



# SILVER STATE-ISTICS

NEVADA Chapter of American Statistical Association



**Dear Nevada ASA Members and Friends,**

Read on for information on what our Chapter has been up to and what we are planning for the future. Please keep an eye on our website for more details on all upcoming events.

[www.amstat.org/chapters/nevada/](http://www.amstat.org/chapters/nevada/)

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## *Coming Events*



**O**ur **Annual Meeting** and **Fall Symposium** will take place October 17 in the North; see the discussion below.



## From the President's Desk



Debra Stiver

**S**ummer greetings to our Nevada ASA colleagues and friends! As I write this message, the national American

Statistical Association (ASA) is preparing for the Joint Statistical Meetings (JSM) to be held the second week of August in Seattle, Washington. JSM and ASA provide something for everyone. ASA is the world's largest community of statisticians and refers to itself as the "Big Tent for Statistics". If you've never visited the national website ([amstat.org](http://amstat.org)), please take a look at the site to get a sense of how many disciplines are represented by the sections and offices that are part of ASA. Some may think it's all about academia; however a sampling of ASA programs shows otherwise. There are sections for business and economics, agriculture, biological and environmental sciences, behavioral sciences, sports, defense, statistical education at all levels, public policy and government, biostatistics and pharmacology, forensics and criminology, and more. JSM 2015 will offer sessions and continuing education for each of the disciplines.

ASA has long been a strong promoter of programs to enhance data-driven decision-making, and the organization has developed a national lobbying effort to those ends. ASA's Policy and Advocacy link on [amstat.org](http://amstat.org) states the following: "In March of 2008, the ASA created an Office of Science Policy to better integrate statisticians into the policymaking process. With the ASA's office located so close to Washington, DC, the opportunity to interact with national policymakers beckoned and creation of this office took advantage of the opportunity to make the ASA's presence and interests known to Congress and more broadly. The office also actively advocates for statistics research funding and funding for the federal statistical agencies". The advocacy push has created many lively and sometimes controversial discussions among the ASA membership, as one can see from the frequency of blogs, postings and other communication addressing ASA's role in the formulation of public policy using sound scientific data collection and statistical analyses.

This year's NV-ASA annual meeting and symposium, to be held on the University of Nevada, Reno campus in October, will mirror the national advocacy by presenting round-table discussions on the use of statistical analysis in formulating some of Nevada's public policy decisions. Please see the article below on the 2015 symposium

Spring Events in Northern Nevada

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**Elections 2015**  
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NV-ASA  
 K-12 Poster Competition

**K-3**

# TECK THE HALLS

## What We Wanted to Find Out

We wanted to find out which holidays students at our school celebrate. We were interested in finding out about the holidays because we like celebrating the holidays with our families.

## What We Did to Gather Data

We gathered data by going to different classes with pieces of paper with our survey written on them. We handed out the papers to all the students in First through Fifth Grade. The students checked the boxes of the holidays they celebrate. Then we collected the papers and made a tally chart of the answers. Then we made our graph with our information.

**Favorite Holidays**

Holidays	Number of Students
Christmas	28
Easter	12
Halloween	8
Thanksgiving	4
All Saints Day - St. Patrick's Day	2

**"What Holidays Do You Celebrate?"**

## What We Found Out

We found out that most of our students celebrate Christmas. St. Patrick's Day had the second biggest number and Halloween was third. Day of the Dead was fourth and Kwanzaa had the least amount of votes. We were surprised because we thought that Hanukkah would have the most votes.

[illegible]

Ms Yi's poster took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the ASA National Poster Competition.



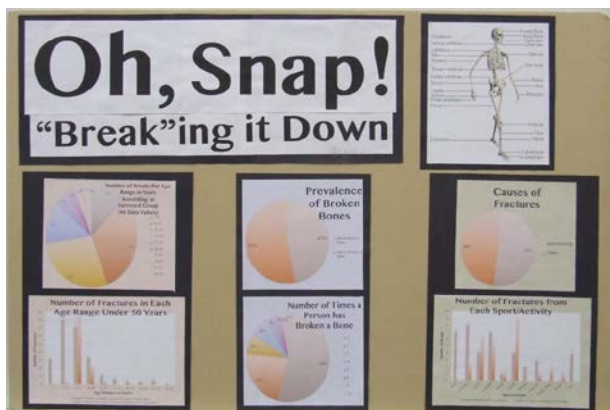


## 7-9

First Place: Margaret Luna, 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Hyde Park Middle School, Las Vegas: *Let's Get Down to Business!* (Advisor: Denise Romonoski).

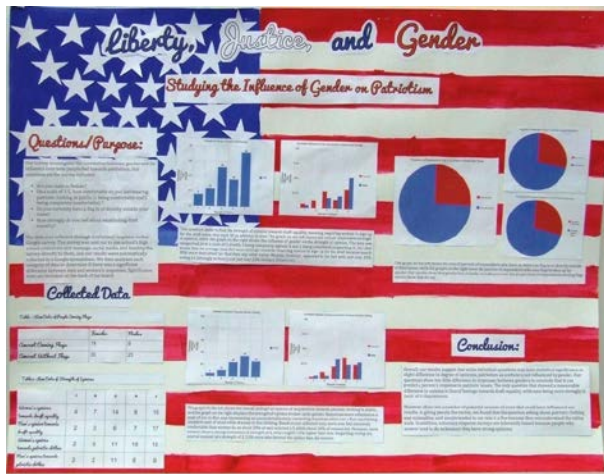


Second Place: Ashlyn Henriod 7<sup>th</sup> grade, Hyde Park Middle School, Las Vegas: *Oh, Snap! "Break"ing it Down* (Advisor: Denise Romonoski).

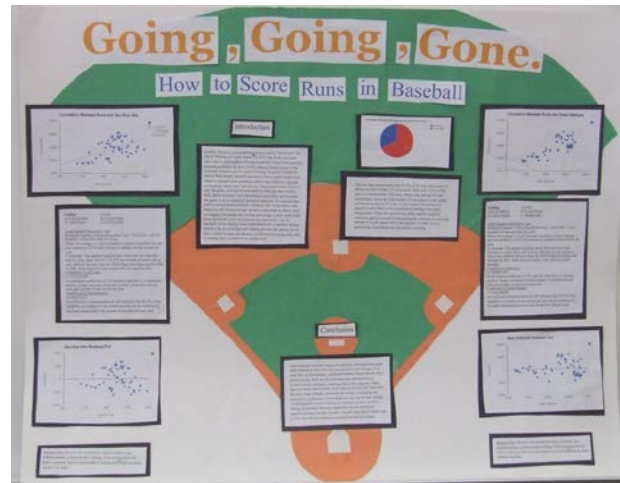


## 10-12

First Place: Casey VanHoose and Katrina Marks, 12<sup>th</sup> grade, West Career and Technical Academy, Las Vegas: *Liberty, Justice, and Gender* (Advisor: Barbara Pratt).



Second Place: Timothy Twelker and Marshall Potts, 12<sup>th</sup> grade, Moapa Valley High School, Overton: *Going, Going, Gone. How to Score Runs in Baseball* (Advisor: Robin Fulmer).



## \*\*\*\*\* NV-ASA Fall Symposium & Annual Meeting 2015 \*\*\*\*\*

Our Fall Symposium will take place in Room 107 of the Ansari Business Building on the campus of UNR October 17, 2015. The general theme will parallel that of the Joint Statistical Meetings: *Statistics: Making Better Decisions*, on the role statistical science can/should play in helping determine public policy. The keynote speaker is expected to be an ASA national officer affiliated with the ASA Office of Science Policy.

Local speakers include the following:

Frederick Steinmann, currently an Assistant Research Professor and Leadership and Economic Development Specialist in the Department of Economics/University Center for Economic Development in the UNR College of Business. Since earning his doctorate in Policy, Planning, and Development from USC, he has worked with a variety of agencies and consulting firms in the Reno area and in California. He is also currently a member of the International Economic Development Council, the American Society for Public Administration, and the American Planning Association. His tentative title: *Use of Statistical Analysis in Urban Planning and Economic Development*.



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*Silver State-istics* welcomes news items and letters from members and friends of the NV-ASA on matters of interest to the Chapter and the profession. Manuscript or items can be sent as a Microsoft Word document, PDF, or within an e-mail.

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For contact information, please see our website.



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