

Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc.

A better quality of life for seniors, their children and grand children

The

NSC FOGHORN

TM



Volume 12, Issue 10

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

October 10, 2013

Special Points of Interest

Nevada Facts

Sagebrush State , Silver State, Battle-Born State

- ◆ State Animal — Desert Bighorn Sheep
- ◆ State Bird — Mountain Bluebird
- ◆ State Fish — Lahontan Cutthroat Trout
- ◆ State Flower — Sagebrush
- ◆ State Fossil — The Ichthyosaur
- ◆ State Grass — Indian Ricegrass
- ◆ State Insect— Vivid Dancer Damselfly
- ◆ State Metal — Silver
- ◆ State Reptile— Desert Tortoise
- ◆ State Rock— Sandstone
- ◆ State Trees — Single Leaf Pinion & Bristlecone Pine
- ◆ State Song —Home Means Nevada

Peace, Safety, Chalk & Stamps

By Director of Legislation Knight Allen

Let's start with International news. Anyone want to nominate Vladimir Putin for the Nobel Peace Prize? Maybe Time magazine can put him on its cover as the "Man of the Year" After all, didn't he save a stumbling, bumbling American leadership from setting off a who-knows-what scenario? Of course there will be a small price to pay. Assad is Putin's man and neither one of them objects to using conventional weapons to maintain their power. Assad will probably be in control of Syria long after the chemical weapons situation is resolved - whenever that may be, if at all.

An AP article reported on one of the costs of the NSA's spying... er, excuse me, security system. The telephone companies supplying the information "requested" by the NSA get paid to do it. For example, AT&T has one hundred people on staff to handle the requests. Verizon has seventy people operating 24/7 handling over 250,000 requests every year. Between 2007 and 2011 AT&T received \$24 million and Verizon received \$15—\$25 million. It's too bad we can't quantify and put into numbers how much privacy and freedom we've lost in our fruitless quest for safety. Ben Franklin was right: Trade freedom for safety? Wind up with neither.

Speaking of freedom under attack, what did you think of the Police/DA actions taken against the sidewalk graffiti protesters? Were you pleasantly surprised by the outpouring of support the "chalkers" received? Was that tempered some by the chilling comments by DA Wolfson when he dropped the charges? "There wasn't expressed permission but there was implied permission . . ." Permission? What permission? That was political speech in its purist form and no permission, expressed or implied was necessary. We should be glad public pressure forced Metro and the DA to back off but the mindset is an example of how vigilant we must be against the Police State mentality dominant among too many people holding government power.

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You have probably read or heard that the Postal Service is seeking an “emergency” rate increase from 46¢ to 49¢ for a stamp. They’re losing billions of dollars a year and in typical government fashion the only way out they can see is to raise their prices or drastically cut back service, including closing post offices and eliminating Saturday delivery. Then they’ll probably raise prices anyway. I got a firsthand lesson in why the Service is in such an economic death spiral. In order to beat the rate increase I went to my local Albertson’s to buy a hundred stamps. I still haven’t used up the 100 I bought back in 2011 at 44¢ but getting them at 46¢ now should carry me through three maybe even four years and who knows what the price of a stamp will be by then. The interesting part came when I was chatting with the young lady at the counter and mentioned the coming rate increase. She said to me, “Boy, I’m glad I don’t use the mail for anything.” She said it so calmly – a simple statement of fact. Here’s a young woman probably in her early to mid twenties, obviously computer savvy and online for everything that could not care less if the Postal Service disappeared tomorrow. I get the feeling she is much more representative of the Postal Service’s future than they want to admit.

Enjoy Nevada Day. We’re only one year away from the 150th Anniversary of Statehood.

Knight can be reached at: knightallen702@yahoo.com

Nevada 150 Sesquicentennial Medallions

Nevada’s Sesquicentennial celebration will commence on Nevada Day 2013 (October 31st) and conclude with an expanded Nevada Day celebration on October 31, 2014.

The first striking, by Governor Brian Sandoval, and production of the Copper and Silver Medallions will occur on Friday, October 25, 2013. **NO** Medallions will be available for sale the day of minting or through the Nevada State Museum or Legislative Gift Shop during the Nevada Day weekend.

Medallions sold before October 25, 2013, will be available for pick up or shipment from the Legislative Gift Shop in Carson City, Nevada, after November 30, 2013.

Medallions sold after October 26, 2013 may take up to 10 weeks before they are available for pick up or shipment from the Legislative Gift Shop at 401 S. Carson St., Carson City, Nevada, based on the Coin Press production schedule.

Each 1-ounce silver piece containing the Nevada 150 design on one side and the official Nevada state seal on the other, costs \$100.50. The Nevada 150 Commission also has given its approval to manufacture 2,000 copper medallions, costing \$15 each. The sesquicentennial copper medallions will have the same design as the first silver medallion, and are also available through the gift shop. The medallions are available online at:

<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/app/lcbstore/a/default.aspx> or in person at 401 S. Carson St., Carson City. No medallions will be available for sale Oct. 25 during the Nevada Day weekend. Throughout the year, four different medallions will be released at different dates for purchase. At some point toward the end of the 150 celebration, a medallion collection probably will be available for purchase.



“Please Don’t Quote Me”

FIRST LADIES

I’ve just had the first good night’s sleep I’ve had since we’ve been in the White House. Our new bed finally got here, and now I can reach over and pat Ike on his old bald head any time I want to! – Mamie Eisenhower

Mrs. Eisenhower's bangs and stylish fashion became her trademarks.

So many people hit the White House with their Dictaphone running...I never even kept a journal. I thought, ‘I want to live my life, not record it. – Jacqueline Kennedy

Jacqueline Kennedy was the 1st First Lady to have a press secretary
After graduating college, Mrs. Kennedy took a job as an “inquiring photographer” for a local newspaper in Washington . She interviewed her husband before he was president.

“It’s like shooting the rapids, every moment a new struggle, every moment a new direction—trying to keep the craft level and away from the rocks, and still no water in sight.”
Mrs. Johnson on life in the White House.

Lady Bird Johnson was the 1st wife to hold the Bible at the Inauguration.
Mrs. Johnson received the Presidential Medal of Freedom award from President Gerald Ford in 1977.
Growing up, her nursemaid called her “pretty as a lady bird,” hence the nickname “Lady Bird.”

I’ve never had it easy. I’ve never had time to think about things like...who I wanted to be or whom I admired, or to have ideas. I never had time to dream about being anyone else. I had to work. – Pat Nixon

Pat Nixon was the 1st First Lady to wear pants in public.
Mrs. Nixon invited hundreds of families to nondenominational Sunday services in the East Room of the White House.
Mrs. Nixon met President Nixon when they were cast in the same play at the Little Theater group in Whittier, California.
Mrs. Nixon added 600 paintings and antiques to the White House Collection.

An Extremely Short History of Nevada

Nevada's statehood was rushed to help ensure three electoral votes for Abraham Lincoln's reelection and add to the Republican congressional majorities. It became the 36th state on October 31, 1864, after telegraphing (the largest and costliest transmission ever by telegraph) the Constitution of Nevada to the Congress days before the November 8 presidential election .



Nevada's history and culture was determined by its harsh but rich environment. Small Mormon settlements before 1858 near the Utah border were sort of successful through faith, but the non-Mormon western section didn't succeed until the great silver strikes beginning in 1858 created boom towns and very large fortunes. When the 20th century started, profits declined while Progressive reformers tried to "civilize" Nevada through establishing universities, lofty idealism, and social reform. But during the 1910s there was an economic bust, and disillusionment from failures at social reform and a population decline of nearly one-fourth meant that by 1920 Nevada had degenerated into a "beautiful desert of buried hopes" according to one historian. Big time gambling arrived in 1931 and the boom began once more. With good transportation (especially to California), the nation's easiest divorce laws, and a speculative spirit to get rich quick, Nevada had a boom-and-bust economy (mostly boom) until the 2008 worldwide financial crisis revealed extravagant speculation in housing and casinos on a huge scale.

A New License Plate is Now Available

The automobile plate price is:

Standard:

Initial/Annual \$33.50/\$20

Amount to cause \$25.00/\$20.00

Personalized:

Initial/Annual \$68.50/\$40.00

Amount to cause \$25.00/\$20.00



Supports the Nevada Cultural Affairs Foundation and the celebration of Nevada's Sesquicentennial

A Severe Strain on Credulity – January 13, 1920

As a method of sending a missile to the higher, and even highest, part of the earth's atmospheric envelope, Professor Goddard's multiple-charge rocket is a practicable, and therefore promising device. Such a rocket, too, might carry self-recording instruments, to be released at the limit of its flight, and conceivable parachutes would bring them safely to the ground. It is not obvious, however, that the instruments would return to the point of departure; indeed, it is obvious that they would not, for parachutes drift exactly as balloons do. And the rocket, or what was left of it after the last explosion, would have to be aimed with amazing skill, and in dead calm, to fall on the spot where it started.

But that is a slight inconvenience, at least from the scientific standpoint, though it might be serious enough from that of the always innocent bystander a few hundred or thousand yards away from the firing line. It is when one considers the multiple-charge rocket as a traveler to the moon that one begins to doubt and looks again, to see if the dispatch announcing the professor's purposes and hopes says that he is working under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution. It does say so, and therefore the impulse to do more than doubt the practicability of such a device for such a purpose must be--well, controlled. Still, to be filled with uneasy wonder and express it will be safe enough, for after the rocket quits our air and really starts on its longer journey, its flight would be neither accelerated nor maintained by the explosion of the charges it then might have left. To claim that it would be is to deny a fundamental law of dynamics, and only Dr. Einstein and his chosen dozen, so few and fit, are licensed to do that.

His Plan Is Not Original

That Professor Goddard, with his "chair" in Clark College and the countenancing of the Smithsonian Institution, does not know the relation of action to reaction, and of the need to have something better than a vacuum against which to react--to say that would be absurd. Of course he only seems to lack the knowledge ladled out daily in high schools.

But there are such things as intentional mistakes or oversights, and, as it happens, Jules Verne, who also knew a thing or two in assorted sciences--and had, besides, a surprising amount of prophetic power--deliberately seems to make the same mistake that Professor Goddard seems to make. For the Frenchman, having got his travelers to or toward the moon into the desperate fix riding a tiny satellite of the satellite, saved them from circling it forever by means of an explosion, rocket fashion, where an explosion would not have had in the slightest degree the effect of releasing them from their dreadful slavery. That was one of Verne's few scientific slips, or else it was a deliberate step aside from scientific accuracy, pardonable enough of him in a romancer, but its like is not so easily explained when made by a savant who isn't writing a novel of adventure.

All the same, if Professor Goddard's rocket attains a sufficient speed before it passes out of our atmosphere--which is a thinkable possibility--and if its aiming takes into account all of the many deflective forces that will affect its flight, it may reach the moon. That the rocket could carry enough explosive to make on impact a flash large and bright enough to be seen from earth by the biggest of our telescope--that will be believed when it is done.

The New York Times

Oops! Of course, the Times was wrong; rockets work just fine in the vacuum of space. On July 17, 1969 — the day after the Apollo 11 mission launch — the Times issued a correction

A Correction

On Jan. 13, 1920, "Topics of The Times," an editorial-page feature of The New York Times, dismissed the notion that a rocket could function in a vacuum and commented on the ideas of Robert H. Goddard, the rocket pioneer, as follows:

"That Professor Goddard, with his 'chair' in Clark College and the countenancing of the Smithsonian Institution, does not know the relation of action to reaction, and of the need to have

something better than a vacuum against which to react—to say that would be absurd. Of course he only seems to lack the knowledge ladled out daily in high schools."

Further investigation and experimentation have confirmed the findings of Isaac Newton in the 17th Century and it is now definitely established that a rocket can function in a vacuum as well as in an atmosphere. The Times regrets the error.

The New York Times' famous retraction of the 1920 article

At the September Meeting



Dr. Herb Randall an advocate for seniors and an NSC member spoke about his activities as President of the Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum and a Silver Senator with the Nevada Silver Haired Congress.
Thank you Herb for all you do.

Members



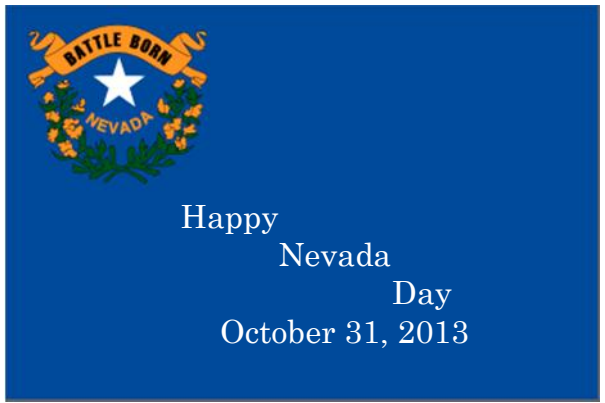
Renewing Members:
 Albert Bianco
 Richard Bianco
Thank you for your continued support!
New Members:
 Rosalind Cline
Welcome Aboard



Thank You *Thanks to all NSC members for your help. Especially Ted!*



 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.



Medical Expenditure Panel Survey

Estimates of health care expenses for the U.S. civilian noninstitutionalized (community) population are critical to policymakers and others concerned with access to medical care and the cost and sources of payment for that care. In 2010, health care expenses among the U.S. community population totaled **\$1.263 trillion**. Medical care expenses, however, are highly concentrated among a relatively small proportion of individuals in the community population. As previously reported in 1996, the top 1 percent of the U.S. population accounted for 28 percent of the total health care expenditures and the top 5 percent for more than half. More recent data have revealed that over time there has been some decrease in the extent of this concentration at the upper tail of the expenditure distribution.

- In 2010, the top 1 percent ranked by their health care expenses accounted for 21.4 percent of total health care expenditures with an annual mean expenditure of \$87,570. Overall, the top 50 percent of the population ranked by their expenditures accounted for 97.2 percent of overall health care expenditures while the lower 50 percent accounted for only 2.8 percent of the total.
- Children under the age of 18 were characterized by substantially greater concentrated levels of health care spending relative to their older counterparts. Alternatively, the elderly had the highest mean levels of health care expenditures relative to younger population subgroups at the top quantiles of the expenditure distribution.
- The top 5 percent of the uninsured population under age 65 ranked by their health care expenses accounted for 67.3 percent of the health care expenditures incurred by this subpopulation with an annual mean of \$17,453. Conditioned on insurance coverage status, the uninsured had the most concentrated levels of health care expenditures and the lowest annual

mean expenses.

- The top 5 percent of individuals with four or more chronic conditions accounted for 29.7 percent of health care expenditures for this subpopulation with an annual mean of \$81,790. Based on chronic condition status, persons with four or more chronic conditions had the lowest concentrated levels of health care expenditures and the highest annual mean expenses at the top quantiles of the expenditure distribution.

From Statistical Brief #421

For more information go to :

http://meps.ahrq.gov/mepsweb/data_files/publications/st421/stat421.shtml

FROM THE EDITOR

In 1930, President Herbert Hoover made \$70,000. N.Y. Yankee Babe Ruth in the same year made \$80,000. When Babe was asked why he replied, "I had a better year."

Computer classes for beginners will be held at the Whitney Library, 5175 E. Tropicana Ave. from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Monday through Thursday October 21-30. Registration is required. Call 702-507-6300 to register.

Clark County, the nation's fifth-largest school system, receives about \$9 million a month in reimbursements for feeding 186,410 children from low-income families. These children represent about 60 percent of some 315,000 students in the district. Can you believe it?

VERN

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 14 starting at 10 a.m. at >>>>>>>>>>



Whitney Recreation Center

5712 E. Missouri Ave.

The November 14th Speaker will be:

Announced Later

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October 10, 1845
The United States Naval Academy Opens

The United States Naval Academy opened on October 10 in Annapolis, Maryland, with 50 midshipmen students and seven professors. Known as the Naval School until 1850, the curriculum included mathematics and navigation, gunnery and steam, chemistry, English, natural philosophy, and French. The Naval School officially became the U.S. Naval Academy in 1850, and a new curriculum went into effect, requiring midshipmen to study at the academy for four years and to train aboard ships each summer--the basic format that remains at the academy to this day.



From Knowledge, Sea Power



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.



Plebes