

***Our  
Mission***

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

*A Pandemic Nearly Derailed the  
Women's Suffrage Movement*

By Ellen Carol Dubois

Online National Geographic, April 20, 2020

"These are sad times for the whole world, grown unexpectedly sadder by the sudden and sweeping epidemic of influenza," wrote Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, in a letter to supporters in 1918.

"This new affliction is bringing sorrow into many suffrage homes and is presenting a serious new obstacle in our Referendum campaigns and in the Congressional and Senatorial campaigns," she continued. "We must therefore be prepared for failure."

Suffragists had been fighting for women's right to vote for 70 years, and victory seemed almost in reach. Even with the United States fully mobilized for World War I, President Woodrow Wilson had come out in support of a constitutional amendment, and the House of Representatives had passed it.

Then the Spanish flu struck, and the leaders of one of the longest-running political movements in the country's history had to figure out how to continue their campaign in the midst of the deadliest pandemic in modern times.

The first wave of the flu coursed through the country in the spring of 1918, ebbing by summertime. During that period, the Senate, dominated by southern Democrats determined to stop the enfranchisement of African-American women, was refusing to pass the bill to send the suffrage amendment to the states for ratification. Votes were announced twice, then canceled. By early fall, suffragists could see that they were two votes short of the necessary two-thirds for passage.

Finding those two senators was proving impossible. Maud Wood Park, the chief suffrage lobbyist, wrote to her husband that she felt "as if I were trying to swim in a whirlpool" and that it was taking "every ounce of thought and energy in me." Something else needed to be done to break through.

November would see a mid-term election in which a battle between Democrats and Republicans for control of Congress loomed. Suffragists plunged into this tense atmosphere with two lines of attack. First, they would try to gain full voting rights in a few more states, where referendums would be held. (Twelve states, Nevada included, had already granted women full voting rights.) They selected Oklahoma, Louisiana, South Dakota, and Michigan. If they succeeded, the votes of many more women would be added to pressure Congress to act. Second, they identified four suffrage opponents in the Senate who were up for reelection and whose challengers had pledged to support the federal amendment.

**'Chained to her bed'**

But in September the flu came roaring back, eventually killing some 675,000 people in the U.S. and 50 million worldwide. Boston and Philadelphia were hit very hard, followed by Washington, D.C., where large numbers of wartime government workers were jam-packed in inadequate housing.

Continued on page 2.

In Congress, Champ Clark, the powerful Speaker of the House, caught the flu. In the Senate, where the suffrage bill languished, the galleries from which suffragists kept an eye on proceedings were closed. Then the U.S. Public Health Service issued a nationwide advisory to local health departments to prohibit large meetings and gatherings.

Suffragists' election campaigns were immediately compromised. Organizers had to postpone a train tour of previously arrested suffrage protestors, which had been expected to draw great crowds along its route from Washington, D.C., to Oregon. On the second floor of Suffrage House in the nation's capital, Carrie Chapman Catt was "chained to her bed" by the flu. Nonetheless, she was determined to consult on strategy with a close ally of the president, Montana Senator John Walsh, but he too was stricken with the flu. Catt couldn't come downstairs, and Walsh couldn't go up, so an intermediary shuttled between them to conduct their confidential discussion.

By this time, the pandemic was moving west from the ravaged cities on the Atlantic seaboard. The referendum state of South Dakota sustained a heavy blow. "Just when we had plans developed for a renewed and revised campaign," a local organizer wrote, "along comes the influenza and cuts off all possibility of public speaking and even meetings in open air. So many homes have been touched in each locality, if not with the actual disease, with the dreadful fear which seems to be worse, that we have not been able to work with the individual voter." Raising money was impossible, and many suffrage workers were volunteering for the Red Cross or in hospitals.

Faced by bans on public gatherings, suffragists switched to the personal touch, reaching out directly to neighbors and friends. They emphasized their patriotism and quoted the president saying that votes for women was a proper reward for their wartime sacrifice. National headquarters provided more than a million pamphlets for distribution door to door and 300 weekly bulletins for placement in local newspapers. Women signed petitions urging male voters to pass the four states' referendums.

### **'Not politically safe'**

More than anything, though, it was the extensive grassroots organizing suffragists had

perfected that carried them through. They'd been laying the basis for their campaigns long before the influenza barreled in. Cities and towns in each state had their own organizations, linked to national strategy. Local women had developed sophisticated political skills. They knew how to identify opportunities and overcome obstacles—South Dakota and Michigan had already held several referendums. All that preparation was crucial.

The epidemic suppressed voter turnout, with three million fewer ballots cast than in the 1914 mid-term election. Nonetheless, the suffrage referendums in Michigan, South Dakota, and Oklahoma passed, each with a comfortable margin. Gratitude for the role women played during the war and now in the pandemic influenced the results. With so many physicians serving in the armed forces, nurses became the front line of care for the sick.

Only the Louisiana referendum failed. This was the first in the South, a region where women's suffrage had been doomed by the overwhelming fear of African-American women voting. The state campaign, led by women who opposed national coordination and strategy, didn't produce the energy, determination, and enthusiasm that brought victory elsewhere in the face of the flu crisis.

Back in the East, where suffragists campaigned to replace senate opponents, the pandemic had largely abated, and they confronted a more conventional obstacle: entrenched party power. Their biggest challenge, their most impressively organized campaign, and their greatest win was against Massachusetts Senator John Weeks, a Republican who was widely considered invincible. In Delaware, Democratic Senator Willard Saulsbury, Jr., part of the powerful DuPont family, was also defeated. "The election has taught beyond dispute," a Chattanooga paper editorialized, "that opposition to suffrage is not politically safe for either party."

Women in New York state, whose constitution had been amended to grant them full voting rights the year before, showed up at the polls in large numbers in the 1918 election. Catt, still recovering from the flu, insisted on going to cast her ballot—her first. Elsewhere in the state, in an ironic post-influenza achievement, women's votes helped elect Grace Norris, a doctor who battled against the virus, as the country's first female coroner.

On November 22, 1918, World War I ended. The flu delivered one more punch during the winter, which weakened President Wilson. Republicans won control of both houses of the new Congress, and in early June 1919, the Senate finally passed the suffrage bill, 18 months after the House. Now it was time for the next battle: to get three-quarters of the states to ratify the amendment.

For the next 15 months, suffragists fought hard for ratification in the necessary 36 states. In February 1920, suffragist Aloysius Larch-Miller, ill with the flu, got out of her sick bed to testify before the Oklahoma Democratic Party convention on behalf of ratification. She won the argument, only to die of pneumonia. Months after the flu had abated, the pandemic had claimed its suffrage martyr.

Finally, Tennessee pushed the 19th Amendment across the finish line, and on August 26, 1920, women's suffrage was inscribed into the U.S. Constitution.

## 2020 Rose Parade Float



Float's name: "Years of Hope, Years of Courage."

Float's motto: "Upon their shoulders, we won the vote. Upon our shoulders, we protect the vote. We celebrate and build for the future."

Ms. Liberty is 30 feet tall and covered in eucalyptus leaves. The float was followed by 100 marchers.



## From the President's Desk

By Patti Bernard

My head is swimming from all the information we are learning about the COVID-19/coronavirus pandemic, and the comparisons being made to its counterpart, the 1918 Spanish Influenza pandemic. According to historical accounts, this influenza received its nickname because, although the flu was epidemic all over Europe during WWI, Spain was one of only a few major European countries to remain neutral during the war and was able to publicize the illness. Unlike in the Allied and Central Powers nations where wartime censors suppressed news of the influenza to avoid affecting citizen and soldier morale. Because of the publicity the influenza received in Spain, many assumed this influenza originated there. This misnomer is still being promulgated 100 years later.

Which leads me to an important reminder. You should have received a COVID-19/coronavirus survey in the mail by now, and I am hoping that you will join in becoming a part of Nevada's historical record. Please use the form as a guide for your own impressions of how your life has been changed by this historical event and send them in to NWHF. You have the option to identify yourself or remain anonymous. It is your observations that will be most important to future historians as they write about the 2020 Coronavirus Pandemic in Nevada.

Also, we are looking ahead to our July 15th Marjorie Russell Textile Museum visit and our August 15<sup>th</sup> Suffrage Train partnership event with the Nevada State Railroad Museum, as well as our October 31<sup>st</sup> Admission Day "Living Flag" march entry. In both Train and Living Flag events we will be looking for volunteers.

For the Suffrage Train event we are seeking folks to staff our "suffrage" booth, and other assistance. For the Living Flag event we will need parade marchers, seamstress help, and other types of assistance, so important to making sure these events are successful and truly memorable. Living Flag signup information is on our Facebook page and website [www.nevadawomen.org](http://www.nevadawomen.org). We will have more information on the V&T Suffrage Railroad event to share with you soon.

Help us make these two important events the highlights of 2020.

Remember, Stay Safe for Nevada!



## *Membership and Donations - March-May 2020*

### **For 2020 Membership Year**

#### **New Members:**

#### **Individual - \$30**

Doris Phelps

#### **Honorary Members:**

Mary Anne Convis  
Dawn Gibbons  
Betty Glass  
Dema Guinn  
Kathy List  
Sandy Miller  
Kathleen Sandoval  
Kathy Sisolak  
Holly Van Valkenburgh  
Linda Wyckoff

### **Best Friend Forever**

Lynn Bremer  
Vida Keller  
Mona Reno

#### **Renewing Members:**

#### **Individual - \$30**

Gretchen Baker  
Joan Shonnard  
Patrick Simpson  
Carolyn Wilson

#### **Family of Two- \$55**

James and Betty Hulse

#### **Friend - \$100**

Mary Lee

### **Donations: General Fund**

Betty and James Hulse - \$100

### **Donations in memory of**

Stephen S. Farrell by  
Dave Heath

### **Memorials:**

Stephen S. Farrell is the uncle  
of Patty Cafferata and the  
brother of Barbara  
Vucanovich.

**Thank You All!**  
**You are Critical to the**  
**Success of the Nevada**  
**Women's History Project!**

## *Protective Masks - Deja Vue*

By Patti Bernard

While researching Marguerite Gosse and her work with the Red Cross in Reno I found the following article in the *Reno Evening Gazette* of October 22, 1918, page 6:3.

### *Gauze Protecting Masks - 1918*

Four hundred gauze influenza masks were made by the Reno Red Cross chapter Sunday and turned over to the university for the use of the soldiers. Masks were also supplied by the chapter, free of charge, to different concerns in Reno for the use of their employees and the masks are not being sold by the chapter. People are urged to make them at home as it is a simple process. The following directions were given out today by Mrs. Frank [Adeline] Norcross of the work room committee: "If heavy gauze is used only two thicknesses of gauze is necessary. Cut twelve inches by twelve inches folded twice. If loose mesh gauze is used four thicknesses cut twelve inches by twenty-four inches and folded four times is necessary. Stick edges together and make two pleats in center on end (will measure three inches wide). Cut string or tape twenty-eight inches long. Place middle of string between pleats and stitch twice on end of mask. Dip in solution of one-half teaspoon of carbolic acid to one pint of water. Can be used wet. Sterilize often."

### *Sewing Protective Masks - 2020*

In the news today there are many stories of people sewing masks to help stem the spread of COVID-19. Janice Hoke is a NWHP Board member and Biography Editor for our website. She is also sewing masks for friends and has sewn 140 masks for the Soroptimist International of Truckee Meadows. The SITM is distributing these masks at no charge to the Northern Nevada Medical Center and to other facilities that request them.

Janice Hoke said, "As a past SITM president and avid quilter, I was very pleased to participate in the club's endeavor to make masks and face coverings for visitors to the hospital and hospice as well as for others who need them. Sewing is traditionally done by women for their families and their communities, and I love being able to carry on their work."

## *Roberta Marie Weaver, On The Move*

By Mary Lee Fulkerson

Roberta (Bobbe) Weaver's father, a tool and die maker, wanted a Robert, but instead he got a Roberta, and she grew up on their Ohio farm learning about molds and jigs and gauges. Her mother, Vera, an expert tailor, never turned away the traveling poor who came to the door during the depression years.

From childhood, Bobbe (pronounced "Bobby") followed her father's advice: "Keep on the move. If you don't, they'll catch you," and she did. Her ambition was to be a nurse, so at age 13 she rode the bus 25 miles to the hospital; she harassed hospital staff until they gave in and taught her to work in the lab. One day a pathologist needed a note-taker, and Bobbe was the only available staff; she recorded the information while the pathologist dissected a cadaver. When she didn't faint, she knew she could be a nurse. Bobbe worked three hours every day after school and all day Saturday, and managed to start teen hospital volunteer Candy Strippers. "When I left," she said, "the doctor bet me I'd never make it. And when I graduated (from nursing school), he sent me \$50!"

She graduated high school at age 15. Her parents, fulfilling a life dream, loaded up the family and traveled along Route 66 to California. The day she turned 18 she applied for admission to the Cadet Nurse Corps, and after proving her excellent grades and passing the interview, she was accepted. The Cadet Nurse Corps was a program initiated by Congress in 1943 to alleviate the nursing shortage during World War II. The traditional 36-month nursing program was compressed into 30 months that included clinical experiences in medicine, surgery, pediatrics, and obstetrics. Student nurses were required to climb into iron lungs in order to get a sense of the panic that patients felt. Now nearly obsolete, these mechanical respirators, used to treat polio and botulism, enclosed most of a patient's body and assisted them to breathe. Trainees were paid \$15 per month, which, she said, was "big money if you didn't have any."



She married and the couple became the parents of two sons as Bobbe continued working, but when the boys were under 4 years old, her husband unexpectedly died. At the invitation of a nursing school friend, the family moved to Grass Valley, California, where she went to work at a new 20-bed hospital. Always one to "keep going," as her father had advised, Bobbe volunteered, both at the Food Bank and the Nevada County Sheriff's department. She answered a physician's invitation to the Marshall Islands, where the United States detonated 67 nuclear weapons following World War II. The contamination caused lasting effects. Bobbe assisted the surgeon in removing extra fingers and toes and in repairing club feet in children. They lived in a catamaran and everyone had to learn how to operate everything, including setting the sails and cooking meals. Bobbe saved all her vacation and sick leaves in order to continue this project over the years.

She remarried to a physician, and when he was offered a job in Reno, they relocated, establishing a horse ranch, Weaver Arabians, and raised Egyptian Arabian horses. After 12 years, her husband's illness progressed due to complications from Infantile Paralysis, so Bobbe and her sons handled the ranch work while she continued as an operating room nurse, both at St. Mary's Hospital and Washoe Medical Center.

Bobbe now lives at Reno's Promenade on the River Independent Living residence and co-owns Weaver Aircraft with her son, Neil. She retired from nursing at age 82 and never stopped loving it.

Bobbe says that only one problem remains: "I don't have enough to do!" Kudos to this woman who followed her father's advice and kept moving.

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### *NWHP - Membership Report* *May 2020*

NWHP has 100 members in good standing and 34 in arrears. We have 10 Honorary members, 3 Life members, 6 Organizational members. We send our newsletter to 100 libraries and museums in Nevada.

Thank you,  
Sue Davis, Membership

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### *NWHP - Treasurer's Report* *May 2020*

The Year to Date, as of May 5, 2020, financial report shows a bank and Pay-Pal balance of \$61,187.62, \$426.72 in fixed assets, \$0.00 liability and a net YTD income of -\$6,807.16. The total equity plus liability of the NWHP is \$61,614.34.

Michelle Gardner, Treasurer

## *Featured Historic Nevada Woman:* **MARGUERITE H. GOSSE STODDARD CLARK**

**Nevada legislator championed state  
Registered Nurse program**

### *At a glance:*

**Born:** March 13, 1890 in Virginia City, Nevada  
**Died:** March 31, 1972 in Carthage, Missouri  
**Maiden Name:** Gosse  
**Married:** Richard Stoddard, Jack Clark  
**Children:** Richard Stoddard, Jr. step-son  
**Race/Nationality/ethnic background:** Caucasian  
**Primary city and county of residence and work:**  
 Reno, Washoe County, Nevada  
**Major Fields of Work:**  
 Nevada State Assemblywoman  
**Other Role Identities:** Businesswoman, community  
 activist

It is often said that history is made by someone at the right place at the right time, and this is certainly true of Marguerite Gosse; the right woman in the right place at the right time to make history in the nursing field in Nevada. After numerous tries in previous legislative sessions, in the 1923 Legislature she ushered through a statute that would enable a Nevada woman to become a "Registered Nurse" and earn the coveted RN licensing designation, rather than to leave the state to obtain the training.

Marguerite's parents, Josephine Mudd Gosse and Harry Gosse, were Nevada Gold Rush pioneers. Marguerite, born in 1890, and her younger brother, Robert, started life in a small house next to their paternal grandparents' hotel/boarding house located on a steep hill called the "Divide," between the mining towns of Virginia City and Gold Hill.

In February 1896, Harry Gosse moved his family to Reno. He took ownership, with his attorney sister-in-law, Anna Mudd Warren, of the Riverside Hotel, formerly the historic Lake House, built by Reno founder Myron Lake.

An only daughter, Marguerite had an idyllic childhood. The family's apartments were in the hotel, and her father extravagantly built her a miniature playhouse equipped with electric lighting and hotel linen and china. She became an expert horsewoman and her horse was stabled across the street. The Riverside was one of the most popular hotels on the West Coast, and Marguerite met many famous individuals who either stayed or took up rooms there.

Marguerite was immersed in Reno social life from an early age, and her independence and leadership skills were already forming. She attended Reno schools and graduated from the first Reno High School that was located near Saint Mary's Hospital. Newspaper accounts show her to be one of the most

popular young ladies of her senior class.

Instead of choosing to marry upon graduation in 1907, she attended the private Westlake School for Girls in Los Angeles, California. Upon returning, she enrolled at the University of Nevada, but after a semester, she quit to help her ill father with the hotel. She never lost her love and affiliation with the university, however, and years later she became the house mother, for a short time, for the Tri Delta Sorority.

Marguerite traveled extensively, sailing up and down the Pacific coast, even going north as far as Alaska. She was aboard the first boat that landed at the port in Hilo, Hawaii, that used a gang plank instead of leaving the ship via rowboat, and while in Hawaii, she rode horseback and hunted wild boar.

Tragedy struck when her brother, Harry, contracted meningitis on a troop transport to Hawaii in 1917. His death devastated the family, and Marguerite's life took on a more serious tone.

At the age of 28, she joined the Red Cross during a period of national turmoil of World War I and the Spanish Flu pandemic. She became head of the Red Cross Reno Motor Corps, as well as working at the canteen, meeting soldiers as they passed on troop trains through Reno. She transported and arranged rides for Red Cross nurses and personnel in the pandemic. It was at this time that Marguerite learned Nevada was the only state in the union without nurses in the Red Cross service because of a lack of training and testing in Nevada.

All the Mudd-Gosse women were staunch suffragists, and Marguerite occasionally attended the legislature in 1919 with her aunt, Anna Mudd Warren, but she had little interest in any type of political career. Her interests lay more with service clubs, such as Business and Professional Women's Club, Twentieth Century Club, Red Cross, and Y.W.C.A. She held leadership positions in all.

Marguerite had worked for a time in Los Angeles and become interested in a new organization called



*Courtesy Reno Evening  
Gazette 1908*



the Young Women's Christian Association. In 1920 she accepted the position of Industrial secretary for the Y.W.C.A. in Sacramento, Calif., where she supervised social activities of 5,000 girls working in industries, including those working in canneries. In her position she supervised recreational activities and offered "wholesome and interesting" recreation for girls. Marguerite also helped to found a Y.W.C.A. Chapter in Reno in 1920.

In May of 1922, her father's beloved Riverside Hotel burned to the ground. Marguerite stated, "It was after the Hotel burned and I was foot loose, that I began my political career of one session in the Assembly." Friends had been urging her to run on the Republican ticket as a counterweight for another woman on the Democrat ticket. To her surprise, she won the election in November of 1922, and although she began with no legislative agenda, her tenure proved momentous for nursing in Nevada.

After her election, various groups lobbied her to reintroduce a legislative bill enabling Registered Nurse training to be sponsored and funded by the state. Nevada's nursing cadre consisted mostly of practical nurses. These were mainly women with little formal training but with basic nursing skills, who worked as midwives or nurses for local doctors. Practical nurses were of importance to rural doctors, where medical help was scarce, at best. These doctors were afraid that highly trained registered nurses, commonplace in every other state of the nation, would negatively affect the number of practical nurses in rural communities because, in addition to demanding higher pay for their skill sets, few R.N.s would choose to live in rural areas. Nevada physician opposition had led to the failure of Nevada Registered Nurse program legislation for three previous legislative sessions.

Marguerite introduced the Nurse Practice Act in the Assembly in 1923. After passing in the Assembly, a hard-fought battle in the Senate was waged, with all of Assemblywoman Marguerite's many interpersonal skills utilized in helping senators see the value of a nurse exam and licensure program. The measure passed. Governor Emmet Boyle signed the legislation into law in March 1923. The bill provided funding and creation of a state commission to plan curriculum and a standardized competency test that would enable applicants to be certified as Registered Nurses.

After her Assembly session closed in 1923, Marguerite's life continued on a less frenetic plane.

Shortly thereafter, she married widower, District Judge and former State Attorney General Richard C. Stoddard, a family friend, and whose deceased wife Marguerite had been close to. Marriage later in life gave her an instant family, as Richard also had a 10-year-old son. Although she ran for another term in 1924, she lost the primary election.

She had experienced a career, became a wife and mother, and now participated in the organizations she chose, in ways that women historically promoted social progress. But that life was shattered only 23 months later with the death of her husband.



Courtesy Nevada State Assembly  
1923

At loose ends after Richard died, Marguerite worked in her sister's button shop, raised her stepson, Richard Jr., became a sorority house mother for a short time, and continued her club work. Marguerite married a local entrepreneur, Jack S. Clark, in 1929.

The couple lived an uneventful life in Reno until 1946 when Jack purchased some land near his family home in Carthage, Missouri. They opened a trailer park called the "Reno House Trailer Park." Marguerite's major accomplishment slipped into obscurity outside of the nursing profession. Although she received national attention at the time of the Nursing Bill's passage in 1923, when she died in Carthage March 31, 1972, there was little or no mention in either Nevada or Missouri newspapers of her death.

The Mudd-Gosse women may have contributed to the status of women in Nevada more than any other Nevada family unit. Marguerite's mother, Josephine, and grandmother, Minnie Mudd, were early club members whose accomplishments produced the first public kindergarten in Nevada and culminated with 1914 Nevada women's suffrage. Her aunt, Anna Mudd Warren, became the fourth woman attorney admitted to the Nevada State Bar Association in 1899, and the first woman U.S. Commissioner for Nevada in 1913. Her Aunt Lizzie Mudd became the first woman bank officer in Nevada, paving the way for women to be accepted in mainly male-dominated managerial positions. One family could not ask for a better legacy.

**Researched and written by Patti Bernard**

**Sources of Information are found in her online biography** <https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/marguerite-h-gosse-stoddard-clark/>

## Did Nevada Women Vote for President in 1916?

By Mona Reno

This question about Presidential voting has been answered with the help of Dr. Joanne Goodwin, UNLV and the Nevada State Archives staff Cynthia Laframboise and Natacha Faillers.

According to the *Political History of Nevada* in Chapter 9, Election Results, from 1864-1948 Nevadans did not vote directly for Presidential candidates. Nevadans voted for Presidential Electors who then voted by party for the Presidential candidates. The Nevada State Archives staff found original ballots from the 1916 election and there were two women candidates for Elector. They were Ida M. Asbury (Prohibition Party, received 346 votes) and Nellie T. Ziegler (Socialist Party, received 3,038 votes). Neither woman was successful in their election to become a Presidential Elector.

Ida M. Asbury was the Postmaster in Owyhee, Elko County in 1903. By 1910 she was living in Carson City.

Nellie Parker Zeigler's obituary states she was the first white child born in Treasure Hill in 1868. She was a resident of Reno in 1916.

The answer to the question is that women and men had the same right to vote for Presidential Electors in the 1916 election. This was the first Presidential election after Nevada women received the right to vote in 1914 and four years prior to the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment for national equal suffrage.

## NWHP Board Zoom Meetings

We are now meeting on Zoom. Other Board members were present at the meeting by calling in on their phones.

We too are making history during these times.



## The West A New Factor

Carson City Daily Appeal

November 21, 1916

"Although the presidential election is in doubt as the *Woman's Journal* goes to press, one fact is definitely established - the states where women vote have been the decisive factors.

For the first time in the history of the country the political power of the states west of the Missouri River has successfully rivalled that of the industrial states of the east. In nearly all of these western states women voted last Tuesday on equal terms with men.

Until the year 1916 any candidate who carried New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan and Illinois has been sure of election. This year California, Oregon, Nevada, Wyoming, Kansas, Idaho, New Mexico, North Dakota and Minnesota have held the whip hand. The fact that women do not yet vote in the last three states does not affect the new principle; the spirit of the west has proved the dominant factor in national politics. And none can look upon a suffrage map without realizing that the spirit of the west includes votes for women."

*Woman's Journal and Suffrage News.*

Carson City Daily Appeal

November 21, 1916

"A unique acrostic made up of the states which helped to re-elect President Wilson has been composed by Frank C. Bliss of Los Angeles."

W A S H I N G T O N  
T E X A S

N E V A D A  
C A L I F O R N I A  
N E W M E X I C O  
C O L O R A D O

U T A H  
N E B R A S K A  
N O R T H D A K O T A

W Y O M I N G  
I D A H O  
O K L A H O M A  
K A N S A S  
A R I Z O N A  
M O N T A N A



## From our Research Desk

### *Finding nurses and physicians in the NWHP Biographies*

By Mona Reno

The biographies on the NWHP website are listed in alphabetic order. There is also a search function on all pages of the website. Look for the “magnifying glass” in the top right of each page or once you are deeper in the site there is a box on the right under the words “Search The Site.”

To find the nurses and physicians that are in our biographies I simply typed “nurse” or “physician” or “midwife” into this search box. The items on our website that contain the word nurse came up in a list with introductory material. By clicking on each entry I could narrow the list to the following women who had careers as nurses by reading the “Major Fields of Work” in the “At A Glance” section at the top of each biography. Sometimes you need to read through the bio to find where the term is found.

Several of these women would have been involved with the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic.

**Katherine Louise Eager Bowdle**, Registered Nurse, Physician, Hospital Administrator  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/katherine-louise-eager-bowdle/>

**Dr. Eliza Cook**, Physician, Suffrage Activist, Temperance  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/dr-eliza-cook/>

**Clara Dunham Crowell**, Sheriff, Nurse, Hospital Matron  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/clara-dunham-crowell/>

**Dr. Mary Hill Fulstone**, Physician  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/dr-mary-hill-fulstone/>

**Martha Letcher Gottschalk**, Nurses Aide, care giver for elderly  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/martha-letcher-gottschalk/>

**Dr. Olga Constantina Lord Kipanidze**, Physician  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/dr-olga-constantina-lord-kipanidze/>

**Lubertha Miller Johnson**, Medicine (Nurse) Social Welfare, Civil Rights  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/lubertha-miller-johnson/>

**Mary Leicht Oxborrow**, Medicine (Midwife, nurse),  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/mary-leicht-oxborrow/>

**Lucille Elizabeth Emmert Petty**, Registered Nurse, Community and Civic Organizer  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/lucille-elizabeth-emmert-petty/>

**Byrd Fanita Wall Sawyer**, Midwife  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/byrd-fanita-wall-sawyer/>

**Mildred Sebbas Smith**, Hospital administrator, Community and Medical Activist, Surgical Nurse  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/mildred-sebbas-smith/>

**Ruth Davis Sullivan**, Teacher of piano, Practical Nurse  
<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/ruth-davis-sullivan/>

## *NWHP 2020 Events*

Reservations are requested for all events.

To make Reservations: email us at [NWHP@pyramid.net](mailto:NWHP@pyramid.net)

Send checks to Nevada Women's History Project, 770 Smithridge Dr. Ste. 300, Reno, NV 89509

Questions? Call: Sue 775-722-2699 or Lisa-Marie 775-750-4913

### **July 4, (Saturday): National Votes for Women Trail Marker Dedication in Battle Mountain**

Nevada's fourth National Votes for Women Trail marker will be dedicated in Battle Mountain to commemorate Nevada's first suffrage convention on July 4, 1870. Individuals' cars will be going for this day-trip. Carpool arrangements may be made by calling the above numbers.

### **July 15<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday): Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center Tour**

**Time:** 4:00 p.m. and no host dinner (TBD) after museum tour

**Where:** 600 N. Carson Street, 89704, call 687-6173 for directions

**Cost:** \$5 for members, \$10 for non-members

Information: The collection is comprehensive, focusing on Nevada and the Great Basin. Significant artifacts include Nevada's First Ladies Inaugural Ball gowns, entertainment costumes, wedding attire, every day and formal wear, military, religious, railroad and fraternal garments. The Nevada State Museum's Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Center is curated by member Jan Loverin. This program is dependent on when the Governor gives the OK for museums to hold programs in their facilities. More information will be forthcoming when we hear his decision.

### **August 15th (Saturday): All Aboard the "Suffrage Special," Riding the Rails on the V&T**

**Time:** 10 a.m.– 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, Nevada

**Costs:** TBD

This program is dependent on when the Governor gives the OK for museums to hold programs in their facilities. More information will be forthcoming when we hear his decision.

### **October 31, Participate in the Living Flag with the NWHP in the Nevada Day Parade**

Sign up at <https://www.nevadawomen.org/events/make-your-place-in-nevadas-history/>

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## *Creating Successful Programs*

By Sue Davis

Publicity is critical to a successful event. If you can help with publicity please contact us!

For the Suffrage Train event in August, we will need greeters, preferably in suffrage era costume, and we will need volunteers to staff the NWHP booth.

For the Living Flag event we will need pre-event help with simple sewing of the garments the marchers will wear, help with painting the hats we will purchase to match the garments. We also need to get the post-parade event planning started and staffed. At the parade we will need helpers to assist people to get dressed and find their place in the flag. After the parade we will need volunteers to help people get to the post-parade event and to handout the commemorative items they will receive in thanks for participating.

These events will be fun and will make history. Thank you for anything you may wish to do to help.

Please contact Sue or Lisa-Marie at the numbers above in the Events article.

## NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

## Membership Form

(Membership is for January thru December of each 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. 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

*Thank you for your Membership*



2019-2021

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# NWHP News

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

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[www.nevadawomen.org](http://www.nevadawomen.org)  
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## Puzzling Pandemic Vocabulary

M M E D D G N I D N E B F I N  
 I L P I X V Y H R P Q H C N N  
 W N I A D C G O Q Z E O Y C B  
 Y U D G K E B Q K R R E T U N  
 T K E N L Z S C D O L Q I B A  
 O P M O V M C P N B C E N A Z  
 U A I S L E L A A F L U U T H  
 T N C T Z F V C A L U E M I B  
 B D D I G I I O I V S M M O M  
 R E P C R N Q F X L T Q I N N  
 E M E U U S Z B E O E P I Z C  
 A I S M Y T I D I B R O M N V  
 K C M S U S H F C U R V E G O  
 J O J X P Q U A R A N T I N E  
 C C I T A M O T P M Y S A H Y

Asymptomatic	Flu
Bending	Herd
Cluster	Immunity
Communicable	Incubation
Coronavirus	Morbidity
Curve	Outbreak
Diagnostic	Pandemic
Epidemic	Quarantine

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