

The

# NSC FOGHORN™



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### Special points of interest:

In 2007 the field of presidential candidates raised \$582.5 M and spent 481.2 M. That exceeds the total fund raising and spending in each election from 1978 to 2000.

Year	Contributions \$M	Spent \$M
1976	171.0	66.9
1980	161.9	92.3
1984	202.0	103.6
1988	324.4	210.7
1992	331.1	192.2
1996	425.7	239.9
2000	528.9	343.1
2004	880.5	717.9
2008*	1633.8	1324.7

\* As of October 20, 2008  
The total cost of 2008 elections for Congress and the presidency is predicted [www.opensecrets.org](http://www.opensecrets.org) to exceed \$5.3 billion  
VWP

## Election Costs, Is the Country Lost?

By Ken Mahal, A.I.A. NSC President

### WHAT SHOULD WE EXPECT AFTER JANUARY 20?

Having gone through the most expensive election in the history of this nation, one wonders how expensive is it going to become to be elected to the office of President of the United States of America in the future. There were some 130,000,000 voters and over \$1,000,000,000. was spent. One wonders, what it will cost to elect the next President. With so much being spent will we also get that much better quality of a president? Another question is who can afford to even consider running for the office if it is going to take that kind of money? It is interesting how much the Internet was a factor in raising money and how a few hundred dollars from a million plus people adds up to real money. I remember when the Internet was just nicely becoming an interesting way for people to communicate with each other, I spoke to our friend Larry Paulson about using the Internet for just that purpose when he was considering a run against former C.C. Commissioner Bruce Woodberry and said "That would be the poor mans way of running an election." and so it has been proven in this past election. That success also has made for a terrible problem for future elections if it is going to take that kind of money to be elected to office. Believe me this idea is going to spread like wildfire in races at all levels in the future because it is so inexpensive to raise money in that manner when you know what you are doing. So this was a good way for a Mr. Nobody to become elected and at the same time it is going to create a terrible problem for most future candidates at any level of office if the Internet is going to be the new way to raise money. Also the question raised is, will this also give us better elected officials? I guess that is the \$64,000,000 question. we will have to wait several years to find out if it works isn't it? And how does an ordinary really good person with lesser skills get elected to office?

### IS 2009 GOING TO BE THE YEAR ALL BETS ARE OFF?

So much has happened in the waning months of 2008 one wonders could it get any worse – lets hope not. Other than when I joined the Navy and ended up sixty miles off the coast of Japan in the Third Fleet I can't think of a worst time in my life, how about you? We were told time and again that we will mend our fences throughout the world to make people love us again. I

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don't know about you but in my 87+ years I have never worried about how other countries loved us because they most always have a reason, good or bad, not to love us. No matter how things end up in the world, in the end it will be the good ole USA that will be expected to save most of the countries of the world when they get into trouble. I give you both World War I and World War II where we had to do it and in neither instance were we the perpetrators of the mess our so called friends in Europe got into. I hope we will keep that in mind in the next dozen or so years. It might be good for a change if we just stay home, rebuild our military, stop the crazy spending and get ourselves back on our feet where we do remain the leader of the world's greatest democracy. From past experience that does go back to the Roosevelt era I remember the bad times and the good times and can tell you that in either case our government has been a failure in trying to manage our economy. We are built on the premise that hard work, entrepreneurship and a little good luck will pull us out of bad times. We seem to know it better than any other country in the world and I hope this bit of a slow down of our economy will work itself out of trouble the old fashioned way, by hard work on every ones part. I am very fearful of the free for all manufacturing of the green-back will lead us into inflation like none of us have seen even including under the Cotton Growers presidency when inflation was double digit and federal treasuries were as much as 18% if I remember it correctly. Once we start spending it like there's no tomorrow who will know when to put the brakes on, no one I fear. The housing boom that went bust may not be the worst thing that happened if it teaches us a lesson that honesty is still the best policy as corny as it may sound. Everyone that got into a home with no dollars down and the appraiser jacked up the price an extra \$20 grand in order that people with no money could get a loan and who cares what the interest rate was as long as they got into the house. And does anyone ever remember anyplace in our Constitution where it says everyone is guaranteed a home of their own, new furniture, new car and new babies all at the same time with no hope of paying any of it off in fifty years let alone thirty years? For years many of us have feared we were in for a bust at the rate we were growing here in Las Vegas, the land of the not so great paying jobs but lots of opportunity to refinance once you got into debt up to your neck. I don't know what is going to happen in the next dozen years but hope and pray the man above can help those in power have some wisdom to restrain us from bankrupting our country. I wish you all a very happy New Year urge you to keep the faith. It isn't as bad as we think if we keep our cool.

President Washington's second oath of office was taken in the Senate Chamber of Congress Hall in Philadelphia on March 4, 1793, the date fixed by the Continental Congress for inaugurations. Before an assembly of Congressmen, Cabinet officers, judges of the federal and district courts, foreign officials, and a small gathering of Philadelphians, the President offered **the shortest inaugural address ever given**. Associate Justice of the Supreme Court William Cushing administered the oath of office.

Fellow Citizens:

I am again called upon by the voice of my country to execute the functions of its Chief Magistrate. When the occasion proper for it shall arrive, I shall endeavor to express the high sense I entertain of this distinguished honor, and of the confidence which has been reposed in me by the people of united America.

Previous to the execution of any official act of the President the Constitution requires an oath of office. This oath I am now about to take, and in your presence: That if it shall be found during my administration of the Government I have in any instance violated willingly or knowingly the injunctions thereof, I may (besides incurring constitutional punishment) be subject to the upbraidings of all who are now witnesses of the present solemn ceremony.



## *“Please Don’t Quote Me”*

On January 20th, 2009, one of the most important presidential inaugural speeches ever may be made. Below are excerpts from four other inaugural speeches made at other critical times in United States history. Nick Sloan (<http://www.nicksloan.com>), a Kansas Libertarian chose them, in the order shown, as the best ever given.

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan – to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations. – Abraham Lincoln 1865

In the long history of the world, only a few generations have been granted the role of defending freedom in its hour of maximum danger. I do not shrink from this responsibility—I welcome it. I do not believe that any of us would exchange places with any other people or any other generation. The energy, the faith, the devotion which we bring to this endeavor will light our country and all who serve it—and the glow from that fire can truly light the world.

And so, my fellow Americans: ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country. My fellow citizens of the world: ask not what America will do for you, but what together we can do for the freedom of man . – John F. Kennedy 1961

We have called by different names brethren of the same principle. We are all Republicans, we are all Federalists. If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it.

I know, indeed, that some honest men fear that a republican government can not be strong, that this Government is not strong enough; but would the honest patriot, in the full tide of successful experiment, abandon a government which has so far kept us free and firm on the theoretic and visionary fear that this Government, the world's best hope, may by possibility want energy to preserve itself? I trust not.

I believe this, on the contrary, the strongest Government on earth. I believe it the only one where every man, at the call of the law, would fly to the standard of the law, and would meet invasions of the public order as his own personal concern. Sometimes it is said that man can not be trusted with the government of himself. Can he, then, be trusted with the government of others? Or have we found angels in the forms of kings to govern him? Let history answer this question. – Thomas Jefferson 1801

Hand in hand with this we must frankly recognize the overbalance of population in our industrial centers and, by engaging on a national scale in a redistribution endeavor to provide a better use of the land for those best fitted for the land. The task can be helped by definite efforts to raise the values of agricultural products and with this the power to purchase the output of our cities.

It can be helped by preventing realistically the tragedy of the growing loss through foreclosure of our small homes and our farms. It can be helped by insistence that the Federal, State, and local governments act forthwith on the demand that their cost be drastically reduced. It can be helped by the unifying of relief activities which today are often scattered, uneconomical, and unequal.

It can be helped by national planning for and supervision of all forms of transportation and of communications and other utilities which have a definitely public character. There are many ways in which it can be helped, but it can never be helped merely by talking about it. We must act and act quickly.

Finally, in our progress toward a resumption of work we require two safeguards against a return of the evils of the old order; there must be a strict supervision of all banking and credits and investments; there must be an end to speculation with other people's money, and there must be provision for an adequate but sound currency.

– Franklin Delano Roosevelt 1933

## Many illegal immigrants live in public housing

Thousands of illegal immigrants live in public housing at a time when hundreds of thousands of citizens and legal residents wait years for an opening.

Illegal immigrants make up a tiny portion of the 7.1 million people in federal housing, according to government statistics. But authorities may be unaware of thousands more, and critics say no illegal immigrant should get housing benefits. The issue made headlines in November with news that Zeituni Onyango, an aunt of President-elect Barack Obama, was living in Boston public housing while in the country illegally. Onyango, the half-sister of Obama's late father, applied for public housing in 2002 while she was in the country legally seeking asylum from her native Kenya, said a spokeswoman for the Boston Housing Authority, which has a waiting list of nearly 20,000 people.

Onyango moved into federally funded housing in 2003 and stayed there after 2004, when an immigration judge denied her asylum application and ordered her to leave the country.

Onyango transferred to an apartment funded only by the state, which cannot ask about immigration status under the court order. In November, according to her attorney, she was living with relatives in Cleveland and would fight the deportation order.

The federal government requires only that illegal immigrants share a home with at least one family member who is in the country legally and pay their share of the rent.

Anyone born on U.S. soil is automatically a citizen, making their families eligible for federal housing.

The HUD tally does not offer a full picture of how many illegal immigrants are in public housing.

It doesn't include housing funded by state and local governments, where eligibility requirements vary. Massachusetts, where Obama's aunt occupied one of about 50,000 state-funded units, doesn't ask immigration status under a 1977 federal consent decree in a class-action lawsuit that prohibits the state from denying the benefit to illegal immigrants.

Other illegal immigrants may live in public housing without notifying authorities.

"It seems that the larger concern would be those who we don't know about that may be in the U.S. illegally and living in federal housing, yet never risk presenting themselves to HUD," said Jonathan Graffeo, a spokesman for Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala.

Some prospective tenants and advocates of immigration restrictions are angry about U.S. citizens waiting for housing aid that some numbers of illegal immigrants are enjoying.

New York City has about 260,000 people waiting for housing aid while Chicago recently opened its waiting list for the first time in 10 years and in four weeks collected 259,000 names for 40,000 slots. In San Diego, applicants are told they can expect to wait five to seven years. "As long as that waiting list includes American citizens or legal immigrants, there's no reason an illegal alien should occupy any of that housing," said Rosemary Jenks, director of government relations for NumbersUSA (<http://www.numbersusa.com>)

However some people don't think illegals are the problem. The real problem is a lack of affordable housing across the United States.

Elena Salmon, 45, lives at a San Diego home where about 30 women share four bathrooms while she waits for public housing, but she said it would be inhumane to deny housing to illegal immigrants.

"That's not what America is about," she said. "Why should we kick them out, even if they are taking up some space?"

HUD declines to break down the number of ineligible noncitizens by city or state.

The New York City Housing Authority 0.9 percent of the 289,000 households on vouchers or in housing developments are families with at least one ineligible noncitizen.

The San Diego Housing Commission reports 1.8 percent of people on federal housing vouchers are ineligible noncitizens.

The San Francisco Housing Authority has 148 ineligible noncitizens among its 28,611 people in federal housing, or 0.5 percent.

Housing agencies in Miami-Dade County and Chicago each reported less than 50 ineligible noncitizens being taken care of. The Boston Housing Authority about 0.6 percent of its 45,100 families on federal housing assistance are ineligible noncitizens.



**Magnificent inaugural ceremonies mark the peaceful transfer of power. Inaugurals are a time of hope, of reflection on where our country stands, and of celebration, with special events and a grand parade. At noon on January 20, 2009 the president-elect will swear the oath of office. He will then seek to inspire the nation with a carefully crafted speech. The day will conclude with a round of stops at glamorous inaugural balls.**

### **Organizing the Inaugural Activities**

Every four years three committees form to organize the inaugural activities. The Armed Forces Inaugural Committee (AFIC), a joint task force of the five Armed Forces branches, is "charged with coordinating all military ceremonial participation and support" for the presidential inauguration. Army Maj. Gen. Richard J. Rowe Jr. chairs AFIC. The first personnel started with AFIC at the end of 2007 and the organization launched in June 2008. As of mid-Dec. 2008 about 400 personnel were working at AFIC and by Inauguration Day this will rise to about 700 including full-time (PCS/ permanent change of station) and personnel on temporary duty.

The Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC) is responsible for all events held at the Capitol. The JCCIC is a committee consisting of six leaders of the House and Senate established by a congressional resolution (S.Con.Res. 67, approved by Congress in Feb. 2008). Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) chairs the JCCIC, which has a budget of \$1,240,000 (Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008, signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 26, 2007). To honor the 200th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, JCCIC selected the theme of "A New Birth of Freedom" for the 2009 inaugural.

The final piece is the 2009 Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC), charged with organizing events for the 56th Inaugural. The PIC is formed every four years after the general election. The 2009 PIC is co-chaired by William Daley, Penny Pritzker, John W. Rogers, Jr., Patrick Ryan and Julianna Smoot. Emmett Beliveau, who served as the campaign's director of advance, is leading the day to day running of the PIC. The PIC must accomplish most of its work in a period of just two months. When it is fully up and running, its budget is in the tens of millions of dollars, and it has hundreds of people working to plan and organize the various activities. As with the Obama campaign, the PIC has announced limitations on fundraising; it will not accept contributions from "corporations, political action committees, current federally-registered lobbyists, non-U.S. citizens and registered foreign agents...[and] will not accept individual contributions in excess of \$50,000." In keeping with the theme of transparency, on Dec. 12 the PIC launched a searchable, public database of donors.

In addition to the PIC, JCCIC and AFIC, numerous agencies coordinate on security for the events of inaugural week. Because the Department of Homeland Security has designated the Inaugural as a National Special Security Event (NSSE), the Secret Service is the lead agency.

A major concern has been the number of people that will attend. Demand for the approximately 240,000 tickets to the Inaugural ceremony was extremely heavy, and congressional offices were swamped with requests. The PIC announced in early December that it has arranged to open up the whole length of the National Mall to the public, something which has not been done before. Early on there were suggestions in the media that as many as 4 to 5 million people could attend, but more recent estimates put the number at 2 million (LBJ's inauguration in 1965 was the biggest to date, attracting 1.2 million). The D.C. government is making plans to park 10,000 charter buses.

March 4, 1801 -- Thomas Jefferson

1. Began the custom of writing to Congress to accept the inauguration and arrange the time for the ceremonies.
2. The first and probably only president to walk to and from his inaugural.
3. First president to be inaugurated at the Capitol in Washington, D.C.
4. First newspaper extra of an inaugural address, printed by the National Intelligencer.

Each president recites the following oath, in accordance with Article II, Section I of the U.S. Constitution:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

# At the December Meeting



A representative of a dental implant company gave an informative speech and took questions from the audience.

January 15th is National Hat Day

National Hat Day is set aside to wear and enjoy a hat of your choice and style. Isn't it great that hats come in all shapes, sizes, colors, and styles? There's one to fit every size head and personality. Often, hats are used to make a statement, or to promote a cause or a product.

Oh yeah... hats have logical uses, too. Some hats (Aka helmets), offer safety protection. Some hats keep your head warm....how boring.

National Hat Day is not intended to just keep you warm. Its a chance to make a statement and to display you favorite headgear. We suggest you wear a number of different hats over the course of the day.

**Did you know?** More body heat is lost from your head than other parts of the body. So, wearing a hat goes a long way towards staying warm on a cold winter's day (or night).

Obrigado!

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धन्यवाद

Merci

Gracias

Thank You

Grazie

Vielen Dank

Thanks to all of you who contributed to NSC last month. We really appreciate it.

תודה

Köszönettel

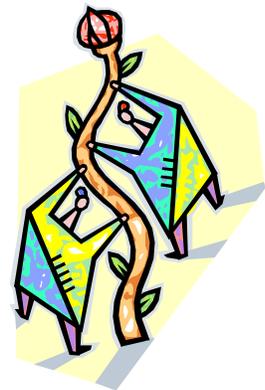
Díky

Aloha

Bedankt

شكراً

NSC is an all volunteer group and we always need help. The same people have been doing all the work for years. Please contact any NSC officer or director to volunteer to help.



Your membership anniversary date is on the Foghorn Mailing label. If the label is **RED**, please renew your membership, either by mail, or at the next meeting you attend. Your name is removed from the membership list 90 days after expiration.

Membership dues are \$10.00 per person.





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**January 15, 1777**

## **New Connecticut (Vermont) declares Independence**

On this day 1n 1777 a convention of future Vermonsters assembled in Westminster to declare independence from the Crown of Great Britain and the colony of New York and remove themselves from the war the two were waging against each other. The delegates to the convention included Thomas Chittenden, Vermont's future (1778) Governor and Ira Allen the "father" of the University of Vermont. The independent state was first named New Connecticut, but in June 1777 settled on Vermont, a poor translation of the French for "green mountain". On July 2, 1777, 72 delegates met in Windsor, Vermont to adopt the state's new constitution. The constitution was formally adapted on July 8, 1777. This constitution was the first national constitution drafted in North America. It was the first, also, to prohibit slavery and that gave all males, not just property owners, the right to vote. Congress refused, throughout the 1780's, to recognize Vermont as a separate state independent of New York. This frustrated the Vermonter's who inquired if the British would readmit the territory as a part of Canada. Even two years after George Washington became president of the United States, Vermont remained an independent nation. Finally, because the politics of slavery threatened to divide the United States, Vermont was admitted as the 14th state in 1792 to offset slaveholding Kentucky which joined the Union in 1792. – VWP



The Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc (NSC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. No person is excluded on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin.

**The organization's purpose is to promote the physical and social welfare of senior citizens, their children and grandchildren.**

The organizations' goals and objectives are:

- Improvement of political and governmental institutions and processes on local, state and federal levels.
- Identify legislative trends at all levels and set NSC priorities.
- Support domestic policies responsive to the needs and will of the Nevada senior population.
- Work to involve more seniors in government. to assure government is open, responsive and accountable.
- Keep members and the general public informed on current issues affecting them. Encourage them to make their voices heard at all government levels.
- Work with other organizations in a common endeavor when their issues and programs coincide with those of NSC.

