

MuseNews



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

Don't Miss the Only
Scheduled
Nevada Appearance

Spirited

PROHIBITION IN AMERICA

November 10, 2018
to
January 5, 2019



Explore the tumultuous years of 1920 to 1933
in this exhibition, and see how Prohibition
proved to be much more than a
constitutional hiccup.

Presented by



This exhibition is made possible by NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. *Spirited: Prohibition in America* is based on the exhibition *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*, organized by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, PA, in collaboration with Daniel Okrent, author of *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*.

Special Edition Fall 2018

Nationally Touring Exhibition, Spirited: Prohibition in America Opens November 10, 2018 at Churchill County Museum

During the era of Prohibition, Americans no longer could manufacture, sell, or transport intoxicating beverages from 1920 until 1933. *Spirited: Prohibition in America*, a new exhibition opening November 10th at the Churchill County Museum explores this tumultuous time in American history, when flappers and suffragists, bootleggers and temperance lobbyists, and legends, such as Al Capone and Carry Nation, took sides in this battle against the bottle.

Organized by the National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA, in partnership with Mid-America Arts Alliance, Kansas City, MO, *Spirited: Prohibition in America* explores the era of Prohibition, when America went “dry.” Visitors will learn about the complex issues that led America to adopt Prohibition through the 18th Amendment to the Constitution in 1919 until its repeal through the 21st Amendment in 1933. Through the exhibition, visitors will learn about the amendment process, the changing role of liquor in American culture, Prohibition’s impact on the roaring ‘20s, and the role of women, and how current liquor laws vary from state to state.

In 1830, the average American consumed 90 bottles—or about four shots a day—of 80-proof liquor each year. Saloons gained notoriety as the most destructive force in American culture, where men would drink away their families’ money. Following extensive campaigning and lobbying by the Anti-Saloon League along with groups representing women’s suffrage and the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union, on January 16, 1919, the 18th Amendment to the Constitution was ratified, and beginning January 17, 1920, Americans could no longer manufacture, sell, or transport intoxicating beverages. However, the Volstead act, the law enforcing the amendment, made exceptions for sacramental, medicinal, and industrial purposes as well as allowing families to “preserve fruit” through fermentation.

In the years following, the country was split between “wets” and “drys,” speakeasies flourished, legal authorities gave chase to gangsters, and many created inventive ways to circumvent the law. Governmental agencies, including the Prohibition Bureau and the Justice Department, charged with enforcing the Volstead act were ill equipped to deal with the flood of illegal booze. Along with rampant law breaking, Prohibition brought unexpected cultural and societal shifts from the development of mixed-gendered speakeasies to the growth of organized crime syndicated into national enterprises.

The exhibition draws on the histories told from both sides of this divisive issue that riled passions and created volatile situations. In the end after a decade of wide-spread corruption, wavering public opinion, and the need to generate revenue from an alcohol tax, the 18th Amendment became the first ever repealed. With the passing of the 21st Amendment, Prohibition ended on December 5, 1933 to a very different America. Today, Prohibition’s legacy can be traced through state laws regulating alcohol, created to avoid the excesses before Prohibition and the corruption and lawlessness experienced during the roaring ‘20s.

Spirited: Prohibition in America is based on the exhibition *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*, organized by the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia, PA, in collaboration with Daniel Okrent, author of *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*. *Spirited* has been made possible through NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It has been adapted and toured by Mid-America Arts Alliance. Founded in 1972, Mid-America Arts Alliance is the oldest regional nonprofit arts organization in the United States. For more information, visit www.maaa.org or www.nehontheroad.org. *Spirited*’s appearance in Fallon is sponsored by Frey Ranch Estate Distillery.

Accompanying the exhibition at the museum is a variety of programming at the Fallon Theatre, Churchill County Library and the Pennington Life Center.



Monday Movies and Mixology

Fallon Theatre 71 S. Maine Free Admission

- November 5 6PM Prohibition Episode 1: A Nation of Drunkards (1hr 34 min)
Mixology Lesson to follow at Jo's Stillwater Tea Room 85 S. Maine St
- November 12 6PM Prohibition Episode 2: A Nation of Scofflaws (1 hr 50 min)
Mixology Lesson to follow at Jo's Stillwater Tea Room 85 S. Maine St
- November 19 6PM Prohibition Episode 3: A Nation of Hypocrites (1 hr 45 min)
Mixology Lesson to follow at Jo's Stillwater Tea Room 85 S. Maine St

JAZZ AGE PARTY: CELEBRATING SPIRITED

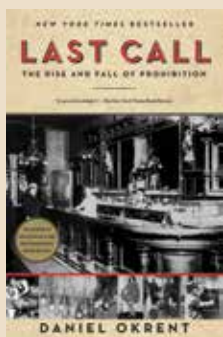
Saturday November 10, 2018
William Pennington Life Center
852 S. Maine Street
Hors d'oeuvres, Drinks, Dancing, and Fun Raising!

Tickets: \$40 for one/\$300 Table of 8
available at the Churchill County Museum
1050 S. Maine Street

Sponsors:

- Frey Ranch Estate Distillery
- Churchill County Museum Association
- Churchill County Library
- Jo's Stillwater Tea Room
- Churchill Library Association
- Fallon Theatre
- National Endowment For the Humanities

Black Tie Optional Period Dress Encouraged
Sponsored by Frey Ranch Estate Distillery
Churchill County Museum Association



December 11 6 PM Book Talk
Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition
Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine St.

Join us for a discussion of the best-selling book by Daniel Okrent, exploring life during Prohibition, why we did it, and how the U.S. was changed forever. Investigate the forces that shaped the period through richly detailed stories from across the country. (Limited copies of *Last Call* are available at



December 31 8PM Last Call Supper Club
Churchill County Library
553 S. Maine Street

Ring in the New Year with the Churchill Library Association & Churchill County Museum Association

Enjoy Dinner, Dancing, Complimentary Cocktails and the sale of canvas gallery prints from: *Images of Churchill County in the Twenties* From the Collection of the Churchill County Museum

Sponsored by:
Frey Ranch Estate Distillery Churchill Library Association
Jo's Stillwater Tea Room Churchill County Library
Churchill County Museum Association

Tickets \$65/Table of 8 \$480 available at:
Churchill County Library Churchill County Museum
Jo's Stillwater Tea Room

the Library.)
Hosted by: Rik Andrews, Board Member, Churchill Library Association

Sponsored by:
Churchill Library Association
Churchill County Museum Association
Churchill County Library
National Endowment for the Humanities



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Churchill County Museum Staff

Dan Ingram—Museum Director

Donna Cossette — Registrar

Jennifer Jones — 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

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