

# NEVADA

MAGAZINE

INSIDE:  
NEVADA  
NV2000  
Making Millennium Magic  
MILLENNIUM  
Countdown  
Calendar

December 2000

## ***Chefs to Dine For***

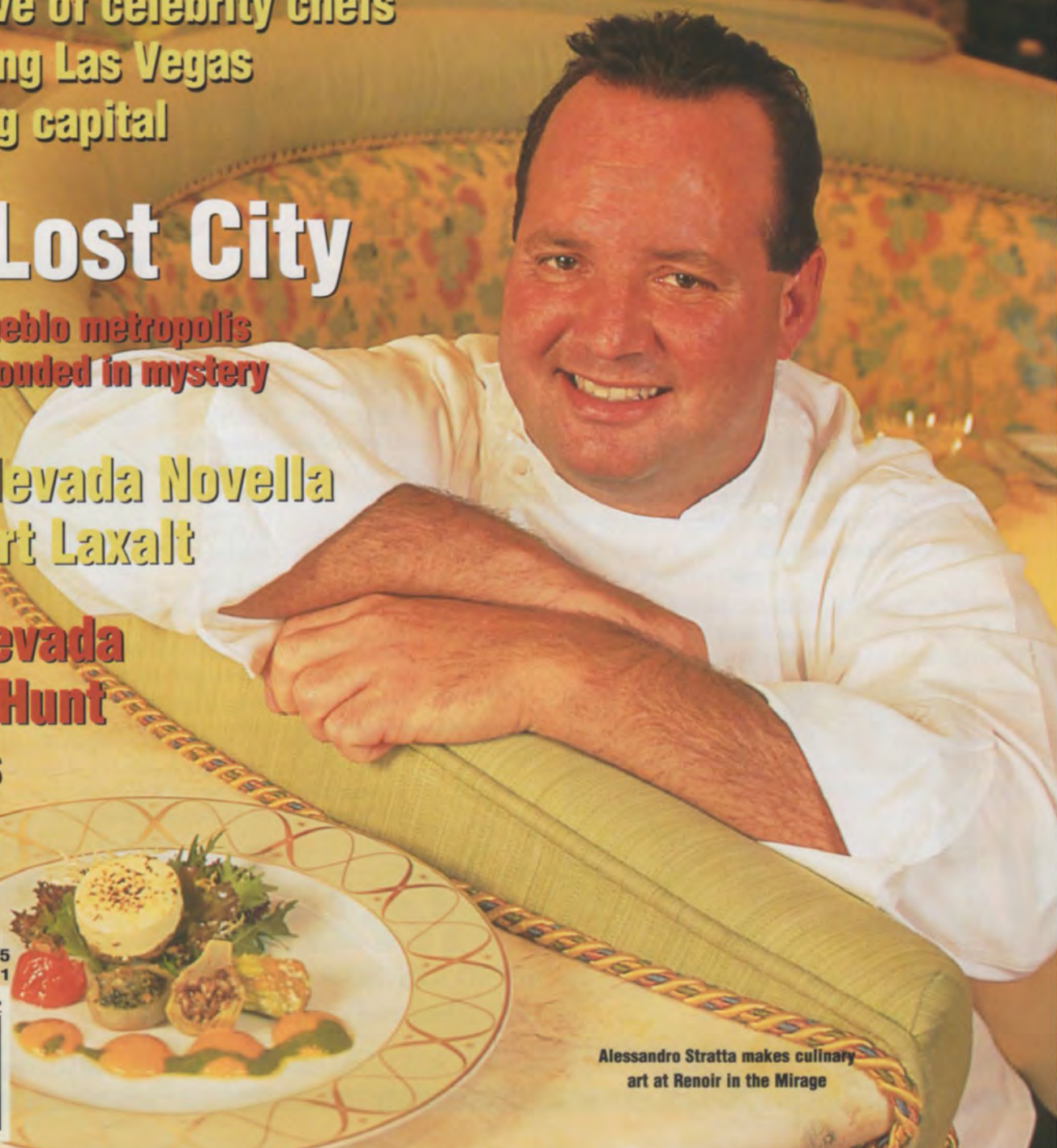
**A new wave of celebrity chefs  
is reshaping Las Vegas  
as a dining capital**

## **The Lost City**

**Nevada's Pueblo metropolis  
remains shrouded in mystery**

**A New Nevada Novella  
by Robert Laxalt**

**Great Nevada  
Picture Hunt  
Winners**



Alessandro Stratta makes culinary art at Renoir in the Mirage

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"We saw the outlines of houses of stone ... shrouded in sands that have drifted down across the valley for thousands of years."—Mark Harrington, on his first visit to the Lost City in 1924



**On the Cover:**  
 Chef Alessandro Stratta, at Renoir in the Mirage, and his warm goat cheese salad stuffed with vegetables, with tomato vinaigrette.  
 Photo by Jeff Scheid

## Features

12

### Chefs to Dine For

Wolfgang Puck and Emeril Lagasse helped lead the way. Now Alex Stratta, Julian Serrano, and Gian Paulo Belloni are part of a wave of celebrity chefs reshaping Las Vegas as a dining capital.

By Joan Patterson

16

### Board Room

Once banned from some ski resorts, snowboarders are carving out their own space on the slopes and halfpipes of Lake Tahoe. Plus a statewide ski-resort guide.

By John Stearns



Resorts on Board: Page 16

20

### The Lost City

The mysterious Pueblo metropolis was Nevada's largest city a thousand years ago.

By Dennis McBride

88

### Time of the Rabies

In Robert Laxalt's new novella, ranchers and animals face a rabies epidemic in the '20s.

90

### Bringing Nevada to Light

The Great Nevada Picture Hunt winners found success in rural Nevada.

## Departments



All Shook Up: Page 8

- 5 **Editor's Note** Boulder City historian Dennis McBride revisits Nevada's past.
- 6 **Letters** Ghost-town haunts, mystery mountains, and houseboating highlights.
- 8 **Roadside Attractions** Human snowballs, cactus lights, and a museum fit for a King.
- 75 **Nevada Bookshelf** Recent releases of Nevada interest, in time for the holidays.
- 76 **Openings: City of Sinbad** The new Aladdin unveils Arabian nights. **By Deke Castleman**
- 81 **Nevada Characters: Bruno's Country** Bruno Selmi of Gerlach. **By Carolyn Fox**
- 82 **Holiday Shopping: A Museum Shopping Tour** Nevada's museum gift stores stock lots of Silver State items for your holiday stockings. **By Connie Emerson**
- 98 **Side Trip: Slideaway in the Mountains** Skiers, boarders, and tobogganists can escape Las Vegas for the snowy slopes of Mount Charleston. **By Kate Butler**

## Events & Shows

- 29 **Yule Love It** From parades to feasts, Nevada towns, museums, and casinos celebrate Christmas with unusual traditions. **By Richard Moreno**
- 34 **Millennium Countdown Calendar** A winter events guide to Nevada.
- 44 **Nevada Showguide** Where the stars and shows are playing.
- 54 **Show People** Marilyn McCoo marks 33 years in Vegas showrooms when she sings in "Colors of Christmas" at the Riviera. **By Kathy Espin**
- 56 **Casino Notes** News from hotel-casinoland. **By Jason Hanson**
- 72 **Review** Harrah's Reno's late show, "erocktica2000.com." **By David Moore**



Golden Santa: Page 29

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## Seasons Greetings!

*The staff of Nevada Magazine wishes you and yours a very happy holiday season and a year filled with exciting travels and new discoveries. It is our hope the following list of services will help us serve you better—whether you visit the Silver State in person or through the pages of Nevada Magazine.*

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**NEVADA**  
MAGAZINE



# A Man of History

The author of four books on Southern Nevada history, Dennis McBride appreciates the mysteries and ironies of the Lost City. This issue, in "The Lost City," Dennis describes how an advanced Pueblo people created a metropolis on the Muddy River more than 1,000 years ago. He also recounts how Governor James Scrugham tried to make the Lost City, and Nevada, world-famous. "Tracing the rediscovery of the Lost City in the '20s and '30s was fun," Dennis says. "I enjoyed rebuilding that history. Scrugham was interesting, and the way he lost reelection effectively stopped the excavations. Think how much different it would have been if that work had not been interrupted."



Dennis McBride, outside Boulder City.

Dennis comes to his interest in the region naturally. Born in Boulder City 45 years ago, he went to Boulder schools and lives there today. After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in English at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, he launched a writing and research career. Of his four books, two are oral histories: *Hard Work and Far From Home: The Civilian Conservation Corps at Lake Mead, Nevada* and, with Andrew Dunar, *Building Hoover Dam: An Oral History of the Great Depression*. Two are narra-

tive histories: *In the Beginning: A History of Boulder City, Nevada* and *Midnight on Arizona Street: The Secret Life of the Boulder Dam Hotel*.

Dennis says he feels an intimacy with his subjects that goes beyond geographical proximity. "I believe I lived here before. When I was a child I dreamed about the construction of Hoover Dam, and I found some of those same images in photographs years later," he says. "This feeling hones my sense of history of this place. What I need for my projects often falls into my lap. It's serendipitous. It's not planned—things just happen."

These days Dennis is working on three new books; one is a gay history of Las Vegas and the others involve intriguing Boulder City criminal cases. He works in the basement of the Boulder Dam Hotel, where he is setting up the research library for the Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum. "It's interesting that years after I first started researching the Boulder Dam Hotel, and then wrote a book about it, here I am working in the hotel. Things often work out that way for me," says Dennis, who adds that some things seem fated to happen. "And here I am doing what I was meant to do."—David Moore

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# Letters

Ghost-town haunts and houseboating highlights.

## Ghosts From the Past

The photographers who captured last issue's "Haunting Images" were right on target. I especially enjoyed the cover photo by Richard T. Stephens of the lightning in Rhyolite. Rhyolite on a stormy night must be scary, but as a kid I remember some clear summer evenings there that were pretty eerie. My dad used to pack all seven of us kids in the travel trailer and go camping. A favorite spot was Rhyolite.



Stormy night in Rhyolite.

I remember one evening just as the sun was beginning to set, and I was out walking alone, trying to get away from the noise of my six sisters and brothers. Suddenly a gust of wind swept down through the canyon, and with it I swear I heard the sounds of piano music and voices like those in a saloon. I knew it had

to be my own over-active teenage imagination, but why were all the hairs on the back of my neck standing on end? I've never forgotten it and like to remember that time as my brush with some of Rhyolite's ghosts.

**Pamela Goodwill**  
Las Vegas

## Hailing Houseboats

I just read "A House Afloat" by Joe Zentner about Lake Mead houseboating in the Sept/Oct issue. Two weeks ago we embarked on our seventh houseboat trip to Lake Mead since 1991. What was once a biannual, single-houseboat weekend has turned into an annual, three-houseboat excursion with a budget of more than \$11,000. This year we had 26 adults, three sport boats, one jet boat, and four jet skis.

The days' events included water-skiing, jet skiing, trips to Hoover Dam and the mouth of the Grand Canyon, fishing, houseboat diving, and lots of consumption.

The coves can get crowded in the summertime with other houseboats and day campers, but it's all worth it when you're the first ski boat out at 6 a.m., skiing the morning glass with the desert sun silhouetting the skier and rainbows cascading off the roostertails. The only way it gets better is if you haven't had five glasses of rum punch the night before.

**Joe Allegretti**  
Northridge, CA

## Desert Fox

I read each issue of *Nevada Magazine* from cover to cover. My favorite story in the Sept/Oct issue is the Editor's Note titled "Desert Fox." What a lady, that Carolyn Fox! I enjoyed her story about the

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Great Reno Balloon Race and having to get up in her pajamas, go down to the car, and look at the clock. All because she had forgotten her alarm clock, and the hotel offered no wake up call.

Dang, that gets this Texan's dander up! We treat our ladies better than that in Texas. I have a solution to future problems such as this. I will send the lady a wristwatch and a Bic. Then she can flick her Bic, just in case the hotel has not been wired for electricity. That would eliminate the necessity of her trekking outside in the middle of the night in her skivvies.

**Roy Bale**  
Linden, TX

## Wrapping Up the Spas

I am writing regarding "It's a Wrap" in the Sept/Oct issue. The article incorrectly states that the Spa at the Oasis in Mesquite is operated by the Green Valley Spa out of St. George, Utah. Since it opened in October 1997, the Spa at the Oasis has always been under management by the Oasis Resort. In the first year of the Spa at the Oasis' operation, the Green Valley Spa advised and consulted only. Since February 1999, the Spa at the Oasis has been without any association with the Green Valley Spa.

**Bob Parks**  
Spa Manager  
Si Redd's Oasis  
Mesquite

*Bob, thanks for the clarification.—Ed.*

## Waterslide Soak

Regarding "Guide to Nevada Spas" last issue, I'd like to point out that as much as I like the idea of having a waterslide in the spa area, we don't have one. The 15-acre pool area has four pools, two Jacuzzis, waterslides, waterfalls, and lagoons with flamingos and African penguins. The Spa at the Flamingo is separate from the pool area and offers treatments as well as saunas, steam rooms, and a workout room.

**Lynn Berk**  
Publicity Coordinator  
Flamingo Hotel  
Las Vegas

## Escape to Austin?

I am not renewing my subscription to *Nevada Magazine*. I am an old-time Nevadan. Today's *Nevada Magazine* reflects today's Nevada. That is a major reason I continue to live in the Midwest. Las Vegas is close to being my hometown, but today's mega-Las Vegas is too much for me. I'm all for measured progress, but today's changes in our once-beloved city bring

tears to my eyes. Maybe I'll retire in Austin and hope the "beautiful people" don't discover it, too.

**Lee A. Counsell**  
Racine, WI

## Mountain of a Question

Can you advise where I can get information on the McCullough mountain range in Southern Nevada? I'm a lifelong Nevada resident (my parents came here in 1941), and I'm just now getting curious about how this range that I share my name with came to be named.

I love *Nevada Magazine*. I had never trav-

eled to the Cowboy Country until a few years ago when I started participating in the open road races in Battle Mountain and Ely. Now I really enjoy reading about Winnemucca, Austin, and other places.

**Mike McCullough**  
Henderson

*Mike, perhaps a knowledgeable reader can answer your name question (see below).—Ed.*

**How to Submit Letters:** Readers are encouraged to send letters regarding stories and photos in the magazine. Write "Letters to the Editor," *Nevada Magazine*, 401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291. Fax 775-687-6159. E-mail editor@nevadamagazine.com.

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# Roadside Attractions

Human snowballs, cactus lights, and the King's collections.

## Having a Ball

LAKE TAHOE—If you've ever wanted to know what it feels like to be a snowball, a new thrill ride at Northstar-at-Tahoe called the **Zorb** will help you find out.

The Zorb is a nine-and-a-half-foot-tall plastic ball that rolls down a 450-foot snow track at Northstar's Polaris Park. You're harnessed inside the Zorb, spinning around and around, until the ball rolls up a giant snow bank and gradually stops.

The Zorb is part of Northstar's new fleet of racy snow toys at Polaris Park. For beginners, there's the snowbike, which is like a BMX bike equipped with skis instead of wheels. The rider wears miniskis to help steer and turn.

More experienced skiers or boarders can try the snowscoot, which resembles a scooter mounted on two small snowboards. Another challenge is the skifox, a backless chair mounted on one ski. The rider wears two miniskis to assist in stopping and carving.

Riders for all toys must be at least 12 years old. Call Northstar-at-Tahoe, 800-GO-NORTH, or consult the Web site, [www.skinorthstar.com](http://www.skinorthstar.com), for prices and more ride information.—*Shannon Montana*



Elvis-A-Rama hosts daily shows with Elvis impersonator Sonny Boline. The museum also hosts "All Shook Up" at O'Shea's at the Flamingo. Above, Tim Welch sings with Jamie (left) and Rebel at O'Shea's.

## The King and I

LAS VEGAS—Visitors just can't help falling in love with one of Las Vegas' newest attractions, the **Elvis-A-Rama Museum**. The museum revisits the King's

life and career, from Sun Records to Vegas showrooms and gospel songs to flashy cars. Visitors can see Elvis' letters and documents—including handwritten lyrics and his social security card—as well as his pajamas, furniture, chess sets, and other artifacts that touch on Elvis' personal life. The singer's love of cars is reflected in the display housing his eight-passenger 1955 Fleetwood Cadillac.

The "Music Wall" displays every record Elvis ever recorded as well as costumes, photos, movie memorabilia, and guitars. Video screens show his performances. While fans may lament that they can no longer hear the King's live performances, admission includes a show by Elvis impersonator Sonny Boline.

Unlike most museums, Elvis-A-Rama offers all its memorabilia for purchase. If an original Elvis guitar seems out of reach, the gift shop has less expensive mementos like Elvis movie videos.

Elvis-A-Rama is located one block west of the Strip at 3401 Industrial Road. A free Elvis-A-Rama shuttle stops at Strip hotels from the Stratosphere to Mandalay Bay between 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. each day. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Admission is \$9.95 for adults, \$7.95



Harnessed inside the Zorb, a rider becomes a human snowball while taking a quick spin at Northstar.



Blimp passengers cruise above the Las Vegas Strip. This view from the gondola shows the city at sunset.

## Christmas Cacti

Visitors to the high-wattage Las Vegas area will find the scene really shines when attractions and hotels don festive holiday lights. This year one of the tastiest displays is planned at the **Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden** in Henderson, where more than 100,000 lights will twinkle among the cacti—the biggest display in the light show's six years. When the lights go on November 29, the chocolate factory will unveil its newest irresistible creation: Chocolate-Enrobed Fudge. Visitors will find free Ethel M chocolate samples, a visit from St. Nick, and carolers. Revelers looking for other holiday bright spots can visit the Fremont Street Experience, which celebrates the season with holiday light and sound shows, a tree-lighting ceremony, Santa visits, and concerts. For a statewide listing of holiday events, see this issue's Nevada Events and Shows.



Ethel M lights up for the holidays.

for seniors. Call 702-309-7200 or visit the Web site [www.elvisarama.com](http://www.elvisarama.com) for more museum information.—*Elizabeth Nielsen*

## Vegas by Blimp

LAS VEGAS—For the ultimate view of the Strip, sightseers can climb aboard the **Las Vegas Airship**. The illuminated blimp can be seen nightly sailing above the most electric city in the world. Passengers can relax in the gondola while floating 1,300 feet above the city at a speed of 35 mph.

The airship takes you above and beyond the Strip, viewing the dolphins and the explosion of the volcano at Mirage. Passengers communicate with the pilot and others by an intercom system. Recent airship passenger Jenn Chow remarked, "The view was spectacular. Las Vegas seemed so peaceful from above." Sights such as the water show at the Bellagio will make you feel as though the shooting fountains are within your reach.

The 165-foot-long airship takes off from the North Las Vegas Airport. Flights last about 45 minutes, and tours begin nightly at sunset. Prices range from \$179 Monday through Thursday and \$199 Friday through Sunday. The Champagne Sunset Cruise costs \$229. Call 702-646-2888 or visit [www.vegas.com](http://www.vegas.com).—*Jason Hanson*

## New History Gallery

RENO—Visitors to the recently renovated **Nevada Historical Society** will discover a new museum that is three-dimensional, up-close, and visually inviting. The permanent exhibition

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pretive approach and its five topics: Living on the Land (Native Americans, ranchers), Riches From the Earth (mining culture), Passing Through (explorers, railroads), Neon Nights (gaming, boxing), and the Federal Presence (Hoover Dam, civil rights).

Other treats include several paintings hung in the gallery. "Sunset in the Fall" by A. Lazine is a 1947 oil of the Triune Ranch that stretches across a heroic Central Nevada landscape. Also displayed is a striking oil, "Humboldt Lake," by Edwin Deakin, a well-known turn-of-the-century painter. Among the paintings, which are rotated from time to time, are watercolors of Pyramid Lake by Gilbert Nachez, a Lovelock Paiute.

The Nevada Historical Society is located on the University of Nevada campus at 1650 North Virginia Street in Reno. Part of the Nevada Department of Museums, Library, and Arts, the society presents other shows in the Changing Gallery (see "Ongoing Events," page 36). Researchers can hole up in the library to inspect the society's collections. The gift store offers a wide variety of books related to Nevada and the West.

The hours for "Nevada: Prisms and Perspectives" are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The society's library is open noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Admission for adults is \$2 while children under 18 enter free. Call 775-688-1190 for further information on the historical society.—*David Moore*

## Dog Days at Squaw

LAKE TAHOE—Squaw Valley's annual snowfall of 450 inches makes for great skiing, snowboarding, and—for snow lovers seeking a new adventure—**dog-sled tours**. The Resort at Squaw Creek offers visitors a chance to go mushing through the snow on a two-and-a-half-mile tour of Squaw Valley Meadow. Six to eight Alaskan huskies pull each four-person sled on a 25-minute ride.

Musher Jason Nickle, founder of Quick Step, which provides the dog-sled tours, says the dogs receive extensive training and conditioning before they take a tour. "We condition our dogs like they are Olympic athletes," Nickle says. "But we also spend plenty of time spoiling them and having fun."

Dog-sled tours are available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday at \$49 per person. Call the Resort at Squaw Creek concierge, 530-583-6300, for information.—*Wilma LaRocca*



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# Chefs to Dine

Wolfgang Puck and Emeril Lagasse helped lead the way. Now Alex Stratta, Julian Serrano, and Gian Paolo Belloni are part of a wave of celebrity chefs reshaping Las Vegas as a dining capital. They also make the city their home.

## By Joan Patterson

Change is the rule in Las Vegas, and the current dining scene is no exception. In fact, a no-holds-barred attitude is creating some of the most distinctive gourmet rooms in the country.

The opening of the Bellagio, Mandalay Bay, Venetian, and Paris hotels during the past two years has not only tipped the scales in favor of high-end dining as fast as you can say "foie gras" but also crushed any notion of Vegas still being the home of \$3.99 steak specials and bargain buffets. Sure, you can still find the deals, but walk into any major hotel these days, and you're much more likely to be handed a dress coat than a paper lobster bib.

While the casinos' owners have been striving to make dining stand on its own as a major form of entertainment, their sumptuous gourmet rooms would be noth-

ing but brick and mortar without the chefs. And Vegas is getting the best.

The trend started when Wolfgang Puck opened Spago in the Forum Shops at Caesars in 1992. Other celebrity chefs followed. Mark Miller brought the Coyote Café to the MGM Grand in 1993. Emeril Lagasse opened Emeril's New Orleans Fish House inside the MGM Grand in 1995 and the Delmonico Steakhouse at the Venetian four years later. Jean-Louis Palladin, hired by the Rio to run its Napa restaurant, was another name that brought clout to Vegas and punctured old notions about the local dining scene.

These chefs have paved the way for the recent onslaught of talent that includes



Shrimp Provençal at Gatsby's.

Eberhard Muller, of Lutece in New York City, who has created a second Lutece inside the Venetian; Charlie Palmer, of Aureole in New York City, who has used his talents to create a restaurant by the same name at Mandalay Bay; and Joachim

Splichal of Pinot Brasserie, also at the Venetian. Splichal is owner of several restaurants in California, including Patina in Los Angeles.

These chefs may regularly visit their Las Vegas properties, but they have not made the city their home. Perhaps the real risk-takers are the men and women who have left prestigious rooms in places such as San Francisco and New York to try their luck in the desert city. Enticed by the buzz surrounding this new culinary destination,



Wolfgang Puck brought his Los Angeles-based Spago to the Forum Shops in 1992. He now has five Vegas eateries, including San Francisco import Postrio at the Venetian.

# For

these chefs have said good-bye to a sure thing and gambled it all on the city that glitters. *Nevada Magazine* sat down with three of them to find out why.

When Alessandro Stratta returned from a vacation two summers ago and saw the tiny strips of paper taped to the walls of his new restaurant inside the Mirage, he knew changes were taking place. What he didn't realize was that his boss, then-Mirage Resorts chairman Steve Wynn, had decided to pull some paintings by French impressionist Pierre-Auguste Renoir from his own collection, hang them in the restaurant, and rename what was then "Alex Stratta at The Mirage" to—what else?—"Renoir."

It was fine with Stratta. He was never very comfortable having his name above the door. But he shakes his head now and wonders if this could have happened in any other city. Renoir? Where else could a restaurant, in a matter of days, suddenly be strung with some of the finest artwork in



Alessandro Stratta of Renoir has made an art of what he calls "modernized classical cooking with an Italian twist."



Charlie Palmer's brain trust at Aureole has included (from left) chef Joe Romano, Palmer, pastry chef Megan Romano, and wine director Steven Geddes.

Photo: Jeff Scheid (top)

the world? Where else but, of course, the new Las Vegas.

And where else could a newly appointed chef have so much success in just a matter of months? Stratta received the 2000 *Mobil Travel Guide's* prestigious five-star rating less than a year after moving his chef's toques to Las Vegas. He says he is still reeling from the meteoric rise in his newly adopted city.

"I was ready for a change, professionally, and I love the Southwest, and just what I heard through the chef grapevine was that Las Vegas was ready to explode and becoming the new destination for fine dining," notes Stratta, sitting at a table inside Renoir, an arm's reach from one of three paintings by the famous French artist. "All these [Strip] restaurants are packed," he adds. "I didn't know it was going to be this much of an impact."

Stratta was in his ninth year as executive chef of Mary Elaine's at the five-star

Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona, when he was first contacted by Mirage Resorts (which was purchased last summer by MGM Grand). He was initially asked to consider the job of executive chef at the Bellagio's Picasso restaurant. Stratta, winner of the 1998 James Beard award for top chef of the Southwest, said no at first, but he was back on the phone with the company a few weeks later. It seems Mary Elaine's had just changed management, so he decided it was a good time to make a break.

While the job at Picasso had already been taken by Julian Serrano, formerly of Masa's in San Francisco, the gourmet room at the Mirage was undergoing significant changes and needed a strong presence in the kitchen. Stratta was offered the position at what is now called Renoir.

Wind your way through the faux jungle of the Mirage casino, meander past the Lagoon Saloon where tourists sip cocktails

under umbrella-topped tables, and then, literally, poke your head around a stone column topped with a blinking keno board. There it sits: a tiny white structure with a glass façade and large vases adorning the entrance, an elegant bistro that's been dropped in the middle of, well, a

## Serrano will tell you that he struggled with the decision of whether to move to Las Vegas

Vegas casino, of all places. Step inside Renoir, and the casino's clamor is instantly smothered by quiet. It is truly another world. The décor screams French but in a bright and smooth presentation, with pale green and apricot fabrics.

"We wanted to create an oasis in this hotel," Stratta notes. "I wanted to create a jewel box. I wanted it to be feminine, elegant, relaxing but not fussy."

Then, of course, there are the Renoirs: "The Sweeper," "Young Algerian Woman Leaning on a Parapet," and "Woman in Blue." Those who sit at the high-backed booths along the walls are close enough to touch the three masterful works as well as pieces by Georges D'Espagnat, Armand Guillaumin, Albert Andre, and Jacques-Emile Blanche.

The menu is "modernized classical cooking with an Italian twist," Stratta notes. Recent entrees included a braised short rib of beef with red wine and creamy horseradish potatoes, and filet of black

bass with roasted fennel, tomato confit, and caramelized chestnuts. Diners also can try tasting menus, including one for vegetarians that offers dishes such as mascarpone and herb risotto with wild mushrooms and chives.

Stratta, who had never been to Las Vegas until taking the job at Renoir, says he had few preconceptions about the Southern Nevada city. "People thought I was crazy to move to Phoenix [from New York City], so Vegas was just another challenge."

During the rare occasions he has time to relax, Stratta enjoys driving to Red Rock Canyon and Mount Charleston with his wife, Laura. When they dine out, it's often at informal places frequented by locals and serving everything from authentic Mexican dishes to sushi.

The walls of the Bellagio's Picasso restaurant are lined with original works by the room's namesake. Terraces overlook the hotel's man-made lake with its dancing water show, and dozens of trees are strewn with white lights along the lake's outer edges. The room is stocked with originals, from the paintings, of course, to the carpeting and sparkling china. It is like stepping into something that is part museum, part Mediterranean villa, with plenty of soft, earthy tones and the hush that comes with the cushion of expensive furnishings.

Steve Wynn knew he had to find some-

one extraordinary to run the room, so he turned to Julian Serrano. Serrano had earned his reputation at Masa's in San Francisco, where he spent more than a decade as executive chef and earned the James Beard Foundation award for Best California Chef in 1998. He now calls Las Vegas home.

Serrano is an extremely gracious man, far from the difficult, explosive chefs so popular in the movies. He is honest. He will tell you that he struggled, almost excruciatingly so, with the decision of whether to move to Las Vegas. In the past, the city was known as anything but the culinary center of the universe. Besides, he just couldn't shake the notion that building a reputation in a new city would take years. It was his wife who finally helped him realize that the gambling mecca had grown into an international city and was worth the risk.

The irony of all this is that since moving to Vegas in late 1998, Serrano says, he has received so much attention that even his friends back in San Francisco are dropping their jaws. He has been featured in a handful of major food and wine magazines (*Wine Spectator* wrote about him twice in the space of six months), and he has received two nominations by the prestigious James Beard Foundation, including one for best restaurant in 1999 and the All-Clad Metalcrafters Outstanding Chef



Chef-author-TV star Emeril Lagasse (above) has Emeril's New Orleans Fish House in the MGM Grand and the Delmonico Steakhouse at the Venetian. Mark Miller (left) brought the Coyote Café's Southwestern cuisine from Santa Fe to the MGM Grand (far left).



Julian Serrano moved to Las Vegas two years ago to take the reins at the Bellagio's Picasso, which he guided to a five-star Mobil rating.

Award for 2000. While he did not win either award, his nominations came in record time. He has also received the prestigious five-star rating in the 2000 *Mobil Travel Guide*, not to mention top restaurant lists in magazines such as *Esquire*.

"I feel like one-and-a-half years here in Las Vegas is like seven, eight, or 10 in San Francisco," says the chef, speaking in the accent of his native Spain. "It's very exciting. Not only is it happening fast, but the people who are coming to the restaurant, you never know who's going to be here today or tomorrow. It's always somebody." Indeed, from Britain's Prince Andrew to Steven Spielberg to Michael Jordan, the *Who's Who* guest list keeps growing.

Las Vegas has turned out to be just as his wife stated, an international city, Serrano points out. The diners, whether locals or visitors, are often well-traveled and know their way around a wine list. Sure, there have been a few orders for filet mignon, and one group complained that the portions were too small, not understanding they had ordered from the tasting menu and still had several more courses to go. But who's to say this couldn't happen in any other city. Overall, Serrano says, Vegas has completely surprised him, and he has come to expect the unexpected.

When he has time away from the restaurant, Serrano likes to play tennis at a club

near his home on the western edge of town. He has managed to see a few shows, some boxing matches, and a concert by his good friend and rock 'n' roll star, Sammy Hagar. Hagar is quite a cook in his own right, according to Serrano.

It is amazing what casino moguls will do to make their properties stand out. The Venetian is no exception. Owner Sheldon Adelson and his designers have gone so far as to create a canal that winds its way through the center of the property's indoor mall with gondoliers propelling small boats like the ones used in Venice, Italy. This is just the beginning. The hotel is a sculpted replica of landmarks such as Doge's Palace and St. Mark's Square with everything from cobblestone walkways along the mall area to Old World paintings recreated on the ceilings above the casino's front desk.

However, a refuge of reality can be found inside this incredible facsimile of the true Venice. Step into the upstairs dining room at Zeffirino Ristorante, and you will hear the largely imported staff speaking in the melodic tongue of their native Italy. The smell of tomatoes stewing in rich, authentic sauces is everywhere, while waiters bow at high-backed booths, sprinkling grated cheeses over dishes such as pasta with lobster meat and penne with fresh tomatoes and basil. Thick columns, rich burgundy booths, archways, ironwork, and wood-beam ceilings create the final touches in a room that presents an Old World feel unlike, perhaps, any in Las Vegas.

The center around which all revolves is chef and owner Gian Paulo Belloni. Belloni is the son of Zeffirino Belloni, who founded the original Zeffirino's in Genoa, Italy, 60 years ago. The Las Vegas restaurant is the first offshoot of the well-known original, where everyone from Frank

Sinatra to Pope John Paul II has enjoyed the family recipes.

Belloni, who speaks little English, moved to Las Vegas to oversee the launching of the new restaurant, which opened in October 1999. While he still calls Genoa his permanent home, Belloni will spend several months each year in Las Vegas making sure the room is operating smoothly.

Inside his restaurant, sitting next to maitre d' and interpreter Lorenzo Mottola, Belloni explains that Las Vegas is well-known in his hometown of Genoa and even mentions some news stories about the Venetian that have aired on local television in his native city. While family members scouted out cities such as New York, Miami, and Los Angeles as possible venues for the second restaurant, they found Las Vegas had the unique combination of qualities that best suited their goals. The city offered plenty of competition in the realm of dining but at the same time was not flooded, as, say, New York City, with several restaurants of just about every distinction, Belloni notes. Las Vegas was also in total opposition to the tranquil seaside setting of Genoa, which is one of the major reasons Belloni says he chose the town.

"Las Vegas is a new city and a new world, so it was the chance (Continued on page 78)



Gian Paulo Belloni decided to bring Zeffirino to Las Vegas in part because he enjoyed the city's New World vitality. Zeffirino is in the Venetian.

# BOARD ROOM

SNOWBOARDERS ARE CARVING OUT THEIR OWN SPACE ON THE SLOPES AND HALFPIPES OF LAKE TAHOE.



A BOARDER CATCHES AIR AT NORTHSTAR, HOME OF A NEW SUPERPIPE.

BY JOHN STEARNS

**T**he Lake Tahoe area is to snowboarding what Las Vegas is to Elvis impersonators: It's a stage on which everyone can feel like a king, with or without big sideburns.

Snowboarders who carve the snowy canvases of the Tahoe Basin and Sierra Nevada have the advantage of the five P's: parks, pipes, powder, pitch, and pines. The terrain parks offer jumps, bumps, and rails

at Donner Ski Ranch before boarders were allowed on chairlifts. In his 15th season of snowboarding, Memon is the snowboard manager for Bobo's Mogul Mouse Ski and Board in Reno. He has boarded the map and swears he speaks without bias.

"Tahoe, to me, is the jewel of snowboarding," Memon says. "We get more powder days. The attitude in Tahoe is better than anywhere else—I think it's more

moms, dads, professionals, and, in some cases, ex-skiers.

"We're seeing a lot of adults [in their] 30s, 40s on snowboards, but they're doing it sensibly," says Erin Bernall, spokeswoman for Northstar-at-Tahoe. "They're a little more relaxed. They're enjoying the sport rather than trying to catch 20 feet of air."

Snowboarders are part of the mountain fabric at Tahoe, freely accepted everywhere. In a turnabout from a decade ago, the resorts are embracing snowboarders as a matter of economic survival. "In a way, I think resorts need to be all things to all people," Bernall says. She adds that Northstar's parent company, Booth Creek Ski Holdings, Inc., "has recognized the business we're in has become winter recreation—we're not ski resorts anymore." That means accommodating boarders and offering everything from snowbikes to tubing hills.

In fact, snowboarders comprise perhaps a quarter to a third of the resorts' total business, estimates Stephanie Neff, deputy

## UNLIKE A DECADE AGO, THE RESORTS ARE EMBRACING SNOWBOARDERS.

over which to sail and slide, sometimes to blasting music piped in to heighten the vibes. Snow-carved halfpipes allow riders to lip up the sides and stage midair maneuvers. Tahoe snowboarders float and carve over powder snow, use pitched terrain to maintain momentum, and slalom through the pines.

Tahoe "absolutely rules" as a place to board, according to Zubair Memon, who boarded with some of the sport's pioneers

laid-back." Memon raves about the resorts' variety and proximity to Reno. Nevada's 24-hour nightlife is a plus for many snowboarders (and skiers) and sorely lacking in Utah, he jokes.

Memon and others belie the stereotypical snowboarder, the teen or 20-something with wild hair, earrings, and attitudes. That segment often can be found hanging out at the terrain parks, but snowboarders nowadays include

director of the California Ski Industry Association, which also represents Mount Rose-Ski Tahoe and Diamond Peak in Nevada. She notes that snowboarding "is part of the mainstream now—it's not meant to even be separated out."

Alpine Meadows was the last Tahoe resort to allow snowboarding, finally opening to boarders in 1996. Some skiers looked askance at the new arrivals, but Alpine quickly became a favorite among boarders for the same reason it's loved by skiers, and the two sports have integrated well.

"We are somewhat of the alternative to other larger resorts," says Robert Olmer, Alpine's director of marketing and sales. "We get that free-rider who wants great terrain. The snowboarder is very much the same as our skier, same attitude, wants to do backcountry, wants to do a little hiking" to reach out-of-the way terrain.

For boarders wanting to bite off some of the biggest slopes that geologic forces can create, Alpine qualifies, as do Squaw Valley USA and Kirkwood. They will test any boarder's mettle, although each of these resorts has its softer side for beginners, intermediates, and families.

Those are the places where, as well as great skiers, you're likely to see highly skilled boarders carving smooth arcs across the snow at high speed. It's a thing of beauty to watch expert boarders leaning into their turns so far and biting their boards' edges so hard that they touch the snow with their uphill hands. It's an art form.

Heavenly has size and some of the best views of Tahoe and the Nevada desert (from the Nevada side of the bistate resort), but crowds can be huge on week-

This season Northstar is getting a new 17-foot, competition-sized superpipe carved by a special \$62,000 shaper.

Mount Rose-Ski Tahoe, rated in August as the best snowboarding area in the *Reno Gazette-Journal's* readers' poll, has some of Tahoe's best powder boarding among its East Bowl trees, offers great desert views, and is closest to Reno. It has a little bit of everything for a midsize resort, a new high-speed six-person chair, and a relaxed attitude. Rose is the place where locals run into their friends and neighbors. Using the

## DON'T LAUGH AT THOSE BAGGY CLOTHES—THEY SERVE A PURPOSE.

ends, and the terrain lacks steepness for some experts, excluding the super-steep Mott and Killebrew canyons in Nevada and the Gunbarrel run above the California main lodge. The Nevada side, however, offers some nice trees, and Heavenly is built for speed with long, immaculately groomed runs. This is definitely the place to let the boards rip.

Northstar has some great cruising runs, too, and phenomenal trees on its backside.

boarders' term for powder, Memon notes, "Because it's so high up you're going to get some nice fluffy 'pow'" when other resorts might be getting wetter, heavier snow. The trees are coveted for their spacing—not too dense. Mount Rose's terrain parks and halfpipe are located in the East Bowl, with one park placed under the lift for optimum showboating off the jumps. Good jumps and landings often meet with supportive comments from lift riders,



TERRAIN PARKS AND HALFPIPES, LIKE THIS ONE AT HOMEWOOD, LET SNOWBOARDERS ENDLESSLY CARVE AND STYLE.

crash landings with sympathetic groans.

The East Bowl, once a separate operation known as Slide Mountain, was one of snowboarding's earliest homes in the mid-1980s, says Mike Pierce, marketing director for Mount Rose. The resort now has days where snowboarders comprise half the traffic, but the overall average is probably 30 to 35 percent, Pierce says.

"We're almost to the point where first-time skier counts equal first-time snowboarder counts," Pierce says. "It's definitely good for the business."

Boreal Mountain Playground, located off Interstate 80 at Donner Summit, is well-known for catering to boarders with its parks, pipes, music, and less-expensive tickets, but it seems to appeal mostly to "grommets," or children, Memon says. Hey, it's called Boreal Mountain Playground for a reason. And with only 600 feet of vertical, Memon says, you can "straight-line" the whole mountain. Boreal serves its niche well. Last season a funky old bus painted with zebra stripes blasted tunes from its half-buried position in the terrain park—showing Boreal's stripes, so to speak.

However, the resorts aren't the only places you can board, says Greg Carson, a Reno television news reporter. Carson says the Tahoe region has "world-class backcountry" within easy reach, much of it along the Mount Rose Highway.

"You've got free running for a half a mile or whatever you're looking for," says Carson, who permanently traded his skis for a snowboard five years ago.

He doesn't advise just anyone, though, to venture off the beaten path where one will not find ski patrollers, avalanche con-



SHREDDERS AND SKIERS RIDE AT ALPINE MEADOWS, THE LAST TAHOE HOLDOUT.

trol, or injury assistance. "These are world-class mountains. World-class snowboarders come here for the challenge," Carson says. "This is not to be taken lightly in any way, shape, or form."

Reno advertising executive Lorna Shepard learned to board in 1994 after a lifetime of skiing. Today she alternates between the sports.

"I go a lot faster on skis than I do on a snowboard, but turning on a snowboard is a lot of fun," Shepard says. She sees a great sense of enjoyment among snowboarders. "Skiers are so serious sometimes."

Shepard and her husband, Jeff, aren't into the bells and whistles of terrain parks. They prefer the big slopes at Squaw, Alpine, and Kirkwood.

And don't laugh at those baggy clothes

and long coats—they serve a purpose, Shepard says. "You do spend a lot of time on your tush," so long coats come in handy, she says. The baggier clothing also allows for more freedom of movement. "You do want to be able to flex a little bit more, use your body a little bit more than in skiing." Don't forget to wear a helmet for safety, she adds. "It increases your confidence level, too."

For beginners, the key for snowboarding is to give it more than one try, Mount Rose's Pierce says. "You always hear people saying, 'I've got to give that a try.'" The first day is tough and humbling, he says. "You've got to give it more than one day."

After all, even Elvis didn't become the King overnight.



A BOARDER AT DIAMOND PEAK AIMS DOWN CRYSTAL RIDGE TOWARD TAHOE.

## PARKS & PIPES

For snowboarders, the Lake Tahoe area is a melting pot of resorts, each offering a distinct personality. Following are recommendations compiled from avid boarders, snowboard-shop pros, and the author. For further snowboard and ski information, see the guide at right.

• **BEST SNOWBOARDING TERRAIN:** Squaw Valley, Kirkwood, and Alpine Meadows are tops for Zubair Memon, snowboard manager at Bobo's Mogul Mouse Ski and Board in Reno and one of the sport's originals. "You cannot find anything better, and in no particular order," he says. There's good backcountry at each, too. These are the places to go if you want to be aggressive.

Mount Rose-Ski Tahoe can't be ignored because it's so convenient to Reno,

# Skiing Around the State

A Guide to Nevada and Tahoe Basin Ski Areas.

## 2000-2001 Downhill Skier's Guide

Area	Web Site	Phone	Top Elevation	Vertical Feet	Lifts	Rating Bg-Int-Adv	Lift Price Adult/Child	Rentals Skis/Board
<b>TAHOE BASIN</b>								
Alpine Meadows	www.alpineski.com	530-583-4232	8,637	1,800	12	25-40-35	\$52/\$40/\$10	\$26/\$31†
Boreal	www.borealski.com	530-426-3666	7,700	500	9	30-55-15	\$32/\$16/\$10	\$25/\$32†
Diamond Peak	www.diamondpeak.com	775-831-3211	8,540	1,840	6	18-46-36	\$41/\$33/\$15	\$20/\$32
Donner Ski Ranch	www.donnerranch.com	530-426-3635	7,751	750	6	25-50-25	\$28/\$21/\$10	\$18/\$28†
Granlibakken	www.granlibakken.com	530-583-4242	6,480	280	2	50-50-0	\$15/\$8	\$25/\$15
Heavenly	www.skiheavenly.com	775-586-7000	10,040	3,500	29	20-45-35	\$42/\$36/\$20	\$25/\$33
Homewood Mountain	www.skihomewood.com	530-525-2992	7,880	1,650	8	15-50-35	\$42/\$27/\$10	\$24/\$32†
Kirkwood	www.skiirkwood.com	209-258-6000	9,800	2,000	13	15-50-35	\$49/\$39/\$10	\$24/\$30†
Mount Rose/Ski Tahoe	www.skirose.com	775-849-0704	9,700	1,440	5	30-35-35	\$45/\$35/\$10	\$25/\$25†
Northstar-at-Tahoe	www.skiatnorthstar.com	530-562-1010	8,600	2,200	12	25-50-25	\$49/\$39/\$10	\$28/\$16†
Sierra at Tahoe	www.sierratatahoe.com	530-659-7453	8,852	2,212	12	25-50-25	\$48/\$38/\$10	\$25/\$33†
Soda Springs	www.skisodasprings.com	530-426-1010	7,352	652	4	30-50-20	\$20/\$16/\$10	\$22/\$32†
Squaw Valley	www.squaw.com	530-583-6955	9,050	2,850	30	25-45-30	\$54/\$27/\$5	\$28/\$34†
Sugar Bowl	www.sugarbowl.com	530-426-9000	8,383	1,500	13	17-43-40	\$50/\$39/\$12	\$28/\$36†
Tahoe Donner	www.tahoedonner.com	530-587-9444	7,350	600	4	40-60-0	\$26/\$12	\$20/\$28†
<b>AROUND THE STATE</b>								
LV Ski/Snowboard	www.skilasvegas.com	702-385-2754	9,510	1,000	3	20-60-20	\$28/\$21/\$12	\$16/\$25†
Elko Snobowl		800-428-7143	7,000	670	2	20-60-20	\$15/\$10	
Ruby Mountains (Elko)	www.helicopterskiing.com	775-753-6867	Ruby Mt. Heli-Skiing offers back country helicopter skiing; \$2,650/person					

## 2000-2001 Cross-Country Skier's Guide

Area	Web Site	Phone	Trail (km)	Trail Fee Adult/Child	Rental Adult/Child	Lessons Adult/Child	Day Lodge
<b>TAHOE BASIN</b>							
Clair Tappaan Lodge	www.sierraclub.org	530-426-3632	14	\$7/\$3.50	\$13/\$9	\$14	✓
Hope Valley		530-694-2266	100	none	\$14/\$8	\$30/\$20	✓
Kirkwood	www.skiirkwood.com	209-258-7248	80	\$16/\$12/\$5	\$16/\$10	\$35/\$30/\$20*	✓
Lake Tahoe Basin	www.fs.fed.us/tbmu	530-573-2600	The U.S. Forest Service has brochures on many forest areas.				
Northstar-at-Tahoe	www.skiatnorthstar.com	530-562-1010	65	\$19/\$10	\$19/\$11	\$25/\$15	✓
Royal Gorge	www.royalgorge.com	530-426-3871	330	\$24.50/\$11.50	\$17.50/\$9.50	\$46/\$28*	✓
Spooner Lake	www.spoonertake.com	775-887-8844	91	\$15/\$9/\$3	\$15/\$9/\$4	\$34/\$25/\$18*	✓
Resort at Squaw Creek	www.squawcreek.com	530-583-6300	20	\$13/\$8	\$15/\$9	\$35*	✓
Tahoe Donner	www.tahoedonner.com	530-587-9484	100	\$18/\$14	\$16/\$9	\$15	✓
<b>AROUND THE STATE</b>							
LV Ski and Snowboard (Mount Charleston)	www.fs.fed.us/html	702-385-2754 702-873-8800 (USFS)	The Ski Chalet offers x-country suggestions The U.S. Forest Service has info on camping and avalanche conditions				
Spring Valley (Eureka)	www.eurekacounty.com	775-237-5280	Ron Carrion at the Owl Club provides directions and information				
White Pine (Ely)	www.nv.blm.gov/ely www.fs.fed.us/html	775-289-1800 (BLM) 775-289-3031 (USFS)	Ward Mt. and Loop Trails info. available from the BLM and U.S. Forest Service				

\* Includes trail pass, equipment, and lessons.

† Resort has a halfpipe for snowboarders.

All downhill resorts have terrain parks unless otherwise noted.

All prices are subject to change. Call resorts for information about children's programs.

says Pat Parraguirre, hard-goods manager at Bobo's. "Plus it's got a real diverse variety of terrain."

• **BEST TERRAIN PARKS:** Squaw Valley has the nicest park and pipes, according to Memon. "They don't call it 'Squawliwood' for nothing," he says. "If you can make it there, you can make it anywhere." Sugar Bowl and Northstar also rank high on Memon's list.

Boreal doesn't have a lot of vertical, but it caters to boarders. You see a lot of youths there, and the place resonates with snowboarder vibes. It's a place to play, not to find steeps.

Heavenly is popular and is a good place to go in big storms because U.S. 50 is almost always open, Parraguirre notes.

• **BEST LAID BACK ATTITUDE:** Homewood, Donner Ski Ranch, Mount Rose, and Boreal.

• **BEST TREES:** The East Bowl at Mount Rose is well known. "The trees on any given day are just incredible," especially on a powder day, says Greg Carson, a Reno TV news reporter.

Memon says the backside of Northstar is hard to beat. "It's long and consistent, and the trees are spaced out perfectly," he says.

• **BEST PLACES FOR BEGINNERS AND FAMILIES:** Northstar, Mount Rose, and Boreal make Memon's list. Diamond Peak at Incline Village ranks up there, too. If you want a really gentle, small, unimposing experience, try Tahoe Donner, Soda Springs, or Donner Ski Ranch. ▽

*John Stearns is a senior business reporter at the Reno Gazette-Journal, avid skier, and one-time snowboarder who vows to try the sport again after a physically and mentally bruising first outing.*



# The Lost City

Still shrouded in mystery, the Pueblo metropolis in the Moapa Valley was Nevada's largest city at the end of the first millennium.

By Dennis McBride

Many people refer to Las Vegas as Nevada's Millennial City. With its clear lagoons, bright towers, and crowded streets echoing a hundred different languages, Las Vegas is a fabulous chimera flashing its brilliance into the 21st century.

Yet a thousand years ago, in the remote Moapa Valley 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas, another fabulous city existed whose faint voice recalls Nevada's first millennium. Now reduced to rubble scattered across the searing desert, excavated, looted, and submerged by Lake Mead, Nevada's Lost City was founded by an ancient colony of Pueblo people.

In most ways these ancestral Pueblos are

About 800 A.D. the Pueblo people, whose civilization was far advanced, moved into the Moapa Valley from the east.

a mystery. We don't know what they looked like. We don't know what they called themselves. We don't know why they came or why they left. We do know they flourished along the Muddy River where it made a green sweep 30 miles through the desert to join the Virgin River before flowing on to the Colorado. They grew crops, mined turquoise and salt, and were skilled potters. Their community marked the western boundary of Pueblo settlement, a fact that surprised 20th-century archaeologists who thought that boundary was 100 miles to the east in Arizona.

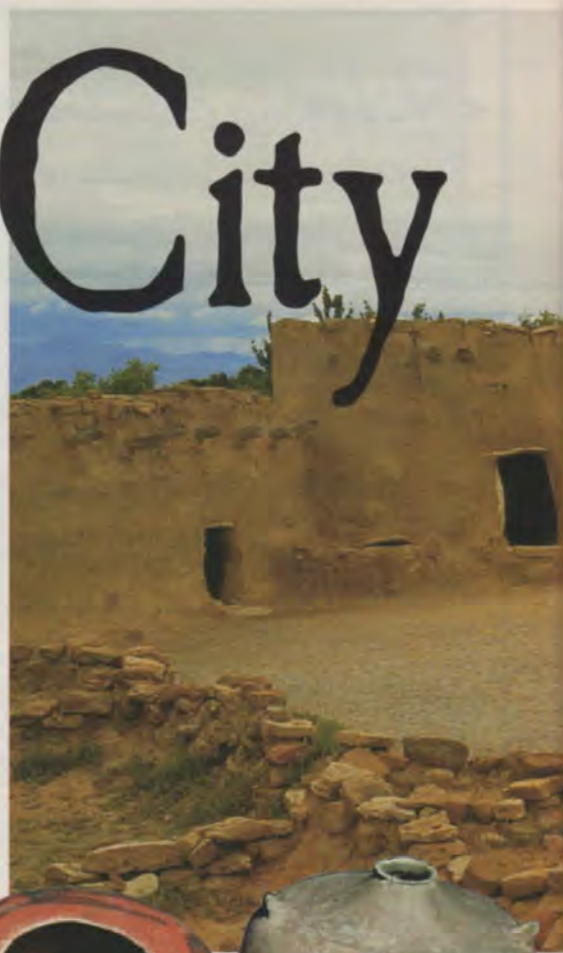
In fact, these Pueblo people, once known as the Anasazi, were not the first to settle the area. Centuries before the Lost City was founded, the valley was home to people we call the Basketmakers, who lived there as early as 300 A.D. But around 800 A.D. the Pueblo people, whose civilization was far advanced, moved into the Moapa Valley from the east. Whether they took their place by force or merged peacefully with the Basketmakers, we don't know, but these newcomers were very different, and they changed the face of the valley.

Unlike their predecessors, who lived in pit houses with low, domed roofs and doors in the top, the Lost City people built houses of adobe and stone with flat roofs

and doorways in the side. These houses, built on gravel benches overlooking the river, were often large and rambling—some had as many as a hundred rooms.

Eventually the Lost City settlement spread out in a series of communities, like a modern metropolitan area, for 30 miles along both sides of the Muddy River and northeastward along the neighboring Virgin River. There's no way of knowing how many people lived in the Lost City, but it was probably thousands, and they prospered in this fragile environment for 350 years.

What little we know of the ancestral Pueblos' lives comes from the artifacts they abandoned. Their pottery decoration was bold and sprawling, more exuberant than the Basketmakers' meticulous patterns of black lines and dots. The Lost City people probably played a game with the flat bone





Pueblo buildings were rebuilt at the Lost City Museum. Far left: Lost City pottery pieces include (from left) a corrugated cooking pot, a black-on-red painted seed jar, black-on-gray painted bowl, and a gray water jar.

dice and small, highly polished stone discs found in their ruins. For their children they made toys, such as dolls and dishes, from unfired clay.

The Lost City Pueblos were fond of jewelry made from turquoise or from abalone and other shells imported from the California coast. Their clothes were woven from cotton they raised in the valley. Irrigating with brush dams, they likely farmed on small islands between shallow streams of the Muddy River, growing corn, beans, squash, and gourds. They hunted mountain sheep, deer, and rabbits, seasoning the meat with salt dug from the hills east of the Valley of Fire.

The Lost City people did not confine themselves to the Moapa and Virgin River valleys. They mined turquoise 60 miles to the southwest near the future sites of Boulder City and Hoover Dam, and they traveled as far west as California's Amargosa Desert. They foraged the Spring Mountains west of the Las Vegas Valley for pine nuts and in the heat of summer moved to camps near the Virgin Mountains.

Then something happened. Around 1150 A.D. the Lost City people began leaving the Moapa Valley. They abandoned their houses, farms, and mines, vanishing as though they'd never existed but

for the tantalizing clues they left behind.

"About the time this abandonment happened, it happened throughout the whole Southwest," says Kathyne Olson, curator of the Lost City Museum in Overton. "Mesa Verde was abandoned. Chaco Canyon was abandoned. All these places. But the people themselves did not disap-

and why they left is a mystery enduring to this day. All we know for sure is that once they abandoned their communities around the Muddy River, rain melted the

## What happened to the Lost City people and why they left is an enduring mystery.

pear. They just regrouped into other areas. Some archaeologists think there was a religious change going on, and the kachina cult started. They start seeing kachinas on the petroglyphs and in the murals in the kivas, and they think that people were moving closer to ceremonial centers because of this. We see sites being abandoned rapidly throughout the Southwest."

Others imagine a particularly severe drought, a series of droughts, or disease, such as malaria, from the swampy river valley. Burned houses and scattered arrowheads suggest battle.

But these theories are only what might have happened to the Lost City people,

pueblos and drifting sand covered the remains. The Lost City fell into 800 years of sleep, and the ancestral Pueblos who'd lived there faded into myth.

It wasn't until Southern Nevada became a Western crossroads during the 18th and 19th centuries that the Lost City emerged from its sandy grave. The Old Spanish Trail brought the conquering friars down the Virgin River directly over the buried ruins. In 1826, fur trapper Jedediah Smith found a salt cave mined by the Lost City people where the Virgin joined the Muddy. Armijo, Rivera, Fremont, Powell, and Ives all passed near the Lost City in their explorations. In the 1860s and '70s



Mormon farmers built the towns of St. Thomas, Overton, Logandale, and Bunkerville along the Virgin and Muddy, while steamboats plied the Colorado. Ranchers moved into the Las Vegas Valley, and miners rediscovered the ancient Pueblo turquoise mines near Black Canyon, where Hoover Dam would be built.

Still, none of these people realized they were not the pioneers they believed themselves to be, nor did they understand the sophisticated civilization that had preceded them—a civilization whose remains, dug from yards and fields, graced their mantelpieces.

One man, however, did have an idea of

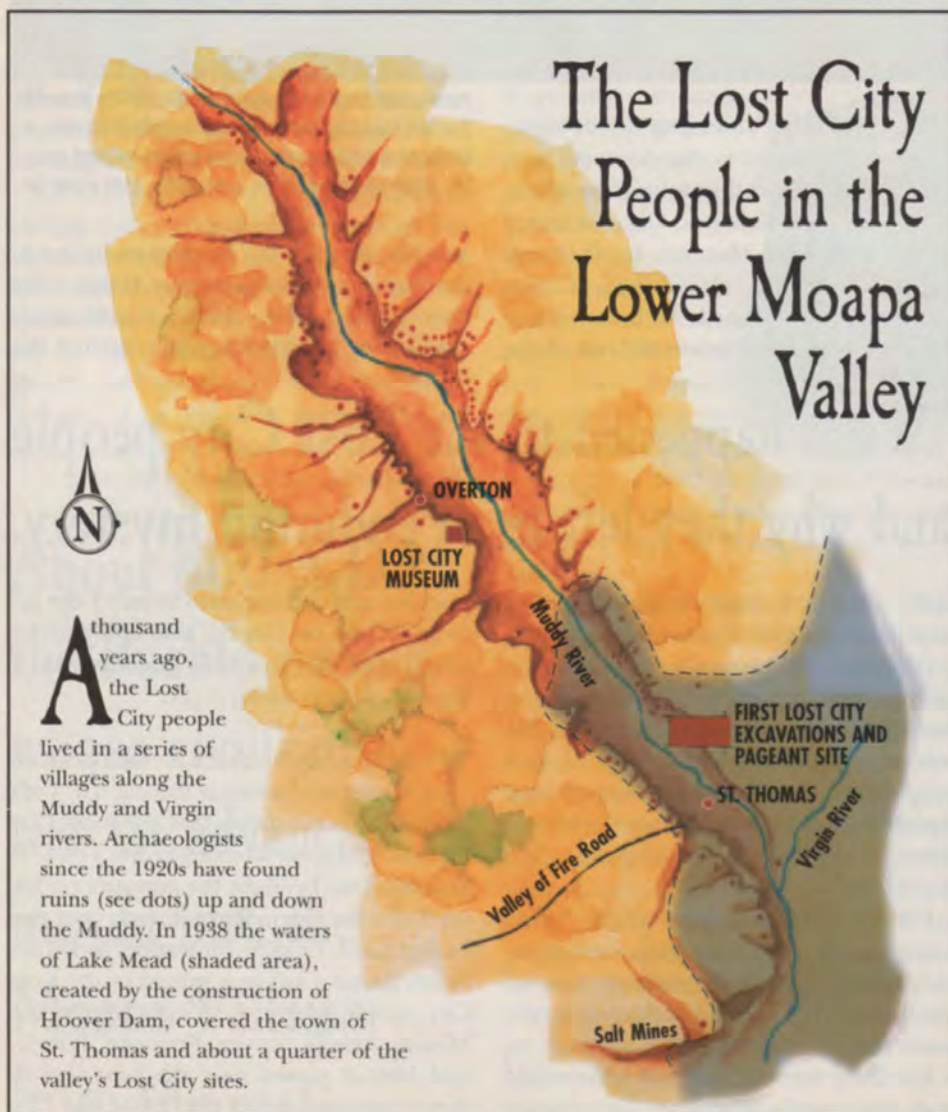
The uncovering of the Lost City ruins in the Moapa Valley began in 1924 when Governor James Scrugham enlisted the help of archaeologist Mark Harrington. Above, the outlines of ancient Pueblo structures emerge in one of the earliest excavations.

what might lay buried. Nevada Governor James Scrugham had read Jedediah Smith's and others' accounts of a ruined city near the Muddy River and was captured by the mystery. Eager to promote Nevada, he announced that if anyone found traces of these ruins, they should let him know. In about September 1924, brothers John and Fay Perkins, natives of the Moapa Valley, reported they knew the ruins Scrugham was looking for—they'd played among them as children.

On October 20, 1924, Scrugham arrived in Las Vegas on his way to the Muddy River with an entourage that included a Hearst newspaper reporter. Scrugham held a press conference in the Las Vegas High School auditorium, describing the great tourist potential of the Muddy River discoveries and plans for large-scale excavation. A couple of months later, Scrugham addressed the City Club of Los Angeles and compared the Lost City with the tomb of Tutankhamen, whose discovery in Egypt just two years before had dazzled the world.

"King Tut achieved a world-wide fame when they dug into his tomb," Scrugham said, "but [Nevada's] buried city existed thousands of years before King Tut's time. There are more ancient ruins than King Tut's tomb within a day's ride of Los Angeles."

That wasn't strictly true, of course, but the image was powerful, just as referring to the Moapa Valley ruins as the Lost City was more intriguing than their official name, Pueblo Grande de Nevada, as the governor had christened the site.





Harrington (above left) at headquarters in 1925. At right, observers in 1924 included (from left) George Evans, Harrington and his son John, Governor Scrugham, journalist Mr. Wright, Dr. C.W. West, State Senator Levi Syphus, and State Police Sgt. McSherry.

While Scrugham was exploring the Lost City with the Perkins brothers, famed archaeologist Mark Harrington was conducting excavations at Lovelock Cave in Northern Nevada for the Heye Foundation's Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian Institution. In October 1924 Scrugham invited Harrington to examine the Muddy River discoveries.

"We saw the outlines of houses of stone and adobe and stone pavements, shrouded in sands that have drifted down across the valley for thousands of years," Harrington wrote of his first visit to the site. "Here and there a stone corner jutted out of the soil. Here and there the rectangular ground plan of a house could be seen, and everywhere there were myriads of pieces of broken pottery. We do not know how deep is the cover of sand, but the dunes, one after the other, are without



miles beyond that. Harrington realized the Lost City would rewrite history, and he was eager to work there.

On his part, Governor Scrugham tried raising money to pay for the Lost City

provide a dependable source of income for Harrington's work. Harrington hired Fay Perkins to assist while Scrugham arranged for Pitt Indians George Evans and his son, Willis, who had worked with Harrington elsewhere in Nevada, to work at the Lost City excavations.

Scrugham also pursued an ambitious public relations campaign. In an arrangement with the Union Pacific Railroad, which was anxious to exploit the Lost City for its own profit, a small collection of artifacts was exhibited in Union Pacific ticket offices all over Southern California. A papier-mâché model of a Lost City house was built for display at a veterans' convention in Omaha, and stories about Harrington's work appeared in *American Anthropologist*, *Scientific American*, and newspapers throughout the country.

Scrugham's biggest public relations coup, however, was staging the Lost City pageant on the evening of May 23, 1925.

## Scrugham compared the Lost City with the tomb of Tutankhamen, whose discovery in Egypt just two years before had dazzled the world.

doubt the shrouds of ghost cities of the far-gone past."

Until that moment archaeologists had believed the Colorado River in northern Arizona to be the western boundary of the Pueblo domain, but the Muddy River was

excavations. He had asked the Heye Foundation and both the Carnegie and Smithsonian institutions to underwrite the project and even suggested early in 1925 that "every whiskey prescription be taxed the sum of 50¢" in order to



Fay Perkins (left) and his brother John told Scrugham about the ruins and helped Harrington with excavations. The pageant site hosted productions (middle). A CCC crew shows its discoveries in the mid-1930s (bottom).



He found financial backing from New York millionaire John Chaloner, who had been so fascinated by accounts he'd read of the Lost City that he contacted the governor, offering to fund Harrington's work. To provide a stage for the production, Scrugham brought several Zuni Indians from northern New Mexico—noted at the time as probable descendants of the Lost City people—to rebuild one of the pueblos and to take part in the pageant with local Paiutes and Mohaves. He enlisted Elbert Eastmond, professor of pageantry and head of Brigham Young University's art department, to direct the event.

The Union Pacific Railroad offered special excursion fares from all its stations in Nevada, California, and Utah. Round trip from Las Vegas was \$3.75, while tourists coming up from Los Angeles paid \$19.80.

The Pageant Pueblo Grande de Nevada was an extravagant depiction of the history of the Muddy River area. A tractor-powered generator provided lights, and an orchestra played musical accompaniment. Pageant characters included Children of the Past, Jedediah Smith and his Men, Mormon Pioneers, and the Grand Chorus, which ended the pageant expressing the Glory of Nevada. The pageant wasn't without problems, however, as local Paiute actors went on strike for higher wages.

A great success, the pageant was attended by reporters from major news syndicates. The pageant and surrounding attractions were filmed by the International News Reel Corporation and Pathé News and projected in theaters across the U.S.

The *Las Vegas Age* described the tourist trek to the event's site near St. Thomas: "An occasional flat tire occasioned delay and perspiration and, perhaps, a suggestion of the hardships which beset the pioneer. According to John F. Perkins, who caused a count of passing machines to be made at St. Thomas, there were more than 1,200 automobiles at the Pageant. If each brought five people, an estimate which seems conservative, there were six thousand spectators at the Pageant."

The pageant was so successful, a second one was held the following April. As the keystone in Scrugham's effort to promote tourism in Nevada, the future of work at the Lost City seemed assured.

# Construction of Hoover Dam and the lake rising behind it would drown hundreds of Lost City sites.

But then the unthinkable happened—in 1926 Scrugham lost reelection to Fred Balzar, one of whose campaign slogans was “Live Cities, Not Dead Ones.” Because Scrugham had been the driving force behind the Lost City excavations, and because his position as governor allowed him to arrange deals in support of the project, his political defeat ended Harrington’s work in the Moapa Valley for almost three years. Harrington left the Heye Foundation in 1928 to work for the Southwest Museum in Los Angeles, and excavations at the Lost City languished.

What rekindled interest in Lost City archaeology was passage in Congress of the Boulder Canyon Project Act in December

1928. Construction of Hoover Dam and the lake rising behind it would drown hundreds of Lost City sites. In January 1929 the Southwest Museum sent Mark Harrington back to Nevada to conduct a four-month survey of the Lower Moapa Valley, an area Lake Mead would eventually cover. Another four years went by while construction of Hoover Dam progressed and settlers in the valley—including the entire population of St. Thomas—prepared to abandon their homes.

Then, once again, Jim Scrugham rescued the Lost City. Scrugham ran for Congress in 1932 and swept into Washington on the Democratic coattails of Franklin Roosevelt. Roosevelt established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in April 1933, and that fall Congressman Scrugham, again in a position to make arrangements, declared excavation of the Lost City to be an Emergency Conservation Work project for the CCC, working through the National Park Service. Scrugham also arranged for the Park Service to borrow Mark Harrington from the Southwest



The Lost City pageants in 1925 and '26 were part of Scrugham's plan to create a major tourist attraction in Southern Nevada.

Museum. Harrington in turn brought Fay Perkins back to work together with his son, Richard “Chick” Perkins, and Willis Evans.

The excavations carried out by the CCC from 1933 to 1938 were intense and thorough, driven by the urgency of saving

## Lost City: The Museum

The Lost City Museum in Overton tells the story of the Pueblo people who established villages on the Muddy River more than 1,000 years ago. The museum, built of adobe in the mid-1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, houses excellent collections of prehistoric pottery and of baskets made by Moapa and Pahrump Paiute artisans from the late 1800s to 1930s. The display “Lost City, Nevada’s Millennial City: 1,000 Years of Change” will be up through June 30. A gift shop offers local and Southwestern Indian items. Outside, visitors can explore pueblo houses and a pit house that were reconstructed on their ancient foundations in 1935.

The museum is located in Overton, 65 miles northeast of Las Vegas by Interstate 15 and State Route 169. Part of the Nevada Department of Museums, Library, and Arts, the museum is open every day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Admission is



Visitor Raul Mangubat looks at the Lost City Museum’s central display, which shows the steps of archaeology. The display area is an actual pueblo site—the museum wing was built over it.



\$2 for adults; children under 18 enter free. Contact the Lost City Museum, Box 807, Overton, NV 89040, 702-397-2193, [www.comnett.net/~kolson/](http://www.comnett.net/~kolson/) Overton has restaurants and motels; contact the Moapa Valley Chamber of Commerce, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040, 702-397-2160, [www.moapavalley.com](http://www.moapavalley.com). Also, visitors will find good examples of ancient rock art, including petroglyphs of the Lost City era, 12 miles south at Valley of Fire State Park; call 702-397-2088 for information. Petroglyph sites include Atlatl Rock and Mouse’s Tank.



The Lost City Museum, built of adobe by the CCC boys in the 1930s, stands on a bluff in Overton.

as much as possible before the dark waters of Lake Mead put an end to the digging. For many of the young CCC boys who'd been sent to Nevada from the East and Midwest, the archaeological excavations were a great adventure.

"Our foreman was Fay Perkins," Lewis Jones remembers of his work at the Lost City site. "We called him Pop. We dug with picks and shovels, took the top off of the hill down about eight or so feet. We had to be careful not to damage the bones. We had to pick the dirt off with an ice pick or a knife." The crews worked at several sites, including the Valley of Fire and the Pueblo turquoise mines in Hemenway Wash near Boulder City.

The CCC boys also built the Lost City Museum at Overton. Designed by Harrington and built of adobe brick, the museum was finished in June 1935.

By the summer of 1938 Lake Mead had submerged most of Harrington's original Lost City excavations and the site of the pageant. Nature itself seemed determined to reclaim the Lost City, too. On June 28 and 29, 1938, cloudbursts at Overton and the Valley of Fire sent several feet of mud and water pouring over what remained of Harrington's digs.

Even though Lake Mead covered only about one fourth of the Lost City sites, there were no more large-scale excavations in the Moapa Valley after 1938. The impressive collection of artifacts Harrington had saved were dispersed through the years, some to the Smithsonian and others to the Southwest Museum. Most of what the State of Nevada claimed has been lost,

reduced to a small collection housed at the Nevada State Museum in Carson City. The federal government's share of Lost City relics was stripped from the Overton museum in 1953, transferred first to Globe, Arizona, then to Tucson. Many items were lost. Most of the Pueblo material exhibited at Overton today is a private collection purchased from Fay Perkins' son, Chick, former curator of the museum, who was succeeded in 1980 by Kathryn Olson.

something in place that these sites were protected right from the very beginning," says Olson. "Maybe if Scrugham had stayed governor, those laws would have been made, and the Lost City might have been set aside as a protected area. It didn't happen. We have about seven acres we bought with grant money, but we haven't been able to afford to fence it, so it's being impacted by people building around us. It's their backyard. They go out there and dig. Hopefully we'll be able to fence that someday."

The Lost City is one of Nevada's few bonafide archaeological sites, and the museum is among the region's most popular attractions. And as more of what the Pueblos left behind is smashed, drilled, paved, and bulldozed, the museum's responsibility as guardian of what's left grows more important.

As for the Lost City people themselves, their spirits claim the Moapa Valley still, wandering the gas stations and cafés of Logandale, drifting through the churches, schools, and trailer parks of Overton. Where we glimpse a shimmer of heat dancing on the white rocks of the surrounding desert, or a quick, bright reflection from water gurgling through irrigation ditches

## By the summer of 1938 Lake Mead had submerged most of Harrington's original Lost City excavations and the site of the pageant.

The Lost City Museum's job today has become more educational, interpreting what remains rather than carrying on the excavations begun by Harrington 76 years ago.

"Money is one reason, and no more ruins is another," Olson says. "There's not a lot left." Indeed, nearly all the land along both sides of the Muddy River is private, and private landowners aren't too concerned about preserving Lost City ruins. Rarely is the museum asked to conduct digs before someone builds a house or pushes a road through the desert. Even more rarely do property owners donate anything they may find on their land.

"It's sad that our state did not have

along the road, it's those ancient residents of the valley, separated by a thousand years of dusty time, reminding us in the present millennium that we weren't the first ones here, and we won't be the last to go. ♡

*Dennis McBride of Boulder City is the author of several books about Hoover Dam, Boulder City, and Southern Nevada. His current projects include Life in the Neon Closet: A History of Gay Las Vegas and Blood in the Gravy: A Casebook of Murder, Suicide, and Violent Death in Boulder City, Nevada. The University of Nevada Press plans to reprint McBride's and Andrew Dunar's Building Hoover Dam: An Oral History of the Great Depression next year.*

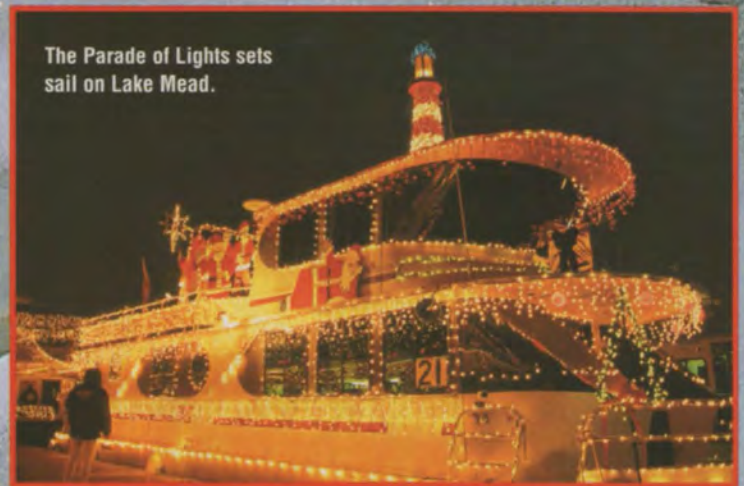
# CALENDAR

November 2000 - January 2001

## of Nevada Events & Shows

### A Season to Celebrate

Reveling in unique Yuletide events and parties in Las Vegas, the Reno-Sparks area, and rural Nevada



The Parade of Lights sets sail on Lake Mead.

A blanket of snow at Lake Tahoe creates a festive holiday mood  
Photo: Peter Spain. Inset photo: Gene Hertzog

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# Gule Love It



Santa dons gold lamé at the Liberace Museum's Christmas festivities December 7.

Celebrating Christmas with unusual traditions at Nevada towns, museums, and casinos.

By Richard Moreno

From Santa Claus dressed in gold lamé to an ice-skating rink in the desert, Nevada celebrates the holiday season like few other places. In fact, you might even say that some Nevada towns and businesses commemorate Christmas in distinctly non-traditional ways.

For instance, at the Liberace Museum in Las Vegas, Saint Nick trades his familiar red union suit for a Vegas-style gold-lamé outfit during **"Christmas at the Liberace Museum"** on December 7. The unique Santa suit was created for Liberace, who once wore it to a Christmas costume party.

"It was a really fun party, and we

wanted to bring back the gold-lamé suit," says Jamie James of the museum. "Liberace loved Christmas. Over the years, he turned down thousands of dollars because he would not work during Christmas."

While the gold-clad Santa greets visitors, the museum will display Liberace's sterling-silver sleigh and reindeer and a collection of the late entertainer's holiday decorations and rare music boxes that play Christmas tunes. During the event, Santa will light a giant, decorated tree in the Liberace Plaza in front of the museum on East Tropicana Avenue. Admission to the party will be free with the donation of a new, unwrapped toy or non-perishable food item.

Meanwhile, New York-New York in Las Vegas will try to re-create the ambiance of the ice-skating rink at New York City's Rockefeller Center with its **"Lady Liberty's Holiday Ice Spectacular."** From November 24 to December 26, between noon and 7 p.m., skating exhibitions will take place on an outdoor rink erected at the base of the

resort's Statue of Liberty. "What we heard last year was that having an ice-skating rink in the middle of the desert was amazing to people," says Wendie Mosca, advertising and public relations coordinator at New York-New York. Ten professional skaters will perform seven free shows daily, with each show lasting about 15 minutes.

One of the most colorful holiday traditions in this desert state takes place on water. **Lake Mead's Parade of Lights**, which will be held on December 2, brings together a flotilla of about 50

During Ely's Christmas Ghost Train ride, the jolly fat man wanders the train dispensing candy canes.

sail and motor boats lavishly decorated with Christmas lights. The convoy will raise anchor at 6 p.m. and proceed from Lake Mead Marina, 30 miles east of Las Vegas, to Hemenway Harbor and back. Veteran parade-watchers say the best viewing is from either Boulder



Brightly decorated boats set sail December 2 during the Lake Mead Parade of Lights near Boulder City. The Bellagio in Las Vegas decorates a giant conifer (above).

Beach or the Tail o' the Whale restaurant at Lake Mead Marina. The Lake Mead National Recreation Area has waived its user fees for those wishing to watch the parade.

While trains have long been part of Christmas—remember those little model railroads that some folks set up

around their Christmas trees?—in Nevada you'll find two full-size trains offering special Santa excursions. On December 2, the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely hosts the **Christmas Ghost Train**. During the ride, guests can partake of hors d'oeuvres and an open bar while the jolly fat man wan-

ders the train dispensing candy canes to every deserving boy and girl. Tickets will be available through the Nevada Northern Railway Museum.

The following weekend, Mr. Claus heads to Carson City to stoke up the **Santa Train** at the Nevada State Railroad Museum. On December 9-10,



Great Basin National Park

Ride the Ghost Train of Old Ely

NV Northern Railway Museum

White Pine County Golf Course

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The atrium at Sam's Town brightens (above) while bands march in the holiday spirit December 2 during the Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade.

visitors can tour the museum, which contains beautifully restored antique locomotives and cars, and ride a vintage steam train free of charge. During the ride on the museum's tracks, Santa will hand out treats and good cheer.

One of the strangest holiday celebrations in the state takes place at

**Christmas Tree Pass**, located about 20 miles northwest of Laughlin. Residents have long decorated the piñon pines there with homemade ornaments. Spray-painted tin cans, plastic bottles, old shoes, and crude aluminum-foil trimmings—nearly everything but the kitchen sink—have been hung on the

scraggly branches of the trees lining the dirt road that leads over the pass.

Of course, most of Nevada's holiday celebrations rely on old-fashioned Yuletide values. At the **Sparks Hometowne Christmas** on December 2, Santa Claus will ride a vintage fire engine while leading a parade of nearly 100

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Sharkey Begovich celebrates Serbian Christmas each January 7 by serving a free feast to long lines of guests at his Gardnerville casino.

floats and classic cars on Victorian Avenue. Highlight of the event is the lighting of a massive—usually 75 to 80 foot tall—Christmas tree that is an annual gift from the residents of Garibaldi, Oregon, Sparks' sister city. (Part of the fun is watching the tree arrive a few days earlier on a huge flatbed truck.) A craft fair in Victorian Square will have dozens of merchants selling holiday items such as handmade ornaments, wreaths, and other crafts.

Nevada's resorts also get into the holiday spirit. Sam's Town in Las Vegas boasts the largest hotel Christmas display in the state when it fills a 25,000-square-foot atrium with hundreds of thousands of Christmas lights, decorations, animated displays, and laser shows—not to mention strolling carolers and Santa Claus. Sam's Town's free "Christmas in the Park" display

opens the day before Thanksgiving and continues until the first week in January.

The Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas will once again transform its Botanical Gardens into what some consider Las Vegas' most elaborate Yuletide showcase. The centerpiece is an enormous living Christmas tree decorated with hundreds of stars, bulbs, and other dazzling ornaments; three years ago style maven Martha Stewart designed the tree's decorations. The rest of the indoor arboretum will be filled with seasonal trees and plants—tall firs, pines, poinsettias, and holly bushes.

Nevada's holiday season, however, doesn't end during the last week in December. Traditionally,

the big finale is Sharkey Begovich's annual Serbian Christmas Dinner held every January 7, the day Christ's birth is celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox tradition. For nearly three decades, the owner of Sharkey's Nugget casino in

## Highlight of the Sparks Hometowne Christmas is the lighting of a massive Christmas tree from Oregon.

Gardnerville has presented all comers a free feast of suckling pig, turkey, ham, roast beef, and all the trimmings. More than 3,500 people enjoy the meal, which starts at 5 p.m. and continues until everyone is fed.

Now that's the Christmas spirit. ♠

Richard Moreno is the publisher of Nevada Magazine.

## More Holiday Events

To learn more about the holiday events described in this article and the many parades, tree ceremonies, and other festivities taking place in Nevada at Christmas time, see the "Millennium Calendar Countdown" in this edition of Nevada Magazine's Nevada Events and Shows.

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The Triple 7 Restaurant & Brewery was recently voted the "Best Saloon in Southern Nevada" by Nevada Magazine's Year 2000 Reader's Poll. We feature an eclectic menu with everything from pizzas, and burgers, to the freshest sushi, sashimi and oysters. Located downtown at Main and Ogden.

No reservations required. (702) 387-1896  
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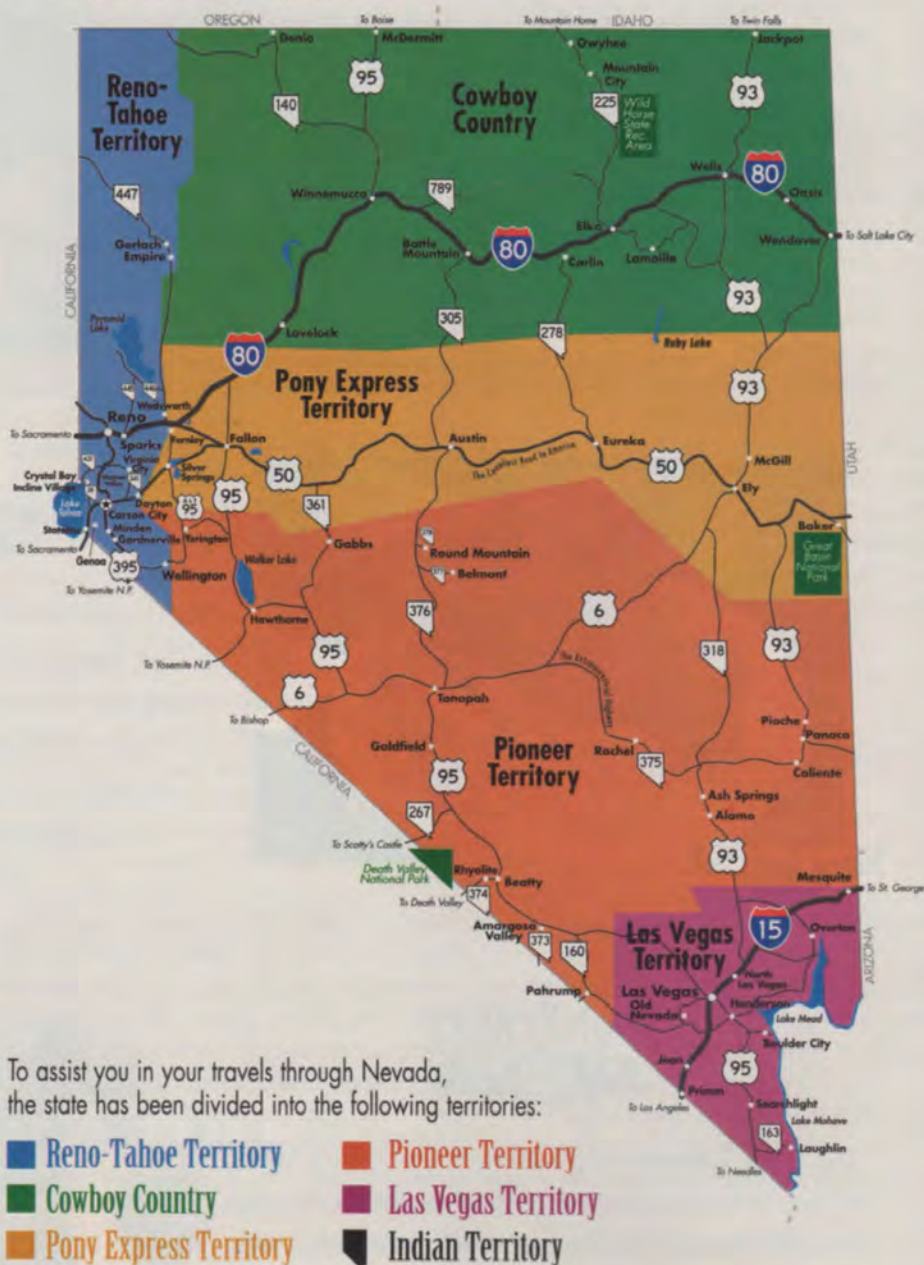
# Millennium Countdown

# CALENDAR

Nevada is holding a celebration for the millennium. Nevada has welcomed visitors and residents to months of festivities that extend to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Following is a statewide day-by-day guide to events. Dates are subject to change, so it is wise to confirm dates and times. Each event is color-coded to the Nevada Territory Map (below).

## November 2000

- **1 Alice Giles:** Harpist in concert. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.
- **1 Pennzoil World of Outlaws:** Half-mile dirt oval race. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.
- **1-5 National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals:** Athletes 40 and older compete. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-8842.
- **1-30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.
- **3 Conjunto Jardin:** Family fiesta of music and food. Kings Beach Elementary School, North Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.
- **3 Great Basin Brew Fest:** Annual fundraiser. Stockmen's, Elko, 775-777-8184.
- **3 Beer Tasting and Auction:** Food and prizes. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.
- **3-5 The Reserve 250:** SNORE off-road race. Reserve Hotel-Casino, Henderson, 702-452-4522.
- **3-5, 10-12, and 17-18 "Battle of Shallowford":** Comedy about residents of a rural Southern town who believe aliens have landed. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.
- **3-5 Western Heritage Festival:** Cowboy poetry gathering featuring chautauquas, Western music, vendors, arts and crafts, pickup truck display, and hot air balloons. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-658-4679.
- **3-5 and 10-12 "Tommy":** Rock opera. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.
- **3-5, 10-12, and 17-19 "My Fair Lady":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.
- **4 Cultures of Hawaii and Polynesia:** Workshop on the Hawaiian language, making a lei, and other island experiences. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-DINO.
- **4 Las Vegas Pro Polo:** America vs. Great Britain. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 775-826-6157.
- **4 Icarus Puppet Company:** Audience participation in "Crane Daughter." Whitney Ranch Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.
- **4 Late Model Open Comp:** 3/8-mile paved course. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.
- **4 Gordy Ohlinger: Banjo-ologist:** Concert. Silver Springs Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.
- **4 Fall Stargazing:** Early evening viewing. Hot chocolate and tea will be served. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.



- **4 Topaz Sagehens Fall Boutique:** Topaz Ranch Park Building, Topaz Lake, 775-266-3759.
- **4 Boyd Coulter and the Good Times Band:** Dance to big-band music. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **4-5 Rhymer's Rodeo Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.
- **4-5 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor racing MX style.

- Mesquite Raceway, Mesquite, 435-673-1956.
- **4-5 Mountain Man Rendezvous:** Primitive camp and events profiling the lives of mountain men and women. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141.
- **5 Lightwood Duo:** Concert series features jazz, rock, film music, and classics. Black Mountain Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367.
- **5 Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg With the Assad**

# NEVADA'S 15-Month Celebration

**Brothers:** Violinist and Brazilian guitar duo.

Performing Arts Center, UNLV, 702-895-ARTS.

• **5 Tour Las Vegas: Ride of the Century:** Fully supported bicycle rides. 775-588-9658.

• **5 and 7 Master Classic Concert:** Reno Philharmonic. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **6 Meet the Winemaker:** Gourmet dinner served with wines from featured winery. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 639.

• **11 Ruby Mountain Symphony:** Concert.

Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-4187

• **11 Old Bill Williams: Mountain Man:** Living-history program about the horse thief and ranch owner of the 1840s. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **11-12 Elko SnoGoers Grass Drags:** Competition among more than 200 snowmobile racers. Elko, 775-777-5221

• **11-12 Autocross at LVMS:** SCCA-sanctioned

**Powwow:** Native American music and dancing.

Community Park, Pahrump, 775-727-5800.

• **17-19 Charlie Nannini Invitational Chariot Races:** Horse-drawn chariot racers compete. Chariot Track, Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **17-19 Valhalla Holiday Faire: A Dickens Experience:** Holiday crafters, artists, boutiques, carolers, and characters from Charles Dickens. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **18 Slot Tournament:** Club Cal-Neva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.

• **18 Volcanoes:** How they helped build the Pacific world. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-DINO.

• **18 Gregory Hines:** Tony- and Emmy-Award winning performer. Performing Arts Center, UNLV, 702-895-ARTS.

• **18 ET Brackets/Jr. Dragsters:** 1/4-mile drag racing. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **18-19 Dirt Track Racing:** Dwarf cars. Mesquite Raceway, Mesquite, 702-398-3105.

• **18-19 SNDR M/C Searchlight Grand Prix:** MRAN desert motorcycle race. Searchlight, 702-437-6726.

• **18-19 Giftown:** Artists and merchants display Christmas wares. Elko, 775-738-4091

• **18-19 What a Deal Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777

• **19 Faculty Solo Concert:** Classical and contemporary music. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

• **19 Trout Fishing in America:** Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet perform folk music. Center Club Showroom, Sturgeon's/Ramada Inn, Lovelock, 775-273-2971

• **19 Russ Martino Trio:** Big-band jazz to contemporary music. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **19 National Import Racing Association:** 1/4-mile drag racing. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **19 Turkey Poker Run:** Valley Cruisers car event. Gardnerville, 775-265-2256.

• **19 Rocky Top Café:** Vocal acoustic musical group. Silver Springs Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **21-25 2000 Fed Cup Championship:** The best American female tennis players form a team to play Spain, Belgium, and the Czech Republic. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **21-Dec. 31 Reno's River Holiday/Festival of**



Off-road competitors test their endurance during the Ramada Express International Rally, December 14-17 in Laughlin.

• **6 Veterans Day Celebration:** Annual salute to the military. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **10-12 Veterans Day Powwow:** Traditional dances and music. Duck Valley Reservation. Owyhee, 775-757-3161

• **10-12 and 16-19 "Charge":** Comedy about a couple who lives in bed while programming technological characters to entertain themselves. Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **11 Heavyweight Championship Fight:** Lennox Lewis v. David Tua. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Patriotic pride on the Comstock. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **11 Pomegranate Art Festival:** Arts, crafts, pomegranate foods, cookbooks, entertainment. Moapa Valley Art Gallery, Overton, 702-397-8323.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Virginia Street, Reno, 775-334-2262.

• **11 Watersheds:** Activities to learn about earth science, ecosystems, and watersheds. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-DINO for more information.

• **11 Veterans Day Celebration and Concert:** Military tribute, refreshments. Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **11 Harvest Wine Tasting:** Fourth annual event. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 775-623-2225.

event. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 775-727-1936.

• **11-12 Veterans Day Celebration:** Parade, swap meet, cook-off, entertainment. Community Center and Park, Amargosa, 877-693-1979.

• **12 Chuck Diamond Band:** Sounds of the '30s to '50s. Silver Springs Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **12 National Walk to D'Feet ALS:** Benefit for Lou Gehrig's disease. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-248-4507

• **13 St. Anne's Holiday Bazaar:** Local crafters' sale. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-3842.

• **16 Historic NASCAR:** Lecture and exhibit reception celebrating the museum's 11th anniversary. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

• **17-18 Nevada Classic: Women's Basketball Tournament:** Teams include the U of N Reno Lady Wolf Pack, Alabama-Birmingham, Colorado State, and Idaho. Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 775-784-6900.

• **17 Cruise Night:** Las Vegas Cruisin' Association. Las Vegas, 702-260-6960.

• **17 and 19 "The Barber of Seville":** Rossini's comedic opera. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.

• **17-19 River Rick's Golf Tournament:** Pioneer Hotel, Laughlin, 800-634-3469, ext. 4114.

• **17-19 Pahrump Valley Chamber Inter Tribal**

• **19 Russ Martino Trio:** Big-band jazz to contemporary music. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **19 National Import Racing Association:** 1/4-mile drag racing. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

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# ONGOING EVENTS

Nevada's museums, galleries, and other organizations hold long-running events throughout the year. Ongoing activities this fall range from exhibits of historical photographs at the Nevada Historical Society in Reno and the Clark County Heritage Museum in Henderson to the opening of the outdoor ice-skating rink in downtown Reno. It is always a good idea to confirm events using the information phone numbers listed.

## Museums and Exhibits

**Cliff Segerblom Retrospective:** Thru Nov. 2. Black-and-white hand-treated photographs by the late Boulder City photographer. Laughlin Library, Laughlin, 702-298-1081

**Beyond Pottery With Linda Vinikow:** Thru Nov. 3. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

**Communicating America's Vision: The Nevada Bell Collection:** Thru Nov. 10. Artists include Georgia O'Keefe, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, and William Wegman. Marjorie Barrick Museum Gallery, UNLV, 702-895-3381

**Portraits by Katya Dach:** Thru Nov. 10. College Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-883-0259.

**Artouring: On Exhibit:** Thru Nov. 12. Works by local artists who have opened their studios to public tours. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**Hoodoo:** Thru Nov. 19. Landscape exhibition by Megan Roberts and Raymond Ghirado. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4631

**Dale Chihuly: On Site:** Thru Nov. 26. Glass creations. Sunday family programs will be held on Nov. 5 and 19. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**Native American Exhibit:** Thru Nov. 28. Petroglyph artist Sharon Graf and photographer Mike McGraw. Summerlin Library, Las Vegas, 702-256-5111

**Neon: Current:** Thru Dec. 2. Works by neon artists Kim Koga, Christian Schiess, David Svenson, Ken Yuhasz, and Willem Volkensz. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-4631

**Minerals Go to War:** Thru Dec. 10. Exhibit of posters and wartime materials. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

**Carmine Dell'aira:** Thru Dec. 10. Paintings exhibited as part of Hispanic American Heritage Month. West Las Vegas Library, 702-647-2117

**Artist Gene Speck:** Thru Dec. 22. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

**Sagebrush Studio: The Watercolors of R.G. Schofield:** Thru Dec. 30. Exhibition presents some of the works of Robert G. Schofield, a longtime Pioche miner and jeweler who painted numerous watercolors of Nevada landscapes and towns, including mining communities such as Pioche, Cherry Creek, Oceola, and Eureka, between 1878 and 1912. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1190 for more information.

**Busy Town:** Thru Jan. 7. Interactive math and science exhibit for preschoolers based upon the books

of Richard Scarry. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

**Masterworks from the Phillips Collection:** Thru March 4. Paintings by Picasso, Degas, Manet, Cezanne, and van Gogh from the Phillips Collection of Washington, D.C. Bellagio, Las Vegas, 702-693-7722.

**Desert Sands Pottery:** Thru March 11. The Evans Family potters in Nevada, 1936-1997. Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum, Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 702-294-1988 for details.



The exhibition "Neon: Current" is showing at the Reed Whipple Cultural Center in Las Vegas. Above, Ken Yuhasz of Spokane incorporates a toaster in "Big Hat, No Cattle." A neon "B" appears on one side and an "S" on the other.

**Exhibit Handed Down: Nevada's Living Folk Arts:** Thru April 30. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

**Lost City, Nevada's Millennial City: 1,000 Years of Change:** Thru June 30. Exhibit highlights the Pueblo people in Southern Nevada. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

**All Fired Up:** Nov. 3-26. Sculpture exhibit. North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787

**Las Vegas History of Entertainment IV:** Nov. 4-April 1. Exhibition. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

**Tuesday Night Lectures:** Sam Macaluso, "Kids of

Nevada," Nov. 7. Stan Paher, "Northern Nevada Mining and Railroad Towns," Nov. 14. Gold Hill Hotel, Gold Hill, 775-847-0111

**Great Nevada Picture Hunt:** Nov. 13-Dec. 22. Show of Nevada Magazine's "Great Nevada Picture Hunt" 2000 photo contest winners. College Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 775-887-3062.

**Fall Art Show:** Nov. 13-Jan. 15. Juried exhibit of works by Elko County Art Club members. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

**Historic NASCAR Exhibit:** Nov. 13-Feb. 23. Workshop lecture Nov. 16. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

**Image as Object: Photography and Sculpture Connect:** Nov. 16-Dec. 15. Photographs are combined with fabricated or found objects to create artworks. Sheppard Fine Arts Gallery, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6658.

**Hot Art, Cold War:** Nov. 17-Feb. 16. Russian nonconformist retrospective. Marjorie Barrick Museum Gallery, UNLV, 702-895-3381

**Wild Women Take Off:** Nov. 18-26. Works by Northern Nevada artists. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**Sheppard Family: A Legacy in Art:** Dec. 2-Feb. 4. Works by Craig, Yolanda, and Sophie Sheppard. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**William Dasonville (1879-1957):** Dec. 2-Feb. 4. First exhibition in more than 50 years of the California photographer's work. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**Photography and the Old West:** Dec. 16-March 26. Exhibit documents key events in the westward movement and everyday life. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

**Nevada 2001: A Photography Odyssey:** Jan. 19-June 15. Pioneer photographers including James H. Crockwell, Al Smith, E.W. Smith, P.E. Larson, and "Northeast" Johnson. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

**John LaGatta: Illustrator of the Fashionable Life:** Magazine illustrations and paintings. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

**Mel Pekarsky: Desert Abstractions:** Paintings focus on Great Basin topography. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

## Sporting Events

**Drag Racing:** Weekends thru Nov. 19. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

**University of Nevada Volleyball:** Nov. 2 v. Fresno State, Nov. 4 v. San Jose State, Nov. 20 v. Texas-El Paso. Old Gym, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6900.

**University of Reno Men's Basketball:** The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 3 in a Global Sports exhibition

game, Nov. 11 in an international exhibition game (opponent TBA), Nov. 20 v. Montana State, Nov. 25 v. Montana, Nov. 29 v. Arkansas State, Dec. 9 v. UNLV, Dec. 16 v. Saint Mary's, Dec. 21 v. Westminster College, Jan. 11 v. SMU, Jan. 13 v. TCU, Jan. 20 v. Fresno State, Jan. 27 v. Texas-El Paso, Feb. 8 v. Hawaii, Feb. 10 v. San Jose State, March 1 v. Tulsa, March 3 v. Rice. Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 775-784-6900.

**University of Nevada Football:** The Wolf Pack plays Nov. 4 v. Texas-El Paso, Nov. 18 v. Rice. Mackay Stadium, Reno, 775-784-6900.

**UNLV Men's Basketball:** The Runnin' Rebels play Nov. 7 v. Delta Jammers, Nov. 10 v. Los Angeles Stars, Nov. 17 v. Northern Arizona, Nov. 25 v. Cal State Northridge, Dec. 16 in the Las Vegas Showdown with Oregon, Auburn, and Cincinnati, Dec. 18 v. Alaska-Anchorage, Dec. 20 v. Chicago State, Dec. 22 v. Pepperdine, Dec. 28 v. Monmouth, Dec. 31 v. Mississippi State, Jan. 3 v. Loyola Marymount, Jan. 8 v. Air Force, Jan. 22 v. New Mexico, Jan. 27 v. San Diego State, Feb. 10 v. BYU, Feb. 12 v. Utah, March 1 v. Colorado State, March 3 v. Wyoming. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3151

**UNLV Women's Basketball:** The Lady Rebels play Nov. 7 v. Team Australia-Kilsythe, Nov. 11 v. National Women's Basketball League, Nov. 20 v. Texas-San Antonio, Dec. 19 v. Cal State Northridge, Dec. 23 v. Pacific, Dec. 28 v. U of N, Reno, Dec. 30 v. Prairie View A&M, Jan. 6 v. UC Irvine, Jan. 11 v. Utah, Jan. 13 v. BYU, Feb. 1 v. Colorado State, Feb. 3 v. Wyoming, Feb. 15 v. Air Force, Feb. 17 v. New Mexico, Feb. 24 v. San Diego State. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3151

**UNLV Football:** The Rebels play Nov. 11 v. New Mexico. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

**University of Nevada Women's Basketball:** The Lady Wolf Pack plays Nov. 13 v. RTU Clondica/Latvia, Nov. 17-18 in the Nevada Classic with Alabama-Birmingham, Colorado State, and Idaho, Dec. 3 v. UC Riverside, Dec. 16 v. Central Florida, Dec. 19 v. Wyoming, Dec. 21 v. Air Force, Jan. 5 v. Texas-El Paso, Jan. 7 v. Rice, Jan. 26 v. Southern Methodist, Feb. 2 v. San Jose State, Feb. 4 v. Hawaii, Feb. 16 v. Texas Christian, Feb. 18 v. Tulsa, Feb. 25 v. Fresno State. Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 775-784-6900.

**Downtown Ice Rink:** Nov. 24-Feb. 25. Public skating sessions, lessons, and events at the outdoor rink. Harrah's Plaza at the Reno Arch, Reno, 775-334-2262.

## Farmer's Markets

Seasonal produce, entertainment, and crafts are offered in Southern Nevada farmer's markets.

**Boulder City Farmer's Market:** Thursdays 9am-1pm, on Colorado St. behind City Hall, 702-293-5933.

**Las Vegas Farmer's Markets:** Sundays at Village Square at Peccole Ranch, Tuesdays at Children's Memorial Park, and Wednesdays at Bruce Trent Park. Las Vegas, 702-683-GROW.

## Millennium Countdown Calendar

**Trees:** Tree-decorating contest. Lighting ceremony on Dec. 24, with trees on display through Dec. 31 West Street Plaza, Reno, 775-334-2414.

• **22-Dec. 31 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.

• **23 Turkey Trot:** Thanksgiving morning run-walk. Sparks Marina Park, 775-353-7835.

• **24 Kid's Art Fest:** Workshops in painting, drawing, sculpture, wearable art, and printmaking. Downtown Reno, 775-826-6100.

• **24-25 Annual Black Doll Gift and Collectible Show:** Vendors, designers, workshops, and entertainment. Union Plaza, Las Vegas, 702-647-2242.

• **24-25 Los Angeles to Barstow to Vegas:** AMA-sanctioned dual sport motorcycle tour. 818-249-2141

• **24-26 "Man of La Mancha":** Broadway Comes to Reno series. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.

• **24-26 "The Nutcracker":** Tchaikovsky's holiday ballet performed by the Pinkerton Dance Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-882-3054.

• **24-26 Crazy Reels Slot Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.

• **24-Dec. 26 Lady Liberty's Holiday Ice Spectacular:** Skating exhibitions on outdoor rink. New York-New York, Las Vegas, 800-NY-FOR-ME.

• **25 Holiday Song Fest:** Pasta buffet, entertainment, and silent auction to benefit Nevada Opera youth programs. Eldorado, Reno, 775-786-4046.

• **25 Aquatic Field Study:** How to study sea creatures. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, 702-384-DINO.

• **25 Fisherman's Holiday Fish Derby:** Anglers compete for cash prizes. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **25 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner:** R.S.V.P. and Senior Center, Caliente, 775-726-3129.

• **25 Christmas Tree Lighting:** Music and lighting of community tree. Frank Crowe Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

• **25 Christmas Arts and Crafts Show:** Shoshone Reservation Gym, Ely, 775-289-3013.

• **25-26 Autocross at LVMS:** SCCA-sanctioned event. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 775-727-1936.

• **26 Meet the Artist Christmas Reception:** East Fork Gallery, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.

• **26-27 Scrooge's Craft Fair:** Homemade crafts, food. Caliente, 775-726-3649.

• **27 Miss Rodeo America Pageant:** Excalibur, Las Vegas, 702-597-7777

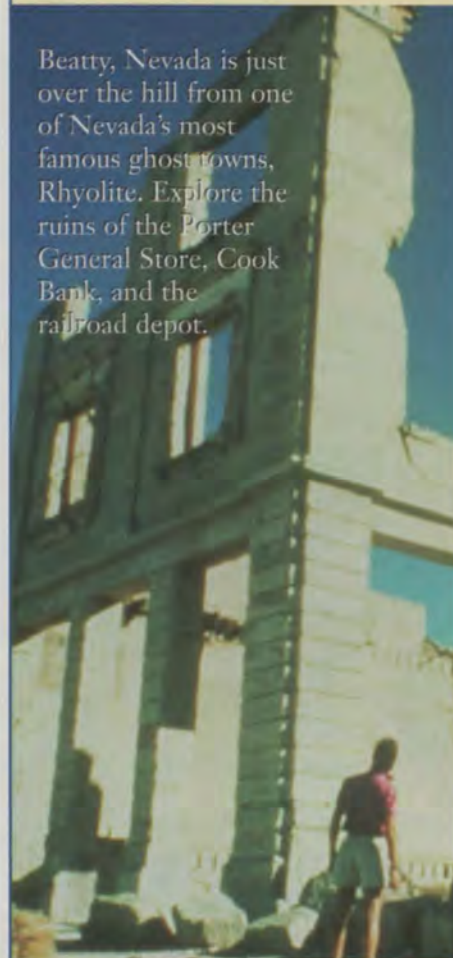
• **27-29 Riverside's Third Annual Western Movie Star Party:** Richard Farnsworth, Bo Hopkins, and other stars. Riverside Resort, Laughlin, 800-227-3849.

• **27-30 Festival of Trees:** "The Nutcracker" performed by the Western Ballet Theater. Decorated trees, wreaths, stockings, and gingerbread houses are auctioned to benefit a children's charity. Convention Center, Elko, 800-248-3556.

• **28 Jack Dempsey and Nevada's 20th Century Mining Town:** Lecture by Charles Greenhaw. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-

## NEVADA'S GATEWAY TO DEATH VALLEY

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# PERSHING COUNTY



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Museum for more information or call

**775-273-7213**



## Millennium Countdown Calendar

4810 for further information on the Dempsey lecture.

- **28-30 Video Poker Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777
- **29 Deck the Halls of Valhalla:** Bring a non-breakable ornament for Christmas party. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **30 Downtown Hoedown:** Live entertainment to celebrate the National Finals Rodeo. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **30-Dec. 1 Holiday Collage 2000:** Las Vegas Youth Ballet performs. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211



Cowboy actor Bill Campbell is among the 45 celebrities expected to attend the Riverside Resort's Third Annual Western Movie Star Party, November 27-29 in Laughlin.

- **30-Dec. 9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

### December 2000

- **Thru Dec. 26 Lady Liberty's Holiday Ice Spectacular:** Skating exhibitions on outdoor rink. New York-New York, Las Vegas, 800-NY-FOR-ME.
- **1 Johnny Cunningham and Susan McKeown:** Scottish fiddling and Irish songs. Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-1440.
- **1-3 Northern Nevada Dart Open:** \$5,080 purse. Tahoe Biltmore Lodge, Lake Tahoe, 800-BILT-MORE.
- **1-3 Las Vegas 200:** A 200-mile off-road race starts and finishes on the Moapa Indian Reservation northeast of Las Vegas. 702-457-5775.
- **1-3 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno,

775-322-1111 for further event information.

- **1-3 and 7-10 "Hamlet":** Shakespeare's play. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **1-9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** About 500 exhibitors sell their cowboy trappings. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.
- **1-10 National Finals Rodeo:** Top 126 rodeo contestants compete for more than \$4.2 million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.
- **1-31 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.
- **2 Crafters Christmas Bazaar:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8261
- **2 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **2 Christmas Ghost Train Ride:** Holiday excursion aboard steam-powered train. Nevada Northern

Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

• **2 Christmas Parade:** Santa arrives at Bicentennial Park. Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

• **2 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 decorated boats on Lake Mead. Lake Mead Marina, Lakeshore Road, Boulder City, 702-457-2797

• **2 Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** 14th annual parade with Santa, music, arts and crafts, and a tree-lighting ceremony. Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **2 Christmas in the Nitetime Skies:** Fireworks over the snow, bonfires, caroling, hot chocolate. Admission is free with donation of a toy. Kimberly's Nurseries, Elko, 775-738-8011

• **2 Spirit of the Season:** Reno Philharmonic concert. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **2 Doodlebug Bazaar:** Holiday gift and craft fair. Recreation Center, Boulder City, 702-293-3271

• **2 Rising Stars of Classical Music:** The Eroica Trio, Jubilant Sykes, and John Bayles perform. Performing Arts Center, UNLV, 702-895-ARTS.

• **2 Douglas High School Craft Fair:** March of Dimes fundraiser. Douglas High School, Minden, 775-782-5136.

• **2 Desert Dance Arts Theater Christmas Bazaar:** Community arts and crafts. Convention Center, Hawthorne, 775-945-3030.

• **2-3 Genoa Christmas Faire:** Arts and crafts fair, with Christmas carols and appetizers on Friday. Town Hall and Fire Bay, Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.

• **2-3 USASA Slalom and Giant Slalom:** Amateur snowboard race. Kirkwood Mountain Resort, south of Lake Tahoe, 530-577-4760.

• **3 RSVP Christmas Variety Show:** Musical and circus acts. Community Center, Carson City, 775-687-5108.

• **3 Feathered Friends of the Ranch:** Birding program features observation and identification. Participants need walking shoes, binoculars, and bird books. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 15 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **3 Winter Is for the Birds:** Slide program on winter resident birds and a make-and-take-it workshop



Frequent Nevada visitors Ezra Idlet (left) and Keith Grimwood, better known as Trout Fishing in America, will present their folk songs, blues, instrumentation, and musical humor on November 19 at Sturgeon's/Ramada Inn in Lovelock.

on building bird feeders and houses. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

- **3 Victorian Home Christmas Tour:** Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1565.
- **4 Pioche Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit:** Christmas lighting, bonfire, hot chocolate, Santa arrives with gifts for all the children. Pioche, 775-962-5544.
- **4 Tree Lighting Ceremony:** Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **5 Billboard Music Awards:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-1111
- **5 Sounds of the Season:** Free concert performed by the Henderson Civic Symphony and a choir of 300 singers. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367
- **7 Christmas at the Liberace Museum:** Santa in gold lamé, tree lighting, museum display of Liberace holiday-related collections. Las Vegas, 702-798-5595, ext. 20.
- **7 Silver and Snowflake Festival of Lights:** Christmas tree-lighting ceremony. State Capitol Building, Carson City, 775-882-1565.
- **8 Holiday Concert:** Sierra Nevada Master Chorale. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-333-9224.
- **8 Luminaria:** Holiday music and program. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.
- **8-9 \$10,000 Blackjack and Craps Tournament:** Free entry. Tahoe Biltmore Lodge, Lake Tahoe, 800-BILTMORE.
- **8-9 Country Christmas:** Parade, tree-lighting ceremony, and caroling. Yerington, 775-463-2245.
- **8-9 Indian Art Market and Christmas Sale:** Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe artists exhibit and sell traditional works. Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Reno, 775-786-7029.
- **8-10 and 14-17 "The Apple Tree":** Three comedy mini-musicals based on Adam and Eve, the

"Lady and the Tiger," and Cinderella characters. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

- **8-10 HollyArt:** Arts and crafts fair. North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787
- **9 Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration:** Historic holiday décor, craft sale, roving carolers, cider, make-and-take ornaments, catered holiday meals, harp music. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.
- **9 Parade of Lights:** Christmas festivities on Idaho Street, Elko, 775-738-6135.
- **9 Children's Christmas Parade:** Santa meets and greets children after parade through town. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951
- **9-10 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor MX style. Mesquite Raceway, Mesquite, 435-673-1956.

- **9-10 Santa Train Steam-Up:** Train rides. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 775-687-6953.
- **9-10 "Messiah":** Handel's holiday classic performed by the Reno Chamber Orchestra. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **9-10 Merry Money Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **10 Holiday Jazz Concert Featuring the Jerry Blake Orchestra:** Music from big band to waltzes. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367
- **10 A Vegas Broadway Christmas:** Broadway hits and holiday favorites. Performing Arts Center, UNLV, 702-895-ARTS.
- **10 Holiday Treat Concert:** Performance by Carson City Symphony and Carson Chamber

## Boulder City Calendar of Events

### April

Clark County Artist Show

### May

Spring Jamboree & Craft Fair  
Boulder City Folk Festival

### July

Fourth of July Damboree

### August

Street Party

### September

Chautauqua  
Rattlin' Rails Handcar Races  
Wurstfest  
Lake Mead Boat & Ski Races

### October

Art In The Park  
Country Store Sale  
St. Jude's Ranch Celebration

### November

Boulder City High School Rodeo  
Community Tree Lighting

### December

Doodlebug Bazaar Craft Sale  
Christmas Parade & Santa's Party  
Lake Mead Parade of Lights

Boulder City  
Chamber of Commerce

702.293.2034

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Nevada Opera presents Rossini's comedic tale, "The Barber of Seville," November 17 and 19 in Reno.

Singers. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

- **10-12 Strike It Rich Blackjack Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777
- **10-13 Caesars Palace Sleigh Bell Slots Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.
- **11 Meet the Winemaker:** Gourmet dinner served with wines from featured winery. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 639.
- **14-17 Ramada Express International Rally:** Off-road endurance race. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 702-243-6846.
- **15-17 "The Nutcracker":** Holiday classic performed by the Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-785-7915.
- **15-17 International Stamp and Coin Expo:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 818-997-6496.
- **15-17 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **15-17 Super Slots Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.
- **15-24 Country Holiday Festival:** March of the Toy Soldiers and Santa. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **15-26 "The Nutcracker":** Nevada Ballet Theatre performs the holiday classic. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-2787
- **16 Las Vegas Showdown: Men's Basketball Tournament:** Teams include UNLV Runnin' Rebels, Oregon, Auburn, and Cincinnati. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.
- **16 Christmas Booksigning and Sale:** Local authors autograph books. Tea and cookies, music. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191
- **16 Slot Tournament:** Club CalNeva/Virginian, Reno, 775-323-1046.
- **16 Cruise Night:** Las Vegas Cruisin' Association. Las Vegas, 702-260-6960.
- **16-17 "Mark Twain Tonight":** Hal Holbrook stars in the one-man show he performed two decades ago in Virginia City. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0600.
- **17 Christmas at CCSN:** Music and dance concert includes a Christmas carol sing-along. Nicholas

Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

- **17 Free Learn to Glide and Stride Clinic:** Cross-country and snowshoe lessons. Hope Valley, south of Lake Tahoe, 530-694-2266.
- **18-21 Reebok Holiday Prep Classic:** Boys' high school basketball tournament featuring 64 teams

## Millennium Site



The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar, devoted to the state's 15-month millennial celebration, appears in each issue of *Nevada Magazine* during the state's celebration. The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar also is available online at [www.2000nevada.com](http://www.2000nevada.com). In addition to millennium events, the site has information on ordering "NV2000: Making Millennium Magic" merchandise, millennium travel packages, and a countdown clock. The site links to the Nevada Commission on Tourism's information site, [www.travelnevada.com](http://www.travelnevada.com), which offers a wide variety of travel and vacation ideas.

# Millennium Countdown Calendar

from 17 states. Green Valley and Durango high schools, Las Vegas, 702-799-5456.

- **21-23 "Phantom" by Yeston and Kopit:** Broadway Comes to Reno series. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.
- **22 Fiesta Navidad:** Holiday music and dance. Performing Arts Center, UNLV, 702-895-ARTS.
- **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Statewide.
- **31 New Year's Eve at Piper's Opera House:** Brian Farnon and his 18-piece big band orchestra. Virginia City, 775-847-0433.
- **31 New Year's Eve Celebration:** Live entertainment. Admission \$25. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **31 A Family New Year's:** A cruise aboard the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler includes dinner, entertainment, and a party on the landing. Ring in the New Year at 9pm, Pacific Time. Lake Mead Cruises, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.
- **31 Countdown in Downtown:** The clock ticks toward midnight. Downtown, Elko, 775-738-2397
- **31 New Year's Gala:** Buffet and dance with the Motifs and a DJ. Carson Nugget, Carson City, 775-882-1626, ext. 250.
- **31 New Year's Eve Bash:** Wild Cactus Club: The Sac Machine. Grand Canyon Ballroom: Smiley and the Majestics. Eureka Casino, Mesquite, 702-346-4600.
- **31 New Year's Eve With Cami Thompson and the Tony Savage Orchestra:** Tahoe Biltmore Lodge, Lake Tahoe, 800-BILTMORE.
- **31-Jan. 1 ZMA Motocross:** Outdoor MX style. Mesquite Raceway, Mesquite 435-673-1956.

## January 2001

- **1-Feb. 16 Hot Art, Cold War:** Russian nonconformist retrospective exhibit. Marjorie Barrick Museum Gallery, UNLV, 702-895-3381
- **6-7 Mud Mania Truck Races:** Contestants plow through mud to victory. Mesquite, 702-346-3766.
- **7 Sharkey's Serbian Christmas:** Free feast at Sharkey's Nugget. Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.
- **7 and 9 Cross-Country/Snowshoe Full Moon Glide:** Hope Valley, south of Lake Tahoe, 530-694-2266.
- **13 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, 775-348-9413.
- **13-14 Red Bull Ultracross:** Teams of two racers—one skier and one snowboarder—compete. Olympic Valley, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.
- **13-15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.
- **13 and 27 Hidden Cave Tour:** Guided tour to archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677
- **18-21 Laughlin Desert Challenge:** Off-road race. Laughlin, 800-452-8445.
- **26-28 "Annie Get Your Gun":** Starring Marilu Henner. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.
- **27-Feb. 3 Cowboy Poetry Gathering:** Elko, 775-738-7508.

# Virginia City

A Place to Remember



Virginia City, the 1860s mining metropolis, was once the richest place in the world. Facing the wooden boardwalks in this mountainside town are museums, restaurants, old west saloons, and a historic railroad, all surmounted by ancient balconies, antique stores, and historic mansions.



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# PLANNING AHEAD

Following is a calendar of major Nevada community events through 2001 to help plan outings and vacations. Dates are subject to change, so when making travel plans it is a good idea to call ahead, using the information phone numbers.

## February

- **3-4 Annual African-American Cultural Arts Festival:** Includes a gospel festival Feb. 4. Las Vegas, 702-642-2242.
- **23-March 4 Snowfest Winter Carnival:** North Lake Tahoe, 775-832-7625.

## March

- **1-3 Pennzoil World of Outlaws Race:** Las Vegas, 702-744-4443.
- **3 Sam's Town 300:** NASCAR Busch Series race. Las Vegas, 702-744-4443.
- **4 NASCAR Winston Cup Series:** Las Vegas, 702-744-4443.
- **8-11 Shooting the West XIII:** Photography symposium. Winnemucca, 800-962-2638 for further information.
- **9-11 Chariot Races:** Wells, 775-752-3540.
- **10 Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry:** Carson City, 775-883-1532.
- **14-17 "The Sound of Music":** Starring Corbin Bernsen. Reno, 775-686-6600.
- **17 St. Patrick's Day:** Communities and casinos celebrate.
- **17 Mountain Oyster Cook-Off:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **17 Spring Awakening Powwow:** Carson City, 775-882-6929.

## April

- **5-8 Clark County Fair and Rodeo:** Logandale, 888-876-FAIR.
- **6-8 Invitational Native American Arts Festival:** Henderson, 702-455-7955.
- **18-22 Las Vegas Senior Classic:** Senior PGA Tour event. Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.
- **20-29 Henderson Heritage Days:** 702-565-8951
- **21 Chili Cook-Off and Craft Fair:** Topaz Lake, 775-266-3468.
- **26-29 Laughlin River Run:** West Coast's largest motorcycle event. Laughlin, 800-357-8223.
- **28 Las Vegas City of Lights Jazz Festival:** 702-228-3780.
- **28-29 Clark County Art Show:** Boulder City, 702-293-2551
- **29 Rattlin' Rails Hand Car Races:** Boulder City, 702-595-7223.

## May

- **5-6 Spring Jamboree:** Car show. Boulder City, 702-293-2034.
- **12-13 ArtFest of Henderson:** 702-566-2681
- **18-20 Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend:** Virginia City, 775-847-0975.
- **19-20 Fly-In and Air Show:** Fernley, 775-463-2245.
- **19-20 Portuguese Festa:** Fallon, 775-423-2223.
- **20 Nevada Open Road Challenge:** Car race. Ely, 775-289-8877

- **25-27 Snow Mountain Powwow:** Las Vegas, 702-386-3926.
- **26 Kit Carson Trail Wild West Tour:** Historic homes. Carson City, 775-687-7410.
- **26-27 Portuguese Festival and Parade:** Lovelock, 775-273-2566.
- **26-28 Lincoln County Homecoming:** Caliente, 775-726-3129.
- **26-28 VORRA Off-Road Race:** Yerington, 775-463-2245.

## June

- **1-2 Spring Fling Car Show:** Yerington, 775-

**Wheelchair Tennis Championship:** Reno, 775-852-7077

- **14-Aug. 23 Sparks Hometowne Farmer's Market:** Thursdays, 775-353-2291
- **15-17 Fiddler's Contest:** Wells, 775-752-3540.
- **16-17 Gridley Days:** Historical festival. Austin, 775-964-2200.
- **16-17 Father's Day Steam-Up:** Train rides. Carson City, 775-687-6953.
- **16-24 Reno Rodeo:** 775-329-3877
- **22-24 Run What Cha Brung:** Car show. Carson City, 775-883-0927



Colorful hot-air balloons rise like weightless tops above the Truckee Meadows during the Great Reno Balloon Race. Next year's balloon race will be on September 7-9 at Rancho San Rafael Park.

463-2245 for Spring Fling information.

- **1-3 Railroad Days:** Historical festival. Beatty, 775-553-2424.
- **2-3 Mule Show and Races:** Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.
- **2-3 Portuguese Celebration:** Yerington, 775-463-2763.
- **2-3 Street Fever/Ramada Inn Show and Shine:** Lovelock, 775-273-3151
- **8-10 Carson City Rendezvous:** Civil War living-history camp. 775-687-7410.
- **9-10 Winnemucca Basque Festival:** 775-623-5071
- **14-17 Farwest Regional and International**

• **22-24 Tonopah 300:** Off-road race. 702-457-5775.

- **23-24 Snowshoe Thompson Festival:** Living-history festival. Genoa, 775-265-6097
- **24 Lamoille Country Fair:** 775-738-4091
- **27-July 1 HITS Tahoe I:** Hunter-jumper horse show. Minden, 775-783-8907
- **30-July 1 National Basque Festival:** Elko, 775-738-7135.

## July

- **1-31 ARTown:** Arts festival. Reno, 775-329-1324.
- **4 Fourth of July:** Celebrations statewide.

- **4-8 Silver State International Rodeo:** Fallon, 775-423-4674.
- **4-8, 11-15, 18-22, and 25-29 HITS Tahoe II:** Hunter-jumper horse show. Minden, 775-783-8907
- **6-8 American Century Celebrity Golf Championship:** Lake Tahoe, 530-544-5050.
- **7-8 Reno Truck Fest:** Car show. 775-826-5337
- **13-15 The Big Easy:** Mardi Gras-themed festival. Sparks, 775-332-3333.
- **13-15 Silver State Stampede Rodeo:** Elko, 775-738-3616.
- **13-15 Art in the Park:** Elko, 775-738-1553.
- **17-Sept. 2 Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** 800-74-SHOWS.
- **20-22 Fallon All-Indian Rodeo:** 775-423-2544.
- **21-22 Reno Basque Festival:** 775-787-3039.
- **27-29 Silver Dollar Car Classic:** Carson City, 775-687-7410 for event information.

• **27-29 Wells Fun Run Car Show:** 775-752-3540.

• **27-29 Fifties Fever:** Car show. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **27-29 Jim Butler Days:** Tonopah, 775-482-3558.

• **28-Aug. 5 Hot August Nights:** Music and cars festival. Reno and Sparks, 775-356-1956.

## August

• **4-5 Arts in the Park:** Ely, 775-289-8877

• **10-12 Eureka County Fair:** Eureka, 775-237-5263.

• **10-12 Fantasy Car and Truck Show:** Ely, 775-289-8877

• **11 Santa Maria Day:** Dayton, 775-246-0161

• **16-19 Lyon County Fair and Rodeo:** Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **17-19 White Pine County Fair and Horse Races:** Ely, 775-289-8877

• **17-19 Main Street Event:** Car show. Gardnerville, 775-265-2256.

• **20-26 Reno-Tahoe Open:** PGA golf tournament. Reno, 775-322-3900.

• **22-26 Nevada State Fair:** Reno, 775-688-5767

• **24-26 Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow:** Yerington, 775-463-2350.

• **25 Basque Picnic:** Battle Mountain, 775-635-9228.

• **25-Sept. 3 Elko County Fair:** 775-738-3616.

• **31-Sept. 2 Tri-County Fair and Stampede:** Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **31-Sept. 3 Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** Sparks, 775-356-3300.

• **31-Sept. 3 Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival:** Fallon, 775-423-2544 for further information.

• **31-Sept. 3 Pioche Labor Day Celebration:** 775-962-5544.

## September

• **1-2 Labor Day Steam-Up:** Train rides. Carson City, 775-687-6953.

• **7-9 Great Reno Balloon Race:** 775-826-1181

• **7-9 Virginia City International Camel Races:** 800-200-4557

• **9-15 America's Loneliest Bike Tour:** Across Nevada on U.S. 50, 775-588-9658.

• **13-16 National Championship Air Races:** Reno, 775-972-6663.

• **14-15 Boulder City Chautauqua:** 702-294-4365.

• **14-16 Silver State Classic:** Open road car race. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **15-16 Dayton Valley Days:** 775-246-7909.

• **20-23 Street Vibrations:** Motorcycle festival. Reno, Lake Tahoe, Carson City, and Virginia City, 800-200-4557

• **21-24 Civil War Re-enactment:** Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.

• **29-30 Genoa Candy Dance:** 775-782-TOWN for event information.

## October

• **6 Outhouse Races:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **6-7 Art in the Park:** Boulder City, 702-294-1611

• **7 Smith Valley Fun Days:** Car show. 775-465-2354.

• **8-14 Invensys Classic at Las Vegas:** PGA golf tournament. 702-242-3000.

• **13-14 Renaissance Faire:** Las Vegas, 702-455-8289.

• **19-20 High Desert Jazz Festival:** Carson City, 775-883-1976.

• **26-28 Nevada Day:** Nevada Day parade on Sat., Oct. 27 Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **27 Burro Races:** Beatty, 775-553-2424.

## November

• **11 Pomegranate Art Festival:** Overton, 702-397-8323.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **21-Dec. 31 The Magical Forest:** Holiday wonderland. Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.

## December

• **1 Parade of Lights:** Lake Mead, 702-457-2797

• **1 Christmas in the Nitetime Sky:** Elko, 775-738-4091

• **1 Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade:** 775-353-2291

• **1-3 Las Vegas 200:** Off-road race. 702-457-5775.

• **7-16 National Finals Rodeo:** Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **8 Old-Fashioned Christmas Festival:** Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **8 Country Christmas Celebration:** Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **8-9 Santa Train:** Carson City, 775-687-6953.

• **16 Victorian Home Christmas Tour:** Carson City, 775-882-1565.

• **31 New Year's Eve:** Statewide celebration in hotels and communities.



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# Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in November and December.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This fall in Las Vegas, Jeff Foxworthy will perform at the Las Vegas Hilton, the new production show "One World" plays at the Eldorado, and Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts play at Harrah's Reno. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Showrooms often fill fast, so call ahead for show times and reservations. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.

## Las Vegas Territory

### BOULDER CITY

**Hacienda** • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380.

### HENDERSON

**Joker's Wild** • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.  
**Reserve** • 558-7000: Wasimba's Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Sunset Station** • 547-7777: Club Madrid: Dom Irrera, Nov. 10. Blackhawk, Nov. 11. Dave Mason, Dec. 1. The Marshall Tucker Band, Dec. 2. John Cafferty and the Beaver Brown Band, Dec. 8. Eric Burdon and the New Animals, Jan. 19. David Benoit, March 10. Latin Breeze plays on Wed. Louie Louie, Thurs., 10 pm and midnight, Fri.-Sat., 11 pm and 1 am. Rocco Barbato with Steven Lee and Company, Thurs.-Sat., 7pm.

### JEAN

**Gold Strike Hotel** • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play nightly except Tues.

**Nevada Landing** • 387-5000 or 800-628-6682: Bands appear nightly except Wed.

### LAS VEGAS

**Aladdin** • 877-333-WISH: Theater for the Performing Arts: Entertainment TBA.

**Arizona Charlie's** • 258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: The Checkmates, thru Nov. 19. Bands play nightly.

**Arizona Charlie's East** • 951-5800: Bands play in the Palace Grand Lounge.

**Bally's** • 739-4111 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Tues.). George Carlin, Nov. 2-15. Indigo Lounge: Van McGlothen on piano nightly except Tues.

**Barbary Coast** • 737-7111: Bands play nightly. Karaoke, Mon.

**Bellagio** • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf. (dark Wed.-Thurs., and Dec. 8-21.). Performers play in the Allegro, Petrossian, and Fontana lounges and Baccarat Bar.

**Boardwalk Casino Holiday Inn** • 730-3194: Lighthouse

Showroom: "The Dream King," starring Elvis impersonator Trent Carlini. Surf Club: DJ nightly (dark Mon.).

**Boulder Station** • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Lounge: Bill Engvall, Nov. 4. Peter White and Rick Braun, Nov. 10. Billy Ray Cyrus, Nov. 24-25. Toby Keith, Nov. 30-Dec 2. Mark Wills, Dec. 9. Merle Haggard, March 16-17. Bands play nightly. Karaoke, Fri.-Sat. KIXX: Highway 101, Nov. 8. Juice Newton, Nov. 15. Rocco Barbato, 1-4pm Sun.; country music, Wed.; Tommy Rocker, Thurs.; Shooting Stars Karaoke on Fri.-Sat.

**Bourbon Street** • 737-7200: Bourbon Street Theatre: Dr. Naughty, adult hypnotist show, 9pm Tues.-Thurs., 7 and 10pm Fri.-Sat. "Naughty Bones," adult stand-up comedy, 7:30pm Sun.-Mon., 11:45pm Tues.-Thurs. "The Multiple Personalities of Billy Cage," impressionist, 2pm Tues.-Sat. "Applause," Wed.-Mon. Bands play in the lounge nightly except Sun and Mon.

**Caesars Palace** • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Bands play in the Forum and La Piazza lounges, and the Terrazza restaurant, and Cleopatra's Barge. Piano music in the Galleria Bar. Magicians perform Tues.-Sat. in the Secret Pagoda and Sultan's Palace theaters at Caesars Magical Empire.

**Casino Royale** • 737-3500: Cafe Trilussa: Piano music nightly (dark Tues. and Wed.).

**Castaways** (former Showboat) • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Entertainment.

**Circus Circus** • 734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts from 11am to midnight.

**Excalibur** • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," music-dinner show. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-10pm. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Lance-a-Lotta Pasta and Camelot restaurants.

**Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn** • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Michael Kennedy's "Tribute to Elvis," Thurs.-Sun. on the casino floor.

**Flamingo Las Vegas** • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299:

Flamingo Showroom: "Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus," musical comedy. "Bottom's Up," indf. Sunset Ballroom: America, Dec. 29-30. Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue, indf.



## From Cher to Michael

Cher's mopy locks and singing style are portrayed by Hunter (above), one of the impersonators in

"Carnival Cabaret" at the Lake Tahoe Horizon in Stateline. Edward Moss (below) interprets the slip-sliding Michael Jackson in the show.



(dark Mon.). "Hip-Nosis: Playin' With Your Head," starring Justin Tranz, R-rated comedy show, midnight Fri.-Sat., indf.

**Flamingo O'Shea's** • 737-1343: Comedy Theater: "The King in Concert," Elvis impersonator revue, 4pm. "All Shook Up," Elvis tribute show, 7pm. "Hip-Nosis: Playin' With Your Head," starring Justin Tranz, R-rated comedy show, 9pm. All shows run Tues.-Sat.

**Four Queens** • 385-4011 or 800-634-6045.

**Four Seasons** • 632-5000: Piano entertainment during Traditional Afternoon High Tea in the Verandah restaurant, 2-5pm daily.

**Gold Coast** • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke nightly in the West Lounge. Gold Coast Showroom: "Original Tribute to Patsy Cline and the Jordanaires," thru Nov. 12 (dark Tues.). "Country Heroes and Honky Tonk Angels: Tammy Wynette,

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George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Dolly Parton, and Kenny Rogers," impersonator revue, Nov. 15-30 (dark Mon.-Tues.). Salsa All Stars, Sat. (indf.). Ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor Tues. and Sun.

**Golden Gate** • 385-1906: Live piano, noon-midnight. Jazz trio Sun. and Wed. evenings.

**Golden Nugget** • 385-7111: Bands play in The Lounge nightly except Mon.

**Hard Rock Hotel** • 226-4650: The Joint: Entertainment TBA.

**Harrah's Las Vegas** • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Clint Holmes Theatre: "Takin' It Uptown," starring Clint Holmes, musical variety show (dark Dec. 12-26). Improv Showroom: Comedy club nightly except Mon. Mac King Comedy Magic Show, 1 and 3pm Tues.-Sat. Carnival Court: Cook E. Jarr, midnight-2:30am Fri.-Sat. Bands play outdoors till midnight. Music nightly in the La Playa Lounge and Range Steakhouse Lounge at Harrah's Las Vegas on the Strip.

**Imperial Palace** • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," celebrity impersonator show (dark Sun.). Kabuki Lounge: Bands play 4:30pm-1:40am.

**Jackie Gaughan's Plaza** • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Theatre: "Hot Trix" starring Pete Barbutti and Karin Denise's Naked Angels (dark Mon.). "Houdini Lives Again," starring magician Dixie Dooley, 4pm Tues.-Sun. Omaha Lounge: Dusty Barron and the Sunspots play daily except Mon.

**Key Largo** • 733-7777: Sand Bar Lounge: Bands provide live entertainment.

**Lady Luck** • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater: "Stars of the Strip," comedy impersonators, 2 and 3:30pm Mon.-Fri. Fielding West: Magic and comedy show, Sun.-Thurs.

**Las Vegas Hilton** • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton



## Keeping Things Mysterious

Charlotte and Jonathan Pendragon make magic at Harrah's Laughlin through December 3. The Pendragons, who describe their work as "gothic" and "theatrical," were recently named Best Illusionists during the International Magic Awards.

Theater: Sinbad, Nov. 2-4. The Temptations and the Four Tops, Nov. 16-18. Jeff Foxworthy, Nov. 30-Dec. 3. Brooks and Dunn, Dec. 4-6. Clint Black, Dec. 7-9. The NightClub:

Scintas and Forward Motion, Tues.-Sun. Jazz in the Benihana Lounge, 4-8pm Mon.-Fri.

**Luxor** • 262-4400: Luxor Theatre: "Blue Man Group: Live at the Luxor," percussion theater (dark Tues.). Pharaoh's Theater: "Lasting Impressions With Bill Acosta," impressionist, (dark Fri.). "Midnight Fantasy," production show at 10pm, also midnight on Sat. (dark Mon.). Ra Nightclub at Luxor: DJ's Wed.-Sun.

**Main Street Station** • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: Triple 7 BrewPub: Karaoke on Wednesdays.

**Mandalay Bay** • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: Entertainment TBA. House of Blues: Gospel Brunch, 10 am and 1pm Sun. Mandalay Bay Events Center: Caracalla Dance Theatre and Assala Concert, Nov. 4. The 2000 Fed Cup Women's World Tennis Championship, Nov. 21-22 and 24-25. Bands play in the Island, Orchid, and Coral Reef lounges.

**MGM Grand** • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Hollywood Theatre: Tom Jones, thru Nov. 1; Penn and Teller, Nov. 2-15. EFX Theatre: "EFX" starring Tommy Tune (dark Sun.-Mon.). Jay Leno, Nov. 16-18. Cabaret Theatre: Rita Rudner, thru Nov. 27 (dark Tues.). Grand Garden Arena: Tina Turner, Nov. 18. N Sync, Nov. 24. Billboard Music Awards, Dec. 5. Hollywood Theatre: TBA Studio 54: Dancing nightly. Live entertainment in the Show Bar Lounge, Brown Derby, Betty Boop Bar, and Gatsby's.

**The Mirage** • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theatre: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs. and Dec. 5-28). Paul Anka, Dec. 30. Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans performs nightly (dark Fri. and Mon. and Dec. 23-26). Bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Corner and Baccarat bars (piano bar). Samba Grill: Brasilia 2000 Fri. and Sat.

**Monte Carlo** • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance

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Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.). Top 40, disco, country, and classic-rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

**New Frontier** • 794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Bands play nights Tues.-Sat.

**New York-New York** • 740-6969: Broadway Theatre: "Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance" (dark Sun.-Mon.). "Lady Liberty" Holiday Ice Spectacular, Nov. 24-Dec. 26 (dark Mon.). Bands play in the Empire Bar. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play 8pm-2:15am nightly in the Bar at Times Square.

**The Orleans** • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Righteous Brothers, Nov. 1-12. Jerry Lewis, Nov. 16-19. Lorrie Morgan, Dec. 1-3. Tanya Tucker, Dec. 7-9. Don Ho, Dec. 15-17. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Bands play nightly (dark Mon.).

**Palace Station** • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Sound Trax



## Mesquite Bound

By the time he gets to Mesquite November 4, fans of Glen Campbell will be ready for "Wichita Lineman," "Galveston," and other soulful country ballads. Campbell, who starred in *True Grit* opposite John Wayne, appears at the CasaBlanca Showroom.

Nightclub: Al Di Meola Project, Nov. 18. Roy Ayers, Dec. 9. Rocco Barbato with Steven Lee and No Fear, Mon. Bands play Fri.-Sat. in the Palace Saloon.

**Paris Las Vegas** • 800-237-SHOW: Le Theatre de Arts: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in Le Cabaret Show Lounge (dark Tues.). Napoleon's Cigar Bar: Music from 9pm-1am (dark Mon.).

**Regent Las Vegas** • 877-869-8777: J.C. Wooloughan Irish Pub: Entertainment nightly. Addison's Lounge: Bands play Tues.-Sun. Round Bar: Jazz Fri.-Sun. Tazzas Lounge: Pianist Tues.-Sun.

**Rio Suite Hotel** • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: "David Cassidy at the Copa," musical variety show, indf. De La Guarda Theatre (scheduled to open in Oct.): "De La Guarda," avant-garde off-Broadway interactive experience indf. Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at 2pm Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.). Pavillion Theatre: Entertainment TBA. RioBamba Cabaret: Earl Turner, Live entertainment in the Ipanema Piano Bar and Voodoo Lounge. Club Rio: Dance nightclub Wed.-Sat.

**Riviera** • 794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," production show (dark Dec. 10-24). Top of the Riv: Joey Dee and the

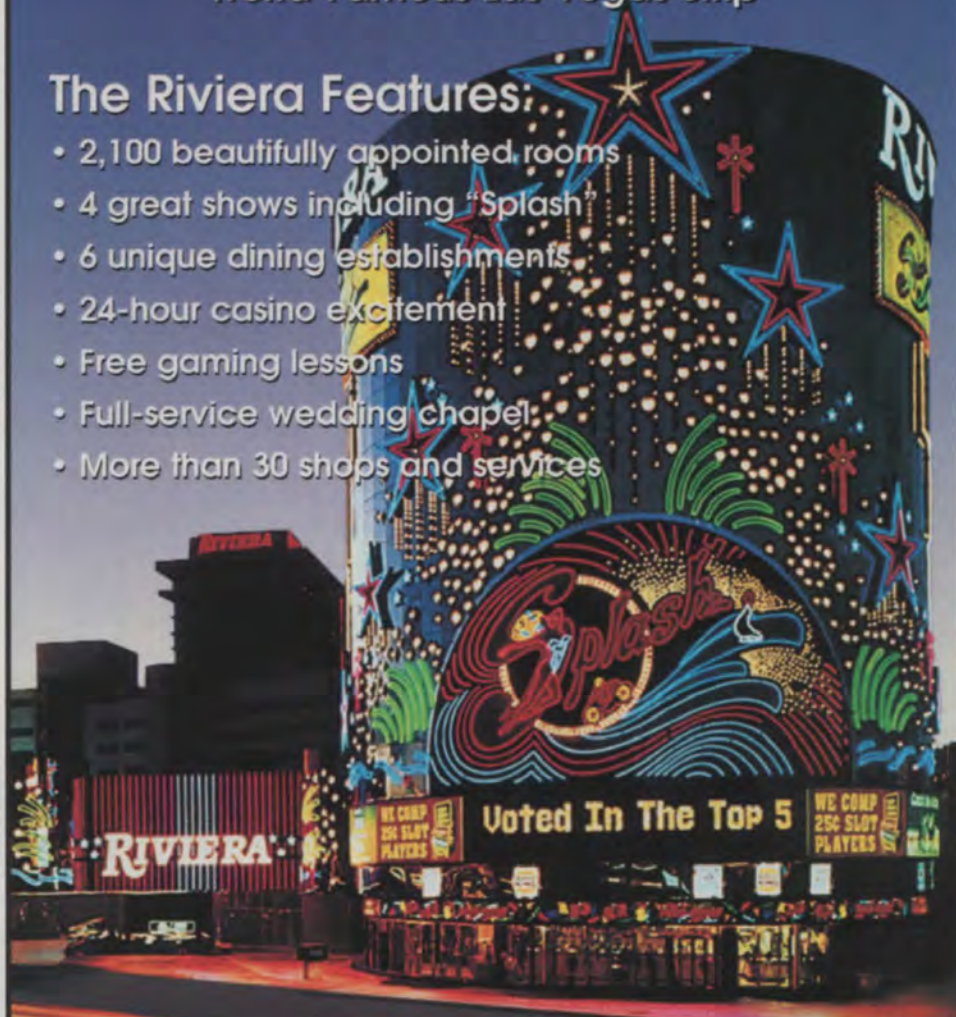
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## Comedy With Korman and Conway

Harvey Korman and Tim Conway open their bag of shtick November 3-4 at the Silver Legacy in Reno. The master comedians, who fine-tuned their bumbling routines on TV's *Carol Burnett Show*, present new skits and old favorites.

Starlighters/Jimmy Beaumont and the Skyliners, Nov. 21-22. The Duprees, Nov. 28-29. "Colors of Christmas" with Peabo Bryson, Bill Medley, Marilyn McCoo, and Roberta Flack, Dec. 12. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An

Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.), Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.). "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear

nightly. Le Bistro Lounge: "Tribute to Elvis" with Billy Ortiz, 4-7:30pm Fri.-Sun.; Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Fri.-Sat.; bands play Tues.-Sun. in the lounge.

**Sahara** • 737-2515: Sahara Theatre: Magician Steve Wyrick, indf. Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

**Sam's Town** • 454-8048: Sam's Town Live: Entertainment TBA. Roxy's Saloon: Bands play. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, 10pm.

**San Remo** • 739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: Entertainment TBA. Bonne Chance Lounge: Entertainers perform nightly.

**Santa Fe** • 658-4900: Ice Lounge: Groups perform nightly. Pavilion: Jazz noon-3:30pm Wed.-Sun. and piano Sun.-Tues.

**Silverton** • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Chris LeDoux, Dec. 6-8. Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

**Stardust** • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Wayne Newton Theatre: "Legendary Ladies of Rock 'n Roll" starring Martha Reeves and the Vandellas/Shirley Alston Reeves/the Crystals/the Shangri-Las, Nov. 2-4. Lee Ann Womack, Nov. 9-11. B.B. King, Nov. 16-18. Asian Night (Vietnamese entertainment), Dec. 16 and 23. Wayne Newton, Dec. 26-Jan. 7. Stardust Ballroom: Ricky and the Redstreaks, Nov. 28-Dec. 10.

**Stratosphere** • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.). "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue, 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Entertainment in the Top of the World and Oasis lounges.

**Suncoast** • 636-7111: Jack Jones, Nov. 10-12. Frankie Laine, Nov. 24-26.

**Treasure Island** • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystere" (dark Mon.-Tues. and Dec. 6-19.). Music in Captain Morgan's piano bar. Hideaway Lounge: Performers nightly.

**Tropicana** • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs.). "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri. "The

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## Tina in Town

Eight days short of her 61st birthday, Tina Turner will dance up a storm and sing such hits as "Proud Mary" on November 18 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

Birdman of Las Vegas," 11am, 12:30, and 2pm except Thurs. Celebration Lounge: Bands play nightly. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly.

**Vacation Village** • 897-1700 or 800-658-5000: Koo Koo's Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Venetian** • 733-5000: Showroom at the Venetian: TBA.

**Westward Ho** • 731-2900: Westward Ho Lounge: Entertainment nightly. Crown Room: Dinner Show, 6pm Wed. and Sat., entertainer TBA.

**Wild West Gambling Hall** • 740-0000.

**World Trade Center** • 369-5750: International Showroom: "Amen," starring Michael la Rocca, spiritual music (indf.).

### LAUGHLIN

**Avi** • 535-5555: Arrowweed Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Colorado Belle** • 298-4000: Bands play in the Boiler Room Microbrewery and Restaurant.

**Edgewater** • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Bands play nightly (dark Mon.). Karaoke, Mon. after Monday night football.

**Fleming Laughlin** • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," revue (dark Fri.).

**Golden Nugget Laughlin** • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Nightclub: Top 40 format dance bands play Thurs.-Sun. DJ Tues.-Wed.

**Harrah's Laughlin** • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Daryle Singletary, Nov. 16-18. The Pendragons, thru Dec. 3.

**Ramada Express** • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: "Shout: A Tribute to the '50s Featuring the Swing Sisters," thru Nov. 2. A Salute to the Music of Frank Sinatra with Harry Connick Sr. and the Nelson Riddle Orchestra directed by Christopher Riddle, Nov. 11-12. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness, Mon. Swing and Latin dance contests, 5pm daily. Train rides also are available.

**River Palms** • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Bands or DJ music nightly in the Bermuda Club Lounge. Karaoke with Don West, 4-7pm Wed.

**Riverside Resort** • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Everly Brothers, Nov. 2-5. Chubby Checker, Nov. 7-12. Gallagher, Nov. 16-18.

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### Smooth Tunes

When singer Juice Newton takes the stage November 15 at Boulder Station in Las Vegas, fans can expect to hear hits including "Angel of the Morning" and "Sweetest Thing."

Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 22-26. Western Celebrity Holiday Party, Nov. 28-29. "Nutcracker," Dec. 8-10. Don Ho, Dec. 11-14. The Osmond Brothers, Dec. 27-31. Carl Hurlay, Jan. 7-11. Charlie Prose, Jan. 14-Feb. 8. Debbie Reynolds, Feb. 13-18. Mel Tillis, March 6-11.

### MESQUITE

**CasaBlanca** • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Showroom: Glen Campbell, Nov. 4. B.J. Thomas, Dec. 9. Comedy shows Fri.-Sat. when there is no headliner. Bands play nightly except Mon. in the CasaBlanca Skydome Lounge.

**Eureka Casino Hotel** • 346-4646: Wild Cactus Lounge: Karaoke, Tues. nights. Ladies night, DJ dance party, Wed. Entertainment Thurs.-Sun.

**Si Redd's Oasis** • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Redd Boot Saloon: Video and live DJ, Fri. and Sat. Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club on Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Virgin River** • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Bands like Wheels play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

### NORTH LAS VEGAS

**Fiesta Casino** • 631-7000: Roxy's Theatre: Headliners TBA. Pipe organ music nightly. Silent movie night on Thurs. Bands play nightly in the Cabo Lounge. Gardunos Restaurant: Mariachis play 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.

**Jerry's Nugget** • 399-3000: Royal Street Lounge: Dance bands play Fri. and Sat.

**Texas Station** • 631-1001: The Armadillo: Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4pm-8pm Sun. Shooting Stars Karaoke, 8pm-midnight Thurs. Loveshack, 10pm-2am Fri. and Sat.

### PRIMM

**Buffalo Bill's Resort** • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA. Stage Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun. Carolee's Comedy Club: Guest comedians, Fri. and Sat. nights.

**Primm Valley** • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471. The Piano Bar: Pianist Thurs.-Sun.

**Whiskey Pete's** • 382-1212. Pete's Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

### RENO/SPARKS

**Atlantis** • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Bands play nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret.

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**Boomtown** • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Entertainers play nightly (dark Sun. and Mon.).

**Cal-Neva Virginian** • 323-1046, 877-777-7303. Bands play on Fri. and Sat.

**Circus Circus** • 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight.

**Comstock** • 329-1880.

**Eldorado** • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada). Eldorado Showroom: "One World," production show, indf. (dark Mon.). Brew Brothers: Rock, blues, and swing bands play nightly at the microbrewery. Piano music in Bistro Roxy. BuBinga Lounge: Dance to DJs and live music.

**Eddie's Fabulous '50s** • 329-1950: Lounge entertainment. DJ music at Reno Live at Eddie's.

**Fitzgeralds** • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Whiskey Ridge and Impulse perform nightly.

**Flamingo Reno** • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "Carnival of Wonders," magic production show, thru Nov. (dark Tues.). Entertainment at the Top of the Flamingo restaurant (dark Tues.).

**Harrah's Reno** • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Dancin' in the Streets," revue, 7:30pm Sun.-Fri. and 7pm Sat. (dark Thurs.), thru Nov. 22. "erocktica 2000.com," adult revue, 10pm Sun.-Fri., 9:30 and 11:30pm Sat. (dark Thurs.). Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts, Nov. 24-26. The Plaza: Ice skating daily.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget** • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Celebrity Showroom: Roy Clark, Nov. 9-22. Ty Herndon, Nov. 23-Dec. 6. Rose Ballroom: Collin Raye, Nov. 17-18. Paul Anka, Nov. 24-25. Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's.

**Peppermill** • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge.

**Rail City Casino** • Sparks, 359-9440: Entertainers play on weekends in Rail City's Side Track Lounge.

**Ramada Inn and Speakeasy Casino** • 329-7400: Pretty Boy Floyd's Bar features karaoke (Mon.) and live music.

**Reno Hilton** • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theater: Wayne Brady and Friends (from ABC's *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*), Nov. 2. Two shows alternate, with "Work That Skirt" on Sun., Tues., and Fri. and "Escape With David Hayes" on Mon., Wed., and Sat.

## Classic Tahoe Holiday

Skiers will find apres-ski Christmas spirit at Harrah's Lake Tahoe in the production of "Ebenezer Scrooge," December 14-17 in the South Shore Room.

(dark Thurs.). The Garage: Bands play nightly. The Improv Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.

**Riverboat** • 322-1671.

**Silver Club** • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).

**Silver Legacy** • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Tim Conway/Harvey Korman, Nov. 3-4. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club (dark Sun.-Mon.). Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

**Sundowner** • 786-7050.

**Western Village** • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

### CARSON AREA

**Carson Nugget** • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands play nightly except Mon.

**Carson Station** • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play nightly except Mon.

**Carson Valley Inn** • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: Bad Moon Rising: A Salute to Creedence Clearwater Revival, Nov. 18. Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge for dancing nightly except Mon.

**Ormsby House** • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Piñon Plaza** • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Wed.-Sun.

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**Sharkey's Nugget** • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Karaoke, Fri.-Sat. Also, extensive displays of memorabilia.

**Topaz Lodge** • Topaz Lake, 266-3339: Bands play Fri.-Sat.

**STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE**  
**Bill's Lake Tahoe** • 588-2455.

**Caesars Tahoe** • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Chinese Acrobats of Beijing, Dec. 25-29. George Carlin, Jan. 12-13. KC and the Sunshine Band, Jan. 19-20. Nero's 2000 nightclub has live music. Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears indf.

**Harrah's Lake Tahoe** • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, Nov. 23-26. "Ebenezer Scrooge," Dec. 14-17. Tower of Power, Dec. 26-29. Bands play nightly in the Casino Center Stage.

**Harvey's** • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: "Passion 2000," adults only (dark Mon.).

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Circus Circus in Reno and Las Vegas offer circus acts from afternoon to night. Trapeze artists, trained animals, and stuntmen—all the acts found at a traveling circus—perform from 11 a.m. to midnight. Admission is free.

**Lake Tahoe Horizon** • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Carnival Cabaret," male celebrity impersonator revue. Comedy Showcase, stand-up comedians, midnight Thurs.-Mon. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

**Lakeside Inn** • 588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

### NORTH LAKE TAHOE

**Cal-Neva Resort** • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382:

Frank Sinatra Celebrity Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

**Crystal Bay Club** • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: DJ Wed.-Sun.

**Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe** • Incline Village, 832-1234:

Regency Ballroom: TBA. Lone Eagle Restaurant: Music,

Wed.-Sat. Casino Stage Bar: Pianist, Wed.-Sun.

**Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget** • Crystal Bay, 831-0455.

**Tahoe Biltmore** • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Bands play nightly.

## Cowboy Country

### ELKO

**Commercial Hotel** • 738-3181: Bands play nightly.

**Gold Country** • 800-621-1332: J.R.'s Lounge: Entertainment Tues.-Sat.

**High Desert Inn** • 738-8425: Comedy show Fri.

**Red Lion** • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Bands play nightly.

**Stockmen's Hotel** • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Bands play in the Stockmen's Showroom.

### JACKPOT

**Barton's Club 93** • 755-2341.

**Cactus Petes** • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: The

Animals, thru Nov. 5. Tribute to Garth and Shania, Nov.

7-12. Williams and Ree, Nov. 15-18. Laughing Room Only,

Nov. 21-13. Ricky Van Shelton, Nov. 24-26. Paul Revere

and the Raiders, Nov. 29-Dec. 2. Firefall, Dec. 12-17.

Heartache Tonight, Dec. 19-24. Marshall Tucker Band,

Dec. 26-31.

**Horseshu Casino** • 755-2321. Horseshu Cabaret:

Entertainment TBA.

### LOVELOCK

**Ramada Inn** • 775-273-2971: Center Club Showroom:

Trout Fishing in America, Nov. 19. Bands and karaoke are

featured on weekends.

### WENDOVER

**Peppermill** • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside

Nevada): Bands play nightly except Mon.

**Rainbow Casino** • 664-4000: Cabaret Lounge: Bands play

nightly except Mon.

**Red Garter** • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S.

outside Nevada).

**Silver Smith** • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671: Jim's Bar: Live

entertainment nightly except Mon. at the Silver Smith.

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State Line • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Stateliner Lounge: Entertainment nightly.

### WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Bands play nightly.  
 Model T Hotel • 623-2588. Bands play Wed.-Sun.  
 Holiday Inn Express • 775-625-3100.  
 Sundance Casino • 623-3336.  
 Red Lion • 800-633-6435.

## Pony Express Territory

### ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

### FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-6031.  
 Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

## Pioneer Territory

### AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

### BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play Fri.-Sat.  
 Exchange Club • 553-2368: Karaoke on Fri.

### HAWTHORNE

El Capitan • 945-3322: Entertainment Wed.-Sun.  
 Joe's Tavern • 945-2302.

### PAHRUMP

Mountain View Casino and Bowl • 727-7777: Bowling alley.  
 Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park • 727-1111.

### TONOPAH

Banc Club • 482-5409: Bands play Thurs.-Sat.  
 Mizpah Hotel • 482-6200.  
 Station House • 482-9777: Shotgun Willie's Saloon: Bands play nightly except Mon.

### YERINGTON

Casino West • 463-2481: Weekend music.  
 Dini's Lucky Club • 463-2868: Weekend music.

**A Reminder:** Please phone ahead to confirm dates and times. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.

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# McCoo at Christmas

Marilyn McCoo marks 33 years in Vegas showrooms when she sings in "Colors of Christmas" at the Riviera.

By Kathy Espin

Christmas at Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr.'s home in Southern California is a lot like holiday celebrations everywhere. "We all get together and have dinner. Everybody brings something over, and after dinner we go into the family room and open presents," says the holder of eight Grammy awards.

What, no singing?

"No, not really," says McCoo. "We have Christmas music on, but we don't really sing."

McCoo will save her Yuletide vocals for an appearance December 12 at the Riviera in Las Vegas when she joins Peabo Bryson, Roberta Flack, and Bill Medley for "Colors of Christmas." Part of a tour that opens November 24 in Clearwater, Florida, the show hits 15 cities at a pace that would make Santa tired before wrapping up two days before Christmas in Detroit.

McCoo says she is eager to work with the three other singers. Flack is a special favorite, McCoo adds. "She has such a special voice. It's pure and has its own tone. Nobody can sound like her. I look forward to hearing her sing every night," McCoo says. Showgoers will be able to hear the entertainers perform individually and as a group, singing both their hits and holiday music.

The concert will be almost like a homecoming for McCoo who, along with Davis, her husband of 30 years, first appeared in



Marilyn McCoo, who plays Vegas in December, first gained fame as one-fifth of the Fifth Dimension. The group's hits included "Up, Up, and Away," "Stoned Soul Picnic," and "Wedding Bell Blues."

Playing the big room with the likes of Sinatra, Jose Feliciano, and the Harry James Orchestra, McCoo says, was "pretty heavy stuff."

Las Vegas in 1967 as members of the Fifth Dimension. That first job in Nero's Nook, a lounge at Caesars Palace, was a memorable one for McCoo.

"All we had heard about was the Checkmates and how they had turned out the lounge," she recalls, referring to that group's success in luring showgoers. "We just came in and did our thing, and by the time we left, they were all a-buzz with the Fifth Dimension." A few months later the Fifth Dimension appeared again at Caesars Palace, this time opening in the main showroom for Frank Sinatra.

"It was pretty exciting. I had been an avid Sinatra fan since I was a teenager," McCoo says. At the time, the group was riding a wave of hits that included the Grammy Award-winning "Up, Up, and Away."

"We kind of did a quantum leap about that time," says McCoo. "The Fifth Dimension was a very exciting act, if I do say so myself—high energy with beautiful harmony." But great pipes and one run-away hit song do not a successful nightclub act make. McCoo credits Renee deKnight of the Delta Rhythm Boys with teaching the group the skills needed to make it as a stage act.

"He became involved with the group and taught us the values of an entertaining live show. He just had a wonderful sense of drama and helped us tremen-

dously in putting together the act. It was always a very fun show. We did a version of 'McArthur Park' and 'Eli's Coming, then we would have a 'Land of a Thousand Dances. All the dancing and ponying would kill me."

Playing the big room with the likes of Sinatra, Jose Feliciano, and the Harry James Orchestra, she says, was "pretty heavy stuff" for a group that just a year or so before had visited Las Vegas in complete obscurity.

She and Davis spent 10 years with the Fifth Dimension, recording hits like "Stoned Soul Picnic," "Wedding Bell Blues," and the "Aquarius/Let the Sunshine In" medley from "Hair."

After struggling as a duo, McCoo and Davis finally recorded a number-one hit, "You Don't Have to Be a Star," chalking up another Grammy. Next came a television show on CBS and concert appearances in Las Vegas, Lake Tahoe, Atlantic City, Europe, and Japan.

Tours and special performances always seem to bring McCoo back to Las Vegas, where she has seen lots of changes over

**McCoo and Davis recorded a number-one hit, "You Don't Have to Be a Star," earning another Grammy.**

three decades. At the Stardust she and Davis recently performed their show, "It Takes Two," a celebration of famous rock and soul duets of the '60s, '70s, and '80s.

"It's certainly exciting to perform there," she says of Las Vegas. "Of course, there's so much more in the way of production value now than there was in the '60s. Vegas has always had the best in the way of equipment and facilities."

One thing that hasn't changed, she says. "It's still an event to come to Vegas and see a performance there."

**Show Notes**

"Colors of Christmas" with Marilyn McCoo, Peabo Bryson, Roberta Flack, and Bill Medley plays at 8 p.m. Tuesday, December 12, in the Royale Pavilion at the Riviera Hotel in Las Vegas. Tickets cost \$40 plus tax, beverages not included. Call 702-794-9301 for information and reservations. ♡

*Kathy Espin is a Las Vegas entertainment writer.*

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# Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. By Jason Hanson

## Las Vegas Territory

**Online "O":** The Bellagio offers customers the opportunity to purchase tickets to "O," the hotel's aquatic spectacular, on the Internet. The Web site, [bellagiolasvegas.com](http://bellagiolasvegas.com), has seating maps, images of the production, and video and musical clips.

**Vegas on Rails:** The monorail system linking MGM Grand and Bally's recently celebrated its fifth anniversary, reaching a ridership of about 25 million people. Recognizing the system's success, Clark County officials have approved the expansion of the private one-mile monorail. Plans are to build a four-mile, elevated fixed-guideway system that would extend from the MGM Grand to the Las Vegas Convention Center and the Sahara.

**On the Hot List:** Mandalay Bay was recently named one of the 36 best new hotels in the world by *Condé Nast Traveler*. Of the 36 properties, four are located in the United States. Hotels were selected for style, service, and surroundings.

**Thatsa Lotta Beer:** The Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery can boast about being one of the top five brewpubs in the country. *New Brewer Magazine* selected the Las Vegas brewpub based on the amount of beer it produced last year—108,500 gallons. The Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery ranked third in a field of 450 competitors.

**Changing Menu:** The Flamingo in Laughlin has introduced nine new menu items to the fare at the Alta Villa restaurant. Added selections include fresh grilled mahi mahi, filet Oscar, and seafood crusted halibut. Although the menu has changed, most of the entrees remain under \$20.

**Motorcycles and Matrimony:** Into the Wedding Capital of the World has marched another player, the Harley-Davidson Café. Altar-bound couples can choose a Harley-themed wedding surrounded by biker memorabilia, topped off by a ceremonial ride on a Harley down the Las Vegas Strip.

**The Name Game:** The Showboat, the 54-year-old Las Vegas hotel-casino, is being renamed and rethemed. The hotel's new name, the Castaways, already has a place in Nevada history. A casino named the Castaways was once located on the Strip where the Mirage now stands. The new Castaways is located on the Boulder Highway, about eight miles east of the Strip. Owners of the new Castaways feel the name change will help the transformation



The Living Statues at the Venetian's Grand Canal Shoppes in Las Vegas are made of flesh and bones, not marble. The mimes communicate with shoppers by unexpected eye movements. Otherwise, the human statues pose for hours without moving.

from a Mardi Gras theme to one of a Spanish seaside atmosphere.

**Phone a Bet:** Station Casinos, with properties in Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson, has introduced telephone sports wagering for Nevada residents. Customers can enroll at a Station casino, deposit a minimum of \$100 in a personal account, and receive a personal identification number. Bettors then call the hot line to place wagers.

**Duty Free:** High-limit video poker players can

reduce their taxable jackpots by playing the new Duty Free video poker machines at the Stratosphere in Las Vegas. The \$5 denomination machines were adjusted to reduce the number of taxable payouts—\$1,200 and above—while increasing the overall percentage returns to players.

**New Hotel:** The \$200-million Suncoast Resort and Casino opened in September eight miles west of the Las Vegas Strip. Located less than a mile south of the Las Vegas Regent, the Suncoast offers a 16-theater movie complex, 64-lane bowling alley, showroom, and five restaurants.

**Double Take:** Some of the statues on display at the Grand Canal Shoppes in the Venetian are worth a second glance. Instead of plaster and marble, the statues are novelty mimes at work. The Living Statues remain motionless except for rare eye movements. Appearing from noon to 8 p.m., the performers are experts at meditation and shallow breathing techniques.

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

**Casino Awards:** The Atlantis came away with nine awards in the "Best of Gaming" readers' poll by *Casino Player* magazine. The Reno hotel-casino received first places for video poker, seafood, and swimming pool. The Atlantis placed among the top three Reno properties for its hotel, casino, blackjack, roulette, slots, and comps.

**For the Golfer:** Boomtown, located nine miles west of Reno on Interstate 80, is offering individual and group golf packages. Starting at \$119 per person, individual packages include one round of golf, cart, and a one-night stay. Group packages of 20 or more start at \$135 per person and include a two-night stay, cocktail party, and awards banquet.

**Diamond Jubilee:** For the eighth consecutive year, Embassy Suites Resort at Stateline has been selected for the American Automobile Association's Four-Diamond Award. The recognition is given to the top three percent of 26,500 Triple A properties nationwide.

**Magical Show:** "Carnival of Wonders" at the Flamingo Reno was named Best Magic Revue during the televised World Magic Awards show in September. The award reflected the efforts of the show's three stars: Hobson, the humorous host, and the illusionist team of Kalin and Jinger. "Carnival of Wonders" appears every night but Tuesday.

**Bottoms Up:** Flip a small switch, and the pink martini will begin to glow—even on the first sip. The Flamingo Reno's novelty drink, which is served in a Glow Glass, is available in the hotel's Carnival of Wonders Showroom. Ingredients are Whaler's spiced rum, orange

Curacao, juices, and grenadine. The price is \$8.75 for the contents and souvenir glass.

**Gaming Awards:** Silver Legacy Resort in Reno was awarded top honors by readers of *Casino Player* magazine in 12 categories in the publication's "Best of Gaming" poll. The Silver Legacy was selected by readers as Best Overall Hotel-Casino and the Luckiest Casino in Northern Nevada.

**Rodeo Notes:** The Silver Legacy and Boomtown will be the official host hotels for the Senior National Rodeo Finals in Reno, October 30 to November 5. Both properties are offering special discounts to contestants and spectators.

## Good Deals

**Editor Recommends:** A taste test of the \$5.99 prime rib dinner at the California Hotel in Las Vegas drew a thumbs-up. Served in the Market Street Café, the special includes a salad, baked potato, green beans, and dessert and is available from 4 to 11 p.m. daily.

**MGM Promo:** The MGM Grand in Las Vegas has a discount deal November 19-22 and 26-30, and December 3-7 and 10-21. The offer includes 20 percent off adult tickets to "EFX," two-for-one brunch or buffet dinner, 15-percent discount at Gatsby's, and \$5 off a spa visit.



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## Las Vegas Territory

### BOULDER CITY

**Black Canyon River Raft Tours** • 293-3776 for information.  
**Boulder City Historic District** • Walking tour, 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.  
**Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum** • Displays and books on the dam's construction in 1930s, 1305 Arizona, 294-1988.  
**Boulder Dam Hotel** • 1305 Arizona, 293-7731.  
**Hoover Dam and Hoover Dam Visitor Center** • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 294-3515, 293-8367, 293-8000.  
**Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess** • Excursions on Lake Mead, 293-6180.  
**Lake Mead National Recreation Area** • 293-8906.  
**St. Jude's Ranch for Children** • Children's Art Museum, artifacts, tours, 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

### HENDERSON

**City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve** • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people of the 80-acre preserve, 2400 Moser Street off Sunset, Henderson, 565-4264.  
**Clark County Heritage Museum** • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.  
**Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden** • Tours, 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.  
**Mountasia Family Fun Center** • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.  
**Ron Lee's World of Clowns** • 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

### LAS VEGAS

**Adventuredome** • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.  
**A.J. Hackett Bungy** • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.  
**All-American Sportpark** • Golf, baseball, in-line skating, and NASCAR racing, corner of Las Vegas Blvd. and Sunset Road, 798-7777.  
**Bellagio** • Fountain shows, 693-7111.  
**Caesars Palace** • Dining, magic shows, and special effects at Caesars Magical Empire, 731-7333.  
**Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex** • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.  
**Elvis-A-Rama Museum** • 3401 Industrial, 309-7200.  
**Excalibur** • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators, 597-7777.  
**Flamingo Las Vegas** • Wildlife sanctuary, 733-3111.  
**Floyd Lamb State Park** • Picnicking and fishing, 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.  
**Flyaway Indoor Skydiving** • 200 Convention Center Dr., 731-4768.  
**Forum Shops at Caesars** • "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3D motion simulator, Caesars Palace, 893-4800.  
**Fremont Street Experience** • Light show on the hour from dusk to midnight, Downtown Las Vegas, 678-5600.  
**Gameworks** • Climbing wall and arcade, Showcase Mall, 597-3122.  
**Guinness World of Records Museum** • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.  
**Harley-Davidson Cafe** • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys and other items on display, Las Vegas Strip, 740-4555.  
**Holy Cow! Casino** • Brewery tours, 732-2697.



## Rhyolite Ghost Rider

The ghost town of Rhyolite, four miles west of Beatty, not only has picturesque ruins. It's also the site of the Gold Well Open Air Museum, where you can stroll among numerous sculptures that reflect the moods of this area near Death Valley. Above is "Ghost," a piece by well-known Belgian sculptor Albert Szukalski.

**Imperial Palace Auto Collection** • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.  
**Laser Quest** • 7361 West Lake Mead, Las Vegas, 243-8881.  
**Las Vegas Art Museum** • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.  
**Las Vegas Club** • Sports memorabilia, Downtown, 385-1664.  
**Las Vegas Motor Speedway** • Guided tours, 644-4444.  
**Las Vegas Natural History Museum** • From dinosaurs to desert creatures, 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.  
**Liberace Museum** • Pianos and memorabilia, 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.  
**Lied Discovery Children's Museum** • Science and other learning exhibits, 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.  
**Luxor** • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.  
**M&M's World** • Showcase Mall, 736-7611.  
**Mandalay Bay** • Shark Reef at Mandalay Bay. Exhibit of sharks, sea predators, and aquatic creatures. Visitors can ask questions of divers, 632-7777.  
**Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History** • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.  
**MGM Grand** • Lion habitat open daily, 891-7979.  
**Mirage** • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.  
**Motown Cafe** • Memorabilia and entertainment, New York-New York, 740-6440.  
**Mount Charleston** • Recreation info., 222-1597.  
**NASCAR Cafe** • Race cars displayed, Sahara Hotel, 734-7223.  
**Nevada State Museum and Historical Society** • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.  
**Nevada Test Site History Center** • Displays 50 years of

nuclear testing. Open noon to 4pm, Tues.-Thurs. Building B-3, 2621 Losee Road, 295-3521.  
**New York-New York** • Roller coaster, 740-6969.  
**Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park** • Site of 1855 settlement, 908 Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue, 486-3511.  
**Race Rock Cafe** • Race cars and monster trucks, Fremont Street Experience, 382-7223.  
**Rainforest Cafe** • Bird habitat and animated creatures, MGM Grand, 891-8580.  
**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area** • 363-1921 for information.  
**Rio Suite Hotel** • Free carnival-themed sky parade, 252-7777.  
**Sahara Hotel** • Speed: The Ride roller coaster, NASCAR Cafe, virtual-reality car racing, 737-2735.  
**Sam's Town** • Water and laser show, 456-7777.  
**Santa Fe Hotel** • Ice arena, 4949 N. Rancho Dr., 658-4993.  
**Shelby American** • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 643-3000.  
**Southern Nevada Zoological Park** • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks, 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.  
**Spring Mountain Ranch State Park** • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.  
**Star Trek: The Experience** • Las Vegas Hilton, 697-8700.  
**Stratosphere** • Roller coaster, Big Shot ride, and Strat-O-Fair midway, 380-7777.  
**Treasure Island** • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30pm, 894-7111.  
**Tropicana** • Birds, tiger habitat, and gambling museum, 739-2222.  
**Venetian Hotel** • Madame Tussaud's Celebrity Encounter

wax museum, gondola rides, 733-5000 for information.  
**Walker African-American Museum and Research Center** • Exhibits and records, by appointment only, 647-2242.  
**Wet 'n Wild** • Closed for the season, 734-0088.

#### LAUGHLIN

**Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area** • Nature and water sports, four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.  
**Colorado Belle** • Cyber Roller Coaster and Boiler Room Microbrewery, 298-4000.  
**Colorado River Museum** • Arizona Hwy. 95, 520-754-3399.  
**Del Rio Beach Club** • Colorado River sightseeing boat tour, 298-6828.  
**Davis Dam** • Self-guided tours, 298-2214.  
**Grapevine Canyon** • Seven miles west of Laughlin. Inquire about road conditions, 298-2214.  
**Lake Mohave Resort** • 602-754-3245.  
**Laughlin River Tours** • Colorado River, 298-1047.  
**Ramada Express** • WWII museum and multimedia tribute to American war heroes, 298-4200.  
**Riverside Resort** • Classic cars, river tour boat, and bowling center, 298-2535.

#### MESQUITE

**Desert Valley Museum** • 346-5705.  
**Si Redd's Oasis** • Gun club, hayrides, ATV and horseback rides, 346-5232.

#### NORTH LAS VEGAS

**The Planetarium** • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.  
**U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds** • Tour of demonstration squadron facility, 2pm Tues. and Thurs. Nellis Air Force Base, North Las Vegas, 652-4018.

#### OVERTON

**Lost City Museum of Archaeology** • Pueblo culture, 397-2193.  
**Valley of Fire State Park** • 397-2088.

#### PRIMM

**Primadonna Resorts** • Roller coaster, water flume, cyber coaster, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz and

Clyde's bullet-riddled shirt at Whiskey Pete's, 382-1111.

#### SEARCHLIGHT

**Searchlight Gallery** • 297-1540.  
**Searchlight Historic Museum** • 455-7955.

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

#### CARSON CITY

**Brewery Arts Center** • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.  
**Carson and Mills Park Railroad** • Mills Park, 887-2523.  
**Children's Museum of Northern Nevada** • Museum has educational exhibits. 813 N. Carson St., 884-2226.  
**Kit Carson Trail** • Walking tour. 687-7410 or 800-638-2321.  
**Nevada State Capitol** • 687-5030.  
**Nevada State Library and Archives** • State Constitution exhibit. 100 Stewart St., 687-5210.  
**Nevada State Museum** • 600 N. Carson St., 687-4810.  
**Nevada State Railroad Museum** • S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 687-6953.  
**Nevada Supreme Court** • Tours. Stewart St., 687-8616.  
**Roberts' House Museum** • 1207 N. Carson St., 882-1805.  
**Stewart Indian Museum and Cultural Center** • 5366 Snyder, 882-6929.  
**Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum** • 777 S. Stewart St., 887-2210.

#### DAYTON

**Dayton State Park** • 687-5678.  
**Dayton Historic Society Museum** • Open weekends in the 1865 Old Dayton Schoolhouse on Shady Lane.

#### GARDNERVILLE

**Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center** • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395, 782-2555.  
**Sharkey's Nugget** • Boxing, rodeo memorabilia. 782-3133.

#### GENOA

**Genoa Courthouse Museum** • 782-4325.  
**Mormon Station State Historic Park** • 782-4325, 687-4379.  
**David Walley's Hot Springs** • 782-8155.

#### LAKE TAHOE

**Hard Rock Cafe** • Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411.  
**Heavenly Aerial Tram** • Seasonal. Stateline, 586-7000.  
**Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park** • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.  
**M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler** • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.  
**Ponderosa Ranch** • Closed for the season, 831-0691.  
**Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler** • Tahoe City, 530-583-0141.  
**Tahoe Rim Trail** • 150-mile system, 588-0686.  
**Tallac Historic Site** • Tours daily Memorial Day through Sept., South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.  
**U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center** • Stream-profile chamber, 530-573-2600.  
**Vikingsholm** • Tours, 530-525-7232.  
**Zephyr Cove Resort** • Cruises, boat rentals. 588-5021.

#### RENO

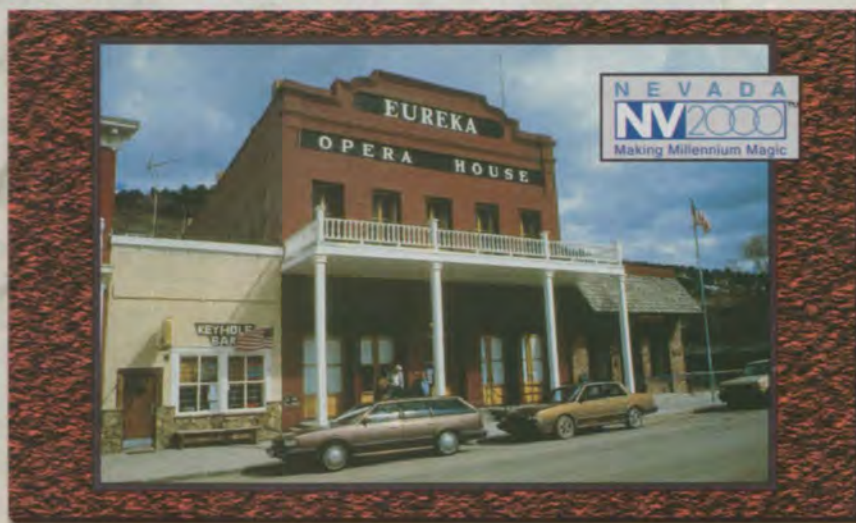
**Animal Ark** • Closed for the season, 10 mi. north of Reno on U.S. 395, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road to reach Animal Ark, 969-3111.  
**Bartley Ranch Regional Park** • Hiking, horse arena, and one-room Huffaker Schoolhouse. Reno, 828-6612.  
**Earth Window Museum** • Native American artifacts, 100 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.  
**Fleischmann Planetarium** • Stargazing programs, U of N campus, 784-4811.  
**Galena Creek Regional Park** • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.  
**Harrah's Reno** • Laser show nightly at the outdoor plaza. 775-786-3232.  
**Liberty Belle Slot Collection** • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.  
**National Automobile Museum (the Harrah Collection)** • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.  
**National Bowling Stadium** • Tournaments and IMAX theater. 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.  
**Nevada Historical Society Museum** • 1650 N. Virginia St., U of N campus, 688-1190.  
**Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery** • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.  
**Playland** • Rides, picnicking. Idlewild Park, 329-6008.

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Eureka Opera House, 775-237-6006, P.O. Box 284, Eureka, Nevada 89316

**Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk** • 334-2077.  
**Reno Hilton** • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, putting course, 789-2000.  
**Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy** • Tours, 215 S. Wells Ave., 329-5665.  
**Sierra Arts Center Gallery** • Gallery and offices, 200 Flint St., 329-2787.  
**Sierra Safari Zoo** • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.

## Mineral Collections

The Mineral County Historical Museum in Hawthorne has numerous collections, such as children's dolls, mining equipment, old bottles, and photographs taken of the community by resident Edwin Box between 1905 and 1915.

**Silver Legacy** • Giant mining machine and laser shows every hour, 325-7396.  
**Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.  
**Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure** • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.  
**Wilbur D. May Museum** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

## PYRAMID LAKE

**Numana Hatchery Visitors Center** • 574-0290.

## SPARKS

**John Ascuaga's Nugget** • Ranchers' brands exhibit, 356-3300.  
**Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum** • 355-1144.  
**Wild Island** • Water park open in summer, miniature golf and raceway open year-round. Off I-80, 359-2927.

## VERDI

**Boomtown Family Fun Center** • Motion Theater rides,

Ferris wheel, and miniature golf, 345-8668 for details.

## VIRGINIA CITY

**Assay Office Museum** • 847-0777.  
**The Castle** • 847-0275.  
**Chollar Mine** • Tours of workings, 847-0155.  
**Fourth Ward School Museum** • 847-0975.  
**Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum** • 847-9394.  
**Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum** • 847-0717.  
**Mackay Mansion Museum** • 847-0173.  
**Mark Twain Museum of Memories** • 847-0454.  
**Nevada Gambling Museum** • 847-9022.  
**Piper's Opera House** • 847-0433.  
**Ponderosa Mine** • Tours, 847-0757.  
**Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum** • 847-0525.  
**Virginia and Truckee Railroad** • 847-0380.  
**Virginia City Radio Museum** • 847-9047.  
**Virginia City Tours** • 786-0866.  
**Way It Was Museum** • 847-0766.  
**Wild West Museum** • South C Street, 847-0400.

## WASHOE VALLEY

**Bowers Mansion Park** • Historic mansion of Comstock millionaires, 849-1825.  
**Davis Creek Park** • 849-0684.  
**Washoe Lake State Park** • Birdwatching, windsurfing, fishing, East Lake Blvd., 687-4319.

## Cowboy Country

## BATTLE MOUNTAIN

**Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center** • Pioneer exhibits, research room, 453 N. Second St., 635-5720.

## ELKO

**Jarbidge Wilderness Area** • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.  
**Northeastern Nevada Museum** • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.  
**Sherman Station Complex** • Restored 1875 ranch, tours. Visitor information, 738-7135.

**Western Folklife Center** • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508.  
**Wild Horse State Recreation Area** • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

## LOVELOCK

**Giant Tufa Park** • West of Lovelock, 273-7213.  
**Pershing County Marzen House Museum** • Lovelock-area history, 273-7213.

## WENDOVER

**Bonneville Salt Flats** • 801-977-4300.

## WINNEMUCCA

**Buckaroo Hall of Fame** • 623-2225.  
**Humboldt Museum** • Winnemucca-area history, 623-2912.  
**Midas Schoolhouse** • Call for tours of the two-room schoolhouse located in Midas, 46 miles by dirt road from the Golconda exit east of Winnemucca on I-80. 529-0302 for more information..

## Pony Express Territory

## AUSTIN

**Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site** • Self-guided tour with interpretive signs, 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

## ELY/GREAT BASIN N.P.

**Cave Lake State Recreation Area** • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.  
**East Ely Railroad Depot Museum** • Tours, 289-1663.  
**Great Basin National Park** • Hiking, camping, ancient bristlecones, and tours of Lehman Caves. Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.  
**McGill Historical Drug Company** • Call for tours of an old-fashioned drug store. McGill, 775-235-7082.  
**Nevada Northern Railway Museum** • Train rides on historic locomotives. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.  
**Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site** • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.  
**White Pine Public Museum** • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

# There are a Thousand Things to do in Lyon County

Here are just a few of THEM!



We also have museums, ghost towns, golfing, fishing, camping, boating, motocross, mountain biking, rock climbing, and much, much more!

### Event

Event	Month	Location
Back Alley Fights	Sept 4	Yerington
Dayton Valley Days & Sr Pro Rodeo	Sept 17-19	Dayton
Stew Doo	Sept 26	Silver Springs
Yerington Airport Fly-In Air Show	Oct 2-3	Yerington
Smith Valley Fun Days	Oct 3	Wellington

Lyon County Information Center  
 227 South Main Street • Yerington, Nevada 89447  
[www.tele-net.net/lyontour](http://www.tele-net.net/lyontour)  
**(775) 463-2245**



## EUREKA

Eureka Opera House • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, 237-6006.

Eureka Sentinel Museum • 237-5010.

## FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours, 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.

Sand Mountain • Giant sand dune, 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.

Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 423-5128.

## SILVER SPRINGS

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.

# Pioneer Territory

## BEATTY

Beatty Museum • Mining exhibits, 553-2424.

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached by Beatty, 619-786-2331.

Rhyolite • Historic bottle house and the Gold Well Open Air Museum sculpture exhibit, four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

## GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • Dinosaur fossils and ghost town, 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

## GOLDFIELD

Historic Buildings and Mining Tour • Telegraph Office, Florence Mine, and Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company Building, 483-3486.

## HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • Exhibits on the history of the Hawthorne area, 400 10th St., 945-5142.

Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Fishing, camping, and birdwatching, 945-5896.

## PAHRUMP

Death Valley National Park • Park can be reached by Pahrump, 619-786-2331.

Pahrump Valley Winery • Tours, 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

## PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Box Car Museum • Railroad and local history, Caliente, 726-3129.

Cathedral Gorge State Park • South of Pioche, 728-4460 for information.

Elgin Living History Schoolhouse Museum • Open for weekend tours or by appointment. Located 21 miles south of Caliente via Rainbow Canyon. Write Lynn Wood, Box 266, Caliente, NV 89008.

Kershaw-Ryan State Park • South of Caliente, 728-4460 for more information.

Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207 for information.

Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 962-5207.

Spring Valley State Park • 728-4460.

Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Spring Valley State Park near Pioche, seasonal, 728-4460.

## ROUND MOUNTAIN

Smoky Valley Museum • 1935 schoolhouse and assay equipment. Open second Wednesday of the month and by appointment, 377-2243.

## TONOPAH

Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.

Central Nevada Museum • Artifacts and photographs on Tonopah-area history, 482-9676.

Tonopah Historic Mining Park • 482-9274.

## YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • Exhibits and photos on the history of the Yerington area, 463-2245.

**A Reminder:** To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. The area code is 702 in the Las Vegas area, and the rest of the state is 775.



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Fallon Air Show, TBA

Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 12-14

Silver State Int'l Rodeo, June 30-July 4

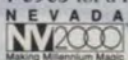
Stampede & Pioneer Days Pow Wow, July 14-16

Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 1-4

Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival  
Sept. 29-Oct. 1



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# Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.

**W**hen planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information. Also, Internet users can visit the Web sites listed. If you plan to stop by a chamber of commerce (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

### Statewide Information

**Nevada Commission on Tourism:** 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; [www.travelnevada.com](http://www.travelnevada.com); 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

### Las Vegas Territory

**African American Activities:** 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 702-456-3838.

**Asian C of C:** 900 E. Karen, No. C217, Las Vegas, NV 89109; 702-737-4300.

**Boulder City C of C:** 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; [www.bouldercitychamber.com](http://www.bouldercitychamber.com); 702-293-2034.

**Boulder City Visitor Center:** 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-294-1252.

**Henderson C of C:** 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; [www.hendersonchamber.com](http://www.hendersonchamber.com); 702-565-8951.

**Henderson Convention Center:** 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; [www.cityofhenderson.com/convention](http://www.cityofhenderson.com/convention); 702-565-2171.

**Hoover Dam Visitors Services:** Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; [www.hooverdam.com](http://www.hooverdam.com); 702-294-3524.

**Jean Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 South, Exit 12, Box 19470, Jean, NV 89019; [lasvegas24hours.com](http://lasvegas24hours.com); 702-874-1360.

**Las Vegas C of C:** 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; [www.lvchamber.com](http://www.lvchamber.com); 702-735-1616.

**Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority:** 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, NV 89109; [www.lasvegas24hours.com](http://www.lasvegas24hours.com); 702-892-0711.

**Latin C of C:** 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; [www.LasVegasLatincc.com](http://www.LasVegasLatincc.com); 702-385-7367.

**Laughlin C of C:** Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; [www.laughlinchamber.com](http://www.laughlinchamber.com); 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

**Laughlin Visitor Center:** 1555 Casino Dr., Box 502, Laughlin, NV 89029; [www.visitlaughlin.com](http://www.visitlaughlin.com); 702-298-3321 or 800-4LAUGHLIN.

**Mesquite Area C of C:** 850 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; [www.mesquite-chamber.com](http://www.mesquite-chamber.com); 702-346-2902.

**Mesquite Visitor Center:** Interstate 15, Exit 122, 460 Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2702 or 877-MESQUITE.

**Moapa Valley C of C:** Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; [www.moapavalley.com](http://www.moapavalley.com); 702-397-2160.

**North Las Vegas C of C:** 2290 McDaniel, North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 702-642-9595.

### Reno-Tahoe Territory

**Carson City C of C:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; [www.carsoncitychamber.com](http://www.carsoncitychamber.com); 775-882-1565.

**Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; [www.carson-city.org](http://www.carson-city.org); 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

**Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority:** 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-5283; [www.carsonvalleynv.org](http://www.carsonvalleynv.org); 775-782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

**Dayton Area C of C:** 200-B Main St., Box 2408, Dayton, NV



## Snow Time

**W**hen snow falls in some Nevada towns, youngsters and adults bundle up and grab their sleds before the roads are plowed. Above, sliders find a slippery street in Genoa.

89403; [www.daytonnvchamber.org](http://www.daytonnvchamber.org); 775-246-7909.

**Greater Reno-Sparks C of C:** 1 E. First St., Reno, NV 89501; [www.reno-sparkschamber.org](http://www.reno-sparkschamber.org); 775-686-3030.

**Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; [www.laketahoechamber.com](http://www.laketahoechamber.com); 775-831-4440.

**Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors Bureau:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; [www.gotahoe.com](http://www.gotahoe.com); 775-832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S. for Lake Tahoe information.

**Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority:** 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; [www.virtualtahoe.com](http://www.virtualtahoe.com); 530-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

**North Lake Tahoe C of C:** 245 N. Lake Blvd., Box 884, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoefun.org; 530-581-6900.

**North Lake Tahoe Resort Association:** 245 North Lake Blvd., Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoefun.org; 530-583-3494 or 800-824-6348.

**Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority:** 4590 S. Virginia St., Box 837, Reno, NV 89504; www.renolaketahoe.com; 775-827-7600 or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

**Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council:** 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 775-329-2936.

**South Lake Tahoe C of C:** 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.tahoeinfo.com; 530-541-5255.

**Sparks C of C:** 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; www.sparkschamber.org; 775-358-1976.

**Tahoe-Douglas C of C:** Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 195 Hwy. 50 at Round Hill, Zephyr Cove; www.tahoechamber.org; 775-588-4591.

**Virginia City C of C:** V&T Railroad Car, 131 South C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; www.comstocklode.com; 775-847-0311.

### Cowboy Country

**Battle Mountain C of C:** Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 775-635-8245.

**Elko C of C:** 1405 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; www.elkonevada.com; 775-738-7135.

**Elko Convention and Visitors Authority:** 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; www.elkocva.com; 775-738-4091, 800-248-3556 outside Nevada.

**Jarbidge Community Association:** Trading Post, 72 Main St., Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; jarbidge@aol.com; 775-488-2315.

**Lovelock C of C:** Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 775-273-7213.

**McDermitt Information:** Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 775-532-8742.

**Wells C of C:** 395 Sixth St., Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; www.wellsnv.com; 775-752-3540.

**Wendover Area Chamber of Commerce:** 735 Wendover Blvd., Box 2468, West Wendover, NV 89883; www.wendover.org; 775-664-3414 or 877-WENDOVER.

**Winnemucca C of C:** 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca-nv.org; 775-623-2225.

**Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca.nv.us; 775-623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

### Pony Express Territory

**Austin C of C:** Box 212, Lander County Courthouse, Austin, NV 89310; 775-964-2200.

**Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center:** 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; www.elynevada.net; 775-289-3720.

**Eureka County C of C:** 111 N. Main St., Box 1078, Eureka, NV 89316; 775-237-5484.

**Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority:** 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 775-423-4556 or 800-874-0903.

**Fernley C of C:** 70 N. West St., Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; www.fernleynevada.net; 775-575-4459.

**Great Basin Business and Tourism Council:** Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; 775-234-7323.

**Greater Fallon Area C of C:** 65 S. Maine St., No. B, Fallon, NV 89406; 775-423-2544.

**Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs):** Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 775-577-2069.

**White Pine C of C:** 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301;

www.elynevada.net; 775-289-8877 for area information.

### Pioneer Territory

**Amargosa C of C:** HCR 69-2, Box 401W, 821 E. Farm Rd., Amargosa, NV 89020; www.armagosavalley.com; 775-372-1515.

**Beatty C of C:** 119 E. Main St., Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; www.governet.net/nv/as/bea; 775-553-2424.

**Caliente C of C:** Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 775-726-3129.

**Gabbs, City of:** 509 Main St., Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 775-285-4019.

**Goldfield C of C:** Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; members.xcom.com/gfldchamber; 775-485-3560 for Goldfield information.

**Greater Smoky Valley C of C:** State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Box 1977, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 775-377-2490.

**Mason Valley C of C:** 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; www.tele-net.net/lceda; 775-463-2245.

**Mineral County C of C:** 932 E Street, Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; www.mineralcountynvchamber.org; 775-945-5896.

**Pahrump Valley C of C:** 1021 S. Frontage Rd., Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; www.pahrumpchamber.com; 775-727-5800.

**Pioche C of C:** Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; 775-962-5544.

**Tonopah C of C:** 301 Brougner Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3859.

**Tonopah Convention Center:** Box 408, 301 Brougner Ave., Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahnevada.com; 775-482-3558.

### Indian Territory

**Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada:** 680 Greenbrae Dr., No. 265, Sparks, or Box 7440, Reno, NV 89510; 775-355-0600.

**Indian Territory:** Nevada Commission on Tourism, 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; www.travelnevada.com; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8 for more information on Indian Territory.

### State and National Parks

**Death Valley National Park:** Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 760-786-2331.

**Great Basin National Park:** Nevada Hwy. 488, Baker, NV 89311; www.nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331.

**Lake Mead National Recreation Area:** 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; www.nps.gov/lamea; 702-293-8907.

**Nevada Division of State Parks:** 1300 S. Curry St., Carson City, NV 89710; www.state.nv.us/stparks; 775-687-4370.

**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area:** HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; www.redrockcanyon.blm.gov; 702-363-1921.

### More Outdoor Activities

**Bicycling in Nevada:** Nevada Department of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; www.bicyclenevada.com; 775-888-RIDE.

**Bureau of Land Management:** Main office: Reno, www.nv.blm.gov, 775-861-6400; Las Vegas, 702-647-5000; Elko, 775-753-0200; Winnemucca, 775-623-1500; Carson City, 775-885-6000; Ely, 775-289-1800; Caliente, 775-726-8100; Battle Mountain, 775-635-4000; Tonopah, 775-482-7800 for BLM information.

**Nevada Division of Wildlife:** Main office: 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89512; www.state.nv.us/cnr/nvwildlife/; 775-688-1500; Southern Nevada: 4747 W. Vegas Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89108; 702-486-5133.

**Pyramid Lake Fisheries:** Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; www.pyramidlakefisheries.org; 775-476-0500.

**Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest:** www.fs.fed.us/hntf/; 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 702-873-8800; 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-5171.

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# Dining Directory

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to \$10 (\$), \$11 to \$20 (\$\$), \$21 to \$30 (\$\$\$), and more than \$30 (\$\$\$\$). Nevada's area codes are 702 in the Las Vegas area and 775 in the rest of the state. Major credit cards are accepted at the restaurants unless otherwise noted.

## Las Vegas Area

### AMERICAN

**Imperial Palace/Betty's Diner**—794-3261. Shakes, malts, and sundaes as well as sandwiches, soup, breakfast bakery. B, L, D. \$.

**Imperial Palace/Burger Palace**—794-3261. Burgers, fries, and other fast-food items. B, L, D. \$.

**Imperial Palace/Emperor's Buffet**—731-3311. Carving station, roast baron of beef. B, L, D. \$.

**Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet**—794-3261. Prime rib and champagne dinner nightly. B, L, D. \$.

**Imperial Palace/Rib House**—794-3261. Barbecued ribs, chicken, blackened entrees. D. \$\$.

**Imperial Palace/Teahouse**—731-3311. Carving station with prime rib. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. \$.

**Main Street Station/Cascade Café**—387-1896. Sandwiches and saimin, won ton and teriyaki bowls. B, L, D. \$ major.

**Riviera/Kady's Coffee Shop**—794-9403. \$-\$\$.

### FRENCH

**Rio Suite Hotel/Napa Restaurant**—247-7923. French gourmet entrees inspired by Chef Jean-Louis Palladin. 600 selections of wine. D. \$\$\$\$.

### INTERNATIONAL

**Main Street Station/Garden Court Buffet**—387-1896. Pizza and pasta, Chinese and Hawaiian Pacific Rim dishes, Southwest barbecue, and Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$ major.

**Rio Suite Hotel/VooDoo Café & Lounge**—247-7923. Shrimp creole, sweet curry spiced Chilean sea bass with grilled prawns. D. \$\$\$\$.

**Rio Suite Hotel/Fiore Rotisserie & Grille**—247-7923. Rotisserie grilled steaks, seafood and poultry. D. \$.

**Rio Suite Hotel/Mama Marie's Cucina**—247-7923. Italian specialties, pastas. L, D. \$.

**Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court**—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries featuring international cuisine. B, L, D. \$, no credit cards.

**Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet**—794-9400. International cuisines plus prime rib. B, L, D. \$.

### ITALIAN

**Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace**—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. \$.

**Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano**—794-9363. Italian eatery serves lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D. \$-\$\$\$\$.

### MEXICAN

**Border Grill/Mandalay Bay**—632-7903. Ancho-sauteed shrimp, grilled skirt steak, pescado Veracruzano. Authentic Mexican foods from Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger, chefs cookbook authors, radio and TV personalities. L, D. \$.

### ASIAN

**Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace**—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. \$.

**Rio Suite Hotel/Mask**—247-7923. Teppanyaki Grill (live & fresh Sushi), specialty seafoods flown in daily and

an assortment of vegetarian items. D. \$\$\$\$.

**Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw**—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughly with black pepper sauce. D. \$-\$\$.

### STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Imperial Palace/Embers**—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D. \$.

**Imperial Palace/Seahouse**—794-3261. Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D. \$.

**Main Street Station/Pullman Grille**—387-1896. Aged Black Angus beef and lobster tails. D. \$ major.



The Napa Restaurant at the Rio in Las Vegas.

**Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's**—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D. \$.

**Rio Suite Hotel/Buzio's Seafood Restaurant**—247-7923. Extravagant selection of lobsters, oysters, mussels, clams and shrimp. L, D. \$\$\$\$.

## Laughlin

### STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Ramada Express/The Steakhouse**—298-4200. Specializing in flame-broiled meats. D. \$.

## Reno-Carson Area

### AMERICAN

**Atlantis/Purple Parrot**—Reno, 825-4700. Breakfast and American favorites served 24 hours a day. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

**Atlantis/Toucan Charlie's Buffet**—Reno, 825-4700. Friday-night seafood buffet and Sunday champagne brunch. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

**Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Branding Iron**

**Cafe and Margarita Saloon**—Carson City, 885-9000. Western favorites at moderate prices. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

**Carson Nugget/Buffer**—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. \$.

**Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop**—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. \$.

**Carson Station/Station Grill and Rotisserie**—883-8400. Baby back ribs, fish specials. L, D. \$.

**Carson Station/Station Restaurant**—883-0900. Homestyle cooking. B, L, D. \$.

**Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's**—Minden, 783-6650. Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D. \$.

**Carson Valley Inn/Katie's**—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

**Carson Valley Inn/Michael's**—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and seafood creations. D. \$-\$\$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Farm House Coffee Shop**—Sparks, 356-3300. Old-fashioned home cooking including omelettes, pancakes, fried chicken. B, L, D. \$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Gabe's Pub and Deli**—Sparks, 356-3300. Snacks, sandwiches, desserts, pastries. B, L, D. \$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store**—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie**—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$-\$\$.

**Sands Regency/Antonia's Breakfast Buffet**—348-2237. Eggs, pancakes, sausage, potatoes, pastries, and ham. B. \$.

**Sands Regency/Cabana Cafe**—348-2313. Sandwiches, pizza, pastries. B, L, D. \$.

**Sands Regency/Mel's Diner**—348-2200. Menu includes hamburgers, Mel's original recipe meatloaf, chili. L, D. \$.

**Sands Regency/Tony Roma's: A Place For Ribs**—348-2220. Ribs, steak, chicken salad. D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Fresh Express Food Court**—Reno, 329-7400. A variety of menus, including Chinese noodle kitchen. B, L, D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange**—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet**—Reno, 329-4777. Shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, extensive buffet. B, L, D. \$.

### ITALIAN

**Atlantis/Café Alfresco**—Reno, 825-4700. Brick-oven pizzas, pastas. L, D. \$.

**Atlantis/MonteVigna Italian Ristorante**—Reno, 825-4700. Tuscany-style Italian cuisine, 4,000-bottle wine cellar. D. \$.

**Eldorado/La Strada**—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees. Award-winning wine list. D. \$.

**Sands Regency/Antonia's Pasta Garden**—348-2237. Pasta with seafood, veal marasala, baked ziti. D. \$.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Eldorado/Bistro Roxy**—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet dishes include Chilean sea bass with Yukon gold potatoes and creamed spinach. D. \$\$.

**Eldorado/Chefs Buffet**—Reno, 786-5700. USDA prime rib, homemade pastas, Mongolian grill, salad bar, dessert bar. B, L, D. \$.

**Eldorado/Choices**—Reno, 786-5700. Deli, espresso bar, bakery, Asian Noodle Kitchen. B, L, D. \$.

**Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens**—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D. \$.

## BASQUE

**Louis' Basque Corner**—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$\$.

## ASIAN

**Eldorado/Golden Fortune**—Reno, 786-5700. Hong Kong-style cuisine. D. \$\$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's**—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe**—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. \$.

## STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Atlantis/Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse**—Reno, 825-4700. Steaks, prime rib, seafood, and pastas. D. \$\$\$.

**Atlantis/Oyster Bar on the Sky Terrace**—Reno, 825-4700. Oysters, clams, shrimp, and lobster. L, D. \$.

**Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar**—882-1626. Clam chowder, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. \$.

**Carson Nugget/Steak House**—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce. D. \$.

**Eldorado/The Grill Steakhouse**—Reno, 786-5700. Prime rib, seafood, and grilled entrees. D. \$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar**—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. \$.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House**—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar**—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. \$.

**Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse**—Reno, 329-4777. Entrees include medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken. D. \$.

## MEDITERRANEAN

**John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko**—356-3300. Veal medallions saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana. D. \$\$\$.

## BREW PUBS

**Eldorado/The Brew Brothers**—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecue shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. \$.

## Lake Tahoe

## AMERICAN

**Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma**—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$\$\$.

## ITALIAN

**Caesars Tahoe/Primavera**—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. \$.

## ASIAN

**Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court**—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$.

## MEXICAN

**Harveys Tahoe/El Vaquero**—588-2411. Traditional Mexican dishes and gourmet Southwestern specialties. D. \$.

## CONTINENTAL

**Harveys Tahoe/Llewellyn's**—588-2411. Lake Tahoe views and contemporary cuisine. L, D. \$.

## STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room**—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. \$.

**Harveys Tahoe/Sage Room**—588-2411. Western-themed steak house, tableside preparation. D. \$.

**Harveys Tahoe/Seafood Grotto**—588-2411. L, D. \$\$\$.

## Around the State

**LOVELOCK: Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's**—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$\$\$.

**WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant**—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, ribeye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. \$.

# Meeting & Dining

*The following advertisers have restaurants that welcome groups who wish to have special events or meetings. Many will accept reservations up to six months in advance.*

## Las Vegas Area

**California Hotel**—Redwood Bar and Grille can accommodate up to 105 persons. Lodge setting with rich woods, oversize chairs, and booths. Specializes in steak and seafood with a Pacific Rim flare. Group reservations one month in advance, 702-385-1222.

**Cowboy Trail Rides**—The two-hour Sunset Trail Ride can accommodate up to 65 persons. Outdoor steak barbecue. Group reservations two weeks in advance, 702-220-6169.

**Fremont Hotel**—Second Street Bar and Grille can accommodate up to 73 persons. Décor is 1950s-style art-deco. Specializes in Pacific Rim dishes, steak, and seafood. Group reservations six months in advance, 702-385-3232.

**Lake Mead Cruises, Boulder City**—Groups from 25

to 500 can be accommodated aboard the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler; aboard the *Rendezvous* yacht, or at the marina landing. Menus are custom designed for each group. Group reservations one year in advance, 702-293-6180.

**Main Street Station**—Pullman Grille can accommodate 120 persons. Victorian décor features the *Louisa May Alcott* rail car. Specializes in Black Angus steak. Group reservations three months in advance, 702-387-1896.

**Ramada Inn/Speedway Casino**—Speedway Café can accommodate 100 persons. Racing-themed décor. Specialties include the 99-cent half-pound shrimp cocktail, steak, and ribs. Group reservations two weeks in advance, 702-399-3297.

**Riviera**—Ristorante Italiano can accommodate 40 persons. Mediterranean décor. Specializes in fresh pasta dishes made to order. Group reservations six months in advance, 702-794-9363.

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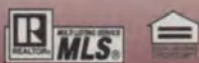


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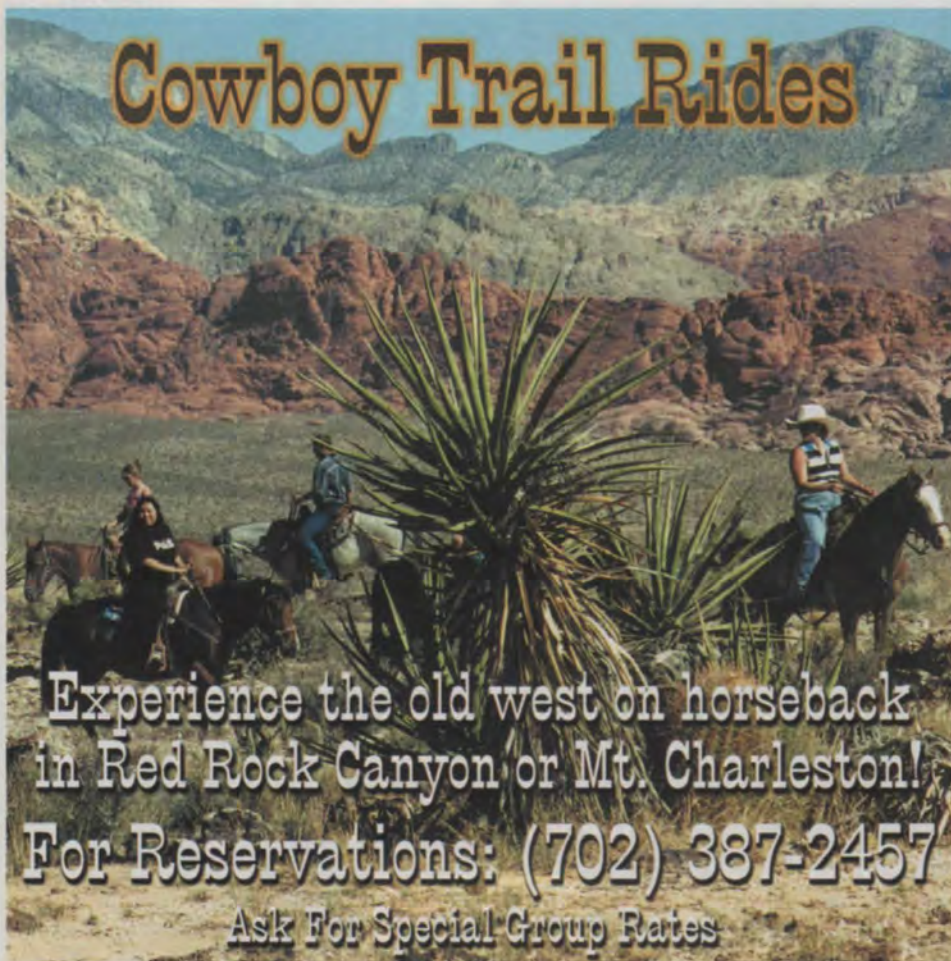
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### Reno-Carson Area

**Atlantis, Reno**—MonteVigna Italian Ristorante can accommodate 100 persons. Art-deco Italian décor. Specialties include Tuscany-style linguini sautéed with fresh scallops, shrimp, clams, mussels, and calamari in light tomato and herb sauce. Group reservations six months in advance, 775-824-4461.

**Best Western Carson Station, Carson City**—Station Grill and Rotisserie can accommodate up to 160 persons. Mediterranean décor. Specialties include salads, seafood, pastas, and gourmet pizzas. Group reservations six months to one year in advance, 775-883-8400.

**Best Western Piñon Plaza, Carson City**—Branding Iron Café and Margarita Saloon can accommodate 28 persons. Western décor. Serves American cooking with fresh ranch salads, pastas, desserts, and 40 kinds of margaritas. Group reservations six months to one year in advance, 877-519-5567.

**Carson Nugget, Carson City**—Nugget Steakhouse can accommodate 25 persons, and banquets can be arranged for larger groups. Southwestern décor. Specialties include filet mignon, steak and lobster, and shrimp fettuccini. Group reservations 30 days in advance, 800-426-5239, ext. 250.

**Carson Valley Inn, Minden**—Michael's can accommodate 80 persons. Informal elegance with all-booth seating. Specializes in American cuisine with unique uses of local ingredients and prime beef. Group reservations 18 months in advance, 775-783-6679.

**Eldorado, Reno**—Bistro Roxy, recipient of the DiRoNa Award, can accommodate up to 300 persons. European village atmosphere. Specializes in steak, chicken, and seafood dishes prepared in wood-fired ovens. Group reservations one year in advance, 800-648-4597.

**John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks**—Restaurante Orozko can accommodate up to 16 persons in the private dining room, 50 in the restaurant. Country European décor. Specialties include seafood, pasta, lamb, prime rib, and steaks. Group reservations two days in advance, 800-843-2427.

**Ramada Inn/Speakeasy Casino, Reno**—Gatsby Café can accommodate up to 76 persons. Quaint café décor. Specializes in American cuisine. Group reservations one week in advance, 775-329-7400.

**Sands Regency, Reno**—Tony Roma's: A Place For Ribs can accommodate 50 persons. A variety of barbecue ribs are served in a casual atmosphere. Group reservations three months in advance, 775-348-2242.

**Silver Legacy, Reno**—Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse can accommodate up to 268 persons. Eclectic atmosphere featuring dark woods, high ceilings, and intimate dining. Group reservations one month in advance, 775-325-7333.

### Lake Tahoe

**Caesars Tahoe, Stateline**—For information on group dining arrangements during meetings and conventions, contact the Caesars Tahoe staff, 800-648-3353.

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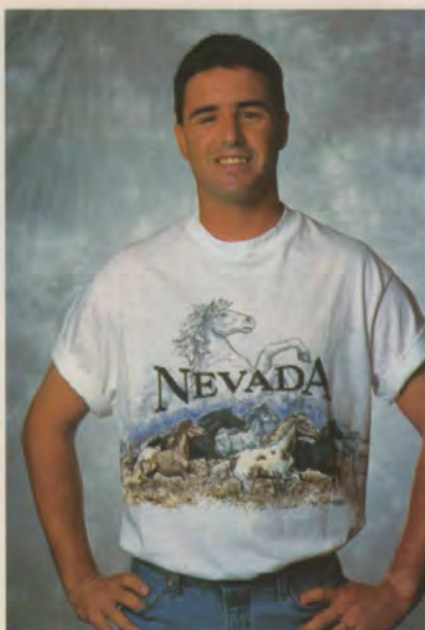
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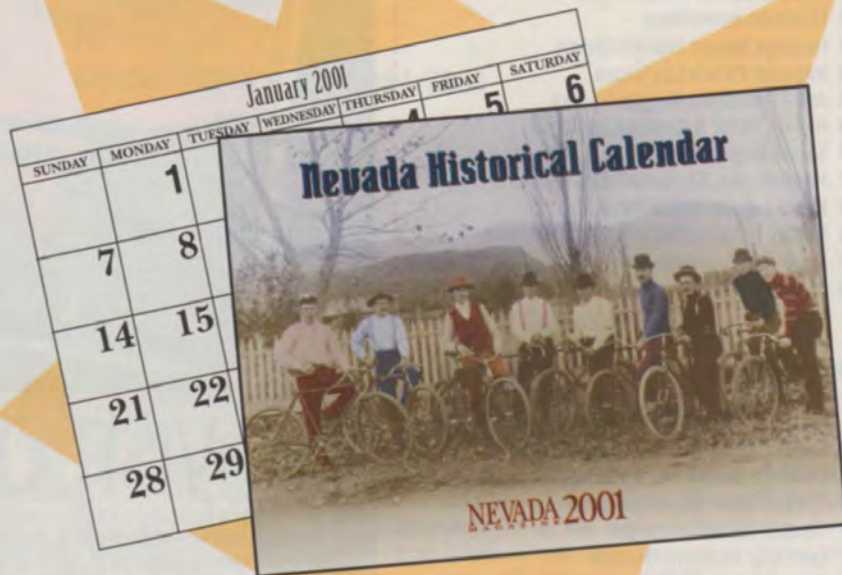
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# Dot-Com Dazzle

At Harrah's Reno, "erocktica2000.com" is the late-night entertainment search vehicle. **By David Moore**

Unless a pun is employed, a show's name may provide few clues regarding its music and theme. The name of Harrah's Reno's late-night revue, "erocktica2000.com," leaves no doubt as to what makes this Internet-inspired show work.

Erotic? The girl dancers peel off their tops during the second song, the guys seldom wear shirts, and cast members frequently interlock in suggestive tangos.

Rock? The music ranges from hard rock to power ballads, from Cher to Santana to Mark Anthony. The show stopper is a mega-medley of Queen hits.

And 2000.com? Luckily, a degree in computer sciences is not required to enjoy this show, but a certain digital appreciation helps. In fact, "erocktica2000.com" has its own Web site with cast biographies and music videos. Picky showgoers might point out that the music comes from the last century, but the revue's producers avoid the dating problem with giant video monitors, a hard-driving pace, and Buck Rogers-meets-Greg Thompson costumes and sets.

Greg Thompson is the impresario who, with choreographer Mistinguett, has produced popular Harrah's shows such as "Stage Struck," "Playboy's Ecstasy," and "High Voltage." One of the team's steamiest late-night revues was "Erocktica," which opened at Harrah's Lake Tahoe in 1994 and later turned heads among the nightclub cognoscenti of Japan. Following the addition of new songs and an Internet plot line, the show morphed into "erocktica2000.com."

The cast is high caliber. Lead singer Tamara Thorkelson has a voice that makes even Cher's "Believe" believable. The Mistinguett Dancers—Christine Jean-



Tamara Thorkelson (above) sings lead, while the Mistinguett Dancers (left) call in a catchy routine.

Star Search, Lubell points out that the show has now moved "from boobs to a boob." Many of his jokes relate to his former career as a lawyer. "My specialty was criminal law. But I never got paid—because my clients were criminals," Lubell laments. "I should have seen it coming."

Showgoers at "erocktica2000.com" are treated to an intense medley of Queen's greatest hits. Fans of Freddie Mercury will hear the classic high notes of "Bohemian Rhapsody," "That Crazy Little Thing Called Love," and "Another One Bites the Dust."

The finale is a thing of crazed beauty—flashing lights,

Blanc, Eddy Garcia, Angie Thompson, Molly Mahoney, and Chelsea Thompson—provide the razzle-dazzle. Topless, the quintet hoofs high-quality routines with energy and radiance. The girls do a nice turn lined up at phone stations, their dresses matching the booths' colors, as the gang sings "Nasty Girl" and phone-sex jokes abound.

The five male cast members, known collectively as Platinum, include dancers Jim Pferschy, Cameron Bartl, and Paul O'Donnell and singers Darryl Ross and Raymond Jones. The guys get downright funkadelic in a wild medley of "Shaft," "Brick House," Super Freak," and "Funkytown." When they launch into "Play That Funky Music, White Boy," even the older set in the audience appears ready to get up and boogie.

Mid-show, Thorkelson introduces "our funky little white boy," comedian Al Lubell. A veteran of *The Tonight Show* and

moving sets, videos, and the entire cast romping and rapping to "Space Cowboy." Like the rest of "erocktica2000.com" it's erotic, rock, and definitely dot-com.

## Show Notes

The adults-only show "erocktica2000.com" plays nightly except Thursday in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno. Show times are 10 p.m. Sunday through Friday and 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. Saturday. The early show with the same cast, "Dancin' in the Streets," plays at 7:30 p.m. Sunday through Friday and 7 p.m. Saturday through November 22. Tickets for each show are \$23.95. "Night on the Town" packages offer a show with dinner at Café Andreotti for \$29.50 or Planet Hollywood for \$31.50. Call 800-HARRAHS or 775-788-2900 for reservations. ♡

David Moore is Nevada Magazine's editor.com.

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# Nevada Bookshelf

Recent releases of Nevada interest.

## Traveling America's Loneliest Road: A Geologic and Natural History Tour Through Nevada Along U.S. Highway 50

by Joseph V. Tingley and Kris Ann Pizarro. Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0088. 136 pages, \$21.95, spiral-bound (ISBN: 1-888035-05-6). Geologist Joseph V. Tingley and cartographer Kris Ann Pizarro have written a useful guide to the 407-mile stretch of U.S. 50 between Stateline at Lake Tahoe to the Nevada-Utah border. The book spotlights historic sites, towns, and geological features found on U.S. 50. Along with useful maps, the book contains color photos of animals, plants, minerals, rock formations, and landscapes. The authors list nine recommended side trips just off U.S. 50, including Fort Churchill State Historic Park, the ghost town of Osceola, and Great Basin National Park. Sidebars in each section spotlight plants and trees that grow in Central Nevada as well as important historical people and events.



## Mountain City

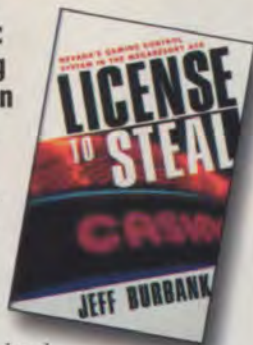
by Gregory Martin. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, North Point Press, 19 Union Square West, New York, NY 10003. 216 pages, \$21.00, hardcover (ISBN: 0-86547-594-6). For

more than four decades, author Gregory Martin's family has operated Tremewan's General Store in the tiny town of Mountain City in Northeastern Nevada. Over the years, Martin, who lives in Seattle, made frequent visits to the town, which has about 30 residents. In *Mountain City* he shares his observations, reflections, and anecdotes about the sometimes-quirky residents of the remote hamlet. With great affection and humor,

Martin offers a series of snapshots of the community and its people. He captures the bittersweet feeling of what it's like to live in a town that's struggling to survive.

## License to Steal: Nevada's Gaming Control System in the Megaresort Age

by Jeff Burbank. University of Nevada Press, Mail Stop 166, Reno, NV 89557-0076. 288 pages, \$29.95, hardcover (ISBN: 0-87417-339-6). Investigative reporter Jeff Burbank, currently managing editor of the *Las Vegas Business Press*, spotlights a handful of high-profile cases decided by the Nevada Gaming Control Board and Commission that forced the agencies to redefine how gambling is regulated in the state. The cases range from the sordid tale of a slot-cheating scheme that included the contract murder of a



star witness to the story of a computer whiz who managed to rig slot machines for better payoffs using gaming regulators' own testing equipment.

## The Man Who Invented Las Vegas

by W.R. Wilkerson III. Ciro's Books, PMB 1352, 270 North Canon Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. 176 pages, \$17.00, paper (ISBN: 0-9676643-0-6). One of the forgotten figures in Las Vegas history is Billy Wilkerson, a successful Hollywood businessman—he started the *Hollywood Reporter* and owned several nightclubs, including Café Trocadero and Ciro's—who was the original developer of the Flamingo Hotel. Contrary to the legend that gangster Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel conceived the Flamingo, Wilkerson bought the land on what later became known as the Las Vegas Strip, designed the hotel, and began construction of the resort. Wilkerson, however, didn't have the financing to complete the project and turned to the mob to provide additional capital. This book, written by Wilkerson's son, a Los Angeles freelance writer, describes the complex business relationship between Wilkerson and his gangster associates, including the



intimidating Siegel, who eventually forced Wilkerson to relinquish his share of the venture. Highly recommended for anyone interested in the birth of modern Las Vegas.

## Nevada: Off the Beaten Path: A Guide to Unique Places

by Donna Peck. Globe Pequot Press, Box 480, Guilford, CT 06437. 180 pages, \$12.95, paper (ISBN: 0-7627-0460-8). Originally published in 1997, this book remains one of the more succinct and complete travel guides to the state. Written by veteran California travel writer Donna Peck, this second edition offers brief descriptions, anecdotes and historical information about communities, historic sites, and attractions throughout the state. Peck also offers useful recommendations on dining, accommodations, side trips, and recreation.



## Moving to Las Vegas

by Theresa A. Mataga and John L. Smith. Barricade Books, 150 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011. 148 pages, \$12.00, paper (ISBN: 1-56980-104-5). This book has a great premise: pair a recent transplant to Las Vegas with an established Las Vegas journalist and have the two write everything you need to know about moving to Las Vegas. The newcomer is Theresa A. Mataga, who in 1995, at the age of 68, moved to Las Vegas. The journalist is John L. Smith, a fourth-generation Nevadan, longtime columnist for the *Las Vegas Review-Journal*, and author of several books about Nevada gaming figures. The result is a pleasing collaboration that combines Mataga's real-world experiences with Smith's extensive knowledge of the area. Useful information includes tips on finding housing and a job. Smith's talents as a wordsmith are evident throughout the book—somehow he makes even the chapter on traffic and transportation interesting. —Richard Moreno



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# City of Sinbad

The new Aladdin brings Arabian nights back to the Las Vegas Strip.

By Deke Castleman

It took Queen Scheherazade a thousand and one nights to entertain her husband, Sultan Schariar of Samarkand, with tales of Ali Baba and Sinbad the Sailor before he learned how to love again. That was nearly five months longer than it took to build the \$1.4-billion, 2,567-room Aladdin Hotel-Casino, the latest megaresort to alter the Las Vegas landscape.

The original Aladdin opened in 1967 and was imploded in 1998. The new Aladdin opened on August 18, the first new casino behemoth since Paris debuted almost a year earlier, a seeming eternity in Las Vegas.

The Aladdin is the first new Strip megaresort to keep its name and theme after being demolished and rebuilt on the same site. The Arabian Nights motif is im-

mediately evident in the 50-foot waterfall that cascades down a sandstone cliff in front of the resort. You walk directly inside from the Strip—

one of the many elements designed for convenience—but not into the casino. Instead, you find yourself in the Desert Passage, a \$300-million shopping mall.

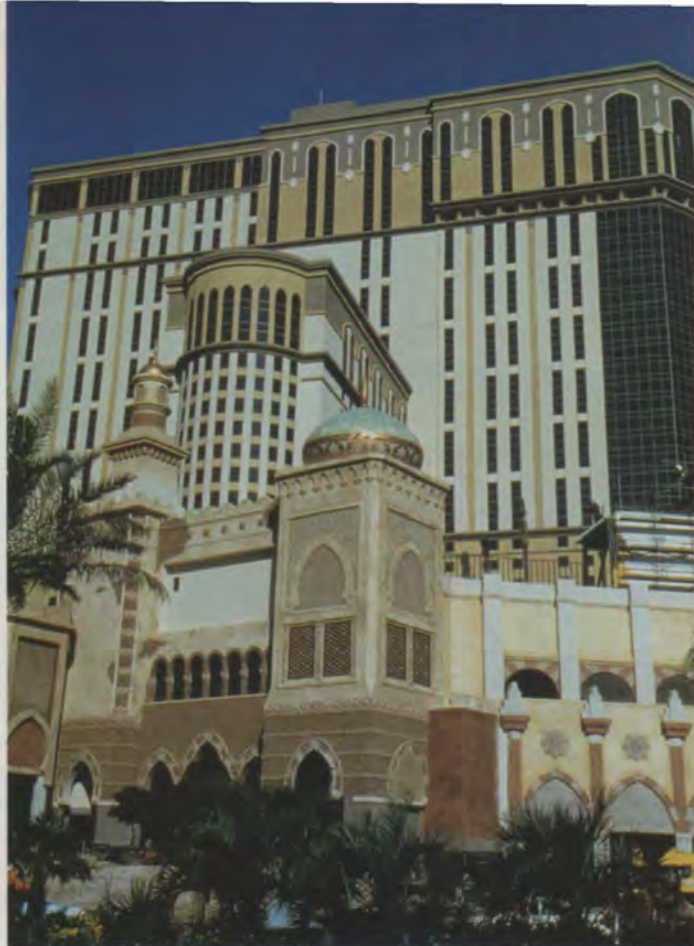
The Desert Passage is to Arabia what the Forum Shops at Caesars is to Rome—except more dramatic. The interior is meticulously detailed, featuring the mysterious geometries of Moorish architecture: arches, five-story parapets topped by onion domes, minarets, and watchtowers with spiral staircases running up the sides. The

fabulous facades create the illusion that the marketplace is built into solid rock. Many of the mall's 135 shops and 13 eateries are no less exotic. For example, the African Odyssey gallery is full of African masks, baskets, fine art, and furniture. The Endangered Species store is fronted by two huge plaster elephants. There's even a build-your-own teddy bear shop, complete with fluff machines. Among

the restaurants is Anasazi, which features cowboy, Native American, and northern New Mexico cuisine. Commander's Palace has been a Louisiana landmark since 1880, and Alakazam serves authentic Middle Eastern food.

The huge mall connects to the huge casino, which continues the Arabian theme. One of the most eye-catching features inside the casino is the Enchanted Garden, made up of nearly 2,200 fiber-optically blooming flowers. At 21 feet tall and 120 feet long, the Enchanted Garden is the world's largest indoor light board. The casino bars sport Scheherazade's characters: Atop the Lamp Bar is a 36-foot-long Aladdin's lamp; the Roc Bar is guarded by the giant bird from Sinbad the Sailor. Of course, the cocktail servers' costumes are straight out of the sultan's harem.

The Aladdin's designers had convenience foremost in mind when laying out the hotel. They used a "stacked" design, whereby the lobby, casino, and restaurants occupy their own floors. The plan affords sweeping vistas, both up (from the ground-floor hotel lobby) and down (from the restaurant level). The hotel elevators are right off the lobby; you don't have to traverse the casino to get to any nongambling areas. In addition, the hotel has no central elevator core; with the elevators spread out, no guest in the 40-story tower is



The new Aladdin, with more than 2,500 rooms, rises on its original '60s site.



An Aladdin's lamp overlooks the casino area of the Arabian-themed resort. Gamblers seeking sultan-sized limits can try the London Club upstairs.



The Desert Passage mall offers shoppers more than half a million square feet of retail and restaurants.

more than seven doors from an elevator.

The most noticeable departure from the Arabian theme is the London Club at Aladdin, a casino within the casino. The 35,000-square-foot, ultra-upscale European-style casino is outfitted with small gaming salons. Guests can sneak into the

posh gaming area, which has private dining rooms, a separate valet area, and dedicated elevators to rooms.

The rooms themselves are oversized. Every room has two phone lines with one of them connected to a cordless telephone. Each room also has a computer

with a keyboard, mouse, and 15-inch flat-screen monitor, all hooked up to a client computer. You can receive and send e-mail and access the Internet without lugging in your own laptop. For people who do bring their laptops, rooms feature high-speed Internet hookups.

The hotel also has managed to resurrect some of its older amenities. The original 7,000-seat Aladdin Theatre for the Performing Arts, built in 1976, has been renovated and again is hosting major concerts and Broadway performances. There's also a 1,000-seat theater for the Aladdin's production show, based on the Arabian Nights theme.

The Blue Note, an offshoot of the East Village's legendary jazz club, seats 450 in a dinner-show format. Although the jazz deviates from the Arabian theme, the club helps make the hottest city in the world a lot cooler. ♣

*Deke Castleman is a Reno writer and guidebook author whose new travel guide, Compass Nevada, is now available. The Aladdin, located across the Strip from the Bellagio and next to Paris, has 2,567 rooms. Rates are \$99 and up. Call 877-333-WISH or consult the Web site, [www.aladdincasino.com](http://www.aladdincasino.com), for reservations or further information.*




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## Chefs to Dine For

(Continued from page 15)

to bring the Old World to Vegas. I also saw the fun. The fun, actually, caught my interest," says Belloni through his interpreter. "I went out at night and saw the explosion of colors and sounds. Las Vegas is night life, not day life. It is completely opposite of Genoa."

The chef also points to the Venetian as a study in what is possible in this city. The incredible details put into the hotel made moving here a perfect fit, he says.

"Only Americans could be crazy enough to build Venice in the desert," he says. "It has everything but the sea. I expect someday to find a boat in the middle of the sea here. Everything is possible." ▣

Joan Patterson of Las Vegas is a freelance writer who often covers dining and outdoor subjects.

## Celebrity Eateries

Where to dine out with the culinary stars.

By Joan Patterson

Las Vegas is well stocked with restaurants run by well-known chefs. Following is a sampling of the city's celebrity eateries, most of them located in major hotels on or near the Strip.

**Andre's French Restaurant**, 401 S. Sixth St., 702-385-5016, and Monte Carlo Resort, 702-798-7151. Local chef-proprietor Andre Rochat opened a classic French restaurant in 1979 and thrived in the downtown location. Now he has a second venue inside the Monte Carlo on the Strip. His classic dishes such as oven-roasted rack of lamb with mustard and herb sauce are accompanied by an impressive wine list.

**Aureole**, Mandalay Bay, 702-632-7401. Little has been left to the imagination at Charlie Palmer's Vegas version of his famed New York City restaurant. Glitter City's Aureole includes a four-story wine tower stocked with more than 12,000 bottles, selections that are fetched by stewards attached to a pulley system. There are live swans in one of the restaurant's rooms. Seasonal American dishes such as saffron scallops with creamer potatoes are prepared by the husband-and-wife team of Joe and Megan Romano.

**Border Grill**, Mandalay Bay, 702-632-7403. Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger, hosts of TV's *Too Hot Tamales*, have duplicated their Santa Monica eatery at Mandalay Bay. Diners can sample Southwestern dishes with a twist,

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such as green corn tamales, turkey tostadas, chipotle chicken, and sautéed rock shrimp. Patio dining tops off an already vibrant room, allowing patrons to see the palm tree-laden beach and wave pool.

**Coyote Cafe**, MGM Grand, 702-891-7349. Restaurateur Mark Miller, creator of the original Coyote Cafe in Santa Fe and the Fourth Street Grill in San Francisco, has brought his inventive, contemporary Southwestern fare to Sin City. One of the first to take a gamble on Las Vegas as an up-and-coming dining destination, his restaurant has offered everything from quiche to a Howlin' Chile Relleno.

**Delmonico Steakhouse**, Venetian, 702-733-5000. Celebrity chef extraordinaire Emeril Lagasse uses the legendary Delmonico Steakhouse in New Orleans as a model for this eatery. The dishes have a Creole touch and include seafood, pork chops, and, of course, steaks.

**Emeril's New Orleans Fish House**, MGM Grand, 702-891-7374. Creole-seasoned tuna steak with foie gras. Alabama rock-shrimp spring rolls. Sweet barbecued salmon. Sounds like Emeril Lagasse is in the house. The original Fish House is in New Orleans, but the mood of the city is recreated in this Las Vegas clone with draping willow trees, lots of ironwork, and a patio-like setting.

**Gatsby's**, MGM Grand, 702-891-7777. Like Rochat, chef Terence Fong is considered a local boy of talent. His Pacific Rim dishes are influenced by a childhood spent in the melting pot of Hawaii and include such fare as macadamia-nut escolar, sautéed Dover sole, Kapalua soufflé, and genuine Kobe beef from Japan.

**Le Cirque**, Bellagio, 702-693-8100. Chef Marc Poidevin, who hails from such New York City landmarks as Le Cirque 2000 and Tavern on the Green, is the master here, creating sumptuous fare such as sea scallops layered with black truffles and wrapped in spinach and puff pastry. The room is also a feast, overlooking the Bellagio's manmade lake and decorated with a nod toward both fun and sophistication.

**Lutece**, Venetian, 702-735-5000. Restaurateur Eberhard Muller of New York City could have opened his second Lutece anywhere but chose Las Vegas, he says, because of its growing reputation as a culinary center. The menu is contemporary French and offers such fare as roasted monkfish and medallions of venison with baked apples.

**Napa**, Rio Suite Hotel, 702-252-7777. Jean-Louis Palladin, formerly of Jean-Louis at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C., could be considered a pioneer of the current culinary scene. One of the first celebrity chefs to move to Vegas, his presence at Napa

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convinced many contemporaries to follow suit. His selections have included salmon, monkfish, and veal chops grilled over wood.

**Nobu**, Hard Rock Hotel, 702-693-5090. Las Vegas now joins New York City, London, Aspen, and Beverly Hills as a home to Nobu. Celebrity chef Nobu Matsuhisa is the master behind a modern Japanese menu that includes items such as caramelized sweet miso-marinated black cod. The decor alone is like something out of a modern spy thriller with an incredible sushi bar, walls made of slick rocks, and a rustic wood ceiling. The young, talented chef here is Joseph Elevado.

**Olives**, Bellagio, 702-693-8181. Todd

English, the creator of two Boston-area restaurants, Olives and Figs, brings some of his award-winning cuisine to the Vegas version of Olives. Entrees have included whipped ricotta ravioli with hot Italian sausage and cod cakes with lobster remoulade and Boston baked beans.

**Picasso**, Bellagio, 702-693-7223. The exquisite room, with its original Picasso paintings adorning the walls, is only half of the story. Award-winning chef Julian Serrano presents a contemporary French menu tinged with the influences of his native Spain.

**Pinot Brasserie**, Venetian, 702-735-8888.

The proprietors of Pinot in Los Angeles, Chef Joachim Splichal and wife-partner Christine have brought their award-winning Franco-Californian fare to Pinot Brasserie, offering everything from Dungeness crab and Pacific shrimp to foie gras. Other choices include venison, lamb, and poultry.

**Postrio**, Venetian, 702-796-1110. This is Wolfgang Puck's fifth and latest restaurant in Las Vegas, a version of his San Francisco seafood house. Entrees include seared black bass with sauteed winter greens and warm lentil vinaigrette, and roasted turbot with sauteed wild mushrooms and leek nage.

**Prime**, Bellagio, 702-693-7223. Jean-Georges Vongerichten, of the well-known Mercer Kitchen and Jean George restaurants in New York City, has created this French steak house where eight cuts of beef are presented with a choice of seven mustards and six sauces. There are also Vongerichten classics such as garlic soup with frogs' legs.

**Renoir**, Mirage, 702-791-7111. Chef Alex Stratta, formerly of the Phoenician Resort in Scottsdale, is the creative force behind the incredible menu at Renoir. The modern French dishes, however, are not the only masterworks. Paintings from the master himself, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, are just an arm's reach away.

**Spago Las Vegas**, Forum Shops at Caesars, 702-369-6300. Wolfgang Puck was the first to take a real gamble on Las Vegas when he opened this version of his famous West Hollywood restaurant eight years ago and thus spawned the movement toward high-end dining in a city once known for budget buffets. Menu offerings include salads, fresh-baked pizzas, and rotating daily specials such as Petaluma duck with roasted-garlic polenta.

**Star Canyon**, Venetian, 702-414-3772. Dallas chef Stephan Pyles offers "New Texas" dishes such as Hudson Valley foie gras with mole sauce and crab meat-stuffed halibut. An eclectic wine list offers several Texas bottles.

**Spiedini Ristorante**, Regent Las Vegas, 221 N. Rampart Blvd., 702-869-8500. This is the venture of Gustav Mauler, longtime chef and restaurant developer for Mirage Resorts in Las Vegas. His attractive room is highlighted by a solid menu filled with traditional Italian dishes such as breaded or grilled veal chops, osso buco, and a lobster and shrimp fradivole.

**Zeffirino**, Venetian, 702-414-1000. From the waiters speaking Italian to an interior of Old World fabrics and marble columns, stepping into Zeffirino's is stepping into another world. Gian Paulo Belloni is the creative force behind a menu that offers his famous pasta with pesto and several seafood dishes, including a Seafood Symphony that is prepared tableside. ♣

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# Bruno's Country

Bruno Selmi, Gerlach's own celebrity chef, celebrates half a century in the middle of nowhere.

By Carolyn Fox

“So what’s the dinner specialty?” I asked the waitress at Bruno’s Country Club near closing time. “Homemade ravioli,” she answered, so that’s what we ordered as a late supper. And just in the nick of time, for in strode a man from the bar dressed in a dark polo shirt and slacks.

We heard him speak before we actually saw him. “Lock ’em up,” he pronounced, Caesar-like to anyone listening but in particular to our waitress. He headed for a group of eight diners. “We’ll just add the dinners to your motel tab,” he offered. The people called him “Bruno,” so we put two and two together.

We were in the presence of Bruno Selmi, longtime chef, owner, and manager of northern Washoe County’s unofficial social center and the gateway to the Black Rock Desert. Bruno’s Country Club in downtown Gerlach, a hundred miles from Reno, with a population under 200, serves ranchers, travelers, geologists, hunters, car racers, explorers, Burning Man counter-culture people, and just about anybody driving through the area.

As our salads arrived, I took a second look at the menu. “We just got those today,” the waitress told us. Framed in the clear-plastic laminated menu was a small photo of Bruno Selmi and his wife, Frances, taken in 1950. At first glance the young Bruno seemed to have Frances in a half nelson, but upon closer examination I decided she was trying to keep him from talking with his hands.

After the huge plates of ravioli were set in front of us, the table for eight discussed launching rockets the next day. They chatted with Bruno and called it a night. Bruno pivoted back to the bar.



Bruno Selmi presides at Bruno's Country Club, a gathering place for ravioli and rocket fans.

Once we’d finished our ravioli, we went into the bar, where Bruno was enthroned. He reminded me of an Italian Jack La Lanne, but with no place to swim and pull the rowboat rope with his teeth. He said he would let Larry take one picture of him. Once Larry had gotten all his equipment untangled, Bruno allowed him to take two.

I wandered the room. Pinned on the walls were numerous T-shirts. One showed a nude blonde riding off on a rocket. Others declared, “Where the Pavement Ends and the West Begins,” “Speed Limit 700,” and “Project Thrust—British Racing Team.”

The British may have set the land-speed record on the Black Rock, but Bruno

recently set a record himself. Last August he celebrated 50 years of business in the middle of nowhere. Later I asked if he had observed the anniversary.

“Oh, yes, we had a big party here on August 17th,” he said. I asked how he had come to Nevada and Gerlach from Italy.

“I was 23,” Bruno recalled. “My daddy died when I was five. When I was 14, after school, I helped a butcher. I had to stand on a Pepsi-Cola case to work, I was so short. Then I became a regular butcher. I was in this country two months working with my brother on a ranch in Dayton.” Later he worked five years at the cement plant in Empire, six miles south of Gerlach.

“Then in 1950 I leased the bar for two years before I bought it. Then we had the fire in the bar and restaurant in 1983. With the help of my son-in-law, daughter, and the people who worked here, we rebuilt it in only seven months.” He said his future plans include building a larger motel, to be called the Black Rock Motor Lodge.

Dinner in mind, I asked Bruno, “Are you, yourself, still making the raviolis?”

“Oh, sure!” he said. “But everyone who works here has to help. It takes two days.” He said the recipe came from his mother, who used to manage the place. I know that people who have watched Bruno make raviolis have marveled at the process, in particular how he spreads the dough on a large table and uses a wine glass to cut them out. The resulting raviolis are huge—and round. They are also very tasty, especially out here in the middle of nowhere. ♣

*Carolyn Fox and Larry Angier often explore the outer reaches of the Silver State.*

## Holiday Shopping



Volunteer Renée Brimm shows medallions and other gifts at the Nevada State Museum store in Carson City.

# A Museum Shopping Tour

Nevada's museum gift shops stock lots of Silver State items for your holiday stockings. **By Connie Emerson**

Nevada's museums have long provided intriguing places to learn about the state's history, gaming, automobiles, and natural world. They also offer something that warms the hearts of busy holiday shoppers: gift stores.

The stores carry items ranging from portions of old railroad tracks to Native American jewelry. Whatever attracts your eye, these museum shops allow you to take home a little piece of the Silver State.

The great majority of Nevada's museums have stores that are open year-round. Some are large, airy spaces crammed with books, clothing, and postcards while others are set in closet-size alcoves. Whatever a shop's size, it's likely to carry merchandise that you can't find anywhere else.

Often the treasures relate to the region. At the **Central Nevada Museum** in Tonopah you can buy sections of tracks from railroads that served the Mizpah,



The Central Nevada Museum in Tonopah displays its weighty gifts—slices of historic railroad tracks.

Desert Queen, Silver Top, and other mines. Train buffs can purchase sections of the Tonopah and Goldfield, Eureka and Palisades, and Las Vegas and Tonopah railroads. The rail slices range from one to four inches in length and cost \$10 and up.

The rail chunks serve as more than handsome metallic mementos. "The slices of mine rails make great paperweights," explains Viola Whipperman, the museum's assistant curator.

Railroad-themed merchandise also is popular at the **White Pine Public Museum** in Ely. Visitors there can commemorate a ride on the Nevada Northern Railway's tourist train with items like railroad-spike paperweights with miniature



Christmas fruit crate? These original Lahontan Valley labels are sold at Fallon's Churchill County Museum.

trains attached. Museum supervisor Wes Coble says, "Our most important regional item is the *Ore to Copper* video, which was filmed in Ely and tells how they got copper back in the good old days."

The good old days of railroading are well represented at the **Nevada State Railroad Museum's** gift shop in Carson City. Shoppers will find a virtual library of railroad videos and books. The shop sells engineer's caps, puzzles, T-shirts, toy trains—plenty of "Thomas the Tank Engine" stuff—and model railroad sets.

While you can buy T-shirts virtually everywhere, the small store at the recently renovated **Eureka Sentinel Museum** in Eureka is the only place in the world you'll find a T-shirt honoring Pony Express rider "Pony Bob" Haslam. The shirt depicts a skeleton rider on a skeleton horse. Museum enthusiast Joy Snowden points out that the store also carries a T-shirt depicting the town's claim to fame on U.S. 50. The shirt reads, "The Loneliest Town on the Loneliest Road."

In Elko the inventory of the **Northeastern Nevada Museum** includes a number of regional items. Some of the turquoise in the store's handmade Indian jewelry was mined in the 1970s south of Crescent Valley, 70 miles west of Elko, says gift shop receptionist Jimmie Wilson. Other jewelry is made from gold mined by the Newmont Mine Company in the Elko area. There are also ceramics by Dennis Parks, whose Tuscarora School is attended by potters from around the world, and wooden puzzles and toys made by Elko resident

Chuck Knight at the museum's gift shop. The expanded **Humboldt Museum** store in Winnemucca is scheduled to open in November, in time for holiday shopping. The store will carry everything from rough-cut opals from Virgin Valley and T-shirts depicting mammoth bones found in Humboldt County.

Farming is an important industry in Fallon, and the **Churchill County Museum** store offers an original label of the area's famed Hearts of Gold cantaloupes. The labels were placed on the wooden boxes

used to transport the cantaloupes. Suitable for framing, the labels sell for \$20 each.

"They're going like hotcakes," says volunteer Bob Walker. The store also has copies of the original flour sacks used at the F.W. Inman mill, which was located south of Fallon at Carson Sink before the turn of the century.

History buffs visit the **Nevada State**

## The State Museum gift shop carries one of the state's biggest selections of Nevada books.

**Museum** in Carson City to see its extensive displays on mining, Native American culture, and natural history. Consequently, the gift shop carries one of the state's biggest selections of Nevada-related books—an estimated 1,000 titles. Collectors can peruse the coins and other items that commemorate the building's former use as a U.S. Mint.

"We have medallions stamped on the original Number One press, which operated between 1870 and 1893 at the U.S. Mint in Carson City," says store buyer Eleanor Phillips. The medallions cost \$3.50 for bronze and \$25 for silver. The shop's 22-karat gold-plated coin watches feature a U.S. coin in the center of the face.

Virginia City has almost as many museums as it does saloons, and one of the most unusual is the **Comstock Firemen's Museum**. Inside its tidy gift shop, housed in the town's old firehouse on C Street, are stuffed toy dalmatians, framed firemen's prayers (\$18 to \$33), and miniature EMT squads made of metal (\$3.95).

Native American artifacts are honored and sold at several Nevada museums. At the **Clark County Heritage Museum** store in Henderson, Mark Ryzdyski says fetishes, small ceremonial objects carved of stone in the likeness of animals, are popular at the gift shop. The fetishes, generally no taller than two inches, are believed to bring success in hunting or health and are mostly carved by the Zuni people. Other Native American crafts, including drums, rugs, and jewelry, gems, and minerals, and a wide selection of Southwest-themed books are among the store's top sellers. Because the area's history includes stories of aliens at the



Nevada Test Site, the museum shop carries toys that pertain to extraterrestrials.

Kachinas, known as messengers to the gods in the cultures of the Hopi and other groups that live in the Southwest, are among the featured items at the **Lost City Museum** in Overton. The store carries stocking stuffers such as Native American herbal teas (\$3.30) and seeds of the saguaro, Joshua tree, and century plant (\$1 a packet). You'll also find Native American jewelry, baskets, and pottery, as well as other arts and



The Little Rock House Trading Post at Stewart carries Hopi kachinas carved from cottonwood root (left) and tiny beaded baskets like the one above (actual size) by Jenny Dick, a Paiute weaver from Coleville.

crafts. Most items cost from \$5 to \$200.

In Carson City the Little Rock House Trading Post at the **Stewart Indian School Museum** has an outstanding selection of Native American crafts, including cradleboards, jewelry, pottery, and handmade silver articles. It's also the place to buy gifts for crafters interested in authenticity. Coyote, badger, and buffalo pelts (\$30 to \$1,800), beading supplies, stone cabachons, and other materials used in creating traditional regalia are among the items for sale. "The work of people from up to 200 tribes is represented," says museum director Sheila Abbe, who operates the trading post with her husband, Jeff. The trading post is open every day of the year, and on Christmas Day the Abbes offer dinner and good company to everyone who drops in. "Last year we had 60 people," says Jeff. "We have a fire in the

fireplace. It's a place where people can come and have a really good time."

The store at the **Nevada Museum of Art** in Reno features unusual art-oriented gifts such as umbrellas that incorporate Monet's water lilies (\$31). You'll find miniature Chinese teapots and bowls made in Peru as well as glazed fish created by Reno artist Mimi Patrick. The lever-operated balancing toys from Indonesia have various themes—cowboys on horseback, men in rowboats, and stylized suns and moons with roving eyes. During the holidays, the store carries greeting cards, calendars, and origami paper with instructions for making Christmas decorations.

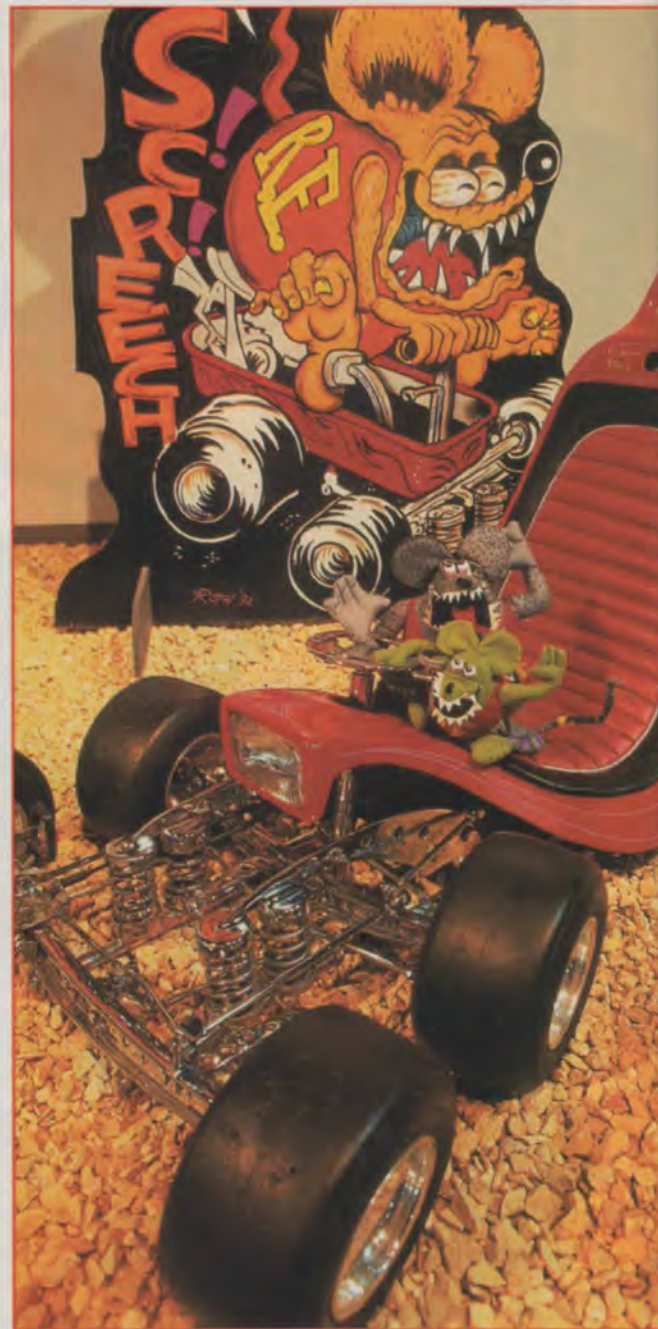
Need a gift for a car buff? The **National Automobile Museum** store in Reno has auto-related T-shirts, parking signs, logo caps, and mugs. Special items include the Hot Wheels reproductions of the 1938 Phantom Corsair, a one-of-a-kind vehicle that's on display in the museum. The selection of books is devoted to the likes of Lamborghinis, Morris Minors, Packards, and Hudsons.

"Right now, our big sellers are shirts from Hawaii," says store manager Nancy Holmes. "They come in yummy colors, and instead of flowers have cars, motorcycles, or woodies on them. And our Rat Fink dolls are really popular." The dolls were created by Ed "Big

## Reno's Wilbur D. May Museum is filled with items relating to outer space, zoology, and botany.

Daddy" Roth, who designed the Beatnik Bandit cars. Roth, who is credited with being the first person to put words and pictures on T-shirts, recently donated two Rat Fink hot rods to the museum.

If your holiday list includes musicians, there's the **Liberace Museum** in Las Vegas. Performers seem to gravitate to the sequined vests (\$50). "Barbershop singers buy them, and people get them for holidays and parades, too," says store manager Bunny Molnar. The store carries miniature crystal grand pianos, Liberace videos and cassettes, and paperweights depicting the entertainer in four designs. Each season, the museum produces Christmas tree ornaments. The Christmas 2000 ornaments include one called "I'll Be Seeing You" that is emblazoned with a black-and-white picture of Mr. Showmanship. Another features Liberace's signature in neon pink.



For a toy that is warm, fuzzy, and slightly crazed, see Ed "Big Daddy" Roth's Rat Fink dolls, shown here with his 1992 Finkmobile, at the National Automobile Museum in Reno.

The museum holds an annual art contest in which Las Vegas schoolchildren create music-themed designs. The winning entries are transformed into Christmas cards, and proceeds go toward a music scholarship fund that so far has raised more than \$3 million for aspiring musicians.

Shoppers looking for holiday gifts for children that don't involve Pokemon or video games should visit Reno's **Wilbur D. May Museum**, which is filled with items relating to outer space, botany, and zoology. Geared to children and families, many gift items reflect the museum's special exhibits.

"What's in the shop depends a lot on the exhibit we're showing. We purchase articles that go with each one," says Diane Ives, museum curator and buyer for the shop. When an Antarctica exhibit visited the museum, the shop stocked rubber stamps of penguins, penguin mugs, and polar-fleece toys. Many items cater to kids on a budget. "We do a lot of school tours, and some kids say, 'I only have a dime. What can I buy?' So we try to have good stuff that kids can afford," Ives says as she picks up an animal-shaped eraser that costs a nickel.

Educational toys and games also are popular at the **Children's Museum of Northern Nevada** gift shop in Carson City. Puppets, puzzles, games, yoyos, and other toys are among the shop's 800 items. Nevada flags are big sellers as are the animals made in Poland of rabbit and goat fur, says Suzi Meehan, the museum's executive director. "We have all the things that kids like," she says, including a \$1-or-under table for bargain-hunting tikes.

In Southern Nevada, shoppers hunting for kid-pleasers can head for **Lied Discovery Children's Museum**, where hot items include dried triops eggs (triops have been in existence since the days of the dinosaurs). "After being in water for seven to 10 days, the eggs develop into crustaceans and stay alive for about 90 days," says Karen McClure, marketing and



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Robert Sudderth shows ornaments and various music-themed gifts at the Liberace Museum.

support services manager for the museum, which is located near downtown Las Vegas. Also popular are science kits such as "Grow Your Own Crystals" and "Build Your Own Engine."

Across the street at the **Las Vegas Natural History Museum** store the best sellers are polished stones that are showcased in a treasure chest. Small bags of the

stones cost \$2.50 each. After visiting the roaring dinosaur exhibits and seeing the museum's live shark and snakes, museum-goers can buy the T-shirt—a token of their visit to the museum and Nevada. ♡

*Connie Emerson is a Reno guidebook author who hopes her husband puts a Rat Fink doll in her Christmas stocking this year.*

## What's in Store for the Holidays

Following is a sampling of Nevada museums with gift shops. Unless otherwise noted, the museums are open daily, most until 5 p.m.

**Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center:** 1477 U.S. Hwy. 395, Gardnerville; 775-782-2555. Closed Sunday and Monday.

**Central Nevada Museum:** 1900 Logan Field Rd., Tonopah; 775-482-9696, [www.tonopahnevada.com](http://www.tonopahnevada.com). Open daily.

**Children's Museum of Northern Nevada:** 813 North Carson St., Carson City; 775-884-2226. Closed Monday.

**Churchill County Museum:** 1050 South Maine St., Fallon; 775-423-3677, [www.ccmuseum.org/](http://www.ccmuseum.org/)

**Clark County Heritage Museum:** 1830 South Boulder Highway, Henderson; 702-455-7955.

**Comstock Firemen's Museum:** 125 C St., Virginia City; 775-847-0717. Open daily April or May-Nov.

**Eureka Sentinel Museum:** 10 North Monroe St., Eureka; 775-273-2115. Open daily May-Oct., Tues.-Sat. Nov.-April.

**Humboldt Museum:** 175 Museum Lane, Winnemucca; 775-623-2912 for information. Closed Sunday.

**Las Vegas Natural History Museum:** 900 Las Vegas Blvd. North; 702-384-3466, [www.lvnhm.com](http://www.lvnhm.com).

**Liberace Museum Gift Shop:** 1775 East Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas; 702-798-5595, [www.liberace.org/museum.html](http://www.liberace.org/museum.html). Located on the south side of Liberace Plaza.

**Lied Discovery Children's Museum:** 833 Las Vegas Blvd. North, Las Vegas; 702-382-

KIDS, [www.ldcm.org](http://www.ldcm.org). Closed Monday.

**Little Rock House Trading Post, Stewart Indian School Museum:** 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City; 775-882-6929.

**Lost City Museum:** 721 South Moapa Valley Blvd., Overton; 702-397-2193, [www.comnett.net/~kolson/](http://www.comnett.net/~kolson/)

**National Automobile Museum (The Harrah Collection):** Lake and Mill, Reno; 775-333-9300, [www.automuseum.org](http://www.automuseum.org).

**Nevada Museum of Art:** 160 West Liberty St., Reno; 775-329-3333, [www.nevadaart.org](http://www.nevadaart.org). Closed Monday.

**Nevada State Museum:** 600 North Carson St., Carson City; 775-687-4810, [dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/museums/cc/carson.htm](http://dmla.clan.lib.nv.us/docs/museums/cc/carson.htm) for information.

**Nevada State Museum and Historical Society:** 700 Twin Lakes Dr., Las Vegas; 702-486-5205.

**Nevada State Railroad Museum:** 2180 South Carson St., Carson City; 775-687-6953, [www.nsrsm-friends.org](http://www.nsrsm-friends.org).

**Northeastern Nevada Museum:** 1515 Idaho St., Elko; 775-738-3418, [www.ne\\_nv\\_museum.org](http://www.ne_nv_museum.org).

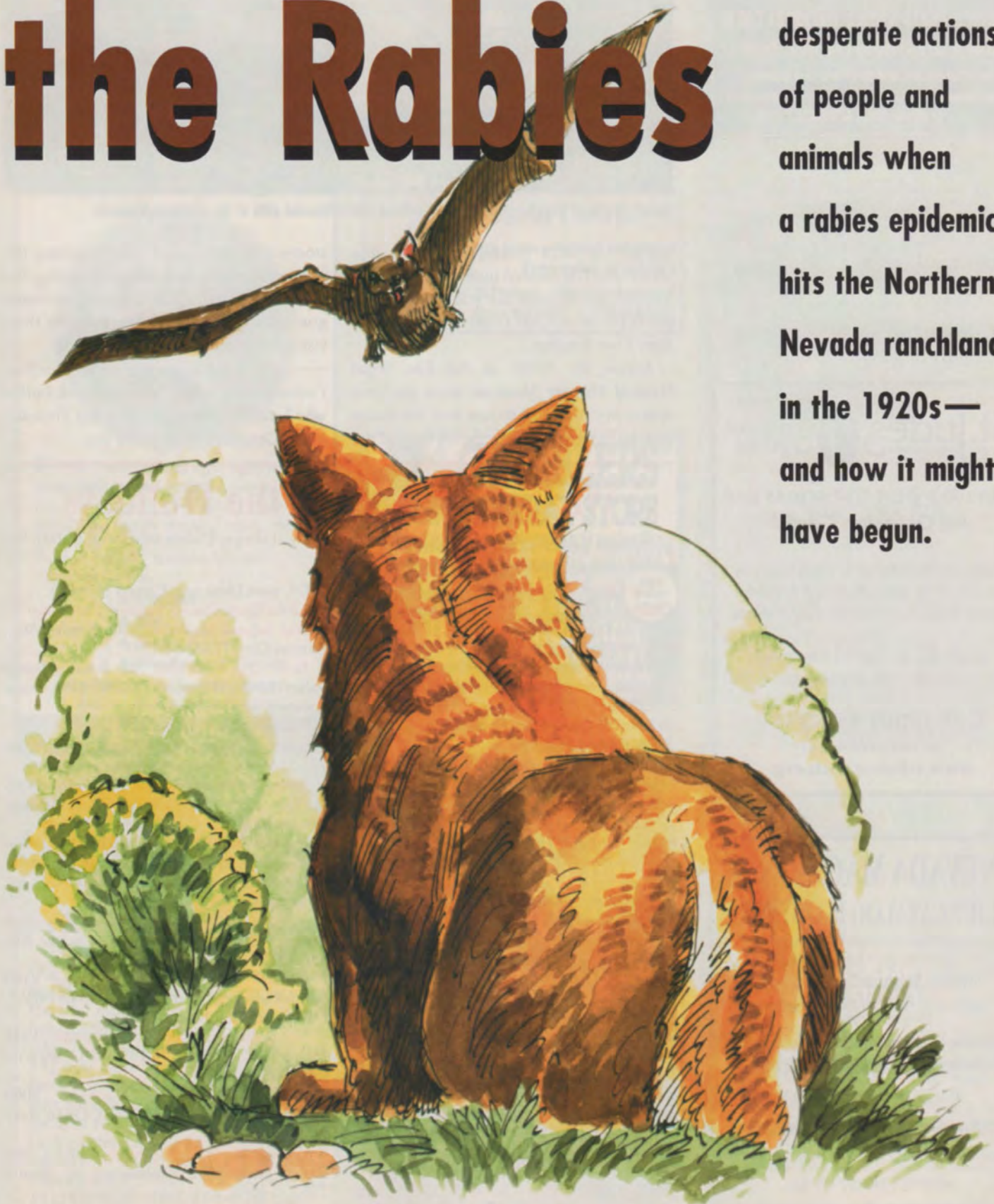
**White Pine Public Museum:** 2000 Aultman St., Ely; 775-299-4710. Open daily till 3 p.m.

**Wilbur D. May Museum:** Rancho San Rafael Park, 1502 Washington St., Reno; 775-785-5961, [www.maycenter.com](http://www.maycenter.com).

—Connie Emerson

# Time of the Rabies

In his new novella  
**ROBERT LAXALT**  
explores the  
desperate actions  
of people and  
animals when  
a rabies epidemic  
hits the Northern  
Nevada ranchlands  
in the 1920s—  
and how it might  
have begun.



**A**t the base of the jumble of boulders, there was a black hole that penetrated the hillside. The dozing coyote's attention was caught by a flutter of movement as the bat emerged from the hole.

If the coyote were equipped to wonder about such things, he would have been surprised to see a bat come out into the daylight. Night was the time for bats to emerge from their subterranean chambers.

The coyote watched as the bat fluttered erratically over the tops of the sagebrush that concealed the hole in the boulders. The bat seemed to have no destination at all, until it saw the coyote. Then its flight straightened as it clasped its webbed wings together and dived at the coyote.

Never having been confronted by such an attack, the coyote raised his head in wonder. The next thing he knew, the bat had fastened itself on his nose, sinking its eyeteeth into the tender flesh.

The coyote yelped in his surprise, which turned quickly into anger. His paw reached out to strike the bat away from his nose. To his amazement, this was not an easy task. The bat's hold was like a vise. The coyote raised his other paw, grasped the bat, and pulled. Finally, he succeeded in tearing the bat loose, but not until he had caught a glimpse of the bat's vampirelike teeth stained with blood.

In a rage, the coyote closed his jaws shut on the bat and crushed it into a tangle of bones and webbing. With a toss of his head, he threw the bat into the sagebrush. Then he tended to his hurt. The tip of his tongue barely reached the bloody punctures the bat had made in his nose. The coyote licked at the wound and was reminded of the time a spitting bobcat had clawed his nose when he had tried to get at her cubs in their den.

This wound, however, had a different quality about it. The coyote's nose felt as hot as fire. There was a spring nearby, and the coyote trotted to it and dipped his nose into the icy water until relief came.

Then the coyote went back to his rocky ledge and resumed his patient watch on the flock of sheep grazing across the ravine.

The coyote was not to be granted surcease from his troubles. This time, the big tawny sheepdog that was guarding the band of ewes sighted his movements. Barking in outrage, the sheepdog rushed like a whirlwind at his old enemy, leaping over the tops of the sagebrush in his pursuit.

Disgusted at the way his day had turned out, the coyote took to his heels. He was lean and fast and easily outdistanced the sheepdog. When the dog gave up the chase and went back to his sheep, the coyote rested until his breath had come back and then turned his attention to hunting out a jackrabbit. He stopped first, however, to paw at the burning puncture wounds the bat had inflicted on his nose.

\* \* \*

The coyote roused from his sleep when the moon was high in the sky. He awoke out of sorts with the world, so much so that he growled at his mate when she awakened.

His mate approached him subserviently, hoping to better his mood. Instead, the coyote rushed snarling at her. She leaped away from his attack, but not before the coyote had bitten her on the shoulder. When that

happened, the bitch gave up trying to assuage her mate. She simply fled away.

To her surprise, the coyote did not pursue her. Instead, he sat back on his haunches and howled. It was not a hunting or a courting call. It was the howl of an animal in pain.

A day passed. When night came again,

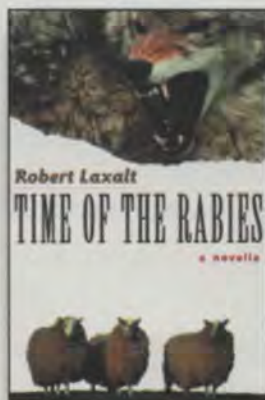
the coyote was wandering aimlessly through the sagebrush hills. He needed sleep desperately, but sleep had been denied him through the day. All that his body would allow him to do was run. He roamed through the sagebrush until he came to a stream. Beside sleep, he needed water. His thirst was raging. He plunged his muzzle into the water and

## The coyote licked at the wound and was reminded of the time a spitting bobcat had clawed his nose.

tried to lap and suck liquid down his throat. He succeeded in wetting his mouth, but his throat constricted when he tried to swallow. The liquid simply dribbled out of the corners of his mouth.

When drinking failed him, he was suddenly obsessed with the desire to bite. Not bushes or wood, but living flesh. He flushed a rabbit out of hiding, but he was too weak to pursue it. The coyote could not know it, but he had slowly been losing his senses.

By the time dusk was falling and he smelled the band of sheep, he was mad. ▣



*Robert Laxalt of Washoe Valley is the author of 16 books. This story is an excerpt from his most recent book, Time of the Rabies. The novella, set on a ranch near Carson City, is based on a rabies epidemic that swept through Northern Nevada in the 1920s, destroying wildlife and livestock. Time of the Rabies (104 pages, soft-cover, ISBN 0-87417-350-7, \$16.00) was published by the University of Nevada Press this fall. The book is available through the University of Nevada Press, Mail Stop 166, Reno, NV 89557-0076, 877-NVBOOKS (toll free), or from bookstores throughout the state.*

# Bringing Nevada to Light



**SECOND:** "Park Canyon Mill, Big Smoky Valley" • Barry Melvin Glazier, Round Mountain

The top finishers in this year's **Great Nevada Picture Hunt** found inspiration in Nevada's rural towns and playas.

**M**ain Street in Carlin runs parallel to the railroad tracks that run east and west through the Elko County town. Last March, Carolyn Fox was cruising the street when she discovered a time-warped scene that helped her win this year's Great Nevada Picture Hunt.

"We were taking the long way home from Shooting the West in Winnemucca," recalls the photographer from Jackson, California, who was traveling with her part-

ner, Larry Angier. "We happened to come by that garage with the two trucks outside. And the sign—who ever hears of a 25-cent car wash? For a quarter you can hardly get a minute now." The well-composed transparency won Fox Best of Show in *Nevada Magazine's* 23rd annual photo contest. By the way, the pickups, owned by David Gates of Carlin, are 1941 and 1946 Chevrolets.

Rural Nevada also provided the settings for the contest's other top finishers, like second-place winner Barry Melvin Glazier



FIRST: "Chevy Pickups in Carlin" • Carolyn Fox, Jackson, California

of Hadley, near Round Mountain. Glazier often photographs the Park Canyon Mill, a Big Smoky Valley landmark that stands 30 miles north of Hadley. Last July he was fortunate to be "right there," he recalls.

"I happened to be camping at the mill. In the morning I woke up, jumped out, and started taking photos when I saw the light. It was warm, beautiful light." In Glazier's photo the sunrise colors the old mill, which dates to the 1800s, and plays on the Wild Granites and the Toiyabe Range in the background. Glazier admits, "I have a massive collection of slides of Big Smoky Valley." A mining electrician for Round Mountain Gold, Glazier began taking pictures eight years ago. "I'd gotten a divorce, and I needed a hobby," says Glazier, who has a photography business on the side. He laughs. "It's gone beyond a hobby—now it's an obsession."

For some people, that phrase could describe the Burning Man festival, where Reno photographer Pete Slingland captured the contest's third-place image. Slingland took the photo at the 1999 Burning Man on the Black Rock playa.

"Saturday evening they have a fashion show, and the woman was on stage. I noticed the way she looked, and it was a really nice warm-lighted evening," says Slingland, who used a 210-millimeter telephoto lens. "There were a lot of interesting costumes—one guy was dressed like Pee-wee Herman." A graphic designer with International Games Technology, Slingland says he likes to photograph special events, creative landscapes, and speeding objects such as motorcycles—"things you can't see with your naked eye."

One could say that idea mirrors Larry Angier's fourth-place slide, which he took during last summer's Black Rock Invitational Golf Tournament. Doug Keister, the event's founder, peers from the surface of a golf hole he and others were creating with biodegradable paint.

"Doug threw some mirrors in it, and the scene seemed out of the ordinary, even for the Black Rock," Angier says. "It was like being on a different planet." Winner of the 1997 Great Nevada Picture Hunt, Angier works in photography, graphic design, computers, Web site creation—what he calls "diversified media"—in Jackson, California.

Yet another striking rural scene won fifth place for Los Angeles photographer Ellen



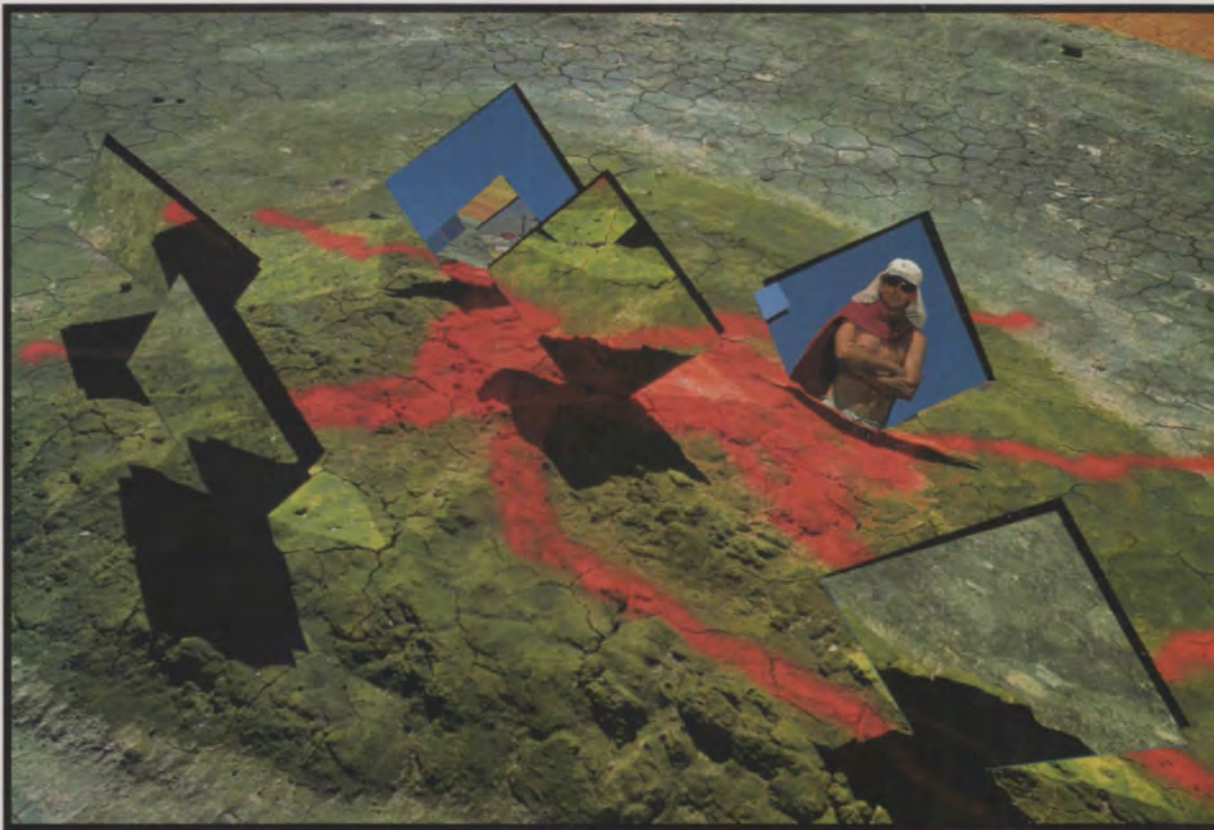
**THIRD:** "Burning Man Fashion Show" • Pete Slingland, Reno

Clark. This time the setting was the Presbyterian Church in Lamoille, 20 miles southeast of Elko. Clark took the photo during a trip to Elko after last June's meeting of the Western chapter of the Society of American Travel Writers in Reno.

"The day was overcast, and the light was in back because it was afternoon, so I scrambled around to find the best angle," she says. "It was a terrific-looking church. I was surprised to find a New England-style church there." Clark, who has traveled the world from Tiburon to Timbuktu, contributes pieces on weekend escapes for

the travel section of the *Los Angeles Times*.

The contest was judged by a panel of three jurists, each fueled by coffee and a keen interest in Nevada photography: Lisa J. Tolda, a Carson City resident and photographer for the *Reno Gazette-Journal*; John Bardwell, Reno artist and former *Nevada* art director; and Denise Evans, the magazine's current art director. Evans notes the increasing quality of entries in recent Picture Hunts. "Photographers seem to be more creative, taking more chances with unusual subjects," she says. "That's really refreshing."—David Moore



**FOURTH:**  
 "Doug Keister, Founder, Black Rock Golf Tournament"  
 •  
 Larry Angier, Jackson, California

## 2000 Great Nevada Picture Hunt Winners

First: **Carolyn Fox**, Jackson, CA, "Chevys in Carlin," Color Transparency (\$200).

Second: **Barry Melvin Glazier**, Round Mountain, "Park Canyon Mill, Big Smoky Valley," Color Slide (\$100).

Third: **Pete Slingland**, Reno, "Burning Man Fashion Show," Color Slide (\$75).

Fourth: **Larry Angier**, Jackson, CA, "Doug Keister, Founder, Black Rock Golf Tournament," Color Slide (\$50).

Fifth: **Ellen Clark**, Los Angeles, CA, "A Stormy Afternoon, Church in Lamoille," Color Slide (\$25).

### Category Awards

Best Black and White: **Tom Jones IV**, Las Vegas, "My Pet and Eye," Black and White Print.

Best Casino: **Anne Carter**, Las Vegas,



**FIFTH:**  
 "A Stormy Afternoon, Church in Lamoille"  
 •  
 Ellen Clark, Los Angeles, California

"Riviera Hotel Sign in Abstract, Las Vegas Strip" Color Slide.

Best Event: **Eileen Depeel**, Abbotsford, British Columbia, "Getting Ready: Great Reno Balloon Race," Color Slide.

Best People: **Tom Jones IV**, Las Vegas, "The Perfect Loop," Color Print.

Best Portrait: **Larry Angier**, Jackson, CA, "Gina and Her Black Hands," Color Slide.

Best Scenic: **Carolyn Fox**, Jackson, CA, "Last Light on Fly Geysers," Color Transparency.

Best Wildflower: **Carol Bruce**, Las Vegas, "Butterflies on Thistle, Desert National Wildlife Range," Color Slide.

Best Wildlife: **Patricia J. Getto**, Fallon, "Diamond Back," Color Print.

Most Humorous: **Holly C. Stevens**, Reno, "Santa at Reno Ice Rink," Color Print.

## Honorable Mention

**Holly Bauman**, Duvall, WA, "Jarbidge Lupine," Color Print.

**Robert W. Elayer**, Las Vegas, "End of the Road, South of Jackpot" and "Reflections at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park," Black and White Prints.

**Carolyn Fox**, Jackson, CA, "June Cloudburst at Fly Geysers," Color Transparency.

**Kris Hanneman**, Fernley, "Fun on the Fourth of July in Fernley," Color Slide.

**Jeanne Sharp Howerton**, Las Vegas, "Been Closed for 50 Years, Pioche," Color Print.

**Tom Jones IV**, Las Vegas, "Desert Mallows," Color Slide.

**Bob Marcroft**, Hailey, ID, "Too Cool for the Coaster," Color Print.

**Robin Paine**, Yerington, "Special Delivery Cat," "Mount Grant Eagle," Color Prints.

**Elaine Roth**, Carson City, "Going Nowhere: Horse Driving a Car," Color Print.

**Ellen Skye**, Valparaiso, IN, "Airplane Landing at McCarran Airport," Color Slide.

**Pete Slingland**, Reno, "Light Tunnel, Burning Man '99," Color Slide.

**Rhonda Wilson**, Reno, "Bathroom Faucet, Mackay Mansion, Virginia City" Black and White Print. 🏠



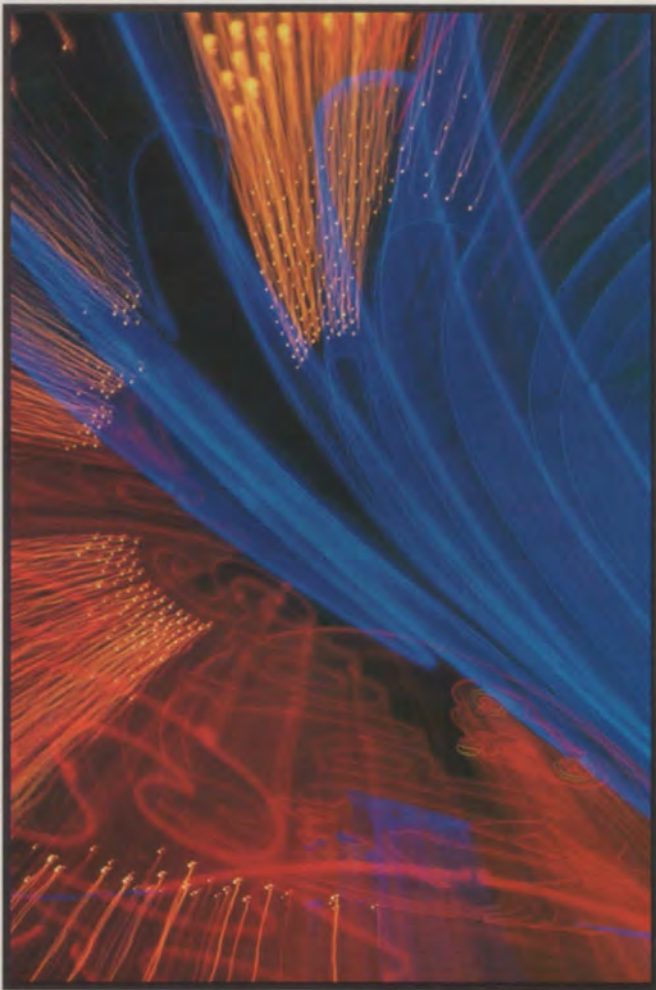
### MOST HUMOROUS:

"Santa at Reno Ice Rink" • Holly C. Stevens, Reno



### HONORABLE MENTION:

"Special Delivery Cat" • Robin Paine, Yerington



**BEST CASINO:**  
"Riviera Hotel in Abstract" • Anne Carter,  
Las Vegas



**BEST PORTRAIT:**  
"Gina and Her Black Hands" • Larry Angier,  
Jackson, California

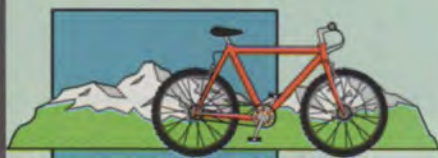


**BEST BLACK AND WHITE:**  
"My Pet and Eye" • Tom Jones IV, Las Vegas



**HONORABLE MENTION:**  
"Been Closed for 50 Years, Pioche" •  
Jeanne Sharp Howerton, Las Vegas

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## Mountain Slideaway

(Continued from page 98)

the top of the canyon. The path starts from the parking lot at the end of Lee Canyon Road and climbs through mountain aspen, ponderosa pine, fir, and the gnarled bristlecone pine. Skiers are rewarded with beautiful views along the route. Eventually the trail joins an abandoned road and then descends to the Lee Canyon Road one-half mile below the ski resort. "It's a good workout," says the Forest Service's Cote, a winter sports enthusiast. "And the solitude is very beautiful."

The safest place to sled, tube, or toboggan in Lee Canyon is the Foxtail Snow Play Area, three miles above the road connecting Lee and Kyle canyons. The steep, short

runs end at a picnic area where tables and fire pits can be used when not covered by snow. This year the Forest Service opened a heated comfort station nearby.

**At Foxtail, anything goes that slides easily: sleds, tires, toboggans, and plastic sheets.**

At Foxtail, anything goes that slides easily: sleds, tires, toboggans, and plastic sheets. It's often more fun to create your own sled than to buy one ready-made. An alpine meadow across the highway from the play area has gentle slopes for sledding, but these unofficial runs may have hidden obstacles. The flat meadow is a nice place to practice cross-country skiing and build snow sculptures, all the while contemplating the desert that sits 6,000 feet and 15 miles below. ▀

Kate Butler is a Lamoille writer, photographer, and skier.

## Snow Sports: Doing the Charleston

Lee Canyon, located on Mount Charleston 48 miles northwest of Las Vegas, can be reached via U.S. 95 North and State Route 156. Mount Charleston is part of the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area administered by the U.S. Forest Service.

When visiting Lee Canyon between Thanksgiving and Easter, be prepared for winter conditions, especially in the backcountry. Be sure to bring water, sunscreen, lip gloss, dark glasses, warm layered clothing, food, matches, a first-aid kit, flashlight, maps, and a wireless phone, if you have one. Cars with chains or four-wheel drives are advised. Call ahead to check conditions. At higher elevations, the canyon road may be clear and dry, or it may be icy and snow-covered. Following are good sources of information on Mount Charleston winter-sports activities.

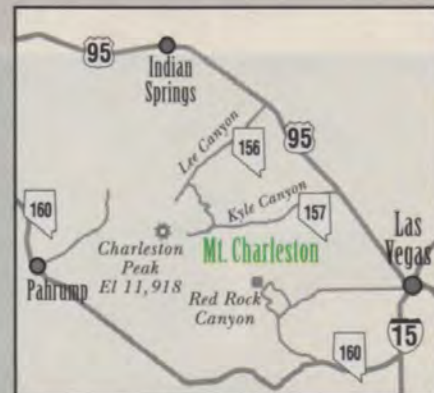
**U.S. Forest Service:** 702-222-1597 for recorded message, or 702-873-8800 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

**National Weather Service Hot Line:** 702-736-3854 for area weather reports.

**NDOT Road Conditions Hot Line:** 702-486-3116 for road reports.

**Sky's the Limit Climbing School and Guide Service:** 702-363-4533, www.skys-thelimit.com. Offers cross-country ski tours and year-round rock climbing and hiking tours in the Spring Mountains.

**Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort:** 702-593-9500 for hot line, 702-645-2754 for in-town office, www.skilasvegas.com. Lift prices are \$28 adults and \$21 for children 12 and under and seniors 65 and older. Ski rentals cost \$16, snowboard rentals \$25. Group lessons for skiers eight years and older are held daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. A lesson with ski equipment



and beginner lift ticket is \$40. A one-hour private lesson by appointment costs \$50 for one or two people. A private lesson with Marcel Barel, ski school director, costs \$60 for one or two people.

**Mt. Charleston Hotel and Restaurant:** 702-872-5500. Rooms \$69-\$155, in Kyle Canyon.

**Mt. Charleston Lodge:** 702-872-5408. Cabins \$125-\$220, in Kyle Canyon.

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*-Robert Laxalt, Author*

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# Slideaway in the Mountains

Skiers, boarders, and tobogganists can escape Las Vegas for the snowy slopes of Mount Charleston.

By Kate Butler

Cacti, water sports, and big-city excitement at 2,025 feet. Snow-covered pines, winter sports, and mountain solitude at 8,500 feet. Las Vegas and Mount Charleston form an unusual desert dichotomy, born of an altitude difference that is unique in America.

"Few can imagine this winter wonderland exists so close to our famous neon city," says Paula Cote, recreational manager for the U.S. Forest Service, Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. "In Las Vegas, you can sightsee in the morning, ski in the afternoon, and be back in time to take in a stage show at night."

The center of Mount Charleston's winter-sports activity is Lee Canyon, a scenic area 48 miles northwest of the city. Lee Canyon has three main winter-sports spots: the Foxtail Snow Play Area for sledding and picnicking, back-country trails for cross-country skiing and snow shoeing, and the Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort



Perched at more than 8,000 feet in Lee Canyon, the Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort offers downhill thrills for skiers and boarders. Some resort visitors prefer to take in the views and sun on the deck.



Sledders and saucerers find good hills, such as the Foxtail Snow Play Area, in Lee Canyon.

for schussing, shredding, and deck skiing.

Downhill skiers have been carving turns on Lee Canyon slopes since the '30s and '40s. In those days, horse-drawn sleds towed skiers to the site of the present ski slopes, where the Las Vegas Ski Club operated a short rope tow and a warming hut. Today's ski area, which attracts more snowboarders than skiers, began with a T-bar and wood chalet in 1965. It has grown into the well-equipped, contemporary Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Resort. Skiers find three double-chair lifts, snow grooming, snowmaking, a terrain park and halfpipe, ski and snowboard instruction, night skiing, clothing shop, ski rentals, cocktail lounge, and snack bar.

"We're a beginner and intermediate area and a great stepping stone to other resorts," says manager Jack Bean. "If the snowfall is good, we will be open between Thanksgiving and Easter."

The resort also is fun for nonskiers who want to watch the action from outdoor

decks. Often they can catch a glimpse of a Strip entertainer. "Vegas has its share of celebs, and some do love to visit our little hideaway in the mountains," says Craig Baldwin, marketing and sales director. "Siegfried and Roy are known to ski at the LVSSR or just hang out on the deck. David Cassidy will make a turn during the season. You never know."

The new halfpipe, terrain park, and natural "off slope" areas challenge advanced boarders and skiers. The three-quarter-mile park has tabletop jumps, quarter pipe sections, and a double jump.

Night skiing is offered when temperature, snow conditions, and public interest all reach the right levels. Skiers who want to schuss under the lights should call ahead for the night schedule (see sidebar).

Lee Canyon also has good snow and terrain for backcountry skiing. Experienced cross-country skiers and snowshoe buffs can trek the six-mile Bristlecone Trail from

*(Continued on page 96)*

# Border Grill<sup>®</sup>

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## Best Mexican Restaurant

*Las Vegas Life Epicurean Award*

## Best Margarita

*Las Vegas Life Epicurean Award*

## Best Mexican Restaurant

*Las Vegas Review Journal Reader Poll*

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