

The

NSC FOGHORN

TM



Volume 10, issue 4

Our Web Site is at <http://www.nevadaseniors.com>

April 14, 2011

Special points of interest:

American Civil War Order of Secession

Civil War Battlefields

By Knight Allen, NSC Director of Legislation



First Official Confederate Flag

▲ South Carolina	12/20/1860
▲ Mississippi	01/09/1861
▲ Florida	1/10/1861
▲ Alabama	01/11/1861
▲ Georgia	01/19/1861
▲ Louisiana	01/26/1861
▲ Texas	02/01/1861
▲ Virginia	04/17/1861
▲ Arkansas	05/06/1861
▲ North Carolina	05/20/1861
▲ Tennessee	06/08/1861

Did anyone catch the re-broadcast of the Ken Burns documentary "The Civil War" on PBS last week?

As Vern has noted this week is the 150th Anniversary of the start of a war that killed more Americans than any conflict in our history.

The documentary makes riveting television even if you're not a big history buff. The war had such a huge effect on not just who we were then but who we are now. As one of the commentators pointed out, before the war it was the United States are. After, it was the United States is.

Have you ever visited any of the battlefields? What kind of emotions did they stir in you? I got kind of depressed at Fredericksburg which was fought in December 1862. I found myself walking behind the wall at Marye's Heights where the Confederate army was entrenched looking out over this wide expanse of open space wondering how Union General Burnside could possibly have been so stupid as to order a frontal assault on that kind of a defensive position. Lee's army slaughtered those poor Union kids. The whole battle was a disaster for the Union with over 12,000 casualties. The South lost over 5,300. But, at Marye's Heights where I was standing behind the wall? The ratio was eight Union casualties for everyone Confederate. A total Union debacle and very depressing.

Of course Lee came out looking like a genius but then, only seven months later at Gettysburg with the tactical situation completely reversed; with the Union soldiers holding the wall position at Cemetery Ridge; calling to each other "Remember Fredericksburg!" Lee made the same blunder Burnside did. He ordered Pickett's Charge. A frontal assault across a three quarter mile open field by over 12,000 southern kids. They were crushed with more than 50% casualties. So much for great generalship.

I also visited the notorious Confederate prison camp at Andersonville, Georgia deep in the heart of Jimmy Carter country around Plains and Americus. The camp held 45,000 Union prisoners and almost 13,000 died of starvation, malnutrition and disease. When I was there it was a walk in the park-literally. Did you ever notice wherever man conducts the most brutal acts of war the places almost always wind up beautiful sites of peace and tranquility?

The Civil War is not as far removed from us as we might think. Motion pictures in the documentary showed that in 1938 at the 75th reunion at Gettysburg over 2,500 veterans of the war showed up. How old were you in '38? *(Continued on Page 2)*

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How about your own family's history? Any connections to the war? In my family my great grandfather who died around 1913 (the 50th Anniversary of Gettysburg) carried a piece of a Confederate musket ball in his chest for all those years. Or, so the story goes and who am I to question it?

We'll be seeing and hearing a lot about the Civil War in the months ahead but for me it will always be a walk behind a stone wall at Fredericksburg and a stroll in a park in Georgia.

The place I remember most is Vicksburg National Military Park in Mississippi. I drove the 16 mile tour road and visited many of the 1325 historic monuments and markers put up by of the states on both sides. There are 144 emplaced cannons of the type used during the 47 day Siege of Vicksburg. The civilian population suffered heavily during the siege when they as well as the Confederate troops were under constant bombardment and could not get supplies or help of any kind. I also visited the restored gunboat USS Cairo (the "Hardluck Ironclad), the first U.S. ship in history to be sunk by a torpedomine. Many personal effects of the sailors who perished were on display. The national cemetery in the park has 18,244 interments (12,954 unidentified). The surrender of Vicksburg combined with R.E. Lee's surrender at Gettysburg on July 3rd, marked the turning point of the war that would continue on until April of 1865. The City of Vicksburg would not celebrate July the Fourth for about 80 years as a result of the siege and surrender.— Vern

Reported In Harper's Weekly April 20, 1861

BEGINNING OF THE WAR.

On Friday, 12th, at 27 minutes past 4 A. M., General Beauregard, in accordance with instructions received on Wednesday from the Secretary of War of the Southern Confederacy, opened fire upon Fort Sumter. Forts Johnson and Moultrie, the iron battery at Cumming's Point, and the Stevens Floating Battery, kept up an active cannonade during the entire day, and probably during the past night. The damage done to Fort Sumter is stated by the Confederate authorities to have been considerable. Guns had been dismantled, and a part of the parapet swept away. Major Anderson had replied vigorously to the fire which had been opened upon him, but the Charleston dispatches represent the injury inflicted by him to have been but small. The utmost bravery had been exhibited on both sides, and a large portion of the Charleston population, including five thousand ladies, were assembled upon the Battery to witness the conflict.

Down to our latest advices, the battle had been carried on solely by the batteries of the revolutionists and Fort Sumter. The Harriet Lane, Captain Faunce, the Pawnee, and another United States vessel, were said to be off the harbor, but had taken no part in the conflict. The Harriet Lane is said to have received a shot through her wheel-house.

The opinion prevailed in Charleston that an attempt would be made during the night to reinforce Fort Sumter by means of small boats from the three vessels seen in the offing.

No one had been killed by the fire of Major Anderson, and the casualties among the Confederate troops in the batteries were inconsiderable. There is, of course, no account of the loss, if any, among the garrison of Fort Sumter.

THE SUMMONS TO SURRENDER.

A telegraphic correspondence between the Montgomery War Department and General Beauregard, before the commencement of hostilities, has been published. On April 8 General Beauregard telegraphed that a messenger from President Lincoln had brought word that provisions would be sent to Fort Sumter—peaceably if possible, forcibly if necessary. Mr. Walker, the Secretary of War, replied, on April 10, instructing General Beauregard to demand the immediate evacuation of Fort Sumter, and if this was refused, to proceed to attack the fort in the way he thought best. The demand for surrender was accordingly made by General Beauregard, and Major Anderson replied, April 11, "It is a demand with which I regret that my sense of honor and my obligations to my Government prevent my compliance." He added, also, "I will await the first shot, and if you do not batter us to pieces, we will be starved out in a few days." His answer being sent to Montgomery, the Secretary of War telegraphed back that if Major Anderson would state the time at which he would evacuate the fort, it should not be bombarded. To this Anderson would not consent, and upon his refusal hostilities began. The latest of those dispatches that from General Beauregard to the Secretary of War, bears date April 12, and was received in New York a few hours after it was sent to Montgomery.

“Please Don’t Quote Me”

On the afternoon of April 11, waving a white flag, two members of General Beauregard's staff were rowed across Charleston's harbor to Fort Sumter carrying a written demand for surrender.

, 'Gentlemen, if you do not batter the fort to pieces about us, we shall be starved out in a few days.' – casual remark by Fort Sumter’s commanding officer Major Anderson to the Confederate officers after refusing General P.G.T. Beauregard’s surrender terms.

'Do not desire needlessly to bombard Fort Sumter. If Major Anderson will state the time at which, as indicated by him, he will evacuate, and agree that in the meantime he will not use his guns against us, unless ours should be employed against Fort Sumter, you are authorized thus to avoid the effusion of blood. If this, or its equivalent, be refused, reduce the fort as your judgment decides to be most practicable.' – Confederate States of America Secretary of War L.P. Walker



Fort Sumter under attack



Fort Sumter under Confederate control

" The same aides bore a second communication to Major Anderson, based on the above instructions, which was placed in, his hands at 12:45 A.M., April 12th. His reply indicated that he would evacuate the fort on the 15th, provided he did not in the meantime receive contradictory instructions from his Government, or additional supplies, but he declined to agree not to open his guns upon the Confederate troops, in the event of any hostile demonstration on their part against his flag. Major Anderson made every possible effort to retain the aides till daylight, making one excuse and then another for not replying. Finally, at 3:15 A.M., he delivered his reply. In accordance with their instructions, the aides read it and, finding it unsatisfactory, gave Major Anderson this notification:"

– Stephen D. Lee, one of the emissaries

'FORT SUMTER, S.C., April 12, 1861, 3:20 A.M. - SIR: By authority of Brigadier-General Beauregard, commanding the Provisional Forces of the Confederate States, we have the honor to notify you that he will open the fire of his batteries on Fort Sumter in one hour from this time. We have the honor to be very respectfully, Your obedient servants, JAMES CHESNUT JR., Aide-de-camp. STEPHEN D. LEE, Captain C. S. Army, Aide-de-camp.'

'If we never meet in this world again, God grant that we may meet in the next.' –

Major Anderson’s final words to the Confederate officers as they left Fort Sumter.

The first shot of the war was fired from a ten-inch mortar at **4:30 A.M., April 12th, 1861**. Captain James ,in charge of the artillery, was a skillful officer, and the firing of the shell was a success. It burst immediately over the fort, apparently about one hundred feet above.

And the U.S. Civil War started ... ten minutes late.

California Dreaming?

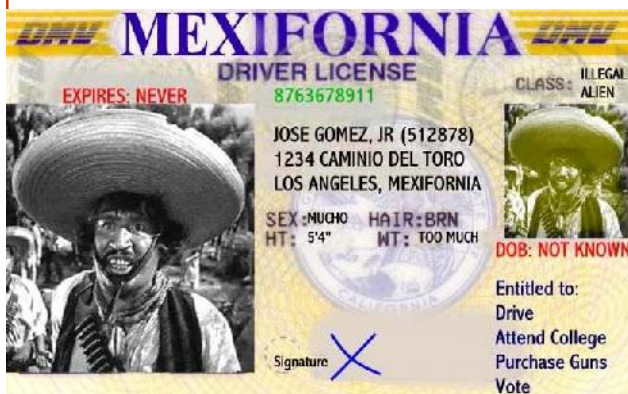
By Susan Tully, FAIR National Field Director

Californians have been waiting since the dot.com bust, followed by the housing market burst, for jobs to come back to California. With a looming budget deficit of more than \$20 billion and the state unemployment rate over 12%, one would expect to find California legislators burning the midnight oil in search of sound fiscal practices to restore financial health to one of the world's biggest economies.

But Tuesday, March 15, 2011, one month before taxpayers in California are required to pony-up their share of the fiscal burden of running the state, lawmakers in the California Higher Education Committee of the Assembly passed AB130 and AB131. These bills, dubbed the "Dream Act 2", will grant financial aid and scholarships to illegal alien college students enrolled in California universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical schools. This new legislation will cost California taxpayers an additional \$2-3 million annually, on top of the in-state tuition illegal aliens already receive, which was granted to them in 2001 by the California Legislature, in violation of U.S. Immigration Law.

One illegal alien student, Jorge Fierros, 31, of Riverside California, who was interviewed by the Press Enterprise while lobbying for passage of AB 130 and AB131, said he has been at Riverside City College for more than four years because with the full-time factory, construction and restaurant jobs he's held, he has been unable to take more than a class or two each semester. The bills "would help me focus more on my academics than having to work so much on the side to help me pay for tuition," said Fierros, who hopes to transfer to Cal State San Bernardino in the fall to study criminal justice.

You ask yourself, "Did I read that correctly"? An illegal alien, illegally present in the country, working at a job he is not legally entitled to hold, will be given aid, provided by hardworking taxpayers, or in this case, many unemployed taxpayers, to attend school, so he can study "criminal justice"?



"Are you kidding me?" or "This is a joke...right?" comes to mind, because simply... it's unbelievable, it's absurd and unconscionable, to reasonable, law abiding people. But because it is true, we are calling for all the support we can muster, to help our activists in California stop the insanity that is taking place. These bills are currently moving on to the Committee on Appropriations in the Assembly. Please help us defeat AB130 and AB131.

Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed identical legislation in the past stating, "...given the precarious fiscal condition the state faces at this time, it would not be prudent to place additional demands on our limited financial aid resources as specified in this bill." But Governor Brown campaigned in support of the Dream Act, and all indications are, he will sign these bills if they pass through both houses of the legislature. Your help is needed now.

Maryland, My Mexico?

Early last week, the Maryland state Senate passed a measure to provide in-state tuition to illegal aliens. (SB 167; Washington Post, Mar. 15, 2011) The bill, which was approved by a vote of 27-20, allows illegal aliens to attend Maryland colleges at the reduced in-state tuition rate, which averages \$10,000 less than tuition for non-residents, thus giving illegal aliens a significant financial benefit over U.S. citizens who reside in neighboring states.

The bill also allows illegal aliens who have graduated from Maryland high schools to qualify for tuition breaks at community colleges. (SB 167) After attaining an associate's degree, the alien may then proceed to a four-year institution at the in-state tuition rate. (Id.) "It's going to be so much easier for me," a Prince George County high school student from Guatemala said on Monday night after the senate's vote. (Washington Post, Mar. 15, 2011) The bill is currently in committee in the Maryland House of Representatives. (HB 470)

If the bill becomes law, Maryland would join ten other states who currently allow in-state tuition for illegal aliens. (See FAIR Legislative Update, Feb. 28, 2011) Several months ago, the California Supreme Court upheld its own in-state tuition law against a lawsuit claiming the statute violated federal law. (Martinez v. Regents of the University of California, 50 Cal. 4th 1277) According to 8 U.S.C. § 1623, "[an alien who is not lawfully present in the United States shall not be eligible on the basis of residence within a State ... for any post-secondary education benefit unless a citizen or national of the United States is eligible ... without regard to [residence]." The California Supreme Court determined that the tuition break was in fact not based on residency, and thus was not preempted by federal law. (See FAIR Legislative Update, Nov. 22, 2010) Plaintiffs in California hope to take this case to the Supreme Court. Both articles from Federation For American Immigration Reform (<http://www.fairus.org>). Picture from unknown source.

The Green Thing

In the line at the store, the cashier told the older woman that plastic bags weren't good for the environment. The woman apologized to her and explained, "We didn't have the green thing back in my day."

That's right; they didn't have the green thing in her day. Back then, they returned their milk bottles, Coke bottles and beer bottles to the store.

The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, using the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. But they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

In her day, they walked up stairs, because they didn't have an escalator in every store and office building. They walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time they had to go two blocks. But she's right. They didn't have the green thing in her day.

Back then, they washed the baby's diapers because they didn't have the throw-away kind. They dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up kilowatts – wind and solar power really did dry the clothes. Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that old lady is right; they didn't have the green thing back in her day.

Back then, they had one TV, or radio, in the house – not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a pizza dish, not a screen the size of the state of Montana. In the kitchen, they blended and stirred by hand because they didn't have electric machines to do everything for them. When they packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, they used wadded up newspaper to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap.

Back then, they didn't fire up an engine and burn gasoline just to cut the lawn. They used a push mower that ran on human power. They exercised by working so they didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity. But she's right; they didn't have the green thing back then.

They drank from a fountain when they were thirsty, instead of using a cup or a plastic bottle every time they had a drink of water. They refilled pens with ink, instead of buying a new pen, and they replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But they didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the streetcar and kids walked or rode their bikes to school, instead of turning their moms into a 24-hour taxi service. They had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And they didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

But that old lady is right. They didn't have the green thing back in her day.

OMG – that was MY day too

At the March Meeting



Republic Services spokesman Steven De Stefano is shown with NSC Director Knight Allen.

Mr. De Stefano gave a very interesting presentation that answered many questions about the proposed changes to the waste disposal and recycling services in Clark County.

I can no other answer make, but, thanks, and thanks. ~William Shakespeare
To all members who contributed to NSC.



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.

Members

Renewing Members:

- ♥ Jean Colby ♥
- ♥ Robert and Ingeborge Levy ♥
- ♥ Michelle Shafe ♥

Thanks for your continued support.

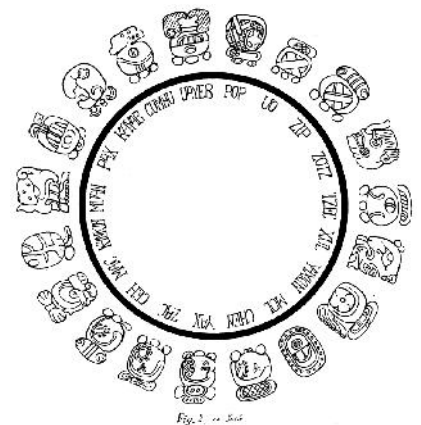
New Members:

- ♥ Stephen Underwood ♥

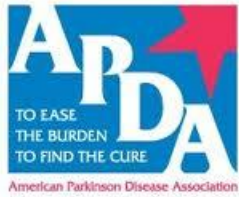
Welcome, Welcome, Welcome.



Happy Easter to everybunny!



Mayan Calendar



April is ...

Parkinson's Disease Awareness Month

Join Us in April and Become Part of the Cure

Our Eighteenth Annual Walk Toward a Cure

- What?** Parkinson's "Fun" walk and Pizza Picnic
- Where?** Rainbow Family Park
7137 W. Oakey Blvd.
(Two blocks west of Rainbow on the south side of the street. Parking lot adjacent to the registration tables.)
- When?** Saturday April 16, 2011
- Time?** Registration begins at 9:00 AM
- Enjoy!**
- * Refreshments
 - * Prizes for the highest pledge earners and random drawings for all in attendance.
 - * Oldest APDA Walk tee-shirt contest
 - * Pizza party for walkers at 11:00 AM following the walk around the park's paths.
- Call APDA at (702) 464-3132 for directions and information**

Senior Citizens Law Project



The Senior Citizen Law Project is sponsored by the City of Las Vegas. Services are provided at no cost to seniors age 60 and older however donations are accepted.

Assistance with a variety of legal issues is offered. If assistance can't be provided you will be referred to the appropriate office including:

- ⇒ Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada 386-1070
- ⇒ Nevada Legal Services 386-0404
- ⇒ Family Law Self-Help Services 455-1500
- ⇒ State Bar of Nevada Lawyer Referral Program 382-0504
- ⇒ Neighborhood Justice Center 455-3898

The office is located at 310 S. Ninth Street, second floor in Las Vegas. This is on the southwest corner of 9th and Bridger at the back of the building.

Hours of operation (by appointment only)

8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Call 229-6596 to make an appointment

Fax 384-0314

TTY 386-9108

Act fast at first signs of stroke

FAST Immediately call 911—which can result in faster treatment than driving someone to an emergency room—if any of these symptoms strike suddenly.

FACE Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?

ARMS Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?

SPEECH Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is his or her speech slurred or strange?

TIME If you observe any of these signs, call 911 immediately.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **Thursday, May 12 at 10 a.m.**
at >>>>>>>>>>>>>>



After the meeting why don't you eat and play, and stay all day?

Our May Speaker will be:

Will be announced later

NEVADA SENIORS COALITION, INC.

11925 Las Vegas Blvd. S.
Las Vegas, NV 89183-5432

Ken Mahal President

Phone: 702.737.1377

Fax: 702 .446.5534

e-mail: kentajmahal@cox.com

Vernon Perry Vice President/Newsletter

Directors:

Belle Chohanin Finance

Florence Petris Records

Vernon Perry Membership

Knight Allen Legislation

Richard Thomas Communications

Vernon Perry Issues

Tina Rowe Liaison

April 14, 1865

Lincoln is Shot

John Wilkes Booth, an actor and Confederate sympathizer, fatally shoots President Abraham Lincoln at a play at Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., only five days after Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered his massive army at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, effectively ending the American Civil War.

Booth initially plotted to capture President Lincoln on March 20, 1865 and take him to Richmond, the Confederate capital. The president failed to appear at the spot where Booth and his six fellow conspirators lay in wait. Richmond fell to Union forces two weeks later.

In April, the Confederate armies were near collapse across the South. Booth concocted a desperate plan to save the Confederacy. Booth found out that Lincoln was to be at Ford's Theater on **April 14** watching a play. Booth devised a plan to simultaneously assassinate Lincoln, Vice President Andrew Johnson and Secretary of State William H. Seward. Booth and his conspirators hoped to throw the U.S. government into disarray by murdering the president and two of his possible successors.

On the evening of April 14, conspirator Lewis T. Powell burst into Secretary of State

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.

Seward's home, seriously wounding him and three others. George A. Atzerodt, assigned to kill Vice President Johnson, lost his nerve and fled. Just after 10 p.m., Booth entered Lincoln's private theater box unnoticed and shot the president with a single bullet in the back of his head. Booth leapt to the stage shouting "Sic semper tyrannis! [Thus always to tyrants]—the South is avenged!", as he slashed an army officer who was trying to restrain him. Booth broke his leg jumping from Lincoln's box, but he managed to escape Washington on horseback.

The president was carried to a lodging house opposite Ford's Theater. About 7:22 a.m. the next morning the first U.S. president to be assassinated died at age 56.

Lincoln, the 16th U.S. president, was buried on May 4, 1865, in Springfield, Illinois.