

Letters from Nevada's Daughters

Nevada Women's History Project

PO Box 50428

Reno, NV 89513

Letters from Nevada's Daughters is an exciting project for Nevada women to preserve and share their family and life histories. The project was inspired by former Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich's plan to write her memoirs in the form of letters to her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. The book is entitled *Letters from the House: Reflections of a Tough Grandmother*.

The Letters from Nevada's Daughters project is sponsored by the Nevada Women's History Project (NWHP). As the 20th century draws to a close it is the time to compile the facts about Nevada women in this century and their thoughts about their lives and times.

This project is designed to cover the sixteen months from September 1999 to January 2001. The format for the chronicles is designed to be easy to use. Each month the women who participate in the project will write a letter to her family regarding a certain area of her life. The NWHP and the Nevada Department of Museums, Library and Arts will post on their web pages the topic of the letter with some general questions to be answered. You are not limited to the one page of the form and may attach as many additional pages as you need. There is no word limit. You decide what information you wish to preserve. All answers and information are optional.

After collecting basic information on each letter writer, the tentative topics of discussion are: family genealogy, residences, life work/career/s, daily life activities, foods, religion, fashions, significant medical history, recreation and travel, important issues or causes, impact of technology, "famous" people known, music and arts, retirement, holiday celebrations and customs, and your treatment by others because you were a woman.

It is hoped that each writer will participate each month, but it is not required. All letters are to be mailed or delivered to NWHP at 201 West Liberty, PO Box 50428, Reno NV 89513. The original letters will be placed in Special Collections at the University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada with copies in the Jean Ford Research Center at the NWHP in Reno and in Las Vegas.

From the letters received each month, a few will be selected to be published on the web sites of the NWHP and the Nevada State Library and Archives. There is no deadline for submitting letters; they will be accepted at any time during the project. However, only those letters received during the topic month will be considered for publishing. For example, the October topic is family genealogy, so only letters on family genealogy received in October will be considered for publication. Additionally, excerpts from Barbara Vucanovich's book of memoirs will also be published each month. If you are interested in obtaining the forms for the letters to participate in the project or in seeing the excerpts from Vucanovich's letters and the letters from other Nevada women, look at www.clan.lib.nv.us and www.unr.edu/wrc/nwhp.

If you have any questions or suggestions about this project, please contact the NWHP.

Steering Committee:
Patty Cafferata
Holly Van Valkenburgh

Patty Cafferata
Holly Van Valkenburgh

Letter from One of Nevada's Daughters

September 1999: Basic Data

Dear Family:

This letter contains information about me:

Name: Helen Jane Wiser Stewart

Nickname: -

Full Address: Las Vegas, Nevada

E-mail address: what is this?

Birth Date: Apr. 16, 1854 Time: ?

Place: Springfield, Illinois

Who named after: don't know

Other languages spoken: -

I arrived in Nevada in 1873 (year) at the age of 20

Schools Attended: Sacramento Public Schools + Hesperian College at Woodland, California

Degree/s: Where, When: -

Military Service: -

Husband/s: ① Archibald Stewart
② Frank Roger Stewart

Dates of marriage/s: ① April 6, 1873
in Salt, Cal.
② July 27, 1903
in Ventura, Cal.

Child/ren:

- ① William James
- ② Hiram Richard
- ③ Florence Eliza Jane

Date of Birth: ① Mar. 9, 1874 Place of Birth: Lincoln Co. Nev.
② Nov 28, 1876 " " "
③ Jan. 18, 1879 " " "

Religious affiliation: Episcopalian

Membership in community organizations (include dates):

Mesquite Club (Charter member) March, 1911 } still a member
U-Wah-Um Study Club 1919 }
NV HIST. SOCIETY

Volunteer activities (include dates): Red Cross 1918

Parents' Names: Father: Hiram Wiser
Mother: Delia Gray

Country of Immigrant Ancestors: Father's father's family - Germany; Mother's - probably
Ancestor's approximate date of arrival in the U.S.A.: don't know

Other Information: First of women to sit on a jury in Clark Co.; first of women to sit on a jury for a murder trial in Clark Co.; First woman elected to Clark Co. School Board; 15th historian in Clark Co.; wrote chapter on So. Nev. in Davis' New History

I, Helen J. Stewart hereby give permission to the Nevada Women's History Project for Book the above material to be utilized for research only and place no restrictions on its use. I expect no remuneration.

Signed: HJS Date _____

④ Evaline La Voga Sept. 22, 1882, Las Vegas Ranch
⑤ Archibald, Jr. Jan. 25, 1885, Salt, Cal., Lincoln Co.

"Letters from Nevada's Daughters"

SEPTEMBER DATA

Named after: mother: 2 father : 1; father & mother: 1; ; aunt: 6; Great-great-grandmother - 1; Great-grandmother - 3; Both grandmothers: 1; Grandmother: 1; both grandfathers: 1; Family friend - 2; Queen of the Fairies (Morgana) & grandmother

Birth year: 1914: 1; 1925: 1; 1929: 2; 1931 - 1; 1935: 2; 1936: 2; 1939: 1; 1940: 2; 1941 -1; 1946 1; 1948 - 1; 1951 1; 1954 - 2; 1955 -1; 1959; 1962 - 1; 1963 -1; 1974 - 1; 1978 - 1; 1980 - 1; 1982 - 2; 1987 - 1; 1991 - 1;

Place of birth: Nevada: Elko: 2; Fallon: 1; Reno: 6; Schurz: 4
California: 3; Iowa - 1; Kansas: 1; Massachusetts: 1; Minnesota: 2; Missouri: 1; New York: 3; Oregon - 1;
Utah - 1; Washington: 1

Arrived in Nevada: 1941 - 2; 1954 - 1; 1957 - 2; 1959 - 1; 1963 - 1; 1970 - 1; 1972 - 1; 1977 - 1; 1978 - 1;
1980 - 1; 1982 -2; 1988 - 2; 1991 - 1; 1997 - 1

Age at arrival: 0 - 12; 1; 8; 10; 17; 22; 25; 27; 48; 52

Other Languages Spoken: Spanish; some French; German, French; some German; French, Spanish, some Basque; some Washo; Paiute; Shoshone

Degrees: BA; BS; BA,MA,MEd; AA,BA; AB(now BA); BA,JD; AA,BJ; BA; BS; AA,BS; BA,MLS; AS; AA; AGS; BA,MA, PhD; BS, MBA; BS, MBA;

Number of marriages: 2; 1; 1; 2; 1; 1; 2; 2; 1; 2; 1; 2; 1; 4; 0; 0; 1; 1; 1; 1; 1; 3; 1; 1; 2

Children: 3; 3; 2; 4; 4; 3; 4; 3; 2; 4; 3; 2; 2; 5; 0; 0; 2; 7; 2; 3; 4; 3; 2; 2; 4

Country of Immigrant Ancestors:

Canada: 1/3;

Czechoslovakia: 1/2

England: 1/3; 1; 1/3; 1/2; 1/5; 1/2; 1/3; 1/5; 1/3; 1/3

France: 1/3;

Germany: 1/3; 1/2; 1/2; 1/2; 1/2; 1/2; 1/3; 1/2; 1/3; 1/4; 1/1

Holland: 1/5; 1/2;

Ireland: 1/3; 1/2; 1/5; 1/3; 1/5; 1/2; 1/3; 1/4; 1/3; 1/3; 1/4; 1/2; 1/3

Italy: 1/2; 1/3

Japan: 1/3;

Norway: 1/3; 1/2;

Scotland: 1/3; 1/5; 3/4; 1/3; 1/4

Spain: 1/3; 1/3; 1/3; 1/4; 1/3

Sweden: 1/5; Wales: 1/5; 1/5;

Switzerland: 1/5;

USA: 2/2; 2/2; 2/2; 2/2; 2/2; 2/2; 1/3; 1/3;

Yugoslavia: 1/2

Ancestors approximate date of arrival in USA: 1899; 1700s & 1849 - 4; 1800s; 1620 to 1714; 1850, 1870; 1840 & 1880; 1630-1640; 1640 & 1900; 1858; 1800s; 1910; 1849-1760; Forever - 1; 1908; early 1900s

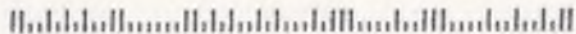


Alice Brown

770 Smithridge Drive, Ste. # 300
Reno, NV 89502

A STATE-WIDE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

89015X5204 04



Nevada Women's History Project

770 Smithridge Drive, no 300
Reno, Nevada 89702

Alice Louise Cowles Brown

Dear Alice,

Thank you so much for your contribution to the "Letters from Nevada's Daughters" Project.

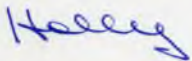
It is because of the participation of women such as you that we will some day have a rich treasure of the lives thoughts, and opinions of Nevada women of the twentieth century.

The September letter you sent will go to the Special Collections at UNR, available only to future serious, qualified researchers. Your October letter will also go only there.

We will use the information in your first two letters to create databases of information. For example, out of the first ten participants in the "Letters" project, three were born here in Nevada. Seven of us had an ancestor from Germany, six of us from England.

Enclosed are the next four "letter" formats - double-sided to save paper and mailing expenses. I look forward to hearing from you again. We will start putting some of the November letters on our web site (<http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/nwhp/letters.htm>), since they are not purely personal information.

Again, thank you for your participation.



Holly Van Valkenburgh
Patty Cafferata'
Co-chairs

Letter from One of Nevada's Daughters:

Name _____
Address _____

December, 1999: Home/s:

Dear Family,

This letter describes the homes I lived in during my life:

I. Childhood

Describe type of house you lived in

Located where?

Garden?

Who worked in it?

Raise animals?

Other buildings on the same property

Special holidays and celebrations

Moved to

When?

Fuel used to heat?

How did your family get water?

II. First Home I purchased:

Where:

Date:

Cost:

III. Other Homes:

IV. Town/s Where I lived:

V. For Fun, when I was growing up, my friends and I ...

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Signed: _____ Date _____

Letters from One of Nevada's Daughters

Name _____
Address _____

January, 2000: Life Work or Career/s

Dear Family:

This letter is about my life work and education:

Inside the home:

Describe an ordinary day:

Describe a special day or event

Outside the home:

First Job:

How old Wages Spent them on:

Other jobs I've had over the years included:

Special education/training:

Description of skills/activities involved:

Equipment used:

Places, Companies:

Important things I learned in choosing a career:

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Signed: _____ Date _____

Letter from One of Nevada's Daughters:

Name _____
Address _____

October, 1999: Family Genealogy

Dear Family:

This letter contains information about our family tree: Birth and Death dates, Places of Birth and Death, Marriage, and Occupations.

Parents:

Father:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Mother:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Siblings:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Grandparents::

Father's Father:

Father's Mother:

Mother's Father:

Mother's Mother:

Great-grandparents:

Father's Father's Father:

Father's Father's Mother:

Father's Mother's Father:

Father's Mother's Mother:

Mother's Father's Father:

Mother's Father's Mother:

Mother's Mother's Father:

Mother's Mother's Mother

Why they came to the U.S.A.:

Interesting facts and stories:

Name of First family member to live in Nevada: When? Where? Why? Occupation?

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Signed: _____ Date _____

Letter from One of Nevada's Daughters:

Name _____
Address _____

November, 1999: Important Issues/Events/Causes in my Lifetime

Pick one (or more) from the following list of events (or provide your own) and describe your personal memory.

Events of the Twentieth Century

1910-1919

U.S. enters World War I.
Congress passes resolution to make the second Sunday in May Mother's Day.
First transcontinental telephone call by Bell and Watson.

1920-1929

"Flapper" era - no-waistline dresses worn above the knee, cloche hats, the Charleston.
Supreme Court says Nineteenth Amendment (voting rights for women) is constitutional.
Stock market crash.
Development of sound-film system.

1930-1939

A new Chevrolet costs \$530.
U.S. establishes forty-hour work week.
First televised U.S. baseball game.
Depression.
Social Security Act signed.

1940-1949

Japan bombs Pearl Harbor; U.S. enters World War II.
First class postage three cents; special delivery ten cents.
Roosevelt dies eighty-three days into fourth term; Harry Truman becomes president.
U.S. drops atom bombs on Japan; World War II ends.

1950-1959

Color TV introduced.
Racial segregation in public schools declared unconstitutional.
U.S. enters Korean War.
The "TV dinner" is invented.

1960-1969

The Beatles' first big song hit.
Civil Rights March on Washington.
President Kennedy assassinated.
First U.S. "space walk"
U.S. lands man on the moon.

1970-1979

Nixon first U.S. President to resign.
U.S. pulls out of Vietnam.
Amtrak begins operation.
The Concorde initiates supersonic jet service.

1980-1989

Sally Ride first woman astronaut in space.
Geraldine Ferraro first woman vice-presidential candidate.
U.S. captives released in Iranian hostage crisis.
Sandra Day O'Connor first woman member of Supreme Court.
Stock Market falls 508 points on October 19, 1987.
Shuttle Discovery marks U.S. space program comeback.

1990-1999

Bill Clinton elected President.
Republicans gain control of Congress.
Desert Storm.
Kenny Guinn elected Governor of Nevada.