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Psalm 100:3

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Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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Tue 24	95°/72°	
Wed 25	95°/72°	
Thu 26	93°/70°	
Fri 27	91°/70°	
Sat 28	91°/71°	
Sun 29	89°/70°	
Mon 30	87°/70°	



Pet Perspective



**Ms. Avery Pearl
Pet Columnist**

Rain. Rain. More RAIN!

Ms Ivory and me have been talking lately. We have both been wondering why, oh why there has been so much rain in the last few months!?

Not just rain but storms, too. Ms Ivory hates them! They make her shake so bad, she looks like a vibrating cell phone. God wuff her little heart.

One thing is for sure. The grass is soooo thick and green. Pappy says this is driving him crazy cause Mimi won't let him mow. She tells him that he could hurt his new knee.

Anyone that knows Pap, knows he keeps his grass cut. Well, my cousin Mr Matthew said he would come mow for him. Ain't he just the sweetest?

Ms Ivory and me just wuff him. He laughs all the time and he plays with us. His wife Ms Sharon is pretty great, too. She is so pretty and kind. They make the best couple.

Any-woof, Pap says if he had got to do a full garden this year he would have saved a lot of time and effort having to water it. So, God has blessed the farmers with all this rain. The harvests should be abundant this year.

By the way, Mimi laughs at me when I get wet. She says I'm still beautiful even, when I'm a drowned rat.

For more of my Pet Perspective like and follow me on Facebook at Ms Avery Pearl.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM.

Coalfield Genealogical and Historical Society meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Senior Citizens Building at 6:00 PM.

Morgan County Republican Party meets the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion in Wartburg.

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State Representative

*Wishing all of
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— In Loving Memory —

Lola J. Blalock, 76



Susan Smith, Selina Nu-chols, Michael Blalock, Carlis Blalock, Mathew Blalock, and Trina Blalock; several grandchildren, great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and special friend Mary Ellen Crowe.

The family will receive friends Thursday, June 19, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. Graveside services will be Friday, at 11:00 a.m. in the Union Cemetery in the Joyner Community.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Lola J. Blalock.

Lola J. Blalock, age 76 passed away June 17, 2025 at Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge.

She is preceded in death by her husband Lonnie Blalock; parents Clifford and Naomi Hunter; grandchildren Tabitha and Christopher Blalock; and several brothers and sisters.

She leaves behind children Leon Blalock, Randall Blalock,

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.

Psalm 86:4-5

4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.



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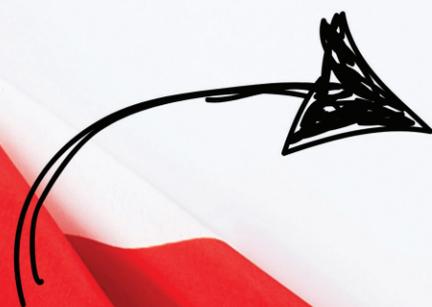
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How to correct a 1099-NEC



David Zubler
Columnist

Form 1099-NEC is an IRS form used by businesses to report payments made to individuals who are not employees, specifically for services performed for their trade or business.

The purpose of the 1099-NEC is to help the IRS ensure that independent contractors report their business income.

Receiving an incorrect Form 1099-NEC that overstates your earnings is a problem that can result in overpaying your taxes.

If you receive a 1099-NEC, the IRS will expect you to report it on your tax return. Failure to include it in your tax return will be likely to trigger a CP2000 notice. A CP2000 notice is sent by the IRS Automated Underreporter (AUR) unit when there's a mismatch between income or payment information reported by third parties (like employers or banks) IRS and what you reported on your tax return.

If you receive a CP2000, the IRS will allow you to resolve your scenario. However, most people prefer not to receive letters from the IRS in the mail. It's better to take steps to prevent receiving an Underreporter Notice and having to resolve it with the AUR unit.

You should contact the payor to get a corrected 1099-NEC and explain why your 1099-NEC is incorrect.

If you have trouble getting your 1099-NEC corrected by the payor, there is another option for reporting the correct amount of your income, which will reduce the chances of an IRS audit.

To make the correction on your return, report the 1099-NEC and make the adjustment as an expense in "Other expenses, so that your net income is correct. Add a statement to your return explaining the incorrect 1099-NEC. Keep any documentation to help prove your adjustment if the IRS requests additional information.

There are circumstances where the payer is correctly reporting the 1099-NEC, but reporting the amount of the 1099-NEC would result in incorrectly overstating your income. If the payer mails a check to you at the end of December, they will report the amount of their payments made for the year. However, if you are on the cash basis, you won't report the income from the check until it is received.

If the incorrect 1099-NEC is based on your receipt of the payment in the year after the payer mails it, you should retain the envelope in which the payment was received in January. You should keep any documents and correspondence regarding your efforts to correct the 1099-NEC. Adequate documentation of correspondence can include an email with an acknowledgment of delivery, fax, or certified mail receipt.

Being proactive by correcting a 1099-NEC overstatement will prevent you from overpaying your taxes and being audited by the IRS.

David Zubler is a nationally known tax accountant and Enrolled Agent that resides in East Tennessee. He is the author of six tax books and a syndicated columnist who has shared tax advice on podcasts and national TV and has been referred to as America's Tax Guru. He is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. He represents clients nationwide before the IRS and provides tax strategies, and tax education, including David's one-minute tax tip radio recordings at YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865)363-3019 or by email at david@yourtaxcare.com.



Historically Speaking

Meet Kenneth D. Nichols, the Father of Oak Ridge - Delivery to Los Alamos

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Barbara Scollin, grandniece of Major General Kenneth D. Nichols continues her series on his life.

Ample reasons, most notably leadership skills, personality traits and qualifications, led to choosing General (then Colonel) Kenneth D. Nichols as Deputy District Engineer and subsequently as District Engineer of the Manhattan Engineer District (MED). In this capacity he had supervision of the research and development connected with, and the design, construction and operation of all plants required for the production of plutonium and uranium-235, including the construction of the towns of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Richland, Washington.

The responsibility of his position was massive as he oversaw a workforce of both military and civilian personnel of approximately 125,000; his Oak Ridge office became the center of the wartime atomic energy's activities. He also was responsible for internal security operations in the production facilities that helped keep the development of the atomic bomb secret.

In this seventeenth installment of several articles covering the life and accomplishments of Kenneth D. Nichols, we learn of his Los Alamos responsibilities as well as Clinton Engineer Works (CEW) and Hanford Engineer Works' (HEW) production efforts delivered to Los Alamos.

In the autumn of 1942, Colonel Kenneth D. Nichols remembers, "Some of the key scientists greatly underestimated the time and effort that would be required to develop the weapon. They saw no urgency in starting because they thought it could be done in a few months with less than a hundred men." But Colonel James C. Marshall, Nichols and Brig General Groves knew early planning was critical to success.

By October 1942, Colonel James Marshall initiated search for a suitable bomb laboratory site. Capt. John Dudley surveyed sites, many times on horseback, with unique specifications: 200 miles inland, a sparsely settled area with mild climate, a natural bowl surrounded by hills for an ultimate population of 450 people, including children and guards. Dudley settled on Jemez Springs in NM, but Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer did not approve of the site.

Nichols indicates that Oppenheimer offered the Los Alamos Ranch School as an alternate site. Marshall recalled Dobie Keith (of Kellex) had a son attending the school and told Marshall, "Well if you're looking for a place that's where nobody will bother you, go look at the school they call Los Alamos." Groves and Marshall agreed to buy the school and President Roosevelt signed off. Marshall recalled, "Well, it was on a mesa quite high, about 8,000 feet high, several thousand feet higher than Santa Fe. . . . We bought the whole school, the horses, the canoes, the skis, the tennis ranges, everything." A total of almost 46,000 acres were purchased that included the school.

Construction of Los Alamos primarily was handled by Groves and the Santa Fe/Albuquerque District Area Engineer.

Nichols recalls, "I did not follow too closely the construction. . . . The difficulties of construction at Los Alamos were the high cost of transferring all materials and labor on to the base of the mountain, a long distance; lack of wa-

ter; and getting the roads built. . . . We never had enough in the line of facilities to satisfy the technical personnel. We couldn't possibly get enough done in time.

"While I was at Los Alamos, several scientists attempted to start a discussion with me about the housing or other living conditions at the laboratory. I had a set comment: 'That is Groves' problem, not mine.'"

And Jackie Nichols recalled, "On a brief visit to Los Alamos I met Oppie's wife, Kitty. In contrast to Oak Ridge, their living conditions were startling. While having tea with some of the wives I heard murmurs of discontent. 'It's so dry out here the laundry is ready to take down from the clothesline before I get it all hung up.' 'My hair is like dry straw.' 'My face is drying up in ridges and wrinkles.' I mused what to report to my Oak Ridge neighbors who dried the children's snowsuits in the furnace room before scraping off the mud?"



Atomic Men Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer points to a picture of the atomic bomb explosion over Nagasaki, Japan, as Dr. Henry D. Smyth (second left), Brig General Kenneth D. Nichols (second right), and Dr. Glenn Seaborg look on. American Chemical Society Exhibit on atomic energy, Grand Central Palace, 1946. Public Domain (Courtesy of Barbara Scollin)

Unlike the other major Manhattan Project facilities CEW & HEW, Nichols did not have overall administration of the Los Alamos Laboratory or secret city. However, Nichols handled the administration and auditing of contracts involving Los Alamos. Most notable was the University of California contract for employing scientists, including Oppenheimer, and procuring of materials. The MED was to provide support as needed or requested by Groves. But most critical to the project as far as Nichols was concerned, was his coordination with Oppenheimer.

Nichols said, "In the case of Los Alamos, Groves made it clear that he personally would do all the direct supervision of the work. However, he indicated that I should keep myself informed by visiting Los Alamos or by meeting with Oppenheimer elsewhere concerning progress and coordinating technical specifications for U-235 and plutonium.

"In addition, I was to work out with Oppenheimer the means to determine the percent of enrichment of U-235 that would be optimum compromise between possible production rates, which was my responsibility, and bomb efficiency, which was Oppenheimer's field.

"From my point of view, I was anxious to ascertain if both U-235 and plutonium could be used in a fission bomb. Next, I needed to know the specifications and how much of each material would be needed for a useful weapon. This information was needed to determine the rate of production required from our plants."

Nichols and Oppenheimer worked closely on the moving targets of uranium and plutonium

specifics. Nichols visited Los Alamos approximately every three months to be updated (only once with Groves in March 1943). Groves visited Los Alamos approximately every two weeks. "Most of my meetings with Oppenheimer took place at Oak Ridge, Berkeley, New York, Chicago or Washington when problems arose," remembered Nichols. And, "I kept generally informed about progress at Los Alamos because I realized that if it failed in its mission, all our production efforts would be of little military value and the Manhattan Project would be a failure."

By the middle of 1943, Oppenheimer tripled the estimated amount of U-235 needed. Nichols recalled, "...we first learned that we needed to increase the quantity of U-235 needed for a gun-type weapon. Next we learned that the gun-type weapon was not suitable for the use of plutonium. As a result of this we embarked on a major expansion of the effort at Los Alamos to develop the implosion weapon. The time for the

successful delivery of an implosion-type atomic bomb now depended on the time required to develop and test the implosion principal.

"We had to reorganize and expand Los Alamos to start on the implosion method. Could we do it and could we do it in time. For such decisions we assembled the proper people at Chicago and decided what to do, and the decision was made immediately to proceed on a new course.

"Late in 1944, I felt we probably would produce both of the two types of bombs about August 1, 1945. Each project had its difficulties, and success for each remained about a 50-50 proposition. Faint hearts and pessimists had no place in the Manhattan Project."

Small shipments of plutonium and uranium for testing were shipped to Los Alamos from HEW and CEW early in 1945. By February full-scale plutonium shipments twice a week to Los Alamos from HEW were handled by Lt Colonel Franklin Matthias, Deputy District Engineer under Nichols.

As to the U-235, Nichols recalled, "In the first months of 1945, the enrichment of the U-235 produced remained well below the required weapon strength. Nevertheless, as soon as enriched uranium tetrachloride was produced, it was shipped to Los Alamos for experimental use. [Lt Colonel A.V.]

Peterson informs me, 'One shipment of enriched material to Los Alamos was carried in your B-25 by Pete Young. I accompanied it. I've forgotten the amount and how much it weighed, but it was substantial.'

- Continue of Page 14

Historically Speaking Meet Kenneth D. Nichols, the Father of Oak Ridge - Delivery to Los Alamos

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

“To transport other shipments we utilized armed couriers traveling by train. The material was contained in special hand-carried luggage, and the courier remained as inconspicuous as possible. As time went on, this simple method of shipping in a suitcase the entire output of what was fast becoming the largest construction project in history led to a local rumor that the secret CEW project must be a failure or a boondoggle. Many of the local [Oak Ridge] residents and workers observed that thousands of railroad cars were carrying supplies into the CEW but no one had ever seen anything shipped out.”

Nichols’ visit to Los Alamos on May 1, 1945, gave him an opportunity to discuss problems the scientists were encountering to develop an implosion weapon. He recalls, “I now realized more fully from the firsthand briefing that we in the production field were not the only ones surmounting difficult obstacles.”

Three days after Nichols’ visit to Los Alamos, he received the plutonium purity specifications from the Met Lab. Early July was forecast for testing of the plutonium bomb. Early July was also critical as President Truman would be at the Potsdam Conference where final decisions for the invasion of Japan and the use of atomic weapons would be made. Groves needed a firm date for the last shipment to Los Alamos of U-235 needed for the atomic bomb to inform Chief of Staff General Marshall and Secretary of War Stimson. Groves warned, “You had better be right Nichols.”

Nichols met with Tennessee Eastman officials in charge of the Y-12 plant and told them to “literally scrape the bottom of the barrel to advance the date ahead of normal production procedures.”

Still classified today, the critical mass needed for weapons was closely guarded information during the war. Nichols recalled, “Probably the complete production rate for all plants [were only known by Lt Colonel] A.V. Peterson, my brother-in-law, Groves, Farrell, Oppenheimer and myself. He [Roosevelt] knew the original production objectives: about how many kilograms of 235 we would produce and how many kilograms of plutonium we would produce. Truman, I don’t know. . . . We can’t find any reference to where Groves ever briefed him.”

The final material for the Hiroshima bomb was shipped late in July. Nichols recalled, “The



Technical Area at Los Alamos built around Ashley Pond Public Domain (Courtesy of Barbara Scollin)



Anne Shimojima’s grandparents, Seitaro and Shikiye Shimojima, were among her family members sent to incarceration camps for Japanese Americans during World War II. The photo was taken around 1913. (Courtesy of Anne Shimojima)

CEW had completed its initial assignment ahead of schedule. Now it was up to Los Alamos and the 509 th Composite Group.”

Next up: The Road to Trinity

Grateful acknowledgements to K. David Nichols, Jr.; Ray Smith; Sandy Fye; Dr. Bianka J. Adams, Alisa Whitley, Douglas J. Wilson and the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of History; Diane Gulley; Gerald A. Potts; and Bruce W. Scollin for their assistance with this article.

Thanks for this Historically Speaking column and the series goes to Barbara Rogers Scollin, grandniece of General Kenneth D. Nichols.



John Chapter 17



Melvin Howard

(John 17:1-8) Jesus' prayer for Himself: The prayer that follows appears to have been uttered by the Lord after he left the upper room (14:31) yet before crossing the Kidron Valley and entering the garden (18:1). Christ lifted up his eyes to heaven and prayed. He addressed God as "Father" and acknowledged that "the hour" has arrived (2:4; 7:30; 8:20; 12:23; 13:1). He asks that the Father may glorify the Son, not out of a selfish motive, but that the Son may glorify the Father. The request for glorification, as enjoyed

before the incarnation, is not in conflict with Christ's ultimate subordination (1 Cor. 15:28). The fact that his people will "be conformed to the body of his glory" (Phil. 3:21) does not mean they will enjoy equal status.

Jesus speaks in anticipation of his "authority." It will be: (a) given formally when he is glorified (Eph. 1:19; Mt. 28:18); (b) universal in scope ("all flesh"); (c) surrendered at the time of his second coming (1 Cor. 15:28). The ultimate goal of his mission was to bestow eternal life to those "given" to him (v. 2). Eternal life (salvation), however, is given to the obedient (Heb. 5:9 "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him"). Thus, the ones "given" to him are those who obey. This text provides no support for the Calvinistic theory of unconditional election. As we have observed before, "eternal life" has both a present and future aspect (Rom. 13:11).

In anticipation of the accomplishment of his mission, the Lord affirmed that his life on earth glorified the Father. He, thus, petitions for reciprocal glorification, which was granted when he ascended back to heaven (Dan. 7:13-14). The glory for which he longed was that which "he had [eternally; the force of the tense] before the world was" created. During his earthly ministry he had "manifested" (Past tense) God's "name" (word/words" [6; 8]). There is no post-ascension preaching ministry of Christ. In spite of their spiritual mistakes on occasion, the disciples had "kept his word." They knew and believed he was from God (v. 8). True belief is not a blind leap in the dark. It is the companion of objective knowledge.

(John 17:9-19) The Lord Prays for the Disciples: Jesus prayed for these disciples who had been "given" to him (v. 2). The ownership of these men was shared by both Father and Son. He was about to leave this world, but the disciples will remain, and Christ prays for their security. One must be reminded, however, that God does not overrule the human freewill---even the foolish choice to forsake him. In view of the disciples' contentiousness at times, the Lord petitioned the Father that they might be "one"---as indeed the Godhead is (v. 11). Religious disunity is a curse!

Surveying his ministry, Christ says that while he and the disciples were together, he "guarded" them and was able to "keep" them spiritually safe. There was one tragic exception---him called "the son of perdition," meaning one who is so corrupt in action as to be deserving of hell. The culprit was Judas. In view of the descriptive in verses six through eight, it is impossible to deny that Judas was at one time a saved person (as Calvinists attempt to do). The apostate's defection was foretold in Old Testament Scripture (13:18; Psa. 41:9; 69:25; 109:8). It must be emphasized that, ultimately, Judas took responsibility for his own sin (Mt. 27:3-4).

Amazingly, in the very shadow of the cross, the Son of God speaks of his "joy" (Heb. 12:2), and he prays that this joy of having fulfilled the divine plan of redemption may eventually overflow his disciples' heart as well. It did! God's word had been deposited with the disciples and that word transformed their lives. They were so distinct from the corruption that characterized humanity generally that they elicited the hate of their fellows (v. 14). It was their mission to remain in "the world" until their tasks were completed, and so Jesus prayed for their spiritual fidelity (v. 15). So far as history records, they all remained faithful to their charge.

In quality, they were "not of the world," just as Christ was not. Separation from the world is called "sanctification." Jesus thus prayed that his disciples might remain aloof from the corruption of world society. The force that would preserve their spirituality was the truth, as embodied in God's

word (v. 7). This negates the theological theory alleging that sanctification results from a direct, supernatural influence of the Holy Spirit. The point at which sanctification is initiated is specified by Paul. Of the church he says: "that he might sanctify it, having cleansed it by the washing of water [baptism] with the word" (Eph. 5:26).

What did Christ mean---"I sanctify myself" (v. 9)? Certainly not that he cleansed himself from sin, of which he had none (Heb. 4:15). Words can have different meanings depending upon the contextual use. Jesus "sanctified" himself in that the "set himself apart" to accomplish his redemptive role. Resulting from that act was the opportunity for human beings to be "sanctified by faith" (Acts 26:18) that is joined with obedience to the gospel (1 Cor. 6:11; Eph. 5:26; 2 Tim. 2:21). Sanctification is not some miraculous experience in which man is wholly passive. The fact that believers are "sanctified in truth" (v. 19) reveals that the truth, embodied in God's word (v. 17), must be accessed.

(John 17:20-26) Christ Prays for the Church: The scope of Jesus' prayer is now expanded beyond the small apostolic band. He petitions God on behalf of all future believers, who have become such through the inspired "word" of his apostles. Again it must be emphasized: faith comes by means of teaching (Rom. 10:17), not as the result of a direct operation of the Spirit. The prayer longs to be realized with the oneness of Christian people everywhere, just as the Father and Son are one. Do the Father and Son subscribe to differing theological positions? The world of denominational diversity is as foreign to Scripture as it possibly could be. The aim of Christian unity is that the "world might believe" in the divine nature and mission of Jesus Christ. Would not this imply that religious division is fuel for infidelity?

The "glory" of Christ, in a measure, has been given to his people (Rom. 8:30; 2 Pet. 1:4) and is wonderfully expressed in Christian oneness, even as Jesus and the Father are one (v. 22). There is a sense in which being "one" reflects what is "perfected" (v. 23), brought to its complete and permanent goal. It is a breathtaking thought to contemplate the reality that God loves (a timeless love) his people just as he loves his Son (v. 23; Jer. 31:3). How can we ever plumb the depths of that?

Jesus longs for the time when all the faithful can be with him to behold his glory. Christ possessed as eternal glory before his incarnation. Apparently, a different measure of glory was involved in his bodily presence, thus "given" to him. In his current heavenly existence is his incarnate glory combined with his original glory (v. 5)? This thought is too deep for our present comprehension. Jesus states he was "loved" (eternally) "before the foundation of the world." The text contains the implications that: (a) the world did not exist eternally (Job 38:4); (b) it is not an accident (the term "foundation" indicates purpose in building); (c) Jesus did exist eternally; (d) there was a perfect relationship between the partners of the Godhead.

The prayer erupts in passion: "O righteous Father (v. 25). The righteousness of God is a paramount theme of Scripture (Gen. 18:25). The world knows not God because it refuses to know him (Rom. 1:28). But his Son has known him, and these disciples now know that their Teacher was sent by the Father. Jesus had taught them about his Father and his "name" (the authority behind his revealed will). The Lord pledges to continue instructing them. He will do this after his ascension by means of the Holy Spirit (14:16-18; 15:26; 16:13). The ultimate objective is that the love which he forever has shared with the Father may be resident in his people and that he may abide in them. The sweetness of this descriptive is beyond human appreciation.

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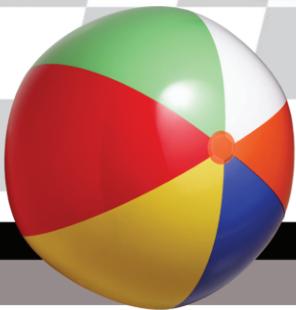
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