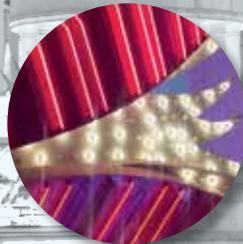
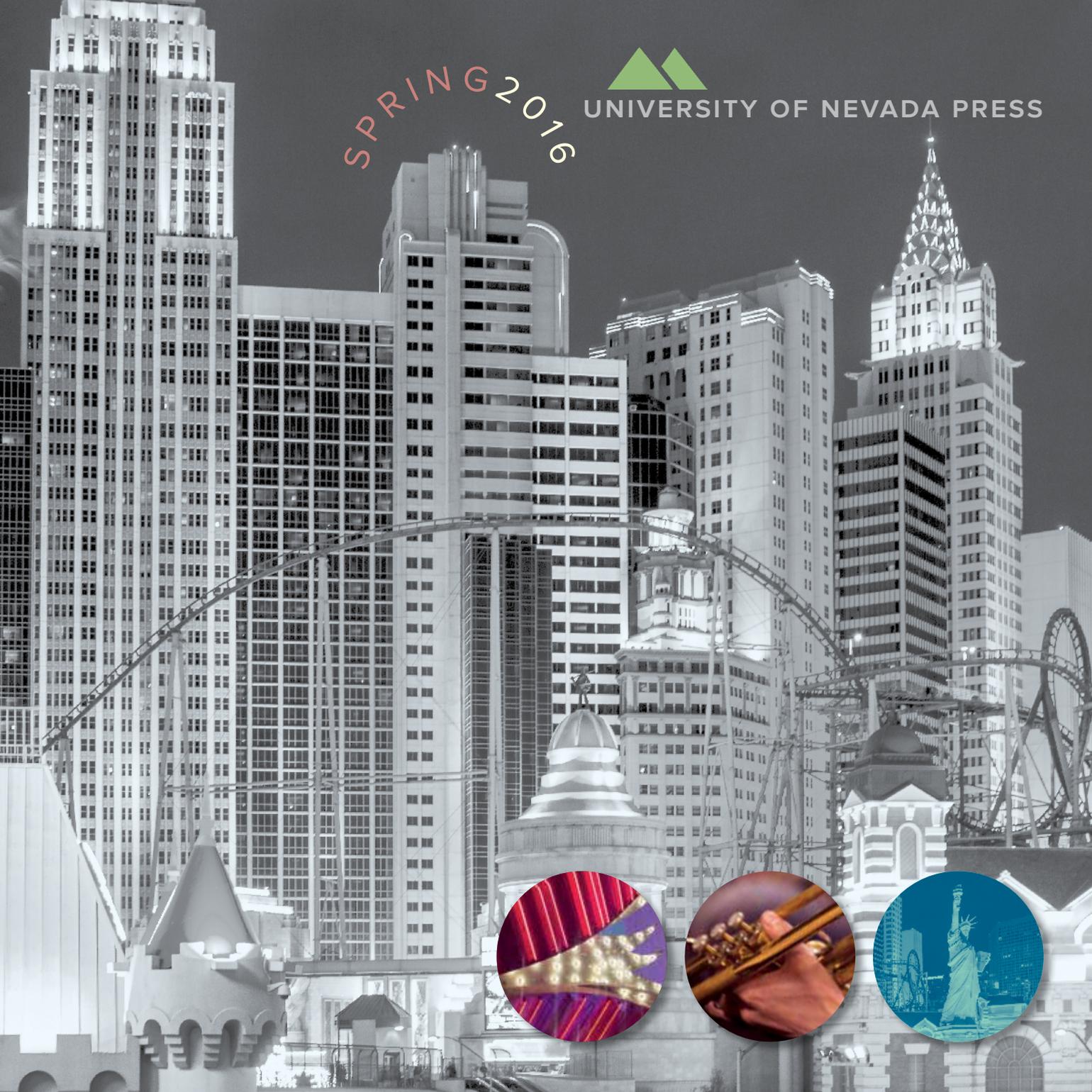


SPRING 2016

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA PRESS



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Readers and Writers, Citizens of Nevada and Beyond,

It's good to be here. After more than five years of acquiring academic books for the Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group, I started as director with the University of Nevada Press this past summer. It's an exciting time to be leading a press—in one generation we've gone from card catalogs to e-books. How we produce and consume books has changed radically, and many of those changes are still unfolding. Despite all the transitions, one thing remains the same: Authors continue to write wonderful works that entertain and inform, and readers continue to enjoy them. I don't envision that fundamental fact changing, and that more than anything else is why I say it's good to be here.

The Press will continue to fulfill its land-grant mission, producing works that preserve, study, and celebrate our local history and culture in fields such as Native American studies, Basque studies, mining, gaming, and tourism. We'll continue to publish high-quality original fiction and memoirs. And just as important as honoring our past, we'll be releasing books that explore today's issues. Environmental studies, public health, urbanization and economic development and diversification—such topics are of profound importance not only to Nevada and the American West, but to the entire global community. Writing now at the start of my tenure, this more than anything else is my vision for the future of the Press: to continue publishing worthwhile, well-researched, well-written books of interest to citizens of Nevada and citizens of the world.

All My Best,

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink that reads "Justin Race". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Justin Race, Director



UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA PRESS

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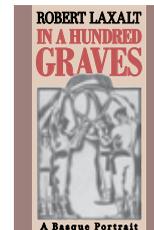
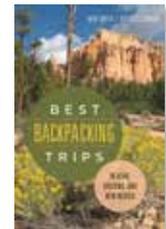
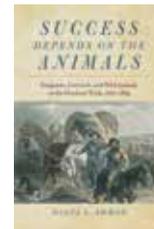
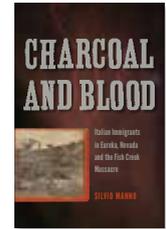
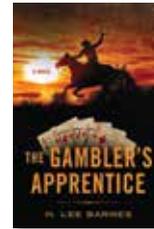
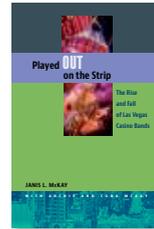
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*An in-depth and personal account of
the lives of Las Vegas hotel musicians*

Played Out on the Strip

The Rise and Fall of Las Vegas Casino Bands

JANIS L. MCKAY

“The book is unique and it tells a story that is vital to the history of Las Vegas and entertainment.”

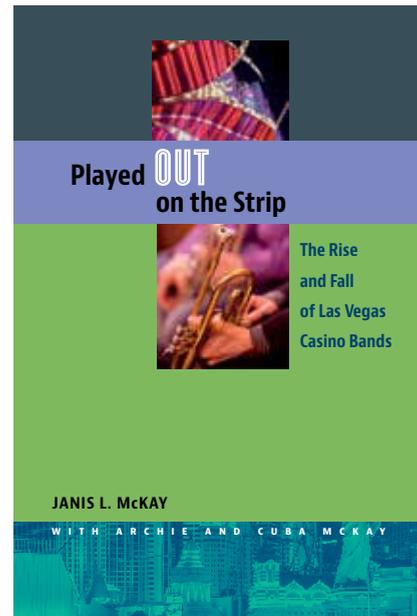
—Michael S. Green, author of *Nevada: A History of the Silver State*

“Casino orchestras are a big piece of the Las Vegas story that has stayed hidden in the shadows of the stars—just as the band always did—until now. Lucky for us all, *Played Out on the Strip* brings into the spotlight the supporting players who gave a young city a rich new dimension and deep well of talent. Janis McKay has done them, and us, a real favor.”

—Mike Weatherford, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*
entertainment reporter and columnist

From 1940 to 1989, nearly every hotel on the Las Vegas Strip employed a full-time band or orchestra. After the late 1980s, when control of the casinos changed hands from independent owners to corporations, almost all of these musicians found themselves unemployed. *Played Out on the Strip* traces this major shift in the music industry through extensive interviews with former musicians.

In 1989, these soon-to-be unemployed musicians went on strike. Janis McKay charts the factors behind this strike, which was precipitated by several corporate hotel owners moving to replace live musicians with synthesizers and taped music, a strategic decision made in order to save money. The results of this transitional period in Las Vegas history were both long-lasting and far-reaching for the entertainment industry. With its numerous oral history interviews and personal perspectives from the era, this book will appeal to readers interested in Las Vegas history, music history, and labor issues.



JANIS L. MCKAY is an associate professor of bassoon at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and Principal Bassoon for the Las Vegas Philharmonic Orchestra. She also performs as Principal Bassoon for the Classical Music Festival in Austria, and as Contrabassoon for the Reno Philharmonic. McKay has performed with many noteworthy musicians, including Plácido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti, Andrea Bocelli, and many others.

APRIL

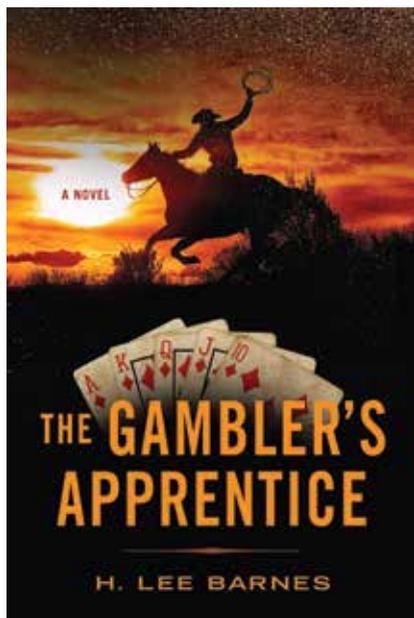
272 pages | 6 x 9

8 b/w photographs

paper, 978-0-87417-999-6

e-book, 978-1-943859-03-0

\$27.95



H. LEE BARNES is an award-winning short-story writer and author of three previous novels, three short-story collections, and two nonfiction books. He was inducted into the Nevada Writer's Hall of Fame in 2009, and in 2013 he received an award for excellence in the arts from the Vietnam Veterans of America for his writings on Vietnam. Barnes teaches English and creative writing at the College of Southern Nevada.

FEBRUARY

304 pages | 6 x 9
 cloth, 978-0-87417-998-9
 e-book, 978-1-943859-05-4
 \$27.95
 West Word Fiction

A young man wrestles with the lure of a gambling life

The Gambler's Apprentice

H. LEE BARNES

"I found the reading extremely satisfying; I did not want it to end, and suspect that any reader of contemporary fiction would feel the same way."

—Les Standiford, author of *Deal with the Dead: A John Deal Mystery*

"The book is dramatic, cinematic, and broad in scope. Willy Bobbins, the apprentice of the title, is a fascinating character, an illiterate who is nonetheless brilliant with numbers and odds, and on his way to becoming a master poker player. *The Gambler's Apprentice* illuminates the role of Texas gamblers and oilmen in the founding of the gambling mecca of Las Vegas."

—Lawrence Coates, author of *The Goodbye House*

The Gambler's Apprentice tells the story of a teenage boy growing up in Texas during desperate times. Willy, wise and capable beyond his years, learns the gambler's trade and experiences adventures that demand quick wits—and sometimes violent actions. This is a multilayered story, full of Old West motifs such as cattle-rustling and gunfights along with more modern twists.

Starting with a cattle-rustling scheme involving his father, Willy embarks on a life of crime early, eventually landing in a Laredo jail for shooting a man. During his incarceration he meets Sonny Archer, an itinerant gambler, who teaches Willy how to be a cardsharp. Upon his release, Willy roams the country, honing his new talent and getting into more trouble. During his time in New Orleans, Willy even winds up in a confrontation with an Italian crime ring.

While all these adventures mold Willy into a clever card player and a masterful fortune-hunter, his grand ambition to be a professional gambler is thwarted when the influenza epidemic strikes. Willy is forced to return home to his family's Texas ranch, where he faces the most challenging test of his young life and begins to prove that he is far more than simply an apprentice.

*A thorough examination of the
Charcoal Burners' War of 1879*

Charcoal and Blood

Italian Immigrants in Eureka, Nevada, and the Fish Creek Massacre

SILVIO MANNO

“This is an extremely significant topic covered with passion and relying on excellent research. Silvio Manno has crafted a portrait of the immigration story by revealing a tragic episode that deserves to be remembered and understood.”

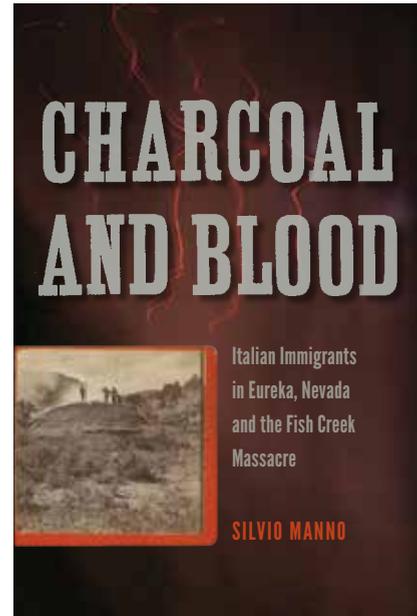
—Ronald M. James, author of *A Short History of Virginia City*

“The book contributes our clearest account yet of this important episode in Nevada history, in which mining history, immigration and social history, political economy, and frontier violence are all intertwined. It also helps shed more light on the history of Eureka, which has been understudied in Nevada historiography.”

—Eric Nystrom, author of *Seeing Underground: Maps, Models, and Mining Engineering in America*

Charcoal and Blood is a detailed account of a heinous crime perpetrated on Italian immigrants engaged in the production of charcoal on Nevada's mining frontier at the close of the nineteenth century. On August 18, 1879, in a canyon near Fish Creek, outside Eureka, Nevada, five Italian charcoal burners were slain and six more were wounded, while fourteen were taken prisoner by a sheriff's posse.

Through meticulous research on the event, relying on such primary sources as newspaper articles, author Silvio Manno provides the only comprehensive account of Eureka's charcoal crisis and what came to be known as the Fish Creek Massacre. This is a well-documented narrative history of an important instance of class and ethnic conflict in the West. Readers interested in Nevada history, Italian American history, frontier trade unionism, and mining in the West will find this book a unique examination of an incident that occurred almost a century and a half ago and that has, until now, been largely overlooked.



SILVIO MANNO was born in Calabria, Italy, and emigrated to the United States in 1976. Manno earned an MA in linguistics at California State University, Fresno, and was an elementary school teacher for many years. He is now retired and pursuing his interest in Italian immigration history. Manno is the author of *The Forestiere Underground Garden*.

MAY

336 pages | 6 x 9

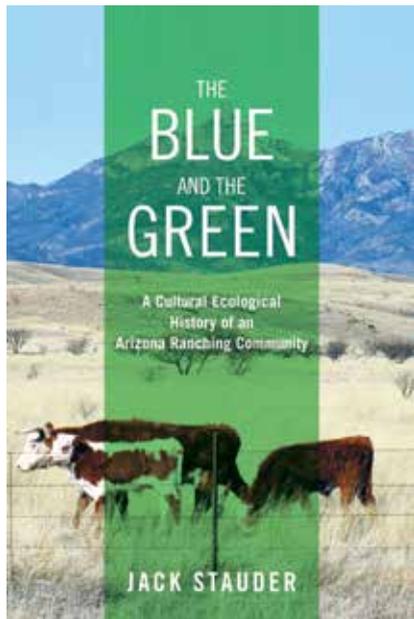
11 b/w photographs

paper, 978-1-943859-00-9

e-book, 978-1-943859-12-2

\$29.95

Wilbur S. Shepperson Series in Nevada History



JACK STAUDER earned his PhD in cultural anthropology at Cambridge University in England and is a professor at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth. Stauder has done research in many parts of the world and traveled to more than one hundred countries. He is the author of *The Majangir: Ecology and Society of a Southwest Ethiopian People*.

MARCH

416 pages | 6 x 9

10 b/w photographs | 3 maps

cloth, 978-0-87417-995-8

e-book, 978-1-943859-11-5

\$39.95s

*An exploration of the transformative forces
affecting ranching communities*

The Blue and the Green

A Cultural Ecological History of an Arizona Ranching Community

JACK STAUDER

“This book was a pleasure to read. It is well written, with a strong conclusion. It will be a major contribution to our understanding of ranching and land-use politics in the rural American West.”

—Thomas Sheridan, author of *Stitching the West Back Together: Conservation of Working Landscapes*

“The author has mastered the literature, the geography, the ecology, and the history of the Blue. I learned a great deal from the book.”

—Richard Knight, author of *Ranching West of the 100th Meridian*

In *The Blue and the Green*, anthropologist Jack Stauder analyzes how large-scale political, social, and environmental processes have transformed ranching and rural life in the West. Focusing on the community of Blue, Arizona, Stauder details how the problems of overgrazing, erosion, and environmental stresses on the open range in the early twentieth century coincided with a push by the newly created US Forest Service to develop fenced grazing allotments on federal lands. Later in the twentieth century, with the enactment of the Endangered Species Act and other laws, the growing power of urban-based environmental groups resulted in the reduction of federal grazing leases throughout the West.

The author combines historical research with oral interviews to explore the impact of these transformations on the ranchers residing in the Blue River Valley of eastern Arizona. Stauder gives voice to these ranchers, along with Forest Service personnel, environmental activists, scientists, and others involved with issues on “the Blue,” shedding light on how the ranchers’ rural way of life has changed dramatically over the course of the past century. This is a fascinating case study of the effects of increasing government regulations and the influence of outsiders on ranching communities in the American West.

*Exploring the relationships between people
and animals on the pioneer trails*

Success Depends on the Animals

Emigrants, Livestock, and Wild Animals on the Overland Trails, 1840–1869

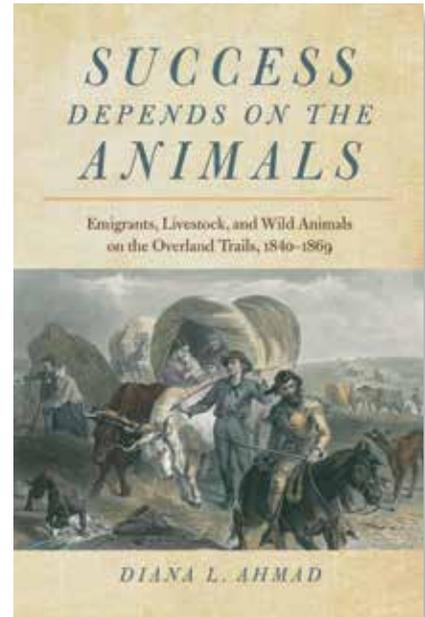
DIANA L. AHMAD

“Diana Ahmad has written the definitive history, told largely from the point of view of the animals, of the great pre-1869 overland wagon migrations.”

—John H. Monnett, author of *Where a Hundred Soldiers Were Killed: The Struggle for the Powder River Country in 1866 and the Making of the Fetterman Myth*

Between 1840 and 1869, thousands of people crossed the American continent looking for a new life in the West. *Success Depends on the Animals* explores the relationships and encounters that these emigrants had with animals, both wild and domestic, as they traveled the Overland Trail. In the longest migration of people in history, the overlanders were accompanied by thousands of work animals such as horses, oxen, mules, and cattle. These travelers also brought dogs and other companion animals, and along the way confronted unknown wild animals.

Ahmad's study is the first to explore how these emigrants became dependent upon the animals that traveled with them, and how, for some, this dependence influenced a new way of thinking about the human-animal bond. The pioneers learned how to work with the animals and take care of them while on the move. Many had never ridden a horse before, let alone hitched oxen to a wagon. Due to the close working relationship that the emigrants were forced to have with these animals, many befriended the domestic beasts of burden, even attributing human characteristics to them. Drawing on primary sources such as journals, diaries, and newspaper accounts, Ahmad explores how these new experiences influenced fresh ideas about the role of animals in pioneer life. Scholars and students of western history and animal studies will find this a fascinating and distinctive analysis of an understudied topic.



DIANA L. AHMAD received her PhD at the University of Missouri-Columbia. She is a University of Missouri Curators' Teaching Professor of History at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, where she specializes in the history of the American West, the Pacific, and Modern East Asia. She is the author of *The Opium Debate and Chinese Exclusion Laws in the Nineteenth-Century American West*.

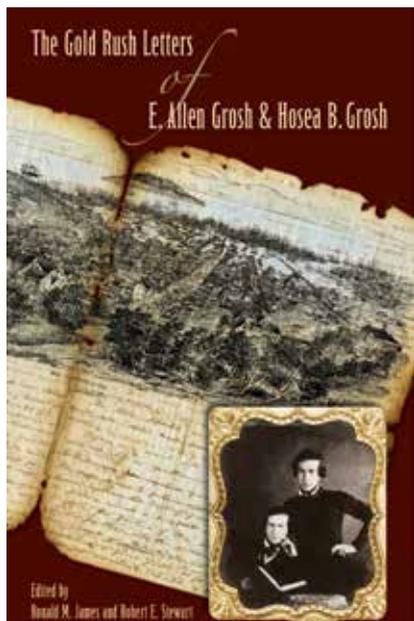
FEBRUARY

144 pages | 6 x 9

cloth, 978-0-87417-997-2

e-book, 978-1-943859-10-8

\$31.95s



NEW IN PAPERBACK

*A lively firsthand account of mining
life during the Gold Rush*

The Gold Rush Letters of E. Allen Grosh and Hosea B. Grosh

EDITED BY
RONALD M. JAMES AND ROBERT E. STEWART

“These letters are a treasure trove of commentary on California society and politics in the early years of the Gold Rush. They also contain fascinating accounts of early settlers and mining in what would become Nevada, and provide considerable insight into the social dynamics of mining-rush society. The fact that both brothers died tragically adds poignancy to this already gripping history.”

—C. Elizabeth Raymond, coeditor of *Comstock Women: The Making of a Mining Community*

RONALD M. JAMES was the executive director of the Comstock Foundation for History and Culture and served as state historic preservation officer for three decades. His publications include *The Roar and the Silence: A History of Virginia City and the Comstock Lode* and *A Short History of Virginia City*.

ROBERT E. STEWART is an independent historian who was chief of public affairs for the Bureau of Land Management. He is the author of *Aurora: Nevada's Ghost City of the Dawn*.

FEBRUARY

264 pages | 6 x 9

9 b/w photographs | 1 map

paper, 978-1-943859-01-6

e-book, 978-0-87417-892-0

\$24.95

Brothers Ethan and Hosea Grosh left Pennsylvania in 1849, joining young men from all over the world intent on making a fortune in the California Gold Rush. Their search for wealth took them across Mexico, by land and sea to San Francisco, to gold country in the Sierra foothills, and finally into Nevada's Gold Canyon, where they discovered a deposit of silver near the fabulous Comstock Lode. Never before published, the Grosh brothers' letters are among the most historically significant documents of the Gold Rush era.

The letters—disintegrating, scorched by fire, and nearly illegible—were preserved as evidence to be used in family lawsuits in which shares of the brothers' wealth were contested. The Nevada Historical Society purchased them in 2007 after ten years of negotiation with the Grosh family. With their publication, the true story of the Grosh brothers is finally told in their own words. Greatly enhanced by the annotations and introductions of editors Ronald James and Robert Stewart, the letters constitute an essential contribution to Gold Rush history, separating harsh reality from romantic myth. In the end, these letters are the real treasure: fascinating, insightful, and poignant.

Backpacking adventures of a lifetime

Best Backpacking Trips in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico

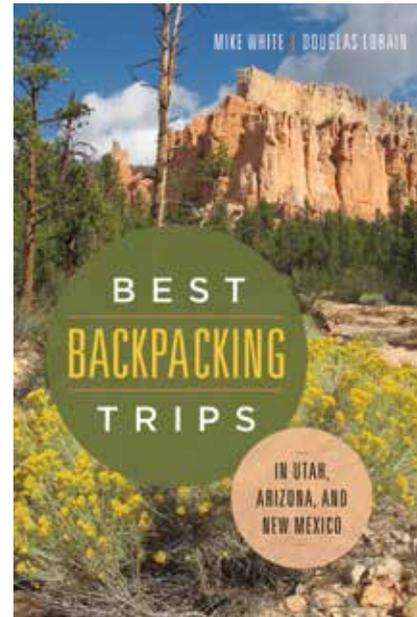
MIKE WHITE AND DOUGLAS LORAIN

“This is the essential guide for planning and getting the most out of your outdoor adventure. It’s filled with helpful tips, detailed maps, valuable interpretive notes, and lively personal stories that will enrich your backpacking experience. With authors Mike White and Douglas Lorain as your guides, a lifetime of adventure on the trail awaits.”

—Greg Witt, author of *Best Short Hikes in Utah’s National Parks*

This is the second book in a series of detailed guidebooks covering all the best “life-list” backpacking vacations in the spectacular backcountry of the American West. This new volume specifically covers the best such adventures in the states of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico. Every conceivable aspect of trip planning is covered in the guide, including maps and descriptions of the trail, where to locate the nearest airport, other area attractions that shouldn’t be missed, and guide services that are available.

A noteworthy feature of the book is the individual vignettes that give insight into the historical significance of many of the trails. Also unique are the interesting and humorous personal accounts that the authors share from their personal experiences hiking these routes. Backpackers will find a wide range of outstanding trips, from high mountain adventures to some of the world’s best lower-elevation canyon hikes. *Best Backpacking Trips in Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico* provides an extensive choice of terrific expeditions.



MIKE WHITE is a full-time writer and a former community college instructor. He is a featured speaker for outdoor and conservation organizations. White is the author of numerous outdoor hiking guides, including *50 Classic Hikes in Nevada*, and *Best Backpacking Trips in California and Nevada*.

DOUGLAS LORAIN has lived in the Pacific Northwest since 1969, extensively exploring the trails of this region. Lorain is a photographer and has received the National Outdoor Book Award. He is the author of *Backpacking Wyoming*, *Backpacking Oregon*, and *Backpacking Washington*.

MAY

400 pages | 6 x 9

28 b/w photographs | 34 maps

paper, 978-0-87417-996-5

e-book, 978-1-943859-13-9

\$24.95



RICHARD V. FRANCAVIGLIA is a professor of history and geography at the University of Texas at Arlington and serves as director for the Center for Greater Southwestern Studies and the History of Cartography. He is the author of seven books, including *The Cast Iron Forest: A National and Cultural History of the North American Cross Timbers*.

MARCH

312 pages | 6 x 9
48 b/w photographs | 2 maps
paper, 978-1-943859-07-8
e-book, 978-0-87417-580-6
\$29.95

NEW IN PAPERBACK

The importance of place in our search for meaning

Believing in Place

A Spiritual Geography of the Great Basin

RICHARD V. FRANCAVIGLIA

“Richard V. Francaviglia has given us a nuanced and multidisciplinary reading of landscape as religious text, situating the Great Basin within the larger history of human spirituality.

Believing in Place is not only an important addition to the literature of the region but an essential study of how we construct intimate places out of the great spaces of the American West.”

—William L. Fox, author of *The Void, the Grid, and the Sign: Traversing the Great Basin*

Believing in Place is the personal testimony of a scientist who discovers the divine in the land he has studied for decades. Geographer Richard V. Francaviglia recounts his own awakening to the spirituality of “place” as he suddenly sees the sacred dimension of science. The Great Basin is the focus of Francaviglia’s meditations. It is a huge, physically diverse, and often misunderstood region that lies between the Sierra Nevada and Wasatch Mountains. It is also an area that fills the author with awe. “I feel more closely connected to the universe here than in other places. That epiphany has made my many trips into the Great Basin since 1960 pilgrimages, for I never fail to come out of this region restored and reenergized. I attribute that to feeling closer to both creation and the creator here,” Francaviglia shares in his introduction.

Wanting to understand the region’s hold on him and others, Francaviglia set out to determine what gives the Great Basin its *genius loci*. As a historical geographer, he felt the place itself—with its topography, vegetation, weather, and climate—could be a major factor in deciphering both the spirit of the place and the human spirit. By employing a broad definition of spirituality, Francaviglia demonstrates that many people in the Great Basin are in search of meaning that depends on, yet transcends, the environment.

NEW IN PAPERBACK

An intimate look at life in the Basque Country

In a Hundred Graves

A Basque Portrait

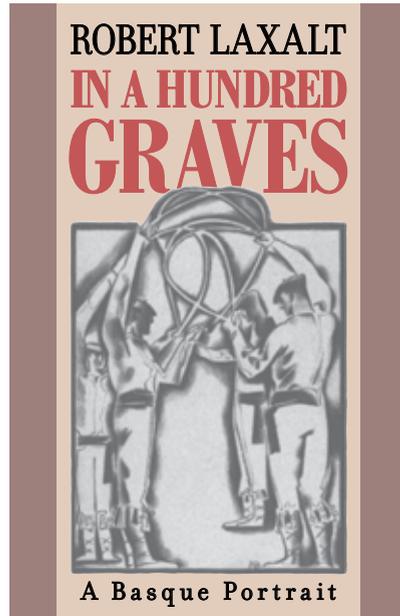
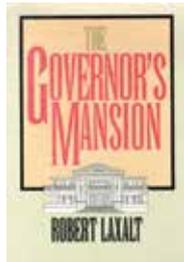
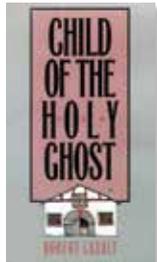
ROBERT LAXALT

"A very real, moving, memorable world emerges from the total, and one that, so far as I know, is altogether new to English."

—Walter Van Tilburg Clark, author of *The City of Trembling Leaves*

The Basques of Europe are legendary for the curtain of privacy they have always drawn around their world, shielding it from visitors from the outside. As a result, accounts of the inner workings of Basque village life are almost nonexistent. In this unique book, author Robert Laxalt has managed to penetrate the deep reserve of Basque village folk. Shepherds, troubadours, merchants, and smugglers, caught up in the panorama of daily life, parade before the reader. They are portrayed against a backdrop of green rugged mountains and stone buildings, typical of the Basque provinces in France and Spain. Laxalt, an American born of Basque parents, unveils the Basque character with warmth, wry humor, and above all, honesty.

Also of interest:



ROBERT LAXALT graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno, in 1947. Laxalt joined the staff of the university in 1954, first as director of News and Publications and later as director of the University of Nevada Press, which he founded. He was named a Reynolds Distinguished Visiting Professor and held the position of Distinguished Nevada Author Chair. He is the author of seventeen books, including the critically acclaimed *Sweet Promised Land*. He lived in Washoe Valley until his death in 2001.

APRIL

180 pages | 5.5 x 8.5

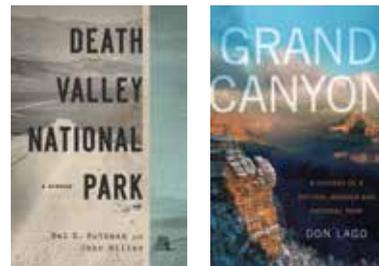
paper, 978-1-943859-09-2

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Dawson and Peter Goin
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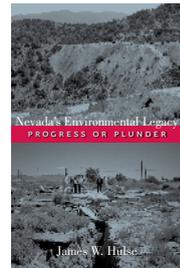
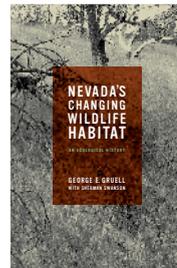
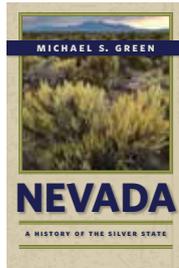
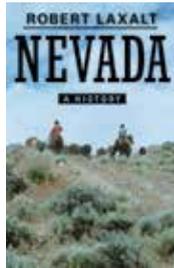
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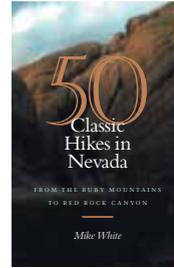
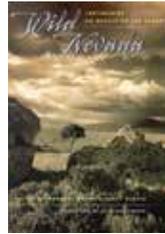
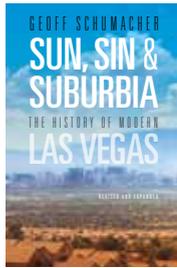
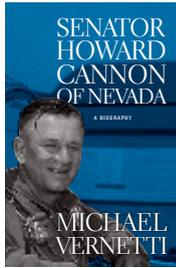
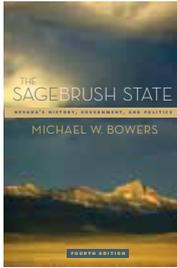
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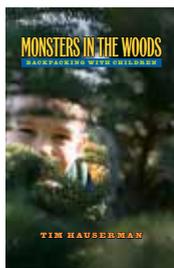
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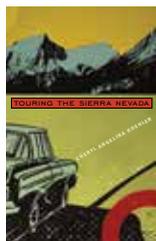
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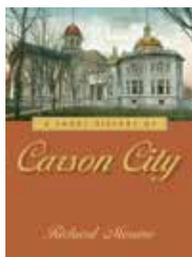
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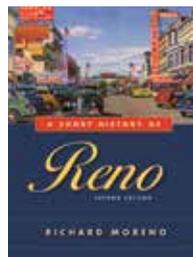
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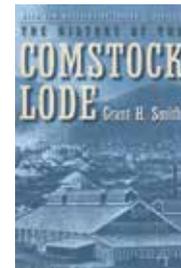
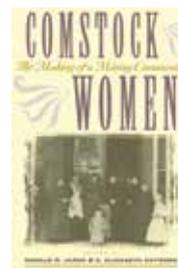
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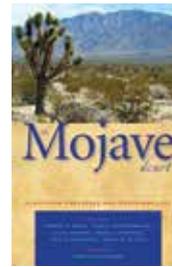
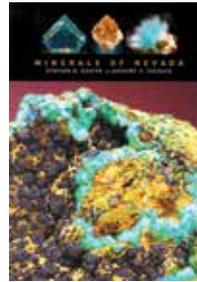
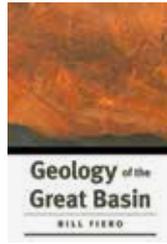
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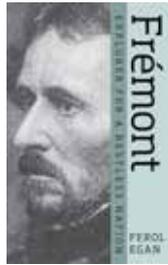
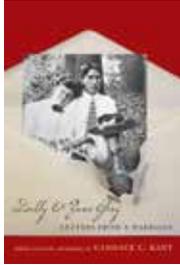
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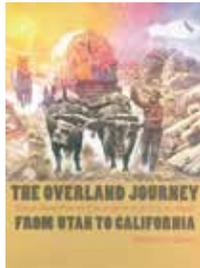
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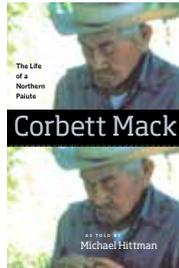
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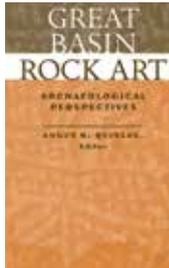
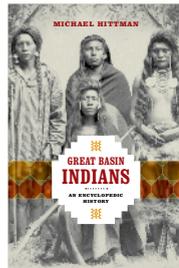
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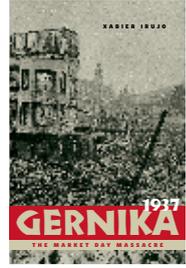
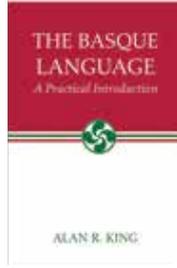
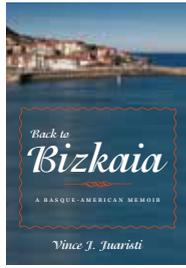
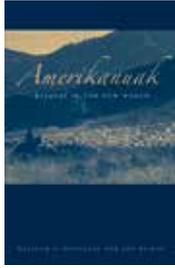
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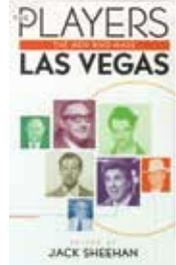
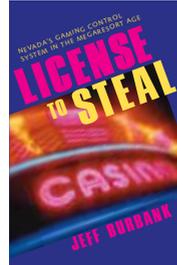
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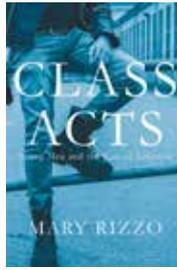
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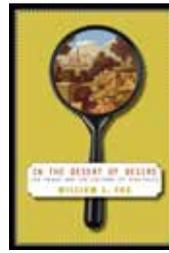
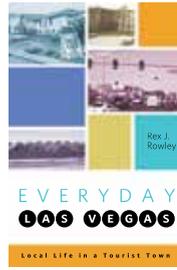
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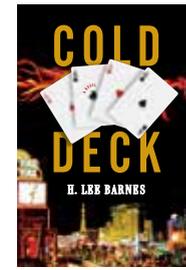
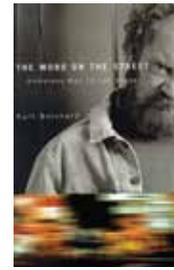
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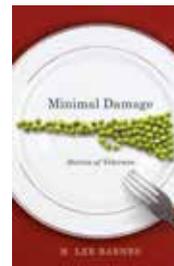
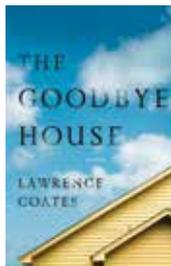
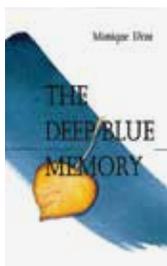
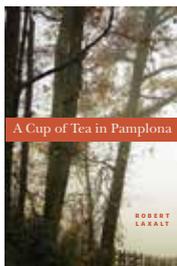
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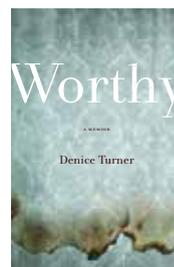
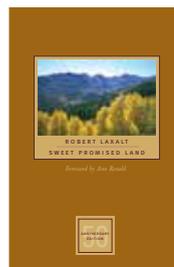
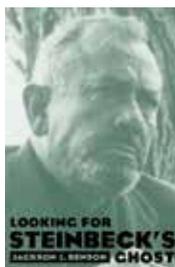
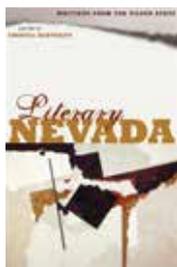
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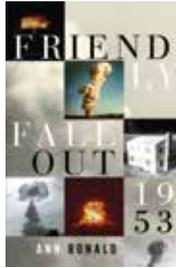
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