

Our Mission: To provide visibility and support for the gathering and dissemination of history about the roles and contributions of all Nevada women.

Miss Wakayama, Peacemaker

There is an interesting artifact of Nevada/Japanese history that resides at the Nevada Historical Society. Sidney Lewis Gulick, a former missionary who spent time in Japan (1888-1913), was concerned that there was a growing tension between the U.S. and Japan in the 1920s, over a myriad of issues including immigration. He knew that dolls were important in Japanese culture and helped form a group to send dolls from American children promoting friendship with their Japanese counterparts. The "Committee on World Friendship Among Children" gathered over 12,000 "friendship dolls" that American children donated and in 1927, shipped them from America to Japan just in time for the annual Japanese doll festival, [Hinamatsuri](#).

The dolls were donated by both boys and girls, and each was sent with a "passport that cost 1 cent and a railroad and steamer ticket that cost 99 cents," as well as a "friendship" poem. The committee suggested that "girls specialize on the selection of the dolls and the making of their clothing and that the boys serve as business and ticket agents."



Laura Margaret, blue-eyed doll. Tsurugi Library, Hakusan-city, Ishikawa prefecture, Japan



Miss Wakayama. Photo by Patti Bernard

Taking the cue from the American project, Viscount Eiichi Shibusawa led a campaign to reciprocate with dolls commissioned from the best doll makers in Japan. Fifty-eight dolls were commissioned, and each doll, dressed in a beautiful silk kimono, came with a trunk filled with tea accessories, some furniture and spare clothing. The dolls were sent to libraries and museums throughout the U.S. The dolls, dressed to represent individual Japanese regions, were also accompanied with a passport, steam ticket and friendship message to American children.

The now-94-year-old Miss Wakayama, named for a city in Japan, was sent to Nevada in 1928. The beautiful 33-inch doll is displayed with her accessories in a glass case at the Nevada Historical Society.

Of the 58 dolls sent to America, 46 have been located. The search is still ongoing for the other 12 missing dolls.

An interesting postscript is that in 2015, Christine Johnson, Curator of Artifacts and Education at the Nevada Historical Society, received a letter from Japan asking if the Society would accept a "peace cap" for the doll. This was perfect timing as the package arrived shortly before Veterans Day. The only request with the letter and cap was that photographs of children observing the doll be sent back to Japan.

There is a short video on Miss Wakayama on YouTube at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ghFfTqg5e7M>.

Membership Renewals and Donations *March-September 2022*

Honorary Members:

Dawn Gibbons
Betty Glass
Dema Guinn
Kathy List
Sandy Miller
Kathy Noneman
Kathleen Teipner Sandoval
Lauralyn McCarthy Sandoval
Kathy Sisolak
Robert Stoldal - **New**
Holly Van Valkenburgh
Linda Wyckoff

Best Friend Forever - \$1,000:

Lynn Bremer
Grace Davis
Vida Keller
Catherine Magee - **New**
Sandy Raffealli
Mona Reno
Janet Spelman

Membership:

Individual - \$30

Terri Avansino - **New**
Patty Clock
Janet Carnes - **New**
Rosie Cevasco - **New**
Isabel Espinoza
Kitty Falcone
Shannon Hataway
Debbie Hinman
Beverly Hubbard
Diane Loper
Patricia Lynch - **New**
Jacquelyn Marcelle - **New**
Andrea Phillips - **New**
Marla Sloan - **New**
Jill Stovall - **New**

Family of Two - \$55

Gwendolyn B. Clancy and
Tess Opferman

Friend - \$100

Jaculine Jones
Jane Sweetland

Good Friend - \$250

Patricia Cafferata

Best Friend - \$500

Organization - \$50

Churchill County Museum
DKG Lambda Chapter
DKG Xi Chapter
Northern Nevada Council for
the Social Studies

Donations:

General Fund:

Mary Lynn Hinckley - \$25
Beverly Hubbard - \$100

Endowment Donations:

In Memory of Kay Bennett

Patti Bernard
Patti Cafferata
Marcia Cuccaro
Mona Reno

Thank You All!

Dr. Marlene J. Adrian

In 2014 the NWHP worked with The Women of Productions Diversity, Inc. of southern Nevada for a huge project developed by Marlene Adrian for the Nevada 150 celebrations. That project was to conduct interviews on video of women in all 17 counties. The NWHP interviewed 80+ women in the north and central Nevada for that project, called [Nevada Women's Legacy](#). Here is a very brief biography of Marlene condensed from the [Women of Diversity](#) website, where there is a longer bio.



“Our co-founder and former president, Dr. Marlene J. Adrian passed away on April 20, 2022. Her vision and energy led Women of Diversity Productions, Inc. for 30 years. Her determined spirit and passion for advancing the status of women and celebrating their accomplishments will continue with new projects and our committed focus on our mission.

Dr. Marlene Joan Adrian, September 3, 1933 – April 20, 2022

Professor Emerita, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

President Emerita, Women of Diversity Productions, Inc.

Marlene Adrian was born on September 3, 1933 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a wonderful city for growing up and a city that taught her about the inequities of boys and girls, which became her passion throughout her life.

Dr. Marlene Adrian's philosophy was that her life is worth living if she could improve the lives of women, and all persons or subgroups of society, who are discriminated against.”

Mark Your Calendars

Please join the NWHP for programs this year. **Members receive a \$5 discount, unless indicated otherwise.**

For information on these programs contact
Sue 775-722-2699 shdavis4364@att.net,
Lynette 530-448-6448 lynetteastors@gmail.com,
or Patti 775-826-3612 awtuv1@gmail.com.
Watch for emailed event flyers with registration information and Mail Chimp monthly news.

Who is buried in our backyard?

Date: Saturday, October 22, 2022
Time: 10:30 a.m. to noon
"no-host" luncheon to follow: TBA

Where: Mountain View Cemetery

Cost: \$15.00 for everyone

Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/427201610517>

Cemetery Tour on Notable Women Resting in Mountain View Cemetery: "Visit" with some interesting women of Nevada who come "alive" in Chautauqua presentations.

Contact: We are looking for women to portray the Chautauqua characters. If you are interested, contact Patti Bernard at 775-826-3612 or Sue Davis at 775-722-2699 and leave a message.

Behind the Scenes at the Nevada State Museum, What the Public Doesn't See

Date: November 18, 2022
Time: 10 a.m. to noon
Where: Nevada State Museum
600 N. Carson Street, Carson City
Cost: \$20.00 member, \$25.00 non-member
Contact: Patti Bernard at 775-826-3612 or
Sue Davis at 775-722-2699

Christmas Memories with Patricia Cafferata

Date: December 3, 2022
Time: TBA
Where: 995 Pineridge Drive, Reno, Nevada
Cost: \$5 donation
Contact: Patti Bernard at 775-826-3612 or
Sue Davis at 775-722-2699

The program committee has chosen both online and in-person programs for the year of 2022. We plan several travel events, as well as programs in both Carson City and Reno.

We will also highlight some of our oral history interviews from the [Nevada Women, Gold in the Silver State](#) web page as online programs with short updates on each individual.

Robert Stoldal Honorary NWHP Member



Bob Stoldal has been a Good Friend member of the NWHP for many years. We are proud to grant him honorary membership in the NWHP.

He is currently the board chair of The Nevada Independent, formerly the Nevada News Bureau, Inc. Mr.

Stoldal has been in the news business since he wrote for the newspaper at Las Vegas High School. He went on to work in both radio and television in southern Nevada.

Robert is also the Chair of the Board of Museums and History, which supports the activities of the Division of Museums and History and the State Historic Preservation Office. He is on the Board of Preserve Nevada and the Nevada State Commission on Cultural Affairs. He is also the Chair of the City of Las Vegas Historic Preservation Commission.

NWHP - Membership Report August 31, 2022

As of this date the membership of the NWHP is 120 members in good standing. We also have 12 honorary members, 7 life members, and 5 organizations. The total current membership is 144.

Joy Orlich, Membership

NWHP - Treasurer's Report August 31, 2022

The Year-to-Date, as of August 31, 2022, financial report shows a bank and Pay-Pal balance of \$62,557.65, \$0.00 liability and net YTD income of \$-15,603.10. This is due to the \$25,000 check for Jean Ford Endowment. The total equity plus liability of the NWHP is \$62,984.37.

Michelle Gardner, Treasurer

Irene Bruce, Poet

By Quest Lakes and Mona Reno



Irene Bruce in her office, 1950s.
Courtesy of UNR Special Collections

Quest Lakes has been researching Nevada poet Irene Bruce for several years. Quest has written a biography of Bruce which will be posted to the NWHP website later this year.

As part of National Poetry Month, on April 9, 2022, Quest and Mona Reno gave a presentation on Irene Bruce at the Silver City Schoolhouse Community Center. Several members of the NWHP attended this event along with other people interested in poetry.

Irene Bruce (1903-1987) was the author of three popular books of poetry: *Crag and Sand*, 1945; *Night Cry*, 1950; and *A Legend of Pyramid Lake*; and more than 500 of her poems were published in the *San Francisco Examiner*, *Nevada Magazine*, *Sunset*, etc. The quality of her writing continues to be recognized decades later. Some of her poems were included in *Desert Wood*, Shaun Griffin's 1991 anthology of Nevada poetry, and in Cheryl Glotfelty's comprehensive literary anthology of Nevada, *Literary Nevada: Writings from the Silver State* (2008). Bruce was poetry editor for *Nevada Magazine*, co-editor of the literary magazine *Destinies*, and host of a weekly poetry broadcast on KOH radio.

The April 9 event was co-sponsored by the Nevada Women's History Project and the Resident Artist Program in Silver City, with additional support from Silver City Preservation Society, Silver City Arts, and the Silver City Volunteer Library.

Thunderbird Lodge

By Sue Davis

On May 17, 2022, NWHP had a private tour of the Thunderbird Lodge. Patti Bernard, NWHP Chair, provided some historical background and NWHP member Lynette Astors was our guide for the hour tour.

In 1935, George Whittell, Jr. purchased 27 miles of Lake Tahoe shoreline on the Nevada side. In 1936 construction began on Mr. Whittell's summer residence, Thunderbird Lodge. The stone house was designed by Frederic DeLongchamps and completed 2 1/2 years later. Our tour included the main house, card house and the boat house, which houses the beautiful yacht, *Thunderbird*.



Keeping with the Nevada women theme, Ms. Astors talked about the women in Mr. Whittell's life.

After the tour, 23 NWHP members and guests enjoyed lunch and wine overlooking beautiful Lake Tahoe.

Thunderbird Lodge is currently owned by the non-profit Thunderbird Preservation Society.



Lynette Astor and Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, with the *Thunderbird*.

NWHP Annual Meeting

By Marcia Cuccaro

The June 18, 2022, NWHP Annual Meeting took place at the Toiyabe Golf Club in Washoe Valley, Nev. We had approximately 40 attendees.

Patti ran through the accomplishments of the organization from December 2021 through May 2022. Three new biographies have been added to our website, and two new oral histories have been completed. Two newsletters were sent out and the Covid grant final report was submitted.

To date we held in-person events at the Marjorie Russell Textile and Clothing Museum, the Stewart Indian Museum and at the Thunderbird Lodge at Lake Tahoe, Nev. Some members attended the woman suffrage marker dedications in Austin and Battle Mountain, Nev. A presentation was made for the Nevada Council of Social Studies. Our Strategic Plan was updated. Our Chair Patti did a radio interview in January.



Patricia Lynch, former Reno City Attorney who served an unprecedented five terms in office was our guest speaker. She was a founding member of the Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association, the Nevada Prosecution

Advisory Council, the Nevada Domestic Violence Prevention Council, and the Nevada Commission on Domestic Violence. She has served as an ambassador for the United States within the international legal community and is a member and has presented papers at the World Jurist Association Meetings including one in Ukraine. She has served on international government law panels as a moderator. Her talk about her legal career was quite interesting.

It seems staff shortages have affected every industry and the Toiyabe Golf Club was no exception that day. Member Jon Hamel joined the restaurant manager to prepare and serve food at the luncheon. Thank you, Jon!

Growing Up at the Prison

By Marcia Cuccaro

NWHP members enjoyed a delicious lunch at the First Methodist Church in Carson City, Nev. on July 22, 2022, and a lively slide show presentation by Marcia Bernard Cuccaro and Patti Bernard, as they shared events and memorable people from their younger lives while living at the Nevada State Prison.



Marcia and Patti moved to the prison in 1951 when their father, Art Bernard, was appointed warden. They became friends with a diverse population of inmates and their friendships impacted the choices the girls made in later life. Marcia became a social worker and Patti a teacher. The individuals they encountered during their 8-plus years at the prison was the foundation for the two of them recognizing what privileged lives they led.

While their inmate friends had grown up in abusive homes, alcoholic homes, homes where parents had minimal child raising skills or homes where there was financial and food insecurity, the Bernard girls grew up in a home with parents who loved and encouraged them to succeed every step of their childhood. While inmates struggled with drugs and alcohol addiction, the Bernard children (including their older brother, Don) had parents who mostly abstained from alcohol. As a result, the three Bernard children completed their educations and went on to successful careers in the fields of finance (Don), social services (Marcia) and education (Patti).

This talk was featured in the *Reno News & Review* <https://renonr.com/2022/08/16/growing-up-among-killers-in-a-prison-molded-two-sisters-lives/>

Most participants went on the optional prison tour following the presentation.

New Members Luncheon

By Sue Davis

On August 20, 2022, Nevada Women's History Project held their annual new membership luncheon at the home of NWHP board member, Sue Davis. Twenty-four people attended and each person introduced themselves to the group and shared their connection to Nevada.



A delicious lunch was served around noon and all the food was brought by members of the NWHP.



After lunch, the guests came into the house for a presentation by NWHP President Patti Bernard on the Nevada Women's History Project website. Patti highlighted the oral interviews, the many biographies, and the suffrage page featured on the website.

From our Research Desk

Hispanic Heritage Month Sept. 15 - Oct. 15

In 1874, Humboldt County elected Pablo Laveaga, the first Hispanic to the Nevada State Legislature. Seventy years passed before another Hispanic legislator was elected, William Martinez of White Pine County. It took another 38 years after that to elect the third Latino, Bob Coffin of Clark County. But as Nevada's Hispanic population grew, their legislative presence grew, and will be important in the 2022 and 2024 Nevada elections.

In 2019, Nevada became the first state with over 50% female representation in our legislature. Several of those women are Latinas.

We believe this is a complete list of the Latinas who have served, or are currently serving, in the Nevada State Legislature.

Assemblywomen:

Irene Bustamante Adams

(D) District 42 - 2010-2018

Teresa Benitez-Thompson

(D) District 27 - 2010-present

Olivia Diaz

(D) District 11 - 2010-2018

Bea Duran

(D) District 11 - 2018-present

Lucy Flores

(D) District 28 - 2010-2014

Cecelia González

(D) District 16 - 2020-present

Sandra Jauregui

(D) District 41 - 2017-present

Susie Martinez

(D) District 12 - 2018-present

Elaine Marzola

(D) District 21 - 2020-present

Selena Torres

(D) District 3 - 2018-present

Senators:

Yvanna Cancela (D) District 10 - 2017-2021

The legislative actions of past and current women are affecting positive changes in the lives of all Nevadans.

You go girls!

For more information, in February of 2013, the *Las Vegas Sun* published "[Nevada's Hispanics come of age politically.](#)"

New Best Friend Forever *Catherine Magee*

By Patti Bernard



Catherine Magee

Photo by Patti Bernard

Catherine Magee, Director of the Nevada Historical Society, Reno, came to the Society shortly after obtaining her PhD in 2015, but she had a wealth of experience before that.

To start at the beginning though, she is a third-generation native with a grandmother born in Virginia City, a father born in Yerington, and she was raised in Reno. She became interested in art as a young girl, which led her eventually to seeing art as a pathway to history through visual objects. Her interests lie in exploring relationships between tourism and cultural heritage production and preservation.

Catherine left Nevada to attend Colorado College and received her MS in art conservation from the Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library through the University of Delaware, art conservation program in 1995. She worked worldwide as an Archaeological Conservator on both terrestrial and marine sites, and lived in Washington, D.C. for 15 years working as an art conservator at the Smithsonian Institution. She returned to Nevada to pursue a doctorate in geography at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR).

Catherine became interested in the Nevada position in 2016 because she thought her extensive museum and conservation experiences fit in perfectly with the job requirements of the Director of The Nevada Historical Society, a position which at that time, had become open. As a Reno resident, she was already "home".

Her main goals for the future growth of the Society include continuing to enhance its reputation as a research and education institution, as well investigating and fundraising for a future institution move to a better centralized location in the downtown district for

greater public use and accessibility. Toward that goal she is in the process of establishing a "Friends of the Nevada Historical Society", to help fundraise for that move, eventually.

Many think the Nevada Historical Society is a department of UNR, as it is located on the UNR campus. However, it is a state facility that receives state funding, not university funding, and is independent of the university. The NHS is important to the Nevada Women's History Project, as it is one of the main research venues that we use, as well as the source for many of the women's photographs we utilize in our biographies.

We welcome both Catherine's confidence and support of our organization.

Wally Cuchine

Many people in Nevada, the West, and the art world knew Wally Cuchine. He passed away on Sept. 15, 2022. He was the director of the Eureka Opera House from 1993-2011 and was responsible for the excellent restoration of that facility.



Wally Cuchine

On one of Jean Photo by Robin Cobbey Ford's Nevada bus trips the NWHP went to the Eureka Opera House and visited with Wally. As one of our members stated, "we signed the 'performer's wall' and 'trod the boards' for our five minutes of fame."

Wally owned one of the largest art collections by Nevada artists. At his passing, he donated this entire collection to the [Ely Art Bank](https://www.doublescoop.art/wall-to-wall-2/), a former bank converted to an art gallery and shop.

<https://www.doublescoop.art/wall-to-wall-2/>



Featured Historic Nevada Woman:

BERTHA SANFORD WOODARD

Reno activist fought for civil rights all her life

At a glance:

Born: Jan. 25, 1916, Los Angeles, California

Died: September 16, 1999, Reno, Nevada

Maiden Name: Bertha Rosanna Sanford

Married: James Johnson, Ulysses S. Woodard,
Charles Moore

Race/Nationality/ethnic background: African-
American

Primary city and county of residence and work:
Sparks/Reno, Washoe County

Major Fields of Work: Nursing, civil rights activist

Other role identities: Wife



Bertha Woodard

Photo from UNR
Special Collections

Bertha Rosanna Sanford Woodard was one of the early 1950s civil rights activists in Reno, Nevada. She was born January 25, 1916, in Los Angeles, California. Few facts are known about her childhood but her parents, Samuel and Lilliebelle (Menefield) Sanford, both died when she was young. In order to keep the family together, Bertha's oldest sister, Endora, stepped in and assumed the parental role.

Fighting for social justice came early for Bertha. While she was still in high school in Pasadena, Calif., it was said that she protested exclusion of blacks from a local swimming pool. This incident may in fact have sparked her interest and encouraged her to speak out on behalf of the oppressed.

After graduating high school, Bertha attended Pasadena City College. She was married on September 21, 1937, at age 23, to her first husband, James Johnson, in Pasadena. It is not known when Bertha moved to Oakland because no definitive 1940 census record of her has been found. However, she is listed as living in Oakland according to a Nov. 7, 1944, Oakland, Alameda, California voter registration.

According to a 1988 oral history interview, Bertha said she met her second husband, Ulysses Woodard, in Oakland in 1946 where they were married. She then moved to join him

shortly after he had gained employment in Reno in 1949. However, Washoe County land records show Bertha Johnson purchased a home in Sparks, Nevada, on March 4, 1950, and according to Washoe County Clerk marriage records, Bertha R. Johnson of Oakland married Ulysses Simpson Woodard in Reno on September 15, 1950. Bertha was 72 years old at the time of that 1988 interview and perhaps over the years, her memory had lapsed on exact details of that Oakland period. She did, however, meet Ulysses in Oakland and she did move to Reno because of him.

For many years, Bertha and "Woody" lived in the same Sparks home she had purchased in 1950. The fact that Bertha purchased a home in the Reno/Sparks city limits as a single African American woman in 1950 is noteworthy, because it was not a usual happenstance for a single woman of any race or of that age to purchase a home on her own at that time. She was only 34 years old.

Bertha spoke of working "mainly for Washoe Medical Center with broken service" for about 20 years. In 1963 she received her nursing degree at Washoe Western School of Nursing and was

employed at Washoe Medical Center for more than 17 years. In addition, she was appointed by the governor to serve on the State Board of Nursing from 1967 until 1975.

As a civil rights activist, Bertha Woodward spent her entire adult life fighting racism and negative social and political attitudes toward all people of color. Although she headed the Reno-Sparks NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) from 1971 to 1976, she was a member for 58 years. She was also involved in that organization on a national level. She met Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the early 1960s in San Francisco, and she was fortunate to travel to Washington, D.C. to participate in the historical March for Freedom in 1963.

Throughout the decade of the 1960s, Bertha campaigned against discriminatory practices used by northern Nevada businesses against black and minority communities. In 1959, she and a group of activists learned that the 1960 Winter Olympics would be held at Squaw Valley. They realized that people would be attending the games from all over the world, so the group sought resolutions from local and state governments asking for a suspension of discrimination during the games. They were successful in that effort but once the games were over, it was business as usual, and the discrimination resumed.

Post Olympics, she continued to take an active part against racism, by participating in "sit-ins" and picketing against many Reno businesses. Casinos and businesses such as Harold's Club, the Overland Hotel & Casino, Golden Hotel and F.W. Woolworth, Inc., as well as Hawthorne's El Capitan were especially targeted for their racist practices. She pushed for equal access for blacks, who were not permitted as customers at most downtown establishments and helped lead an effort to remove bigoted signs such as "No Indians, Negroes, or Dogs" from city stores.

Bertha played such an influential role in northern Nevada civil rights that Governor Grant Sawyer invited her to be present when he signed Nevada's first civil rights law in 1961. That bill established the Nevada Commission on Equal Rights of Citizens, now known as the Nevada Equal Rights Commission. She was also invited to witness the signing of the Nevada Civil Rights Act of 1965 by Governor Sawyer.



Bertha Woodard, center, protesting gambling regulations.

Photo from UNR Special Collections

Always generous to give back to her community, she served on advisory boards of the American Association of Retired Persons, Retired Public Employees of Nevada, and Older American Retired Program. An active member of the Sparks United Methodist Church, Bertha was also a member of Toastmistress Club (Pipe and Wire) and Eastern Star, as well as NAACP. Three governors, Paul Laxalt, Mike O'Callaghan and Robert List appointed her to serve on state advisory boards.

Her husband Ulysses Woodard died in 1973 and Bertha had a short-lived marriage to Charles Moore in 1977. As one of the now "senior" civil rights leaders in Reno, she was featured in many newspaper articles, asked to speak at local organizations and had her oral history taken by University of Nevada, Reno Professor Elmer Rusco. In 1981 the University of Nevada Board of Regents conferred upon her the Distinguished Nevadan Award, an honor bestowed only upon those who have contributed in an outstanding manner to the State of Nevada.

Well into her 60s, her "activism" gene was still strong. In 1983, at the age of 67, she attended the national 20th Anniversary March on

Washington, commemorating the 1963 "March on Washington D.C. for Jobs and Freedom." Back at home, she spent years working tirelessly to register black voters needed to retain the civil rights gains made in Nevada the previous 20 years. She became an institution in the Reno/Sparks community.



Bertha Woodard with her Life Membership certificate in the NAACP.

At the age of 85, Bertha, independent as usual, was still mowing grass and taking care of her yard.

She died in Reno on September 16, 1999. Bertha is buried at Mountain View Cemetery beside her husband Ulysses Woodard.

She was memorialized by the Nevada State Legislature with a Senate Concurrent Resolution. https://www.leg.state.nv.us/71st/bills/SCR/SCR27_EN.html

Bertha Woodard was able to break down many barriers and change the racial and social outlook of our state because of her dedication, resilience, strength, and courage.

Her contributions to our state have been monumental and her place in Nevada history is well established.

Researched by Patti Bernard and written by Marilyn Howard and Patti Bernard.

Posted to our website May 2022.

Sources of Information can be found at:

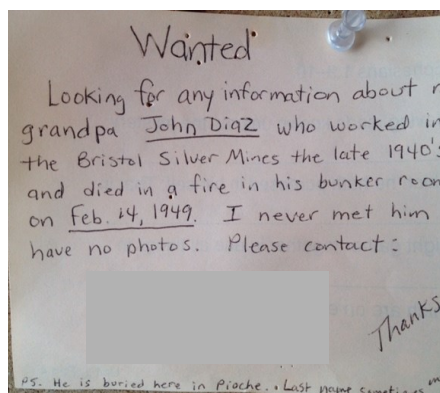
<https://nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/bertha-sanford-woodard/>

From our Research Desk

Never Too Late ...

By Patti Bernard

Many years ago, I was visiting the Pioche Museum and spied a note on bulletin board. It was a request for information on a relative, and the only known fact was his name. and that he had been killed in some Bristol Silver mine fire in 1948. The note had a woman's contact phone number and an address.



I took a picture of the note and when I arrived home, I did a computer search through all my sources. No luck. Over the years, I would come across the note in my computer and do

another search with the same lack of success at finding anything.

About a month ago, I came across the note and once again, I went through the motions, with no expectation other than getting my expected result. But BINGO!! I came across the particulars of the man's demise.

Now I was in a quandary. I was excited to share this information. But the note was at least 10 years old and most probably the address and phone number were no longer valid. However, nothing ventured, nothing gained, so I picked up the phone and called the number on the note. To my surprise, a woman answered. I identified myself and the reason that I was calling and asked her if she might be the person who had left a note in the Pioche Museum years before.

The woman was as astonished at receiving my call as I was at reaching her. Having learned no additional information in the ensuing years, she was most grateful for what I could share. I told her that I would send the information that I had found, with some additional sources to investigate, and hung up with a feeling of deep satisfaction.

It just goes to show that good things happen to those that wait - even after a decade.

How Much Nevada Women's Political History Do You Know?

- 1) What year did women first gain the majority in the Nevada Legislature?
- 2) Who was the first Nevada Latina elected to the U.S. Congress and what Congressional District did she represent?
- 3) Who are the only mother-daughter legislators to serve in the state legislature?
- 4) Who was the first woman to beat a male incumbent in the general election?
- 5) Who was the first woman elected to the Nevada Legislature?
- 6) Who was the first woman elected to the Nevada Senate?
- 7) What is the only Nevada county never having been represented by a woman?
- 8) Who was the first newswoman to cover a legislative session?
- 9) Who is the congresswoman now serving in Nevada's 1st Congressional District?
- 10) Who was the first woman to hold the Lt. Governor position?

Welcome Back, Beverly

NWHP had the pleasant surprise of a membership renewal by Beverly Hubbard this past August. Since Kathy Noneman and I have been going through NWHP archives, choosing which documents to digitize, I remembered a Beverly Hubbard name from a 1997 membership list we had come across. I emailed her and asked if she was the same Beverly Hubbard who was one of the founding members of the Project. She emailed me back that she was one and the same.

Beverly wrote that "Jean and a group of women came to our place of business, Meeks Bay Resort, at Lake Tahoe where the idea for NWHP became a reality. I served as treasurer for the first few years. This week in remembrance of Jean's death, I decided to become a member again. I had a good connection to Jean. We did several trips around Nevada together."

Patti Bernard

National Women's History Alliance

The NWHHA is moved to make an urgent call for persistent determination to ensure that women's democratic rights are secure for the future. From before the time that women first publicly demanded the rights of full citizenship almost 175 years ago at the Seneca Falls Convention, women have been denied the benefits and power of citizenship. We have to keep challenging that historic prejudice against women.

Begin today to emphasize the importance of voting as the cornerstone of our democracy. Plan events, parades, and educational webinars and focus not only on what it took to win the vote, but what it is going to take to secure that right for everyone. Also begin your planning to take action for extraordinary events before and after Women's Equality Day on August 26, the day the 19th Amendment was ratified. The 19th Amendment needs to not only recognize women's successful movement to win the vote, but it needs to call out for equality on all fronts. One of the most visible modern fields is medicine and care giving, where women from all backgrounds have recently shared the burdens of the pandemic in addition to the continuing demands of looking after the needs of others. The ongoing campaign for Equal Rights demonstrates women's strength, resolve, and commitment to service that has made them essential at "Providing Healing and Promoting Hope," as celebrated by our 2022 theme.



The National Women's History Alliance encourages local events – receptions, gatherings, panels and more – to recognize the care givers, medical workers, attendants and others who staff our hospitals, nursing homes, counseling offices and other centers for intervention and recovery. Women in our own cities and towns have long helped us heal and recover from illness and trauma. This summer let's celebrate the perseverance of the hundreds of thousands of individuals who have and are working for justice and who have against all odds continued "Providing Healing and Promoting Hope."

Profiles of Members



Zonta Club of Greater Reno

By Janice Hoke and Joy Orlich

One of the earliest supporters of the Nevada Women's History Project, the Zonta Club of Greater Reno, is still represented by three of its members on our executive committee: Patti Bernard, chair, Mona Reno, past president, and Joy Orlich, membership coordinator.

The history of the association between Zonta and NWHP starts with our founder, Jean Ford, speaking to the Zonta group on International Women's Day, March 8, 1995. Ford was then acting director of the UNR Women's Studies Program. She announced that a Nevada Women's Archive had been established at the UNR Library.

Ford also told the Zonta group about a bill in the Nevada Legislature introduced by Jan Evans to establish and fund a Women's History Initiative to gather information and prepare school curricula on the topic of women's history in Nevada. A Nevada Women's Coalition was being organized, Ford further said, to support the initiative and its goals. The Zonta club unanimously approved a motion at the same meeting to join the Coalition and support its goals. When the NWHP was formed in 1995, Zonta became a charter organization member.

Fast forward two years to Feb. 12, 1997, when the Nevada Women's History Conference was held at the National Automobile Museum in Reno, with the Zonta Club of Greater Reno on the steering committee. The Zonta Club volunteered to introduce the presenters at the two-day conference.

Now take a step backward in time for Zonta International's background story. The organization of professionals was founded on November 8, 1919, in Buffalo, New York, with the purpose of empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Specific goals included equality, education, an end to child marriage and to gender-based violence. Today there are more than 26,000 members in 61 countries.

The Zonta Club of Greater Reno was first chartered in February 1959. The club was active until 1971 when it disbanded. During its tenure, the club supported the state hospital, Wittenburg Hall, a juvenile detention facility, a mobile x-ray unit, Christmas and Easter Seals, and a girls' training center in Caliente, Nev.

The current club was rechartered on Oct. 28, 1992, with the goal of a greater community impact through scholarships for women in business and young women in public affairs, and a focus on ending gender violence and discrimination. The club's most popular fundraisers were raffles of Harley-Davidson and BMW motorcycles in the later 1990s and early 2000s. In its first 25 years, the club raised approximately \$250,000 for its causes. The club's newest initiative is on the impact of climate change on women worldwide.



Taeko Heiser (seated) and Joy Orlich represent Zonta at the NWHP Suffrage Special train event August 15, 2020.

Joy Orlich was a charter member in 1992 and has served as long-time president of the club as well as at the district and international board levels. She stated that she values and promotes "awareness and recognition of women's contributions to society." She perceives that women's roles are often overlooked and ignored by traditional culture.

The Zonta Club of Greater Reno invites everyone to its 30th anniversary celebration, LUNAFEST, a short-film festival at 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 28 at Reno Little Theater. Tickets are \$25 adults, \$10 students. Screening of the eight films by women filmmakers is both live and virtual. For tickets and information, email Joy at joyorlich@sbsglobal.net or visit <https://www.lunafest.org/screenings/in-person-virtual-zonta-club-of-greater-reno-102822>.

'Ripples of Change'



From left: [Laura Cornelius Kellogg](#), [Harriet Tubman](#), [Martha Coffin Wright](#), [Sojourner Truth](#)

Ripples of Change is a monument of four statues of an Oneida leader and three suffragists. It stands in Seneca Falls, the birthplace of the American Suffrage movement, overlooking the water and next to the statue [When Anthony Met Stanton](#).

As part of the centennial celebration of the 19th Amendment, the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission teamed up with the Town of Seneca Falls and the Seneca Falls Development Corp to create this statue. They chose the renowned sculptress Jane DeDecker and dedicated it on September 24, 2021.

Each of the women stands in the center of a round pedestal, a beginning of a ripple. These ripples are the results of the women's activism and leadership work that started a big change in the world.

Answers from page 11:

- 1) 2019;
- 2) Barbara Vucanovich, Nevada's 2nd District, 1982-1997;
- 3) Gene Wines-Segerblom, D-Clark and Hazel Bell Wines, D-Humboldt;
- 4) Alice Towle, R-Churchill, 1922;
- 5) Sadie Hurst, R-Washoe, 1919;
- 6) Helen Herr, D-Clark, 1966;
- 7) Douglas County;
- 8) Nellie V. Mighels Davis, 1877-1879;
- 9) Dina Titus, D-Clark;
- 10) Maude Frazier, D, 1962-1963 (completed Lt. Gov. Rex Bell's term)



American Women's History Museum

By the Smithsonian Institution

It may be that the longest-lasting result of the women's suffrage centennial is the official approval of a national museum devoted to women's history. Years of work and determination finally paid off when, on December 27, 2020, Congress passed legislation that authorized the creation of the Smithsonian [American Women's History Museum](#) in the nation's capital, funded by a combination of federal and private money.

Rep. Carolyn Maloney of New York, one of the sponsors, noted that it was fitting that the bill establishing the women's history museum was passed "as we mark the centennial of the 19th Amendment and in the year in which we elected our first woman vice president."

Lisa Sasaki, Interim Director of the forthcoming museum, explained that the new institution will

"ensure that stories of women from all walks of life are told. Sharing these diverse perspectives will shine a light on what it means not just to be a woman in America, but to be an American."

In the planning process, the key will be an expansive view of women's history, including women of different abilities, trans and queer communities, and the experiences of women across time and throughout the nation.

The new museum, to be located on or near the National Mall, will build on the work of the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative, established in 2018 to create a more equitable America by researching, disseminating, and amplifying the stories of American women.

The legislation also established a National Museum of the American Latino. Lawmakers and supporters applauded the plans for both museums, expressing hope that they will tell the stories of Americans too often left out of history classes and textbooks.

It will take at least a decade before physical buildings are open to the public, but the process has been set in motion.

ERA Status

By Marcia Cuccaro

March 22, 2022, marked the 50th anniversary of the Equal Rights Amendment's overwhelming approval by a bipartisan Congressional vote in 1972.

So, did it become the 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution? Nope! In order to be codified after the Congressional approval, three-fourths (38) of the states had to ratify the amendment within seven years (that number is currently being debated by legal scholars). By 1979, 35 states had ratified the ERA, but additional ratifications were derailed by anti-ERA groups and activists.

It wasn't approved by the last three states until Nevada ratified the amendment in 2017, Illinois in 2018, and Virginia in 2020.

The House of Representatives has twice passed a joint resolution declaring the ERA validly ratified - in February 2020 and again in March 2021. Today, the Equal Rights Amendment is languishing in the United States Senate due to Republican opposition.

On January 27, 2022, Representative Jackie Speier (D-Calif.), Representative Carolyn Maloney (D-New York) and 154 cosponsors announced the introduction of a resolution before the U.S. House affirming the Equal Rights Amendment has been validly ratified and is now the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. In October 2022, Representative Maloney wrote a letter to President Biden and Vice President Harris urging them to direct the archivist to certify and publish the amendment. Legal opinions on the validity of the ratification have accompanied a letter sent to U.S. archivist, David Ferriero, "urging him to fulfill his statutory duty and publish the ERA."

The Equal Rights Amendment simply states, "equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex."

Additionally, it states Congress shall have the power to enforce this amendment and that the amendment shall not take effect until two years after the date of ratification. Laws like Title IX and the Equal Pay Act among others are currently not guaranteed and could be rescinded or replaced at any time without the protection of the ERA.

Board Member Nominations for 2023-2025

In September we request nominations for the next two-year cycle of Board members. As is our policy we have asked the existing members if they wish to retain their current positions. This year we have several changes.

Here are the nominations to-date.

Elected Officers

President:	Sue Davis
Vice-President:	Lisa-Marie Lightfoot
Past-President:	Patti Bernard
Treasurer:	Joy Orlich
Recording Secretary:	Marcia Cuccaro

Appointed Directors

Archivist:	Mona Reno
Communications:	Silvana Ricci
Jean Ford	
Research Center:	Dorismae Weber
Membership:	Michelle Gardner
Newsletter:	Mona Reno
Programs:	Lynette Asters
	Sue Davis
	Patti Bernard
Website Bios:	Janice Hoke
First Lady Bios:	Patti Bernard

At-Large Directors

Bruce Lightfoot
Kathy Noneman

The NWHP is grateful for the wonderful contributions that Jon and Christianne Hamel have made to us over the last decade. The Hamels have filled several positions in NWHP. Jon was our Treasurer for many years and Christianne has been the Archivist, the Jean Ford Research Center director, and worked with Mona on the newsletter. Jon also researched and purchased our audio-video equipment for presentations, and has set it up at numerous events. Christianne has tastefully decorated many of our events. Thank you both!

Please send nominations to
nevwhp@gmail.com.

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

Membership Form

Membership is for January thru December of each year.

New persons joining after August 15 will be members for that year and the next full year.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Nevada Women's History Project. You are vital to maintaining our educational website of women's biographies and interviews, having special events and to offset the operational costs of the NWHP.

Please notice that we have added a lifetime membership category, Best Friend Forever. All membership comes with an event discount and a newsletter. All levels of membership may be tax deductible since NWHP is an educational non-profit.

Membership Levels

Individual	\$30.00	_____
Family of Two	\$55.00	_____
Friend	\$100.00	_____
Good Friend	\$250.00	_____
Best Friend	\$500.00	_____
Best Friend Forever	\$1,000.00	_____
Organization	\$50.00	_____
Corporate Sponsor	\$250.00	_____

I also enclose an additional donation for the NWHP.

_____ General Fund
_____ Endowment Fund

___ I prefer the **digital copy** of the newsletter.

___ I prefer both the **digital copy** and the **paper copy** of the newsletter.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Date: _____ Check No: _____

Send this membership form to:
Nevada Women's History Project
770 Smithridge Drive, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502



2022-2023 NWHP Board of Directors

Chair:

Patti Bernard

Vice-Chair:

Lisa-Marie Lightfoot

Past Chair:

Mona Reno

Treasurer:

Michelle Gardner

Recording Secretary:

Marcia Cuccaro

Corresponding Secretary:

Patti Bernard

Membership:

Joy Orlich

Jean Ford Research Center:

Christianne Hamel

Oral Histories:

Patti Bernard

Newsletter:

Mona Reno

Programs Committee:

Lynette Astors

Patti Bernard

Sue Davis

At Large Directors:

Bruce Lightfoot

Kathy Noneman

Washoe County School District**Curriculum Liaison**

Sue Davis

Website Content Editors:

Marcia Cuccaro

Mona Reno

Editor, Website Biographies:

Janice Hoke

Editor, Website First Ladies**Biographies:**

Patti Bernard

Facebook Co-Chairs:

Marcia Cuccaro

Mona Reno

Blogger

Catherine Cuccaro



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NWHP News

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NWHP Name Badge



\$15.00

Contact Mona at
renomrl65@gmail.com

Send instructions on
exactly how you wish
your name to appear on
the badge.

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