

Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc.

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

The

NSC FOGHORN

TM



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

August 13, 2015

Special Points of Interest

On August 13, 1942 Major General Eugene Reybold of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers authorized the construction of facilities that would house the Manhattan Project. The Manhattan Project was a research and development project that produced the first nuclear weapons during World War II.



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Solar, Soccer – US Beats Them Again

By Vice President Knight Allen

I want to offer an update on rooftop solar.

Missing from all the discussions were actual numbers regarding the cost of solar and how many are participating. That finally started to change with two articles in the RJ first on 7/20 and then on 7/24. A Wall Street firm says the cost of large solar projects runs between \$60-\$86 per megawatt hour (mwh). NVE reported its solar cost was about \$137 per mwh in 2014. However, two new proposed projects are priced at less than \$50 per mwh which is strongly competitive with natural gas and coal.

The 7/24 article contained even more interesting numbers. Finally, NVE reported how many homeowners are participating in the solar rooftop program. The total number for Nevada is 9,571 with Clark County accounting for 7,990 as of Monday 7/20/15. According to the Assessor's office there are 498,114 single family residences in Clark County. 7,990 homes represent 1.6% of the total.

Step back a bit. Think of the turmoil and turbulence that 1.6% is causing and you can see why: 1. NVE is so nervous and 2. Why anyone who is not going to participate in rooftop solar as it expands should also be very concerned.

Did you happen to catch the Women's World Cup Finals? I have to admit I'm not a soccer fan. I never played it as a kid and know nothing about the intricacies and mechanics of the game. However, I had been following the adventures of the USA team in the newspaper as they worked their way through the bracket. The dominant opinion seemed to be the women were not playing very well at all. That they were lucky to have beaten this team or that team. By the time they got to the semi-final versus #2 ranked Germany which had rolled through their games the consensus was the USA, even though it was ranked #1 did not stand much of a chance. It could hardly be called an upset when the US

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won 2-1 but the game played by the Americans elicited a sigh of relief from the experts because, finally, the team played up to its talent.

Then came the Championship game against Japan. Wow! In the blink of an eye it was USA 1-0, USA 2-0, USA 3-0. Then, Carli Lloyd who had already scored two of the three US goals was headed downfield and saw the Japanese goaltender was out of position and decided to "take a shot" (from 55 yards away!) and just like that, it was USA 4-0, Carli had a hat trick and it all happened in less the 16 minutes. As Bogey said in 'The Maltese Falcon,' "It's the stuff that dreams are made of."

Much to their credit the Japanese refused to roll over. As the Americans backed off their attack mode and started playing more defense Japan closed the gap to 4-2. Then came what I thought was the most interesting goal of the game. No sooner had the score closed to 4-2 the US went back on the attack and less than three minutes after Japan's second goal it was US 5-2. It was as though, on this day, the US could score at-will. The Japan team seemed to get the message and the rest of the game was just a matter of playing out the clock.

So, why spend a column writing about a soccer game most of you probably didn't watch and don't care about? Because we live in an era of factional zealotry in which the public well has been poisoned with anger, hatred and a destructive kill or be killed mindset. I believe our country hasn't been this divided since the decade or so before the Civil War.

To see the American women's soccer team playing together with such enthusiasm, joy, love and respect for each other was, for me, an emotional and uplifting experience. That soccer team represents the best of who we are as a people and who we will continue to be as long as we respect each other through our differences and we hold on to the dream of a nation dedicated to concept of human liberty.

Knight can be reached at: knigtallen702@yahoo.com

The Dutch dancer and WWI spy Mata Hari, born Margaretha Zelle in Leeuwarden, the Netherlands On August 7,1876. She attended a teachers college and then married an army officer, Captain Rudolph MacLeod, in 1895. They lived in Java and Sumatra for a few years, and that's where she picked up her eventual byname. "Mata Hari" is a Malay term for the sunrise, and means "the eye of the day." The MacLeod marriage was marked by infidelity on both sides. He gave her syphilis, which was in turn inherited by their two children. After their son died, the parents began to hate each other. They returned to Holland and divorced, and MacLeod took out an ad in the local paper telling shopkeepers not to give his ex-wife any credit, because he would not be supporting her any longer. In order to make some money, she began dancing professionally in Paris in 1905, and occasionally worked in a high-class brothel.

The exact nature of her spy activities is not clear, but she probably didn't engage in much actual espionage. She was well known by sight all over Europe. She had apparently sold some outdated information about France to the Germans in 1916, and then later made a deal with the head of French intelligence to spy on the Germans in exchange for a pass to visit her Russian lover in the eastern war zone. The French became suspicious that she was a double agent, and she never was able to provide much useful information, so she was tried, convicted, and executed by firing squad in 1917. One of her prosecutors later admitted, "There wasn't enough evidence [against her] to flog a cat."

“Please Don’t Quote Me”

There is no likelihood man can ever tap the power of the atom. The glib supposition of utilizing atomic energy when our coal has run out is a completely unscientific Utopian dream, a childish bug-a-boo. Nature has introduced a few fool-proof devices into the great majority of elements that constitute the bulk of the world, and they have no energy to give up in the process of disintegration. – Robert A. Millikan (1863-1953) [1928 speech to the Chemists' Club (New York)] American Physicist, Nobel Prize Winner 1923

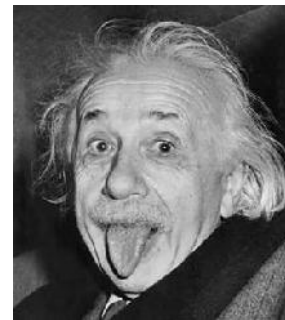


...any one who expects a source of power from the transformation of these atoms is talking moonshine...

- Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) [1933] – British –(known as the father of nuclear physics)

There is not the slightest indication that [nuclear energy] will ever be obtainable. It would mean that the atom would have to be shattered at will.

- Albert Einstein, (1879-1955) 1932.



That is the biggest fool thing we have ever done. The bomb will never go off, and I speak as an expert in explosives.

- Admiral William Leahy. [Advice to President Truman, when asked his opinion of the atomic bomb project.]

There is little doubt that the most significant event affecting energy is the advent of nuclear power...a few decades hence, energy may be free—just like the unmetered air....

- John von Neumann, scientist and member of the Atomic Energy Commission, 1955.



Social Security's Birthday



80 YEARS OF SOCIAL SECURITY

By Ed Weir

Social Security District Manager in Las Vegas, NV

Social Security has provided critical financial help to people of all ages for the last 80 years, and despite our age, we're far from retiring! As the Social Security program celebrates its historic birthday this August, we're reflecting on our diverse history, our current strengths, and ways

we can continue to improve our services to you.

On August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law. In doing so, he promised the law would protect "the average citizen and his family against the loss of a job and against poverty-ridden old age." Today, we continue to provide financial security for our country's most vulnerable citizens. In fact, Social Security provides world-class service to millions of people every day — online, on the phone, and in our network of field offices across the country.

As we celebrate 80 years, we're proud to present our "Celebrating the Past and Building the Future" anniversary website. There, you can read 80 interesting facts about an agency that touches everyone's life at some point or another! For example, did you know the original name of the Social Security Act was the Economic Security Act?

The anniversary website also includes a timeline of our history. It begins with the signing of the Act in 1935 and ends with this year's announcement of Vision 2025, our bold vision that will guide the agency as we work to meet the future customer service needs of the public. A memorable spot on the timeline is November 2, 2000, the date when we started taking retirement claims online.

Since our agency's beginning, we've relied on our passionate and hard-working employees to face challenges and provide exceptional service. Throughout the 80 days leading up to our anniversary, we've been posting employee testimonials that answer the question, "Why do you serve?" We also invited you to share your story with us. You can tell us how Social Security has made a difference in your life and/or the lives of your family and friends. We would love to hear from you, the people we serve every day.

When the Social Security program started 80 years ago, our goal was to provide an economic lifeline for people in need. Today, Social Security continues to protect millions of people. Join us in commemorating this significant milestone!

Visit www.socialsecurity.gov/80thanniversary.# # #

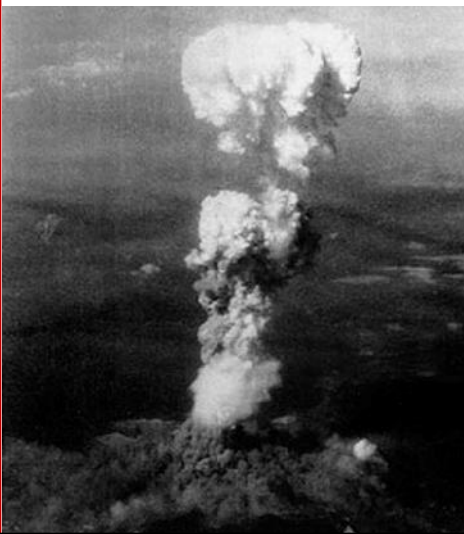


70th Years Ago

The United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima (August 6th) and Nagasaki (August 9th) 1945. The two bombings, which killed at least 129,000 people, remain the only use of nuclear weapons for warfare in history.

A total of twenty U.S., Dutch, and British prisoners of war were killed.

In Hiroshima 20,000+ Japanese soldiers of the Second General Army and 70,000–146,000 civilians were killed. In Nagasaki 39,000–80,000 were killed. Total killed is estimated to be between 129,000–246,000+ with roughly half dying on the first day.



Hiroshima

In Hiroshima 20,000+ Japanese soldiers of the Second General Army (about half) and 70,000–146,000 civilians were killed.

In Nagasaki 39,000–80,000 were killed. There were only 9000 soldiers of the Second Army stationed there.

Total killed is estimated to be between 129,000–246,000+ with roughly half dying on the first day.

A total of twenty U.S., Dutch, and British prisoners of war were killed.

Hiroshima mission: Enola Gay's crew on 6 August 1945, consisted of 12 men. The crew was: Colonel Paul W. Tibbets, Jr. – pilot and aircraft commander, Captain Robert A. Lewis – co-pilot; Enola Gay's regularly assigned aircraft commander, Major Thomas Ferebee – bombardier, Captain Theodore "Dutch" Van Kirk – navigator, Captain William S. Parsons, USN – weaponeer and mission commander.

First Lieutenant Jacob Beser – radar countermeasures (also the only man to fly on both of the nuclear bombing aircraft), Second Lieutenant Morris R. Jeppson – assistant weaponeer Technical Sergeant George R. "Bob" Caron – tail gunner, Technical Sergeant Wyatt E. Duzenbury – flight engineer, Sergeant Joe S. Stiborik – radar operator, Sergeant Robert H. Shumard – assistant flight engineer

Nagasaki mission crew

Major Charles W. Sweeney, Aircraft Commander, Captain Charles Donald "Don" Albury, Co-pilot, Second Lieutenant Frederick "Fred" J. Olivi, Regular Co-pilot Captain James F. Van Pelt, Jr., Navigator, Captain Kermit K. Beahan, Bombardier, Master Sergeant John D. Kuharek, Flight Engineer, Staff Sergeant Raymond C. Gallagher, Gunner, assistant flight engineer, Staff Sergeant Edward K. Buckley, Radar Operator, Sergeant Abe M. Spitzer, Radio Operator, Sergeant Albert T. "Pappy" DeHart, Tail Gunner

Also on board were the following additional mission personnel

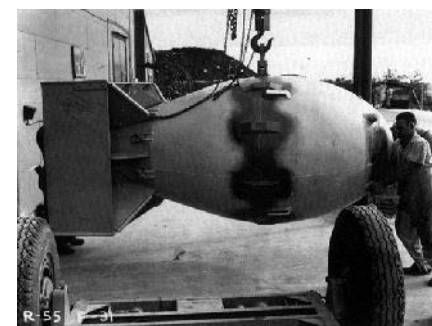
Commander Frederick Ashworth, USN, Weaponeer, Lieutenant Philip M. Barnes, USN, Assistant Weaponeer, Second Lieutenant Jacob Beser, Radar Countermeasures, (Lt. Beser flew on both atomic missions)



Nagasaki



**Little Boy
Uranium 235**



**Fat Man
Plutonium 239**

At the July Meeting

A Nevada State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) volunteer explained the SHIP program to us. SHIP is a free health benefits counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers. SHIP's mission is to educate, advocate, counsel and empower people to make informed healthcare benefit decisions. SHIP is an independent program funded by Federal agencies and is not affiliated with the insurance industry.

SHIP provides free help to Medicare beneficiaries who have questions or issues with their health insurance. SHIP counselors are people from your community who have volunteered to be a counselor and they are trained in Medicare eligibility, benefits and options, health insurance counseling and related insurance products.

SHIP counselors are NOT connected with any insurance company, nor are they licensed to sell insurance or provide any legal advice.

A SHIP counselor will NOT make decisions for you. Their purpose is to assist you objectively and confidentially, and to empower you to make your own wise health care decisions.

SHIP Counseling is free of charge. If you are eligible for Medicare, you are eligible for SHIP Counseling. For help in our area call 702-486-3478. The Las Vegas SHIP office is at 1820 E. Sahara Avenue in suite 205.

Members

♥ Renewing Members ♥:

Barbara Colvin

Marcia Koben

Alma McGraham

Taska Miller

Thank you for your continued support



*Thanks to all NSC members
Who helped us.
It is very much appreciated.*



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.



Einstein's August 1939 Letter to FDR

Old Grove Rd. Nassau Point Peconic, Long Island August 2nd, 1939
F.D. Roosevelt President of the United States White House Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Some recent work by E. Fermi and L. Szilard, which has been communicated to me in manuscript, leads me to expect that the element uranium may be turned into a new and important source of energy in the immediate future. Certain aspects of the situation which has arisen seem to call for watchfulness and, if necessary, quick action on the part of the administration. I believe therefore that it is my duty to bring to your attention the following facts and recommendations:

In the course of the last four months it has been made probable -- through the work of Joliot in France as well as Fermi and Szilard in America -- that it may become possible to set up a nuclear chain reaction in a large mass of uranium, by which vast amounts of power and large quantities of new radium like elements would be generated. Now it appears almost certain that this could be achieved in the immediate future.

This new phenomenon would also lead to the construction of bombs, and it is conceivable -- though much less certain -- that extremely powerful bombs of a new type may thus be constructed. A single bomb of this type, carried by boat and exploded in a port, might very well destroy the whole port together with some of the surrounding territory. However, such bombs might very well prove to be too heavy for transportation by air.

The United States has only very poor [illegible] of uranium in moderate quantities. There is some good ore in Canada and the former Czechoslovakia, while the most important source of Uranium is Belgian Congo.


In view of this situation you may think it desirable to have some permanent contact maintained between the Administration and the group of physicists working on chain reactions in America. One possible way of achieving this might be for you to entrust with this task a person who has your confidence and who could perhaps serve in an unofficial capacity. His task might comprise the following:

- a) To approach Government Departments, keep them informed of the further development, and out forward recommendations for Government action, giving particular attention to the problem of uranium ore for the United States;
- b) To speed up the experimental work, which is at present being carried on within the limits of the budgets of University laboratories, by providing funds, if such funds be required, through his contacts with private persons who are willing to make a contribution for this cause, and perhaps also by obtaining the co-operation of industrial laboratories which have the necessary equipment.

I understand that Germany has actually stopped the sale of uranium from the Czechoslovakian mines, which she has taken over. That she should have taken such early action might perhaps be understood on the ground that the son of the German Under-Secretary of State, Von Weishlicker [sic], is attached to the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin where some of the American work on uranium is now being repeated.

Yours very truly,
(Albert Einstein)

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on
Thursday, September, 10
starting at 10 a.m. at 



Whitney Recreation Center
5712 E. Missouri Ave., Las Vegas, NV
702-455-7576

**Our September speaker will be:
From the Nevada Goes Fall Free Coalition**

Dr. Sue Schuerman
PT, GCS, Ph.D.

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August 13, 1918

The First Official Woman Marine

On August 12, 1918 the Secretary of the Navy granted authority to enroll women in the Marine Corps Reserve to perform clerical duties and “free a man to fight”. The following day, **August 13, 1918**, Opha May Johnson enlisted and became the first **official** Woman Marine. Three hundred and four more women enlisted by the end of WWI. They were called Marinettes. During WWII Colonel Ruth C. Streeter commanded about 1000 officers and 18,000 enlisted women. During the last year of the war Women Marines represented over half of the personnel at Marine Corps bases in the continental United States.



A year after the end of the war, a small number of Woman Marines as a post war reserve. At this time they could not constitute over two percent of the total force and could not hold a **permanent** rank above lieutenant colonel. Katherine A. Towle was appointed Director of Women Marines with a **temporary** rank of colonel.

Master Sergeant Barbara Dulinsky, in March of 1967, became the first Woman

The Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc. (NSC) is a nonprofit, non-partisan 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.

Marine to serve in a country at war when she requested to be sent to Vietnam. Seven years later the Commandant authorized Women Marines to serve in *specialized rear echelon* units of the Fleet Marine Force which could not be engaged in combat. They were specifically banned from all infantry, artillery and armored units. They could not serve as members of aircrews.

In May 1978 Brigadier General Margaret Brewer became the first general grade Woman Marine. Prior to and during the Gulf War ~1000 Women Marines were sent to Southwest Asia. In July 1993, 2nd Lieutenant Sahara Deal began training as a pilot and received her Golden Wings on April 21, 1995.

In 1996 Major General Carol A. Mutter became the first two star Woman Marine and in two years received her third star.