

MESSAGE FROM THE GENOA TOWN BOARD CHAIR: 2009–2010 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As tough economic times force many local governments in the U.S. to cut services, Genoa is fortunate in being able to hold its own—and even to address some longstanding needs. Following are some accomplishments for the past fiscal year under the leadership of Town Manager Sheryl Gonzales, aided by town staff and our many devoted volunteers.

TOP FIVE BOARD PRIORITIES: PROGRESS REPORT

I'm pleased to report progress on the Board's top five priorities for 2009–2010:

- Implementation of economic development recommendations: The search for alternatives to Candy Dance for Town revenue sources took a big step with the first Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival, from which the Town netted \$5,000. Aim in 2011: \$18,750.
- Carson Street drainage: Plans and grant funds approved, contractor bids solicited. Estimated work start: fall 2010.
- Genoa-to-Walley's trail along Foothill Road: Joint project of Genoa and County. Grant application accepted for consideration in 2010.
- Main Street streetlights: Designs under way for undergrounding utilities and installing period-style streetlights.
- Efficacy of expanding Town boundaries: Study bids received, to be considered at next Board meeting.

INFRASTRUCTURE: KEEPING A HISTORIC TOWN IN GOOD ORDER

Maintaining a historic town is a never-ending challenge. This year's accomplishments:

- Town Hall—front rehabilitated, exterior and interior repainted, bathroom floor, new windows and foundation repaired.
- Town church—exterior repainted (by Community Beautification Committee), carpet repaired and cleaned, E Clampus Vitus plaque (honoring 100th anniversary of rebuilding after fire damage) and \$1,000 donation for foundation improvement accepted; additional foundation grant funds applied for.

- Town offices and old fire bay—office and entryway remodeled, kitchen repainted, safety railing in back repaired; master plan started to renovate building into community center and visitor center.
- Roads and road signs—yearly road maintenance completed, 5th and Main intersection repaired, road base analyzed to determine need for new materials, some street signs repaired – plans to renovate all street signs located on Town's dirt roads; snow plowing performed.
- Town park—problem of failing bulbs fixed; irrigation system repaired, ongoing detailing of park as well as bathroom plumbing repaired.
- Cottonwood trees along Genoa Lane—arrangements being made to plant new donated Cottonwood trees in anticipation of the older trees dying or being removed.
- Ongoing maintenance—janitorial services for all Town facilities, weed removal, snow shoveling, etc.

EVENTS: RECREATIONAL/FUNDRAISING

The Town and volunteers continued to support traditional events marking St. Patrick's Day, Easter, Independence Day, summer community garage sale, Halloween, and Christmas, as well as dance instruction, the Genoa Park summer music series (3 events) and the Old-Time Music Festival.

Drawing only one-fourth of its support from taxes, the Town continues to sustain services through revenue derived from Candy Dance, rental of the Town Hall and Church, and most recently the Cowboy Poetry & Music Festival (produced in collaboration with the Carson Valley Arts Council). Currently underway: planning for the 90th Candy Dance in September. Grants continue to be an important revenue source with Nevada Art Commission awarding funds for the Old Time Music Festival.

ADMINISTRATIVE & COMMUNICATIONS

Town policies and procedures reviewed and revised; "Genoa Connection" newsletter produced (4 issues).

--*Brian K. Williams, Chair,*
Genoa Town Advisory Board