

# The DC Bee

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November 2016

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## Howard Herz

### Speaks to Docents, November 2, 10:00 am

Please join us November 2 at 10:00 am to hear Howard Herz speak on Marked Cards and Loaded Dice. Marked Cards have been around since shortly after playing cards were invented. They became a necessary tool for those who sought to balance the scales with Lady Luck. Certain standard card marking combinations were so well known that they became known as "Popular Readers" and were openly advertised as such in manufacturer's catalogs. The lecture explores some of the 19th and 20th century history of card marking and how it was (and is) employed in gambling.

Mr. Herz has been involved in gambling history since 1967 as the curator of Harvey's gaming chip and gaming token collections. His interest in gaming history expanded beyond just chips and tokens into the history of the manufacturers of gaming equipment and their customers. In 2006 Howard sought to preserve the history of gaming and established the American Gaming Archives at the Nevada Historical Society.

Since 2006 the AGA has continued to expand its holdings and today is considered one of the best archives of gaming history in the United States. Howard has acted as a coordinator of the Archives seeking donations of both artifacts and manuscript materials that would characterize American style gaming.

Today the AGA artifacts and manuscript materials reflect the history of gambling throughout America and the Caribbean and is the most comprehensive and complete archive of gaming equipment and gaming records in the 20th century. The AGA focuses on the history of American gaming from the earliest days to include gaming equipment, dice, chips, cards, table games and gaming company records. The AGA is being cataloged to provide better access to the collection.



Howard Herz

## Notes from your Docent Council Board

**Historic Playing Cards:** The historic playing cards are here and are sold in the Gift Shop for **\$10/pack and \$8.50/pack for Docents.**

**Slate of Officers for 2017:** The Nominating Committee has recommended a slate of officers for you to vote on at the December 7 Docent Council meeting. The 2017 officers will begin their terms January 1, 2017:

President	Betsy Morse
Vice-Presidents	Kitty & Russell Umbraco
Secretary	Linda Burke
Treasurer	Gloria Hanson
Past President/Parliamentarian	Carol Coleman
Statistician	David Lowndes

Joyce Cox will remain the DC Bee Editor.

**NHS Doorbell:** There is a door bell at the front door. Because of construction, **you will need to use the front door when coming to the Docent Council meeting.** This door bell rings in Dorothy's office and in the library. It is on the outside lower right corner of the display case to the left of the front door. The wireless doorbell for the back door has been installed. The push button is on the right side about 3 feet from the landing so it wouldn't be too visible to passersby. The receiver part is in the Library under the computer table by the door to the hallway.

**2017 Docent Council Dues:** Your dues for 2017 Docent Council membership can be paid any time before our **January 4, 2017 meeting.** After that they are late so you won't receive the DC Bee or announcements from the Board. Please make out a check to **NHS Docent Council in the amount of \$15/pp** and give it to Treasurer Annie Bickley or put it in an envelope clipped to her time card. For a cash payment, please give directly to Annie. You can mail your dues to Annie at Nevada Historical Society, 1650 N. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89503, and on the bottom of the envelope write Attention: Annie Bickley. Thank you to those who have already paid.

**Time Cards:** Please remember to fill out your time cards each time you work at the Society. Please use the categories listed on the bottom of the time card to record where you work and report your time worked to the nearest half hour.

**Lee Brumbaugh:** Please keep Lee in your thoughts as he will be out for an extended period. Cards can be sent to Lee in care of the NHS.

**History for Our Holiday:** Thanks to everyone who worked at History for Our Holiday. There was a large turnout and everyone enjoyed the many activities. Look for photographs in the December DC Bee.

## Celebrating Native American Month Lecture Friday, Nov. 4, 5:30 pm - Dean Tonnena Wednesday, Nov. 30, 5:30 pm - Dr. Catherine Magee

**Friday, November 4, 5:30 pm** - "The Significance of Tribal Names in the Eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains and Western Great Basin." Dean Tonnena, Kootzatukadu, Botanist – Ethno-Botanist, BLM Carson City

**Wednesday, November 30, 5:30 pm** - "The Washoe Tribe, Tourism, and Tahoe " - Dr. Catherine Magee, Museum Director, Nevada Historical Society



Did you know that the Nevada Historical Society has a Facebook page?  
Become a friend and help us spread the word.

# Changing Gallery Exhibit

Latimer Art Club

October 15 through December 10

The exhibit has become an annual event, celebrating Nevada themed miniature artwork by local artisans. This is your opportunity to purchase affordable art while supporting local artists and the Society.

The exhibit will be on display through December 10, 2016.

This exhibit is open to the public, \$5.00/pp.

Free for Members and Children 17 & under!

## High Noon on November 17

The Society invites you to a documentary series in the Reno History gallery at noon on the third Thursday of each month: **High Noon: Shoot Out with Neal Cobb**. The **November High Noon: Shoot Out with Neal Cobb** will be **Thursday, November 17**. The cost is \$5.00 per adult 18 or older, free to state museum members carrying membership cards.

## Nevada Historical Society

The Nevada Historical Society is located at 1650 N. Virginia Street in Reno, Nevada. The cost to visit the museum is Adults \$5/pp, free for Members and Children 17 & under. **The Museum and Gift Shop are open Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. The Research Library is free and open Tuesday through Saturday from Noon to 4:00 pm.**

### NHS Donations

Cash donations may be made to the Society by using the new Membership Form. There is a new club called the **\$499 Club** that lets you donate \$499 or less that can be used for special projects, collections, or events at the Nevada Historical Society. Just mark the section on the form for \$499 or less. Donations can be made at any time during your membership year. Membership forms are in the Gift Shop.

### Society Closures

**The Society will be closed on the following days due to UNR Football home games and State Holidays. Go Wolf Pack!!**

- November 11 - Veterans' Day
- November 12, 19 - Football
- November 24 & 25 - Thanksgiving and Family Day
- December 25 - Christmas
- January 1 - New Year's Day



## **Congratulations! To Docents with November Birthdays**

- 4<sup>th</sup> LaVerne Burmeister
- 4<sup>th</sup> William (Bill) Kolton
- 11<sup>th</sup> Barbara Weinberg
- 24<sup>th</sup> Patty Cafferata

## Docent Meeting Speakers

### November 2, 2016

Howard Herz - Marked Cards & Loaded Dice

### December 7, 2016

Helene Walker - Verdi, Nevada

### January 4, 2017

Bob Carroll - Reno Early Radio and TV

### February 1, 2017

Peter Barton - What are the plans for NHS

### March 1, 2017

Kristin Sanderson - Fort Churchill State Historic Park

### April 5, 2017

Marjorie Fordham Luncheon

## **Nevada Westerners Corral Reno's Oldest History Club**

Dinner with speakers and presentations on history, third Thursday of the month, 6:00 pm, Sands Regency Casino banquet room, 345 N. Arlington Avenue, Reno. For reservations, call the Sands at 348-1392 no later than two weeks before.

[www.nevadawesterners.org](http://www.nevadawesterners.org)

**3rd Annual Gaming Chip & Token Show**  
**Nevada Historical Society**  
**Saturday, November 5**  
**10:00 am to 4:30 pm**

**3rd Annual American Gaming Archives Chip Dig and Lectures**

The Nevada Historical Society invites you to attend our **Third Annual Chip Dig & Gaming Lectures Event** on **Saturday, November 5th from 10:00 am - 4:30 pm.**

Once again, the Reno Gallery will be alive with a variety of vendors showcasing their amazing collections of gaming chips! This is a gaming collectibles show featuring a limited number of dealers of gaming memorabilia. Individuals wishing to buy or sell gaming collectibles are encouraged to bring them to the show. Don't miss this great event! This event will run from 10:00 am - 4:30 pm in the Reno Gallery, in the Nevada Historical Society.

This year, we are showcasing three fascinating gaming and gambling history lectures throughout the day.

**11:00 am to 12:00 pm, Russell Umbraco** will give a live demonstration and lecture on *The History of Faro*. Umbraco will give a demonstration and presentation of the history and play of the game. Topics covered will include terms used, stories, betting, cheating and why the game is no longer played in casinos.

**1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, Dr. Michael Fischer** will give a lecture on *Reno's Bank Club: The Early Center of the Nevada Gaming Universe*. The Bank Club immodestly advertised itself as America's Largest Clubroom, Headquarters for All Major Sporting Events and Reno's Favorite Bar! They were masters of promotion long before it was commonly used for gambling houses. Pin-ups and naked women graced the Club's walls and advertising. It was also the center for crime, corruption and political intrigue for 1930s era Nevada. Long before organized crime infiltrated Las Vegas, big time gangsters safely hid out in Reno and enjoyed its wide-open atmosphere. This presentation, presented by Dr. Michael E. Fischer, will follow the places and players who made Reno - the center of the gambling universe and the Bank Club - the center of Reno from the 30s to the 50s! It was also the center for crime, corruption and political intrigue for 1930s era Nevada. Long before organized crime infiltrated Las Vegas, big time gangsters safely hid out in Reno and enjoyed its wide-open atmosphere. This presentation will follow the places and players who made Reno - the center of the gambling universe and the Bank Club - the center of Reno from the 30s to the 50s!

**3:00 pm to 4:00 pm, Howard W. Herz** will discuss the history of marked cards called *Card Art-Marked Cards-Read 'em & Reap*. Marked Cards have been around since shortly after playing cards were invented. They became a necessary tool for those who sought to balance the scales with Lady Luck. Certain standard card marking combinations were so well known that they became known as "Popular Readers" and were openly advertised as such in manufacturer's catalogs. The lecture explores some of the 19th and 20th century history of card marking and how it was (and is) employed in gambling.

Howard Herz is the Nevada Historical Society's "American Gaming Archives" coordinator.

The American Gaming Archives is a focused collection at the Nevada Historical Society and comprises one of the world's best collections of gambling manufacturers material from the 20th century. Howard Herz established the American Gaming Archives (AGA) at the Nevada Historical Society in 2008 for the preservation of American Gambling History. The AGA collection is the most comprehensive and complete archive of gaming equipment and gaming records in the 20th century. The Archives focuses on the history of American gaming from the earliest days including gaming equipment, dice, chips, cards, table games and gaming company records. Items from this collection are now on display at the Society and are available for research.

**Honor Flight**

Nevada Historical Society Docent John Gomes just returned from on the October 20-23, 2016 Honor Flight. Honor Flight takes veterans to visit memorials in Washington D. C. John went with 29 veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam War. John was joined by his son and visited the Navy, Marine, Air Force, World War II memorials, and Arlington Cemetery. Thank you John for your service.

## New — Writer's Wednesday Series Lecture and Book Signing

Do you love Nevada History? Here is an opportunity to listen to interesting Nevada and Northern California History topics written by local and regional authors. **Writer's Wednesday Series will be the first Wednesday of each month from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm beginning in November.** This event is open to the public, \$5.00/pp. Free for Members and Children 17 & under!

**Wednesday, November 9, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm - Patty Cafferata, *History in Nevada***

**Wednesday, December 14, 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm - Jack Harpster, *The Genesis of Reno: The History of the Riverside Hotel & the Virginia Street Bridge***

## **Music at the Mansion** **Saturday, November 12, 5:30 to 8:00 pm** **Marshall Mansion**

*Old Tales of Nevada*, the *Nevada Historical Society*, and *The Veteran's Guest house*, join together to present a gala evening of wine, beer from Reno's newest brewery, "Record Street", along with a selection of your other favorite libations, delicious hors d'oeuvres, and a star studded array of beautiful music, all at the history filled, Marshall Mansion, 2301 Lakeside Drive, Reno Nevada.

Seldom open to the public, this is your chance to tour this fabulous Reno landmark. Enjoy your favorite food and beverages, surrounded by soothing music, as you view the world class treasures hidden within this iconic home.

Hosted by Hugh Roy and Cynthia Marshall this is an evening you will long remember. Tickets are limited and will benefit the *Nevada Historical Society*, *The Veterans Guest House*, and the *Old Tales of Nevada* scholarship program. Included will be a silent auction with several unique and rare items.

The Mansion will be filled with music all evening long featuring Award winning *Abbey Pastrell* on harp, talented *Larry Elliott* on the 18th century harpsicord, Poolside side piano by *Supersano*, with 5 star Las Vegas Entertainer *Jakki Ford*, and Nevada Opera Tenor *Christoph*. Let's not forget our Celine Deon Tribute singer performing "God Bless America" in honor of our veterans, and the mansion's own live *DJ Larry*, playing your favorite party hits from the 60's, 70's & 80's.

### **Ticket Prices and Purchase Locations:**

Tickets are only \$35.00 (includes food, wine, beer, soft drinks) and limited to 200 guests. So please reserve your tickets today.

Tickets can be purchased at the "Buy Nevada First Store and Visitors Center" in the Reno Town Mall, The Veterans Guest House or contact Jim Webster at 775-379-2196 or [dynamicreno@yahoo.com](mailto:dynamicreno@yahoo.com)

### HRPS FALL PROGRAMS

Historic Reno Preservation Society's free programs offer an assortment of Reno historic topics. HRPS Sunday Program events are at 1:00 pm **Washoe County Library (WCL), 301 S. Center St., Reno.** More organization information can be found at [www.historicreno.org](http://www.historicreno.org) or on Facebook.

#### **Sunday, November 27, 1:00 pm (fourth Sunday)**

Debbie Hinman: The Endangered University Neighborhood For 120 years, a row of lovely, dignified Victorian homes has graced the neighborhood at the foot of the University of Nevada, Reno grounds just below Ninth Street. These homes, as well as other beautiful and significant ones on neighboring streets, are now threatened due to plans for a massive business building and a "gateway" consisting of other new structures which will irrevocably

change the character of the district. Debbie will present the history of the area, from its early ownership by pioneers John Newton and Alvaro Evans to the interesting and important residents who created this vibrant neighborhood. The hope is that you will gain an understanding of why the neighborhood is worth saving.

**Sunday, January 29, 1:00 pm - Shar on Honig-Bear - Reno's Mid-Century Properties**

**Sunday, February 26, 1:00 pm - Garrett Barmore - History of the W. M. Keck Museum and its Collection**

**Sunday, March 26, 1:00 pm - Dana Munkelt - Truckee Meadows Irrigation Ditches**

**Sunday, April 30, 1:00 pm - ZoAnn Campana - Newlands District**

# NHS Docent Council Calendar: November 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 NHS Docent Council - Howard Herz	3 NMA First Thursday	4 NHS Native American Month --Dean Tonnena	5
6	7	8	9 NHS Writer's Wednesday - Patty Cafferata	10	11 NHS Closed	12 NHS Closed NHS Music at the Mansion
13	14	15	16	17 NHS High Noon: Shoot Out with Neal Cobb	18	19 NHS Closed
20	21	22	23	24 NHS Closed	25 NHS Closed	26
27 HRPS Program	28 31	29	30 NHS Native American Month -- Catherine Magee	<i>HRPS is Historic Reno Preservation Society                      NMA is Nevada Museum of Art                      NSM is Nevada State Museum</i>		

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEVADA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY DOCENT COUNCIL

**Docent Council  
Nevada Historical Society  
1650 N. Virginia St.  
Reno, Nevada 89503**

## Nevada Historical Society Hours

Tuesday - Saturday  
10 am - 4:30 pm Museum Hours  
Research Library Hours  
Tues. - Sat.: 12 noon - 4 pm  
775-688-1190  
[museums.nevadaculture.org](http://museums.nevadaculture.org)  
Admission Fees:  
\$5.00 for Adults  
Free for Members and Children 17 years & younger