the NSMLV collection
- Tabled at two school career days, Aviators game
- Gave four group tours of Collections areas
- Attended Casino Chip and Collectables Tradeshow
- Trip with Curator of Archives in April to Ely to see the Nevada State Railroad Museum East Ely to see their collections and museum space

- **Environmental Monitoring**

- Selected, purchased, and set up new environmental dataloggers as part of larger ongoing project to update and improve environmental monitoring.

Learning and Community Engagement

Jordan Canal, Curator

Activities summary:

- **Discovery Saturdays:**

- This is a weekly, free, drop-in program with interactive stations surrounding a theme tied to the museum or a special recognition day. During the program, we offer themed educational resources, provide a hands-on activity, and allow guests to learn from our hands-on Education Collection.

Date	Adults	Children	TOTAL	Project
4/4/2026	50	51	101	Arab American Heritage Month: Calligraphy Workshop
4/11/2026	29	19	48	Sea Turtle Craft
4/18/2026	65	56	121	Potted Cactus Craft and Stamps
4/25/2026	39	27	66	Hawaiian Shirt Finger Puppet
April	183	153	336	
5/2/2026	320	126	446	9th Island Celebration (\$145 sales in SE room)
5/9/2026	20	13	33	Central Pacific Railroad Est in Reno On this Day Train Craft
5/16/2026	35	30	65	Native Plants Desert Garden Craft
5/23/2026	42	39	81	Devil's Hole Pupfish Craft
5/30/2026	64	69	133	Air Force Paper Airplanes
May	481	277	758	
6/6/2026			36	Take Away Project: Dino Puppets
6/13/2026			102	27 Take Away Project: Dino Puppets & Coloring Sheets
6/20/2026			37	Take Away Project: Flowers
6/27/2026			50	Take Away Project: Dinosaur Clothes Pin Puppet/Flower Craft
June	0	0	225	

Calendar Year Totals: 1270 adults | 946 children | 2,441 total attendees.

- Updates:
 - We closed the Education Room in June and July to prepare for school programming and plan for the upcoming Cursive Sessions and Unearthed Event (image included). We still offered take away projects.
 - Continuing to partner with individuals and organizations for future installments.
 - Special Discovery Saturdays: Ninth Island Day (images below), Unearthed: Fossils of the Silver State, and Holidays Around the World.



- **Field Trips:**



This year we are seeing higher quality field trip experiences and survey results. All six thematic worksheets that guide the groups through the galleries on their field trips are aligned with the Nevada Academic Content Standards for

Image 1 – view of Hawaiian performers looking at the audience from behind.
Image 2 – View of event space filled with guests at craft tables.
Image 3 – Volunteer posed next to a banner for “Unearthed” event.

Social Sciences and Science (image of program reach is provided).

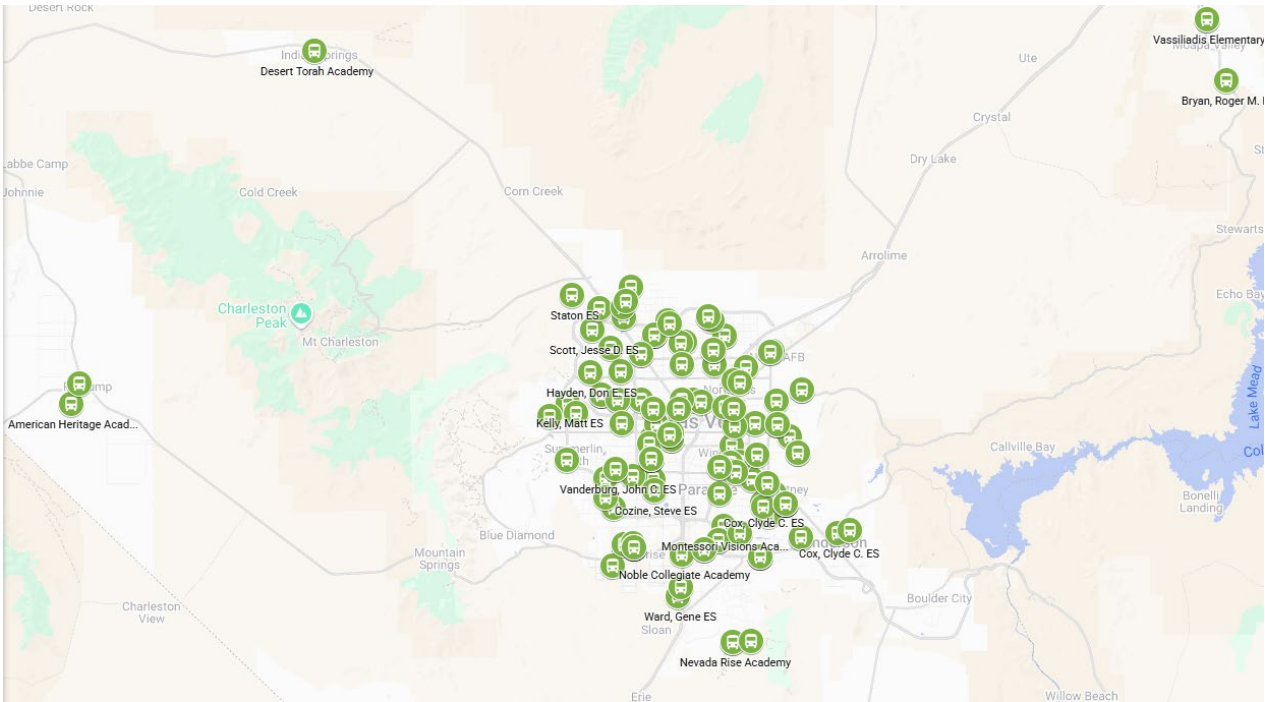


Image of a map of Clark County noting the locations of schools who visited the museum on a field trip.

Year	Month	Children	Adults	Schools	# of trips	Total	Homeschool		
	April	1,069	131	19	21	1,200	2	1	3
	May	1,213	101	8	10	1,314	2	1	3
	June								

Fiscal Year Totals: 924 adults | 7,390 children | 116 field trips from 101 schools

- Updates:
 - We are expecting field trips to be affected by Clark County’s decision to change all school start times to later in the morning for the 2026-2027 school year.
- **Museum in a Box:**
 - This program provides resources, lesson plans, tactile objects, and activities for 10 themes surrounding Nevada’s natural and cultural history across the Clark County School District. At this time there are a total of 30 boxes shared across the district during the school year (image of program reach is provided).

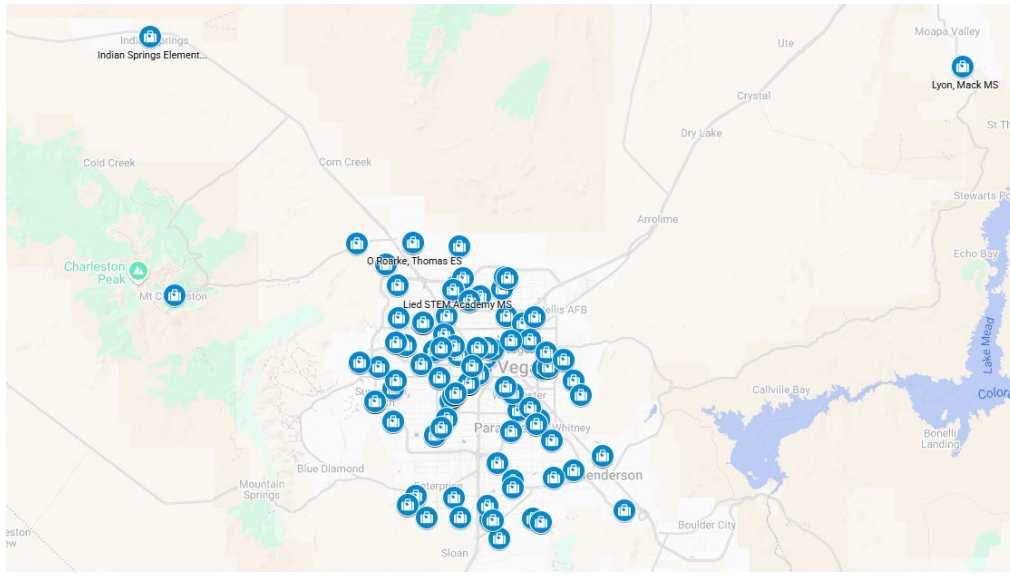


Image of a map of Clark County noting the locations of schools who have participated in the museum's Museum in a Box program.

Year	Month	Children	Adults	Schools	Bookings	Total
	March	1,765	60	18	22	1,825
	April	4,375	87	25	31	4,462
	May	1,040	15	4	6	1,055

Fiscal Year Totals: 542 adults | 22,397 children | 22,939 total attendees | 185 bookings | 131 schools

Updates:

- We expect higher use of this program in the next school year due to the change of school start times across the Clark County School District.
- Working on the creation of the Expedition Nevada Museum in a Box. This box will highlight explorers and the trails that brought people to and through what is now Nevada.
- Updating the resources and lessons in our Paleontology & Fossils Museum in a Box to better reflect Nevada's third grade curriculum.
- **Tour Programs: Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hours, Focus Fridays and Group Tours**
- The museum offers group tours and early hours for groups as a part of our Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hours for those who would be better served by experiencing the museum without the dimmed lights, sound effects, or crowds experienced during regular museum hours. This Spring, we added Focus Fridays, a program that offers a guided tour focused on a specific theme to the public.

Year	Month	Children	Adults	# of Groups	Total
	April	1	18	4	19
	May	30	3	1	33
	June	50	5	2	55

- **Focus Fridays**

4/3/2026	3	0	3	Focus Fridays: New Deal in the New West
4/17/2026	7	0	7	Focus Fridays: How Baskets Shaped the Economy of Nevada
5/1/2026	5	1	6	Focus Fridays: The Evolution of Food in Las Vegas
5/15/2026	10		10	Focus Fridays: The Story of the Ichthyosaur

Calendar Year Totals include all tours and Focus Fridays: **not all tour headcounts list ages.* 134 adults | 82 children | 216 total attendees across 13 groups

- Looking forward:
- Continue to build the Museum Guide program to better manage Focus Friday tours and Sensory-Friendly Exploration Hour visits.
- **Volunteers:**
- We are currently scheduling more volunteer events and trainings for our volunteer and Museum Guide programs.

Area		Hours
Collections	3	246.25
Education	39	1148.45
Exhibits	4	171.94
Facilities	0	0
Galleries	10	90.5
Library	9	780.18
Natural History	6	372.28
Store	1	82.33
Misc	0	0
	72	2,891.93

- **Community Engagement:**
- We regularly attend festivals and events at the locations of the community organizations we partner with. Spring can be quite busy with outreach requests, but the summer is a little slower for us.

Date	Adults	Children	TOTAL	Presentations	Event	Staff
4/11/2026	65	85	575		Ice Age Fossils State Park NV Fossil Day	Kaylie & Cassidy
4/18/2026	115	80	195		Tule Springs Junior Ranger Day	Kaylie & Alani
4/23/2026	7	80	87	4	Science and Technology in Schools: Darnell Elementary	Jordan & Kaylie
4/24/2026	12	89	101	4	CCSD: Lake Elementary Career Day	Holly & Jordan
4/28/2026	8	85	93	4	Science and Technology in Schools: Gilbert Elementary	Jordan & Cassidy
4/30/2026	4	89	93	5	CCSD: Sedway Middle Annual Future Fest	Jordan & Adrienne
April	211	508	1144	17		
5/1/2026			240		CCSD: Rose Warren Elementary Career Day	Josie & Kaylie
5/5/2026	0	0	0		Amplus Academy Sciences and Social Studies Night	Josie
5/8/2026	30	274	304	17	CCSD: Robert Lunt Career Day	Jordan & Holly
5/8/2026	50	2	52	1	Nevada Camera Club	Kassidy
5/9/2026			700		Red Rock Canyon: World Migratory Bird Day	Hollis & Adrienne
May	80	276	1296	18		
6/4/2026			248		Aviators Game	Kassidy
6/5/2026			368		Aviators Game	Holly
6/6/2026			245		Aviators Game	Adrienne
June	0	0	861	0		

Calendar Year Totals: **not all headcounts list ages* 844 adults | 1,201 children | 4,671 total attendees | 28 events | 63 presentations



Image 1 – NSMLV staff at a table with fossils during a school outreach event. Image 2 – NSMLV intern with fossils at Tule Spring’s Junior Ranger Day. Image 3 – NSMLV staff with a Mojave Max mascot during an outreach event.

Social Media:

- For the period of April 1 – June 30, 2026
- **Instagram**
- Followers: 5,368 (201 growth)
- Views: 92,750 (most on May 2nd: 3,833)
- Average Reach: 634 (most on May 1st: 2,392)

Best Performing Posts

Quickly see which 5 posts have the best engagement from the last 30 posts, in the last 3 months. ⓘ
 Follower count and engagement rate will only show for posts published through Later.

ENGAGEMENT	ENGAGEMENT	ENGAGEMENT	ENGAGEMENT	ENGAGEMENT
11.25%	11.12%	10.61%	10.50%	10.12%
LIKES34	LIKES100	LIKES13	LIKES49	LIKES25
COMMENTS-	COMMENTS22	COMMENTS-	COMMENTS-	COMMENTS-
POST CLICKS-	POST CLICKS-	POST CLICKS-	POST CLICKS-	POST CLICKS-
REPOSTS0	REPOSTS8	REPOSTS0	REPOSTS0	REPOSTS0

Image of screenshots from NSMLV best performing posts on Instagram and each post’s engagement, likes, comments, clicks and reposts data.

- **Facebook**
- Page Followers: 19,181
- Page Media Views: 287,320 (most on May 28th: 12,739)
- Reach: 213,292 (most on May 28th: 9,040)
- Page Views: 4,834 (most on May 26th: 344)
- Reactions: 544 (most on June 10th: 87)
- Engagement: 2,325 (most on June 8th: 384)

ENGAGEMENT RATE		ENGAGEMENTS	VIEWS					
6.02%		5,700	132,440					

Detailed Post Performance

LOW

PERFORMANCE

HIGH

Filters

< 1 >

Hide Columns

Export CSV

Post	Engagements	Views	Reach	Clicks	Likes	Shares	Comments
MAY 27, 2026 8:05 AM Liberace on opening night at Caesars Palace, May 27, 1971 🎤🎭...	851	19,063	13,388	476	239	29	18
JUN 11, 2026 8:00 AM Interested in learning or brushing up on reading and writing cursive? Joi...	1,220	16,297	10,460	730	277	100	21
JUN 27, 2026 8:00 AM Common Threads presents The History of Walking Box Ranch...	367	10,351	7,764	245	91	10	5
APR 14, 2026 10:17 AM Marquee sign and entrance to the Tropicana Hotel and Casino Las...	499	10,174	7,591	259	198	13	9
APR 12, 2026 12:22 PM Young woman posing in front of a	340	8,608	5,882	160	150	12	?

Image of NSMLV social media analytics for Facebook social posts.

Exhibits

Vacant, Exhibits Manager

Activities summary:

- Assisted with the National Showgirl's Day event, coordinating costume selection, mannequin dressing, and printing and mounting of text panels and labels.
- Continued to supervise the exhibits department UNLV Regent Intern and volunteers - directing their daily tasks in workshop organization, display case and platform inventory, and cataloguing.
- Managed the de-installation of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) exhibit.
- Prepared the Langston Hughes exhibit case – object selection, display layout, and building custom mounts.
- Designed and oversaw the fabrication of the museum's new donation box.
- Collaborated with our vitrine builders to repair two cracked vitrines and coordinate the construction of a new one.
- Continued to manage the departmental budget until the close of the fiscal year.

Facility Maintenance

Raul Cuellar, Facilities Supervisor

Activities summary:

- **Work Orders**
 - Open 57
 - Completed 50
 - Pending 1
- **Construction Projects**
 - Vapor Shield Installation
 - Redundant Fire Riser Compressor
 - Whole Building Water Filtration System
- **Maintenance**
 - 50 work orders completed.
 - Worked on A/V and lighting in permanent gallery.
 - Help exhibits department and wood shop.
 - Help security patrol.
- **Custodial**
 - 6 work orders completed of additional tasks.
 - Help clean exhibits department.
- **Security**
 - Assist with monthly pest control by opening rooms for technician.
 - Monthly inspections of fire extinguishers and first aid kits.
 - Assist custodial department daily.
 - Quarterly safety inspections.

Museum Store

Lara Brown, Museum Attendant

Activities summary:

- Store sales were good this quarter overall, up 5% from this quarter last fiscal year. We ended the year strong, with a total of \$98,421.99 in store sales, a 19% increase from last year and 31% above the Division's projected amount.
- Lara spent the remainder of the store's Cost of Goods Sold budget on this quarter's purchasing, ensuring that the store's inventory levels are good for the summer.
- Physical Inventory was conducted at the end of June and went well.

MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

Membership Program Narrative:

Membership this quarter continued to remain flat compared to previous quarters. We are in the process of developing an membership drive that we hope roll out in the fall.

ATTENDANCE

Museum Attendance Narrative

The museum has continued to grow in attendance. The strong marketing from DCTA as well as the Springs Preserve has driven total site attendance records. We still expect a change in attendance when the Springs closes their Origen Gallery to become an interactive Colorado River Basin space. Both museum and Springs will continue to look for all opportunities to minimize declines in visitors.

FUND RAISING

Narrative

We are exploring two grant opportunities that will help with our future exhibits.