

***Our
Mission***

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

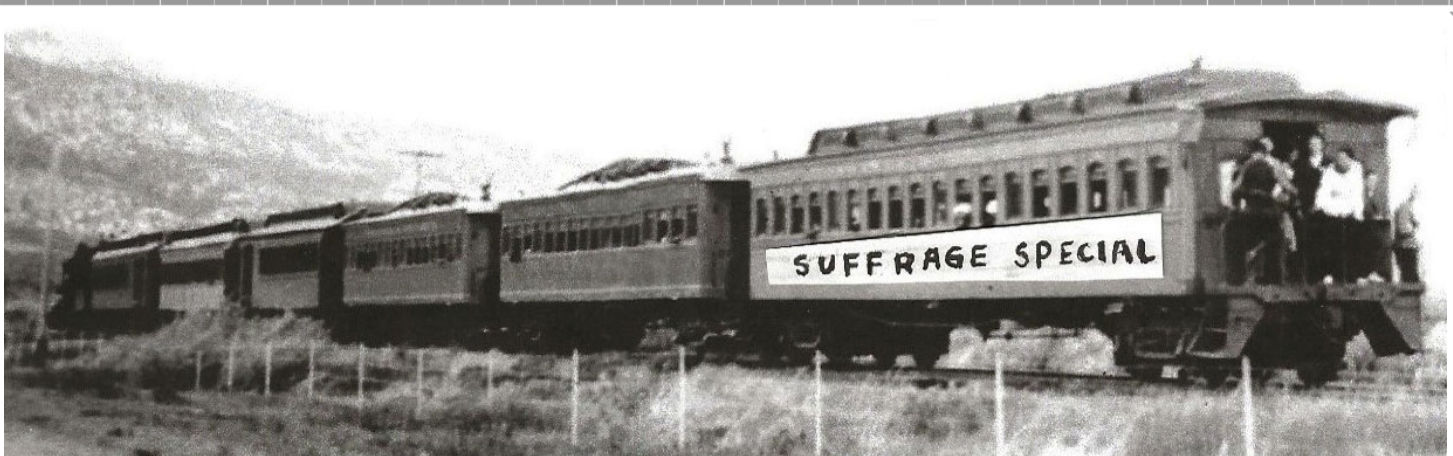


Photo Courtesy the Nevada State Railroad Museum. "Suffrage Special" added by the NWHP.

This is the actual V&T coach car #17 that is now located at the NSRM in Carson City.

New chapters discovered in Nevada suffrage, railroad history

Where is the lost suffrage special train banner?

By Patti Bernard

The saga of NWHP's suffrage research continues to generate new discoveries in the history of our state. One research project opens the door to another unknown fact, which then leads down another avenue of more fascinating aspects of forgotten suffrage events. By the time the suffrage centennial ends in January 2021, research that Jean Ford visualized in founding the Nevada Woman's History Project over 25 years ago will have truly succeeded in writing new chapters in the record book of Nevada's suffrage history.

We began by researching the iconic photograph of Governor Boyle signing the 19th Amendment on February 7, 1920, surrounded by 19 individuals, most of whom were women. NWHP identified, researched and wrote biographies of all the individuals portrayed in that photograph. A re-enactment of this event was done on February 7, 2020, with current Governor Steve Sisolak as 1920 Governor Emmet Boyle.

In doing that research, we came across information that the Virginia & Truckee Railroad had offered to provide specially designated passenger cars to deliver Reno's suffragists and legislators to Carson City to witness the historical event. More than 50 women suffragists and some legislators joyously boarded coach car #17 on the morning of Saturday, February 7, 1920.

To show to the world that Nevada was joining the other states that had ratified the suffrage amendment, the women painted the words "SUFFRAGE SPECIAL" on a 40-foot-long piece of muslin and tacked it to the side of V&T coach car #17. With much exuberance during the ride to Carson City and arrival at the Carson City depot, the crowd quickly departed to the State Capitol, where some participated in the special legislative session and others witnessed the occasion.

When the momentous occasion was over, the group returned to the train for their Reno destination, only to find their "SUFFRAGE SPECIAL" banner had disappeared from the side of the coach car! Indignantly, they protested that the banner be found and hung on the car for their jubilant return trip.

But where was the banner? What person did the dastardly deed of absconding with their work of art? The banner was nowhere to be found.

For several days the Carson City *Daily Appeal* analyzed details of what was known of the incident. Who could have taken the women's handiwork? What might have happened to this oversize banner, and where was it now? But the banner, as well as the entire event, was lost to history.

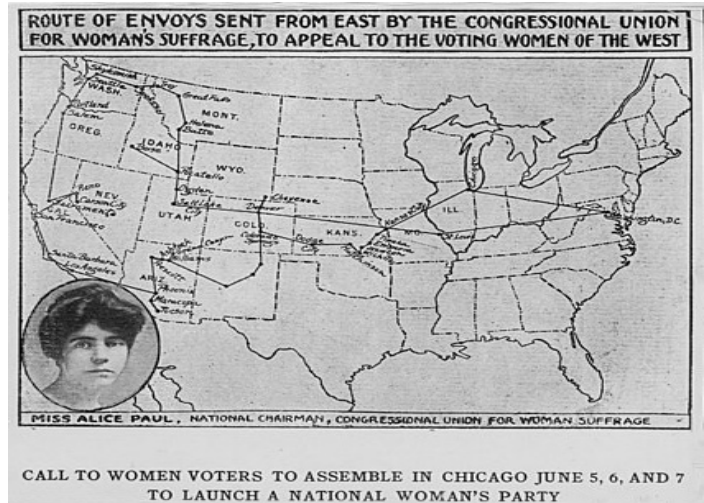
The episode seemed to be immortalized, though, by a photograph of a group of women standing on the State Capitol steps with Governor Boyle. It appeared to show several women who had been pictured in the "19th Amendment" photo. When both photographs were found at the Nevada Historical Society, they had the same date handwritten on them. It seemed logical to conclude that the Capitol steps photo was taken of some of the "Suffrage Special" passengers after the ceremony.

After discovering this bit of suffrage train history, we began to wonder just why the "SUFFRAGE SPECIAL" phrase was used on this big banner. What was the significance of the name?

Next came months of pouring through newspapers for the words, "Suffrage Special." The outcome of all that research was discovering that another "SUFFRAGE SPECIAL" coach car had been pulled by the V&T from Reno to Carson four years *before* the 1920 date.

In 1916, two years after Nevada gained state suffrage, 23 prominent Eastern suffragists made a cross-country speaking tour from Washington D.C. to Los Angeles and back in a Southern Pacific "sleeper" car to rally the Western states' support for passing the Susan B. Anthony Amendment, which, four years later, was signed into U.S. law as the 19th Amendment. This high-powered group was publicized as the "Flying Squadron" of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage organization, and they named the coach in which they would travel for 38 days, the "Suffrage Special." Eventually every train

that pulled this coach during this campaign was referred to by that name.



Lost in history was the fact that the eastern "Suffrage Special" was detached from its train and spent two days at the Reno train depot. On the second day, their "Suffrage Special" coach was hooked to the Reno/Carson V&T train pulled by Engine #25. The group traveled the scenic route to Carson City, met with Governor Boyle at the Capitol, attended a tea, and finally led a suffrage rally at Carson's popular Leisure Hour Club.

The car was then reattached to the V&T train which arrived in Reno just in time for the group to lead a huge suffrage rally at the Majestic Theater. The next morning they were on their way to Sacramento to continue their campaign.

We NWHP researchers are now in a quandary. Both old photographs show the February 7, 1920 date, but the Eastern suffragists came in April 1916. Did someone long ago misdate the photograph of the women on the Capitol steps? We have found a blurry *Reno Evening Gazette* of the "Flying Squadron" ladies in front of the car at the Reno train depot. Some of those women are dead ringers for individuals in the Capitol steps photograph. More research needs to be done before we can officially document our Capitol steps photo as those of the "Flying Squadron." We hope to have a definitive date within a couple months.

But at this point, LET'S CELEBRATE the two "SUFFRAGE SPECIALS." Neither event was known in Nevada's history and both are fascinating stories.

We shared this information with the Nevada State Railroad Museum folks, and they were excited to learn that their special V&T railroad car #17 played such an important part in Nevada's suffrage history. NWHP and the museum are planning an "All Aboard the "Suffrage Special" - Riding the Rails on the V&T" day to commemorate the special relationship between those stalwart women who fought for suffrage and the world-famous train that helped them do it.

**SO, SAVE THE DATE OF
SATURDAY, AUGUST 15, 2020!**

The entire day will be devoted to interesting booths, suffrage, and V&T train information, plus you'll be able to reenact your own part in Nevada's 2020 Suffrage Centennial history by riding on the historic V&T coach car #4, powered by the original Engine #25 used in those historical events. Coach car # 17 is unrestored but will be available for you to have your picture taken with it.

And... we have it on good authority that the "SUFFRAGE SPECIAL" banner has been found and might appear.

**All Aboard the "Suffrage Special"
Riding the Rails on the V&T**

Saturday, August 15, 2020

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

Time: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

In partnership with the Nevada State Railroad Museum, the Nevada Women's History Project presents a day to go back in history when women were fighting for the right to vote. Wear your "period" dress and ride the Virginia and Truckee that will use the same historic cars and engine that transported the suffragists to Carson City to observe the signing of the 19th Amendment in 1920. There will be food, booths, suffrage memorabilia, contests for the best period dress, and much more.

As more information is available it will be at:

<https://www.nevadawomen.org>

or visit us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/NevadaWomenHistoryProject>

or contact us at NWHP@pyramid.net

We'll See You There!

"Suffrage Special" Committee

By Mona Reno

The committee working to make the "Suffrage Special" train a reality met at the Nevada State Railroad Museum on February 13, 2020.

Dan Thielen, Museum Director

Wendell Huffman, Curator of History

Adam Michalski, Curator of Education

Patti Bernard, Chair, NWHP

Molly Walt, Nevada Commission for Women

Mona Reno, NWHP



Engine 25 at the NSRM with Adam, Dan, Molly, Patti, and Wendell. Mona took the picture.



Coach car #17 now located at the NSRM with Molly, Patti, Wendell, Adam and Dan. Mona took the picture.

Membership and Donations - January to March 2020

For 2020 Membership Year

New Members:

Individual - \$30

Jennifer Budge
Donna Bybee
Terry Horgan
Lynne Keller
Diane Loper
Carolyn Sherve

Family of Two- \$55

Ree and Mike Taylor

Friend - \$100

Alicia Barber
Jane Tors

Good Friend - \$250

Marybel Batjer

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

Kathleen Allred
Faye Anderson
Richann Bender
Susan Burkhamer
Grace Davis
Kathy Drake
Fritsi Ericson
Carleen Ernest
Candice Fife
Carolyn A. Gardner
Peggy Hamel
Shirley Hammon
Nancy Hudson
Gilda Johnstone
Marian La Voy
Antonia Lowden
Cynthia Pickett
Judith Reuter
Silvana Ricci
Margee Richardson
Yvonne Rickman
Wendy Ritter
Charlene Sprague
Florence Suenaga
Patricia Wallace
Linda Walsh
Chelsea White

Family of Two- \$55

Sarah Britt & Kathleen Allred
Barbara & Michael Guerin
Lisa-Marie & Bruce Lightfoot
Lillian & Lin Manning
Kathy & Charlie Noneman
Elizabeth Rassiga-White & Warren White

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

Organization - \$50

AAUW Reno Branch
Churchill County Museum
Delta Kappa Gamma -
Lambda Chapter
Delta Kappa Gamma -
Xi Chapter

Friend - \$100

Dana Bennett
Kay Bennett
Donna Clontz
Helen De Marco
Gail Duwe
Janice Hoke
Jan Loverin
Peggy Twedt

Good Friend - \$250

Cherry Jones

Best Friend - \$500

Donations: General Fund

Grace Davis - \$20
Carleen Ernest - \$10
Peggy Hamel - \$10
Shirley Hammon - \$20
Nancy Hudson - \$30
Cherry Jones - \$100
Patricia Wallace - \$10

Donations in memory –

Verna Bullis Anderson
Eric Anderson

Catharine (Kay) Sanders
Kathy Noneman

Memorials:

NWHP regrets the passing of our members from January to March 2020.

Beatrice Haddock Passes Away

On January 26, 2016, NWHP interviewed Beatrice Haddock of Reno, on her civilian employment at Stead Air Force Base from 1962-1968. Beatrice liked to say that she “was the last one to lock-up when the base closed.” Her interview is on the NWHP Media Page or on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/91PjVZucEQ0> Beatrice Haddock passed away on August 30, 2019.

From our Research Desk

Reno Evening Gazette.

RENO, WASHOE COUNTY, NEVADA. TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1895.

*Suffrage Letter by
Fannie Hazlett*

Mrs. F. G. Hazlett
Dayton, Jan. 5, 1895

Editor Gazette:

The *Gazette* of Friday fell into my hands yesterday, I am pleased to see a move made in this State in behalf of equal suffrage. With the ridiculously small State vote, it seems an opportune time to increase the voting population, and when it is already at hand, no more than ordinary sagacity is needed to make use of it. Mr. Skaggs thinks the silver and railroad questions of far more importance than woman suffrage. Does it occur to the gentleman that women's vote would help his cause wonderfully?

The women whose surroundings and affiliations would induce them to vote and work for corporations in this State are few in number, while the great majority of women belong to the middle class and whose sympathies are with the laboring men entirely. Were several thousands of men of the same grade morally and mentally as the women of this State suddenly added to its population, great rejoicing would follow. A great majority of the women are native Americans. A majority of the foreign men, especially, Italians, at least in this section, are unmarried. So, the increase would not be equal – the gain would be for the better.

In Colorado, the women proved themselves capable of effective work, and when the need came, informed themselves in all the technicalities as well as deeper principles, and as to the character of men and measures to be voted for. No question is asked as to the fitness of a boy coming to his majority to exercise his privilege of voting on the weightiest questions, although his education has been in the company of the vilest and his mental and moral status only a grade above the idiot. A mother who has given her best days to bearing, rearing and

training good boys to be good men must have no voice as to the laws which shall govern their lives and her life - and mercy knows some of them bear heavily on women. The trouble is, men have undertaken to rule the world from their standpoint, and nothing is truer than "the standpoint alters the view." There is as much to be said that one scarcely knows where to stop.

There must be an "educational" campaign on this question for women as well as men, and while I have little hope of suffrage being granted by a vote of the men at present, agitation is in order. You ask women to canvas from house to house. Is there any form of expressing their choice if needed? If so, forward it and the work will begun by interested women here.

Mrs. F.G. Hazlett
[Frances Ann "Fannie" Gore Hazlett]

Reno Evening Gazette, January 8, 1895, p 3:3

*NWHP - Membership Report
March 2020*

As of March 6, 2020, NWHP currently has 93 members in good standing and 37 in arrears. NWHP has 6 organizations in good standing and 0 in arrears. NWHP has 3 Life Members (Best Friends Forever).

Thank you,
Sue Davis, Membership

*NWHP - Treasurer's Report
March 2020*

The Year to Date, as of March 4, 2020, financial report shows a bank and PayPal balance of \$64,222.55, \$426.72 in fixed assets, \$0.00 liability and a negative net YTD income of -\$3,772.23. The total equity plus liability of the NWHP is \$64,649.27.

Michelle Gardner, Treasurer

Featured Historic Nevada Woman:

FRANCES MARGUERITE HUMPHREY

Reno High School teacher remembered for her long career, museum contributions

At a glance:

Born: June 29, 1904 in Carson City, Nevada

Died: November 2, 2001 in Reno, Nevada

Maiden Name: Humphrey

Race/Nationality/ethnic background: Caucasian

Primary city and county of residence and work:
Reno, Nevada

Major Fields of Work: Educator

Although born in Carson City, Frances Marguerite Humphrey spent most of her life in Reno, Nevada. She was born June 29, 1904 to miner Francis G. "Frank" and Marguerite (Maute) Humphrey, and was the younger of two daughters. Her parents were married in the mining camp of Belmont, and Frances attended schools both in Manhattan and Carson City, as well as Reno. She was probably named after her father.



Nevada State Museum

Frances Humphrey graduated from Reno High School in 1922 and the University of Nevada in 1926. She was active in sports at

both institutions. A formidable basketball player at Reno High, she was also an expert horseman. While at the University of Nevada, she was one of the founding members of the Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority in 1922. She remained active in its alumna association for the rest of her life.

Frances Marguerite Humphrey could be confused with another Frances Humphrey who lived in the city of Reno at the same time and who was only a year apart in age. Both were members of the same church. Both graduated only a year apart. But Frances W. Humphrey, who never did actively teach, came to the name of "Humphrey" through marriage and in her later years engaged in real estate.

Upon graduation, with teaching credential in hand, Frances Marguerite Humphrey headed out to her first teaching position; a rural community in northern Humboldt County called Willow Point. By the next school year, she had found employment in the Reno school system at Northside Junior High. She taught there for three years before transferring in the fall of 1931 to the "old" Reno High School, located on the corner of West Street. Frances' salary was a whopping \$1,800 a year. At both Reno schools, she filled a multitude of positions: among them girls' physical education teacher and English teacher. A new Reno High School was built at the corner of Booth Street and Foster Drive in 1951 and Frances transitioned to the new facility as a school counselor.

As a young teacher she was a member of the Vagabond Club, composed of teachers and young business girls who met once a month for social activities, and as a professional educator, she held offices in the Washoe County Teachers Association and later, the Retired Teachers Association. She was also active in PEO, a woman's fraternal organization, and a dedicated communicant of Trinity Episcopal Church.

Although she retired in 1965, for the next ten years Humphrey was a substitute teacher for both Reno High and the new Earl Wooster High School on W. Plumb Lane adjacent to Reno International Airport.



Nevada State Museum

One of the most important events for her each year was attending Reno High School reunions to reminisce with former teaching peers and students. In 1995, columnist Ty Cobb wrote of her in one of his Reno Evening Gazette articles: "I sat with guest of honor, Frances Humphrey. At 91, she was as bright and lively as the days when she was my P.E. and basketball coach at Northside Junior High."

Frances Humphrey lived independently at her East Eighth Street family home, adjacent to the Reno Fairgrounds, for 83 years without any assistance except "Meals on Wheels" in her later years. She did experience an incident in 1978 when would-be burglars broke a window to enter her house about 9 o'clock one night. She heard the glass pane break, armed herself with a stove poker and shouted, "I'm calling police." When police arrived, they found scuff marks on the wall nearby indicating a person tried to gain entry, but her yelling (undoubtedly in her "teacher's voice") forestalled the break-in.

She had a special relationship with the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. As a native Nevadan from two pioneer families, she had a great love of the state's history. She was a museum supporter through the years and donated all different types of collections to the institution. Curator of History Bob Nylen started the Frances Humphrey Lecture Series in 1992 to honor Frances and her contributions not only to the museum, but to the community and its youth.

Frances Marguerite Humphrey passed away on November 2, 2001, at aged 97. She had only been in a hospital one time and that was shortly before her death. She was buried in Carson City's Lone Mountain Cemetery alongside her parents.



Researched and written by Patti Bernard

Sources of Information can be reviewed with her online biography.

<https://www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical/frances-marguerite-humphrey/>

Christmas Wrapping



Lisa-Marie Lightfoot gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble in Reno for a NWHP fundraiser last winter.

Historic Photos Recreation

By Marcia Cuccaro

The Nevada Commission for Women celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Nevada's vote to ratify the 19th amendment and members of the Nevada Women's Project were there at both the photo shoots and the luncheon. Luncheon guests included Patti Bernard, Mona Reno, Ron Reno, Catherine Cuccaro, Marcia Cuccaro, Holly Van Valkenburgh, Barbara Guerin, and Lisa-Marie Lightfoot. The luncheon followed the photo shoots, both in the Governor's Office where the February 7, 1920 Amendment signing photo was recreated with Governor Sisolak.



Back Row, left to right: former First Lady **Kathryn List**; **Patti Bernard**, former Washoe County School District Administrator and chair of the Nevada Women's History Project; former U.S. Senator **Richard Bryan**; former First Lady **Lauralyn Sandoval**; **Lori Bagwell**, state vice regent, Nevada State Society Daughters of the American Revolution; **Sondra Cosgrove**, president of the League of Women Voters of Nevada; **Mona Reno**, past chair of the Nevada Women's History Project; **Debra March**, Mayor of Henderson; **Larry Bender**, former Las Vegas and North Las Vegas redevelopment manager; and **Rob Boehmer**, executive officer of the Nevada Deferred Compensation Program.

Front Row: **Dana Bennett**, president of the Nevada Mining Association; **Molly Walt**, Nevada Commission for Women and chair of the Nevada Women's Suffrage Celebration Committee; **Richann Bender**, Nevada Commission for Women member; former First Lady **Dawn Gibbons**, Nevada Transportation Authority commissioner, former state Assemblywoman; Assembly Speaker **Jason Frierson**; First Lady **Kathy Sisolak**; Secretary of State **Barbara Cegavske**; **Chloe Walt**, Carson High School senior; **Maggie Carlton**, Nevada Assemblywoman; Lt. Governor **Kate Marshall**; **Bob Crowell**, Mayor of Carson City.

Seated: Nevada Governor **Steve Sisolak**.

A second photo celebrating a visit by suffragists was recreated on the steps of the Nevada State Capitol with a different set of individuals but including the Governor and Kathy Sisolak, Nevada First Ladies Kathy List, Dawn Gibbons and Lauralyn Sandoval; and Patti Bernard, Mona Reno, Marcia Cuccaro and Catherine Cuccaro. It was a historic moment - one our grandmothers would have been proud to witness.



Top Row: former First Lady **Lauralyn Sandoval**; **Marcia Cuccaro**, Nevada Women's History Project; **Lisa Krasner**, Nevada Assemblywoman;

Third Row: **Catherine Cuccaro**, Nevada Women's History Project; **Kate Marshall**, Lt. Governor; **Debra March**, Mayor of Henderson; **Barbara Cegavske**, Secretary of State; **Dana Bennett**, president of the Nevada Mining Association.

Second Row: **Richann Bender**, Nevada Commission for Women member; **Dawn Gibbons**, former First Lady, Nevada Transportation Authority commissioner, former state Assemblywoman; **Patti Bernard**, former Washoe County School District Administrator and chair of the Nevada Women's History Project; **Mona Reno**, past chair, Nevada Women's History Project; **Molly Walt**, Nevada Commission for Women and chair of the Nevada Women's Suffrage Celebration Committee.

Front Row: **Lori Bagwell**, state vice regent, Nevada State Society Daughters of the American Revolution; **Sondra Cosgrove**, president of the League of Women Voters of Nevada; First Lady **Kathy Sisolak**, Nevada Governor **Steve Sisolak**; **Maggie Carlton**, Nevada Assemblywoman; former First Lady **Kathryn List**; **Chloe Walt**, Carson High School senior.

NWHP 2020 Events

Reservations are requested for all events.

To make Reservations: email us at 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

June 23rd (Tuesday) Monthly Women's History Book Club (4th Tuesday every month thru August)

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: Home of Sue Davis (call Sue at 775-722-2699 for directions)

Cost: Free

Join other women that have a love of women's history to enjoy and share a great book about Women's History. In June we will be reading *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd.

June 27th (Saturday): Celebrating Suffrage-Women's Vote Making a Difference Luncheon

Time: 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Where: Toiyabe Golf Club, 19 Lightening W Ranch Rd., New Washoe City

Cost: TBD (Luncheon and program)

From 1914 through 2020, women's right to vote has had major influence within our communities, state and nation. Join us in celebrating our achievements and hear about those first momentous steps Nevada women took to gain the right to vote. (optional) Come dressed in your favorite year of suffrage history, from 1869 – 2020 (Hats welcome).

July 3-4, SAVE THE DATES National Votes for Women Trail Bus Trip to 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.

July 15th (Wednesday): Marjorie Russell Clothing and Textile Research Center Tour

Time: 4:00 p.m. (Tour and no host dinner (TBD) out after)

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.

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

See the cover article in this newsletter for more information about the "Suffrage Special."

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/>

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

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More Nevada Suffragists

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