



VOLUME 26 • ISSUE 12

**CELEBRATING 54 YEARS • 1965-2019**  
– DECEMBER 2019 –

## *The Elephant's Tale*

### **2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

PRESIDENT  
Patricia Moser Morris

1ST VICE PRESIDENT  
Open

2ND VICE PRESIDENT  
Shirley Appel

SECRETARY  
Kay Lehr

TREASURER  
Kathi Congistre

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
Linda Smith

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*Oh, Come All Ye Faithful!*

**Incline Village-Crystal Bay  
Republican Women Christmas/  
Holiday Luncheon and  
Installation of 2020 Officers**

**2020 OFFICERS:** Linda Smith (President),  
Shirley Appel (First Vice President),  
Kathi Congistre (Second Vice President),  
Kay Lehr (Recording Secretary), and  
Peggy Poindexter (Treasurer)

*Come Meet the Installing Officer,*  
**JANET FREIXAS,**  
President-Elect of the Nevada Federation of  
Republican Women

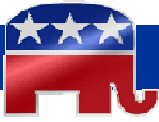
***Tuesday, December 10th***

11:30 am to 2 pm at The Chateau,  
955 Fairway Boulevard, Incline Village

Tickets are \$25 per person and include lunch. A no-host bar will be available. Advanced reservations are REQUIRED. Attendees without advanced reservations will not be able to have lunch.

★ **Please RSVP to Shirley Appel**  
at [mrsradar@aol.com](mailto:mrsradar@aol.com) or (cell) 818-266-4402  
*by no later than Friday, December 6th*





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### We Celebrated Veterans!

We collected \$400 in money and gift cards for the Veterans Guest House at our November meeting! This will make a real difference in the lives of our

veterans who need medical care. We also learned much about the VA's programs to assist homeless veterans with health care and housing. We were impressed with the sensitivity and caring of those who run the Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) and Housing and Urban Development – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Programs; and the club donated \$100 to the HCHV Program.



### Wreaths Across America

We also learned about "Wreaths Across America," to which the club donated \$90, enough for six wreaths. Saturday, December 14th is "National Wreaths Across America Day," when volunteers place wreaths on every veteran's grave at participating cemeteries – over 1,600 locations in all fifty U.S. states, at sea and abroad. To donate a wreath or wreaths to the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley, go to <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/16600/Overview/?relatedId=0&modSw=donate>. To volunteer to participate in the wreath-laying ceremony there on December 14th, call 775-575-4441 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### Gems from Our Congressman Mark Amodei

Joanellen Slocumb, Yolanda Knaak, June Shafer and I attended the Nevada Federation of Republican Women's (NvFRW) biennial convention as delegates from our club, where Mark Amodei, our congressman, gave us his hilarious take on politics and current events in D.C. —

- "The first thing you learn in politics: If the Republican women aren't happy, ain't nobody happy."
- "Only in Washington on a Monday can you have voted with President Trump 98 percent of the time and by the following Friday, be accused of supporting his impeachment!"
- On the "non-impeachment impeachment" – "After 36 months, *none of it* has been proven true. Rather, it's the fantasy of the Democrats and the media. *Everything* they've done has been blatantly political."
- "We gave China a \$600 billion advantage in trade *every year for decades.*"
- On Elizabeth Warren as the likely Democratic nominee: "Thank you, Jesus!"
- Why Trump won in 2016: "Never before has anyone pushed back on them [the Dems] like this guy."

In conclusion: "This guy has earned the right to be president and he has done a good job! So don't be cocky but go forward with confidence."

### Introducing Our 2020 Club Officers

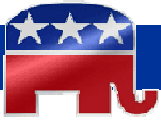
Our proposed slate of 2020 officers was elected by acclamation at the November membership meeting. The 2020 officers are Linda L. Smith, President; Shirley Appel, First Vice President (programs), Kathi Congistre, Second Vice President (membership), Kay Lehr, Recording Secretary; and Peggy Poindexter, Treasurer. Please come on December 10th to see them installed by Janet Freixas, President-elect of the Nevada Federation of Republican Women. Our December 10th meeting is also our Christmas/Holiday Luncheon, so don't miss it!

### Hail and Farewell



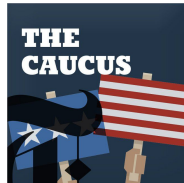
I want to say how much I have appreciated having your help as your President and your First Vice President (programs) over the past four years. I hope I may say that we accomplished a lot together! Our efforts were crowned with a DIAMOND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD for 2018-19.

*Patricia Moser Morris*



## 2020 PRECINCT CAUCUSES SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 1st Presidential Preference Poll CANCELLED

**T**he 2020 precinct caucuses have been scheduled for February 1, 2020. They will not include a presidential preference poll, however, because the Nevada State GOP has opted instead to hold a State Central Committee endorsement vote at a date to be determined later, probably February 22nd. The 2020 precinct caucuses will take place just as they do every two years, including non-presidential election years such as (most recently) 2018.



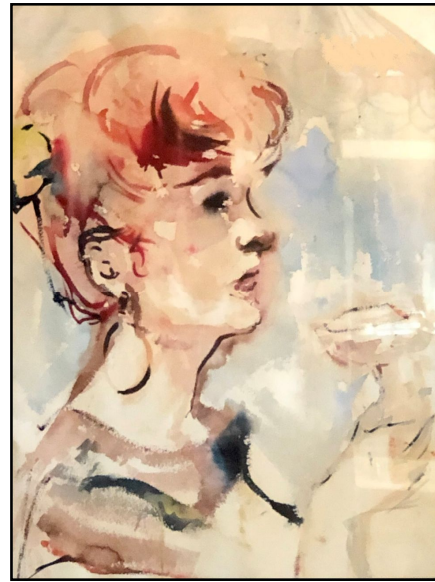
The precinct caucuses will nominate Washoe County GOP Central Committee members; elect delegates to the Washoe County GOP's biennial convention in March; and accept suggestions for the county party's 2020 platform. The terms of all current Central Committee members are expiring.

It is not unusual for the two major political parties to cancel their presidential preference polls or presidential primaries when an incumbent president is running for reelection. The Kansas, South Carolina and Arizona GOPs have also cancelled their presidential primaries or caucuses this election season; and Republicans cancelled eight primaries in 1992 and ten in 2004, while Democrats cancelled eight primaries and caucuses in 1996 and ten in 2012, according to the Republican National Committee. Voter turnout, however, is expected to be much lower than it would have been had a presidential preference poll been included.

### PREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

**December 10th** – Christmas/Holiday Party and 2020 Officers Installation (11:30 a.m. at The Chateau) by Janet Freixas, President-elect of the Nevada Federation of Republican Women.

**January 2020** – No meeting



### Celebration of Life for Fleeta Oswald

*Fleeta Oswald, a faithful member of the club for decades, passed away on October 30th at the age of 90. She will be much missed.*

**F**leeta Cato was born November 14, 1928 in Portland, Oregon and had an older sister named Leota. The small family lived a simple life until Fleeta's dad was killed in an industrial accident while building the Bonneville Dam on the Columbia River; she was only four years old.

Fleeta loved animals and as a child had a pet goat that accompanied her to and from school until it was sold. She was heartbroken again (times were tough in the early 1930's). Fleeta, her sister and mother moved to southern California to live with her grandmother, who had traveled to Oregon in a covered wagon while pregnant. Fleeta was raised by her grandmother because her mother never fully recovered from the loss of her husband.

When Fleeta was 18 years old, she went on a double-blind date and met Don. The two fell in love and were married shortly thereafter. Don was a young engineer and the two initially lived in a very tiny trailer, where Fleeta stored the dirty laundry behind the couch.

They later settled in Redlands, California and at the age of 25 Larry was born. The family of three enjoyed

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## Fleeta Oswald

camping and vacationing in Guaymas, Mexico. Eight years later Tom was born and within the year the family of four moved to Kailua, Hawaii, on the island of Oahu. The boys loved the sun and surf and grew up on the beach. Their dog Yogi was the first of many Labrador Retrievers. Fleeta loved the beach, to host parties, play bridge, arrange flowers, cook gourmet food, and travel to exotic places including Saigon, Hong Kong, Cambodia, Thailand, and Europe. In 1971 the family moved to Florida. More sun, surf, fishing, boating and hot Florida weather. As the kids left the nest, Don and Fleeta relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area for a couple of years for Don's final employment.

Since Tom went to college in Colorado it was a natural to have vacations centered around skiing. The Oswald clan spent Christmas vacations in Oregon, South Lake Tahoe, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, and Incline Village. Fleeta longed to live in a cooler climate and in 1981 Don and Fleeta bought a house on Tyner Way in Incline Village. Both sons married and had two children each. The house on Tyner Way became a gathering place for the entire clan.

Don passed away in 2006 after 58 years of marriage. Fleeta continued on for another 13+ years living alone in the snow country. She actively played bridge, attended book club, entertained at home, attended numerous social events, participated in beach barbeques, and walked her dog at the dog park.

Fleeta had some theories about snow. The snow on the deck is not a problem, it melts away in the spring. The snow on the driveway is not a problem, four-wheel drive and the gas pedal will get you into the garage; the trick is stopping before hitting the wall.

Fleeta lived a full life, and outlived many family, friends, and pets. She wants to be remembered always as a loving wife, mother, friend, and an Incline Village "mountain woman."

Fleeta died at the age of 90 after a short illness. She is survived by her sons Larry and Tom, their wives Kris and Janet, her grandchildren Jessica, Ginger, Brandon, Alyssa, and her dog Jackie.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, December 29, 2019 from 2 to 4 pm at the Chateau in Incline Village. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Pet Network. RSVP to son Larry at (775) 831-6421 or [larryoswald001@gmail.com](mailto:larryoswald001@gmail.com).



**U**S unemployment dropped to a half-century low in September and job growth continued at a modest pace, signs the economy is holding up despite a broader global slowdown. The jobless rate dropped to 3.5 percent in September from 3.7 percent in August, marking the lowest rate since December 1969 when it also logged in at 3.5 percent. Employers added 136,000 jobs in September, and payrolls for August and July were revised up according to the U.S. Labor Department.

Still, a drop-off in the pace of hiring compared with last year points to rising uncertainty among employers about the job market and the economy in the face of President Donald Trump's trade conflicts. Trump imposed tariffs on a majority of Chinese imports and may impose taxes on the rest of them on December 15, which may escalate prices for consumers and slow spending.

The weakest sector of the U.S. economy – manufacturing, cut 2,000 jobs in September. At the same time, retailers shed 11,400 jobs, and employment in mining and logging was unchanged. The big gains last month were in health care, which added 41,400 jobs, and professional and business services, which include such higher-paying areas as engineering and accounting but also lower-paying temp work. That sector added 34,000 positions.

The job market is the economy's main bulwark. As long as hiring is solid enough to keep the unemployment rate from rising, most Americans will likely remain confident enough to spend, offsetting other drags and propelling the economy forward. Consumers are still mostly optimistic, and their spending has kept the economy afloat this year.

*Sources: WSJ, US Labor Department and other public domain news sources.*



## The Soldier, the Corporal and the General

A non-commissioned officer was directing the repairs of a military building during the American Revolution. He was barking orders to the soldiers under his command, trying to get them to raise a heavy wooden beam. As the men struggled in vain to lift the beam into place, a man who was passing by stopped to ask the one in charge why he wasn't helping the men. With all the pomp of an emperor, the soldier responded, "Sir, I am a corporal!"



"You are, are you?" replied the passerby, "I was not aware of that." Then, taking off his hat and bowing, he said, "I ask your pardon, Corporal." Then the stranger walked over and strained with the soldiers to lift the heavy beam. After the job was finished, he turned and said, "Mr. Corporal, when you have another such job and have not enough men, send for your Commander in Chief, and I will come and help you a second time." The corporal was thunderstruck. The man's name was General George Washington.

*We all want to be honored, respected and appreciated. The fact is, these things shouldn't be demanded or even requested. True honor, respect, and appreciation only come one way – when we serve others.*

*Source: Worthy News Brief, October 22, 2019.*

The name of American, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism.... It should be the highest ambition of every American to extend his views beyond himself, and to bear in mind that his conduct will not only affect himself, his country, and his immediate posterity; but that its influence may be co-extensive with the world, and stamp political happiness or misery on ages yet unborn.  
— George Washington

## Palace of Saint Nicholas in the Moon on Christmas Morning

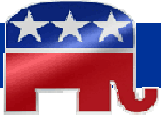


By Mark Twain

**M**y Dear Susy Clemens,  
I have received and read all the letters which you and your little sister have written me . . . I can read your and your baby sister's jagged and fantastic marks without any trouble at all. But I had trouble with those letters which you dictated through your mother and the nurses, for I am a foreigner and cannot read English writing well. You will find that I made no mistakes about the things which you and the baby ordered in your own letters--I went down your chimney at midnight when you were asleep and delivered them all myself--and kissed both of you, too . . . But . . . there were . . . one or two small orders which I could not fill because we ran out of stock . . .

There was a word or two in your mama's letter which . . . I took to be "a trunk full of doll's clothes." Is that it? I will call at your kitchen door about nine o'clock this morning to inquire. But I must not see anybody and I must not speak to anybody but you. When the kitchen doorbell rings, George must be blindfolded and sent to the door. You must tell George he must walk on tiptoe and not speak. . . . Then you must go up to the nursery and stand on a chair or the nurse's bed and put your ear to the speaking tube that leads down to the kitchen and when I whistle through it you must speak in the tube and say, "Welcome, Santa Claus!" Then I will ask whether it was a trunk you ordered or not. If you say it was, I shall ask you what color you want the trunk to be . . . and then you must tell me every single thing in detail which you want the trunk to contain. Then when I say "Good-by and a merry Christmas to my little Susy Clemens," you must say "Good-by, good old Santa Claus, I thank you very much." Then you must go down

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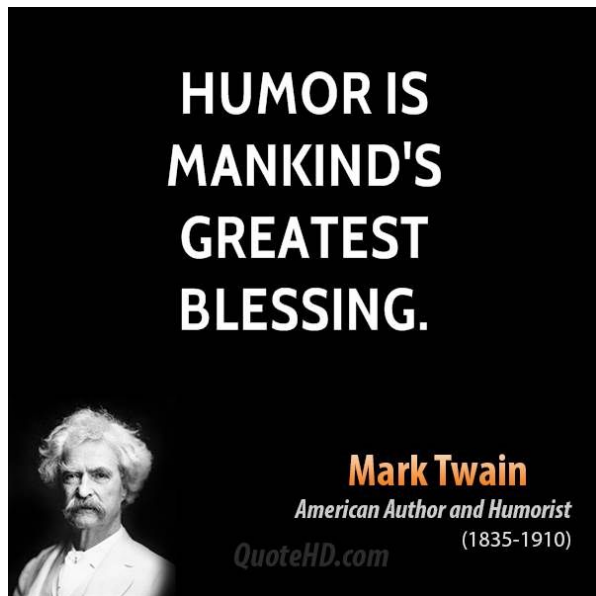


### Palace of Saint Nicholas

into the library and make George close all the doors that open into the main hall, and everybody must keep still for a little while. I will go to the moon and get those things and in a few minutes I will come down the chimney that belongs to the fireplace that is in the hall -- if it is a trunk you want -- because I couldn't get such a thing as a trunk down the nursery chimney, you know . . . If I should leave any snow in the hall, you must tell George to sweep it into the fireplace, for I haven't time to do such things. If my boot should leave a stain on the marble, George must not holystone it away. Leave it there always in memory of my visit; and whenever you look at it or show it to anybody you must let it remind you to be a good little girl. Whenever you are naughty and someone points to that mark which your good old Santa Claus's boot made on the marble, what will you say, little sweetheart?

Good-bye for a few minutes, till I come down to the world and ring the kitchen doorbell.

*Your loving Santa Claus whom people sometimes call "The Man in the Moon"*



Mark Twain, whose real name was Samuel Langhorne Clemens was an American writer, humorist, entrepreneur, publisher and lecturer. Note: *This work was published before January 1, 1924, and is in the public domain worldwide because the author Mark Twain died at least 100 years ago.*

**“We are all born ignorant, but one must work very hard to remain STUPID!”**

*Benjamin Franklin, 1706-1790*

**That Was Funny And You Know It!**



**Orators of the Democrat Party from the distant past:**

- “The only thing we have to fear is fear itself.” – Franklin D. Roosevelt
- “The buck stops here.” – Harry S. Truman
- “Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country.” – John F. Kennedy

**But wait ....There’s more great orators of the Democrat Party:**

- “Those rumors are false. I believe in the sanctity of marriage” – John Edwards
- “It depends on what your definition of 'is' is.” – William Jefferson Clinton
- “What difference does it make?” (re: Benghazi) – Hillary Clinton
- “Bill is the greatest husband and father I know. No one is more faithful, true, and honest than he is.” – Hillary Rodham-Clinton
- “I invented the Internet.” – Al Gore
- “America is, is no longer, uh, what it, uh, could be, uh, what it was once was, uh, and I say to myself, uh, I don't want that future, uh, for my children.” – Barack Obama
- “I have campaigned in all 57 states.” – Barack Obama
- “You need to vote for the Democrats otherwise the illegal aliens will lose their rights!” – Nancy Pelosi
- “Paying taxes is voluntary.” – Sen. Harry Reid
- “Homicide is the leading cause of murder.” – Rep. Sheila Jackson
- “No ordinary American cares about Constitutional rights.” – Joe Biden
- “Owning guns is not a right. If it were a right, it would be in the Constitution.” – Alexandria Ocasio Cortez
- “Social Security has nothing to do with the deficit.” – Bernie Sanders



### Membership Application

New Member     Renewing Membership

*If you receive this application/renewal form via email, please print a copy and mail with your check to the address below.*

NAME as it appears on VOTER REGISTRATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME as it appears on your NAMETAG: \_\_\_\_\_

SPOUSE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS(es): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone with Area Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday (Month, Day) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address (for roster and newsletter):

\_\_\_\_\_

*Please print*

**MEMBERSHIP STATUS , PLEASE CHECK ONE:**

Active \$35, any woman registered as a Republican

Associate \$20, any woman with a full membership in another Republican women's group,

\_\_\_\_\_ OR any man registered as a Republican  
*Primary Club Membership*

**CHECK AREAS OF INTEREST:**

Art or Graphic Art Work

Budget/Finance

Bylaws

Campaign Work

Community Service

Fundraising

Membership

Publicity

Public Relations

Youth Coordination

Greeter at Meetings

Legislative

Phone Committee

Email

Newsletter

**MAIL APPLICATION AND CHECK** to the following address:

Membership Chairman  
IV/CB Republican Women  
P. O. Box 3009, Incline Village, NV 89450

*Always more information for you at our website: [ivcbw.org](http://ivcbw.org)*



### Legends of Santa Claus Around the World



18<sup>th</sup>-century America's Santa Claus was not the only St. Nicholas-inspired gift-giver to make an appearance at Christmastime. There are similar figures and Christmas traditions around the world.

- Christkind or Kris Kringle was believed to deliver presents to well-behaved Swiss and German children. Meaning "Christ child," Christkind is an angel-like figure often accompanied by St. Nicholas on his holiday missions.
- In Scandinavia, a jolly elf named Jultomten was thought to deliver gifts in a sleigh drawn by goats.
- English legend explains that Father Christmas visits each home on Christmas Eve to fill children's stockings with holiday treats.
- Père Noël is responsible for filling the shoes of French children.
- In Russia, it is believed that an elderly woman named Babouschka purposely gave the wise men wrong directions to Bethlehem so that they couldn't find Jesus. Later, she felt remorseful, but could not find the men to undo the damage. To this day, on January 5, Babouschka visits Russian children leaving gifts at their bedsides in the hope that one of them is the baby Jesus and she will be forgiven.
- In Italy, a similar story exists about a woman called La Befana, a kindly witch who rides a broomstick down the chimneys of Italian homes to deliver toys into the stockings of lucky children.

Source: <https://www.history.com/topics/christmas/santa-claus>



### 2019 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Open

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

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Email: [lsmith2650@aol.com](mailto:lsmith2650@aol.com)



### December Member Birthdays

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### The Elephant's Tale

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The articles and opinions expressed within this newsletter were selected for their relevant content. The publishing of such articles and opinions do not necessarily reflect the official views, opinions and practices of the Incline Village-Crystal Bay Republican Women.