

THE CELLHOUSE SNITCH



Nevada State Prison Preservation Society

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

We are just about there...

Mike and Glen will be training new guides on the 22nd and we are going to fill some of the parties who were on a wait list from the Nevada Day tours as a training tool for the new guides on Memorial Day Weekend as well as June 5th. If all goes well, we should be ready to open to new reservations sometime in June. There is still time to join the volunteer guide group. If you are interested, contact Mike Budge at 461-6010 or northrivermikeb@aol.com.

Not great news on the Legislative front. Assembly Bill 270 which would have made some changes to the NSP trust funds as well as allow for alcohol at special events was redirected to and is stuck in the Assembly Ways & Means Committee. With only two weeks left in session, the likelihood of its passage is highly doubtful. I still would like to thank Assemblyman P.K. O'Neill and his Attache Sarah for their efforts.

The paranormal tours are going gangbusters. Led by Susan Bernard, there are planned activities almost every weekend through early October. There has been a lot of great feedback and I appreciate all the work Susan and Joe Kinsley have done getting these tours up and running.

I would like to welcome Floor Masters Carpet Cleaning and Repair as a new business member and thank them for their work cleaning the floors in the administrative complex. They did a great job and the floors look better than they have in years!

Glen also presented the Board with a series of postcards drawn by inmate Buck Nimy. This is a great piece and will look great in the exhibit hall when it opens.

We are working on a new flyer as well as new merchandise with a new logo. Look for those to be available sometime in the summer.

We continue to make progress, even if it seems slow at times. It would never happen without the tireless work of the Board members. As always, we are looking for volunteers to assist us in turning the NSP into the tourist attraction we know it can be!

Jim Wells

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Membership has increase to 128 members this month. We welcomed renewals by Debbie Cutshaw and a Lifetime Membership for Brianna Awali. We are also experiencing an increase in membership with the Paranormal Tours conducted by Susan Bernard and Joe Kinsley. The belief that spirits remain or return from the afterlife does not surprise the docents who lead these tours or the participants who visit several areas of the prison with historical and storied events associated with them. With the anticipated opening of the prison for tours, membership will continue to increase. Visiting our website at

www.nevadastateprison.org makes joining easy and payment through PayPal possible.

Didi Chaney, Secretary

PROJECT ACTIVITY REPORT

Closed two projects, we have six remaining "Priority B" projects remaining.

Roof Repair: Completed and project closed. Reimbursement from CCCHP grant nearly in hand.

Visiting Room: Asbestos abatement completed. Preparing reimbursement request for \$21,536.

Two vendors, High Desert Surface Prep and Deckade, are preparing proposals for the final floor finishing. Expect to see them by 15 May.

Sagebrush Room: Work completed, remains dry, occasional output from the eastern sump.

A/C Unit Removal: Updated quotes for plexiglass and man-lift.

Continued:



Last month Lee contacted Floor Masters Cleaning to get a bid for cleaning the floors in the Admin area in preparation for our tour opening. Their supervisor said he would have the tile and carpeted floors in Admin and the Courthouse cleaned if he could get a tour of the prison. What a deal! The floors look great and the tour was accomplished. If you get a chance, give your support to Floor Masters.

Grant Activity Report

Commission on Cultural Centers and Historic Preservation grant application, submitted 27 February 2020, awarded \$23,000 for Visiting Room Floor Restoration, and a \$2,900 supplemental for emergent roof repairs and some restoral of previously cut funds, for a total award of \$25,900.

We received the signed copies of the Funding Agreement on 17 February.

Update: Submitted two Progress Reports, Roof Repair and Asbestos Abatement. Both have been approved. Submitted a Reimbursement Request for the Roof Repair on 22 April 2021 which has been approved for payment of \$3,800. Payment is in process, and will be directly deposited to the NSPPS account at GNCU by mid-May.

Feasibility Study: no update on potential funding sources. However, we have access to copies of previous studies, so we are closer to identifying the work required to complete a study.

Update: AB270, if passed, appears to remove the requirement for the study. AB 270 will likely be heard by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee by 14 May.

Home Depot has restarted their Community Project Gift Card program, with some new criteria. NSPPS has a pending application, and if approved could result in up to \$5,000 in gift cards.

Statement: Private funding sources seem to be a better use of time and resources. Continuing my search for opportunities.

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EVENTS



The opening of NSP is happening! As we anticipate regular tours, we also have several special events planned. We will be needing volunteers for the events. These events are:

May 17th through May 21st – The Nevada National Guard Civil Support Team is conducting a HazMat training exercise at NSP.

June 1st through June 3rd - Department of Public Safety will conduct active shooter training at NSP. This is different from the Academy in that the participants will be police officers from throughout the State. [Glen Whorton supervisor 775-722-0394]

June 8th to June 10th – Department of Public Safety Academy will conduct their active shooter training. The Academy has previously conducted this training on five occasions; all supervised by NSPPS. [Glen Whorton supervisor 775-722-0394]

Continued:

These events do not require our guide training. We only need people with common sense and a willingness to get involved.

TOUR GUIDES NEEDED!!

There are still opportunities for you to volunteer. The only requirement to be a Guide is to be a member of NSPPS and you can join at the meeting. For more information or to volunteer you can contact Mike Budge at:

**775-461-6010
northrivermikeb@aol.com.**

There is no deadline to apply.

Our paranormal events are continuing. These events are generally late afternoon and night schedules, so if you are not afraid of the dark you can help out on these events by contacting Susan at:

**Susan Bernard 775-434-3948
ssnbrnrd80.sb@gmail.com**

MISCELLANEOUS

Friday 4.23.21, Glen & Brew took James Allen through the institution. James is a former death row inmate who was successful before the Pardons Board and the Parole Board. He served 30 years in the Department, including at NSP. He is going to return in June to film a public service announcement. James works with the Juvenile Courts in Clark County to divert youths from graduating to the Department of Corrections.

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JAMES & BREW IN A HILL UNIT

We've mentioned the short film, "Black Warrior of Pyramid Lake", that was filmed in large part at NSP as a University of Nevada film project. You can now see this award-winning short film On the main page of the website: www.blackwarriormovie.com .

This film was an official selection to The American Indian Film Festival (San Francisco) and The LA Skins Fest (Los Angeles, CA). The screenplay won the Moondance Film Festival and a Spark! Grant from The Stanford Arts Institute as

well as finalist placement at the Tribeca All-Access Program, The Beverly Hills Film Festival, and the Canada International Film Festival. It also won the BEA Festival of Media Arts, Best of Competition (Narrative).

CONTENT WARNING: Black Warrior of Pyramid Lake uses adult themes, black comedy, and really strong language to explore provocative issues surrounding contemporary American Indian criminal justice, gang violence, Native Nazism, and reservation life. This is not a movie for the grandkids.



Continued:



We have some in-house guards against the pests in NSP. A mother owl is keeping watch on her 4 babies on the stairs to the old Women's Unit. The little ones are not so little now as they are out of the nest and going up and down the stairs. We have made a point not to disturb them. This is the second time we have noticed a group of nesting owls in this part of the prison. Joe Kinsley is making sure there is water and food in the vicinity for them.

Brew has updated the Membership page place the new membership application on the website. Please take a look at:

<http://nevadastateprison.org/membership>

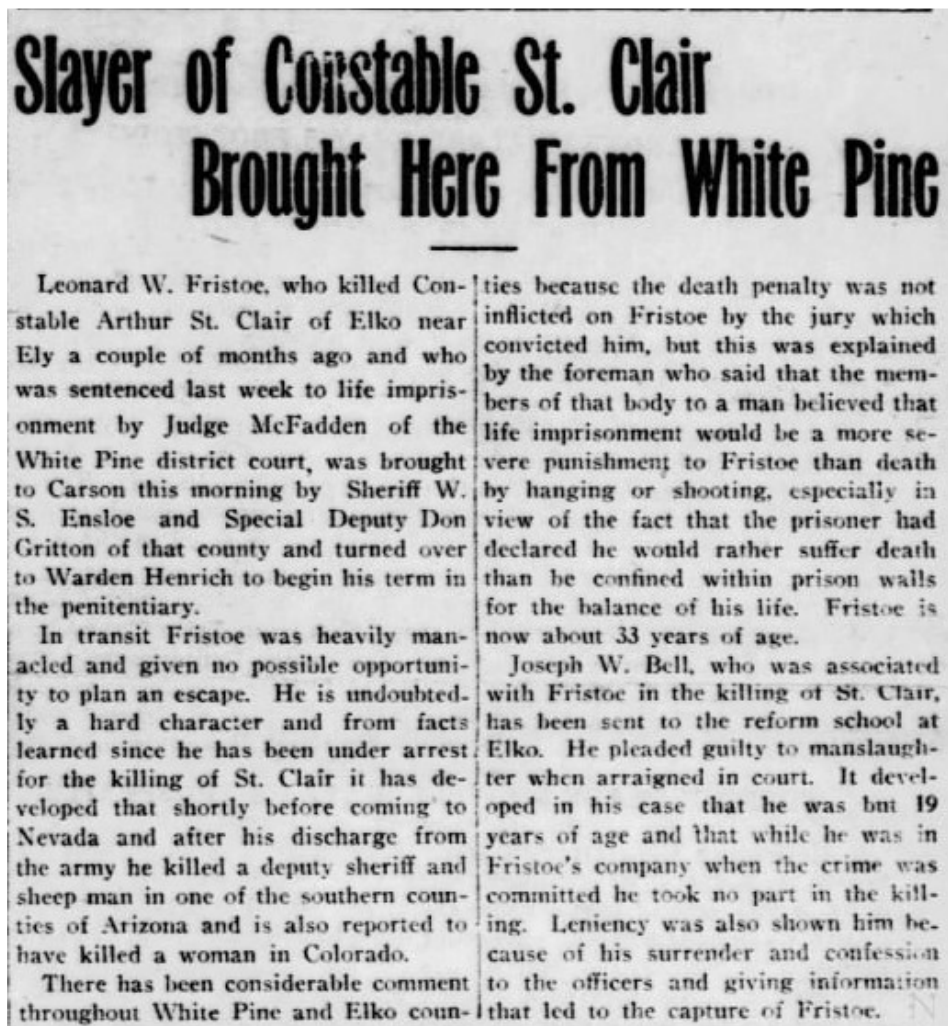
He has also created a link to this newsletter at:

<http://nevadastateprison.org/newsletters/>

HISTORY

Most of you are familiar with the story of Leonard Fristoe. He escaped from Warden Salter in December 1923, [while the Warden was in a brothel] and was not recaptured till 1969. We were aware that he killed a Sheriff's deputy in his Nevada crime, but this newly discovered Carson Appeal article from 1920, indicates that he probably murdered three other people before coming to NSP. His prison story is indicative of the dangers of making prison jobs a political reward rather than emphasis on protecting the community.

Carson Appeal 5-12-1920



**Slayer of Constable St. Clair
Brought Here From White Pine**

Leonard W. Fristoe, who killed Constable Arthur St. Clair of Elko near Ely a couple of months ago and who was sentenced last week to life imprisonment by Judge McFadden of the White Pine district court, was brought to Carson this morning by Sheriff W. S. Ensloe and Special Deputy Don Gritton of that county and turned over to Warden Henrich to begin his term in the penitentiary.

In transit Fristoe was heavily manacled and given no possible opportunity to plan an escape. He is undoubtedly a hard character and from facts learned since he has been under arrest for the killing of St. Clair it has developed that shortly before coming to Nevada and after his discharge from the army he killed a deputy sheriff and sheep man in one of the southern counties of Arizona and is also reported to have killed a woman in Colorado.

There has been considerable comment throughout White Pine and Elko coun-

ties because the death penalty was not inflicted on Fristoe by the jury which convicted him, but this was explained by the foreman who said that the members of that body to a man believed that life imprisonment would be a more severe punishment to Fristoe than death by hanging or shooting, especially in view of the fact that the prisoner had declared he would rather suffer death than be confined within prison walls for the balance of his life. Fristoe is now about 33 years of age.

Joseph W. Bell, who was associated with Fristoe in the killing of St. Clair, has been sent to the reform school at Elko. He pleaded guilty to manslaughter when arraigned in court. It developed in his case that he was but 19 years of age and that while he was in Fristoe's company when the crime was committed he took no part in the killing. Leniency was also shown him because of his surrender and confession to the officers and giving information that led to the capture of Fristoe.

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