

Carson City Historical Society

APRIL NEWSLETTER

If you have articles or events you would like in our newsletter, please let Sue know. We publish at the beginning of each month. She can be reached at giballew@aol.com.

The Carson City Historical Society is a 501C(3) nonprofit organization.

OFFICERS

President, Jeff Loflin
 1st Vice President, Sue Ballew
 2nd VP, Travis Legaski
 Secretary & website, David Bugli
 Treasurer, Kiyoshi Nishikawa
 Membership - Andi Fant
 Fundraising- Donna McLaren
 Exhibits/Collections, Kat Long

MEMBERS WITH 2020 PAID DUES

Andi Fant, Sharron Baldwin, Sue and Gary Ballew, Cindy and Steve Brenneman, David and Elinor Bugli, John and Bonnie Bullis, Paula Cannon, Jean Cartier, Yvonne Chicks, Dr. Linda Clements and Dr. John Crowley, Mary and Angelo DeFelice, Stephen Drew, Mike and LouAnn Drews, Karen and Rick Dustman, Kit Farwell, Sam Flakus, Barbara Geibel, Ronni Hannaman, Francisca Larios Hansen, Andrea Hobbs, Lisa Jayne, Gloria Johnson, John and Pat King, Debbie Lane, Travis Legatzke Dennis Little, Jeff and Mimi Loflin, Kathleen and Art Long, Donna McLaren, Stuart Moon, Paula Morton and Kristin Weisenborn, Bonnie and Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Debbe Nye, Marian and Steve Panter, Partnership NTMA, Paula Peters, Ron and Thelma Roberts, Linda Roide, Patricia and Peter Smith, Jackie and Ed Spacek, DD Spencer, Gennady Stolyarov II, Hope Sullivan, Blair VanVliet, Loretta Williams, Kathy Zuber.

Carson City Historical Society—Message from President, Jeff Loflin

Happy Spring CCHS Members,

Well wishes coming to you from all of us! As we hunker down, I would like to encourage everyone to take this as an opportunity to brush up on your Carson City History. "Lost Carson City" by Peter Mires brings some of the lesser known stories of people, buildings, and events back to life. "Haunted Carson City" by Janet Jones visits the macabre side of Carson. For more in depth local history, Bonnie Boice Nishikawa's, "My Life as an Orphan, Nevada State Children's Home" is a personal account of life in Carson City with some great photos. A must-have for every Carson resident is the photo essay of Carson City, "Images of America - Early Carson City" by our 1st VP Sue Ballew and L.Trent Dolan. I love looking at these images and the history behind them.

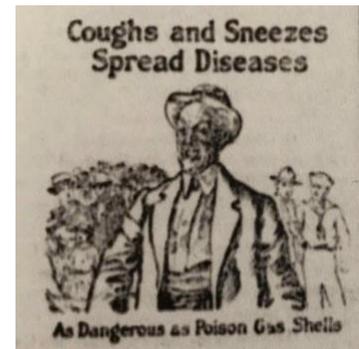
If you need to get out and stretch your legs while practicing social distancing, avoid the busy parks and trails by visiting some of our lesser known cemeteries. There are some prominent, famous people buried in Lone Mountain but what about Empire City, Pioneer, Nevada State Prison, Stewart Indian School, and the Ormsby County Poor Farm cemeteries. They all have great stories behind them and our history within them. "Images of America - Cemeteries of Carson City and Carson Valley" by Cindy Southerland is a great resource to take along with you.

We don't have any idea of when we will get back to normal operations. Keep checking the website and our Facebook for information.

Hope to see you soon!
 Jeff Loflin
 President - Carson City

THE 1918 SPANISH INFLUENZA in Carson City

by Sue Ballew

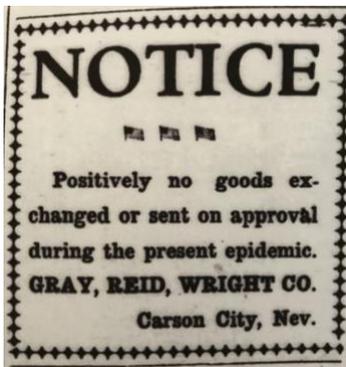


The 1918 Spanish influenza went on for several years. People covered their coughs and sneezes, and practiced "social distancing." Church was held outside on the sidewalk. Many solutions are the same as today, but we are fortunate to have the technology like "Zoom" and other software.

The influenza in 1918 was deadly. In Carson City, Nevada a list appeared in the bottom right hand corner of the newspaper of people who were sick, or who had passed away that particular day. Rules were put into use to keep spreading of influenza at bay. This was the time of World War I and our soldiers were dying from the influenza too. The Government advertised the following to help with a cure:

"Valuable hints for curbing Spanish influenza If No Doctor is available"
 (Appeal, October 15, 1918)

calomel, 2 grains
 citrate of caffeine, 12 grains
 hexamethyclamine, 24 grains
 Aspirin, 24 grains
 Quinine Muriate, 12 grains
 This concoction was put into tablets.
 (Continued on Page 2)



This is an ad for Gray, Reid and Wright Co. They were on Carson Street and their building was part of the Arlington block (torn down in the 1960's). The ad warns of returning goods to them during the current "epidemic."

Uncle Sam had advice on the flu:

What is Spanish influenza: It resembles a very contagious kind of cold with fever, headache and effects, eyes, ears, back or other parts of the body. Patients can also develop pneumonia, inflammation of the ear, or meningitis.

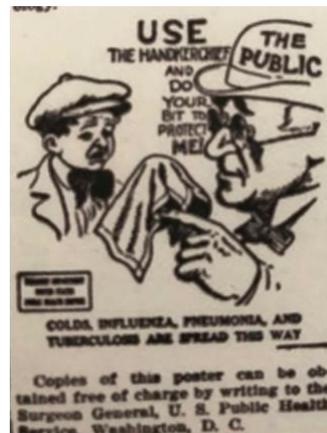
What should be done by those who catch the disease: Persons with influenza should go home and go to bed. This will keep the patient from scattering the disease.

No one should be allowed to sleep in the same room with the patient, and only a nurse should enter the room. Cough and sputum should be collected on gauze or rag and burned.

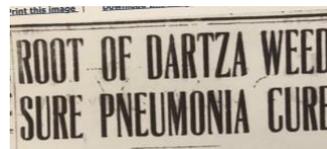
If the person has a fever or headache, they should be given water to drink, a cold compress to the forehead and a light sponge. Medicine should be prescribed by a doctor. Attendants should wear a wrapper, apron or gown and slip this off when leaving to look after others. Nurses and attendants should wear a simple fold of gauze or mask while near the patient.

Stopped at the state line:
Precautionary measures were taken in

Nevada when all incoming passengers were checked at the state line point for influenza. Governor Boyle said, "The suggestion has my full approval. If the State Board approves, you may send names of proper persons to make inspection to the captain of state police who will commission them a statutory compensation."



An advertisement in the Goldfield news says, "Influenza masks are now in style.... Signs are being erected and read: WEAR YOUR MASK OR DO NOT ENTER THIS PLACE. WE WAIT ON THOSE ONLY WHO COMPLY WITH THE ORDERS OF THE HEALTH AUTHORITIES BY WEARING MASKS." Persons who for various reasons do not want to wear a mask were dealt with in various ways. In eastern states there were horse-whippings and tar and feathers.



Dr. Krebs of Carson City, Nevada, had a cure for influenza/pneumonia. (Dr. Krebs house is on Mountain Street in Carson City and is also known as the Krebs/Peterson House.)

When doctors of the city were trying everything recommended by physicians and medical journals, Dr. Krebs of Carson was called into use a root or herb used by the Washoe

Indians. Astonishing results through the use of this herb were credited to them. Dr. Krebs secured some of the root and learned that they steeped or stewed the roots and then drank the tea. They went to the mountains and secured the roots, made the decoction [sic] and in a few days their pneumonia had disappeared. One of the doctors believes it was the most remarkable discovery in years, specifically in influenza and other cases resulting from heavy colds. The medicine is known as Dartza and had resulted in startling beneficial effects. It is in the form and shape of a carrot. A general demand had been made for the herb which could be secured in limited amounts in Carson City.

Whether Dr. Ernst T. Krebs, Sr., M. D. and the cure for the Spanish influenza really worked is up for debate, but in 1920 he published a paper regarding the cure in the "*Bulletin of the Nevada State Board of Health, No. 1*, Carson City, Nevada, January, 1920." In it he talks about the Fall of 1918 when the Washoe Indians used a root in the treatment of their sick. It was a plant, a species of the parsley family called *Leptotaemia dissecta* which is gathered in the fall. It is used either fresh or dried and then cut up and boiled in water. It is used to treat a case of fever for three days. It is noted that the Washoe tribe did not have a single death from the influenza or its complications.

This medicine was used among the Whites and proved to be helpful in the influenza or pulmonary disease. The Bulletin has extensive scientific information on the website called "mytrees.com" by searching for Dr. Ernest T. Krebs, Sr. He was convinced that the Indian remedy was effective against the influenza. He set up a company called Balsamea where he marketed it as Syrup Leptinol. More information can be found on the website: quackwatch.org.

Carson City Historical Society

Mailing address: 112 North Curry St., Carson City, NV 89703

APPLICATION TO JOIN — Please print out and mail in:

Standard Annual Dues: \$35.00 for a Family, \$25.00 for an Individual. **Supporting, corporate and benefactor memberships are also available.**

Upon receipt of your check, you will begin receiving our newsletter announcing regular and special meetings, and all Society events.

Membership Check one:

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP LEVELS:

Individual member \$25	Family (couple) membership \$35
Golden Anniversary Supporter \$50	Historian.....\$100
Curator \$250	Preservationist..... \$500
Curry \$1000	Founder \$5000

TOTAL ENCLOSED.....

Please mail your check and application to: **Carson City Historical Society 112 North Curry St. Carson City, Nevada 89703**
<http://CCHistorical.org>

New membership

Renewal

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
E-mail

The Carson City Historical Society is a Nevada nonprofit organization. It is recognized as a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation (EIN 94-2565777) under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax deductible pursuant to section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.