

THE CELLHOUSE SNITCH



Nevada State Prison Preservation Society

P.O. Box 1991
Carson City, NV. 89701
(775) 722-0394
www.nevadastateprison.org
<https://facebook.com/NSPPS>
info@nevadastateprison.org

2022-23 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Vacant, Vice-President
Lynne Knack, Treasurer
Didi Chaney, Secretary
Terry P Hubert, Facilities Maintenance
Lee A Perks, Planning
Susan Bernard, Paranormal
Chris Pitzer, Facebook
Glen Whorton, Editor – History
gvwhorton@charter.net
775-722-0394

Myron Carpenter, Honorary Board Member

CADRE:

Karen Denning, Volunteers - Facebook
karendenning21@gmail.com
Brian Hutchins, Legal Counsel
Joe Kinsley, Paranormal
Marti Cockell, Store
Rose Kinsley, Store
Jeff Lovelace, Locksmith

The Snitch

**“The last time I went to a Mexican restaurant I woke up in jail.
I thought tequila was the soup of the day”**

BOARD:

The Board was saddened to learn of the passing of our founder, Myron Carpenter. In late 2012, Myron began making cold calls to people to get them interested in saving NSP. His motivation was to preserve NSP from the fate of the V&T railroad shops, becoming a decorative wall for a California winery. He arranged out initial meetings and was elected our first president.

Myron had a long career with the Carson and Douglas school districts. He was a history and government teacher, and coach. He, along with Assemblyman Pete Livermore shepherded the bill through the Legislature that gave us access and supervision over the historic part of the institution. It’s troubling to imagine what the prison would be today without his passion for saving Nevada’s history.

Continued:

TOURS / EVENTS:

Our tours continue to be sold out and our volunteer positions to support the tours are filled through September. Karen Denning is looking for volunteers for October, which is our busiest month.



On July 12, we hosted a tour for Fred Allen and his family. Fred retired from the prison, having been a correctional officer, and the supervisor of the bookbinding program. The bookbinding under his guidance was a tremendous resource for state government and citizens who wanted their valuable books preserved. Their biggest impact was the rehabilitation of schoolbooks for districts throughout the State. Fred has also donated his uniform from 1970 to our museum.

One of the great things about having Fred return to NSP was his stories about his time there. This brings up an issue that Maurice White brought up at the Board meeting. We really need to start developing a living history program. The younger staff from the 70's are beginning

to leave us. We need to capture their memories before they are gone. If you would be interested in heading up or participating in this type of project. You can contact Glen Whorton using the information on the side banner on the first page.

PROJECTS:

We finally secured the final inspection from Public Works for the new HVAC unit on the courthouse. This is especially welcome for the Board as the courthouse is their meeting and workplace. Lee has also coordinated the completion of the State Fire Marshals repair list, including Installation of 6 smoke alarms, 5 fire extinguishers and installed two emergency lights in the courthouse.

Lee also repaired and started the AC unit for the museum. He relocated the thermostat for easier access and closed the excess AC opening. The system is working well for our visitors and store volunteers. We just must remember to keep the doors closed.

Lee has completed the layout of the new water line for the museum for the underground utility locator. He has completed the work permit with the State Public works, and Brian Hutchins has delivered the \$600+ fee so we can expect the permit by the time this newsletter is published. This water line for allow us to rehab two of the toilets in the museum and provide better water access for the Warden's lawn.

Lastly, Lee replaced sump pump the sagebrush basement. The primary pump shut down due to deterioration of the pump and burnt electrical extension cord.

MUSEUM:

It has been a quiet month for the museum, other than the wanderings of our visitors through the prison. Our one addition to our displays was the addition of photos of past parole board members and inmate Jack Rainsberger. Jack was a murderer who was originally sentenced to death. Through the actions of the US Supreme Court, and the Nevada Pardons Board, he ultimately became eligible for parole. He appeared before the board a record 20 times before he was released, an infirm old man.

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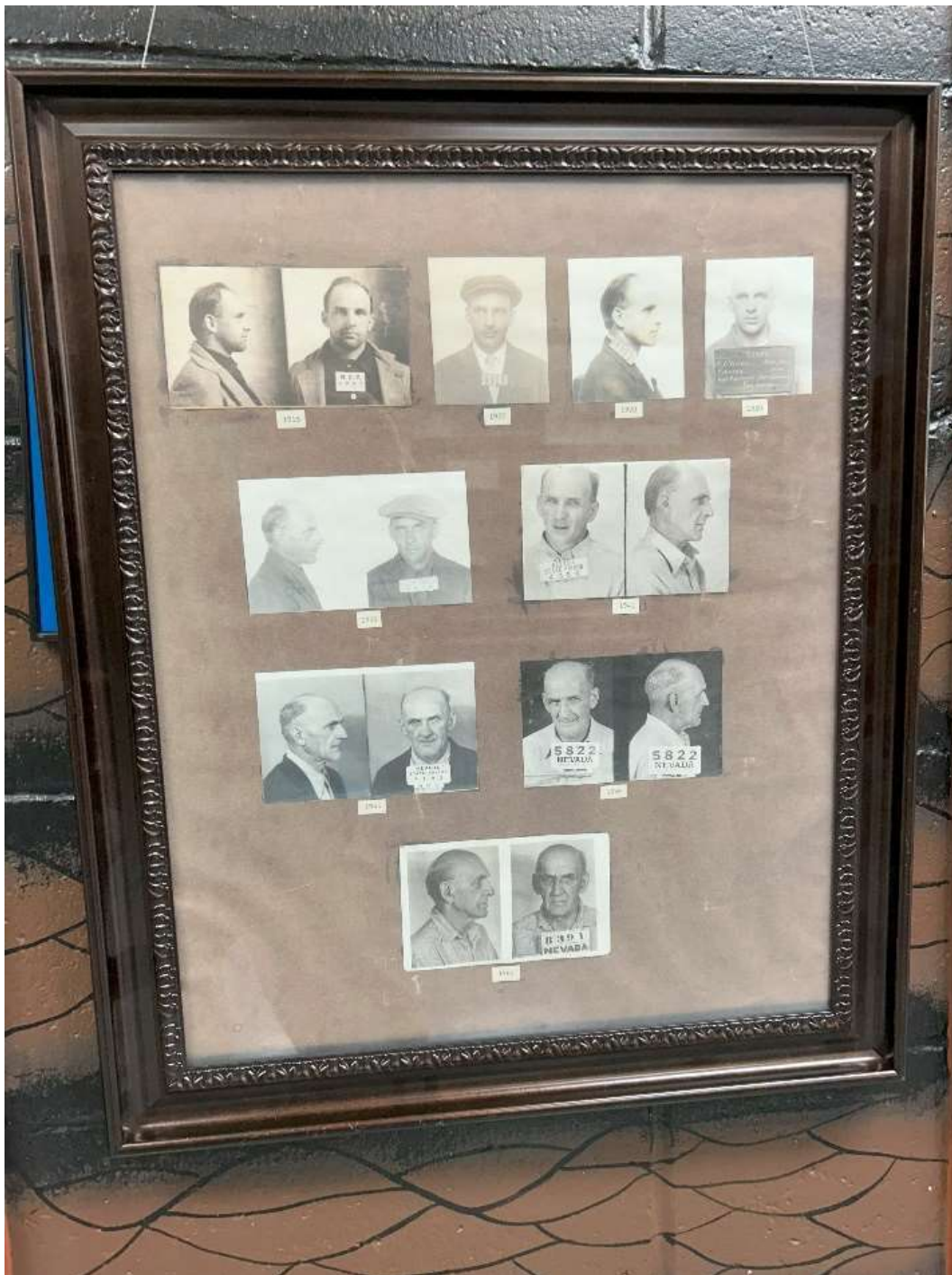
I mentioned earlier that Fred Allen had donated his old, gray uniform from the 1970's. The uniform is complete except for the hat. If anyone has one of the gray bus drivers' hats, we had to wear in the 70's, and would he willing to donate it to the museum, you can contact Glen Whorton using the information on the side banner on the first page.



DOES IT STILL FIT FRED??

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Another addition to the museum is a collection of mugshots of Kurt Wolff. Kurt was born in Hamburg Germany; however, his real home was NSP. He did five terms at NSP and at least one at San Q. Most of his criminal activity revolved around fraud. He is/was the definition of a recidivist.



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HISTORY Reno Gazette July 16, 1886

So much weird stuff has happened NSP. What's next!!? Cats and dogs??

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The State Prison Draws Sulphur and Frogs.

The *Appeal* is responsible for the following: "Yesterday morning the States Prison was visited by a deluge of rain and the heaviest part of the thunder storm. In the morning the officers of the prison were astonished to find the ground covered with sulphur, left after the rain had dried or soaked in the ground. The deposit varied from a sixteenth of an inch to an inch and a half thick and was everywhere. It was swept off the stone walk like snow and was also found in quantities on the roof. It was as fine as flour and of a pure yellow color. There were also millions of young frogs about half an inch long. Quite a number of parties went out to the Prison yesterday to verify the story and all were satisfied that it was sulphur. The explanation of the phenomenon is that a water spout scooped up the frogs and sulphur from some lake and deposited it at the Prison."

Heavy Capitalization.

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