

Our Mission

To provide visibility and support for the gathering and dissemination of history about the roles and contributions of Nevada women of every race, class, and ethnic background.

Mona Reno Inducted into the NWHP Roll of Honor



Mona Reno and her Japanese Dogwood

At the July 2012 NWHP annual meeting Mona Reno was inducted into the NWHP Roll of Honor for her work with the Sarah Winnemucca statue and the recent compilation and publication of *"It Can Be Done": Nevada Presents The Sarah Winnemucca Statue to the People of the United States.*

Mona produced two other publications related to Sarah Winnemucca as part of a Library Services and Technology Act Grant while employed with the Nevada State Library and Archives: *Sarah Winnemucca: an annotated bibliography*, and *The Case of Sarah Winnemucca, special file 268: National Archives and Records correspondence during the Bannock Indian War, 1877-1885.*"

Independently, Mona served as content editor for the Compass Point Books young adult book *Sarah Winnemucca, Scout, Activist, and Teacher* by Natalie M. Rosinsky.

Mona is the current NWHP Chair. She retired from Nevada State Library and Archives, and had been the Librarian for Federal Publications, the Nevada State Data Center and the Foundation Center. She presently is employed by the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Legal Division. She received her Master's degree in Library Science from the University of Arizona, Tucson and a BA in Anthropology from Idaho State University, Pocatello. She worked as an archaeologist in New Mexico and Nevada.

While at the Nevada State Library and Archives, Mona wrote and compiled *Nevada State Library and Archives, a statutory and administrative chronology, 1861 – 2001*; and *Department of Cultural Affairs, a statutory and administrative chronology*. She also worked with Gwen Clancy on *Three Centuries of Service*, a video history of the Nevada State Library and Archives. Recently she assisted with the publication of the NWHP book *Patricia A. Tripple: Educator and Legislator, A Retrospective.*

Carrie Townley Porter

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We want to express our sincere "Thank You" to our many generous members for their financial donations to support the Nevada Women's History Project in 2012.

Karen Benna, Joyce Cox, Marcia Cuccaro, Fritsi Ericson, Isabel Espinoza, Nell Fozard, Mary Lee Fulkerson, Martha Gould, Joyce Hinton, Nancy Hudson, Jim Hulse, Cherry Jones, Jaculine Jones, Mary Lee, Lucina Moses, Jeanell Pevey, Billie Pickett, Robert Stoldal, Rose Stuart, Maggie Thomsen, Pat Tripple, Peggy Twedt, Barbara Vucanovich, Patricia Wallace and Sally Zanjani.

Thank you to each and all of you!

## 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEVADA WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE 2014

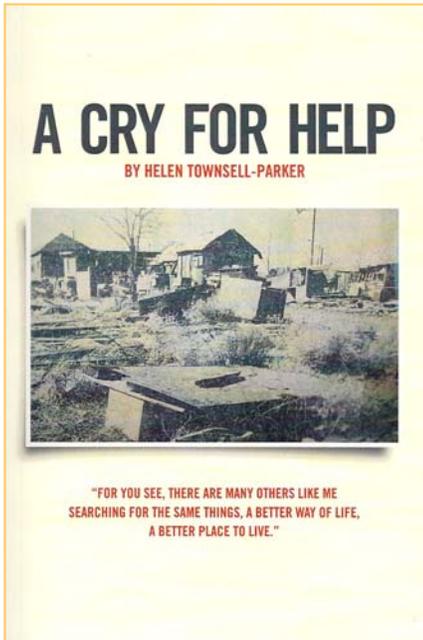
### NWHP IS ACTIVELY PLANNING COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS

### STAY TUNED



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# Black Springs, Washoe County, NV



Helen Townsell-Parker, 2010

The subtitle of her book is “A Chronological History of a Black Community in Northern Nevada.” This is a treasure trove of information about the only community where racial minorities could buy property in the 1950s in the Reno area. Many of these families were building the homes and businesses in areas they could not live in because of neighborhood restrictions.

The book is compiled from boxes of documents Townsell-Parker found that her grandparents, Ollie and Helen Westbrook, had saved. Where many people toss old papers, she recognized the historical significance of the materials and began to get partners in her goal to make them available. The collection is now housed at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno.

This book is available in Reno at Sundance Bookstore and the NHS gift shop; and on the web at Amazon, in print and for Kindle. You may also call the author at 775-851-0142 at the Westbrook Foundation.

For another look at life at Black Springs see the Our Story, Inc. website posting: Black Springs, Nevada—A Study in Perseverance.

<http://ourstoryinc.com/did-you-know-2/oral-history/black-springs-a-study-in-perseverance/>

There is also a nice story about Helen Townsell-Parker on that site.

<http://ourstoryinc.com/helen-townsell-parker/>



**Directions to Black Springs**  
From Reno/Sparks, take U.S. 395 north to the Lemmon Valley exit, turn left. Go to North Virginia Street, turn right. Proceed to Kennedy Drive, turn right.

## May 4 - Pink Tea

Governor's Mansion  
2:00-4:000 pm

Theme: 100th Anniversary of Nevada State Legislature passing Women's Suffrage legislation.

Invitations to be mailed, bring a friend.

Participants dress in 1913 apparel if desired, even “be” a suffragist—from the list on page 3. Their biographies are on the NWHP website.

<http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/biographies.htm>

Committee:

Holly Van Valkenburgh,  
Mary Anne Convis,  
Isabel Espinoza,  
Marcia Cuccaro,  
Linda Wycoff

### Nevada Legislative Proclamation



On April 15, 2013, Senator Debbie Smith will be introducing a Proclamation in the Nevada Legislature to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Nevada Equal Suffrage.

NWHP members are encouraged to attend the Floor Session and sit with a Senator. You **must** let us know by April 5 if you plan to attend. Call or email the office now to be added to the contact list. **1913 attire encouraged.**

775-786-2335  
NWHP@pyramid.net

## Celebration of the Centennial of Nevada Women Winning the Right to Vote

The 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Nevada women winning the right to vote is coming up fast. The 150<sup>th</sup> (sesquicentennial) anniversary of Nevada obtaining statehood is on the fast track as well. Both of these landmark events will be officially celebrated in our state beginning October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 and ending October 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. A state planning committee will be doing fundraising and will have a traveling museum trailer which will go to 150 locations in Nevada. NWHP hopes to participate in many ways, details of which are still being decided. However, since our Web site currently contains at least ten completed biographies of Nevada suffragists, we are going to feature them in our newsletters beginning with the current issue.

In our office we have a suffrage material box that is accessible for NWHP members who wish to do research on Nevada suffragists. We have obtained books from Donna Clontz that contain information on the suffrage movement, including information on Nevada suffragists. These are housed in our office and are available for check-out.

NWHP vice-chair Kathy Noneman attended a meeting

of the NV 150 planning committee in November.

NWHP member Dana Bennett has been hired as a planning committee consultant. Ideas for our involvement with the celebration are welcomed. Kathy will be reporting on this collaboration. Mary Anne Convis has agreed to be the liaison between NWHP and the state planning committee.

Kay Sanders, Co-Chair  
Jean Ford Research Center



### Nevada Suffragists who have biographies posted on the NWHP Web site

Hannah Clapp  
Anne H. Martin  
Felice Cohn  
Mila Maynard  
Eliza Cook  
Laura M. Tilden  
Mary S. Doten  
Francis S. Williamson  
Sadie Dotson Hurst  
Bird Wilson

### Nevada Suffragists on the NWHP Web site whose biographies have not been written

Florence Humphrey Church  
Fannie Gore Hazlett

Suffrage is a pivotal right.

Susan B. Anthony

## LATE DUES REMINDER & NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

In the past we used a red and white label on the face of the newsletter to remind members that dues must be paid in order to receive subsequent copies of the newsletter. Because of postal regulations for bulk mail, this label had to be placed on every newsletter mailed, even if you had already paid your membership dues. This little red and white notice caused much concern and confusion since there was not sufficient space to provide an explanation.

***NWHP membership year runs January through December of each year.*** The NWHP Operations Guide allows for one complimentary newsletter for those who have not yet paid their dues by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Many of you have already paid, so please double check before sending in a second payment. We greatly appreciate the support our members have shown over the years. We hope that we continue to earn your continued support over the coming years.

*Grace Davis, Membership*

# 1913 Nevada Governmental Activity leading to Equal Suffrage for Women

## State of the State Message of Governor Tasker L. Oddie.

To the Legislature of 1913 (Twenty-Sixth Session)

This is the text of a section of Governor Oddie's speech:

January 20, 1913

### The Franchise for Women

In California, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Arizona—every Pacific Coast State except Nevada—the right of franchise is now granted women. Thus we are entirely surrounded by States which have marked their advance by giving women the same right to vote on public questions and for public officials as men. Two years ago our Legislature proposed an amendment removing the constitutional barrier which denies women this right in Nevada. This amendment will have to be favorably acted upon by your honorable bodies and finally submitted to a vote of the people before it can become a part of our organic law. The sentiment in its favor seems to be overwhelming and participated in by all political parties, for which reason, and from my own personal convictions of its justice, I recommend that your honorable bodies concur in the same by appropriate action.



In connection with the more equitable readjustment of the status of women before the law, I recommend that the statute which gives the father sole authority over the custody, services, earnings and management of the property of a minor child be amended by making both parents joint guardians thereof.

## *Statutes of the State of Nevada passed at the Twenty-Sixth Session of the Legislature 1913*

No. 1—*Assembly Joint and Concurrent Resolution, relative to amending section one of article two of the constitution of the State of Nevada, pertaining to the right of elective franchise.*

[Approved January 31, 1913]

*Be it resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring,*

That section one of article two of the constitution of the State of Nevada be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. All citizens of the United States (not laboring under the disabilities named in this constitution) of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who shall have actually, and not constructively, resided in the state six months, and in the district or county thirty days next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote for all officers that now or hereafter may be elected by the people, and upon all questions submitted to the elector at such election; *provided*, that no person who has been or may be convicted of treason or felony in any state or territory of the United States, unless restored to civil rights, and no idiot or insane person shall be entitled to the privilege of an elector. There shall be no denial of the elective franchise at any election on account of sex.

Universal suffrage is sound in principle. The radical element is right.

Rutherford B. Hayes



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## 2012 Review of NWHP Accomplishments

### **The Jean Ford Research Center**

By Kay Sanders, Co-Chair

The NWHP collection of files on Nevada women are now housed at the Nevada Historical Society, in Reno. In mid-July of 2012 Acting Director of the NHS Sheryl Hayes-Zorn and her assistant picked up 25 boxes of files and the accompanying File Manual list of each person contained in the collection. The transfer was approved at the January 2012 meeting of the NWHP Executive Committee. NWHP retains ownership of the collection. Included in the transfer were files on counties containing information about Nevada women in their communities and files relating to women's issues.

The Jean Ford Research Center Committee members will now direct their attention to several remaining collections housed in the Reno office. These include photos, cassettes which will be converted to CDs, and videos. Lynn Bremer and Patti Bernard have begun organizing and identifying the photos.

Special thanks go to members of the Jean Ford Research Center for their dedicated work on sorting, identifying, and reading through hundreds of files. Carrie Porter organized several work sessions this spring and summer to accomplish this goal. She also developed the file manual. JFRC Committee members include the following:

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Kay Sanders   | Carrie Townley Porter |
| Patti Bernard | Lynn Bremer           |
| Grace Davis   | Jackie Falkenroth     |
| Nell Fozard   | Margee Richardson     |

In addition, those of you who clipped newspaper and magazine articles, and submitted other information pertinent to our collection, deserve our gratitude for your work. Please Keep It Up. We continue to add new people to our files and welcome new information on women already included.

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Women added to the Biographies

Grace A. Bordewich

Carrie Choate Bullis

Carol Lu Ella Bullis-Echeverria

Marvel Ranson Guisti

Lucille Elizabeth Emmert Petty

~

The Coverlet of Historical Women

Coverlets have been purchased by the Carson Valley Historical Society, Douglas County Historical Society, Nevada Legislative Gift Shop, Nevada Historical Society, and the Nevada State Museum.

A brochure with brief biographies of the women on the coverlet is being prepared in 2013. This will provide historic value and perspective to the coverlet.

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Non-Profit Status for NWHP

As a result of recent changes in the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, that made the existing relationship between the Nevada Women's Fund and the Nevada Women's History Project no longer possible, it was necessary to begin the process for becoming a separate and independent organization.

Under the leadership of Linda Wyckoff, the NWHP began this process and continues to make progress toward being a 501(c)(3).

~

Nevada Suffrage Centennial

1913 and 1914 are the 100th Anniversary of Nevada woman gaining the right to vote. The NWHP has formed a committee for historical research and dissemination, and to plan and carry out events and publicity for this anniversary. Kathy Noneman, NWHP Vice-Chair, is heading the committee.

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## Oral History and First Ladies

By Patti Bernard

2012 was a busy year for our committee. Martha Gould became co-chair of the Oral History Committee with me and she completed the oral history of Kathleen Noneman, one of the founding members of NWHP, and close friend of NWHP Founder, Jean Ford. Kathy and her husband Charlie have lived and traveled throughout the world in his military profession. She was also a Washoe County School District teacher before deciding to attend law school. She received her Doctor of jurisprudence degree in 1987, practiced law in Reno and is now a retired Family Court Master.



The highlight of the year was finally seeing the NWHP publication of Pat Tripple's oral history. After numerous personal interviews and the editing of those transcripts into a single storyline, the *Patricia A. Tripple, A Retrospective* was finally received back from the publisher in February 2013. This interesting oral history documents the highpoint in home economics education statewide, as Pat recounts the history of the Sarah Fleischman School of Home Economic at the University of

Nevada from the mid-1950s through the demise of the school in the mid-1980s. Her perspective is from the viewpoint of a newly hired Associate Professor who participated in the planning of the new Sarah



Fleischmann School of Home Economics building, participated in the development of the new home economics curriculum, which was designed to meet the ever changing societal roles of the modern woman, and she received the appointment as the first Dean of the School of Home Economics in 1971. Pat was also active in home economics on the national level by serving as a visiting scholar with the American Home Economics Association national office in Washington D.C. as well as serving as president of the AHEA Foundation. The *Retrospective* fills in an important part of the University's history that had not been documented before.

In addition Pat served as a Washoe County Assemblywoman in one of the most unique State Legislative sessions in our state's history. Voters failed to elect a majority of Republicans or Democrats to the 1995 Nevada State Assembly and thus the leadership, with the entire Assembly concurrence, chose to

change the House leadership between each party on a weekly basis. Pat provides a unique perspective on this procedure as a participant in that session.

The *Pat Tripple Retrospective* is available for purchase through NWHP. Please attach a check with the flyer included in this newsletter. If you need additional forms, you may print the flyer that can be found on the NWHP website or you may contact the NWHP office. This book can also be purchased at Sundance Book Store in Reno and the State Legislative Bookstore in Carson City. The price is \$18.00 or 21.50 if mailed.

Sundance Book Store is also hosting Pat at a book signing event to be held Saturday, March 9 at 1:30 p.m.

The biography of First Lady Kathleen Sandoval has been uploaded to our website.



Photo credit: Julie Duewel

Former Court Recorder Julietta Forbes recorded the interview session that I conducted with Mrs. Sandoval at the Governor's Mansion. A biography was written primarily from the transcript of that interview, approved by Mrs. Sandoval, and was recently placed on First Ladies webpage.

<http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/bios/nv1st/sandoval.html>

The actual interview transcript is now in the Jean Ford Research Library files.

The oral history of Ethel Jaffe has also been completed. Ethel, a longtime Reno resident and activist in the formation of Temple Sinai in 1962, has been a main stay in the Jewish community since 1957. Although from an Orthodox Jewish family, as a female, she did not receive Hebrew language instruction. Finding no one in the newly formed temple that had a satisfactory command of the Hebrew language to instruct her son for his bar mitzvah in 1964, she challenged herself to learn the language in order that she could provide his necessary instruction. Ethel was instrumental in the formation of the Temple Sinai Hebrew School and has instructed countless youth and adults for their bat or bas mitzvahs for over 50 years.

Joyce Cox wrote the biography of First Lady Mary Poor Bell, wife of Governor Frank Bell and it has

been uploaded to our website.

<http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/bios/nv1st/bell.html>



Photo credit: Nevada Historical Society

Her husband has been referred to as "the accidental governor" as he filled in that position for a very short time before the election of a new governor. Although Mary lived most of her life in the city of Reno and was active in many civic organizations, compiling her biography was representative of the difficulty in writing biographies of women of her era. There is little public information on her activities to be found.

Collecting information other than what social functions were attended or what type of attire women who engaged in community activism before 1960 wore, is quite an arduous task because so little attention was given to their important activities and accomplishments. Most information printed was generally located in newspaper society pages and featured social

events attended and what the woman wore to the event. Years of newspapers have to be perused, various library archives contacted and searched, and other research methods engaged in order to bring to light activities such as engagement in women's suffrage, health/education issues, Equal Rights participation or other important community activities.

However, if we don't record our women's histories no one else will know and appreciate the many contributions Nevada women make, and thus support the old adage; men write and record the history ... of mostly men. We are therefore grateful to those individuals who volunteer to write biographies for our website, as it entails much more work than simply organizing the information, writing a coherent woman's biography and compiling an accurate bibliography that researchers can utilize in their future publications. Our organization extends the offer to assist in that research whenever possible with information from our files.

Both the Oral History and First Ladies Committees look forward to adding to the documentation of the contributions of Nevada's women to our state in the coming year.

## *Featured Historic Nevada Woman:* **Frances Slaven Williamson**

### **At a glance:**

**Born:** 1842

**Died:** December 21, 1919

**Maiden name:** Slaven

**Race/nationality/ethnic**

**background:** Caucasian

**Married:** John R. Williamson

**Children:** six (three sons,  
three daughters)

**Primary city and county of  
residence and work:** Austin  
(Lander), Reno (Washoe)

**Major fields of work:**

education (teacher),

journalism, politics (women's  
rights)

**Other role identities:** wife,  
mother, author

### **Biography:**

Mention the words "equal suffrage" to most students of Nevada history and the name of Anne Martin is usually mentioned. What most people are unaware of is that before Anne Martin became famous for her work in helping Nevada women win the right to vote, Frances A. Williamson, a woman from Austin who lived through far too much personal tragedy, had long been active throughout the state working as a leader for equal suffrage. By learning about the trying life and dedicated work of Frances Williamson, students of history will develop a deeper understanding of the harsh realities of living in Nevada in the late 1800's and be inspired by the commitment and zeal of this early Nevada activist.

Frances Slaven was born in Canada in 1842. The first twenty-one years of her life are somewhat a mystery. One thing certain is that she was an educated woman. She authored at least one book, *The Age of Sham*, and had sufficient schooling to become a teacher. In 1863 Miss Slaven moved to Austin to teach at the school there. By 1865 she had taken on the role of school principal as well as teacher.

Slaven met John R. Williamson, her husband-to-be, in Austin where he was a prominent member of Austin society. They were wed on June 28, 1868. Frances gave birth to six children, was both teacher and principal of the school in Austin, and was active in the community. Mr. Williamson was superintendent of schools, ran his mercantile business, and was active in state politics.

By the mid-1870s life drastically changed for Frances and her husband. She suffered immense personal tragedies; four of their children died from a variety of diseases in 1876 and 1877. In addition, their eldest son, John R. Williamson, Jr., died in Carson City in 1891 where his father now represented Lander county in the State Senate. Despite the sorrow of her five children's deaths, Frances Williamson remained active and expanded on what was to become her life's work. She continued to teach, became an author,

displayed a collection of her own books at the 1893 World's Fair. She also remained active in Austin society and was an aide to the Fourth of July Parade Marshal. She continued to teach, became an author, displayed a collection of her own books at the 1893 World's Fair. She also remained active in Austin society and was an aide to the Fourth of July Parade Marshal.

While Frances fared well through her tragedies, her husband did not. Becoming depressed, he "for some weeks went completely out of his mind" and suffered a mild form of insanity and gave no reason he would injure himself." While in this state of mind, he shot and killed himself on Saturday, April 28, 1894. Her husband's suicide proved to be the impetus that drove Frances Williamson to become one of the early leaders of the suffrage movement in Nevada. Two months after Senator Williamson's death, Frances put the mercantile store up for sale.

On November 30, 1894, Frances, Mrs. Lund and Mrs. Weller organized a meeting on equal suffrage at the Austin courthouse. Approximately 125 people, both men and women, attended the meeting during which Williamson spoke about the organization and of the careers of some women activists such as Lucy Stone, Harriet Beecher Stowe. By the meeting's end Frances, who had been acting as temporary

chair, had been elected corresponding secretary of the newly-formed Lucy Stone Non-Partisan Equal Suffrage League. It is easy to imagine Frances widowed and with only one child living, being able to throw herself into the role of corresponding secretary, spending most of her time writing and organizing meetings throughout the state. Although women had worked for equal suffrage with other organizations, such as the Nevada Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Lucy Stone group was Nevada's first specific equal suffrage organization.

The Lucy Stone Non-Partisan Equal Suffrage League's name is long, but with good reason. The League was formed "expressly to secure the political enfranchisement of the women in the state of Nevada and to study the duties of citizenship." Also, prior to 1894, "equal suffrage had been endorsed in platforms of the Progressive, Socialist, and Democratic Parties of Nevada, and was supported by many leading Republicans. The (equal suffrage) campaign was absolutely non-partisan and was advanced as a work of justice and good government." Williamson and the other activists of the time had the support of the political parties and, by being nonpartisan, their cause could without offense cross party lines and gain wide support.

In less than one year after the suicide of her husband, Frances had made herself

known throughout the state. She had many lengthy, articulate and persuasive letters on equal suffrage published in a number of newspapers. Many editors and readers were supportive to her cause, many were not. Those in opposition to equal suffrage did not state that women could not handle the responsibilities of governing, but that women should not be dragged down to the level of political work because they were ".....too good to wade in the slums of politics as men do..."



Photo Courtesy of the Nevada Historical Society, Reno

By late April 1895, one year after Williamson's husband's suicide, the suffrage league had passed into oblivion. It had experienced great success in its year of existence. Diligent lobbying of legislators and heartfelt debate by many concerned individuals had led to passage of a suffrage resolution in the Nevada Assembly and Senate in February, 1895.

Around this time arrangements were being made to bring Susan B. Anthony and Anna Howard Shaw, President and

Vice-President, respectively, of the National Woman Suffrage Association, to Reno. The two women were on their way to California and took the opportunity to meet with Nevadans on May 17, 1895. The meeting, held at McKissick's Opera House, was well-attended. Both speakers urged those present to unite into a single statewide organization. Williamson spoke at the meeting and also took part in the Women's Board of Congress of the Atlanta Exposition in October of that year. These two meetings set the stage for a state women's suffrage convention.

The first State Equal Suffrage Association convention was held in Reno, October 29 and 30, 1895. It was held in October because that was "state fair" month and the railroads usually offered lower fares, thereby insuring a large attendance. During the convention it was proposed and adopted that the state organization should be called the State Equal Suffrage Association, an adjunct to the National Equal Suffrage Association. Frances was elected the first president of the new organization. The majority of her work consisted of chairing the Legislative Work Committee and canvassing chairing the Legislative Work Committee and canvassing the state for support. She visited every town accessible by stage or rail in the state. With her help,

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Frances Slaven Williamson

(Continued from p. 9)

many local suffrage organizations were established. It is hard for us to imagine what it must have been like to travel and lecture across Nevada in the late nineteenth century.

For the next two years Frances continued to travel the state, attended a National Equal Suffrage Association convention in Washington DC, and appeared before the US Senate committee that was considering an equal suffrage amendment. She presided over the second convention of the State Equal suffrage Association in Reno in September of 1896. By 1897 Frances and her daughter, Mary Laura (sometimes called "Mamie"), lived in Reno. In spite of major efforts by Frances and her suffragist colleagues, the suffrage resolution did not pass the Nevada Legislature in the 1897 Session.

While in Reno, Williamson and her daughter began publishing a pro-suffrage newspaper, "The Nevada Citizen", whose self-proclaimed mission was to "promote the advancement of women in the ethics of civil government, ordained in the Declaration of Independence and established in the constitution of the United States of America." Frances was editor-in-chief and Mamie was the associate editor. Exact publishing dates are unclear, but there is evidence it was published through early August, 1898. It proved to be a great resource to Nevada's

suffrage movement. The paper was sent to suffrage organizations through the state, and it must have provided Nevada activists with a certain sense of pride from having a newspaper of "their own."

On October 30, 1897, the State Equal Suffrage Association held its third convention, this time in Carson City. Over 300 delegates were present and again, Frances addressed the assembly. However, soon after the convention, Frances and her daughter left Nevada.

Frances went to Washington DC to work in the Women's Press Bureau. Mary Laura accompanied her mother and enrolled in Washington Law College in January of 1899. They moved again, to San Francisco, in June of 1899. Shortly thereafter, they decided to build a home in Oakland. Mary Laura enrolled in Heald's Business College while the house was under construction. Moving into the new home in January, 1900, their joy was short-lived. Mary died of uremic poisoning and kidney failure. She is buried in Austin, along with the rest of the family.

After her daughter's death, Frances was still active in the suffrage movement. She attended the California State Equal Suffrage Association convention in San Francisco, December 14 and 15, 1900, as president of a local branch of the Alameda County Association. Mrs. Williamson endured more loss than anyone should have to, yet she set an

example for political commitment and activism that has hardly been rivaled. Although her work is not as well-known as that of Anne Martin or Hannah Clapp, it showed a level of commitment and achievement every bit as important as theirs.

As a final twist of irony, Frances Williamson died at her Oakland home on December 21, 1919, the same year the Nineteenth Amendment was passed by Congress and sent to the states for ratification. She was buried in Austin on New Year's Day, 1920.

***Biographical sketch by Sally Wilkins from unpublished research by Fred Steidle***

### **Published works:**

Williamson, Frances, *The Age of Sham* (date unknown)  
*The Nevada Citizen*. pro-suffrage newspaper published by Frances Williamson, 1897.

To see a partial text of Frances Williamson's letter of Dec. 13, 1894 to the *Reno Evening Gazette*, go to <http://www.unr.edu/nwhp/bios/willihow.htm>



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## Financial Report

The current NWHP financial report shows \$22,995.46 in our bank account.

## 501(c)(3) Report

The first step is completed: We are now a Nevada Non-profit Corporation with a formation date of 1/29/13!

The NWHP contracted with Kerry Eaton at Drinkwater Law Offices in Reno to aid in our applications for non-profit status.

We have an EIN number from the IRS and will be opening a new account at Nevada State Bank to be ready for our separation with the Nevada Women's Fund. The IRS Form 1023 will take a few weeks to complete and then we will be waiting for the final notification about our 501(c)(3) status.

*Linda Wyckoff, Treasurer*

## January NWHP Membership Report

**Please remember to renew your membership soon.**

Thank you to all of you who have continued to support our organization over the years.

The NWHP Membership currently stands at:

- 63 Individual Members
- 3 Organizational Members
- 0 Corporate Member
- 7 Honorary Members
- 33 NWF Honorary Members
- 104 Museums & Libraries

Membership is for the calendar year January-December.

*Grace Davis, Membership*



**2012 - 2013**

**NWHP Leadership**

**Steering Committee:**

Chair: Mona Reno

Vice Chair: Kathy Noneman

Treasurer: Linda Wyckoff

Secretary: Patti Bernard

Membership: Grace Davis

Archivist: Carrie Porter

Jean Ford Research Center:

*Kay Sanders & Carrie Porter*

Program Chair: Marcia Cuccaro

Project Review:

*Holly Van Valkenburgh*

Oral Histories: Martha Gould

First Ladies: Patti Bernard

Newsletter: Holly Van

Valkenburgh

Marketing & Publicity:

*Jennifer Bracciotti, Intern*

Web Site: Lisa-Marie Lightfoot

Facebook: Marcia Cuccaro

Editor, Web Site Biographies:

*Kay Sanders*



The unrecorded past is none other than our old friend, the tree in the primeval forest which fell without being heard.

Barbara Tuchman, "Can History Be Served Up Hot?"  
*New York Times*, March 8, 1964

The Nevada Women's History Project newsletter is published in Reno, Nevada. Annual subscription rate is included in dues. Non-member subscription rate is \$20 domestic, additional overseas. Copyright NWHP. All rights reserved. Under copyright law, this newsletter and the contents herein may not be reproduced, in whole or in part, by any means, electronic or otherwise, without permission from the publishers, except in normal use as provided by law. Opinions expressed by authors do not necessarily reflect official policy of NWHP. Unsolicited articles and photos and requests for Writer's Guidelines should be sent to the Editor, NWHP, 770 Smithridge Dr., Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502-0708.

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NWHP is a program of the Nevada Women's Fund



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Organizational Membership: Dues \$50/Year • Corporate Sponsor: Dues \$250/Year

Name: Individual or Student \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please send newsletter digitally to above e-mail address. DO NOT MAIL.

Organization or Corporate Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

President or Director \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Representative to NWHP \_\_\_\_\_

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