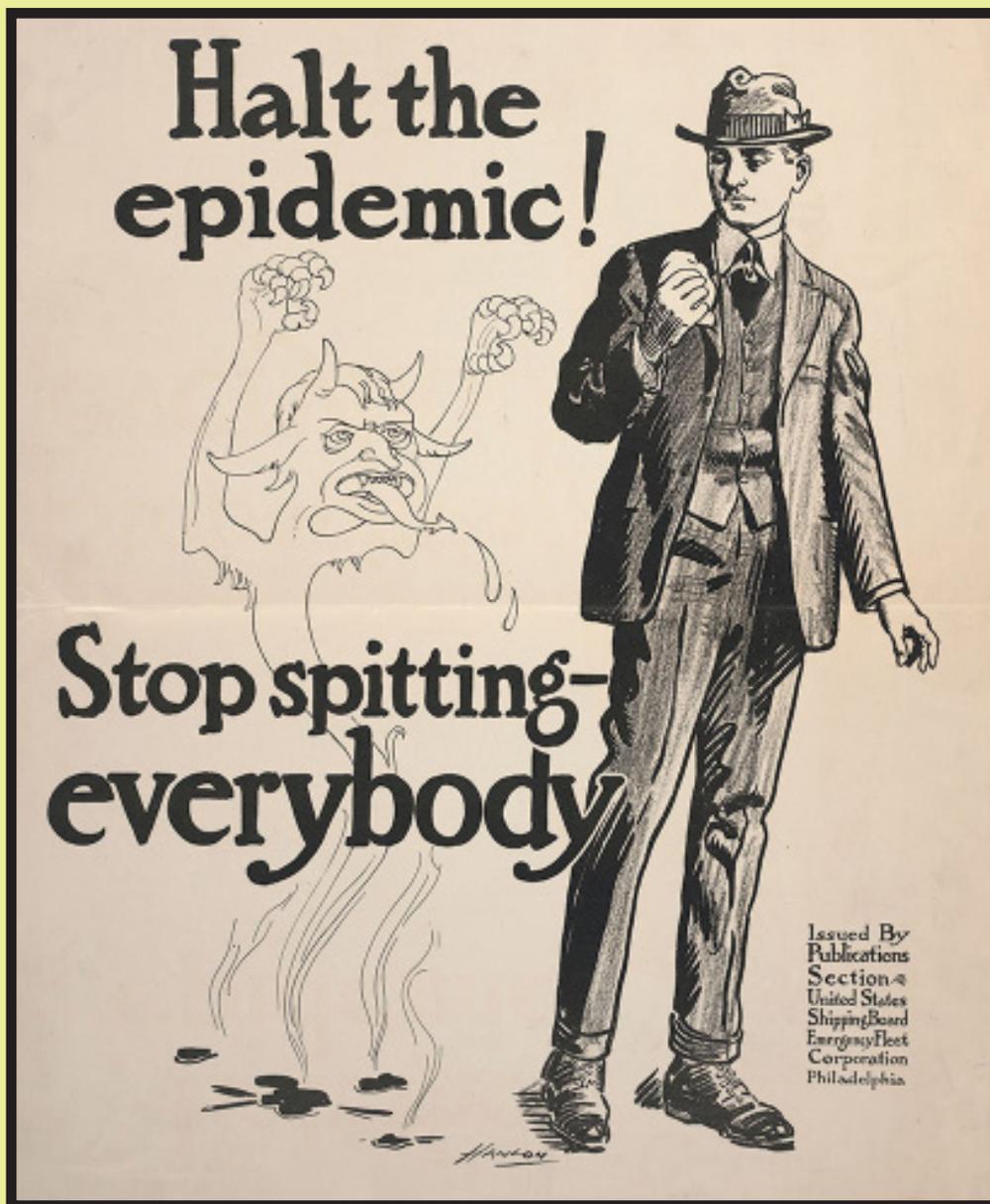


MuseNews



A Publication of the Churchill County Museum
Our Community...Our Stories



Courtesy of Temple University Library

Covid-19 Edition

Spring & Summer 2020

Be the First in Your
Neighborhood to Sport this
Stylish Mask!



Available soon at the
Museum Store.
Watch our Website & Facebook
for Details.



From the Director

Dan Ingram
Director, Churchill County Museum

Our Covid issue was originally slated for March. It was delayed by the closure of the museum and then by the uncertainty of our programs. As you have noticed we have suspended our public programming and hope that as things return to normal and we are given the all clear to have large groups of people meet again we can renew our acquaintance. Until then you can avail yourself to our online offerings. The curators have been working hard on serving up the oral history collection so there is a great deal of content available.

Our new Covid-19 exhibit explores the topic for kids, helping to show them basic information about this strange time in our history. The brain child of Education Curator, Gretchen Felte, it is an interactive environment that illustrates the basics of public health education. It features our new interactive floor where visitors

can help “Stamp Out covid.” We are particularly proud of the video presentations in the exhibit that were produced by our weekend team, Allison Frost and Brianna Schwab. You can visit the exhibit after hours with up to 12 of your friend and family. Members of the Museum Association receive a 10% discount on the experience.



For the cover of this MuseNews I selected an image from the 1918 Flu Pandemic that reminds us all not to spit and spread germs. While we have been reminded to wash our hands and wear our masks, less emphasis has been placed on spitting than in 1918-- in part we seem to spit less than we did in the past. In the 19th century chewing tobacco was quite popular. Charles Dickens and other European travelers found the habit disgusting and Dickens provided a vivid portrait of the practice in his *American Notes* in a scene of a court room in Ohio where everyone seemed to have their own spittoon, and they were always overflowing. When I was a curator in Pennsylvania we had a glass slide from a theater that simply read: “Don’t spit on the floor--Remember the Johnstown Flood!” Even as a teenager I remember the chewing tobacco fad that led to telltale round imprints on the back pocket of jeans indicating the presence of a can of chewing tobacco, and in Iowa watching these same chewers bringing their vehicles to a stop at an intersection and seeing their door open so they could expectorate. I always wondered if everytime they saw a stop sign they would salivate in a Pavlovian way. It seems we spit less in public than we did historically, progress at least on the spitting front.

Beatrice Badger Presents: Coronavirus After Hours FUNdraiser!



Come and Explore HISTORY in the Making!

Funding for the Churchill County Museum is a public-private partnership between Churchill County and the Churchill County Museum Association. Although the county budget pays for many of the museum's operating costs, the Museum Association, through organized fundraising opportunities each year, works to support new museum exhibits, maintaining collections, promotions, and much more. With the onset of COVID-19, traditional fundraising activities have come to a standstill. Like many other museums, our staff and board have been looking for new ideas and innovative approaches to raise funds as we struggle with ways to stay relevant and keep our doors open.

Since COVID-19 is highly contagious and spreads through respiratory transmission, health officials have stated minimizing interpersonal contact slows the disease's spread. Therefore, the state of Nevada mandated directives for local businesses to reduce interpersonal contact and promote social distancing to flatten the curve. We have taken measures to ensure our patrons' safety, but the number of visitors has significantly decreased. We understand people may be hesitant about mingling in populated areas.

With such unprecedented and unusual times come unexpected and unforeseen outcomes...thus our creation of a fun, educational experience! We want to invite our patrons (in protected numbers while practicing social distancing) to experience our new interactive exhibit **Stamp Out COVID-19**. With your donation to the museum, you will be able to invite up to 12 people to join you in the museum after regular business hours. Your private group of friends and family will have the museum to yourselves for 75 minutes. Your group will be free to discover facts and details about the coronavirus while enjoying snacks and beverages in two different ways.

There are two packages to choose from. Each package allows up to 12 participants:

1. **FAMILY AND FRIENDS-For all ages:** Includes beverages and refreshments plus a visit from Beatrice Badger.
2. **ADULT HAPPY HOUR-Must be 21:** Includes alcoholic beverages and refreshments.

Times are at 5:00 or 6:30, Wednesday through Saturday. You must have reservations since it is a private engagement! Please call the museum to reserve your time and date.

**We look forward to your continued support of the humanities and our museum.
Our Community...Our Stories.**



Become a Member or Renew your Membership to the Churchill County Museum

(check your mailing label for your membership expiration date)

Your membership helps the Churchill County Museum Association by providing funds to publish this newsletter, aid in artifact and archival preservation and expand the historical and interpretive programs for our community.

Membership Benefits

- Receive Four Newsletter per year
- 10% discount on most items in the Museum Store (20% during our annual sale in November & December)
- Invitations and special notice to Museum events
- Eligibility to join the Churchill County Federal Credit Union

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Individual Membership Levels New Renewal Business Membership Levels New Renewal

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Beatrice Badger Club (Under18) | \$15.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Wagon Master | \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Senior (60+) | \$20.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Pioneer | \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Individual | \$25.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Homesteader | \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Family (Badger Sett) | \$30.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Dam Builder | \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Wagon Master | \$50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Aviator | \$500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pioneer | \$75.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Please make Checks Payable to: Churchill County Museum Association 1050 S. Maine Street Fallon NV 89406 | | | |
| Homesteader | \$100.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| Dam Builder | \$250.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |
| Aviator | \$500.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <i>Thank You for Your Support!</i> | | | |



Curator's Notes

Marilyn Goble
Curator

Hello Fallon!

At the beginning of this year, Rae and I decided to redo our two exhibit cases in the Administrative Building on Taylor Street. One of the first things we did was go over to the Admin Building, remove artifacts from the cases, and clean the cases. After we returned to the museum, we placed the artifacts where they belong. Rae and I then bounced a couple of ideas for the displays off of each other, and then we got Dan's opinion on which of our ideas he thought would work best. We finally settled on each of us taking one case and doing two ideas. The idea that I finally decided on was The History of Recorded and Transmitted Music. There were a couple of reasons why I picked this topic, the first being that I love music in any form, and I am always interested in how many ways people can enjoy it. The second reason is that the transmitting and recording of sound (not just music) have changed drastically and quickly since the late 1990s, and I thought that since the museum had a lot of the technology that has been used since the beginning, why not honor that change. The items that I used for this exhibit include artifacts like an Edison cylinder phonograph, radios, a cd player, headphones, and an iPod. It was fun to decide what was going to go into the cases.

For the past few months, I have had the pleasure of working on our Truckee Carson Irrigation District (TCID) files. Since I have been working on this project, I have organized all of the information by year, but I have also separated the information within those years. What I mean is, if someone was looking for correspondences for a particular year, the person could go to that year in the filing cabinet and pull out the folder that is dedicated to letters. I am excited to say that the organization of the cabinet, as well as making it more searchable, is now complete! It had been an excellent adventure, but we are not stopping just at collecting and organizing the past we are also continuing in our record-keeping of the TCID by printing out and saving articles that are being written about it as well as the water levels so that current/future researchers know that it is still playing a role today.

Because of the Coronavirus, we had to make some changes to be able to reopen. The first change that you might notice is the fantastic stickers on the floor. They are set at six feet apart and will take you on a path through the museum. The best part is that these stickers rotate between jokes associated with different displays throughout the museum and trivia questions about Fallon, Churchill County, and the museum itself! We also had to take off all of our flipbooks throughout the museum. This provided us with an excellent opportunity to update and freshen up the information people see in some of the exhibits and, in some cases (like the Carson Desert exhibit), allowed us to freshen up the exhibit a little. Come take a look around the museum and see how we have reworked some of the exhibits!

When you come into the museum, you are likely to notice that the Shoe Tree Display has moved. Since this is a part of Churchill County history, we wanted to bring it out a bit and make it more noticeable. Now it is in a more central location (we are hoping to eventually move onto the small ledge that is currently behind it). It also has labels to bring context to the shoes in the display and their significance.

Currently, Rae and I are still digitizing and publishing oral histories on Omeka. This is a project that we have been working on throughout the year from when we were shut down for several weeks. I have had fun listening to and digitizing the oral histories because no one person's history of the town of Fallon, and Nevada in general, is the same. Each person had different backgrounds and experiences throughout their life. Follow us on Facebook to see the new oral history that we make public this week, or you can go to our Omeka page by clicking on the link on our website!

That's all from me for right now. I hope to see you at the museum soon. God bless!

Marilyn A. Goble



Curator's Notes

Raeburn "Rae" Sottile

Curator

We launch a new temporary exhibit at the beginning of this year – The Fallon Theatre: A Century of change. I took the helm on this one, since Marilyn was busy with the TCID project. This was an interesting challenge to work on because for as important as the Theatre has been to our community, the Museum actually had relatively little in the way of artifacts and photos. Therefore, instead of just talking about the history of this particular theater, I wound up taking a wider approach where one of the major goals was also to educate the public about how theater-going has changed since the days of early cinema. Unfortunately, phase 2 guidelines mean that I had to take down the interactive components, which I really enjoyed making, but there are still abridged versions of these found on a digital version we posted to our website.

Speaking of the website, from March until late May I spent a lot of time working on our digital presence. Marilyn and I both created virtual versions of several exhibits, as I alluded to above, which are now available on the museum's Omeka site (ccmuseum.omeka.net). So if you missed the Lincoln Highway or Joyce Alcorn exhibits from last year, or want to know more about the history of music, or Churchill County's schools, or know of someone far away that does, be sure to check it out!

Omeka is also where you'll find the big project I worked on during the shutdown – building online access to our Oral History collection. In the 1990s, museum volunteers did over 150 interviews with longtime community members. This kept me busy throughout my time working from home, as I both digitized the audio cassettes and edited the transcripts to be more accurate. The transcripts are searchable, so if you're interested in a particular family member, industry, event, or other topic you can find every time they're mentioned. There are currently over 80 oral histories to listen to or read online, and we are continuing to upload new ones every Monday. Keep an eye on our Facebook page, as we always make a post when a new one goes live.

We were able to return to the museum about 3 weeks before we reopened, which gave us a wider variety of more pressing projects to work on. During this time, I was put in charge of creating a virtual storefront for us. You can now purchase some of our signature items or donate to the museum from anywhere you have internet! Visit ccmuseum.org/shop to take a look. We use Paypal's secure checkout, and you can choose pickup or delivery for your items. We've even included a member discount – you just need to enter member10 at checkout. You can also come by our physical store, which we have reorganized to cut down on possible contamination.

Behind the scenes, I have also been working hard with many of our other staff members on preparing to redo many of our permanent exhibits. Originally the plan was to do these updates this year, but they have currently been postponed to next year. These include our exhibits on the early ranching families of Churchill County, the Fallon Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, and NAS Fallon, all of which will be receiving complete overhauls as well as being relocated to help tell the whole story of Churchill County. We also recently received a grant from the BOR to help us redo our exhibit on the Newlands Project, and we are beginning to work in more detail on the planning for that project. Marilyn and I were even able to take a trip to Lahontan Dam and take a tour of the dam and powerplants, which are not normally open to the public. The information and photos we gathered will be of great help in making the exhibit really shine!

As I'm sure you've heard before, we ask for your patience and understanding through these unprecedented times. Just like everyone else, we have had our plans change – and change quickly – several times over the past few months. Though most of the work we've done isn't visible when you step through our doors, I hope you will be able to appreciate the smaller (and digital!) pieces we've put in place. It might not be a bad idea to drop by and take some photos too, because we have some big improvements planned for next year and when we move from the planning, writing, and printing to installing, the change is going to be dynamic and incredible. Hope you all stay safe and healthy until then!

Our Museum Mascot,
Beatrice Badger
Presents:

Churchill County Museum
1050 South Maine Street
Fallon, NV 89406
(775)423-3677



Coronavirus After Hours FUNdraiser!

-an interactive FUNdraising opportunity
discovering interesting facts and
details about COVID-19

Join us for **Stamp Out Covid-19**
There are two packages to choose
from. Each package allows up to
12 participants:

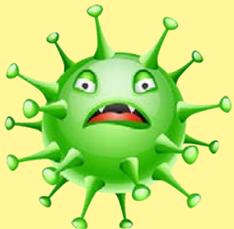


\$80

Donation

FAMILY AND FRIENDS! **FUN FOR ALL AGES:**

Includes individually
wrapped snacks and
“Covid-Coolade,” plus a
visit from Beatrice Badger.



\$100

Donation

ADULT HAPPY HOUR! **MUST BE 21 TO ATTEND:**

Includes individually
wrapped refreshments
and nonalcoholic/alcoholic
beverages such as Corona
beer, a Covid Cocktail, or
Virus Vino.

10% discount for all Museum Members!

SUPPORT THE HUMANITIES!

In these unprecedented times, our
museum is trying new, engaging
ways to raise money for future
exhibits. We invite you to participate
in a private experience which is both
safe and educational!

Join us for *Stamp Out Covid-19*.

FOR YOUR SAFETY!

After regular operating hours, we
invite you to bring a group of family
and friends to explore the exhibit.

- You will have the entire museum
to yourselves.
- Reservations will be for a 75
minutes
- We will conduct a fifteen-minute
sterilization period between each
group.

**CALL THE MUSEUM TODAY
FOR RESERVATIONS!**



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Email info@ccmuseum.org

Churchill County Museum Staff

Dan Ingram—Museum Director

Marilyn Goble — Curator

Raeburn “Rae” Sottile — Curator

Donna Cossette — Registrar

Gretchen Felte — Education Curator

Paulie Alles — Museum Assistant

Cathie Richardson —Museum Assistant

Brianna Schwab — Museum Assistant

Allison Frost — Intern

Museum Hours

March 1st-November 31

Tuesday- Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 10am-3pm

Closed Mondays

December 1-February 28

Tuesday - Saturday 10am-4pm

Sunday 10am-3pm

Closed Mondays



ChurchillCounty Museum Association
1050 S. Maine Street
Fallon Nevada 89406

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See the Center Insert for for the Renewal Form!

