

The

NSC FOGHORN

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Special Points of Interest



At this time of the year it is appropriate to recall that the modern image of Santa Claus was largely created by a German immigrant to these shores, Thomas Nast, an illustrator for *Harper's Weekly*. Nast would draw Santa Claus many times throughout his career and the Santa we see today is largely Santa as imagined by Nast.

Speak Up, If You Agree With Me

By Vice President Knight Allen

There sure has been a lot of ink spilled over the explosion of politically correct (PC) terrorism playing out on so many of the nations' college campuses.

I can't speak for you, but for me watching the complete abandonment and crushing destruction of Voltaire's "I disapprove of what you say but I will defend to the death your right to say it" is pretty disheartening.

There's a recurring theme that asks what these kids are going to do when they get out into the real world and are faced with the cold hard realities of day to day existence? Most seem to believe they will grow up-fast. That's very comforting but what if it's wrong? After all, these kids represent the next generation of American leaders. They will come out of college and start climbing the ladders of all our political, social and economic institutions until they reach policy making positions. What then? Who's to say that adjunct professor who wanted to throw the TV reporter and his camera crew off the state university campus won't be a school president or trustee one day?

From K-12 with its gold stars for trying, even if the answer is wrong, to participation trophies and social promotion children are taught to believe nothing negative should ever happen to them. By the time they get to college they are ripe for the PC terrorists to turn them into the mobs we've seen all over television.

All through our nation's history people have used the First Amendments' freedom of speech to address their grievances. The Abolitionists, Suffragettes, Civil Rights activists, Vietnam War Protesters and countless numbers of others all demanded their right to freedom of speech and in many cases experienced real hardship to exercise their right.

This time however it's different. Very, very different. The PC terrorists and their behind the scenes professorial elite are not

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looking to exercise freedom OF speech. They are looking to impose freedom FROM speech. Only they will determine what is acceptable speech. Only they can decide who will be allowed to speak and what they can say. And what have so many administrations been doing in the face of this terrorism? They've been folding like an all-in poker player who's had his inside straight draw busted. Look at the track record of mea culpas (admitting to errors) and even resignations. Pathetic.

Then there are the people invited to speak at commencements who have been "dis-invited" by the PC terrorists. According to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (thefire.org) there have been over one hundred such incidents in the last five years.

The fact is these kids weren't born believing the claptrap and nonsense they're spewing. They weren't born knowing the tactics they are using to shut down intellectual freedom. They had to be taught. Very carefully taught.

Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein in "South Pacific" articulated beautifully the root cause of all the misery we have been cursed with as a species forever. So, with a grateful and appreciative nod to them, and with a bit of editorial license:

You've got to be taught to hate and fear,
You've got to be taught year to year,
It's got to be drummed in your dear little ear,
You've got to be carefully taught.

You've got to be taught before it's too late,
Before semester six, seven or eight,
To hate all the people your professors hate,
You've got to be carefully taught!
You've got to be carefully taught.

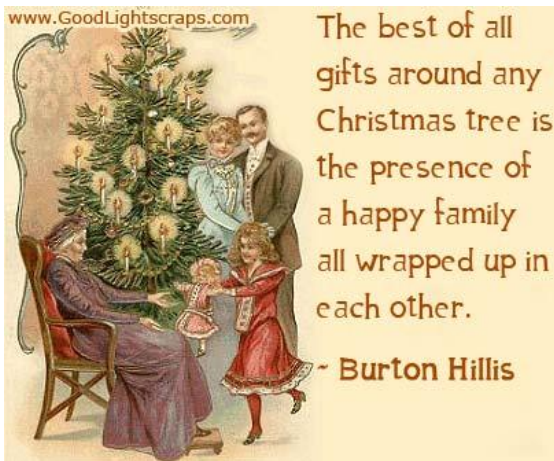
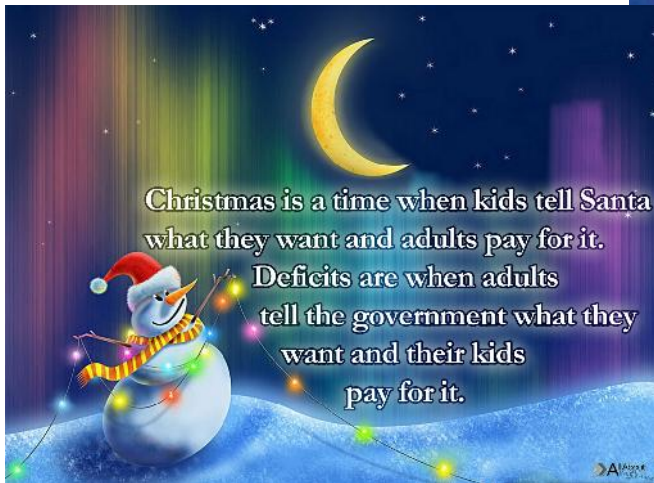
In keeping in mind that great Biblical passage: "This too shall pass." I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday Season and a great 2016!

Knight can be reached at: knightallen702@yahoo.com

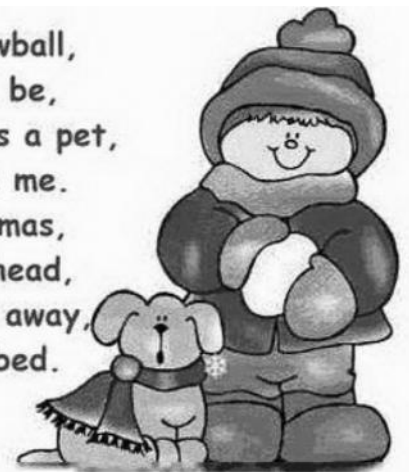


*From the
NSC Board*

“Please Don’t Quote Me”



I made myself a snowball,
 As perfect as could be,
 I thought I'd keep it as a pet,
 And let it sleep with me.
 I made it some pajamas,
 And a pillow for its head,
 Then last night it ran away,
 But first-- it wet the bed.



From the Editor

Let me bring you up to date on what happened to me since we last met.

On the afternoon of November 11, I didn't feel well after eating some chicken and then got very ill and threw up much more than I thought I had eaten for two days. I thought I had food poisoning. My wife called the Senior Dimension's advice nurse who after hearing about my previous heart attacks suggested that I might be having another one since I did have a pain in my left arm. My wife rushed me to SMA urgent care because I still thought it was food poisoning. Let me explain why I thought this. The only symptoms I have had previously were a slight pain in my left arm, a slight pain in the jaw, nausea and breaking into a sweat. This time I didn't have nausea, I was really sick and I ignored the pain that had come and gone in my left arm. Anyway, when I got to urgent care at Eastern and Harmon I was given an ECG which shows how your heart is working. When they saw my ECG they immediately called an ambulance, which got there almost immediately, and in four minutes I was at Desert Springs Hospital Emergency and after they looked at the results of another ECG I am in an operating room where they immediately gave me an angiogram. This involves sticking a thin metal tube in a major artery in your groin and run it into your heart. Then filling your heart with a chemical so that they can see, with X-rays, what is happening in the heart. I have had a few of these since my first heart attack in 1988. They detected a defective artery and put a stent in it so now I have three bypassed arteries and one with a stent, a fine mesh tube used to keep an artery open. A stent is more likely to clog up than an artery so I am on another medicine to help prevent plaque build up in the stent. I was discharged from the hospital Saturday, November 14th.

So every thing is good, right? My wife left for California on November 29th to celebrate a the birthdays of a son and granddaughter in early December.

On December 2nd I took my blood pressure and noted it was 70/50. I called my wife who called a friend in Las Vegas who volunteers in a hospice . The friend told her husband to get over to my house post-haste which he did . He rushed me to urgent care again and they sent me immediately to Desert Springs Emergency again.

An ECG showed my heart was in fibrillation, going wild, and thus could not pump blood properly hence the low blood pressure. They gave my heart an electric shock like you see in the movies and did various other things to bring the heart back to normalcy. I have an implantable defibrillator which was supposed to do this but didn't . So I was admitted to the CCU (cardiac care unit) again.

A cardiologist called in a defibrillator technician and guided him in recalibrating the unit.

I was being monitored and medicine is being pumped into me through catheters, a heart monitor is attached to my chest which send signals to the nurses' desk as well as a monitoring station on the bottom floor by telemetry, and an external monitor is checking my blood pressure each hour. At various times day and night blood is being taken and analyzed. All vital signs are normal.

So everything is okay, right? I was scheduled to be released on December 5th.

On December 6th all external tubes and wires were removed so I could get out of bed and pack. I was in the process of putting things in bags on a deep window sill facing away from the door when the RN on duty came in yelling, "What are you doing?" I said without turning, "Packing. You told me I was being released." Then I turned and saw not only the nurse but six or eight other people running toward me. What had happened was my heart was racing at over 120 beats per minute and in fibrillation. The monitor was still attached and sent a signal to the nurses' station and the downstairs monitoring station and alarmed. The RN was very distraught and told me my heart rate was 120 and my heart could not last at that rate. A cardiologist she called said it could since I had no symptoms and told her to calm down. I was zapped again to bring the heart out of arrhythmia and all plans to send me home were cancelled. A defibrillator technician was called in again and readjust the unit. About six bags of drugs were pumped through the catheter in my arm during this stay. I was finally released on Sunday, December 6th.

My wife arrived back in Las Vegas on December 7th. My daughter stayed with me Sunday night.

During all of this, from November 11th through December 6th I had no pain and appeared to be very well. The only thing that hurt my arm below the elbow where the catheter needle was located because the medicine being administered caused some breakdown of the tissue and a large hard lump appeared. The catheter was later moved to the wrist area with no problems after that. The lump and pain finally disappeared completely by December 17th.

A number of my medicines were changed and a few new ones, including one to stabilize the heart and one to prevent clotting in the stent, were added.

The implantable defibrillator seems not to be able to be adjusted so that detects the unstable heart without being so sensitive that it would be giving me shocks all of the time. However my SMA cardiologist has referred me to a Nevada Heart and Vascular cardiologist who was one of those I saw in the hospital, and I have an appointment on January 19th.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year —VERN

THE NATIONAL GUARD TURNS 379



The official birth date of the Army National Guard as a reserve component of the Army is December 13, 1636. On this date, the Massachusetts General Court in Salem, for the first time in the history of the North American continent, established that all able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were required to join the militia. The North, South, and East Regiments were established with this order. Simply stated, citizen-soldiers who mustered for military training could be and would be called upon to fight when needed. Laws often evolve from well-intentioned actions, yet sometimes prove themselves to be ineffective. Given such odds, how could this possibly work?

Owing to many failures in the time that English settlers had attempted colonization in the Massachusetts frontier and elsewhere in North America, leaders decided that a proactive and ready state of mind must be kept by all citizens, particularly those training in military

tactics. Being part of citizenry in the small villages meant that a price must be paid for the freedoms that could potentially be enjoyed, were the colony to ultimately succeed. That price exacted meant taking responsibility for defending the settlements of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Soon the entire New England region defended itself against the aggression of the Pequot nation. Other colonies such as Connecticut and Rhode Island mustered militia units to fight the Indian tribe, and succeeded in forcing the Pequots to capitulate in 1638. Ultimately, the militia enlisted from the many small villages proved a strong component in building confidence for the settlement as a whole.

Although other colonial settlements in North America such as those in Florida, Virginia, and New Mexico that would become part of the United States utilized military protection in order to allow settlers safe passage and to defend against aggressors, Massachusetts proved to be the first entity to have its government establish and raise a militia. Nor did these other colonies' militia service remain continuous. The tie to legal precedent in this manner remains to this day.

That record of service has remained continuous and unbroken, no matter the change in each unit's function as a part of the militia or the National Guard.

This distinction qualifies it as the birthplace of the militia in the United States. With the North, South, and East Regiments established, its exemplary military tradition continues through this day with four Massachusetts National Guard units -- the 101st Engineer Battalion, the 101st Field Artillery, the 181st Infantry Regiment, and the 182nd Infantry Regiment. The tradition born in Salem continues today.

Much has changed since 1636, but one thing has not: the National Guard still consists of Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen providing protection from natural disaster, training regularly to uphold high standards of readiness, and also deploying to far-away countries to protect the United States' national interests abroad. Although the country's growth and expansion has made it a large military force around the world, the National Guard still remains a community cornerstone -- just as it did when it was given birth on December 13, 1636.



The Magi, also referred to as the Wise Men or Kings, were, in the Gospel of Matthew and Christian tradition, a group of distinguished foreigners who visited Jesus after his birth, bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

According to Matthew, the only one of the four Canonical gospels to mention the Magi, they came "from the east" to worship the "king of the Jews". Although the account does not mention the number of people "they" or "the Magi" refers to, the three gifts has led to the widespread assumption that there were three men. In Eastern Christianity, the Magi often number twelve. Their identification as kings in later Christian writings is probably linked to Psalms 72:11, "May all kings fall down before him".

At the November Meeting

Darrellyn Bonstell the Arbitration and Community Outreach Director at the Better Business Bureau serving Southern Nevada was the speaker at this meeting. I was busy in Desert Springs Hospital after having a heart attack on November 11. I assume she did a splendid job explaining the BBB to our members. There is no picture of her and Knight since I wasn't at the meeting..



Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday commemorating the rededication of the Holy Temple (the Second Temple) in Jerusalem at the time of the Maccabean Revolt against the Seleucid Empire. Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days, starting on the 25th day of Kislev according to the Hebrew calendar, which may occur at any time from late November to late December in the Gregorian calendar. It is celebrated, in 2015, from **Sunday, December 6 at sunset until Monday, December 14 at night-fall**. It is also known as the Festival of Lights and the Feast of Dedication.

The festival is observed by the kindling of the lights of a unique candelabrum, the nine-branched menorah or hanukiah, one additional light on each night of the holiday, progressing to eight on the final night. The typical menorah consists of eight branches with an additional visually distinct branch. The extra light, with which the others are lit, is called a shamash or the attendant, and is given a distinct location, usually above or below the rest.

Other Hanukkah festivities include playing dreidel and eating oil-based foods such as doughnuts and latkes.

Since the 1970s, the worldwide Chabad Hasidic movement has initiated public menorah lightings in open public places in many countries.

HAPPY HANUKKAH!



Thank You!

Thanks to all NSC members Who contributed time, gifts and money to 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.



Medicare Drug Bill

This month, a bill was introduced the Medicare Fair Drug Pricing Act (H.R. 4207), which would give the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) tools to bring down the price of prescription drugs in the Medicare program.

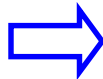
In a statement, Representative Schakowsky said, "Over the past few years, many breakthrough drugs have come to market, providing hope to many Americans living with diseases that currently have little or no treatment or cure. Yet, little has been done to ensure that patients can actually afford those life-saving treatments. That is why, I introduced the Medicare Fair Drug Pricing Act, which would ensure that Medicare beneficiaries have access to breakthrough, life-saving drugs. Under my legislation the Secretary of Health and Human Services would negotiate directly with drug manufacturers of sole source drugs and biologics covered under Medicare Part D to ensure that these medicines are affordable and accessible for beneficiaries."

The legislation would require the HHS Secretary to negotiate prices for prescription drugs covered by Medicare Part D that are the only prescription drug of their kind and are not produced by more than two manufacturers. The law would give the Secretary and the drug manufacturer 90 days to negotiate the prescription drug price, and the set price would remain in effect until more than two manufacturers enter the market with competing medicines, as long as one of the prescription drugs is a generic. Let us hope it is enacted.



Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on
Thursday January 14, 2016
Starting at 10 a.m. at



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

Our January Speaker will be:
Las Vegas Review Journal Editor

Michael Hengel

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December 10, 1906

**President Theodore Roosevelt Awarded
Nobel Peace Prize**

A hundred and ten years ago, the editors of **The Nation** magazine, hoped that Theodore Roosevelt's receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize on this day in 1906—in recognition of his efforts to negotiate peace between Russia and Japan—would convince the notoriously bellicose president that “being armed to the teeth” was not the only route to achieving peace.

“The award of the Nobel prize of \$40,000 to Theodore Roosevelt is a proper recognition of his success in bringing about peace between Russia and Japan. This is the finest of President Roosevelt's achievements, and the one for which he should be longest remembered. In every land this award will be applauded, nowhere, however, more warmly than in this country, which is a sharer in the honor to its Chief Magistrate. With admirable public spirit and tact he has decided to devote the money to the cause of industrial peace. The prize will also, we trust, modify his own conventional ideas about the necessity of being armed to the teeth, and will set his thoughts more strongly than heretofore in the direction of amity between nations. At the coming Hague Conference he has a unique opportunity to startle the world by humanitarian proposals for disarmament; he is peculiarly in a position to lead in some long step toward relieving the poor of Europe from the crushing burdens of militarism.”

The war that was ended was the Russo-Japanese War (8 February 1904—5 September 1905) that involved rival ambitions in Manchuria and Korea. Japan opened the war with a surprise attack on the Russian Eastern Fleet at Port Arthur. The fleet was destroyed. (remember Pearl Harbor?)

Russia was defeated in numerous battles but Tsar Nicholas II was convinced Russia would win and remained fighting to avert a “humiliating defeat”. Finally President Roosevelt stepped in and mediated the

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.

Treaty of Portsmouth ending the war. The complete victory of the Japanese military surprised the world (remember WWII). Roosevelt was the first American to win a Noble prize in any category.

