

News Nob

Semi-annual newsletter for members of the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation



Available online at: <http://www.ntshf.org/newsnob>

Spring/Summer 2004

In This Issue...

Maltbie Begins Work.....	1
President's Corner.....	2
The Dream Realized.....	3
Director's Notes.....	4
ATM Staff.....	5
Mystery Photo.....	5
Donor Thank You.....	6
Bechtel Foundation Donation.....	6
Batter Up!.....	7
Building Opening.....	8
Ambassador Brooks' Speech.....	8
Naming Opportunities.....	10
Annual Report.....	10
ATM on KNPR's State of NV.....	11
Visit by David Samuels.....	11
I Remember...Doc Edgerton...12	
Peter Goin Exhibit.....	13
Annual Membership Meeting...14	
Election Recap.....	15
ATM Demand Study.....	15
EG&G...(Part 1 of 3).....	16
About the Author.....	17
Taps for Our Coworkers.....	20
History Walk.....	22
News Nob Brief Highlights.....	23
Calendar of Events.....	23
Women in Nuclear.....	23
Thomas C. Reed Lecture.....	23

Reminder:

THOMAS C. REED, author of "At the Abyss-An Insider's History of the Cold War," lecture and book signing on **May 18**. See page 23 for details. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

Editorial Volunteers:

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Maltbie, Inc. Begins Fabrication and Installation

With the recent presentation of a \$1.6 million purchase order to museum exhibit specialists Maltbie, Inc., the Atomic Testing Museum finalized arrangements for the fabrication and installation of a wide array of permanent exhibits.



From Left to Right: Bob Agonia, Darwin Morgan, Bill Johnson, Tom Fieger (Maltbie, Inc.), Graham Wakeford (Maltbie, Inc.), and Peter Ross

Our 8,000 square-foot gallery will be filled with unique exhibits featuring stunning graphics and incorporating theatrical devices, dramatic multimedia presentations, and "atomic pop culture" artifacts.

The museum will also feature interactive exhibits for personal exploration, exciting first-person narratives, and memoirs from on-site workers and witnesses to atomic weapons tests, both above ground and underground, as well as many seldom seen artifacts and documents. The permanent exhibits, representing an investment of more than \$4 million, have been under development since 1997 by a design team led by Andre & Knowlton Associates, an award-winning design firm based in Victoria, British Columbia.

The design team included members of the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation and scientists and administrators from the Desert Research Institute and the Department of Energy, with help from the national defense laboratories.

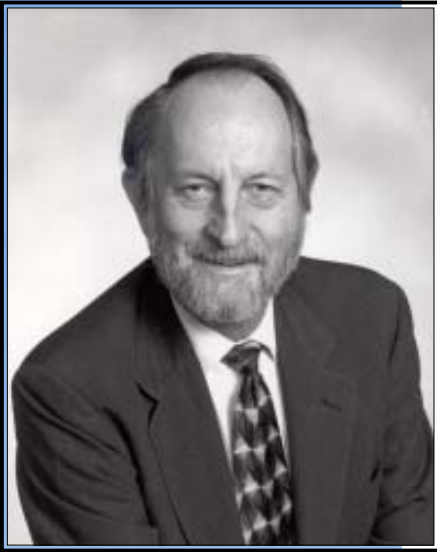
The actual exhibits will be completed and installed by New Jersey-based Maltbie, Inc., a specialist in fabricating and installing multi-faceted exhibit projects in museums and visitor centers worldwide. In business for over 40 years, Maltbie has received multiple awards from such prestigious organizations as the American Association of Museums, the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the Industrial Designer Society of America.

Along with the exhibits for the Atomic Testing Museum, Maltbie's current assignments include projects for the Smithsonian Institution's Kenneth E. Behring Hall of Mammals, the Liberty Bell Center, and the National Track and Field Hall of Fame.

Although the permanent exhibit areas of the Atomic Testing Museum will probably be open to the public in mid-December, the official grand opening, with dignitaries and a formal "ribbon cutting," will take place in February or March of 2005. Troy Wade, president/chairman of the NTSHF, said the grand opening date will be chosen in July or August as progress is measured.

President's Corner

Troy E. Wade



We have celebrated many milestones during the past few years, but none more welcome than the recent signing of the contract with Maltbie, Inc., who will shepherd our design fabrication and installation phase. With many thanks to our staff, trustees, sponsors, and the Desert Research Institute, this milestone, more than most, signals to us that the dream will, indeed, be realized. We can now announce to the world that our Grand Opening will occur within one year.

While calendar year 2003 represented a time of vigorous transition for the Foundation and the ATM, our progress toward our goal has been rapid and dramatic. We have had setbacks in every phase, and because of the combined will and dedication of a core group of individuals and sponsors,

have managed to overcome them all. The generosity of our corporate and individual sponsors has been overwhelming, and we continue to seek their support in these final critical months.

The highlight of the past year was the remarkably successful Grand Opening of DRI's Frank H. Rogers building, representing the future of the ATM. The three-day event, highlighted with keynote presentations by benefactor Jim Rogers, DOE/NNSA Administrator Ambassador Linton Brooks, and other luminaries, attracted hundreds of supporters and well-wishers. The "opening" of the Museum was a day to remember, highlighted by a public discourse between Sergei Khrushchev and Francis Gary Powers, Jr. Afterward, Dr. Khrushchev participated in a book-signing for those who attended. I heard the word "awesome" used frequently.

During the fifteen amazing months from October 2002 through the end of March 2004, we have faced many challenges and felt many anxieties. In November, we lost our new Museum Director, Art Wolf, who resigned to take on new professional challenges. Dr. William Johnson, a long-time DRI associate and colleague, agreed to assume the role of Interim Director and has done a remarkable job of leading the organization through some especially critical times. Our staff now includes several highly experienced museum professionals who view this project as a "dream of a lifetime."

Generous capital campaign donations, along with support from Congressional appropriations, have placed the Foundation and the ATM in the enviable position of being able to fund outright nearly 85 percent of the total cost of design, fabrication, and installation of the exhibits. We are proud of this accomplishment, and rightfully so. Many of our associates and colleagues who are working to build new museum concepts have not been so fortunate.

However, we also realize that the last 15 percent is the most critical. Our fund raising efforts to achieve our critical goal of a debt-free project will be our primary objective for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2004.

In this long overdue issue of the News Nob, we have created a timeline of public events which will precede the grand opening of the Atomic Testing Museum. That timeline will grow and change as the weeks and months progress, so we hope you will be able to track our progress in crafting a series of events worthy of our achievement.

As I said in the Annual Report letter, I have long considered the Foundation's ability to function as a cohesive team to be the core of our success. Credit is due to each and every one of you who have given your time, your spirit, and your resources for the good of the organization.

And, as we are saying daily, "stay tuned"the best is yet to come!

Regards,

Troy E. Wade

2004: THE YEAR WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!

February 2005

The Dream Realized!

January 2005

- Last-minute Preparations

December 2004

- David Samuels' Article on the ATM
Appears in Harper's Magazine
- Soft Opening

November 2004

- "Sneak Previews" on Local TV Stations

October 2004

- "Sneak Previews" on Local TV Stations

September 2004

- Meetings With LV Convention Authority,
North Las Vegas, Henderson, Latin Chamber
of Commerce, etc.

August 2004

- Meetings With LV Convention Authority,
North Las Vegas, Henderson, Latin Chamber
of Commerce, etc.

July 2004

- Meetings With LV Convention Authority,
North Las Vegas, Henderson, Latin Chamber
of Commerce, etc.

June 2004

- Change of Exhibits in Exhibit Hall
- Lecture and Book Signing, State Sen. Dina Titus
- 3-Day NNSA Int'l Seminar on Nonproliferation

May 2004

- May 18 - Tom Reed Book Signing and Lecture

April 2004

- Press Release: Maltbie Contract
- Meeting with the Mayor - LV Centennial
- Outreach to Local Media

March 2004

- Planning Begins
- "Women in Nuclear" Meeting

February 2004

The Final
Countdown
Begins

THE DREAM REALIZED...

A few short years ago, a small group of retired Nevada Test Site workers began discussions about how to tell the story of one of the last century's most important national defense programs. It was a dream that turned into a vision that is now being realized in bricks and mortar.

In March 2004, the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation and Desert Research Institute successfully negotiated a contract with Maltbie, Inc. to build and install the exhibits for a world-class museum, scheduled for a "soft" opening in December 2004. The official Grand Opening will occur in February or March 2005.

Troy Wade, Foundation President and Chairman, has developed a "time line" of public relations activities leading up to this momentous occasion. This is just the beginning of a detailed public relations plan that will carry us through a banner year. The **News Nob** reflects the timeline graphically in this issue and will continue to do so in future editions of the **News Nob** and the **News Nob Brief** until the conclusion of the Grand Opening activities.

The Executive Committee will provide additional details as the weeks go by through the various publications and the website.

STAY TUNED!



Director's Notes

William G. Johnson, Ph.D.

The NTS Historical Foundation just passed another milestone. On April 15, 2004, we celebrated 5 years of existence. In these short years, our membership has grown, we have a permanent home in the Desert Research Institute's Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building, our fund raising has exceeded even our wildest expectations, the design for our Atomic Testing Museum is complete, and we have issued a contract for the beginning of the fabrication and installation of our permanent exhibits! That is a lot to accomplish in only five years.

How did we do it? The answer is simple – YOU! You, the dedicated member of the NTSHF, have persistently pursued your goal of preserving Nevada's role in the Cold War. Since envisioning the concept of the Atomic Testing Museum, you have remained steadfast in addressing the challenges associated with starting with a dream and moving forward to the bricks-and-mortar reality that is the Atomic Testing Museum today. I commend you for the pride, energy and dedication you have demonstrated and for your willingness to continue to support the Foundation's vision.

The next year will continue to provide challenges, and I am honored to serve the Foundation during these exciting times. Your vision and goals have become my vision and goals, and your dreams for the future of the Atomic Testing Museum have become my dreams. Together we will serve the future of Nevada by continuing as stewards of its past.

Sincerely,

William G. Johnson, Ph.D.

Interim Director
Atomic Testing Museum

Meet the Staff

by Stacey Oien



From Left to Right: Vanya Scott, Registrar; Joyce Rogers, Administrative Assistant; Maggie Smith, Manager, Retail Operations; Bill Johnson, Atomic Testing Museum Interim Director; Loretta Helling, Curatorial Consultant; and Peggy Bostian, Campaign Coordinator

The museum staff is a team of talented and skilled individuals who provide a solid foundation on which the present and future goals of the museum can be realized. This team ensures that the Atomic Testing Museum provides an educational venue in which collections, exhibits, and programs will increase understanding of the Cold War's impact on local, national, and international communities. The staff is also responsible for encouraging membership and prevailing upon members to contribute their time, energies, and artifacts to the museum. Help the staff realize the goals of the ATM and volunteer today!

Mystery Photo

by Vanya Scott

The Atomic Testing Museum often receives photographs about which very little is known. For example, the photograph below features a group of people standing on the side of a hill overlooking a camp at the Nevada Test Site. The only man identified in the group is Dr. Reginald Gotchy, who appears in the center of the group wearing a coat and tie. From 1969-1972, during the period we believe this photo was taken, Dr. Gotchy, who passed away in 2001, was a physical scientist in the Plowshare Office, USAEC Nevada Operations Office.

If you have any additional information about this photograph, or can identify other people in it, please contact Vanya Scott at 702-794-5142 or by email at vanya.scott@dri.edu (Photograph donated by Judy Shindel).



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Museum Director

William G. Johnson, Ph.D.

Thank You to all of Our Donors for Your Contributions and Continued Support

by Joyce Rogers

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The past several months have seen a tremendous amount of activity in working toward completion of the Atomic Testing Museum, not the least of which is the continuing generosity of our donors. We want to acknowledge and thank our growing list of donors for helping us meet our obligation to preserve the Nevada Test Site's historical legacy as the center of the Cold War for more than 40 years.

Our Donors (from October 1, 2002 to Present): *AECOM Technology Corp.; Bob and Barbara Agonia; Nick and Freda Aquilina; Bechtel Foundation; Bechtel Nevada; Bechtel SAIC Company; Joseph Behne, Jr.; BWXT; Stuart C. Black; Peggy Bostian; Combined Federal Campaign;*

Charles F. Costa; DynCorp Technical Services, Inc.; William and Marilyn Flangas; Dale Fraser; Dorothy Grier; Augustine Gurrola; E. Chris Hagen; Bill Johnson and Marc Comstock; James S. Kahn; Kellogg, Brown & Root; John Kucharski; Peter Kuran/VCE, Inc.; Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory; Lockheed Martin; James E. Long; Los Alamos National Laboratory; Bill McKinnis; R.E. Miller; Bill and Mary O'Donnell; Layton and Melva O'Neill; Stanley Paher; John Pollet; Jim Rogers; Science Applications International Corp.; William J. Simone; Ted and Linda Smith; John and Joan Smits; K. Anne Street; John and Loretta Thorndal; Thorndal, Armstrong, Delk, Balkenbush & Eisinger; U.S. Bank; George Wackenhut; Wackenhut Services, Inc.; Troy and Mary Wade; Arthur H. Wolf and Holly M. Chaffee; Peter and Marie Zavattaro



Fred Tarantino presents Troy Wade with Bechtel Foundation's donation check

Bechtel Foundation donates \$300,000 for the Atomic Testing Museum

(Taken from based on the August 19, 2003, remarks of Frederick A. Tarantino, President and General Manager, Bechtel Nevada.)

significantly Nevadans, engineers, constructors, scientists, technicians, managers—were tremendous scientific and technical accomplishments, and were indispensable elements for preserving this country's freedom. And on behalf of Bechtel Foundation, we thank them for that.

“A second point I'd like to make is also about the way test site workers were and are. Many of you know I spent many years working in a great organization – the United States Army—where people's commitment, selfless service, trust and care for each other create a very powerful organization. Those same characteristics attracted me to Bechtel, and have made me very proud to be a part of it as well. When I came here I was quite pleased to learn that as I met test site people their culture had those same characteristics that made me love the Army and Bechtel. Both Bechtel and the test site have a history of tremendous accomplishments, things that have never been done before and that no one else can do. They care very deeply about national defense, care

very deeply about colleagues, about safety, they treat people with respect, trust and dignity regardless of their status or position on an organization chart. Those attitudes are precious among a team of people and they are why the test site workers had such great accomplishments, and why we in Bechtel are so proud to be a part of them and so proud they are a part of us.

“So, on behalf of Bechtel Foundation, we are delighted to be able to provide this grant to help honor the contributions of the test site and honor the people who made these contributions possible. We present this gift as both a measure of the admiration we have for you and your accomplishments, and as a measure of the gratitude for the role you played—and will continue to play—in national defense. Thank you.”

“On behalf of Bechtel Foundation, I am happy to be here today to announce the Foundation's support for the Atomic Testing Museum with a \$300,000 grant, a check for the first \$100,000 of which we are presenting today.

“As background on this grant, I'd like to say a few words on the contributions of test site workers. The United States of America is not completely perfect, but for over the last 200 years it has been the closest thing to a perfect country on this planet. Keeping it free and preserving its liberties is extremely important—it is a beacon of hope to millions of people around the earth. The activities at the test site, what the people at the test site did—the lab researchers, but most

Batter Up!

by Bill Durkee

The idea of building a softball field in Mercury came one evening in 1958. A locksmith, Vernon "Arkie" Southern and foreman Kenny Eckhoff, both REECo employees, were playing catch with some fellow workers. The thought was that if they could get permission from Superintendent Oakie Spears, enough volunteers would turn out to level a playing surface near the main gate to the Test Site, which at that time was located alongside Building 111 Mercury. The plan was to actually locate the field outside NTS boundaries so that outsiders could be invited to play while one Security Officer could be stationed at the right entrance to check badges of Test Site workers as they entered the area. In 1962, volunteers planted a grass outfield and a fine layer of dirt was spread over the infield.

Fast-pitch softball soon became king of the beautiful summer evenings in Mercury as capacity crowds came to watch games played by teams made up of employees from various work areas at the Test Site.

In 1961, NTS entered a team into the Las Vegas City League and agreed to play double-headers in Las Vegas on Friday nights. In 1962, the City League agreed to send one team to Mercury for Tuesday night games while the NTS team played a single game in town on Fridays.

With the resumption of testing in 1962 and the arrival of thousands of new workers, NTS became the dominant softball team in the state of Nevada, nicknamed the NTS Bears. The team won City and State championships ten of the next 11 years, 1962-65 and 1968-73. Since most of the players resided in Las Vegas and commuted to work at the Test Site, the Bears made the people of Southern Nevada realize

that the workers involved at the Test Site were just normal people like themselves.

In winning the Nevada State championship, the Bears became eligible to play in the ISC World Championship tournament in Rock Island, Illinois, each of their title years. Most of all travel expenses incurred by the team were borne by the players themselves. Several of the players were craftsmen and not entitled to vacation pay.

In 1962, a woman's team was formed to play on Wednesday nights. This quickly became the most popular of all ball park activities. Among the original Teddy Bears, as they were named, were Jeannie Heinz (LASL), Irene Fischer Smith (AEC), her sister Shirley Fischer (REECo), Dottie Bell and Lois Durkee, both REECo. Teams came from Las Vegas, Pahump and Beatty to play the Teddy Bears before enthusiastic crowds in Mercury.

The most memorable game ever played by the men's team came in August 1964 at the world tournament in Rock Island. After defeating Denver 1-0 in their opening game, the Bears were scheduled to play the defending world champions from Los Angeles, California. An overflow crowd of almost 10,000 fans was on hand to watch the game for two reasons: 1) the home team was

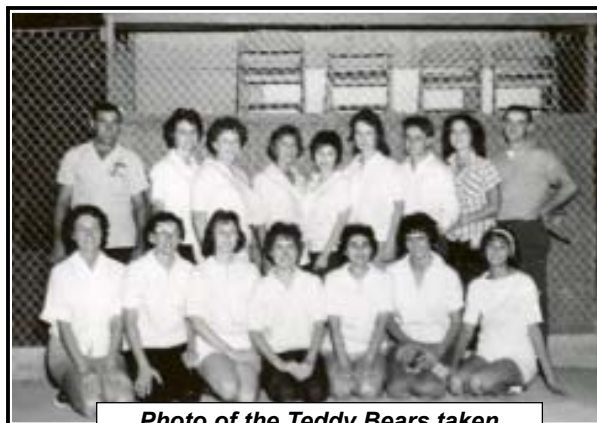


Photo of the Teddy Bears taken in 1961*



Just a little "clowning around" on the Mercury softball field

About Bill Durkee by Nick Aquilina

In Bill's earlier life he was a track and basketball star at the University of California. After serving in the service he returned to the University and was drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers in the NBA and was on the team that won the NBA Championship. The legendary first big man, George Mikan, was the leader of that team. Bill is truly a legend in Southern Nevada with sports fans.

Bill came to Las Vegas in the late 50's and soon after got a job at the NTS in the Personnel Office as head of Recreation among other duties. Bill was responsible for the wonderful recreation programs at the NTS for those people who resided full and part time at the Site. He also began organizing the many bus trips to Southern California on weekends to various sporting events. Bill has been honored many times as Mr. Softball and Mr. Softball Coach in Southern Nevada. Bill continued to participate in slow pitch softball as a player/coach until almost 70 years old. He continues to live in Las Vegas with his wife Lois.

**Front (Left to Right) Irene Thomas, Shirley Fischer, unknown, Sue Johnson, unknown, Norma Hoskins, unknown; Back (Left to Right) Coach unknown, Lois Durkee, unknown, unknown, unknown, Jeanie Heinz Bowman, unknown, unknown, Manager - Chester Ely. Please contact Vanya Scott at 794-5142 if you can identify any of the "unknown" Teddy Bears.*

(Batter Up! continued on page 19)

Grand Opening Events Mark Completion of Frank H. Rogers Building

by Linda Smith

On October 3, 2003, the Desert Research Institute's new Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building officially opened, followed by a series of successful grand opening events recognizing this momentous achievement.

The facility, a state-of-the-art research structure, represents the unique partnership among DRI, the NTS Historical Foundation, the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration's Nevada Site Office, and Bechtel Nevada, NNSA/NSO's management and operating contractor. The Atomic Testing Museum, now scheduled for completion in December 2004, will be located in the Rogers facility.

The October 3 building dedication ceremony was hosted by DRI President Stephen G. Wells and NTSHF Board Chairman and President Troy Wade. Featured speakers included Governor Kenny C. Guinn; Jim Rogers, President of Sunbelt Communications and son of Frank H. Rogers, for whom the

building is named; General John A. Gordon, Homeland Security Advisor to the President of the United States; Ambassador Linton Brooks, U.S. Undersecretary of Energy and Administrator of NNSA; and Dr. Stavros Anthony, chair of the University and Community College System of the Nevada Board of Regents. *(Excerpts from Ambassador Brooks' speech follow this article).*

On Saturday, October 4, the NTS Historical Foundation took a giant step forward toward the completion of its Atomic Testing Museum. For the first time, the public was invited to see a display of temporary exhibits in the new Rogers building, providing a preview of coming attractions to a large number of supporters, news media representatives, and the public.

The opening day festivities included the display of a "Cold War sampler" in the Museum's Changing Exhibit Hall, featuring memorabilia about Francis Gary Powers and the U-2 spy plane program; a propeller from

the transport plane that crashed on Mount Charleston in 1955, killing 14 people; and recently unearthed equipment and recording instruments from the 1957 Fizeau nuclear bomb test in Nevada.

The highlight of the opening day festivities was the presentation of a Cold War conversation between Francis Gary Powers, Jr., son of the famous U-2 pilot, and Sergei Khrushchev, son of former Soviet Prime Minister Nikita Khrushchev. Each told his respective version of events surrounding the U-2 incident and other significant Cold War events. The discussion was moderated by Ambassador Bill Courtney, who served in the USSR during the Cold War and was personally familiar with the events being discussed.

Other exciting events included the Nevada premiere of producer Jim Thebaut's documentary, "The Cold War and Beyond," which focuses on the nuclear arms race from 1945 to 1991. The NTSHF is a co-sponsor of the film's production.



*Ambassador Brooks
pictured on left with
Dr. Stephen Wells and Troy Wade*

HIGHLIGHT: Excerpts of Ambassador Brooks' Speech

"Good evening and thank you for inviting me to join you tonight. We're here for a number of reasons. We're here to recognize the generosity of those who have made the Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building and the National Atomic Testing History Museum possible. We're here to honor the vision and the leadership of people like Steve Wells and my long-time colleague Troy Wade who saw the need...

"But I think we are here for another reason. This is a dinner to help—belatedly—celebrate a victory in America's longest war, a Cold War with no defined start or end, no front lines, no declaration of war, and no victory parades. It is a war that was won, in part, in the desert of Nevada some 65 miles from where we sit tonight at the site whose legacy you are trying to preserve. Tonight I'd

like to talk about that war and the part the Nevada Test Site played in winning it...

"The Cold War became more than a slogan when a barbed wire fence and later a wall divided a city, imprisoned its people, and became the embodiment of the Cold War..."

"The most frightening symbol, however, was nuclear confrontation, which reached its peak 41 years ago this month. At 8:45 a.m., October 16, 1962, President John F. Kennedy received an assessment from the Central Intelligence Agency that Soviet missiles were in Cuba. The President went before the American people and said, 'I call upon Chairman Khrushchev to halt and



Ambassador Brooks speaks to a captivated audience

eliminate this clandestine, reckless and provocative threat to world peace, and to stable relations between our two nations. He has the opportunity now to move the world back from the abyss of destruction...'

“The Cold War continued. It became an integral part of who we were as a people. And then, in a three-year frenzy it ended...”

“In December 1988, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met with the first Present George Bush and outgoing President Ronald Reagan to discuss improved relations and bringing an end to the Cold War. Soon afterwards, Gorbachev told the peoples of Eastern Europe they had the right to choose their own future. The Polish Communist government began talks on how to shift to democracy. Other states followed. And then came the historical moment that many see as the true end of the Cold War and the Iron Curtain...

“Why was it only a Cold War? Why, when the West was faced with an expansionist power with a messianic ideology did global war never break out? Because the American nuclear deterrent made global war unthinkable...

“That deterrent was tested and honed a few miles north of here, starting before dawn on January 27, 1951, when a B-50 bomber dropped the first of the hundreds of weapons to be tested at the Nevada Test Site.

“From that day on, America’s arsenal was tested here in Nevada. New concepts in tactical weapons, weapons for submarine launch, thermonuclear weapons, all were tested here. At Nevada, deep in tunnels, complex effects tests took place to help us understand the effect of nuclear explosions on our own military systems. At Nevada we tested modern safety and security systems that helped ensure the reliability, safety, and security of the deterrent. Year after year, America needed to be certain the deterrent was effective, and year after year the Nevada Test Site was there...”

“...Late in the Eisenhower years, a brief moment of euphoria resulted in a three-year moratorium on nuclear testing. The Nevada Test Site severely reduced its employment levels and appeared to have an uncertain future. But when the Soviets broke the moratorium, NTS responded and was ready.

“In 1988, the United States and the Soviet Union reached an historic but little known agreement. They agreed to conduct joint nuclear tests in each other’s country. On August 17, 1988, at the Nevada Test Site, Soviet scientists were present for the

(HIGHLIGHT continued on page 19)



Ambassador Linton F. Brooks, Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration/Undersecretary of Energy for Nuclear Security

About Ambassador Linton F. Brooks

Ambassador Linton F. Brooks was sworn in as Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security/ Administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) in May 2003, following nomination by President Bush and confirmation by the Senate. Prior to his appointment, he served as Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, a post he assumed in October 2001.

Ambassador Brooks has over four decades of experience in national security, much of it associated with nuclear weapons. As a career Navy officer, he deployed on four nuclear-equipped ships, serving as Weapons, Executive and Commanding Officer. For eight years prior to joining the current administration, Ambassador Brooks served as Vice President at the Center for Naval Analyses (CAN), where he directed research and analysis of issues of national importance. He also has extensive arms control experience. During the administration of George H.W. Bush, he served as Assistant Director for Strategic and Nuclear Affairs at the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and in the State Department as Head of the U.S. Delegation on Nuclear and Space Talks and Chief Strategic Arms Reductions (START) Negotiator. In this latter capacity, he was responsible for final preparation of the START I Treaty, signed by [the first] Presidents Bush and Gorbachev in Moscow in July 1991.

Ambassador Brooks holds a B.S. in physics from Duke University where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and an M.A. in government and politics from the University of Maryland. He is a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Navy War College and has published a number of prize-winning articles on naval and nuclear strategy.



A second edition of the Naming Opportunities booklet is already underway.

Naming Opportunities

by Peggy Bostian

Peggy Bostian and Bill Johnson, with input from a number of sources including members of the Board of Trustees, worked diligently to pinpoint a number of venues and artifacts within the Atomic Testing Museum to be considered potential “naming opportunities.” The resulting Naming Opportunities full-color booklet describes some fifty selections from which potential donors can choose - \$500,000, \$250,000, \$100,000, \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000. For example, the Ground Zero Theater is in the \$500,000 category and a video spin browser to be located in the Herbert E. Grier Scientific Discovery and Innovation Gallery is a \$10,000 naming opportunity.

Several venues have already been named by benefactors George R. Wackenhut, for the Guard Station at the entrance to the museum, Dorothy J. Grier in the name of her late husband Herbert E. Grier for the Scientific Discovery and Innovation Gallery, and Bill and Mary O’Donnell for the Innovators Gallery named in honor of Bill’s father, Alfred O’Donnell. The Stewards of the Land Gallery 1 was funded by the Bechtel Foundation, Lockheed Martin sponsored the Entry Gallery, and the Control Point 1 in the Underground Testing Gallery was named in honor of Troy E. Wade.

Foundation Publishes Annual Report Documenting Accomplishments

by Linda Smith

The Foundation’s Annual Report, documenting the organization’s accomplishments from October 2002 through December 2003, was mailed to the membership in March 2004.

The past year was marked by many changes, and the “path forward” to the opening of the Atomic Testing Museum was symbolized by the new History Walk, constructed of memorial bricks purchased by those who commemorate former NTS employees and businesses.

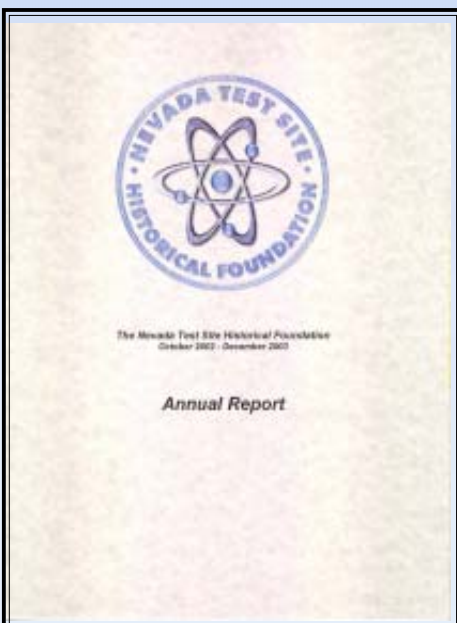
new Frank H. Rogers building; the continuation of sales through the Traveling Gift Shop; and an increasingly vibrant membership and volunteer support base.

A continuation of the DOE grant brought the amount received through CY 2003 to \$1.5 million in Federal Appropriations from the Senate Energy and Water Subcommittee (Senator Harry Reid). In addition, significant donations and pledges from several corporations and individuals, including Bechtel and the Bechtel Foundation; Wackenhut Services, Inc; Lockheed Martin; SAIC; DynCorp Technical Services; Kellogg, Brown & Root; LLNL and LANL; Bill and Mary O’Donnell; Dale Fraser; Troy and Mary Wade; and many others complemented the major donors of the previous year to make the ATM exhibit design and fabrication phase a reality.

The Annual Report also provides the membership with a detailed financial statement, comparing the FY 2003 budget with actual expenditures, and providing a realistic FY 2004 budget. The narrative emphasizes that while the Foundation has raised an impressive 85 percent of the funds needed to complete a world-class ATM, the challenge in the next few months is to renew and redouble our efforts to find corporate and individual sponsors for the remaining 15 percent. We are happy to report that the FY 2004 Federal grant from DOE’s NNSA/NSO is being finalized [and was awarded after publication of the report] ... and we are also looking forward to another similar federal grant in FY 2005. We cannot now assure the membership that the FY 2005 grant will come to fruition; therefore, we must concentrate on private sponsorships and donations to complete the project.

In addition to the major focus of the ATM staff on the Grand Opening of the ATM, many other activities are highlighted in the report, including the Foundation’s involvement in a UNLV Oral History Project; the opening of the Museum Store in the

The Chairman, the Board and the Executive Committee are now focused heavily upon this fund raising to see the vision realized.



A Recap of NTSHF Representatives LIVE on KNPR

by Stacey Oien

On December 30, 2003, KNPR's Senior Producer, Gwen Castaldi, took a look at the Atomic Testing Museum during her show, State of Nevada.

State Senator Dina Titus was interviewed regarding her book, ***Bombs in the Back Yard***. Originally written in 1986, Senator Titus has since developed an addendum to the text and a second edition was printed in 2002. The NTSHF will host a lecture and book signing with Senator Titus in June 2004. The interview also covered her role at the Atomic Testing Museum. Senator Titus is an advocate of the Museum as she believes "information is the key," and all of the Cold War history at the Nevada Test Site will be available in this location for future generations to study.

Former Nevada Test Site employee and current NTS Historical Foundation volunteer, Layton O'Neill, also provided an interesting look into life as a NTS worker. Mr. O'Neill started working at the NTS for the U.S. Public Health Service as an offsite radiation monitor in 1958. From the late 60s, Mr. O'Neill worked in Radiation Safety monitoring test site workers. He found his years at the Nevada Test Site to be a "fantastic learning experience."

During the latter part of the show, Ms. Castaldi hosted a discussion with Nick Aquilina, Troy Wade, and Bill Johnson covering the inception of the Atomic Testing Museum and the number of artifacts currently available for the public to peruse at the Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building. The group touched on the history of the Nevada Test Site as it relates to international events as well as the effect it has had on the growth and population of Las Vegas. The trio shared with Ms. Castaldi and her audience advancements made at the test site and the archaeological record of these developments, some of which are available through the NTS Historical Foundation.

Along with advancements in areas relating to scientific and/or military applications, great strides were made in drilling and mining techniques at the test site, innovations that are used today the world over.

The overall program lasts approximately 50-minutes and is well-worth the time to listen.

You can visit the KNPR State of Nevada Program Archives at:
<http://www.knpr.org/son/archivedetail.cfm?ProgramID=57>

There is also a link available through the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation website <http://www.nts hf.org>

"The [Nevada] Test Site was really one of the battle grounds of the Cold War... and ...the nuclear deterrent that ultimately won the Cold War and protects this nation today was developed at the Nevada Test Site...."

Troy Wade

Atomic Testing Museum to Appear in *Harper's*

by Joyce Rogers

Courtesy of David Samuels

The NTSHF recently hosted a visit by David Samuels, a writer with *The New Yorker* and *Harper's*. To gather information for an article on the Test Site that will appear in *Harper's*, Mr. Samuels spent two days at the site and interviewed, over a two-week period, many people who were involved with the building and testing of the bombs at the NTS. Mr. Samuels said in his introductory communication to Troy Wade, "I have developed a tremendous amount of respect for the men who worked out in the desert. I think they are the architects of the umbrella that successfully protected us during the Cold War, our equivalent of the stonemasons who built the great cathedrals of Europe."

Mr. Samuels was recently named one of the ten top nonfiction writers under thirty-five by *The Columbia Journalism Review*, and we look forward to reading his article which should come out at about the same time the Museum is scheduled for completion.

I Remember...Harold Eugene "DOC" Edgerton

By Charles D. "Bama" McKnight



Photograph of "Doc" courtesy of the BN RSL Photo Lab archives

The late Harold "Doc" Edgerton, founder of Edgerton, Germeshausen & Grier (now known as EG&G), is a legend in the scientific world. A famous inventor, engineer and teacher, he is memorialized at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for many discoveries, most notably high-speed flash photography. In Aurora, Nebraska, where he grew up, the Edgerton Explorit Center carries on his legacy with exciting experiences for hands-on science learning - www.destinationets.com. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Museum has a permanent display of Doc's photos, as well as a current Traveling Exhibit featuring some of his famous work. The link to the website is: <http://web.mit.edu/museum/exhibitions/traveling-exhibitions.html>

I've been fortunate enough in my lifetime to meet many celebrities, but few stand out as awesome as "Doc" Edgerton.

The company I worked for, Reynolds Electrical & Engineering Company (REECo), was owned by a larger corporation named Edgerton, Germeshausen & Grier, or EG&G, for short. The names are from the men who started the company, and it's appropriate that the first name reflects the image of "Doc" Edgerton. "Doc," as he was affectionately known, was an inventor, engineer and teacher "extraordinaire." He is responsible for many discoveries that benefit mankind, the most famous being high-speed flash photography. His work is illustrated in worldwide photos of bullets piercing playing cards and light bulbs, as well as the "crown" created by a drop of milk on impact.

In my profession as an instructor, I was privileged to participate in several programs directed toward high school science students to encourage their interest in science professions. I was usually used as a prelude to a featured speaker, and one of these annual programs featured "Doc" Edgerton. The program was scheduled to start at 8:00 a.m., so I wanted to get set up with my equipment long before the arrival of "Doc" and his entourage. I thought that 7:15 a.m. would give me plenty of time, but as I arrived, I was preceded by a little gray-haired man carrying about three canvas bags in both arms – ALONE. He was 79 years old at the time. In his bags, I found out later, were his own strobe light, a bottle of water with fluorescent dye, and a pulsating water pump with controls, for his demonstration of strobe-light capability to stop, apparently, motion.

He was such a humble and unassuming human being that he seemed to take no credit for his discoveries or inventions. He

attributed it to "luck" that just happened during his thousands of efforts, and he constantly asked, "Isn't that simple?"

His entire audience and I were enthralled by his demonstrations, and at the end, I was captivated by a moment that I find difficult to describe. It was almost like an event filmed in slow motion for emphasis, and I am at a loss for single words that describe the compression of the events. Tiny "flash" cameras were taking pictures of "Doc," and the connection of those inexpensive cameras with the man who was responsible for the miracle and the subject of the pictures, is like a frozen montage of scientific achievement that couldn't have been done better by Michelangelo.



Doc autographing "apple" postcards for EG&G employees (Photograph courtesy of the BN RSL Photo Lab archives)

*To learn more about "Doc" Edgerton, read "EG&G: Historic Involvement in the Nuclear Weapons Program," authored by NTSHF Trustee Peter Zavattaro (highlighted in this edition of the **News Nob.**)*

Exhibit Hall Hosts Works by

PETER GOIN

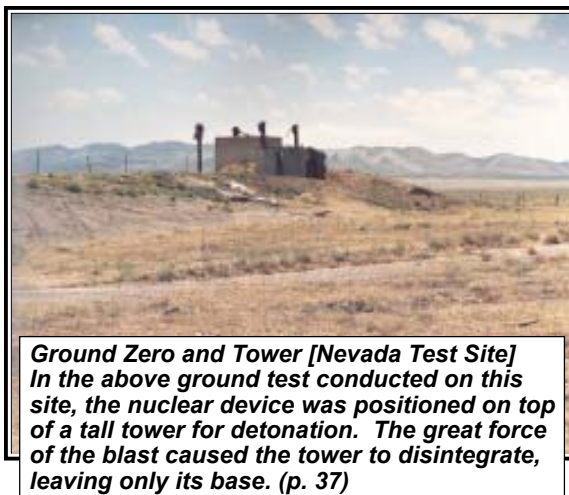
by Stacey Oien

A new exhibit is scheduled for installation later this summer in the Atomic Testing Museum's Exhibit Hall. The photographs included in this show are among the many accomplishments of Peter Goin, Professor of Art in photography and video at the University of Nevada, Reno. This exhibition, aptly titled **Nuclear Landscapes**, includes elements of a text by the same name created by Goin and published in 1991.

In **Nuclear Landscapes**, Peter Goin examines the effect testing has had on the physical as well as the aesthetic appearance of the landscape on which atomic tests were conducted. He focuses on the Nevada Test Site, the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, and Bikini and Enewetak Atolls. The exhibit will include Goin's imagery taken at various venues allowing the audience a glimpse at a variety of nuclear installations and the impact testing has made on each site.

In an interview for this article, Peter Goin reflects on why he was drawn to create **Nuclear Landscapes**. The answer is simply to address the question, "what effect does the nuclear testing program have on the landscape?" That is not to say he focused solely on introducing

images of subsidence craters or devastated structures. Rather, his intent, through the art of photography, was to provide a "greater understanding" (both to himself and his audiences, current and future) of how one event or series of events could drastically change the way we perceive the world around us. "Using the visual



Ground Zero and Tower [Nevada Test Site]
In the above ground test conducted on this site, the nuclear device was positioned on top of a tall tower for detonation. The great force of the blast caused the tower to disintegrate, leaving only its base. (p. 37)

language of photography to articulate [his] ideas" allows Goin the ability to present a glimpse of the impact radiation has had on Nevada's desert landscape as well as the impact felt on the white sandy beaches of the South Pacific atolls. He examined the wounds inflicted upon the alluvium by explosions and cratering. His photographs allow for later examination of the results of testing. He allows his audience a view into a world seldom seen by "outsiders," showing vast and altered expanses. Goin has immortalized the images of "nuclear lands" through his interpretive illustrations.

Nuclear Reactors D and DR [Hanford, Washington Site]
These reactors are now decommissioned. D Reactor was one of the three original reactors built between 1943 and 1945. The R in DR stands for "replacement." The yellow posts identify buried radioactive waste and potential surface contamination. (p. 77)



(PETER GOIN Exhibit continued on page 18)



photograph by Stephen R. Davis

"Using the visual language of photography to articulate ideas."
Peter Goin

About Peter Goin

Peter Goin has been studying the evolving landscape for more than twenty-five years. In October 1987, he published a major photographic survey of the Mexican-American border entitled **Tracing the Line**. The text prompted dialogue on how our landscape is often impacted by elements that are generated by social consequence rather than physical boundaries. Since that time he has authored and co-authored seven other texts, including **Nuclear Landscapes**. He has also served as editor on several books, and has authored countless articles. Work by Peter Goin has been published in environmental design, art, and architecture journals, including *Landscape*, *Artspace*, *Oz*, *Space and Society*, and *Triglyph*, to name a few.

Peter has received numerous awards, grants, and support for his contributions to the Arts. Among them are two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships and the Governor's Millennium Award for Excellence in the Arts.

His photographs have been exhibited in more than fifty national and international museums. Peter's video work has earned him an EMMY nomination.

He lives with his family in Reno, Nevada.

Fifth Annual Membership Meeting

by Linda Smith

Over 100 members and guests of the NTS Historical Foundation attended the fifth annual membership meeting on November 5, 2003, hosted in the new Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building.

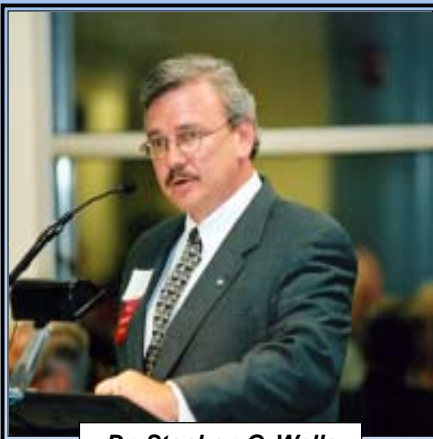
“It would have been hard to imagine five years ago, when this all started, that we would actually be here, hosting this meeting in the building which will house the Atomic Testing Museum,” remarked NTSHF President Troy Wade.



Troy makes a toast to the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation members

The meeting was opened by President Troy Wade, and the presentation of colors featured Boy Scout Troop 120. Trustee Layton O'Neill led the Pledge of Allegiance. Father Bob Nelson, an Episcopal lay priest and former Manager of the DOE's Nevada office, offered the invocation and benediction. Wade also presented highlights of the Foundation's activities for the previous year.

They were also able to visit the Exhibit Hall, featuring a “Cold War Sampler.” This display highlights memorabilia from Francis Gary Powers, the famous U-2 pilot who was shot down over the USSR in 1959, as well as other Cold War exhibits.



Dr. Stephen G. Wells

The evening's keynote address was provided by Dr. John C. Hopkins, retired Associate Director for Weapons, Los Alamos National Laboratory, on the subject of the role of nuclear weapons in ending World War II. His research in this area has provided a wealth of information on the events and circumstances surrounding this controversial topic. A question-and-answer session followed his presentation.

Dr. Stephen G. Wells, President of the Desert Research Institute (DRI), provided an update of DRI's current activities, and Dr. David Shafer presented information on DRI's Center for Environmental Remediation and Monitoring.

Members were provided the opportunity to tour the museum area, which is now ready for the next phases of the project, the fabrication and installation of exhibits.



Dr. John C. Hopkins
(photograph courtesy of Anna Hopkins-Arnold)

Recap of the Board of Trustees Election

by Linda Smith

Members of the Board of Trustees whose terms expired in October 2003 were offered among a slate of candidates for election at the Fifth Annual Membership meeting, held in November 2003. In addition, the slate included those individuals who had been nominated by the general membership, as reported by the Nominating Committee, for new Trustee positions. In accordance with the Foundation's bylaws, approximately one-third of the members of the current Board of Trustees are to be presented to the membership for election or re-election annually.

Nominations from the general membership were solicited by mail in October 2003. The election was held at the conclusion of the annual meeting, and the nomination slate was unanimously approved by voice vote.

New Board of Trustee members who were elected to serve from November 2003-October 2006 include:

James E. Long, President & CEO,
Wackenhut Services, Inc.

John Mitchell, President,
Bechtel-SAIC

William O'Donnell, former State
Senator and Las Vegas real estate
executive

Robert Stoldal, Vice President of
News Operations, KLAS-TV

In addition, Trustee Ginger Swartz,
who was on a leave of absence
from the Board, has returned as an
active Board member.

The following Trustees were re-elected to serve a three-year term, beginning November 2003:

*Donald Calfee
William G. Flangas
Robert Nard
Layton O'Neill
Grace M. Plummer
K. Anne Street
William D. Tomany
Ernest B. Williams
Donald T. Wruble*

University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Center for Business and Economic Research Complete ATM Demand Study

by Linda Smith

In September 2003, Mary Riddel and R. Keith Schwer, from the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV) Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER), completed the "Atomic Testing Museum Demand Study." It was good news for the Foundation!

The study summarized results of two marketing surveys focused on estimating the willingness of Southern Nevada residents and visitors to pay an admission fee to the Museum and to purchase merchandise in the Museum Store.

Based on survey information and related museum case-study information, CBER estimates potential Museum visitation numbers to be in the range of 800,000 to 900,000 people annually, or 67,000 to 75,000 monthly.

Potential Museum Store revenues were estimated to be in the range of \$10 million to \$11.5 million annually.

According to Riddel and Schwer, because the Las Vegas tourist economy is extremely competitive, actual attendance and revenue numbers will be largely dependent on ATM advertising and marketing expenditures during any given year.

While the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees welcome this news, they also believe it is important to "temper" the expectations, recognizing that a number of factors could affect visitation numbers. Therefore, the planning figures for purposes of estimating income are much lower. Nonetheless, with the Museum's close proximity to the Las Vegas Strip, expectations remain high that the ATM will be a popular attraction.

EG&G: Historic Involvement in the Nuclear Weapons Program

THE BEGINNING

by Peter Zavattaro

PREFACE

*The story about EG&G Inc. is compiled from a variety of sources, principally EG&G newsletters and articles dating back to 1956. Two books provided a lot of specific information about the earliest years, a book by Barney O'Keefe, **The Nuclear Hostages** written in 1983, and "An Account of the Return to Testing by the United States after the Test Moratorium" (unclassified version) by William Ogle, published in 1986. There are also my own recollections and contributions of many of my colleagues from EG&G, the Department of Energy, and the National Weapons Laboratories. For brevity, I've limited the story mainly to the Weapons Test Program and other Nevada programs with excursions into EG&G Corporate for continuity. The early years of the company's history are inextricable from the histories of the laboratories and the AEC and there are stories from every event and field trip. A few are included in this brief history.*

Peter Zavattaro, General Manager, EG&G Energy Measurements, Inc. (1983-1996)

*Starting with this issue of the **News Nob**, excerpts from the booklet's first chapter, "The Beginning" will be serialized.*

Dr. Harold Edgerton, a young Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Instructor, was interested in developing stop motion techniques to study rotating machinery. He first made "time stand still" while still a graduate student in 1927. Stop motion was achieved using a mercury arc rectifier that produced a flash of light synchronized with the speed of the motor under study. In 1931, he partnered with Kenneth Germeshausen, one of his graduate students. Through their collaboration, the xenon flash tube, invented by Germeshausen, was further developed for use in stroboscopic applications. The xenon flash tube was much brighter and easier to use, resulting in the ideal vehicle to pursue Edgerton's interest. Three years later, Herbert E. Grier, also one of Edgerton's graduate students, joined the partnership to organize the experimental systems related to the strobe work. The partnership did extensive research in strobe flash photography and worked to develop the electronic flash or strobe into products. The three never had a written agreement, nor was there any specific point at which the partnership was formed. They simply pooled their resources and worked together on whatever consulting or measurement problem came along.

a product that was marketed through Eastman Kodak.

During the war, stroboscopic techniques were developed and used for night aerial photography as an alternative to flares. The partnership built and demonstrated airborne systems for military use that were flown for many important missions in Europe and the Pacific during the war. But the war effort completely and permanently changed the direction of the partnership. While Doc Edgerton concentrated on night aerial flash photography, Germeshausen joined the MIT Radiation Laboratory to work on radar transmitters, and Grier worked with the Draper Laboratory in the Instrumentation Lab, which eventually became the connection to the Manhattan Project.

Though not a member of the original partnership, the fourth person that significantly affected the course of the company was Bernard (Barney) J. O'Keefe. Barney O'Keefe was an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve. With an engineering background and interest in radar, he hoped to be attached to the Naval Reserve Laboratory in the Washington, D.C., area. Instead, he was given new orders, sending him to Santa Fe, New Mexico, as part of Engineering "Project Y." Barney O'Keefe thus became involved with the Manhattan Project in its early phases. He worked on firing systems and later participated in the development of the weapons from Tinian Island that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. After the war, he was with one of the first engineering teams to go into Japan and continued with a long career in nuclear weapons testing.

Although O'Keefe's original assignment was to work on the arming radars located in the tail of the nuclear weapon, he became interested in the technical problems of the design of the detonator firing unit for the implosion device. To pursue this interest, he managed to get transferred to the firing group,

One of their first designs to become a product was the Strobotac, licensed to General Radio Company. The Strobotac was a small, portable strobe unit with an adjustable pulse rate. By shining the Strobotac on a rotating object and matching the pulse rate to the speed, stop motion was achieved. In 1940,

they produced the first portable flash unit for news photographers,



An early photo of the founders, from left to right, Grier, Edgerton, and Germeshausen

X-5 in the Explosives Division at Los Alamos. Since the time was so short for the design and production of the firing sets at Los Alamos, the procurement people set out to find an existing factory they could commandeer. They found a Raytheon factory in Boston, Massachusetts, that was assembling night aerial photography systems for the partnership under Herb Grier's supervision. The experience of Grier's group with large electrical capacitor banks used in these airborne flash systems was just what was needed for producing the electrical detonating system of the nuclear implosion weapon. Herb Grier's contribution was the actual design and construction of the firing sets for the Fat Man weapon...**TO BE CONTINUED**

The second installment will be available in the next issue of the News Nob.



Wartime picture of O'Keefe (circled just right of center)

Zavattaro has donated this booklet to the NTS Historical Foundation to help raise funds for the Atomic Testing Museum. The book is available for purchase through the Museum Store with all proceeds generously donated by Peter to the Foundation.

About the Author

Peter Zavattaro

Peter is currently splitting his time between Las Vegas, Nevada, and Santa Fe, New Mexico, trying to miss the worst of the summer heat.

In addition to being active with the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation, he is also involved with the Clark County [Nevada] Desert Wetlands Park. As a trustee and officer of a non-profit Friends organization, Peter has written and has been awarded grants for trail construction in the park. These activities revolve around a regular golf schedule with Nick Aquilina and a few other retirees.

While in Santa Fe, Peter is adding on to a house he built for his daughter, does a little gardening, and is involved with the Santa Fe Botanical Society, helping with a wetlands project near Santa Fe.

As the inventory of the first printing of **EG&G: Historic Involvement in the Nuclear Weapons Program** is dwindling, Peter is updating and adding to the text for a second printing.



Peter Zavattaro (on left) pictured with the Founders during an Annual Meeting of the Corporation in the 1980s

PETER GOIN Exhibit *(continued from page 13)*



"Doom Town" House [Nevada Test Site]
This building was part of a "doom town," consisting of houses, office buildings, fallout shelters, power systems, communications equipment, a radio broadcasting station, and trailer homes. This house was 7,500 feet from ground zero. In a test called "Apple II," fired on 5 May 1955, the entire foundation shifted from the force of the 29-kiloton blast. The house has been partially restored to document the historical importance of the above-ground testing period. (p. 49)

Peter Goin's work is an artistic expression of the impact that historic events, in this case nuclear testing, have had on our social as well as physical landscape. These images are not merely a reflection of the past but Goin's legacy to future generations, allowing them to consider the results of nuclear testing and its impact on shaping our future landscapes. "The photographs...provide visual evidence of these nuclear lands, and readers can make their own informed decisions

about the effects of the nuclear testing program upon the landscape, and about the wisdom of our actions."

Nuclear Landscapes is one man's vision on how to best articulate, through his art, our Cold War experiences. To educate the public with raw imagery, "in fact, celebrating the beauty of these landscapes contradicts the subject and intent of the project. In contemporary landscape photography, there is a critical dialogue that centers on how photographers will address the role of beauty. How does a photographer convey content and still make the photograph appealing to the eye... Formal beauty can be a contradictory element in a photograph that comments critically on land use and land

management.... This issue is central to the originality of this project."

"These photographs are the product of a rare opportunity to photograph within the nuclear lands. The artifacts and sites throughout these nuclear lands represent icons in the range of myth and political ritual surrounding the nuclear age..."

The context of this exhibit is sure to provide visitors a unique perspective of the nuclear testing sites through the lens of a 4x5 camera and a man in search of the effects of nuclear testing on our social and environmental landscapes.

Although, **Nuclear Landscapes** is currently out of print, Goin hopes to generate a second publishing which will include an epilogue noting environmental changes that have occurred to the Hanford site in Washington State since release of the original text.

Along with the Peter Goin exhibit, the Exhibit Hall will showcase items previously displayed at the National Nuclear Security Administration's History Center.

Nuclear Bunker
The University of California Radiation Laboratory photo station bunker was constructed for Operation Castle (1954) on Aerkijal Island, Bikini Atoll. Note the six cement support housings for the heavy-duty steel* beams used to brace the bunker against the force of the nuclear blast. The bunker withstood the blast, and the beams were later removed. (p. 109)*

*In actuality, these structures were concrete and steel.



All photographs and captions for this article have been contributed courtesy of Peter Goin. Page numbers referenced in captions indicate location in the text, Nuclear Landscape

HIGHLIGHT *(continued from page 9)*

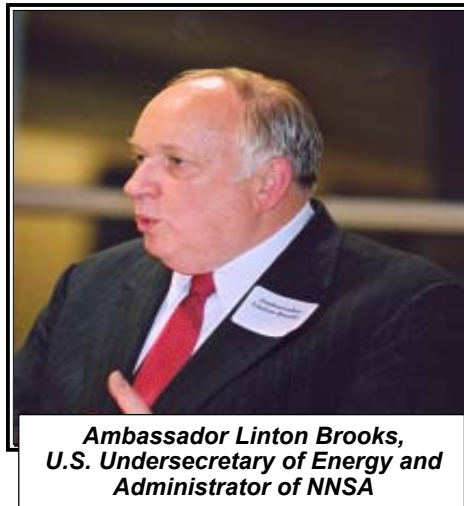
first Joint Verification Experiment called Kearsarge. On September 14, 1988, at the Semipalatinsk Test Site American scientists were present for the second Joint Verification Experiment called Shagan...

"These joint experiments were a prelude to the signing of verification protocols to the treaty of Limitation of Underground Nuclear Weapon Tests and the Underground Nuclear Explosions for Peaceful Purposes treaty. Their more important result, however, was to establish a precedent for scientific cooperation between weapons laboratories that lives on in the Cooperative Threat Reduction program and the various DOE/NNSA threat reduction programs in Russia. They thus set the stage for the important work we are doing today..."

"On September 23, 1992, the last underground test took place in Nevada. Of the 1054 American nuclear tests, almost 90 percent had taken place at the Test Site. Since 1992 the United States – and the Russian Federation – have observed a moratorium on testing. We don't know how long this moratorium will last. The Administration seeks to maintain a readiness to resume underground testing within 18 months. We do this not because we seek to develop new weapons, but because we want to be ready to deal with problems in important elements of the stockpile..."

"Here [the Nevada Test Site] is where the Cold War was fought. Here...officials, with the acquiescence and sacrifice of a local population willing and even eager to do its part, conducted some of the most spectacular...important, and potentially hazardous experiments ever seen...by humankind. The Nevada Test Site...stands as a monument to what they did and how they made the world as we know it today..."

"This museum will provide the world some glimpse of an important element of the effort that many dedicated Americans gave to maintain nuclear deterrence during a time of this country's Cold War history. It will ensure that we don't forget those dedicated men and women who helped win the Cold War. On behalf of the Department of Energy, of the Administration, of the nation and of generations unborn who will visit this museum and learn of an important part of their legacy, I salute those of you who have worked so hard to make this day possible."



**Ambassador Linton Brooks,
U.S. Undersecretary of Energy and
Administrator of NNSA**

For those of you who were present, the Ambassador's speech was one of the key highlights of the evening. For those who were not, the full text is available on the Foundation's web site, www.ntshf.org.

**Pictured here are the
1962 Nevada Test Site Bears**

Front row (left to right): Woody Woodard, John Davis, Bob Roby, Dick Laufer, Ted Gard; Second Row (left to right) Kenny Eckhoff, Dave Medina, Chet Ely, Don Hulén, Wally Johnson, Wayne Mabry; Third Row (left to right) Mgr Bill Durkee, John Ebarb, Bill Thweatt, Arkie Southern, Carl Gilman, Larry Hutchings, Larry Stevens.

Batter Up!

(continued from page 7)

scheduled to play the next game, and 2) the Rock Island fans had an intense dislike for the L.A. team because of an incident that took place in the championship game the year before. In the first inning of that game an L.A. player intentionally ran into a Rock Island second baseman who suffered a broken leg, severely weakening the host team.

The first three innings of the Bears game with L.A. were scoreless with the Bears cheered each time they recorded an out and the L.A. team jeered and hooted each time they came to bat. Things changed in the top of the 4th inning when L.A. loaded the bases with nobody out. The next pitch was a wild pitch that rolled to the backstop. NTS catcher, LeRoy Wright (REECo) dove for the ball and while on his belly back-handed the ball toward home plate. Pitcher Bob Gregory (REECo) caught the ball just in front of home plate and tagged out the runner coming in from third. As Gregory turned to his right, he found the runner from 2nd trying to score and managed to tag him also. A double play on a wild pitch! INCREDIBLE!! The Bears scored a run in the bottom of the 4th on singles by Larry Stevens (REECo) and Clem Bysewski (USAF) and the ball park went wild as the Bears held on for a 1-0 victory.

By the mid-1970s, slow-pitch softball had become the game of choice in Mercury. The game became very popular as a more varied type of player could participate. Games continued to be played at the ball park until the mid-1990s when budget restrictions halted play.



Jeanie Bowman-Sowder 1936-2003

Long-time Nevadan and career Nevada Test Site employee Vienna J. (Jeanie) Bowman-Sowder passed away April 24, 2003, leaving a void in the hearts of her family, friends, and many associates. Jeanie's career at the NTS spanned 37 years, and upon her retirement, she devoted herself to her family and became an invaluable member of the NTSHF's volunteer staff.

Jeanie moved to Las Vegas as a young woman in 1954 when her father, a Greyhound Bus Company manager, was transferred here from San Diego. Her career at NTS began in 1957, when she was employed by a federal contractor involved in Nuclear Rocket Development Station (NRDS) activities. She later became a staff assistant in the Los Alamos Test Group Director's Office and was privileged to be part of the Test Director's team at Control Point One during nuclear weapons test operations from 1960 until her retirement in 1994. Jeanie's role allowed her to witness the execution of hundreds of nuclear weapons tests, both above and below ground, during her career.

Jeanie often said she believed her job was the best at NTS since she was constantly involved with a diverse group of scientific and technical personnel from all of the organizations involved in nuclear weapons testing, including the national laboratories, the Defense Department, and federal agencies such as the national weather service and EPA, which supported the test program. During those years, the people who worked closely together to accomplish this challenging work did so under the banner of the Nevada Test Site, rarely identifying their organizational interests. Many of her former co-workers paid profound tribute to her at her memorial services. She represented the spirit of the NTS.

(A photograph of a young Jeanne Heinz Bowman, a member of the 1961 Teddy Bears softball team, is located on page 7 of this issue of the News Nob.)

James Carothers, Ph.D. 1923-2003

Dr. James E. Carothers, a 50-year employee of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, passed away in September 2003 in Livermore, California, after a long and distinguished scientific career.

Born March 27, 1923, in Iowa Falls, Iowa, Dr. Carothers earned both his B.A. and Ph.D. in Physics from the University of California, Berkeley, completing his doctorate in 1952. In 1973, he earned a Masters degree in Psychology/Counseling from California State University at Hayward.

Carothers also served in the armed forces during World War II as a member of the 11th Airborne and was stationed in the Philippines, staging for the invasion of Japan, on August 6, 1945.

A physicist with the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (now Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) research staff when it opened its doors in 1952, Carothers' scientific and administrative leadership helped shape that Laboratory over the length of his career. His work at the Nevada Test Site, with Livermore's nuclear weapons testing program, was of great value to this nation's defense posture. He was regarded as one of the top nuclear weapons test containment experts in the world and chaired the Nevada Operations Office Containment Evaluation Panel for many years.

His positions at Livermore included Assistant Division Leader, Neutronics Division 1953 to 1960; Division Leader, Test (or "L") Division 1961 to 1970; Associate Director for Nuclear Tests 1970 to 1975; Associate Director for Human Resources and External Relations 1975 to 1979; Assistant to the Laboratory Associate Director 1980 to 1988; and Laboratory Archivist 1980 to 1991.

Carothers retired from the Laboratory in October 1991, but returned as a Laboratory Associate and continued his role as Laboratory Archivist from 1992 to 1999 when a stroke forced his permanent retirement.

Thomas Ryan Clark 1925-2004

Thomas R. Clark, former Manager of the DOE's Nevada Operations Office, died March 8, 2004, in Albuquerque, after a long illness. He served as Manager from 1983 to 1988, during an active underground nuclear weapons testing program.

He was born September 16, 1925, in Aberdeen, Washington. His early years were dedicated to athletics, highlighted by winning the Washington State championship in swimming. In April 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve and was assigned to the officer-training program at the University of Kansas.

He then was appointed to and graduated from the U.S. Army's Military Academy at West Point. After a distinguished career in the U.S. Army, he retired in 1968 with the rank of Colonel. He entered civilian service with the Atomic Energy Commission, serving in several increasingly responsible positions, including director of weapons production, and then principal assistant director of the Division of Military Application at AEC Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Upon the creation of ERDA in 1975, he acted as the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Nuclear Energy. In 1976, he was appointed Deputy Manager of the Albuquerque Operations Office, where he played key roles in nuclear weapons development and production activities; expansion of energy development activities in solar, wind, and geothermal; and creation of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project in southeast New Mexico (now receiving transuranic waste from the Nevada Site Office, among other DOE organizations). He was the driving force behind the concept and design for the Nevada Test Site's Device Assembly Facility.

Tom will be remembered for his warm sense of humor, his unflinching concern for his employees, and his commitment and dedication to the programs he managed.

Charlie Hatcher, Ph.D.

1933 – 2004

Charlie Hatcher, 71, former EG&G Los Alamos Program Manager, died unexpectedly on March 23, 2004. He was a resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Hatcher earned his Ph.D. at the University of Texas in 1958 and completed his thesis work involving development of fast electronic instrumentation, radiation detectors, and ultra-high speed counting circuitry. After six months as a post-doctorate research assistant, he joined Lawrence Radiation Laboratory (now Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) as a diagnostic physicist in the Reaction History group. He participated in Hardtack Phase II at the Nevada Test Site and was the LRL physicist on a number of events in Frenchman Flat.

During his stewardship of the Santa Barbara Laboratory's Engineering Department, Hatcher was primarily involved with the direction of AEC programs and broadening the technical capabilities of the Division. After the nuclear test ban was lifted, he became interested in establishing a state-of-the-art LINAC facility specifically designed for weapons simulation and short-pulse studies. He wrote the original justification and was instrumental in directing its early experimental programs.

In 1969, he moved to Los Alamos as the EG&G Los Alamos Program Manager to build a new operation in support of the laboratory. In 1978, he joined LANL, working on non-proliferation with the International Atomic Energy Agency. His work took him on many trips to Austria and Russia.

His friends note that he was always intense about work and life, and he cared deeply for his colleagues.

If you know of others who have passed on, please contact the Foundation. We would like to acknowledge them in future News Nobs, in recognition of their being a part of Nevada Test Site history.

Colonel John Neuer

1922 – 2003

“Colonel Neuer was one of the top ‘superstars’ at the Nevada Test Site and a key contributor to the development and success of the underground nuclear test program. Many of us know, and believe, that these successes were instrumental in our winning of the ‘Cold War’ with the Soviets. Colonel Neuer was a highly respected and regarded leader, always a soft-spoken gentleman and courteous to a fault. I am pleased and proud of our joint efforts and consider him both a close personal friend and a super professional colleague.”

—NTSHF Trustee Bill Flangas

Colonel John J. Neuer, USAF (Ret), passed away June 19, 2003, at the age of 81. He came to the Nevada Test Site in 1961 where he served as Director of Test Operations, Test Command, Defense Atomic Support Agency (DASA), now Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). In 1969, he continued at NTS as a Senior Staff Engineer with Lockheed Missile and Space Company until his retirement in 1988.

Joseph Cata
John Glossbrenner
Earl Hall
P.A. Hawkins
Lawrence Hupke
Robert Hutchinson
Paul Koss
James C. Lupo
Robert A. Luther
Henry Malancon
Joe Mercadante
William E. Moore
Rudolph “Dan” Netski
John Potter
James Sanchez
Gene Sasso
Judy Whiteman
Wes Wilcox
Charles A. Wilson
Mike Williams

We are saddened to hear of the loss of our good friends and coworkers.

Edward Teller, Ph.D.

1908-2003

Dr. Edward Teller, world-renowned physicist, co-founder of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and a lifelong advocate for education, died Tuesday, September 9, 2003. He was 95.

Prior to the announcement to the scientific community of the discovery of fission in 1939, Teller's research was entirely theoretical and had a wholly basic-science character.

In 1943, Teller went to work on the Manhattan Project at the fledgling Los Alamos National Laboratory and eventually became assistant director. His advocacy of competition in the national interest to ensure excellence in nuclear developments led to the creation of the University of California Radiation Laboratory, now Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Teller served as Laboratory Director at Livermore for two years and thereafter as Associate Director for physics until his retirement. In 1975, he was named Director Emeritus of the Lab by the University of California and was appointed Senior Research Fellow at the Hoover Institution, positions he held until his death.

Throughout his life Teller often found himself at the forefront of some of the 20th century's most dramatic and history-making events. He published more than a dozen books on subjects ranging from energy policy and defense issues to his own memoirs. Despite his distinguished life, Teller always remained humble in his accomplishments. “What I did, I did because it was necessary, not to be remembered. The little contributions I made in pure science... I am proud of those. And whoever wants to remember that, fine.”

For the comprehensive news release and complete details of Teller's life, refer to the LLNL website at <http://www.llnl.gov/llnl/06news/NewsReleases/2003/NR-03-09-01.html>

We're Looking for Artifacts and Articles

If you have Nevada Test Site related items and would like to donate them to the museum or you have a story to share with other members, please contact Vanya Scott, NTSHF Registrar at (702) 794-5142.

Join Us

Annual membership in the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation is open to anyone interested in preserving the history of the Nevada Test Site.

All members will receive a membership card, newsletters, and invitations to special events and tours.

Membership Level	Annual Dues
Individual	\$30
Family	\$50
Sustaining (Ind.) (min.)	\$100
Sustaining (Family)	\$125
Friend	\$1,000
Patron	\$2,500
Champion	\$5,000

Your tax-deductible contribution will be used to support the development of exhibits. For information on membership, contact the Foundation Office at (702) 794-5151.

Become Part of the Legacy

As members of the Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation you have a unique opportunity to be the first to build for the future of the Museum through our History Walk program.

The History Walk is located to the west of the Frank H. Rogers Science and Technology Building. This permanent exhibit includes bricks engraved with a donor's name or can be used as a special way to recognize a friend, honor a family member, or memorialize a loved one. The History Walk will be a part of the Desert Research Institute campus landscape and will bring long-term recognition to those who are named.

An investment today is tax deductible, provides permanent recognition, and encourages an important educational experience regarding the history of the Cold War.

Our bricks are available in two sizes:

The **DONOR** Level - \$100
Your inscription will be set in a 4"x8" brick with up to three lines of print*

The **GOLD** Level - \$500
An 8"x8" brick inscribed with up to five lines of print*

**Up to 13 characters per line including spaces and punctuation marks.*

A certificate commemorating your donation will be provided.

To order your brick(s) contact the NTSHF office at (702) 794-5151.



URGENT

WANTED: VOLUNTEERS

We desperately need your assistance at the

ATOMIC TESTING MUSEUM

*in filling the following positions
in four-hour shifts during our regular hours of operation
(Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.):*

Museum Store Attendants Exhibit Security

Please call Maggie Smith at (702) 794-5150 or Layton O'Neill (702) 648-4144 for more details.

Breaking News

- ❖ **The May-June 2004 News Nob Brief is embedded in the Spring-Summer 2004 News Nob as "Highlights"** and will not be sent out as a separate publication.
- ❖ **The NTSHF has joined the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce!** During the April 8 NTSHF Executive Committee meeting, members voted to join the LVCC after listening to a presentation by Mark A. Fries, LVCC Senior Account Executive.
- ❖ **Bylaws Committee update:** The Committee has reviewed the Bylaws text and presented their proposed modifications to Board members during the April 8 meeting. Members will be given 30 days to respond in writing to the Foundation office.
- ❖ Starting in May, NTS bus tours hosted by NNSA/NV will originate from the Atomic Testing Museum. This means more potential customers for the ATM and the Museum Store. We really need more volunteers!
- ❖ **An Artifacts Collections Committee** has been created and approved by the NTSHF Board of Trustees. This committee was suggested by Bob Agonia, Vice President of the Executive Committee, and Vanya Scott, NTSHF Registrar, who were joined by Elmer Sowder and Robert Friedrichs to form the initial team. The committee will provide the Foundation a group to oversee the development of a high-quality collection that is managed according to professional museum standards and supports the mission of the NTSHF and the Museum. Anyone interested in joining this team is encouraged to contact Vanya at 794-5142.

Welcome New Members

Terry & Cherie Barnes, David Bradley, Dale Denham, Dean Dennis, Donald D. Eilers, Art Fischbach, Eric Gerdes, Troy L. Johnson, Wilbur F. Johnson, George Knapp, Michael Light, Dan L. Lowenski, Gerald Schotik, Barcine Smith, Eric & Rita Smith

NTS History Walk Brick Buyers

Carol Bean, Charles F. Costa, Robert J. Coullahan, Jack W. Dupuis, Richard J. Dye, Ronald Jacobs, Bill Johnson & Marc Comstock, Robert C. Keller, Patricia Luetkehans, Barcine Smith, Irvin L. Williams, Walt & Joyce Wolff

In the Spotlight

Women in Nuclear

by Amanda Meixel

U.S. Women in Nuclear — a national networking organization for men and women involved in industries with a nuclear application — held an event in March to encourage participation in the local Las Vegas chapter. The well-attended gathering featured a speaker from the Nevada Cancer Institute, who noted the strong link between cancer treatment and nuclear medicine. In addition, participants enjoyed a raffle drawing and the opportunity to interact and exchange information and ideas. The organization wants to establish a permanent local chapter to provide networking opportunities both face-to-face and electronically. There is no fee associated with being a member of the organization. You can find out more at <http://www.winus.org/>. For information on the local chapter, contact Bobbie Pope at (702) 295-5586.

Calendar of Events:

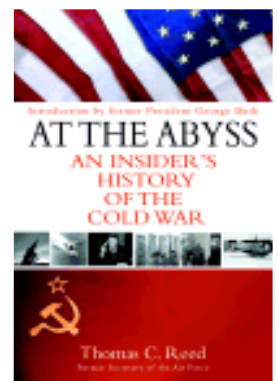
- ❖ **May 4, Tuesday**
9:00 a.m. NTSHF Executive Committee Meeting
- ❖ **May 15, Saturday**
10:00 a.m. Museum Store participates in the Cultural Heritage Fair at The Gardens, 3701 W. Alta Dr.
- ❖ **May 18, Tuesday**
6:30 p.m. Thomas C. Reed Lecture and Book Signing
- ❖ **June TBA, State Senator**
Dina Titus Lecture and Book Signing
- ❖ **June 2, Wednesday**
9:00 a.m. NTSHF Executive Committee Meeting
- ❖ **June 25, Friday**
Francis Gary Powers exhibit closes...stay tuned
- ❖ **July 8, Thursday**
9:00 a.m. NTSHF Executive Committee Meeting
2:00 p.m. NTSHF Board of Trustees Meeting

Featured Events

An Evening with Thomas C. Reed

On the evening of May 18, the NTSHF will host a lecture and book signing with Thomas C. Reed, author of ***At the Abyss, An Insider's History of the Cold War***.

"The Cold War . . . was a fight to the death," notes Thomas C. Reed, "fought with bayonets, napalm, and high-tech weaponry of every sort—save one. It was not fought with nuclear weapons."



Join us on May 18 for what is sure to be a memorable occasion!

At the Abyss, An Insider's History of the Cold War, is now available in the Museum Store.



Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation

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(702) 794-5151

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and
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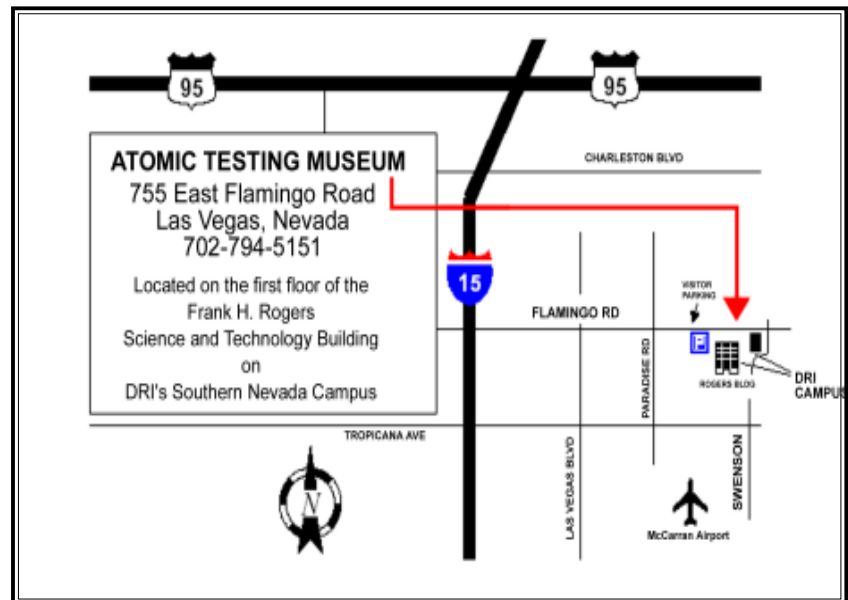
**Manager, Retail Operations
& Volunteer Coordinator**
Maggie Smith

News Nob Brief Editor
Stacey Oien

NTSHF Website
<http://www.ntshf.org>

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The Nevada Test Site Historical Foundation was established on April 15, 1998, to preserve an accurate history of the Nevada Test Site (NTS) and foster public accessibility to the history of the NTS and the nation's nuclear weapons testing program.

The Foundation may promote cultural, educational, and scientific programs that encourage public discourse regarding the NTS and its contributions to the nation's defense. The Foundation will operate and maintain the Atomic Testing Museum and make assessable to the public historic artifacts, records, film, and photographs associated with the NTS. Related activities may include organizing volunteer services, fund-raising and sponsoring special events.