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NEVADA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE REAL WEST

OCTOBER 1985/$1.95

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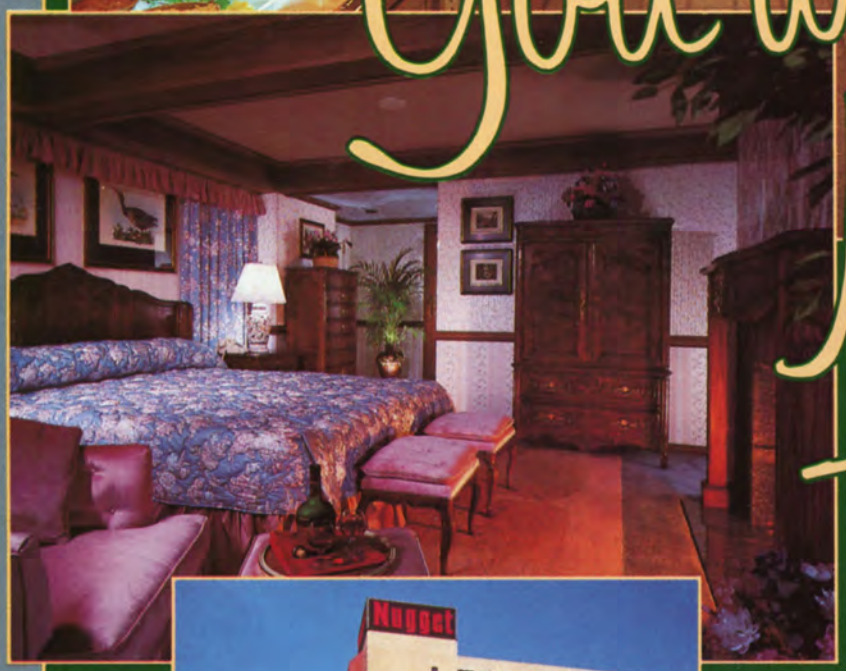


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NEVADA

Volume 45, Number 5 September/October 1985

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NEVADA
THE MAGAZINE OF THE REAL WEST
Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89710-0005
702-885-5416



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ADVERTISING:
Caroline J. Hadley or Patty Noll, Nevada Magazine, Carson City, NV. 89710-0005. (702) 885-5416.

Las Vegas, Reno, Carson City, Lake Tahoe:
Kelley-Rose, Inc., P.O. Box 20158, Reno, NV. 89515, (702) 827-5551, or P.O. Box 177, Las Vegas, NV. 89119, (702) 739-0150.

NEVADA MAGAZINE (ISSN01991248) is published bimonthly by the State of Nevada at 101 South Fall Street, Carson City, Nevada. Second-class postage paid at Carson City, Nevada with additional entry in Denver, Colorado. **POSTMASTER:** Send address change form 3579 to: NEVADA MAGAZINE, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV. 89710-0005.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: $9.95 for six issues, U.S.; $10.95 Foreign. Please allow six weeks for delivery.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: New address should be accompanied by old address label and sent to Circulation Department, Nevada Magazine, Capitol Complex, Carson City, Nevada 89710-0005. **Please allow six weeks advance notice.**

NEVADA MAGAZINE assumes no responsibility for damage or loss of any material submitted for publication. A stamped, self-addressed return envelope must be included.

Special assistance: Ormsby Association for Retarded Citizens
Printing: A. B. Hirschfeld Press
Type: Sierra Graphics, Alpha Typographers

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Up Front

The Nevada Psyche

Cowboys, millionaires, entertainers, and gamblers—the kind of people who have left indelible marks here in the desert—are all featured in this issue. The subjects of these stories and photos form a broad group of Nevadans and visitors, most of whom have never met each other. Yet each shares Nevada's essence.

One special piece concerns a Las Vegas concert pianist who travels to old mining towns like Gabbs and Pioche with a Steinway in the back of a truck. "Laura Spitzer is bringing live classical music to people who formerly considered such a concert an unreachable dream, if they considered it at all," writes Rob Powers, an editor and writer at the *Las Vegas Review-Journal,* in "Beethoven in the Boondocks" on page 22. Spitzer's tours have taken her into the heart of Nevada through blizzards, thunderstorms, and long hot days. But the concert-goers in the small rural communities she visits are always appreciative.

She tells Powers that even though there is a glut of talented pianists in the world, she knew she could make a mark as a soloist in Nevada. "This," she says, "is one of the last musical frontiers in the United States." Spitzer and her music are encouraged, and cherished.

The frontier—as found both in Hollywood and here in the Real West—is the overriding interest of multimillionaire Bill Anderson, who owns the Ponderosa Ranch at Incline Village. Writer James McKimmey, who lives at the south end of Lake Tahoe and writes novels as well as magazine articles, looked past the flash and came up with a story of huge success in "Bill's Big Bonanza," page 27

"I always wanted to succeed as a businessman," Anderson tells McKimmey. "I used to go to Clark Gable and Tyrone Power movies and see all that elegance. I'd leave red hot with the idea that someday I was going to have some of that."

Anderson is a native Californian, but he got what he wanted in Nevada. He came to Incline Village when that community was in the first stages of development and *Bonanza* was bringing Tahoe and Virginia City every week into the living rooms of mesmerized fans of the Cartwrights. Anderson saw his opportunity, and what began as a riding stable has evolved into one of the country's most famous theme parks two decades later.

Just as the Tahoe entrepreneur counted on his instincts and hopes for the future, so do casino high rollers when they visit Nevada's big resorts. In "The Suite Life" starting on page 30, A.D. Hopkins talks about the upscale treatment of gamblers who play with big money.

"A lot of the joy of being a preferred customer," he writes, "is not in what you can have on demand, but in what you are offered without having to ask."

Hopkins, who is editor of the *Nevadan,* the *R-J's* Sunday magazine, found that although high rollers may seem wildly spoiled with lavish suites and attention, many big spenders are perfectly normal and pleasant. "They didn't get rich by being unreasonable people," he says. And when one batch of his photographs didn't make it out of the lab, he took it with the calm, experienced outlook of a gambler: "Some days you eat the bear; some days the bear eats you."

To Kurt Markus, former editor of *Western Horseman,* getting lucky is being able to photograph and write about cowboys. He may live in Colorado, but he *feels* Nevada.

"You can't saddle a horse on any of Nevada's ranches and not feel *something* every day," he says. "You're either on top of it or the world has got you down good. No one has an ordinary day in Nevada."

His black-and-white portraits featured on pages 18-21 are the result of a bit of inspiration—and a canvas tent that Markus hoped would be a "natural extension of the cowboy personality." The canvas background also helped Markus find a different perspective. "My thinking was that I wanted pictures of cowboys dressed for town, that it was unjust to show the cowboys only after a day outdoors," he says. In his soon-to-be-published book, *After Barbed Wire,* Markus also shows cowboys at work in the starkly beautiful and endless range that has molded them.

These and other stories in this issue offer a glimpse into the Nevada psyche. The people and their stories *are* Nevada, good and true. And as you travel the state, keep in mind that you'll never have an ordinary day.—*Caroline J. Hadley*

Letters

Return to the Emerald City

Hiding The Tears
Ah, Leon Mandel. You must have come to Reno about the time we moved away, but we remember you from *Car & Driver!* The last paragraph of "The Emerald City" (July/August '85) was terrific. I always fly in to see my mom, sister, son, and friends with a smiling face. And when I leave, the dark glasses cannot come off 'til we're over Salt Lake!

Judy K. Fitzgerald
Lawton, OK.

Always On Your Mind
Ignore those people who request a different format—pretty scenery is found in every state, but few can boast of a personality. Every article in *Nevada Magazine* allows this personality to shine, and I'm sure that anyone who has ever been to Nevada and has allowed themselves to see her will agree. Once you've met her she never leaves your mind.

Alisa Rose
Auburn, NY

After getting *Nevada Magazine,* now I couldn't live without it.

Mrs. Robert Queen Jr.
Joplin, MO.

Enjoy your magazine very much, but wish you would have more on Vegas—that's my town.

Russell L. Johnson
Minneapolis, MN.

Check enclosed for one year subscription. I used to read your magazine when I lived in California, and now I miss it.

L. E. Lindsey
Colorado Springs, CO.

Keep up the great work. *Nevada Magazine* is the "Best in the West." I look forward to every issue.

Donald L. Parker
Las Vegas, NV.

As a member of the United States Diplomatic Service presently stationed at the American Consulate in Frankfurt, Germany, I welcome with immense pleasure my six copies of *Nevada Magazine* each year. As a homesick Nevadan, I read every single article, peruse every ad, and dwell over each and every photo. I am especially fond of Muench's Gallery. Thanks for making my life more pleasant!

B. J. Severson
Frankfurt, Germany

Nevada has in a short period of time become what other magazines strive for—achieving *numero uno.* Now if we can resume the Sagebrush Rebellion and regain the confiscated land our grateful politicians have stolen from us

R. F. Cochrane
Lancaster, CA.

Writer Is Flushed
I plan to stop grinning sometime next week, honestly, my jaws hurt. It was so kind of you to print my little story, "The Queen Was Wild," in May/June '85. Wife Emily and I used getting some extra copies as an excuse to run over to Carson City. We had recently moved to Fresno, and I was overwhelmed by the old friends who had seen the story.

Since this was the first time that anyone ever paid me for anything printed, I had the check etched in brass. Don't think that I shall ever be so proud of anything. My mother, in Alabama, also sends her thanks; she was surprised that I could spell Nevada. Our trips to Carson City are frequent and I hope one day to meet you all. I will be the guy at the video poker machines, with the silly grin. And, by the way, Old Emily won $1,061 on our trip to pick up the copies, got a Royal Flush in clubs.

Tom F. Smith
Fresno, CA.

A Memorable Hoover Dam Diversion
The May/June '85 issue of *Nevada* is a dandy! Is it really 50 years? My future husband, Lloyd Elliott, was working at Brown's Furniture Store and I was teaching third grade at Las Vegas Elementary School. During the school year 1929-30, my schoolroom had 32 clean, well-fed, well-adjusted children. A year later, the transient population poured in, looking for work. It was the Depression and these children came to school ragged and unkempt, and worse, some were hungry. A mid-morning milk program was institu-

(Continued on page 75)

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These offbeat retreats are flavored with history charm, and eggs-over-easy.

By Cliff Glover

Backroad Bed & Breakfast

For tourists in Europe, where the Bed and Breakfast phenomenon began, staying at a B&B usually means a quiet room, early-morning eggs and bacon with tea or coffee, and doting hosts who strive to make you comfortable, whether by being fussy or staying out of your hair. The B&B is an idea that has recently caught on in the United States and even more recently in Nevada.

What Nevada's B&Bs offer is a vacation outside the usual tourist areas. In fact, there are no listings in either Reno or Las Vegas. What you'll generally discover, then, is rural Nevada—places where people live at a slower pace than their urban counterparts, places where people have different perspectives. You'll also discover that B&B owners want to share their rugged countryside, and not just take your silver to pay the rent.

When you stay at a B&B, expect the unusual—like mounds of home-grown food heaped on your plate in the morning, or a room where it can be truly said that U.S. Grant Slept Here. Some places have satellite TV, while others have no TV at all. Altogether you might ride horses, soak in hot tubs, lift off in a helicopter to go skiing, hike up a nearby canyon, fish in streams loaded with brown trout, or ease back in a rocking chair. Your B&B hosts will help find what you want and also recommend sights you might otherwise miss. The travelers you meet are often intriguing, too. At the breakfast table everyone will be passing along useful information as well as platters of eggs and pancakes.

Although there are only a handful of B&Bs in Nevada, most are miles away from each other and offer distinct experiences. Each place has its own charm and character. In general, it's always a good idea to make reservations before leaving home. Also by calling beforehand, you can get an impression of the company you'll be keeping.

Old Pioneer Garden

For a completely organic experience, visit the Old Pioneer Garden. You can find this B&B in Unionville, a picturesque former mining camp 50 miles south of Winnemucca and 20 miles from Interstate 80. Harold and Mitzi Jones offer you a choice of three lodgings—their own house, a rustic two-bedroom cabin with a stream nearby, or an 1860s wagon maker's residence. The latter has six bedrooms, four bathrooms, a parlor, and a large kitchen that guests are welcome to use.

Mitzi Jones calls the Old Pioneer Garden a relaxed operation. "It's for people who want someone besides a hotel manager to talk to," she jokes. You can bring dogs as long as they don't kill the chickens, and there are two large barns to accommodate visiting horses.

For sport you can fish for brown trout in Buena Vista Creek or enjoy a pain-relieving, free soak at Kyle Hot Springs, 10 miles away. You can sit back and watch the leaves rustle or maybe begin that long-waiting novel. At night if the quiet is too much, there are two TVs that play VHS movies.

Breakfast is varied—in fact, wildly so. Depending on what kind of fowl has been laying, you might be served goose, duck, guinea, or chicken eggs. There is a house staple—buttermilk pancakes made with home-ground corn meal and stuffed with fruit picked ripe from Harold and Mitzi's many orchards.

The rate is $25 per couple per night for a shared bath and $35 for a private bath, and it is best to make reservations. Smok-



At Unionville's homey B&B, you can sleep aloft and dine in rustic elegance. The Joneses use the antique stove to cook and heat the Old Pioneer Garden.



RICHARD ROWAN PHOTOS

ers are welcome. Personal checks are allowed, but not credit cards. *Old Pioneer Garden, Unionville Number 75, NV. 89418; 702-538-7585.*

Breitenstein House

In the wintertime you can do more than look up at the scenic Ruby Mountains when visiting Breitenstein House, a B&B 20 miles southeast of Elko in the tiny country town of Lamoille. A nearby operation called Ruby Mountain Heli-Ski can give you an elevated view of the frozen mountain lakes and forests of the range while shuttling you off to ski on virgin snow. The service starts on February 1, but there is still much to do the rest of the year. In the summer you can explore Lamoille Canyon either by foot or by horse; the Breitenstein's owners, Harold and Lee Ulrich, have a stable full of trusty steeds just for that purpose. For indoor recreation you can wear down your fingertips tuning in the 100-plus channels on the Ulrichs' satellite TV.

Breitenstein House, named after Lee's parents, who started the B&B back in 1955, has three bedrooms, each with its own bathroom. For breakfast, the Ulrichs' son, Charles "Yo Yo," says, "It's mostly up to the person who comes out to stay." Offerings include all you can eat of steak and eggs, corn fritters, sausage, ham, pancakes, fresh fruit, juice, tea, and coffee—what Yo Yo calls "a hearty country meal."

Children and pets are welcome, but the animals have to stay outside. Guest rates are $34 single and $45 double, and it's best to make reservations. MasterCard and VISA are accepted. *Breitenstein House, Lamoille, NV. 89828; 702-753-6356.*

Winters Creek

Halfway between Reno and Carson City, on a pine-rimmed knoll that backs up against the Sierra Nevada, you look across Washoe Valley with a view of cow-studded pastures, the blue stretch of Washoe Lake,

At the Breitenstein House in Lamoille (right), guests enjoy a country meal before setting off on adventures in the Ruby Mountains. Below, a brass bed in Silver City's Hardwicke House.





BILL GERMINO

and the mid-sized Virginia Mountains, stark and brown. You are standing next to Winters Creek Guest Ranch, a three-bedroom B&B run by Myron Sayan and Susan Hannah. Sayan, a retired airline pilot, bought the place eight years ago and has restored the buildings and grounds. Not only are there many trees and two trout ponds but also a healthy year-round stream—the real Winters Creek—with a waterfall, a stream-side spa, and hiking trails.

The 42-acre spread could be called a dude ranch for all its horses and stables. The animals are available for anyone to ride, and there are more than four miles of trails. Rates are $10 for non-guests and $5 for guests. For those who bring their own horses, the boarding fee is $15 daily. Also, Sayan and Hannah offer an unusual evening outing—an hour-and-a-half trail ride over the hill to the Cattlemen's Restaurant for steak and wine. Cost of the ride and dinner is $30, or $27 for guests. Mercifully, everyone gets to ride back by car.

Breakfast at Winters Creek consists of eggs, homemade bread, pastries, milk, juice, tea, and coffee. It is usually served between 9 and 10 a.m., but skiers and other early risers can be accommodated.

Two of the three rooms have queen beds, and the other has a double. All have full baths. Nightly rates are $70 or $75 per couple depending on the room, and it costs $10 extra for a third person to sleep on the hideaway bed in the Nevada Suite. MasterCard and VISA are accepted. *Winters Creek Ranch, 1201 U.S. 395 (Washoe Valley), Carson City, NV. 89701; 702-849-1020.*

Haus Bavaria

On a ridge 700 feet above Lake Tahoe sits Haus Bavaria, an Austrian-style chalet built specially as a B&B by Wolfgang and Anneliese Zimmermann. At two stories it's not quite high enough for a clear view of the lake through the trees. What is easy



The charm of Carson City's Elliott-Chartz House includes antique fixtures and rare collectibles. Bud and Gayle Klette turned it into a B&B to avoid an invasion of inlaws.



RICHARD ROWAN PHOTOS

to see, though, is the care the Zimmermanns have put into their Incline Village chalet—like the continuous line of flower boxes that circle the second-floor porch and the backyard deck where guests can relax while enjoying the mountain quiet.

The five guest rooms are furnished in Danish modern, and each has a private bath and a porch. Instead of fidgeting in a rigid Victorian love seat, you can ease back in one of the six comfortable leather chairs in the family room. That is where lodgers gather to sip complimentary wine and talk about their homelands. Last year someone from every continent except Antarctica showed up at Haus Bavaria.

The Zimmermanns' experience with B&Bs dates from the 1940s, when they owned a place on Fohr Island, a popular North Sea vacation spot a few miles off Denmark's coast. In 1952 they moved to the United States.

Breakfast at the Zimmermanns' table is distinctly European. First you are handed a cup of good strong coffee. "American coffee to us Germans looks like tea," scoffs Anneliese. Then you sit down for a bit of French Brie or Norwegian Jarlsberg on a breakfast roll. Or instead of cheese you can try imported jam, a wedge of homemade coffeecake, a bowl of fresh fruit, or a selection of cold cuts. Breakfast varies a bit each day, with boiled eggs usually served on the second morning.

Haus Bavaria is open all year, and you must make reservations for at least two nights. No children or pets are allowed, "and no rowdies," Anneliese says. Rates are $40 for one person, $50 for two. Credit cards are not accepted. *Haus Bavaria, 593 North Dyer Circle, Incline Village, NV. 89450; 702-831-6122.*

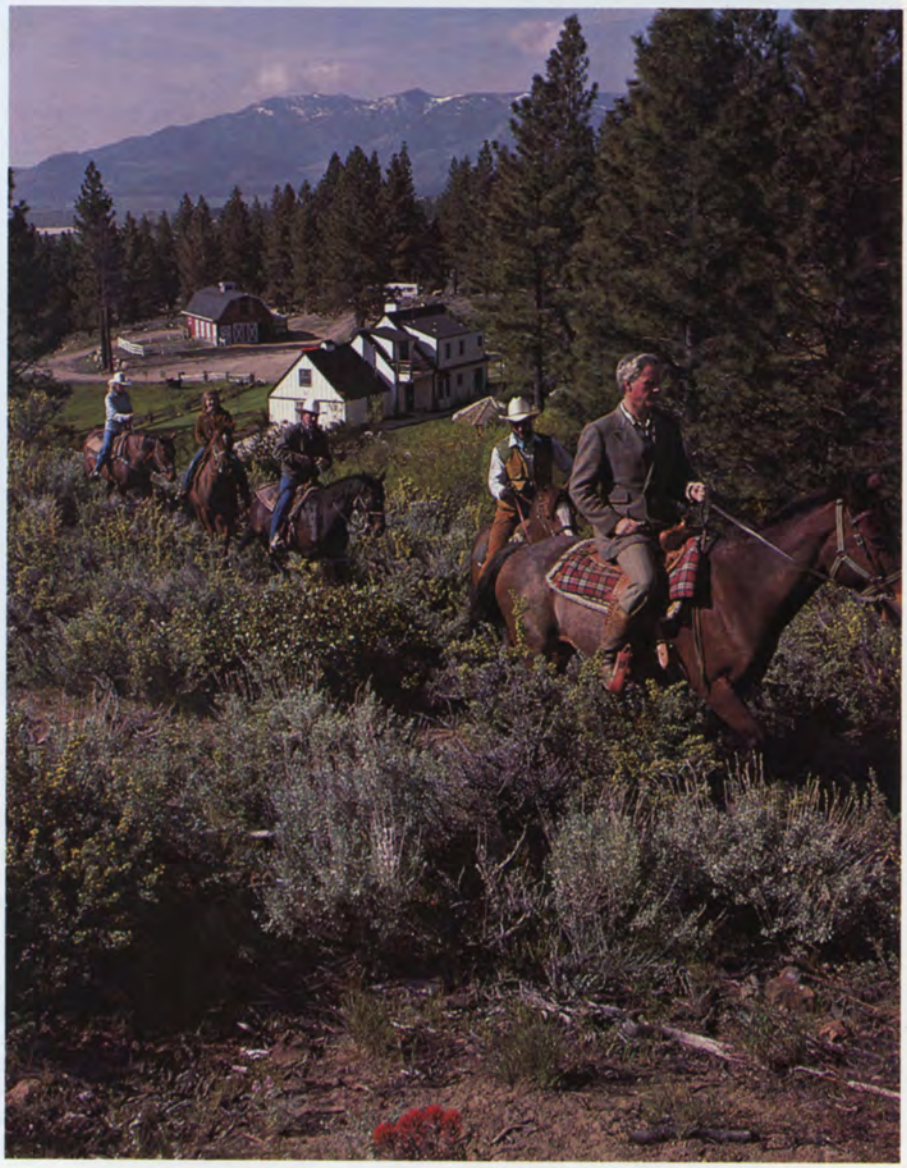
Elliott-Chartz House

Bud and Gayle Klette never intended to leave California, but when the Elliott-Chartz House in Carson City went up for sale three years ago, they decided to make

In the 1860s, the Gold Hill Hotel's massive fireplace offered mining barons and stock swindlers a place to warm their hands and cool their heels. Below, the Winters Creek Guest Ranch offers food, lodging, and trail rides in the Sierra.



BILL GERMINO



RICHARD ROWAN

an offer. When it was accepted, they suddenly realized they would be defenseless against an influx of in-laws. "I just knew we'd always have a house full of company if we didn't do something with the five bedrooms," Gayle recalls.

The solution was to turn their handsome Queen Anne-style home into a B&B. The neighborhood in Carson's historic district is shaded by tall cottonwoods, and many houses there were built in the 1860s and '70s. The Elliott-Chartz House was built in 1876, and its name refers to two early owners.

On the second floor are three guest rooms and a full bathroom. Two of the rooms have double beds, the other a queen. The downstairs has another full bathroom, a family room, dining room, breakfast room, two parlors, and a kitchen where you can fix any drink you want.

"Breakfast is my favorite meal of the day, so that's why it's a good one," Gayle says. Usually anything goes, but she's big on smoked sausage, which she says is well worth the price. Another morning you might eat Texas-style biscuits and gravy, or maybe a Jewish breakfast of bagels and cream cheese. If mushrooms-on-toast doesn't appeal to you, Gayle can fry up some eggs, bacon, and pancakes. There is always a spread of fresh fruit, juice, tea, and coffee.

Reservations are required with a 50 percent deposit, and 48 hours' notice is needed for cancellations. Smokers and children are not allowed, and people with allergies should be aware of Virginia, the Klettes' dog. Movie fans should note that the parlor TV set gets Home Box Office. Double occupancy is $65, and single is $55. No credit cards. *Elliott-Chartz House, 412 North Nevada Street, Carson City, NV. 89701; 702-882-5323.*

Orchard House

Three years ago Carl and Hope Falcke opened the Orchard House in Nevada's oldest town, Genoa, which sits close up against the Sierra 13 miles south of Carson City. The Falcke family has owned the building for more than 110 years, and they

RICHARD ROWAN



DALE SMITH



MARSHALL HUMPHREYS



Genoa's Orchard House lives up to its name—jams are made from fresh-picked fruit. Haus Bavaria's clean lines (center) contrast with the Victorian contours of the Savage Mansion.

established the B&B because, in Hope's words, "I've got this great big house and my three sons are all grown up and gone."

Orchard House has one guest bedroom with a private bath, but if necessary there is extra bed space across the hall. Children, smokers, and dogs are welcome. If you want to dine or soak two miles south at Walley's Hot Springs—without the kids—Hope says she will gladly baby-sit.

Breakfast consists of homemade bread, jams made from the pick of the Falckes' orchard, fresh fruit, milk, tea, and coffee. In the evening you can barbecue on the patio or wander down the street to Nevada's oldest saloon, the Genoa Bar, which opened in 1863. Rates are $35 for one person, $45 for two. No credit cards, and reservations are preferred. *Orchard House, Box 77, Genoa, NV. 89411; 702-782-2640.*

Savage Mansion

On the main street of another historic town, the three-story Savage Mansion in Virginia City is one of the most elegant B&B establishments you'll ever find. Restored to its 1861 condition by the last few owners, the mansion, which has 9,200 square feet of floor space, is decorated with original walnut furniture. The building once served as the Savage Mine superintendent's home and office, and when Ulysses S. Grant visited the Comstock in 1879, the former president stayed at the Savage.

Bob and Irene Kugler bought the mansion nine years ago after hunting all over the West for a Victorian to restore. They were, in fact, surprised when their offer was accepted, having only visited Virginia City once before. "Nevada?" Irene exclaimed when she realized where her new home would be. "Who the hell wants to live in Nevada?" Today she says she wouldn't live anywhere else.

The mansion's three floors are connected by long stairways, a consideration for people who don't like to climb a lot. Also, the mansion is open for tours daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., so unless the place is closed off because of a full house, there may be some tramping by your door.

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Public Welcome



Most of Nevada's B&Bs are located in Western Nevada with outposts in Unionville and Lamoille. Settings range from ranches to historic houses—all with the comforts of home.

Breakfast consists of hot rolls, jam, juice, and coffee. Rates are single $45, double $60, triple $80, and king bed $90. Checkout time is 9:30 a.m. MasterCard and VISA are accepted, and reservations are advised. *Savage Mansion, Box 445, Virginia City, NV. 89440; 702-847-0574.*

Edith Palmer's

For 20 years Edie Palmer was known throughout Nevada for the gourmet dinners she served at her Virginia City inn. Well, not exactly in the inn itself, but in a stone wine cellar carved out of Sun Mountain during Virginia City's silver boom days. Until her death a decade ago, Palmer and husband Sam Kolodziej served an endless stream of guests. Among the visitors were Marilyn Monroe, Michael Landon, and regular folks who wanted to treat themselves to a four-star meal.

Today, Kit Kolodziej, Sam's widow, is trying to put Edith Palmer's Country Inn in running shape. Last year she started to put her own imprint on the establishment by constructing a 14-foot fireplace from rocks discovered in old abandoned mines around the state.

Her breakfasts start with juice, tea, or fresh-ground Samtra, a coffee that she says is her favorite and everyone else's who tries it. Then she serves bacon, sausage, or a big slice of ham with eggs and sourdough biscuits or hot cakes, but not potatoes. "I don't get involved with potatoes, and I find the guests don't miss them with the hot cakes," she says, adding, "I give them real Vermont maple syrup."

Rooms are $45 for one person, $55 for two, and $65 for the big front room, which has a giant western bed that is larger than king-size. Credit cards are accepted. Altogether there are six bedrooms, two with baths and four with patio entrances. Teenagers are allowed, but not younger children or pets. Smokers must puff on the patios. *Edith Palmer's Country Inn, Box 756, Virginia City, NV. 89440; 702-847-0707.*

Gold Hill Hotel

Driving down the steep, twisting road from Virginia City, passing gouged hillsides and mounds of rust-colored mine tailings, you could easily miss Nevada's oldest ongoing inn if you weren't looking. If you *were* looking, though, you'd see the weatherworn porch of the Gold Hill Hotel just in time to pull over and meet Barbara Hillman.

Before moving to the Comstock 20 years ago, Hillman skated throughout the U.S. and Canada with the Shipstads and Johnson Ice Follies. Now she owns the rustic hotel, said to have been built in 1859, and you often can find her tending bar inside the cool tavern next to the main dining area.

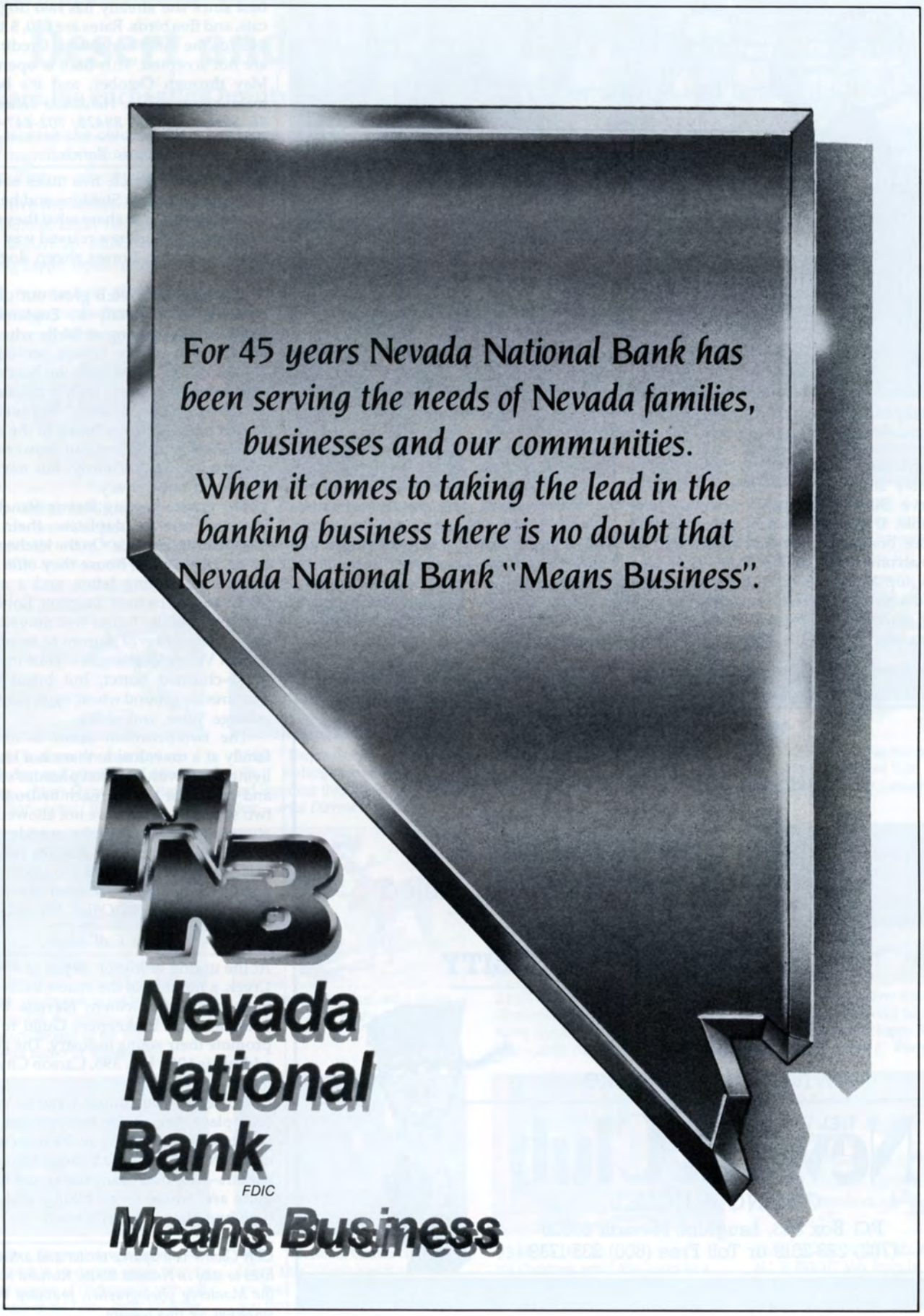
There are six guest rooms, and except for the bridal suite, which rents for $60, each runs $40 per night. The rooms are cozy, and the original brick walls are revealed in places—an effect similar to what some Mexican restaurants awkwardly strive to imitate.

Homemade cinnamon rolls, juice, and coffee are served for breakfast, but if you want a real treat, come with 10 friends for a steak dinner. For $25 a person, you get crab, caviar, hor d'oeuvres, salad bar, baked potato, rolls, wine, and a New York steak. Weddings also are held, although Hillman doesn't think she can handle more than 125 guests. Pets and children are fine, but no credit cards. *Gold Hill Hotel, Box 304, Virginia City, NV. 89440; 702-847-0111.*

Hardwicke House

Cleo Ross, the owner of the Hardwicke House in Silver City, says that running a B&B is the next best thing to traveling the world. Since she opened three years ago, tourists from Australia, Europe, and Asia have stayed at her place to relax and explore nearby Virginia City and the surrounding mining area.

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JAY ALDRICH

At the Robric Ranch in Yerington, the Stebbins offer European hospitality and home-baked bread. From left: Ricky, Richard, Roberta, Robin, Robert, and Randi.

Hardwicke House has been altered considerably since 1864, when it was built to serve Silver City as an icehouse and stable. It has been a post office, general store, boardinghouse, and dentist's office. To accommodate visitors, Ross has divided the top level into three bedrooms, one-and-a-half baths, and a small lounge area for reading or watching TV. "The whole idea was to give the house a job so we could buy some new linoleum for the kitchen floor," she says with a laugh.

For breakfast you get a continental-plus: two home-baked breads, fresh fruit, juice, and coffee. If a lodger hungers for something more, he or she can request a full breakfast.

Ross, who has two sons, accepts children and pets. She says that no one has brought any pets yet, but maybe that's best since she already has two dogs, two cats, and five birds. Rates are $30, $35, and $45 for the three bedrooms. Credit cards are not accepted. This B&B is open from May through October, and it's best to make reservations. *Hardwicke House, Box 96, Silver City, NV. 89428; 702-847-0215.*

Robric Ranch

At the Robric Ranch, five miles south of Yerington, Roberta Stebbins and her husband, Dick, want to share what they found in Nevada, including a relaxed way of life and a lot of cows, horses, sheep, dogs, and cats.

The idea for a B&B grew out of their traveling as a family in England and Scotland and staying at B&Bs whenever possible. "We were always served in a private dining room with the host's very best china and linen, with a full English breakfast," Roberta says. "We were accepted into the host's family to the extent *we* wished. They talked and answered our questions very graciously, but never intruded on our privacy."

For guests visiting Robric Ranch, the Stebbins try to duplicate their own European experience. On the kitchen table in the 1890s guest house they offer fresh fruit, a welcoming letter, and a school report written by their daughter, Robin, describing how the house was moved from the mining camp of Aurora to its present Mason Valley location. Breakfast includes home-churned butter, hot bread made from freshly ground wheat, eggs, pancakes, sausage, juice, and coffee.

The two-bedroom cabin is for one family at a time. Inside there is a kitchen, living room with TV, sheepherder's stove, and cradle for infants. Each bedroom has two single beds. Pets are not allowed, and guests are asked to smoke outside. Rates are $22 for one person, $30 for two, and reservations are required. No credit cards, please. *Robric Ranch, Yerington, NV. 89447. Home: 702-463-2998. Office: 702-463-3515.*

Write or Call Ahead

At the urging of Myron Sayan of Winters Creek, a number of the state's B&Bs have organized the Northern Nevada Bed & Breakfast and Innkeepers Guild to help promote their young industry. The guild's address is 1201 U.S. 395, Carson City, NV. 89701.

However, you should write or phone each place directly for reservations. Proprietors then can give you the most up-to-date information on all those important matters—like how many ducks and horses there are, where to go hiking, and what time breakfast is usually ready. □

Cliff Glover is a Sparks writer and artist who likes to stay in Nevada B&Bs. Richard Rowan, the Monterey photographer, provided the inspiration for this feature.

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2363 THREE KINGS May the meaning of the Season be deeper, its friendships stronger...hopes brighter as Christmas comes to you...*—artist Cummings*



1922 "Joy is the Spirit...Peace is the Hope..." Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and Happiness throughout the New Year*—artist G. Christoffersen*



2361 You made outdoors Thy temple, Lord, to fit our simple prayer...Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year *—artist Dan Mieduch*



2399 May the meaning of the Season be deeper, its friendships stronger, and its hopes brighter as Christmas comes to you this year*—artist B.C. Snow*



2259 To those we love and see each day and other loved ones far away... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*—artist J.W. Claflin*



3309 "They walk with God upon the hills..." Wishing you a Blessed Christmas and Happiness throughout the New Year*—artist Dorrine Robertson*



3287 Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year *—artist Ruth M. Lau*



2302 Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year *—artist Lisa Danielle Lorimer*



2261 (Psalm 118:24 inside) May Peace be your Gift at Christmas and your Treasure through all the Year *—artist Katheryn Williams B.*



2285 Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*—artist Hildred Goodwine*



2352 ...To wish you the Merriest Christmas the Good Spirit can bestow! Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*—artist Bill Moyers*



2390 To those we love and see each day and other loved ones far away... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*—artist Melvin C. Warren*



1261 ...When his love is understood there will be everlasting peace. May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year*—artist Vel Miller*



1603 "Christmas Candles on the Desert Altar" (Yucca legend inside) May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you through all the Year*—artist R. Lau*



3348 Ho, ho, ho... It's Christmas again! May yours be a joyful one and your New Year happy! *—artist Lucille Martin*



1656 SILENT NIGHT...ALL IS CALM, ALL IS BRIGHT May Peace be your Gift at Christmas...your Treasure...all the Year*—artist Hildred Goodwine*

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1481 ...In every home...the lights of friendship glow... it's time to greet the friends it's nice to know. Merry Christmas!—*artist Nicles*



4192 "Glory to God in the highest..." (Luke 2:14 ins.) May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you...all the Year—*photo by Fletcher Manley*



3253 "TAKE TIME TO SEE" (inspirational nature poem inside) Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist Ted Blaylock*



2371 There is a quiet in the desert land... May you have the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace...the Heart of Christmas which is Love—*artist Snow*



2260 Roof's still leakin'. Vittles skeerce. Wolf...a-growlin' fierce..Both horses lame, but Merry Christmas just the same!—*artist M. Scovel*



2079 CHRISTMAS CAPER Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year —*artist Hildred Goodwine*



2309 The splendor of Christ's humble birth, the love of friend for friend. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist C. Smith*



2345 (4 line poem by S. Omar Barker ins.) Friendly Greetings of the Season and Best Wishes for a Prosperous New Year!—*artist Gene Speck*



1264 May your moccasins make happy tracks in many snows... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year —*artist Gerda Christoffersen*



3319 Whatever else changes...the glory of Christmas remains...with joy and happiness... Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—*artist Dieckhoner*



2033 May Christmas bring Friends to your Fireside, Peace to your Pathway, and Good Health throughout the New Year—*artist Russ Vickers*



1825 Let us keep Christmas, its meaning never ends. With every good wish for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist J. Falk*



1814 "Christmas Candles on the Desert Altar" (Yucca legend inside) May the Peace and Joy of Christmas be with you...all the Year—*artist Hilton*



1304 ...May God hold you in the hollow of His hand. Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy New Year—*artist Gordon Snidow*



2226 May the warmth and love that is all around us at Christmas time fill your heart with joy, and shed radiance over the year...ahead—*artist Vel Miller*



2328 May you have the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace...Gladness which is Hope, the Heart of Christmas which is Love—*artist Ted Blaylock*



1462 "Peace on Earth" May Peace be your Gift at Christmas, and your Treasure through all the Year —*artist Brummett EchoHawk*



1498 May the small wonders of the season cause joyful happenings in your heart. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist Hildred Goodwine*



1997 May your moccasins make happy tracks in many snows...Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year —*artist Lisa Danielle Lorimer*



3025 SLEIGHBELLS IN THE SKY Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—*artist Bernard P. Thomas*

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1674 Merry Christmas WHOA, HOSS, WHOA ...and best wishes for a Happy New Year from Our Outfit to Yours—*artist Vic Donahue*



2173 Times change...but not ...friendship. Let us keep Christmas...the warmth and joy of remembering friends.—*artist Claflin*



2374 It's Christmas again! May yours be a joyful one and your New Year happy!—*artist Richard Barth*



1602 CHRISTMAS WISHES COME TRUE Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year —*artist Hildred Goodwine*



2400 Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year —*artist Richard Barth*



3201 May there come to you at this holiday time an abundance of the precious things of life: Health, Happiness and Enduring Friendships—*artist J. Falk*



2025 May you have the Spirit of Christmas which is Peace, the Gladness...is Hope, the Heart of Christmas which is Love—*artist Lowdermilk*



2276 May Christmas bring Friends to your Fireside, and Peace... Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist Chris Cummings*



1657 CHRISTMAS EVE IN A MANGER May the blessings of Christmas be with you today and always—*artist Hildred Goodwine*



3259 It's Christmas again! May yours be a joyful one and your New Year happy!—*artist Lisa Danielle Lorimer*



1951 ...The splendor of Christ's humble birth, the love of friend for friend. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—*artist Melvin C. Warren*



2403 And joy to you! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year—*artist Gerda Christoffersen*

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Cowboy Portraits

After seeking out the bone and gristle of ranch life,
I found I'd missed the marrow the buckaroo himself.

Words and photos by Kurt Markus

I have been photographing cowboy life for several years, and it's been a dream odyssey, kicking up dust on the West's least-traveled back roads and heading to what singer Ian Tyson describes as "way out back of the back of beyond." Shorty Miglioretto, who's been tending bar at the Commercial in Elko forever, once gave me directions to a ranch by nodding toward the only daylight entering the dark casino and saying, "Out there."

"Out there," as it turns out, is a land of magic proportions, as adept at shaping lives as the gaming tables or girlie houses. You can't saddle a horse on any of Nevada's ranches and not feel *something* every day. You're either on top of it or the world has got you down good. No one has an ordinary day in Nevada.

This is my warped view, built by a need to be in the Sagebrush State that haunts me. I return to it with no more control than a yo-yo. Some of the reasons are the buckaroos you see on these pages. If you can't enjoy the company of these men and their families, I say you can't handle your own heartbeat. Cowboys are alive in ways we once practiced but now have nearly forgotten. They give fresh hope that America yet harbors refugees from bureaucracy.

When people temper their lives with fire, rewards and punishments leave their brands. Faces are lined like old fence posts. Clothing shows personal taste, mixed in patterns never seen in advertisements for western wear. Manners of speech are forged in solitude, resulting in a kind of talking that knows words. The eyes shortcut pretense.

If there is a more powerful culture to photograph, I have not discovered it. You are either a cowboy, or you are not.

I began this series of portraits in 1981 when I realized there was a vacancy in my collection of pictures of cowboys at work. I liked the snow and cattle and ropes and barn wood, but I was missing the immediacy of the people. The landscape had taken over. I wanted to establish a temporary shelter from it and take pictures of people and nothing else.

For a year I wondered about building a traveling studio—how big would this outpost be, what would be its fabric, who could assemble the parts? I believed the photographs could work only if the setting seemed a natural extension of the cowboy personality. Then I saw the photographs of the mud men of New Guinea and the gypsies of Extremadura by New York fashion photographer Irving Penn in *Worlds in a Small Room*, and I saw a solution. I would have my friends at Sheridan (Wyoming) Tent & Awning make a tent similar to the one pictured in Penn's book, but instead of textured material, I would use 10-ounce cotton duck. The canvas seemed ideal. Ranchers use it for chuck wagon flies and bed tents, and cowboys sleep in canvas range tepees and in bedding wrapped in tarps.

The first public photographs in my tent studio were made at the Elko County Fair in September 1981. I wanted pictures of cowboys dressed for town, and I was told I'd see a sizable portion of Nevada's ranching community there at fair time. I got the go-ahead, and my tent went up.

Using a 4x5-inch Deardorff and a 6x7 Pentax, I worked in a fever, reveling in the soft north light that illuminated the faces under the hats. I photographed a friend who told me about someone else, who helped me locate another person, and on it went. At first I was intimidated by the starkness of the background; I had nothing to design a composition around. But as I worked, I decided to let the people fill the moment, the frame. Rather than attempting to orchestrate a gesture or a pose that reflected *my* taste, I gave each subject his own stage.

The result has been a parade of uncommon images of uncommon men and women and children. It has also led to relationships extending beyond that of photographer and subject. These are people who are welcome in my home, whether I'm home or not. And if I promise not to tell everything I know about them, they'll do the same for me. □

Kurt Markus, former editor of Western Horseman, *is now a freelance writer and photographer. The photographs featured here are excerpted from his book* After Barbed Wire: Cowboys of Our Time, *published by Twelvetrees Press. Signed copies will be available November 1. The price is $45 per copy. To order write After Barbed Wire, 9555 Bennision, Colorado Springs, CO. 80908; 303-495-3213.*



Nevada-style buckarooing acts as a powerful magnet, pulling in cowboys from other regions. Tim Carr, for example, is a New Mexican who worked for LS Ranches at Montello in the summer of 1982 before returning home. When I made this portrait of Tim and one of the buckaroo's pups, his outfit was working the country that used to be the Winecup and Gamble ranches. The history of that part of Northeastern Nevada connects to the grand days of the Utah Construction Company, a ranching giant by anyone's measure.

(Continued)



Cowboys and buckaroos have a gift for style that is a blend of individuality and tradition. By buttoning the top hole in a shirt, they seem dressed up. For lack of a better description, you could call it casual elegance. John Harrison came from California to work for Eddie King at the 25 Ranch, near Battle Mountain, and was enjoying the Elko Fair when I asked him inside the tent studio. Later I visited John when he ran the cows for LS Ranches, and we met again last spring at the Big Loop Rodeo in Jordan Valley, Oregon. John and his wife Nancy are now at the T Lazy S Ranch in Battle Mountain.



Here is one of Nevada's many good hands, Tim "Scooter" McGinnis, also photographed at the LS Ranches in 1982. Scooter has worked for several Nevada outfits, always leaving with an open invitation to return, such is his skill and integrity. A non-drinker, Scooter usually has the thankless job of driving the crew back to camp after a stay of indefinite duration in Elko. The ladies like Tim.



DAVID BROWN

Although Spitzer and her piano hit the road in October and late March to avoid heavy snows, she's played to blizzards in Austin and Panaca.

Beethoven in the Boondocks

When pianist Laura Spitzer tours Nevada's rural towns, all the great composers go along for the ride.

By Rob Powers

Last May, pianist Laura Spitzer performed a recital of mostly classical works to an enthusiastic crowd of about 130 at Artemus Ham Concert Hall in Las Vegas. Not a month before, she had played to an equally appreciative group in Duckwater, Nevada. There, the audience numbered almost 50.

Those figures wouldn't say very much were it not for this fact: Duckwater has a population of about 150; Las Vegas, more than 500,000. Had Spitzer gotten the same turnout in Las Vegas as she did in Duckwater, she would have been forced to change sites, since Ham Hall cannot accommodate 175,000 concert-goers.

So much for those who can't imagine why a talented musician has packed her piano and traveled to specks on the map that most of her peers don't know exist. A third of the town as an audience—even, yes, in Duckwater—is a third of a town.

What Spitzer is doing is bringing live classical music to people who formerly considered such a concert an unreachable dream, if they considered it at all. The pianist benefits, too. For her, touring the state has meant incalculable personal and professional growth—and a few bucks to boot, although this is no big money-making venture. She thinks the arrangement is a fair trade-off.

"I thought after seven concerts in seven towns, that would be it," she says of her touring. "Here I am, 22 towns later, and I still have 10 or 12 to go until I exhaust Nevada—or until it exhausts me.

"I don't know if I typify Nevada, but I am supplying it with something it doesn't have." Indeed, she does offer the only seven-foot, $25,000 Steinway in the state that makes house calls.

For much of her life, Spitzer has been equally comfortable with the roles of itinerant and pianist. Even as a high school student in California's Bay Area, she knew she wasn't destined to follow the path traditionally trod by concert musicians. "I had a feeling that if I was going to make a living in music, it would be to take it out of big cities, to decentralize it," says Spitzer, who performed her first concert 18 years ago, at the age of 14. "There were plenty of pianists in big cities, but there weren't enough in other places. I thought, 'Why not bring music to their doorsteps?'"

That she ended up in Nevada six years ago, playing in community centers, churches, and school gymnasiums in towns like Hawthorne, Wells, and Eureka, would once have seemed a long shot. Spitzer had spent time in her 20s backpacking around Europe, trying to find herself. One place she looked was the Mozarteum, a well-known music school in Salzburg, Austria, from which she graduated with top honors in 1976. She then toured the country with a contemporary group she helped found.

After returning to the United States she earned a master's degree at Johns Hopkins' Peabody Institute in Baltimore. The same year, 1979, she moved to Nevada. Today her husband, Ken Hanlon, is chairman of the UNLV Music Department. Spitzer herself teaches piano to advanced students through the university.

It didn't take Spitzer long to realize two things. One, there is a glut of talented pianists in this world. "We're a dime a dozen, a dime a gross," she says. "It's scary." And two, she knew that she could make a mark in the Silver State: "This is one of the last musical frontiers in the United States." Besides, she says, "If you're going to be a soloist, and I wanted to be a soloist, you need an angle—aside from the fact that it was important for me to play, play, play."

After some lobbying she received a Nevada State Council on the Arts grant for the tour. Ace Trucking gave her the use of a truck, and Southern Nevada Music donated the use of a Steinway. Finally in April 1984, along with piano tuner Lorelle Nelson, who doubled as the truck driver, Spitzer set out on her first musical expedition. It comprised some 1,500 miles and included Panaca, Elko, Battle Mountain, Austin, Hawthorne, Virginia City, and Fallon.

It was during their second tour the following October that she and Nelson got lost—and, not so coincidentally, realized they had arrived.

They were on their way to Yerington but took a wrong turn somewhere south of somewhere and ran out of gas. They then saw a sign saying they were within a mile of a place called Twin Springs, which was more a ranch than a town. Spitzer spotted a female rancher who called off her dogs and then listened to what must have sounded like the rantings of a woman suffering from sunstroke.

Says Spitzer, "I started out by saying that I was a concert pianist, doing Yerington tomorrow, and that I had a seven-foot Steinway in the cab.

"She didn't speak for a moment. Finally she opened her mouth: 'Look, I will make you a deal. I will help you, but will you please play for me before you leave?'" The rancher, Susie Fallini, said her mother, who had been a concert pianist, had died about 18 months before. Spitzer agreed, and Fallini invited friends from places like Ely and Tonopah to attend the concert. Spitzer performed on the antiquated Steinway that Susie and her husband, Joe, kept in their living room.



Signs of success in Central Nevada.

That ranch house recital proved to be a turning point. The people Spitzer met at the Fallinis' helped her to schedule concerts that she had been unable to arrange.

Spitzer and Nelson travel to play wherever they can. "We'll go any place there is a facility we can get chairs into," says Nelson. Acoustics vary greatly, as might be expected, but the two women make do. It's understood in all the towns they visit that the residents will provide five burly men to move the 760-pound piano. "Sometimes we get police and sheriff's departments. We got a football team once, a weightlifting team, a drama club." In one town, several residents of the local jail joined in to heave-ho. "In Wells," Spitzer says, "one of our sponsors gave us massive amounts of envelopes full of donations—everybody pitched in, everybody got into the act."

Such unabashed displays of community spirit have greatly impressed Nelson, who says the touring has had a profound impact on her. "It's expanded my idea of what Nevada was," she says. "The differences between communities are staggering."

"Deep down," says Spitzer, who also performs with the Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra, "I bet if you talk to artists, they wonder if they're doing something that's doing anybody any good. This is an addictive situation. There's a freshness that comes with another kind of crowd. It's the most fun for me.

"I'm trying to turn around people, trying to get them to give a second look at something that they have never been exposed to before. There really is an awakening going on in Nevada right now."

The rewards of what she and Nelson do are sometimes lost in words. Even so, Spitzer recalls an incident when they weren't. It was one afternoon in the small town of Austin, and Spitzer had just finished one of her "mini concerts"—a kind of warm-up performance given especially for the local children. Before she could dismiss the youngsters, Spitzer says, "A boy raised his hand and asked if I could play some more."

For her, that was as good as a standing ovation at Artemus Ham Concert Hall any day. □

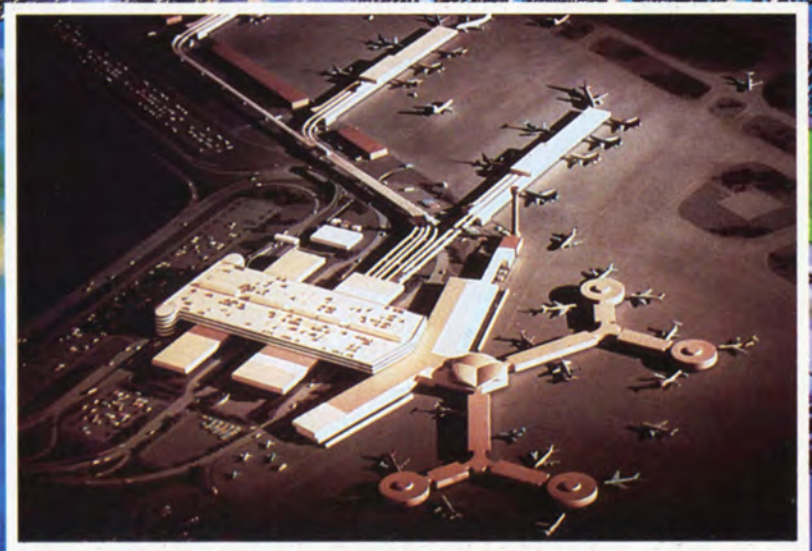
Rob Powers is editor of the Living section of the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

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Bill and Joyce Anderson once traveled the world as western-style ambassadors for the Nixon administration, but nowadays their sights are set on relaxation as well as ranch life.

Bill's Big Bonanza

There's Ben, Hoss, and Little Joe, but Bill Anderson is the real king of the Ponderosa.

By James McKimmey

There were muddy ruts in the road leading into the Ponderosa Ranch at Incline Village. It was spring, and the gates I drove through were not yet open to the quarter of a million visitors who would cheerfully pay $4.50 each to visit this summer.

I had a 9 a.m. appointment with multimillionaire Bill Anderson, the man who founded and owns this 600-acre invention that was inspired by the fictional ranch in the TV series *Bonanza*. I found a small office building, where Anderson's longtime secretary, Doris, told me that he might be late and why didn't I sit down in the adjoining waiting room. I did that.

Immediately a man appeared wearing a battered western hat, a nylon goose-down vest over a leather vest, twill trousers, and cowboy boots encased by unbuckled rubber galoshes. He didn't appear to be the Bill Anderson I'd seen in published photographs. This man seemed heavier, wore glasses, and wasn't at all dressed in the flamboyant manner I associated with the well-publicized king of the Ponderosa.

Was it a buckaroo who worked for him?

But he shook hands with me, saying, "I'm Bill Anderson. I'll give you a tour before we talk."

We got into his pickup. He muscled it expertly up those rutted roads into the small western village that this man, who labels himself first and foremost a collector, has constructed.

There was a saloon whose rustic interior carried me back to the 1800s. I saw frontier-style shops on the main street and a white church that had been taken apart in Kansas and reassembled here. He pointed out the log ranch house that's a duplicate of the one used by the Cartwrights in *Bonanza* episodes.

He drove on to a large garage used for restoring old automobiles and other American artifacts destined to be put on public view.

Then he took me to the lofty home where he and his wife, Joyce, live. The vast, thickly carpeted living room was beautifully furnished. An entire wall of glass offered a view of Lake Tahoe.

Finally, in Anderson's large office, located in another building that once served as a stable, he sat down to talk. Hat still on head, he put his feet on his desk. I decided the galoshes must have helped in the mud outside because, as he later admitted, his cowboy boots had holes in them.

☆ ☆ ☆

As he talked about his life, what at first seemed to be personal paradoxes—living in a mansion and wearing worn-out boots—turned out to be reflections of the very nature of Anderson.

The average person would not admire a truck filled with horse manure, but Anderson has done just that more than a few times and might again. He is, in fact, a man who quit school to gather garbage-dump pots so he could sell them at a profit.

"I'm just sort of a street-smart indi-





Anderson's town overlooks Lake Tahoe as hungry trail riders look over breakfast.

vidual," Anderson said. "What you become when you have no education, and you still have the ambition to be wealthy, is a highly motivated, driving, blowing, going sonofabitch who's another kind of human being."

He continued, "It's true that sometimes I drive a Rolls-Royce. But it's also true that I clean up my plate and I don't throw my clothes away."

As another kind of human being who is also a highly successful proponent of the work ethic, he explained that his deepest pride lies in getting things done.

"I've absolutely shed tears because I couldn't get a truck loaded with junk I'd bought from some farmer before it got dark so I could drive it away. I've beaten my hands to a pulp with a hammer and chisel taking some old thing apart to sell it for two or three dollars. So, I don't give a damn if you're shoveling a bunch of horse manure. When you've got it all in the truck, you're proud of having gotten the job done. And you admire it!"

William Anderson, who was born November 10, 1923, in Alhambra, California, knew very early that he wanted to succeed as a businessman. "I used to go to Clark Gable and Tyrone Power movies and see all that elegance. I'd leave red hot with the idea that someday I was going to have some of that. I promised myself that I was going to get one of those large cars and cruise around with a blonde beside me and a big old dog in the back seat."

By the time he was 18 Anderson had gone into the auto-wrecking business and had 500 cars in his yard. Then he was drafted. After World War II ended and he got out of the Army, he took advantage of the times. With his brother, Chris, he went into the war surplus business.

"We were vest-pocket merchants. If we had $50, we bought $50 worth of stuff and sold it for a hundred. We just kept going and going that way until we became big-time surplus dealers. Well, junk dealers is what we really were."

Anderson's journey toward the link-up with *Bonanza* and the creation of the Ponderosa Ranch began when he became a Nevadan in 1959, as Incline Village was first being developed. "By that time I was in the equipment-rental business with a hundred pieces of machinery. I rented it out to that development, and because the Village took off to be a hell of a success, I just followed along with that success and made a lot of money."

He invested much of his profits in surrounding real estate and, as a sideline, opened a riding stable. He also became aware that *Bonanza* segments were being shot in the area because it was colorful country and because the show had been developed to sell color television.

"My getting involved with it wasn't because I was a fan of *Bonanza*," Anderson said. "The only reason I finally bought a TV set, after I got married at age 35, was so baby sitters would be happy with our son and daughter. I got involved purely because I had a place to take care of the show's horses as well as equipment they could use to help their water wagons and tree-falling and road-grading."

The consequent presence of the *Bonanza* stars drew the public to Anderson's land and stable as a powerful magnet draws metal. "They'd pay you just to pet the horses used in the show, and so I got to be the most popular person in town when that was taking place. Finally, because all of those visitors believed my place was where the Ponderosa Ranch ought to be, I decided to build one for them right there."

Pairing business acumen with foresight, Anderson persuaded NBC officials and stars Lorne Greene, Dan Blocker, and Michael Landon to join him in carrying out his plan. In 1967 the Ponderosa's gates were opened to the public, and visitors from around the world have been pouring through ever since.

Besides receiving official sanction, Anderson also acquired merchandising rights to *Bonanza* souvenirs. Those, harnessed to food, liquor, dancing, riding, barbecues, and various concessions, all helped to

make his venture a success.

Because Bill and Joyce Anderson run the Ponderosa with no managers under them, Bill still works long hours seven days a week during the tourist season, scheduling employees and overseeing the day-to-day operation. But from December to March the Andersons leave their splendid home and the ranch and go south—to their vacation home on Taupo, a lake on the North Island of New Zealand. There they keep, among other things, two Rolls-Royces. Although fishing and hunting in an opposite climate give them a regal respite, the winter home presents Anderson with a dilemma in terms of future expansion.

"I've considered buying Ski Incline," he said, referring to the municipally-owned resort up the mountain. Despite past entreaties, the resort has not been for sale. If he had the chance to buy it, Anderson would "Ponderosize" it by linking it with *Bonanza* as he has the ranch. He said he would name it Ski Ponderosa and add sleigh-riding. "We have a 1,000-car parking lot, and it'd be a natural. But then you have to face this fact, too. I haven't the reason I once had to add to my wealth or my activity. And if I couldn't find a top-notch management team right away to run that operation, then there goes my New Zealand fun-and-games area."

Anderson says his long career has helped illuminate his strengths and weaknesses as well as what he now wants from life.

"I've had to be tough—tough on other people, but tough on myself, too. That's a strength. But one of my weaknesses is also a strength. Some people may be smarter than I am, I'll admit that. But I've always been smart enough to hire people who're smarter than I am, such as Doris, who's worked for me as secretary and bookkeeper all of my business life.

"I wasn't as clever early on as I am now, in business. I didn't know, for example, how to borrow money. So if I'd known then what I know now, I'd be 50 times as wealthy as I am. But," he said, "you don't get to be successful by being 100 percent right all the time. You have to make mistakes in order to learn. It's just to have been more often right than wrong. I was right to have bought very, very cheap real estate when I was a young man. I was right to have collected what I have because some of the things I bought for 10 or 15 dollars are now worth two and three thousand dollars."

As far as his life style is concerned, Anderson no longer wants to do some of the things he and his wife did during the early years of Ponderosa Ranch. In those days the Andersons made repeated public appearances, including TV, and they wore showy, expensive western clothes. As official tourism ambassadors during the Nixon administration, they toured the world as American cowboys promoting tourism and, of course, the Ponderosa Ranch. Anderson twirled a six-gun. When he was home, he mingled with tourists at the ranch and signed autographs.

"But that's no longer necessary to help my business. I'd absolutely have to fight myself to do all that now. So we quit it. I can*not* do it anymore, and neither can Joyce."

If Anderson no longer seeks public recognition, he still rewards himself with material proof of what he can now afford. "I love gold. I think coming from a rat-poor youth, I'm very jewelry-conscious and gold-conscious. This leather vest I have on has $5 gold pieces for buttons. I've got 10 $20 gold pieces on my belt. There're 105 diamonds in my belt buckle. And there's something else, too. If I looked in my wallet and didn't see plenty of dough in there, I'd be in great despair."

But after acquiring so much money, and finding no appeal in joining the jet set, the real reward in life is continuing to "kind of play the game," Anderson said.

"To explain that I'll tell you quietly and secretly that I get a hell of a reward for being responsible for employing so many people. I enjoy bringing back memories to so many older people who come here and love looking at something I've collected and restored, such as an old plow, for example. Right now I'm negotiating with a guy to buy an early milk truck, the kind the driver steered with a tiller as he stood on one of the running boards—the one that replaced the horse-drawn wagon. It'll be satisfying as hell for me to restore it and present it here at the ranch. And don't forget that in addition to my wife I have two damned good kids who're now in college. That I can educate them, when I couldn't afford to educate myself, that's reward, too."

☆ ☆ ☆

He drove me back to my car. We shook hands again. His last words, sincerely delivered, were, "You take care of yourself."

As I drove away, I decided it really wasn't another paradox that a tough, hard-driving man would be concerned with another person's welfare. Such feelings seem compatible in Bill Anderson, a man who appreciates the work that puts smiles on his visitors' faces and gets a truck loaded by sundown. □

James McKimmey, with his wife, once spent five years on a ranch, living and writing. His novel, Buckaroo, *currently in use in high schools across the country, features a Nevada ranch background. The McKimmeys live in South Lake Tahoe.*



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HIGH ROLLERS

The Suite Life

Nevada casinos woo big spenders with every comfort money can't buy

By A. D. Hopkins

William Bergstrom wanted to be remembered as the biggest bettor of all time. So on November 16, 1984, he walked up to a craps table at Binion's Horseshoe in downtown Las Vegas and plunked down $1 million on the "don't pass" line. He lost the bet—but he won worldwide recognition as one of gambling's most daring high rollers.

"It tapped him out," says Ted Binion, casino manager of the Horseshoe. "But he still acted like it was nothing." Bergstrom had taken it equally in stride in 1980 when he won $777,000 on a single bet at the Horseshoe and $538,000 in the spring of 1984. The $777,000 was the biggest single wager in casino history at the time, just as the $1 million is today.

Last winter, three months after his million-dollar bet, Bergstrom

The Golden Nugget's new 18-story tower has 27 suites like the one at right, each worth about $125,000. They're free—as long as you bet the limit.





committed suicide. Yet the source of his despondency was not the memory of gaming losses but an ill-starred love affair —a fact Binion was able to reveal because he had been Bergstrom's confidant as well as his casino host. Binion knew the gambler well. Bergstrom dined with Binion as the Horseshoe's guest and visited the family ranch in Montana. He made telephone calls to Binion, talking for hours about his private life and the big bets he planned to make. For four years, until Bergstrom's death, Binion protected the gambler's identity from all inquiries.

The Binion family is famous for catering to high rollers, but most good casino managers would have treated Bergstrom as Binion did—as both customer and friend. The high roller in Las Vegas gets the closest thing to love money can buy. In this land without royalty, he can live in a suite fit for a king, dine like a duke, and drink like a lord, all at the casino's expense.

The term "high roller" is commonly used to describe anyone who bets large amounts of money. However, people in the gambling business give it a narrower meaning, says Tony "Toby" DiCesare, casino manager at the Tropicana Hotel. DiCesare, one of the few executives who will speak openly about the care and feeding of high rollers, explains, "A high roller might come around only once a year, but he will always bet the limit, whatever the limit is." Most big bettors would more properly be described as "preferred customers," he says. "A preferred customer is a good, steady customer who comes about once a month, gives you perhaps $20,000 worth of action, and will always bet black chips"—the $100 kind—"but not necessarily the limit. Some preferred customers will be high rollers also, but you treat either type the same."

That is, very, very well.

The perks that such players enjoy usually begin in the area of room and board. At the Tropicana, the most highly preferred customers—those known to be willing to risk $100,000 or more during their visits—may be invited to stay in the hotel's so-called "theme suites," which are named after famous cities. The London Suite has a respectable English air, for instance, and the Nairobi Suite is decorated with a zebra-skin rug, African tribal masks, and a bed covered with mosquito netting.





Anyone can bet like a high roller at elaborate gambling parlors like the Tropicana's (above).

For just $650 a night you can live like one, too, in a Caesars Palace Fantasy Suite (left).

Last year the Golden Nugget opened an 18-story addition containing 27 suites—and no other guest rooms at all. The walls are covered with rich fabrics and paintings. Some rooms have hand-made duplicates of rare antique furniture. There are cassette tapes waiting atop the stereo, silk flowers on the dining table, and real potted plants. In the bathroom, guests find a fashionable clutch bag full of high-quality shampoo, toothpaste, and other toiletries they might have forgotten to pack.

The cost of each suite was about $125,000, yet one Nugget spokesman says, "If we can keep a high roller in each of those suites, we could close the rest of the hotel and still get rich."

One of the Desert Inn's suites, the Presidential, has 4,000 square feet of space—twice as much as the average home. Among the suite's amenities is a safe whose combination is changed after each guest leaves.

At the Las Vegas Hilton, big players often stay in special suites on the 29th floor. On the top floor, the 30th, a lucky guest may find himself in the lavish quarters where Elvis Presley stayed when he performed at the hotel.

Caesars Palace offers high rollers not only luxurious rooms but also the Forum Casino. All dealers wear tuxedos in this intimate second-floor casino. The betting limit is not unreasonable—$5,000 on craps and roulette, as it is throughout Caesars Palace—and although there are several $25-minimum tables, there is one $5-minimum. "Actually, anyone can play here. They don't have to be invited," an executive says. "But it normally is open only at night. For some of our invited guests who like to play in this room, we have opened it at 2 p.m."

One of the Forum's reasons for being is its convenience to the Palace Court, the restaurant at which well-heeled guests dine on such viands as crayfish tails baked in vermouth and cognac or whole quail cooked and served in special crockery.

At Binion's Horseshoe, a special guest can order his food directly from executive chef Vern Eller, who whips up gourmet meals with the equanimity of a short-order cook hustling hash browns. Eller says, "Given a day or so's notice, I can get almost anything—game birds, venison,

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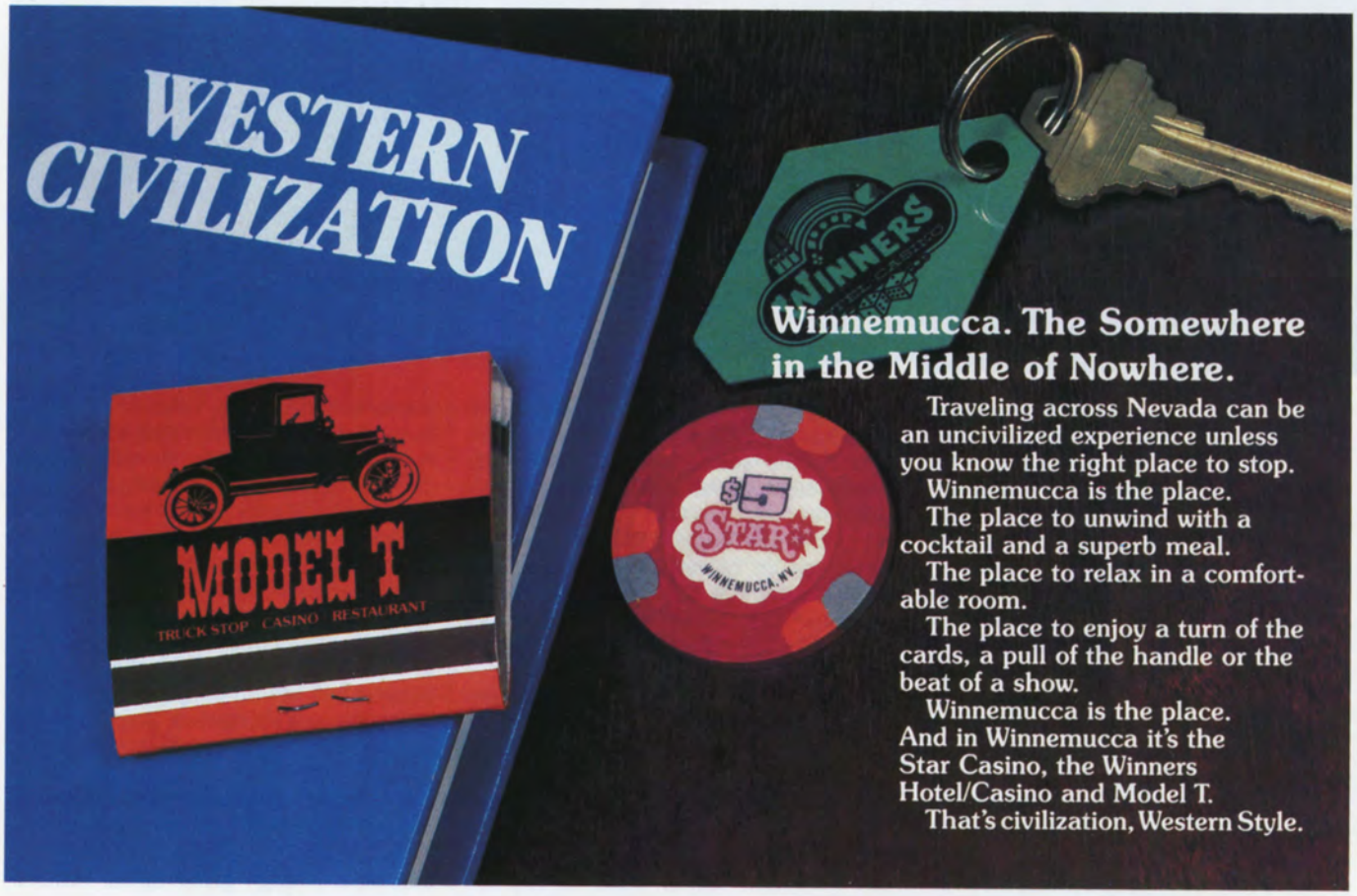
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LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU



If you can afford to eat like a king at Gigi's Restaurant in the MGM, sail like Cleopatra on the Lady Hilton, *and rent a 4,000-square-foot penthouse suite at the Desert Inn, then you also can afford to be a high roller, and get it all free.*

rattlesnake, even bear meat. There are places these meats are raised for human consumption and federally inspected and can be bought legally." He has prepared all of them for hotel guests.

"But typically, what they really want is the best steak in town. When they ask you for something, it's most likely something you already have. They're not unreasonable people."

A lot of the joy of being a preferred customer is not in what you can have on demand, but in what you are offered without having to ask. There may be invitations to amateur golf tournaments and deep-sea fishing trips which embark, incongruously, from Las Vegas. There may be invitations to championship boxing matches. Thoughtful gestures are important, too. After one of the Tropicana's customers, a woman, lost a gold coin during a recent visit, casino host George Bedich volunteered to replace the collectible even though it will cost between $200 and $500, depending on the coin's condition. "Now," he says, "I will take this one step further and buy it from a coin dealer who is also a preferred customer."

How a player is treated, of course, is directly related to how much he or she bets. For instance, to get complimentary room, food, and beverage—known as RFB—a player often must use the black chips. "Betting $100 at a time, four hours a day, is pretty much an industry standard," says Bedich, referring to RFB.

If a customer plays higher still, he may be reimbursed for his air fare. At the Tropicana, the reimbursement is limited to five percent of the credit line, which means that a $600 air fare can be reimbursed if the customer has a $12,000 credit line.

When checking in, customers are given a VIP card that entitles them to sign for services. "There are different levels of cards," DiCesare explains. "Some of them entitle the customer to sign for room and beverage only. Some are good for any restaurant in the house except a gourmet room." The highest-level card is good for all amenities the hotel offers, from green fees on the golf course to 24-hour room service.

Any policy through which things are given away will be abused occasionally, but both bosses and customers say abuses are surprisingly rare. A South Carolina clothier who visits town frequently says, "I learned a long time ago I couldn't eat enough to make up for my losings if it was going to be a losing trip. So I live the same way whether they're paying or I'm paying."

The same man, who asked not to be identified, says that in 20 years of coming to Las Vegas, he has never seen a casino line up a guest with a call girl. "They're around, I guess, but the hotels try to keep them out." One casino host says guests infrequently ask him to arrange an assignation, but he replies, "Hey, if you can't get there by yourself in this town, I can't help you."

After World War II and the development of the Strip, Las Vegas became the mecca for a wide assortment of high rollers. Some, like the late Nick the Greek, were celebrities, and crowds would follow them around the casino as if they were Arnie's Army on a golf course. At the same time, gamblers who cherished their privacy could bet in a quietly wild way.

Today's big plungers have diverse styles, too. Last spring the talk of the Strip was a high roller called the Boy Wonder by the dealers at the Riviera, where he would tip as much as $7,000 after winning a blackjack hand. One time he handed $4,000 to a woman who had rolled him a winner on the craps table. "I don't give money to just anyone," he told an inquisitive reporter. "I just give it to the people who do something nice for me."

As many as 200 people would gather to watch him play. He wore no diamond rings or gold bracelets—only a wrinkled pink oxford button-down shirt, new blue jeans, and black dress shoes with no socks. He said his name was "Andy" and that he was 25 years old and a self-made investor from Detroit. He won more than $500,000 before his luck turned and the money started flowing the other way. Nevertheless, he left town a winner, although the

Riviera wouldn't say how much he won.

A more typical preferred customer is Floyd Osborn, a 68-year-old widower from Salem, Oregon. He made his money buying and selling ranches, one at a time. In between, he tried to run the ranches at a profit and worked as a catskinner. He is also a coin collector, one of his specialties being Carson City silver dollars. Osborn is a large, hearty man, friendly and polite in an unaffected, thoroughly western way.

He served as an infantryman in World War II and started going to Reno right after the war. In 1958 he quit gambling because he was too busy with his businesses and resumed the pastime only two years ago. "What brought me back were the craps and blackjack tournaments they started to have at the Tropicana," he says. "It's a challenge to me, like playing baseball when I was young. And in the tournaments you meet so many nice people. I particularly seem to get along with Texans. Now I come in about a week before the tournament and might stay a week after."

It took a few trips before Osborn traded cash for another valued casino service—credit. "I brought about $10,000 each time I came. That's not all the money in the world, but it is enough to get you hurt, and you can't carry a weapon when you're going through airports. So I filled out a credit application." Since its approval he has been able to pay his markers by check at the end of a stay. "Sometimes I just pay the next time I come because my trips get pretty close together," he says.

Preferred customer lists are not exclusive to the larger hotels. The 500-room Landmark, for instance, gets a fair share of "chocolate chip action," as casino marketing director Patrick Amico affectionately calls his best players.

"We don't look for people with $50,000 to $100,000 credit lines because a smaller hotel is not geared to accommodate people who bet at that level. They need higher limits than a small place can reasonably offer." For instance, the Landmark's house limit on a craps "do" or "don't" bet, or on a hand of blackjack, is $500. Those limits at the big hotels are typically $2,000. "So we look for a player who will come for four or five days, bring his wife, and has $5,000 to $15,000 to play with." Such players usually get RFB and may be reimbursed for air fare.

Players at the higher end of that scale could receive RFB at more famous hotels. So why do they stay at the Landmark? Amico points to the hotel rooms' fine views, personal service, and his feeling that at a big hotel only the top players get individual attention. "So people who don't play high enough to get that treatment there come here and get treated like kings," he says. "We are able to know them. One player wants a particular kind of wheat crackers in his room when he arrives. Another wants a pound cake. If he's a strong player and he wants to go somewhere, we'll drive him in a limousine."

Las Vegas used to be famous for the junkets that brought in crowds of players. A hotel would charter an airplane and order its representatives in the city of origin to fill it with gamblers. But as airplanes grew larger and hotel operating costs higher, it became difficult to find a whole planeload of people who would gamble at a high enough level. "Hotels still charter planes," Amico says, "but now on a plane carrying 90 passengers, 60 of them might be casino package players, who probably won't play well enough for RFB but will get a discount room rate because they are known to play. The other 30 might be players who will get RFB if they play as expected. There is no firm quota of players. You bring how many you've got."

It is even more common to bring in small groups on commercial flights. "Groups still help a casino spread its risk," Amico says. "One $10,000 buy-in player can hurt a small casino. I heard of a case in Atlantic City in which a guy won $400,000 after starting with $10,000."

The men who sniff out players in distant cities are still called "junket representatives" even though they no longer arrange many junkets. "Out of 200 licensed junket representatives in the United States, I deal with 10," Amico says. "And that's all I want. Those 10 know their clients so well, one calls me up and says, 'Now, John Doe is a $5,000 player. I've known him 14 years. His wife's a friend of my wife. He's a manufacturer, makes really good shirts. Buy some if you get a chance.' And I have to listen to this kind of detail for 90 people. It takes me three hours, but he is that determined that I am going to know who his clients are."

Even though big spenders in the East and South may find it easier to visit Atlantic City, many of them prefer the desert. Frank Golden, a businessman from Atlanta who stays at the Landmark, says,

What Price Glory?

High rollers haven't cornered the market on luxury and high-expense thrills at Nevada casinos. You, too, can live the high life, as long as you have a couple of thousand ready to blow on room, dining, limos, and other non-gambling essentials. It also helps to assume a high roller's affection for comps, which may trickle your way if you keep your eyes open, and act as if, well, this is the way you always travel.

First, you want to stay in a fancy suite. A few places are reluctant to rent out their top comp rooms—"I don't even know what the price would be," said one executive, paling at the thought—but most will be happy to accommodate you. One hotel that happily accepts cash customers is Caesars Palace, a well-known haven for high rollers where a mere $650 a night will put you in a Fantasy Suite and its living-room whirlpool spa. Or you may choose a Villa Suite, smaller but with such touches as a tub set sexily into an alcove facing the bed in the master bedroom. Each Villa Suite comes with two servants and access to a nearby kitchen, where guests can have food prepared to their own recipes.

Swank dining spots recommended by bon vivants include the Palace Court at Caesars Palace, Elaine's at the Golden Nugget, and the Rhapsody at the Tropicana. About $200 will more than cover dinner for two with good wines. The bill may be stiff for a first date, but consider it cheap for the best meal you have ever eaten.

For a lavish show, the richest high roller can do no better than the MGM Grand's "Jubilee!" in which the *Titanic* sinks every night. You can watch it for $25.

Of course, your whole image will be blown if you drive up in a bug-splattered '72 Toyota. More fashionable wheels are as near as the phone book. Let's see, Rent-A-Can, Rent-A-Dent . there it is, Rent-A-Vette. Only $119 a day and 39 cents a mile to drive a new Corvette. You can even scrape by on $89.95 a day if you're willing to settle for an old '82.

Silver State Limousine Service will give you an hour's worth of stretched Cadillac for $30. Or you can just carry a set of Mercedes keys, which don't fit anything but look impressive tossed onto the bar beside your white wine spritzer.

Before gambling, learn the name of the casino manager and get somebody to point him out to you. Then shake his hand familiarly and call him by his first name all weekend. He'll go batty trying to remember who you are, but he will do it politely.

Wherever your adventure in luxury takes you, remember the advice of Las Vegas character Hal Elder, who has owned several Mercedes but first toured the West on the observation deck of a Southern Pacific boxcar.

"It doesn't cost any more to go first class," Elder says. "You just can't stay as long."

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"A lot of what I like to do when I'm not playing is just to ride around and see what's going on. There's just more of it here—always something new."

A Tropicana player who also has gambled in the Caribbean and at Atlantic City agrees. "I don't come here just to gamble. It's as much a vacation as a gambling trip—I bring my wife—and Las Vegas is really more of a resort, with more to do. The weather's better most of the year. Also, Atlantic City has much fewer rooms than Las Vegas, and it's harder to qualify for one. And the Islands don't treat you quite as warmly as they do here. Finally, Las Vegas is known for giving the best gambles. Even a small player wants to see a high limit in case he gets lucky. This place has a $3,000 limit on a $25-minimum table. In Atlantic City I've seen $2,500 limits on $100 tables."

Stories are told of players firing off $100 bets for hours at a time, several times a year, and never realizing they could be getting the red-carpet treatment. According to Jimmy Tipton, general manager at the Nob Hill Casino and formerly an executive at the Holiday, that's a myth. He says, "When somebody like that walks in the door, it's like finding a piece of gold. You're not likely to overlook it. If anybody shows any speed at all, a good casino executive will cut in. That means he attempts to open a conversation.

"You keep watching him, and if he keeps on playing that way, we give him a card and ask him to stay with us next time. If he plays green checks [$25] or better, we lock that action right up."

If a customer thinks he plays at a level that would entitle him to privileges, he can ask a casino floorman to have his play evaluated. Or he can simply call the casino marketing department at any hotel, describe how he plays, and ask about the comping policy.

Once he becomes a preferred customer, he may have good days or bad days at the tables, but wherever he goes, he will be made to feel important—because in Las Vegas, he is. He will get reservations at the shows he wants to see and won't have to wait in any long lines.

As a valued guest, he never again will have to take a "no vacancy" sign seriously. Even on busy holiday weekends, when hotels are turning away cash customers, a few of the best rooms are kept in reserve for big bettors. Asked what he would do if even *those* rooms ran out, the Tropicana's DiCesare laughs and says, "I would probably move the desk out of my office and put a bed in here." □

A.D. Hopkins is editor of the Nevadan, *the Sunday magazine of the* Las Vegas Review-Journal.

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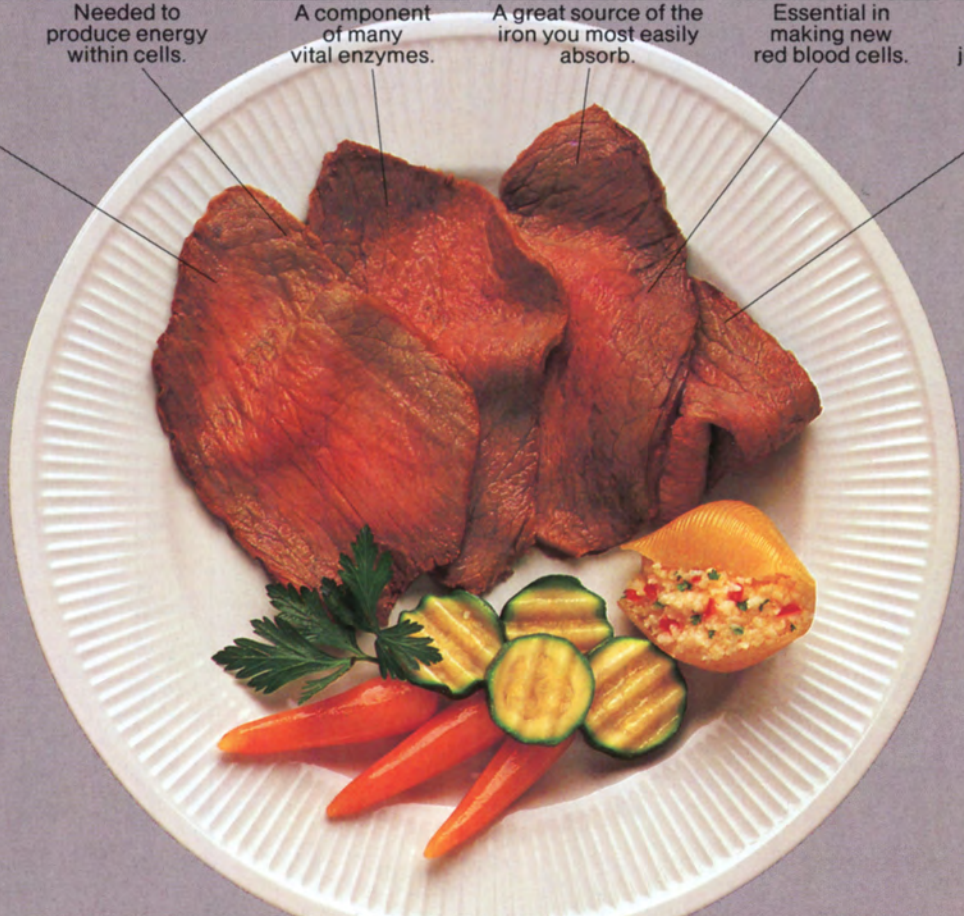
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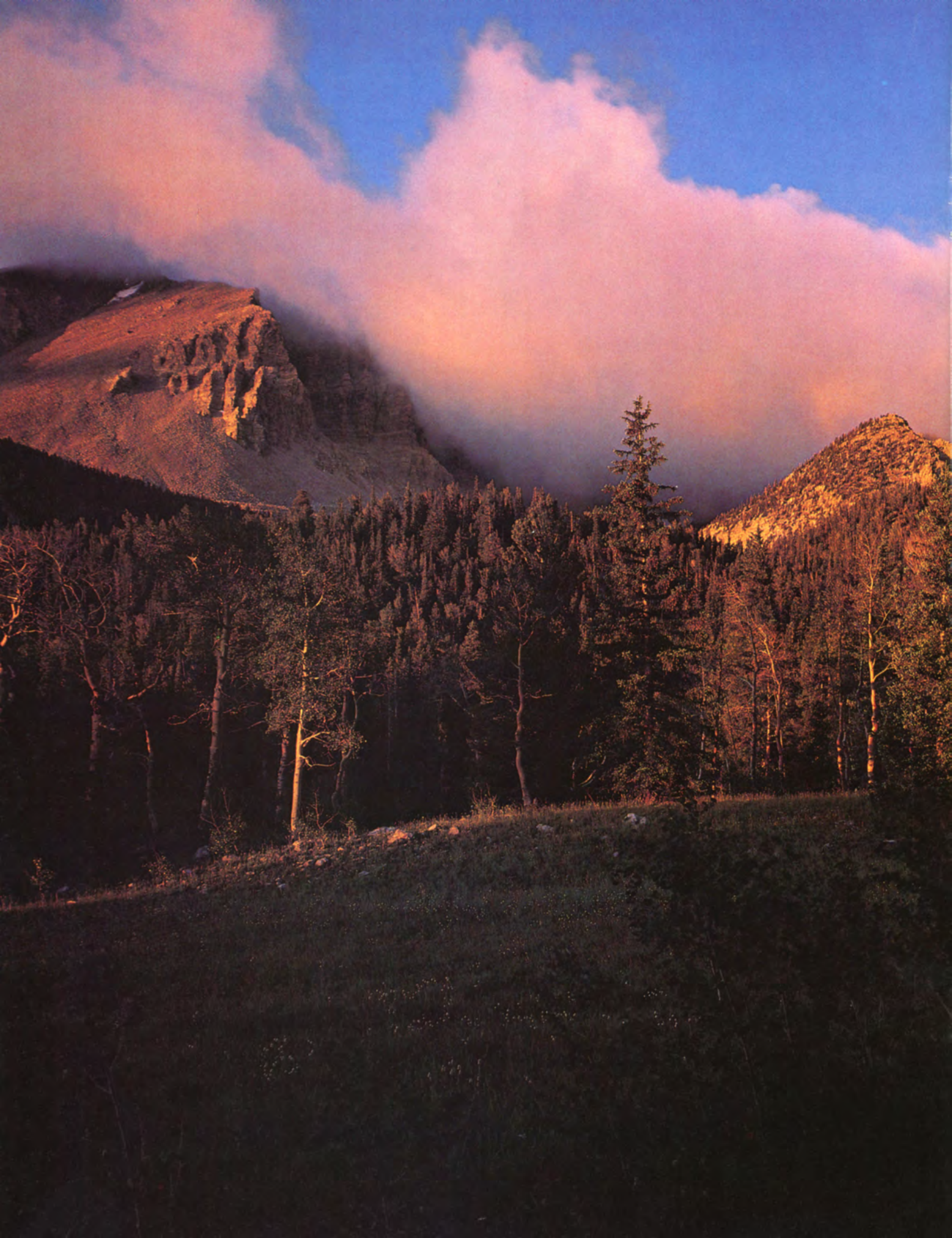


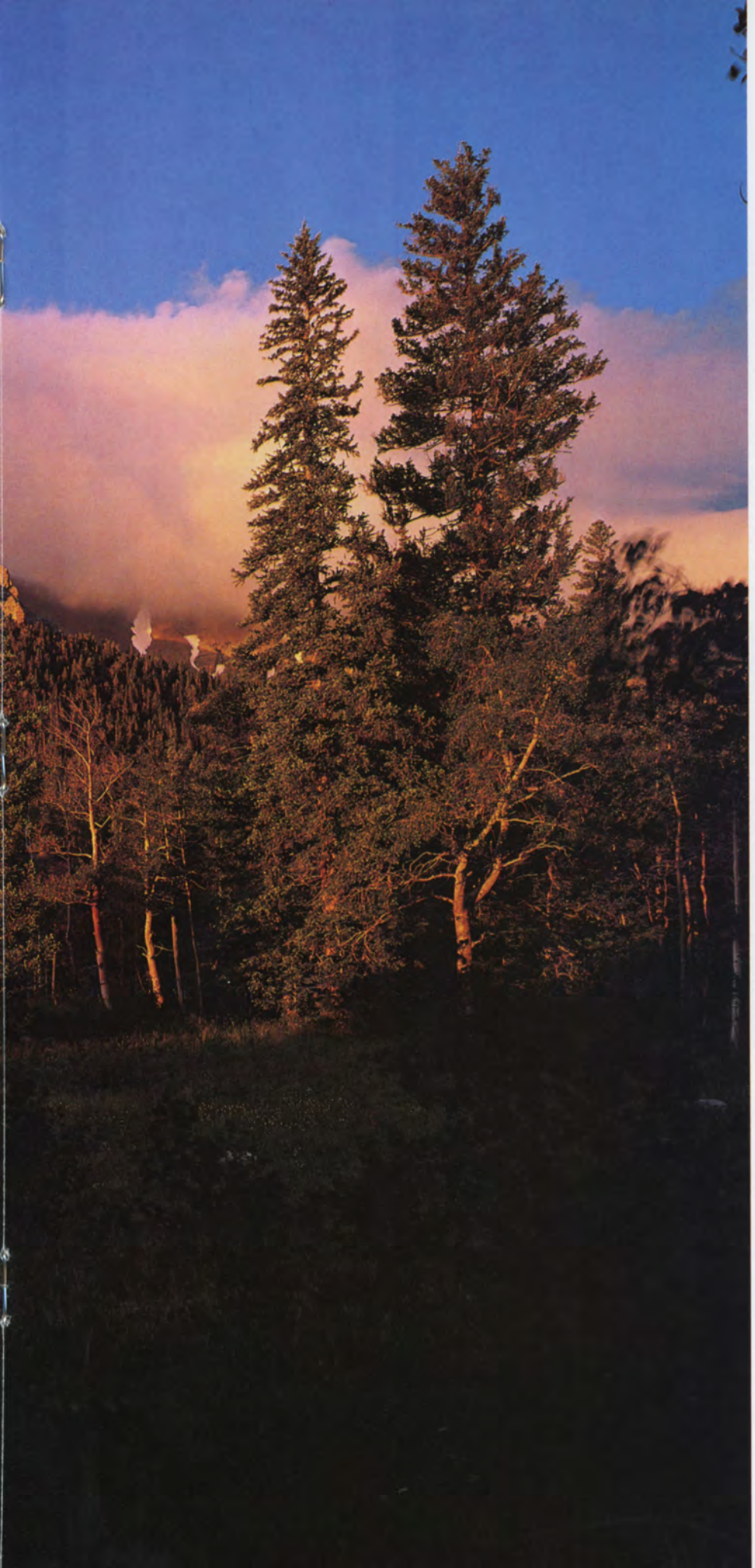
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Muench's Gallery

David Muench visits Wheeler Peak.

A wash in sunlight and splashed with clouds, 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak towers above a mountain meadow in the Snake Range east of Ely. Hikers in the area can discover Nevada's only glacier, a forest of ancient bristlecone pines, and, in fall, canyons crowded with glittering golden aspen.

David Muench enjoys finding what he calls "a spirit of place" in his work. One of the West's great landscape photographers, Muench presents selections from his Nevada portfolio in each issue.





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Follies Bizarre

Remember, it's just a stage they're going through.

By Guy Richardson

Show business is serious business, as any number of performers will tell you. The hours are long, the travel is continuous, the politics are killing.

One wonders when the performers have time to entertain. Well, as these photos from *Nevada Magazine's* files will attest, not everything is serious, at least not on stage. Some of these funny moments were not exactly planned, and some of the publicity pictures are supposed to be serious, believe it or not.

Sure, we believe it.

Just take a look at this photo layout. These are working people in a tough profession. They are, really Well, some of the time they are working. Sometimes they're, ah well, look at the pictures, each worth a thousand words, as a hard-working epigrammist once said.

Of course, he was never on a Nevada stage.



Working in Nevada lounges is a dignified business, open only to those who pass the highest standards of looks and taste. This is a group called the Brass Band, a wacky and extraordinarily talented bunch of musicians who worked Harrah's lounges about five years ago. But when the assembled critics of the Reno papers named them the lounge act of the year, the boys in the band promptly disbanded. I still think their mix of the theme from *Rocky* (the boxing movie) played straight along with a simultaneous rendition of *The Theme From Rocky and Bullwinkle* played on piccolo trumpet was one of the most brilliant arrangements of music I've ever heard. And yes, the fellow in back with antlers is Bullwinkle.



This is Hokum W. Jeebs, who sang with the Brass Band on its last trip to Reno. The scuba mask must mean something, but darned if I know what. He wore it on stage, too. Maybe somebody didn't use Scope?



Showbiz is also a precarious way to earn a living, as Don Dunfield demonstrates. Dunfield, known as the "Diving Fool," is a popular specialty act and recently appeared in Donn Arden's "Jubilee!" at the MGM Grand in Vegas.



Here is Freddy Powers back in his Nevada lounge-act days, before he went country and started writing hit songs for George Jones ("I Always Get Lucky With You") and Merle Haggard ("Mama Burned Down Daddy's Honky-Tonk"). Last spring Powers had 11 tunes on the charts, but as you can see here, he had no torso. He also did a hysterically funny act, something that might surprise people who know him only from *Austin City Limits* with his beard, laid-back country ways, and famous guests like Haggard and Willie Nelson. Powers' first big break out of Nevada lounges came when he co-produced Nelson's "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" album.



PHOTOS PILFERED FROM GUY RICHARDSON, LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU, AND CASINO P.R. FILES

The musical has evolved since Doris Day. Yes indeedy. These ladies look as if they could do you *serious* harm. Actually, they are the dancers in Michael Darrin's "Les Vamps," which played earlier this year at Harvey's at Tahoe. It was an intelligently choreographed show, with light-hearted punk overtones, and part of a trend in New Wave revues. It wasn't a topless show, but it was one of the sexiest I've seen. Of course, I might say that to keep these ladies from finding me in a dark alley.



Elvis impersonator Alan wonders if he's going to hurt himself and perhaps next impersonate Wayne Newton's adolescent tenor. Alan, who used just the one name, worked in lounges a few years back during the height of the Elvis-carbon craze and was one of the better ersatz Elvii.



Performers often do not get enough to eat, so they must take a chomp at the microphone while on stage. Here we see Rip Taylor assault a mike



the Last Madman of Rock 'n' Roll, Paul Revere, takes his bite while signaling to the band what to do with their microphones



not all microphones taste good, as we can see from the expression on the Perfessor, Pete Barbutti



but then, the flavor of some is ineffably moving. Sandy Selby shows how much she cares for the taste. (Actually, Selby is crossing her eyes here in the middle of a ballad, something she often does and then slides right back into emotional singing—and has the talent to pull off without disconcerting an audience.)



On Broadway they say, "Break a leg." Here in the desert we take that seriously, as you can see from Rudolph Delmonte's incredible contortions at the Desert Inn. He's, ah, head-over-heels about his career.



And Nevada revues have casts who all love each other and get along swimmingly, as demonstrated (from left) by "Bottoms Up" members David Harris, Shon Vaughn, Sue Motsinger, and—recipient of all this filial love—Aiko Berge. Critics in both Las Vegas and Reno have said "Bottoms Up" is tops.

Guy Richardson is a columnist and entertainment critic for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

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NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTOS

Professor Walter Miller (left) and his chemistry class offered classic poses in 1888.

Reno Makes The Grade

Passing the test of time, the University of Nevada at Reno celebrates 100 years of roll calls.

By Rhea Padellford

A century ago, on the morning of September 12, 1885, more than 100 visitors from Virginia City and Carson City stepped off a train specially chartered for the cornerstone ceremony at the state's new university in Reno. Despite the festive atmosphere, the occasion probably reminded some of the travelers of chances lost. For the second time in 11 years their cities had competed—and failed—to become the school's newest home.

The first time had been in 1874, when the university was created. Competition for the honor had been fierce. As Howard Hickson, director of Elko's Northeastern Nevada Museum, has written, "Almost every water stop and tent town wanted the school."

The winner turned out to be Elko, which came in with a high bid of $28,000—an amount the small ranching town could hardly afford. Thus the school opened with a debt that would only get worse. Also, the town was 300 miles from the state's population centers. During what has been called "the Elko experiment," no more than 35 students were enrolled at any one time, and none ever graduated.

"To dub that Elko public school, supported by the state, a 'University' is about as appropriate as to call a canoe a man-of-war," the editor of the *Reno Evening Gazette* declared in an 1879 editorial.

Then, in 1884, Reno, Virginia City, and Carson City were given a second chance when the board of regents voted to move the school. This time Reno knew exactly what to do—it offered to pay Elko's debts. So, to the disgust of the other two towns, Reno was selected as the site of both the university and the new state insane asylum, another lucrative prize.

"Because the people of Ormsby [Carson City] thought it would come here anyhow they made no effort," the editor of the Carson City *Morning Appeal* complained. "And one morning Reno swooped down upon the Legislature and bagged the game, just as it bagged the Asylum, and just as it will bag the State Prison and Capitol in time."

When it came time for the cornerstone ceremonies in Reno, Virginia City's *Territorial Enterprise* carried a glowing account



This university sewing class (ca. 1900) would put some present-day coeds in stitches.



A College Party

The University of Nevada, Reno begins its yearlong centennial celebration on September 12, when dignitaries reenact the cornerstone ceremony of 1885. Celebrants dressed in 19th-century garb will march to Morrill Hall (above, in 1886) at 11 a.m., and a huge birthday cake will be the cornerstone of a party on the Quad.

of the event. Carson's *Appeal,* however, wasn't quite as polite:

"Today they lay the cornerstone of a building that ought to have been laid in Carson, the Capital of the State," the editorial read. "It is rough to acknowledge that Renoites have superior brains, tact and business ability, but in the face of the facts we must acknowledge that they are our superiors in everything.

"If a change is not soon made we will all wake up some morning to find Reno the Capital of the State."

Nevertheless, Carson City was well represented at the cornerstone dedication. Forty people, including Governor Jewett Adams, had joined those from Virginia City on the train bound for Reno.

The ceremonies began with an ode by the Episcopal Church choir. J.W. Eckley, Grand Treasurer of the Masons, then collected items from the crowd to put in the cornerstone. Among the items were numerous coins from around the world, including what was said to be the last silver dollar pressed at the Carson City mint, as well as newspapers, business cards, directories, minutes of the Masons, and a piece of rock from the quarry from which King Solomon's temple was built.

After the box was sealed, speeches and more singing completed the program. The crowd adjourned to Reno's Depot Hotel, where a luncheon was served.

That evening the visitors from Virginia City and Carson City boarded the train for the long ride back. Undoubtedly, some wished that they were going home to the university instead of away from it. □

Rhea Padellford of Reno is executive editor of the UNR Times *and a freelance writer.*

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TAKING AIM FOR **TROPHY GAME**

Three Nevada hunters tell how they brought home the big ones.



After silently crawling to the top of the mountain, you set up the spotting scope. The shadow you've been chasing for days finally comes into focus. You raise your rifle to your cheek, take a deep breath, exhale, and gently squeeze the trigger.

The shot explodes. The quarry falls. Adrenalin erases the exhaustion of the long stalk. You race to the game. And as you approach, you find the animal is huge—maybe even large enough to set a record.

All the excitement of hunting trophy game and setting records is captured in the new *Nevada Wildlife Record Book*, which has been compiled by a group of hunters and is sponsored by the Nevada Wildlife Federation and the Department of Wildlife. The book covers the state's top game animals—cougar, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, elk, pronghorn antelope, and deer. It has game descriptions, photographs, records, and intriguing personal tales.

The following stories have been excerpted with minor revisions. "Too Small to Take" recalls a record cougar that has topped the lists for 23 years. "Largest Billy in the Lower 48" tells of a Ruby Mountain long shot. And "A Piece of Cake" gives new meaning to an old cliche.

A Piece of Cake

By Tony Diebold

The message read, "Dear Hunter: We are pleased to advise you that you were awarded a Desert Bighorn Sheep tag for area 75. Good hunting!"

During the four months after my wife, R'Deen, received that letter from the Department of Wildlife, she spent all her spare time shooting boxes of shells through her 243 Husqvarna and climbing Granite Mountain behind our home in Gerlach. When the season finally opened in November, we traveled 400 miles to the rugged Sheep Range north of Las Vegas. I backed our camp trailer between two Joshua trees, and we got out to look at what would be our home for the next 20 days.

Area 75 takes in nearly 75 square miles of some of the most inhospitable country you will ever find. There is almost no water, although 10 different kinds of cacti abound, each tough enough to puncture an eight-ply truck tire or a misplaced boot. It's the kind of place desert sheep love.

After five days of trudging over their beloved terrain, we'd only seen one good-sized ram, which vanished just when we thought we had the drop on him.

On the sixth day we awakened to five



TONY DIEBOLD PHOTOS

After five days of hunting in the rugged Sheep Range north of Las Vegas, R'Deen Diebold spied a magnificent ram that she nicknamed Spots. Twelve days and a pair of boots later, R'Deen had her trophy (top).

inches of snow and decided to drive the rugged dirt roads in our area and scope the pure white landscape. After about an hour I spotted some sheep on a ridge three-quarters of a mile away and 2,000 feet above us. I set up my spotting scope and saw four rams and an old ewe. Two of the rams were legal, which by Nevada law must be seven years old or score at least 144 points using the Boone and Crockett formula, a system of measuring the size and shape of the horns.

Of the two legal rams, one was magnificent. As a wildlife photographer and avid sheep hunter, I had seen hundreds of rams, but none as majestic as this. I quietly told R'Deen to look.

"Oh, my God, do you think we can get him?" R'Deen asked.

I gave her a grin and said, "A piece of cake."

The piece of cake led us on a 12-day hunt in which we each lost 10 pounds and wore out a pair of boots.

That day we watched the rams feed for about an hour before they wandered out of sight, then followed their trail for two miles through foot-deep snow. We came to a rocky point about 250 yards above the rams at sundown, but in the fading light we had a hard time keeping track of R'Deen's ram. We decided to back out unseen. If they are not spooked, sheep do not move at night, so chances were good they would be in the same spot come daylight.

The next morning, after a predawn hike over a mile of cactus flats, we saw five rams feeding right where we left them the night before. But the big ram, which we had nicknamed Spots, wasn't with them. We hunted hard the rest of the day, finding three more rams but no Spots. Tired and disgusted, we raced the sun back to the truck. R'Deen stopped along the way and pointed to a hill to our left. Spots was about 400 yards away silhouetted in the sunset. He watched us for a few seconds and then set out over the mountain at that almost horse-like lope that tells you he ain't stopping for miles.

During the next three days R'Deen passed up more than 10 legal rams, always looking for the elusive Spots. On the fourth day he was in our scope again, two miles away. Two-and-a-half hours later we crawled within 500 yards of Spots. R'Deen felt the range was beyond her shooting capability. Six shots later we started back to camp, tired, disappointed, and sheepless.

In the next six days of very hard hunting we didn't see the big ram, and for four days we hadn't even seen a legal one. We were exhausted, and the season was rapidly coming to an end. The only place I thought her ram may have gone was across six miles of desert flat to Mule Deer Ridge. We left early the next morning to hunt this long, rocky ridge between the Sheep Range and the East Desert Range.

After five hours of hunting without seeing a single track, I looked through my binoculars, dropped my jaw, and said, "You won't believe it, honey, but it's Spots!"

An hour later we were 400 yards from Spots and a group of sleeping rams. As we watched, four rams got up and left. Twenty minutes later another ram got up, took a long look at Spots sleeping nearby, and went off to join the others.

R'Deen and I moved from our cover and inched closer. At 100 yards R'Deen sat down to shoot. She fastened her rifle to the homemade bipod I had fashioned out of an old camera tripod. The big ram was sleeping with his head resting on his massive horns. The 85-grain Nosler Partition bullet hit him right through the lungs, just tickling the heart, and the sheep we had chased so hard for 12 days was down! He was 11 years old and ended up scoring 172 B&C in spite of some bad chips on his horns from fighting all those years.

After the shock wore off a little and we were taking some photos, R'Deen looked up at me with a big grin and a twinkle in her eye and said, "A piece of cake."





TONY DEVENCENZI

With the luck of the draw, the help of a friend, and his own skill as a hunter, Bob Kennedy left the Ruby Mountains with this record-breaking Rocky Mountain goat.

Largest Billy in the Lower 48

By Bob Kennedy

As a lifelong Nevada resident and ardent hunter, I was surprised when the Department of Wildlife offered the first hunting season for Rocky Mountain goat in 1978. There were only five tags up for grabs, but when the results of the drawing came in, one of the tags was mine.

On October 1, a Sunday, I left Sparks with truck, trailer, and my friend Tony Devencenzi. The rugged Rubies, the only mountains in Nevada where you can hunt goats, are no place to go alone, and I'd need Tony's help if I took a trophy.

When we got to Elko, I called Rod Mothershead, an old high school friend. Rod, who was foreman of the 6 Bar Ranch and knew the Rubies well, said he wouldn't be able to join us until Thursday. So Tony and I drove up Lamoille Canyon and set

> "'It's one of the billies I've been watching over the years,' Rod said, 'and he's *big!*'"

up camp at Thomas Creek Campground. At daylight Tuesday we left with enough supplies in our packs to last three days.

We climbed to a ridge overlooking Thomas Canyon and found a goat trail. There were patches of hair on the brush and rocks, and we could smell goats. I was starting to get excited when about 40 Himalayan snow cocks sprang up and scared the hell out of us; neither of us had ever seen those rare birds in the wild.

We hunted for two days without seeing

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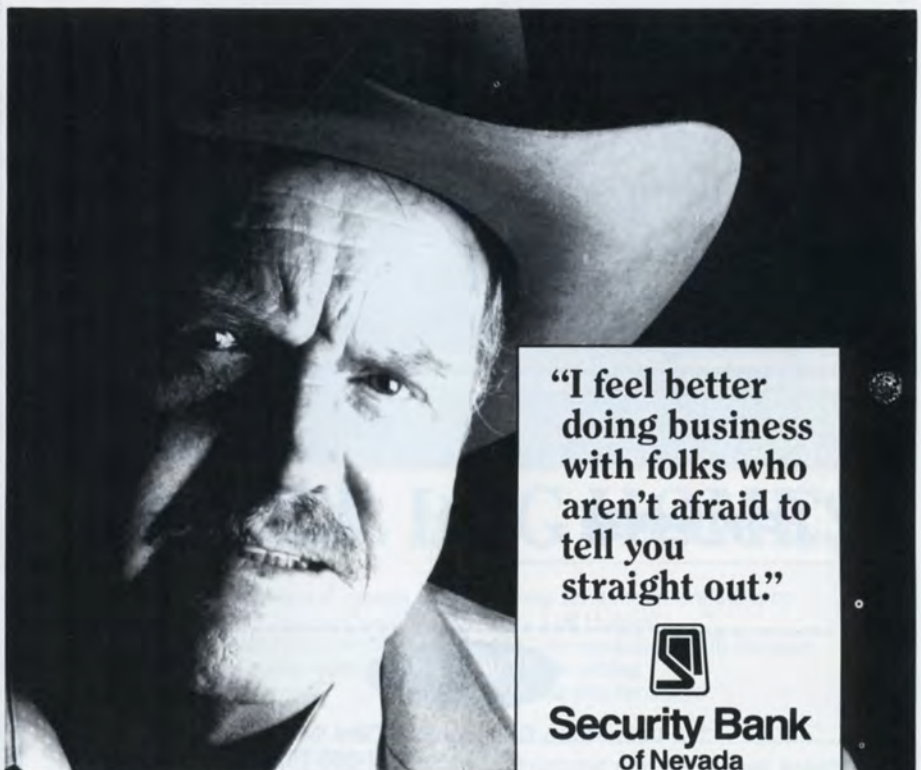
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a goat, and then headed back to camp.

Early Thursday, Tony and I went back to the 6 Bar Ranch. Rod saddled three horses, and we rode through the 6 Bar and Ruby Dome ranches and into the mountains. Then Rod led us to an area where he knew two billies lived.

When we got there, we began walking and glassing. By 3 p.m. all we had seen were two dozen ruffed grouse and four more Himalayans. Then Rod said, "I've spotted a goat."

While Tony stayed to watch and signal if the goat moved, Rod and I hiked to within 400 yards of the billy. He was bedded down in a rocky basin above a beautiful little lake.

We glassed for 20 minutes and spotted another billy, but he was in a snow chute about 1,500 yards away. Five minutes later, the first one stood up, and Rod said, "It's one of the billies I've been watching over the years, and he's *big!*"

It was almost sundown, so rather than try to get closer, I decided to attempt a long shot with my modified Winchester 264 Magnum loaded with 120-grain Sierra bullets. The billy was standing broadside, and I had a prone position with my vest as a rest. After shooting, I looked through the six-power Bushnell scope. The goat was still standing. Rod said, "You shot right over the top of him." I bolted another round and fired. Nothing. I chambered another shell and waited for him to stop or turn broadside. He did both. I squeezed the trigger and looked through the scope. The goat was slowly walking away. Rod said, "You hit him right in the chest."

I said, "Bull!" and cranked another round in the chamber.

Just when the billy was about to disappear over the ridge, he turned broadside. I squeezed again. He walked out of sight. I said to Rod, "What happened?"

"You hit him again. I saw blood. He's as good as dead."

"You couldn't prove that by me," I said. "All I saw was a big goat walk away as if he was on a Sunday stroll."

We scrambled across the basin and over the rise where the goat had been. About 250 yards beyond we found him, dead, with three bullets in his chest.

After hurriedly cleaning him, we left a jacket nearby (the scent of man would discourage any scavengers) and headed for Tony and the horses to try to get off the mountain before dark. We reached the ranch at 11:30 p.m. Rod's wife had dinner waiting for us. We were starving.

The next morning we rode the horses from the campground to within 800 yards of the goat. After an hour we reached the billy, took pictures, and caped and quartered the meat. It was slow going packing it out, and we didn't get off the mountain until 10 p.m.

We drove into nearby Lamoille (popu-

lation about 50) and stopped at the Pine Tree Inn, where Rod soon had half the town toasting and having fun. The following morning, after thanking Rod for one great hunt, Tony and I headed for the Department of Wildlife in Elko. Allan Flock and his partner, Dave Ashman from Sparks, measured and weighed the goat.

With the head, hide, and meat the billy weighed 328 pounds, and he was six feet, one inch long. Allan scored him at 53-6/8 Boone and Crockett points, establishing a new Nevada record. That was the final score when I entered the billy in the North American Big Game Competition in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1980. To date the billy is tied for number 17 with goats taken in Alaska and Canada, but it's still the largest Rocky Mountain goat ever taken in the lower 48 states.

Too Small to Take

By Berkeley Hunt

My grandfather settled in Bunkerville, and my dad and I were both born there, me in 1934. I live in Las Vegas now, but I grew up hunting. I've taken just about every trophy game animal you can get, including what is called a Grand Slam Ram. That's when you get one each of the Desert, Stone, Dall, and Rocky Mountain bighorns. But big cats have always intrigued me.

When I hunted cougar in the '50s, you didn't need tags. Nobody was paying bounties for them then, but they were still considered a menace to ranchers and

> "We got kind of worried, because Smoky was old Bud's favorite dog. Then we heard him let out a howl, and we knew he had a cat treed."

hunters because they killed off a lot of game and livestock. Now it's hard to get cougar tags.

I had hunted cougar 11 times with no luck. I'd go out with this old cougar hunter, Bud Hines, who lived in the Pioche area and was an old friend of my dad's. He had about six good hound dogs and used to hunt cougar for bounty in the old days.

When I decided to go hunting in 1962, old Hines couldn't get away, so I borrowed one of his dogs, a red-bone hound named Smoky. Jerry Hughes, who is now a lion-hunting guide in Pioche, brought his dogs, and Van Marshall, who still lives in

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Las Vegas, joined the hunt. We drove up to an old log cabin near a place called Cherry Creek in the Grant Range. We had planned on a three-day hunt. On the first day, we loaded up the truck, got the dogs, and took off up a canyon. It was February, and there was a lot of snow on the ground. We drove as far up the old road as we could and then got out of the truck. We let the dogs loose and hiked up to where the snow was about three feet deep.

I didn't know Jerry's dogs very well, but I knew Smoky. He'd never bark unless he had a cat treed. We looked for him in the pack, but he was gone. We got kind of worried, because he was old Bud's favorite dog. Then we heard him let out a howl. We looked across the little valley, and sure enough, he had a cat treed.

By the time we were about 25 feet away, all the dogs were jumping and barking. The cat was lying on a limb about four feet off the ground, just kind of swatting at the dogs. But when he saw us, he jumped up to the top of the tree.

I looked at Jerry Hughes and asked him if he was going to shoot. He said, "Naw, that's only about a two-year-old bitch. I want a bigger one."

Well, I knew he was wrong because of the cat's color. Younger cats are a reddish-brown, but this one had the tawny color of an older male cat. I said I thought I'd go ahead and take him, and he laughed and said, "Okay." I shot him once through the neck with my 30-30, but he didn't die fast enough. He tore up a couple of dogs pretty bad on the way down.

I didn't know a whole lot about how big cougars could get, so we didn't really get excited about his size. Plus, we were so busy trying to keep the dogs off him, all we could do was get him in the truck. It wasn't until I got it skinned out at home and sent it to a taxidermist in Rawlins, Wyoming, that I even thought about the size. The taxidermist said the head was pretty big and that I should have it officially measured for the record books.

The way they do that is to let the skull dry off for at least 60 days and then measure the length and width. Well, it turned out to be the third largest cougar in the world. Of course, they only live in North and South America. At that time, in '62, Teddy Roosevelt held the world's record for a cat he shot in Colorado.

Mine still holds the record in Nevada, for over 23 years now. I guess that's not too bad for a couple of guys who were standing around trying to decide if that "two-year-old bitch" was worth taking. □

A limited edition of the record book is due to be published this fall. It will be hardbound, with more than 200 pages, and cost $20. To order, add $3 for handling and write to the Nevada Wildlife Record Book Committee, Box 1707, Reno, NV. 89505.

"My mother never bought a car in her life. Dad always said, 'The husband picks the car. The wife picks the color.' And that was fine for them. But I'm 28 and still single. So if I had the money, I'd get a black 200 Turbo for myself. Because I'm willing to wait for a husband. But I've waited long enough for that car."



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THE NEVADA CALENDAR

September & October 1985

Your complete day-by-day guide to events and celebrations in the Silver State.

Compiled by Melissa Loomis, Prose by Lee Adler

LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

September

Vegas Wings Desert Tour, thru 3/31/86, motorcycle tour, requires visiting 15 out of 35 checkpoints in Nevada, $6, Las Vegas, 736-6917
Southwest Invitational Juried Art Show, 8/12-9/12, Reed Whipple Center, 386-6383
Polaroid Photography Exhibit, 8/25-9/26, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383
Las Vegas Stars v. Vancouver Canadians, 8/29-9/1 triple-A pro baseball, 7:35pm, Cashman Field, 386-7200
Jerry Lewis/MDA Labor Day Telethon, 1-2, free admission to studio audience with Omnimax ticket, Caesars Palace, 731-7900
Art Show, 1-25, works by Nevada Watercolor Society and Dorothy Hawkins, Las Vegas Art Museum, 647-4300

A Boulder City Original

Framed by blue skies and green grass, the Boulder City Art Festival unfolds October 5-6. What began 22 years ago with works being displayed on a backyard clothesline now fills 300 display booths and galleries and attracts artists from across the nation—as well as thousands of buyers and browsers.

Art Show, 1-30, watercolors by Joyce Burke, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193
Blackjack Tournament, 2-6, Desert Inn, 733-4444
Paiute Basketry Exhibit, 2-30, Owen Pauff Collection, Clark County Southern Nevada Museum, Henderson, 565-0907
"You Can't Take It With You," 3, film, 7pm, $1 Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383
Frontier 500, 3-7 500-mile off-road race with tech inspection and registration in front of Frontier Hotel Tues.-Fri. On Sat. at daybreak the entries parade down the Strip to Sloan, 14 miles south, where the race starts, 734-0110
Amateur Rodeo, 6-7, open to public, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232
Super Summer '85, 6-8, on Fri. and Sun. "Two Gentlemen of Verona," on Sat. "The Count of Monte Cristo," by the Valley Institute of Theatre Arts. Bring blanket, jacket, and picnic supper, gates open at 6pm, Spring Mountain Ranch, 20 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141
UNLV v. Tennessee Tech, 7 football, 7:30pm, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267
Desert Survival Workshop, 7 9am-12:30pm, bring hiking shoes, water, and hat, no pets or small children, Spring Mountain Ranch, 20 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141
50- and 75-Mile Marathon Water Ski Race, 7-8, Events Beach, Lake Mead, 293-2592
Blackjack Tournament, 7-11, Sands, 733-5000
Walking Tours, 7 14, 21 28, Saturday walks through Tule Springs Ranch, 2-2:30pm, Floyd Lamb State Park, 645-1998
Craps Tournament, 8-10, Tropicana, 739-2222
Blackjack Classic III, 8-11 Frontier, 734-0110
Pan Tournament, 8-11, Union Plaza, 386-2404
Bill Morris 6th Open Golf Tournament, 11-15, Showboat Country Club, 733-1426
Fall Video Poker Tournament, 13-15, Marina Hotel, 739-1500
Mexican Independence Day Festival, 13-16, Riviera Hotel, 734-5301
San Gennaro Feast, 13-22, traditional Italian religious feast with exotic food, tent parties, beauty contest, and music, on weekends noon-1am, weekdays 5pm-midnight, $2.50 general, $1 senior citizens, children 12 and under free, Landmark Hotel, 733-1404
Las Vegas Bodybuilding Championships, 14, Frontier Hotel, 734-0385
Chili Cook-Off, 14, Central Park, Boulder City, 293-2034



DAVID WEINSTEIN/NEVADA PHOTOS INC.

Exhibitionists Everywhere

Fairs ranging from the trendy to the traditional will dot the Nevada landscape in the months ahead. Good examples of the latter are the Elko County Fair and Livestock Show, August 30 to September 2, and the Tri-County Fair and Winnemucca Rodeo, August 30 to September 1. The Nevada State Fair in Reno on September 4-8 will be musically inclined, while the Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair, October 8-13 at the Cashman Field Center, will try to jazz things up with such events as greased-pig chasing and a diaper derby. At the Seventh Annual Fairshow at the community college campus in North Las Vegas, October 25-27, up to 100 hot-air balloonists will compete for the Nevada championship.



DEAN VALLAS

Dazzle and Derring-Do

Bring a blanket and binoculars, and the Reno National Championship Air Races will provide everything else—sleek-skinned jets, old-style biplanes, and World War II favorites buzzing around the pylons like bees after a $350,000 honey pot. The event on September 12-15 at the Stead Airfield also will feature exhibitions of precision flying by the Blue Angels and the Snowbirds.



KATE BUTLER

Here's Mud In Your Eye

Although Nevada towns are constantly adding new ingredients to their Labor Day celebrations, some events never get off the ground. An example: Pioche tried mud-wrestling (above) a couple of years ago, but when the dust cleared, town boosters thought the event was, well, a little too muddy. So this year Pioche is enriching its party with a demolition derby, junior horseshoes and mucking, a pet parade, and a tug-of-war through the mud. Labor Day mud-wrest fans needn't fret—Ione still holds its annual mud-baths—and there'll be more good, clean Labor Day fun in Sparks, Carson City, Winnemuca, Elko, Fallon, Las Vegas, and Rhyolite. See the Calendar listing for details.



B.A. PAAPE/NEVADA PHOTOS INC.

Pahrump's Festival Time

Each fall the Pahrump Harvest Festival produces a bumper crop of events ranging from a rodeo to a serious evaluation of men's "sexy legs." Other potentially pleasurable pastimes during the September 13-15 gala include stock car racing, parades, beauty pageants, a gymkhana, a beard contest, and, if flesh and spirit are still willing and able, dancing under the stars. Get there early for the Saturday morning parade.



MIKE KRAUSE

That Uplifting Feeling

They fill the sky like runaway Christmas tree ornaments, sent aloft by the cheers of thousands and the music of the Reno Philharmonic. But the Great Reno Balloon Race is more than an exercise in ornamentation. The country's top balloonists compete for $10,000 in prize money during the two-day (September 6-7) event, which is free to the public. Ascension time is 7 a.m. at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, north of downtown Reno. There are other diversions, including an exhibit of pioneer crafts, balloon rides, and concession stands.



BOB McKEEVER

Marathons at Mead

Skimming the surface of things is less superficial than it sounds when you're being hauled behind more than $20,000 worth of speedboat. "It takes a lot of training physically, but mostly mentally. You have to have it in your head to want to win, or just to finish," says Chuck Cascioppo, chairman of the Las Vegas Boat and Ski Club's 50- and 75-Mile Water Ski Marathons at Lake Mead, September 7-8. Check it out.

Gin Rummy Tournament, 14, Landmark Hotel, 733-1426

Clark County Basque Festival, 14-15, on Sat. at 4pm Basque dancing, weight lifting, weight carrying, media tug-of-war, horse show, $100 donation required, at Silk Purse Ranch; on Sun. family day with 11am Mass followed by traditional Basque events similar to Sat., $2, children 12 and under free, at St. Viator Community Center, for Sat. info. call 385-2662, for Sun. info. call 361-6834

Fall Sailboat Regatta, 14-15, Lake Mead, 368-2885

Photography Exhibit, 14-10/13, scenes from the Arkansas National Wildlife Refuge, Museum of Natural History, UNLV, 739-3381

Sandstone Quarry Hike, 15, bring water and sturdy shoes, 9am, Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center, 17 miles west of Las Vegas, 363-1921

Golden Blackjack Classic, 15-17 Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011

Lost City Museum's 50th Anniversary, 15-12/31 exhibits commemorating the building that houses artifacts from the excavations of Pueblo Grande de Nevada, Overton, 397-2193

Art Show, 16-10/17, linocuts by Margrete Heising, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

"Romeo and Juliet," 19-22, 8pm with an additional 2pm matinee Sun., Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 739-3838

Old Timers Rodeo and Roping, 19-22, for 40-year-olds and older, open to public, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

M.I. Hummel Fest, 20-22, everything you wanted to know about making Hummel figurines, Sands Hotel, 733-5000

Oktoberfest, 21 German food, beer, and music, 7pm, $5, Deutsch American Society of Southern Nevada, Union Plaza, 648-3784

Now, For the Le Mans Start

The '20s will roar along with the engines at the Fourth Annual Imperial Palace Auto Run from the Las Vegas Strip to Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of the city. Participating vehicles will have been built between 1900 and 1936, and drivers are encouraged to wear period costumes for the October 26 event.

Still Nifty at Fifty

Hoover Dam, a child of the Depression, turns 50 in September. Presiding over the Golden Anniversary bash will be the people of Boulder City, many of whom helped build the dam. A monument will be unveiled September 27, followed the next day by official ceremonies. The week of September 21-28 will be given over to what is billed as "a giant street party" in downtown Las Vegas and an art show, a historic home tour, and a '30s-style celebration in Boulder City.

Hoover Dam's 50th Anniversary Celebration, 21-28, week-long activities in honor of the completion of Hoover Dam. On the 21st, historical home tours in Boulder City and the Penny Power Project's attempt to get in the Guinness Book of Records by laying 10 miles of pennies from Hoover Dam to Boulder City; on 26th downtown Las Vegas street party, international food festival, fireworks; on 27th antique car show, dedication of historical monument to men and women who built Hoover Dam and Boulder City, Depression Dinner, western art show; on 28th official ceremonies and Boulder City's 50th anniversary celebration with 8:30am parade, antique car show, music, and news bulletins from the '30s and '40s in Gazebo and Government parks in Boulder City; also, President Reagan has been invited to the rededication ceremonies, 293-1824 or 731-2115

Children in Art, 21-22, displays and workshops, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 1-5pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Fall Blackjack Tournament, 22-24, Tropicana Hotel, 739-2222

Police Pistol Combat Championship, 22-27 Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011



Off-Road Warriors

Nose to the ground and tail to the wind, this determined racer grinds out the mileage on a hardscrabble road outside of Las Vegas. The event: the Frontier 500. Starting time: daybreak, September 7 The effort: all out. Vehicles are on display September 3-6 at the Frontier Hotel.



RHEA PADELL-FORD

Frills and Fusilades

The Blue and Gray will skirmish in a swirl of infantry and roaring cannon September 21-22 amid the skeletal remains of Fort Churchill, which garrisoned about 600 troops during the Civil War. The annual celebration includes reenactments of past battles (though none were ever fought at the fort), folks walking around in uniform and 1860s garb, cannon demonstrations, a black powder shoot, a tour of the fort, and eats.

Theatre Masked Ensemble Concert, 24, 7:30pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Faculty Recital, 24, voice and piano, 8pm, Alta Ham Fine Arts Bldg., UNLV, 739-3332

Handicapped Employees of the Year Awards Dinner, 27 Riviera Hotel, 647-4111 or 885-5348

Horse Futurity and Jackpot Team Roping, 27-28, Fri.-Sat. futurity; Sat. team roping, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

Museum Exhibit, 27-9/27/86, effects of light on color, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 385-0115

SNORE 250, 27-29, 250-mile off-road race in the desert, Holiday Casino, 369-5123

UNLV v. Long Beach State, 28, football, 7:30pm, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267

Stargazing, 28, 8pm, Atlatl Rock Picnic Area, Valley of Fire State Park, 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas, 385-0264 or 385-0200

Oktoberfest, 28-29, German food, beer, music, and dancing, noon, German American Social Club of Nevada's clubhouse, 1110 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, 649-8503

Art Show, 29-10/30, ceramics by Mike Fulgham, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

October

"Citizen Kane," 1 film, 7pm, $1 Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Art Show, 1-31 Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

UNLV v. Utah State, 5, football, 7:30pm, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267

Sandstone Canyon Hike, 5, strenuous hike of 2.5 miles, bring hiking shoes and sack lunch, no pets or small children, Spring Mountain Ranch, 20 miles west of Las Vegas, 875-4141

Oktoberfest, 5-6, German American Social Club of Nevada's clubhouse, 1110 E. Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, 649-8503

Art in the Park, 5-6, show and sale of fine art in Government Park and crafts in Bicentennial Park; auction, food booths, 10am-5pm, Boulder City, 294-0363

Amateur Rodeo, 5-6, open to public, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

Walking Tours, 5, 12, 19, 26, Saturday tours of Tule Springs Ranch, 2-2:30pm, Floyd Lamb State Park, 645-1998

Las Vegas Civic Symphony Concert, 6, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Craps Tournament, 6-8, Tropicana, 739-2222

$325,000 Blackjack Tournament, 6-9, Desert Inn, 733-4444

Craps Tournament, 6-10, Desert Inn, 733-4444

Art Show, 6-30, photography by Lou Ragland, watercolors and oils by Mary Stevenson, Las Vegas Art Museum, 647-4300

Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair, 8-13, diaper derby, big wheel races, greased pig chase, pie eating, tobacco spitting, nail driving, John Todman's Wonder Show, hypnotist LaBarr, Smurf Show, Ronald McDonald's Magic Show, Air Force Band Concert, Arm Wrestling Championship, Wrangler Country Showdown, Chili Cook-Off, competitions in home arts, home science, garden, animals, photography, art, industrial arts, auto, high school bands, cheerleaders, and journalism, Cashman Field Center, 732-4237

"Deadwood Dick," 10-12, western melodrama by Boulder City First Nighters, 7:30pm, High School Aud., Boulder City, 293-3613

Sierra Wind Quintet, 11, 8pm, UNLV, 739-3332

Video Poker Tournament, 11-13, Four Queens, 385-4011

UNLV v. Pacific, 12, football, 7:30pm, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267

Jackpot Team Roping, 12, open to public, Peppermill's Western Village, 346-5232

Gin Tournament, 12-17 Union Plaza, 386-2110

Craps Tournament, 13-16, Landmark, 733-1426

Firefighters Exhibit, 15-11/29, photos and artifacts dating from 1900, Clark County Southern Nevada Museum, Henderson, 565-0907

Dresden Philharmonic Concert, 17, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV, 739-3535



Using this map as a key, you'll find each town's events under the territory designated by the Nevada Commission on Tourism. For more travel information, write the Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV. 89710, or call 702-885-3636.



SCOTT HENRY

Sweet Promised Lamb

Nevada's sheep empires may have vanished, but their flavor and spirit lingers in the state's Basque festivals. The food and the dance and the exuberance can be found at a $100-a-plate adults-only bash at the Silk Purse Ranch outside of Las Vegas September 14. The Lagun Onak Las Vegas Basque Club throws a picnic the following day at St. Viator Community Center; the tab there is only $2, and children under 12 get in free. Harrah's Lake Tahoe at Stateline will offer traditional Basque singing and dancing September 27-29.

Silver State Bocce Championships, 17-20, $25,000 purse, Sands Hotel, 733-5000

Oktoberfest, 18, 7pm, Deutsch American Society of Southern Nevada, 1006 N. Rancho Dr., 648-3784

Henderson Expo '85, 18-20, home show with carnival, booths, food, art show, 6-10pm Fri., 10am-10pm Sat., noon-6pm, Sun., Convention Center, Henderson, 565-8951

Las Vegas Ski Show, 18-20, consumer snow ski show, Cashman Field Center, 383-6504

Jackpot Team Roping, 19, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

White Rock Hike, 19, moderate four-mile hike, bring water and sturdy boots, 9am, Red Rock Canyon Visitor Center, 17 miles west of Las Vegas, 363-1921

Living History Day, 19, program on life in the late 1870s, Spring Mountain Ranch, 875-4141

J&B Scotch Gold Putter Awards, 19-20, top 16 LPGA golfers putt off in a double elimination format, $50,000 first prize, 8am Sat., 10am Sun., free admission, Desert Inn, 733-4290

Showboat Hot Air Balloon Race, 19, pre-Fairshow race, if poor weather will be held on 20th, Showboat Hotel, 385-9123

English Leather Calendar Girl Pageant, 20-27 Frontier Hotel, 734-0110

Art Show, 20-11/21, paintings by Nick Boisvert, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Quarter-Scale Airplane Show, 24-26, display at Showboat Hotel on Thurs., fly-in at Eldorado Dry Lake Bed off U.S. 95 near Boulder City, Showboat Hotel, 385-9123

Ballet, 24-27 8pm Thurs.-Sun. with an additional 2pm matinee on Sun., Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 739-3838

Wilderness Circuit Finals, 25-26, includes finalists from pro rodeos in Nevada, Utah, and Idaho, Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

Halloween II Blackjack Tournament, 25-27 Marina Hotel, 739-1500

Imperial Palace Antique Auto Run, 25-27 run is on Sat. for autos built between 1900 and 1936; starts at 9am at Imperial Palace on the Strip, stops at Valley of Fire State Park for a catered barbecue, and ends back at the hotel, 731-3311

Fairshow, 25-27 on Fri. kids' day with balloon demonstrations, Calcutta, and dinner; on Sat. two morning balloon races; on Sun. two morning races followed by an awards presentation; also booths, carnival, bazaar, beer garden, music, contests including bubblegum blowing, prince and princess, Halloween costumes, Parent of the Year, chili cook-off, Mr. Macho Nevada, Clark County Community College, North Las Vegas, 642-1944

Coors Uninvitational $5,000 Dart Tournament, 25-27 Hacienda Hotel, 737-2713

UNLV v. Southwestern Louisiana, 26, football, 7:30pm, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267

Craftworks Market, 26-27 juried craft market with pottery, fiber, jewelry, and wood items, 10am-dusk, Reed Whipple Field, 456-6695



Heading for Lamoille

Runners and riders will race 20 miles from Elko to Lamoille on September 14 for prizes and the pleasure of anyone who cares to watch. Everyone wishing to participate in the Man-Mule Race can do so—the entry fee goes to a program for handicapped riders. Starting time is 8 a.m. at the Red Lion Inn in Elko. Pictured here is one-third of one of the entries, trying, it appears, to get a head start.

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Silk Purse Ranch Horse Trials, 26-27, equine competition featuring three Olympic-style events: dressage, stadium jumping, and cross-country, 8am Sat., 9am Sun., Silk Purse Ranch, 8101 Racel Road, 645-3223

Blackjack Tournament, 27-29, Lady Luck Casino, 384-4680

Hobie 14-foot Nationals, 27-11/2, sailing, 10am-5pm, Special Events Beach, Lake Mead, 368-2885

UNLV Jazz Band Concert, 29, 8pm, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 739-3332

Nevada 85, 30-11/27 photo show, Las Vegas Library, 382-3493

UNLV v. New Mexico State, 31 football, time TBA, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 739-3267

Nevada Day Celebration, 31 to commemorate Nevada's admission to the Union, with a chuck wagon, dancing, rides, contests, Landmark Hotel, 733-1404

Baccarat Tournament, 30-11/3, Desert Inn, 733-4444

PIONEER TERRITORY

September

Labor Day/Homecoming Celebration, 8/30-9/2, street dance, mining events celebrating 115 years of continuous mining operations, parade, firemen's dinner, races and games, motocross races, fireworks, Pioche, 962-5131

Ione Days and Ore House Jamboree, 31-9/2, trapshoot, dance, kids' games including greased pig chase, sack races, and pinata bust, women's mud wrestling, Ione, 786-7393

Rhyolite Labor Day Celebration, 31-9/2, picnics, family events, Rhyolite No. 2

Ichthyosaur Fossil Shelter Tours, thru 12/31, 10am, 2pm, and 4pm daily thru 9/1· 10am and 2pm Fri.-Mon. 9/2-12/31 Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 23 miles east of Gabbs, 867-3001

Campfire Program, 1, 8pm, Echo Canyon State Recreation Area, 728-4467

Pahrump Harvest Festival Fair & Rodeo, 13-15, on Fri. 7pm gymkhana; on Sat. 9am parade, 10am midway and fair open, 11am horseshoe tournament, noon barbecue, 1pm children's parade, 4pm PRCA rodeo and crowning of Miss Pahrump Rodeo Queen, 5pm barbecue dinner, 5:30pm beard contest, 6pm stock car races at Bob Ruud Memorial Speedway, 9pm outdoor dance; on Sun. 8:30am backhoe contest, 9am midway opens, 10am barbecue and fair opens, noon men's sexy legs judging, 2pm rodeo finals, Pahrump, 727-5791 or 727-5314

Stock Car Races, 14, 6pm, Bob Ruud Speedway, Pahrump, 727-5435

Campfire Program, 14, 21 28, every Sat. at 7:30pm, Cathedral Gorge State Park, 728-4467

Meadow Valley Days, 20-22, softball and horseshoe tournaments, Meadow Valley Golf Course, Caliente, 726-3129

October

Square Dance Festival, 4-5, Fri. 8-11pm dance to local callers; Sat. 2-4pm square dance workshop, 8-11pm mainstream dancing, Pair-O-Dice Square Dance Club, Elementary Gym, Hawthorne, 945-5835

Nevada 85, 9-22, photo show, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676

Pinenut Festival, 11-13, barbecue, traditional indian dancing and gambling, games for kids, free, Shurz, 733-2306

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

September

Carnival, 8/28-9/1, fairgrounds, Ely, 235-7507
Fallon Lions Junior Rodeo, 8/31-9/2, on Sat.-Sun. rodeo and dance; on Mon. 11am parade followed by 1pm rodeo finals, Churchill Regional Park, Fallon, 423-6264
Hidden Cave Tour, 14, meet 9:30am at County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677
Sentimental Journey, 14-15, leave Hazen Sat. night 7:30pm aboard Amtrak for Winnemucca, Basque dinner in Winnemucca and return, meet at Hazen Bar on U.S. 50-A, 867-3066
Nevada 85, 16-10/1 photo show, Fallon Community Center, 423-4556
Fort Churchill Celebration, 21-22, commemorating the fort's active years, 1860-1869. On Sat. at 11:30am Nevada Civil War Volunteers raise colors and stage a mock battle, black powder shoot, cannon shoot, taps, and lowering of colors; on Sun. 6am reveille, black powder shoot, cannon demonstration, living history tour of fort, dueling cannons, Confederate charge, fashion show, skirmish, Fort Churchill Historic State Monument, near Silver Springs, 323-3992
Hidden Cave Tour, 28, meet 9:30am at County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677
Nevada State Four-Man Golf Tournament, 28-29, Golf Course, Ely, 289-4095
White Pine High School Rodeo, 28-29, fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877

October

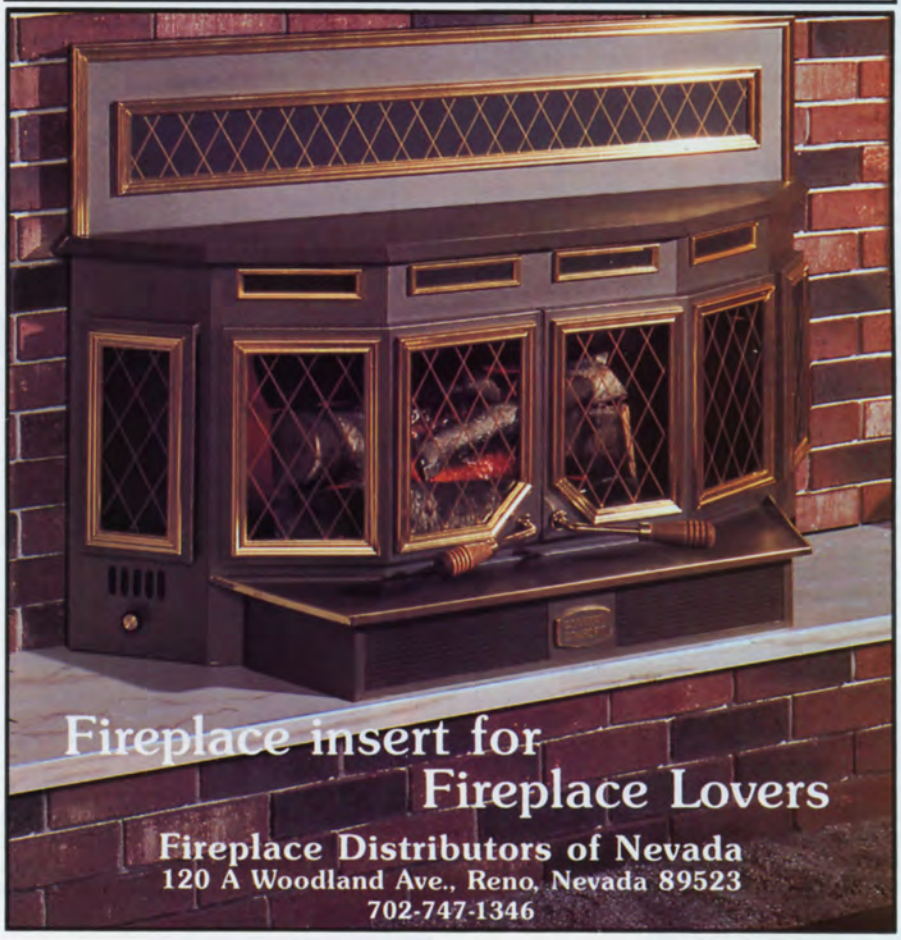
Fun Day, 6, cowboy breakfast, cutting horse contest, gymkhana, horseshoes, food booths, trap shoot, dinner, 8am-dark, Baseball Park and Roping Arena, Wellington, 465-2304
Great Western Pumpkin Harvest Festival, 11-13, contests involving the largest pumpkin, baking, carving, and home yard decorating, booths, parade, stage show, hayrides, exhibits, fly-in, Yerington, 463-3915
Hidden Cave Tour, 12, meet 9:30am at County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677
Hazen Art Show and Sale, 19-20, works in sculpture, ceramics, pewter, and bronze by artists for Walt Disney, King Features, and horse associations, noon-5pm, free, Hazen Bar on U.S. 50-A, 867-3066
Harvest Festival Farm Sale and Auction, 20, at 11am sale of baked and home-canned goods, live music, snack bar; at 12:30pm auction with farm produce, collectibles, and antiques, Smith Valley Community Hall, Wellington, 465-2304
Hidden Cave Tour, 26, meet 9:30am at County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677
Halloween Parade, 31, children's parade, refreshments, Main Street, Austin, 964-2440
Halloween Dance and Masquerade Ball, 11/1 live music and dancing, prizes for best costume, Town Hall, Austin, 964-2440

COVERED WAGON TERRITORY

September

Art Exhibit, 8/23-9/25, works by Mildred Byers, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418
Icarian Air Race, 8/30-9/1, Cactus Pete's Casino, Jackpot, 755-2321







ROCHE BUSH

Uneasy Rider

An aspiring young cowboy clutches determinedly at an airborne slab of beef that's equally determined to send him flying. This duel in the sun is a feature of the annual Mitt's Little Rodeo for youngsters 15 and under to be held September 29 at the Spring Creek Horse Palace south of Elko. These buckaroos don't chew yet or stay out too late—but they're learning.

Tri-County Fair and Winnemucca Rodeo, 8/30-9/1 Fri. and Sat. Western Art Roundup; Sat. 4-H livestock show, Tri-County Fair opens, clown act, 3pm parade downtown, 7:30pm rodeo; Sun. awards program, 4-H livestock auction, kids' games, Western Art Roundup, 7:30pm rodeo, fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-2225

Elko County Fair and Livestock Show, 8/30-9/2, Fri. noon parade; Fri.-Mon. fair with home arts, fine arts, flower show, 4-H livestock, quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, parimutuel betting, branding, roping, and futurities; fairgrounds, Elko, 738-3616 or 738-4091

Demolition Derby, 2, 7pm, $3, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-8477

Square Dancing in the Park, 4, open to all, performance by Sagebrush Spinners, 2:30-10pm, Elko City Park, 738-8461

Festival of Planes, 7, celebration of aviation's influence on Elko area with displays, aerial demonstrations, skydiving, helicopter rides, Elko Municipal Airport, 738-7135

Car Race, 7 Tri-County point race, 7pm time trials, 8pm racing, Lovelock Rodeo Grounds, 273-7213

Bige Duncan Jr. Memorial Roping, 13-15, 4pm Fri., 9am Sat.-Sun., free to spectators, Lovelock Rodeo Grounds, 273-2598

Elko Man-Mule Race, 14, 20-mile endurance race pitting man against mule or horse, starting at the Red Lion Inn in Elko at 8am and ending in Lamoille, feed at Red Lion Inn, 738-8570

Nevada State 4-H Horse Show, 21-22, 8am, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-7291

Fall Festival of Art, 27-10/28, works by Elko County Art Club and Carolyn Lord, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Nevada State Dirt Track Championship, 28, 7pm time trials, 8pm racing, Lovelock Rodeo Grounds, 273-7213

Roping Club Invitational, 28-29, Rodeo Grounds, Wells, 752-3384

Mitt's Little Rodeo, 29, competition for children 15 and under, sheep riding, cow riding, calf riding, barrel racing, team roping with an adult, rope-a-sack, stick horse racing, 10am, Spring Creek Horse Palace, south of Elko, 738-7933

October

Air Race, 5, from Great Falls, ID. to Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321

Art Show, 30-10/25, works by Fred Reid, photos by Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

RENO/TAHOE TERRITORY

September

Nevada 85, 8/28-9/10, photo show, Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 265-2905

Art Show, 8/28-9/22, works by Suzanne Klotz-Reilly, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333

Capital to Capital Equestrian Endurance Ride, 8/30-9/2, four-day ride from Carson City to Sacramento, CA., 882-5838

Northstar's Annual Arts Show, 8/31-9/1 11am-5pm, Northstar, six miles south of Truckee, 916-562-1010

Reno Padres v. San Jose Bees, 8/31-9/1 class-A pro baseball, Sat. 7:30pm, Sun. 1pm double-header, Moana Stadium, 825-0678

Governor's Cup Hydroplane Regatta, 8/31-9/1 Paradise Park, Sparks, 323-0495

Labor Day Field Meet, 8/31-9/2, more than 100 vintage 1928-1931 Model A Fords converge for car judging, gymkhana competition, rally, and banquet, Mills Park, Carson City, 885-4420

Photography Show, 8/31-9/29, works from 1928 to present by Beaumont Newhall, a Smithsonian traveling show, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333



LISA SMITH

A Date With A Dromedary

Virginia City will be jumping September 7-8 when camels and their fearless riders head down the track, although not always together, during the 27th Annual International Camel Races.

Paint Horse Show, 1 State Fairgrounds, 785-4306

Labor Day Holiday Steam-Up, 1-2, restored Virginia & Truckee steam locomotive No. 22, the *Inyo,* will operate for visitors, Nevada State Railroad Museum, 885-4810 or 885-5168

Annual VORRA Off-Road Race, 1-2, downtown Dayton, 246-3435

Art Show, 1-30, works by Gayle Klette, Nevada Artists Assn. Gallery, Carson City, 882-9723

Photography Exhibit, 2-27 photos by David Arnold, Manville Gallery, UNR, 784-6001

Nevada State Fair, 4-8, includes fireworks, carnival midway, Rob Hanna's Tribute to Rod Stewart, motorcycle racing, Smurfs, Zella Lehr, the Krush, Sheriff's Posse Rodeo, Ronald McDonald, Gaylord & Holiday, Reno Banjo Band, Wade Brothers Special Dance, destruction derby, State Fairgrounds, 785-4307

Designer Showcase '85, 5-29, display of home completely redone by interior decorators, tickets $6, lunch is an additional $4, Tues.-Sun., 1590 Webster Way, 786-8825

1860s Costume Ball, 6, kick-off for Camel Races Sept. 7-8, with Victorian-era costume party, 6:30pm, V&T depot, Virginia City, 847-9177

Chili Willy-Nilly

Regardless of the actual weather, expect a warming trend in Western Nevada in September. That's when the lava starts flowing—more specifically, at the Carson Valley Chili Cook-Off September 7 in Minden. And the Great High Sierra Regional Chili Cook-Off Championship follows on September 20-22 at Del Webb's High Sierra over the mountain at Stateline. An entry fee is required of participating chili-heads. There's none for spectators, but wear your asbestos clothing. Last year's regional was won for the first time by a Nevada team, in this case Allison and Dean Taylor of Mound House.

The Great Reno Balloon Race, 6-7 before sunrise the Dawn Patrol goes aloft, 7am mass ascension of balloons to the music of Reno Philharmonic; contest for $10,000 in prize money consists of two hound and hare races, target drop, and key grab; hot-air balloon rides, Nevada Historical Society exhibit of pioneer crafts including leather work and weaving; Sierra Nevada Chorale, concession booths, Rancho San Rafael Park, 788-3024

Northstar Annual Open Tennis Tournament, 6-8, open to public, class A, B, C, and D players welcome, Northstar, six miles south of Truckee, 916-562-1010

Horseless Carriage Tour, 6-8, cars from pre-1916 with headquarters at the Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 883-5957

Yard Sale, 7, Nevada Landmarks Society fundraiser, Roberts Park, Carson City, 882-5950

Carson Valley Chili Cook-Off, 7, sanctioned by the International Chili Society, $25 entry fee, free for spectators, park, Minden, 782-8144

UNR v. Cal State-Northridge, 7 football, 1pm, Mackay Stadium, UNR, 784-4500

World's Toughest Triathlon, 7, combination of swimming, running, and bicycling marathon for individuals, teams, men, and women, South Lake Tahoe, 588-7174

Sherwood Forest Festival, 7-8, recreating the Renaissance period with sword fights, weaving and spinning, arts and crafts booths, food, Mills Park, Carson City, 883-1976

Camel Races, 7-8, 27th annual, 10am parade Sat., camel races about every 45 minutes 10:30am-5pm, also ostrich races and skydivers, $4 advance buttons and $5 gate buttons good for both days, V&T depot, Virginia City, 847-9177
Reno Philharmonic Orchestra Concert, 8, 8:15pm, Pioneer Theater, 329-1324
Tanner's Worldwide Flea Market, 8, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 382-8355
Nevada Pioneer Day, 9, Nevada Historical Society presents a living history account of the pioneers of the Tahoe area, 10am, meet at Spooner Dam, Lake Tahoe State Park, 831-0494
Tahoe-Virginia City Bicycle Race, 11 Virginia City, 847-0311
Horse Cutting Event, 11-15, State Fairgrounds, 785-4307
Kick-Away-Handicap Horse Riding Program, 11-25, for handicapped riders, every Wed., State Fairgrounds, 785-4307
UNR 100th Anniversary, 12, beginning of year-long centennial celebration of the University of Nevada, Reno; dignitaries reenact the cornerstone ceremony of 1885 by dressing in 19th-century costumes and marching to Morrill Hall at 11am, followed by party with huge birthday cake on the Quad, UNR, 784-6620
Reno National Championship Air Races, 12-15, 32 closed-course pylon races in Unlimited, Formula, AT/6, and Sport Biplane classes; plus the Snowbirds, U.S. Navy Blue Angels and U.S. Army Golden Knights, 10:30am-3:30pm; qualifying is Sept. 9-11 Stead Airfield, 826-7500
Wilderness Orienteering, 13-14, on Fri. class at 7pm at the District Office in Carson City, on Sat. 10am competition at Spooner Lake, bring sack lunch and compass, 831-0494
100-Mile Horse Endurance Race, 14, Virginia City, 847-0311
Carson Valley Annual Concert, 14, Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-2476
North Shore Challenge Triathlon, 14, ⅓-mile swim in Lake Tahoe, 5-mile run, and 20-mile bike ride, Tahoe City, 916-583-5544
Piper's Opera House Concert, 15, featuring violinist Aaron Rosand, Virginia City, 847-0311
Trail Ride to Marlette Lake, 15, bring your own horse, equipment, sack lunch, and water, 9am, meet at the Spooner trailhead, Lake Tahoe State Park, 831-0494
Special Day for Special Children, 20, tour of the State Capitol followed by barbecue and tour at Governor's Mansion; for Northern Nevada disabled school children, Carson City, 885-5348
High Sierra Chili Cook-Off, 20-22, chili samples, music, and libations, Del Webb's High Sierra, Stateline, 588-6211
UNR v. Boise State, 21 football, 1pm, Mackay Stadium, UNR, 784-4500
Ferrari Hill Climb, 21-22, racing from Silver City to Virginia City, 847-0311
Sparks Family Hospital Barrel Racing, 21-22, State Fairgrounds, 785-4307
"Copelia," 21-22, 2:15pm matinees, Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Theater, 329-1324
Snaffle Bit Futurity, 21-29, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 827-7600
Wild Horse Exhibit, 22-9/22/86, Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 885-4810
Jack Gomez Roping/Bob Feist Invitational, 24-30, State Fairgrounds, 785-4307
Rod Hall's Ram Weekend, 26-28, limited to 100 vehicles, RamChargers or Dodge 4WD only; for info call Mark Smith, 916-333-4336
Basque Festival, 27-29, traditional Basque folk singing and dancing, Basque food and beverage specials, Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6611



Autos on the Block

Herbie the Love Bug will rub fenders with vintage roadsters and regal sedans at the Harrah's Automobile Collection auction September 27-28 in Reno. Last year's event attracted 3,000 bidders, including one who shelled out a record $800,000 for a 1936 Duesenberg Convertible Coupe.



LISA SMITH

Gotcha!

We kidde ye notte. Some of the greatest jousting this side of an Errol Flynn movie can be found at the Sherwood Forest Festival on September 7-8 at Carson City's Mills Park. When not dodging broadswords, visitors can enjoy Renaissance costumes, arts and crafts, and viands. Verily.

A Sweet Deal

The Candy Dance is an invitation to self-indulgence at Genoa, Nevada's oldest permanent settlement. Music, arts, crafts, and, of course, confections are found on September 28-29.

Mexican Dance, 27 State Fairgrounds, 785-4307
Harrah's Vehicle Auction, 27-28, sale of more than 300 cars, $10 for spectators covers both days, Harrah's Automobile Collection, Reno, 786-3232
Outdoor Arts and Crafts Show, 27-29, Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe State Park, 831-0494
Sierra Classic Quarter Horse Sale, 28, State Fairgrounds, 785-4306
International Whistle-Off, 28-29, competition between whistlers from U.S., Canada, Mexico, England, and Australia vying for titles in contemporary, classical, novelty, and dual competition, 9am-5pm, Mills Park, Carson City, 882-1565
Genoa Candy Dance, 28-29, arts and crafts, homemade candy sale, dance Sat. night, 782-2518 or 782-8144
PTPA National Team Penning Finals, 28-29, Professional Team Penning Assn. competition with open, ladies, and two junior divisions; on Sun. first team penning of the season, 9am, Gondolfo Arena, Sparks, 849-1706
Art Show, 28-10/27 wind sculpture drawings and studies by Bob Morrison, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333
Art Show, 30-11/1 by Jon Winet and Sharon Thatcher, Manville Gallery, UNR, 784-6001



LISA SMITH

What a Trill

It will sound like an enchanted forest when the warblers of the world unite in Carson City's Mills Park on September 28-29 for the Eighth International Whistle-Off. Fun—and quite trilling.

Pen Pals in Sparks

The doggies will be gittin' along at top speed during the National Team Penning Finals on September 28-29 in Sparks. The country's top 30 teams will be there on horseback, ready to show who are the fastest penners in the West. The place to watch is Gondolfo Arena, and admission for spectators is free.

All-Star Rodeo

Rodeo, the most unharnessed sport in the world, is about to make an unprecedented leap into the outer stratosphere of excitement. And when it touches ground at the Lawlor Events Center in Reno October 24-27, fans will see the equivalent of a heavyweight rodeo championship of the world. Under the new concept, the Winston Tour has drafted 24 rodeo all-stars for each of the seven events. Plus, the fire-breathing bulls, broncs, steers, and calves are handpicked to equal the champions. The purpose is to produce a four-day blockbuster at each of the tour's six stops. "This is the biggest step that's been taken in the 49-year history of the Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association," says Dave Baldridge of the PRCA. "The only thing that comes close to it in prize money is the National Finals Rodeo." And the NFR comes to Las Vegas December 7-15.

October

Art Show, 1-25, works by Angie Cross, Nevada Artists Assn. Gallery, Carson City, 882-9723

Exhibit, 1-31 pioneer photography of the Great Basin, Roberts House, Carson City, 882-5298

Glider Aerobatic Demonstrations, 5-6, airport, Minden, 782-7627

Doll and Miniature Show, 5-6, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 851-4184

Nevada State Pistol Championships, 5-6, Carson Rifle and Pistol Club, Carson City, 246-3187

Italian Festival, 7-13, in honor of Columbus Day, grape stomping contest, wine tasting, spaghetti cook-off, spaghetti eating contest, free, Eldorado Hotel, 786-5700

Sensational Scarecrow Contest, 11 Jessie Beck Elementary School, Reno, 826-0207

UNR v. Eastern Washington, 12, football, 1pm, Mackay Stadium, UNR, 784-4500

Dixieland at Tahoe Jazz Festival, 12-13, on Sat. after buying badges at the Hyatt you can listen to bands play on the *M.S. Dixie* at the Hyatt Pier and also at the Hyatt, Steven Lake Tahoe Restaurant, or Griffo's Restaurant noon-4pm; there are bands and a barbecue at the Ponderosa Ranch 6-9pm; for a separate price on Sun. there's a Dixieland jazz brunch at the Chateau, Incline Village, 831-4440

Alternate Energy Home Tour, 13, self-guided tour of homes in Carson City area that show how to use passive and active solar as well as geothermal energy, noon-5pm, $5 individual ticket, $8 couple, $4 individual senior, $7 senior couple, Carson City, 885-1721 or 882-0296

"The Student Prince," 18-19, opera, 8pm, Nevada Opera Assn., Pioneer Theater, 786-4046

Sierra Nevada Biennial, 18-11/24, invitational show of contemporary art in Nevada, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, 329-3333

UNR v. Weber State Homecoming Football Game, 19, 1pm, UNR, 784-4500

Winston Tour Rodeo, 24-27 competition for $150,000 total purse, Lawlor Events Center, 784-4659

Nevada Day Celebration Begins, 26-27 on Sat. the 1864 Grand Ball is at the Carson City Nugget, and on Sun. the art show opens (thru 11/9) at the Nevada Artists Assn. Gallery, Carson City, 882-2600 or 883-7442

V&T Steam-Up Finale, 26-27 restored Virginia & Truckee Railroad locomotives No. 22 and No. 25 will operate for the last time this year, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 885-4810



C.J. HADLEY

Nevada's 121st Birthday

Nevada celebrates its 121st year of statehood with a border-to-border birthday party on October 31. The centerpiece is the parade in Carson City, where other events include the single jack rock drilling championship, water fights, and Indian powwow. In Las Vegas, the October 31 festivities at the Landmark Hotel will include a chuck wagon, dancing, rides, and contests.

Sonoma Horse Show, 28-11/3, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 827-7600

Nevada Day Boxing Festival, 30, Community Center, Carson City, 882-2600 or 883-7442

Nevada Day Celebration, 31, the 121st anniversary of Nevada's statehood on Thurs. includes a pancake breakfast, 10am parade, quilt display, fun run, bed races, World Championship



Single Jack Rock Drilling Contest, luncheon, Reno Municipal Band concert, beard judging contest, fire department water fights, and powwow, Carson City, 882-2600 or 883-7442

Carson Indian Colony Powwow, 31-11/3, follows the Nevada Day parade and features competitive dancing by groups from Western Indian tribes, authentic arts and crafts, Little Princess contest, traditional hand games, tug-of-war, jackrabbit run, horseshoes, and Indian foods, Carson Indian Colony, 2900 S. Curry St., Carson City, 885-9759 or 883-6431

Halloween Fright Night, 31 dancing, costumes, 9pm, to benefit Muscular Dystrophy Assn., Peppermill Inn, 826-2121 ext. 603

COMING ATTRACTIONS



PRCA PHOTO

Super Bowl of Rodeo

The world's top ropers and riders will be in Las Vegas for the 1985 National Finals Rodeo, regarded as the Super Bowl of Rodeo, December 7-15, at the Thomas and Mack Center. Almost $1.8 million in prize money, plus bonuses, will be passed out to the best in seven events.

November

Oktoberfest, 9, Sparks, 784-5268

Silver Dust 400, 16, Henderson, 459-0317

December

Carson City International Pro Rally, 6-8, 883-7442

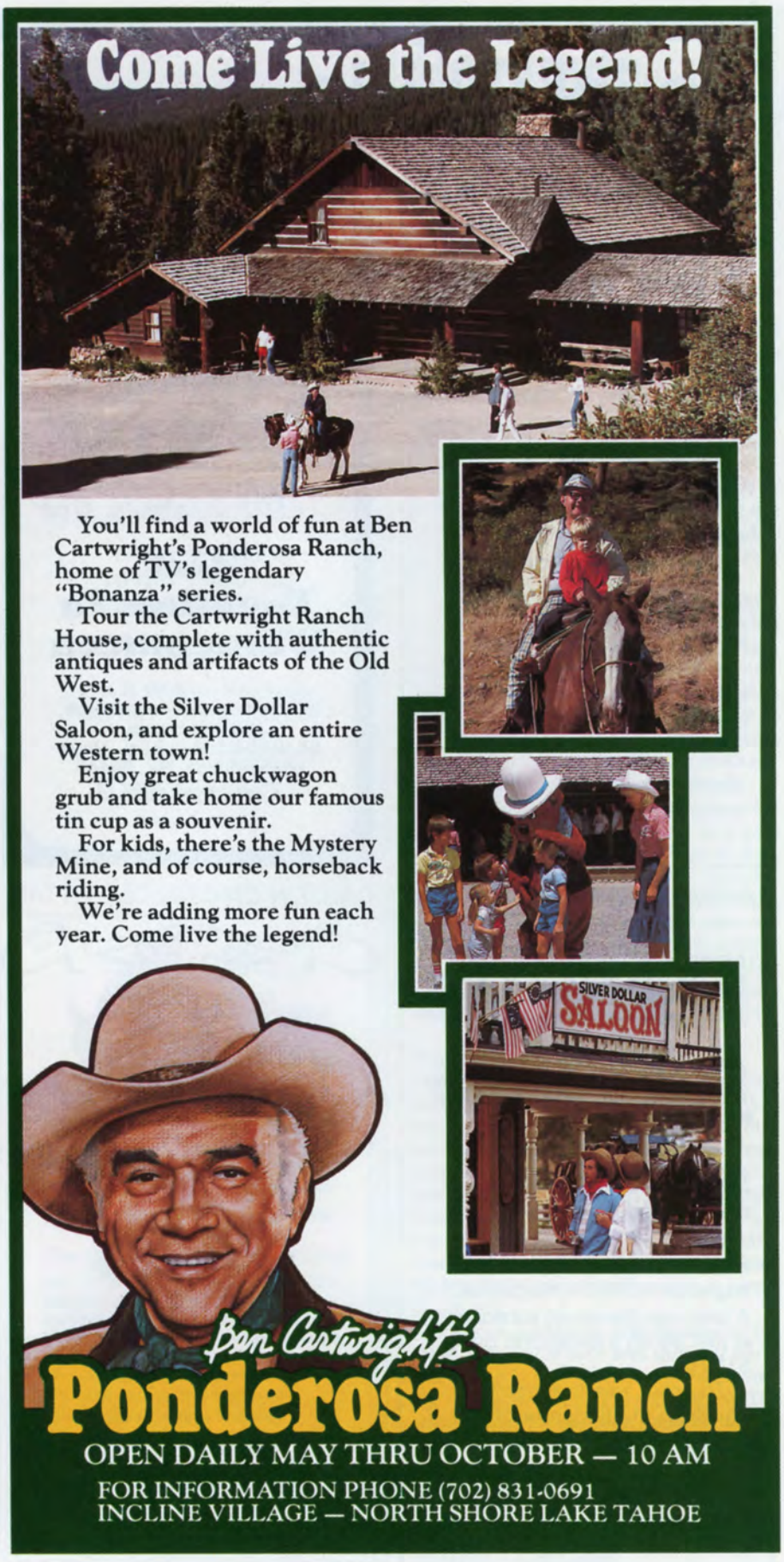
Frontier 250, 6-8, Las Vegas, 734-0385

Genoa Christmas Faire, 7 782-8144

National Finals Rodeo, 7-15, Las Vegas, 731-2115

Parade of Lights, 14 (tentative), Las Vegas Boat Harbor, Lake Mead, 565-9111

A Reminder: to confirm dates and times, use the phone numbers listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212. □



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Blue Duncan, Jr. Memorial Roping Sept. 13-15
Nevada State Dirt Track Stock Car Championship Sept. 28
Deer and Upland Game Season opens Oct. 5
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Two amazing collections in Las Vegas and Reno.

Curios for the Curious

Reno's Rancho San Rafael, where jogging paths, gazebos, ponds, and acres of lawns make for memorable Sunday outings, now has a museum with some stunning indoor attractions. The museum is a gift of the late Wilbur D. May, a wealthy adventurer who got rich by inheritance and by selling all his stock before the crash of 1929. May moved to Reno in 1936 at the age of 38 and became one of Nevada's greatest philanthropists before his death in 1982.

The museum features animal trophies and native artwork that May collected while on safari in Europe, Africa, Asia, Australia, and the South Pacific islands. Those items, along with May's collection of fine art, can be seen in a number of exhibit areas, two of which are exact copies of May's own living room and bedroom at the Double Diamond Ranch.

The museum is open Wednesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. Admission is $1 for adults, 50 cents for senior citizens and children under 12. An arboretum and a petting zoo also are being developed. For information contact the Wilbur D. May Museum, Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, 1502 Washington Street, Reno, NV. 89503; 702-785-5961.

Four Queens Odditorium

This fall downtown Las Vegas will have a new kind of show—one that stars shrunken heads, medieval torture tools, cannibal curios, and other must-see objects from around the globe. The Four Queens Hotel has struck a bargain with Ripley International to open a new Believe It Or Not! museum of mysteries. The 9,100-square-foot "Odditorium" will be one of nine Ripley shrines worldwide when it opens October 1.

Captive audiences will be able to see more than 2,000 rare and unusual items that Robert L. Ripley collected while traveling in more than 190 countries. The admission price has been set tentatively at $5, and the museum will be open every day. For more information call 702-385-4011, or write Ripley's Believe It Or Not!, Four Queens, 202 East Fremont Street, Las Vegas, NV. 89101. See you in the dungeon.—*Cliff Glover*

Famous Martin Hotel

"A truly delightful experience"

Basque and American dinners served family style 7 days a week. No menu. Traditional bell rings starting dinners at 6:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Bar open from 10:00 a.m. 'til midnight. Lunch served (menu) Mon.-Sat. 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Railroad & Melarky Streets
Winnemucca, NV 89445

(702) 623-3197

Your Host & Owner
"Frenchy" Fouchet

Sagebrush Gourmet

A diner's guide to the Silver State

Following is a selective guide to reader-approved Nevada restaurants whose advertisements appear in this section. Besides descriptions of menu and atmosphere, the listings include prices, hours and other details for your convenience. If you have any comments on the establishments listed, drop us a line at Nevada Magazine, Sagebrush Gourmet, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV. 89710-0005.

CATTLEMENS
Hwy. 395, Washoe Valley
Between Reno and Carson City. 849-1500
A ranch-style restaurant, the cozy Cattlemens offers excellent meals at moderate prices. The special sirloin steak dinner is a popular and good buy. Currently $6.45, this dinner includes a baked potato, salad, bread, ranch-style beans, sirloin steak and a glass of wine. Other entrees range from a simple hamburger steak to a filet mignon and lobster. The Alaska king crab is delicious! Open seven days a week for dinner from 5 p.m. No reservations. AE, MC, VISA.



After A Hard Day On The Trail
everybody's heading for Reno's famous

1 LB. NEW YORK
STEAK DINNER
$5.99

ComsTock Hotel Casino

SECOND & WEST DOWNTOWN RENO FREE VALET PARKING

COMSTOCK HOTEL & CASINO
Second and West Street
Reno. 329-1880
Home of the famous One-Pound New York Steak Dinner for only $5.99. The Comstock's popular 24-hour **Miner's Cafe** also features complete breakfast, lunch, and dinner items. Enjoy reasonably priced meals served in an intimate and relaxing atmosphere in the **Comstock Dinner House.** Full-course dinners are a bargain at $5.99 in the **Specialty Room Restaurant.** Every fine meal tastefully prepared to your order. Valet parking available. The Comstock Hotel and Casino, "Where the Old West comes alive every day in Downtown Reno." AE, MC, VISA.



LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER
301 E. 4th Street
Reno. 323-7203
Louis' restaurant offers a warm, unhurried atmosphere that hints of yesterday. Master chefs prepare genuine Basque cuisine such as Tripes Callos, Poulet a la Basquaise, Paella, Boeuf Bourguignon, and entrees including Coq au Vin (chicken in red wine sauce), Lapin Chasseur (hunter's rabbit), and Ris de Veau (sweetbreads) as well as many other delicious French and Spanish Basque dishes all served family style with complimentary wine. You can enjoy a famous picon punch, cafe royale or perhaps an Izarra. Basque culture is reflected in the pottery, artifacts and pictures from the Pyrenees which grace the walls of the two traditional dining rooms. Louis and Lorraine Erreguible host many special dinners and parties in this authentic Basque restaurant. Ample free parking. Lunch: Mon.-Fri., 11:30-1:30; Dinner: 6 p.m., nightly. All major credit cards accepted.

MARTIN HOTEL
Railroad & Melarkey Streets
Winnemucca, NV. 623-3197
"We ate here!" Delicious Basque and American food at the famous Martin Hotel. Founded in the late 1800s, the Martin retains its old Basque hotel traditions and a comfortable bar. Lunch: 11:30-2 (menu). Dinner: 6-10 p.m. (no menu). Fixed fare includes steak, side dish (clams & rice, oxtail or tongue). Prime rib or steak Saturday only. Basque fare and wine, $10-$12. Seating family-style. No reservations. Closed all major holidays. MC, VISA. Rooms available.

LOUIS & LORRAINE ERREGUIBLE'S

LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER



REAL BASQUE REVELRY

AUTHENTIC BASQUE FOODS SERVED FAMILY STYLE

LUNCHEON 11:30-1:30 • DINNER FROM 6 PM

PRIVATE DINING ROOM FOR SPECIAL PARTIES

Honoring
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MASTERCARD • CARTE BLANCHE

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"RENO'S MOST UNIQUE DINING EXPERIENCE"

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Steaks • Lobster • Ribs
Lamb • Banquets • Drinks
Prime Rib

849-1500

Halfway between Carson and Reno
555 Highway 395 South, Washoe Valley

SHOWGUIDE

Where the stars and shows are playing this fall.

By Melissa Loomis

SHOWS & STARS

Following is a muster of the stars, revues, and extravaganzas you can see in Nevada showrooms in September and October. Hotels and casinos are listed by territory as shown on the map in this issue's Nevada Calendar. Schedules can change, so it's wise to call ahead for times, dates, and reservations. For out-of-state callers, Nevada's area code is 702. For the hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

LAS VEGAS TERRITORY

Aladdin, 736-0111 Entertainment TBA

Barbary Coast, 737-7111: Irish Showband, thru 9/14; Ben Crocker, thru 9/18; Sam Butera and the Wildest, 9/5-10/2

Caesars Palace, 731-7333: Liberace, 8/28-9/2 & 9/5-10; The Pointer Sisters, 9/11-23 (dark 9/17); Rodney Dangerfield, 9/25-30; George Burns, 10/2-7; Sammy Davis Jr./Bill Cosby, 10/9-21 (dark 10/15)

Circus Circus, 734-0410: Circus acts, 11am-midnight, free

Desert Inn, 733-4566: Neil Sedaka/Marilyn McCoo, 9/18-10/9

Dunes, 737-4110: Lounge entertainment

Edgewater, Laughlin, 298-2453

El Rancho, 796-2222: Lounge entertainment

Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: City Lites, revue, indf.; 7:45pm dinner show from $15.95, 11pm cocktail show $10.95, includes 2 drinks; Winchester Cathedral/Bach, 8/27-9/2

Four Queens, 385-4011 The Platters, 8/20-9/15; Frank Sinatra Jr., 9/17-29; Sam Butera, 10/8-27; Kingston Trio, 10/29-11/10; Dondino, indf.; Monday Nite Jazz featuring Barney Kessell, 9/2; Marlena Shaw, 9/9; Woody Shaw, 9/16; Charlie Rouse, 9/23

Frontier, 734-0240: Siegfried & Roy in Beyond Belief, thru 11/27· 7pm & 11pm cocktail shows Tues.-Sun.; dark Mon.

Golden Nugget, 386-8100: Paul Anka, 9/5-17· Alan King, 9/19-24; Harry Belafonte, 9/26-28; Shecky Greene, 10/3-8; Lou Rawls, 10/10-15; Dionne Warwick, 10/17-29; Paul Anka, 10/31-11/12

Hacienda, 798-0571: Fire & Ice, ice spectacular, indf.; 8pm optional dinner show from $14.95, 8pm and 11pm cocktail shows $10.95, dark Thurs., Redd Foxx, indf.; 10pm cocktail show $14.95, dark Mon.

Holiday, 369-5000: Wild World of Burlesque, indf.; 10pm & 12:30am Mon.-Fri., 8pm, 10pm & 12:30am Sat.; dark Sun., $6.95, includes 2 drinks

Imperial Palace, 733-0234: Legends in Concert, indf., 8pm & 11pm cocktail shows $11.95; dark Sun.

Landmark, 733-1110: Mickey Finn Show, indf.

Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5756: Bal du Moulin Rouge, indf.; 8pm dinner show from $19.50, midnight cocktail show $16

MGM Grand Hotel, 739-4567: *Ziegfeld Theatre:* Jubilee! indf.; 7:30pm & 11pm, dark Wed., $25; *Celebrity Room:* Rich Little/Gregory Hines, thru 9/11 Mac Davis, 9/12-25; Dean Martin, 9/26-10/2; Tom Jones, 10/3-16; Wayne Newton, 10/24-11/6

Marina, 739-1500: Old Burlesque '85 with Bob Mitchel, indf., 8pm & 10pm; dark Mon., $6.95

Maxim, 731-4300: Entertainment TBA

Mint, 387-6468: Bottoms Up & Flam-BOY-ant Follies alternate, indf.; Mon.-Sat., Sandy Hackett's Talent Showcase, indf., Sun.

Palace Station, 367-2411 Lounge entertainment daily, 11am-5am

Peppermill's Western Village, Mesquite, 346-5232

Regency Casino, Laughlin, 298-2439

Riverside Resort, Laughlin, 298-2535

Riviera, 734-5301: Splash!, production show, starring the 5th Dimension, indf.

Royal Casino, 733-4000

Saddle West Casino, Pahrump, 727-5953

Sahara, 737-2424: Broadway musical

Sam Boyd's California, 385-1222: Nightly entertainment

Sam's Town, 456-7777· Continuous entertainment at Roxy's Saloon, western dancing nightly at Western Dance Hall with free dance lessons Sun.-Thurs., 7-9pm

Sam's Town Gold River, Laughlin, 298-2242

Sands, 733-5000: Outrageous, revue, indf., 8pm, 10pm & midnight, dark Mon., $9.50, includes 2 drinks

Silver Slipper, 734-1212: Boylesque, revue, indf.; 8pm, 10pm, midnight, dark Thurs., $6.95

Stardust, 732-6325: Lido de Paris starring Bobby Berosini's orangutans, indf.; 7pm & 11pm nightly, $17.50, includes 2 drinks

Calendar Combo for 1986

Enjoy the Silver State's present with a new full-color calendar showing Nevada at its best, or enjoy its past with an old friend, the popular historic. Available separately, or **SAVE $2.50** off the retail price when you order one of each. Calendars will be delivered in October 1985. Send this coupon to: **Nevada Magazine Calendars,** Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710-0005.

☐ Yes! You've sold me! Send me the best of Nevada in vibrant color with the 12×9" Super Scenic Calendar, only $7 each.
Quantity_____

☐ Yes! I'll enjoy Nevada's frontier past with the popular 14×11" Historic Calendar. Retail $4.25. Just $3.75 each.
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☐ I want it all! Send me both calendars. By ordering one of each, I save $2.50 off the retail price of $11.25. Set of two, only $8.75.
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Signature_____

Name _____

Address_____

City_____

State _____ Zip _____



Sundance, 382-6111 Kathy Dahl/Richard Yusco, indf.

Tropicana, 739-2411 Folies Bergere starring Ronn Lucas and Lance Burton, indf.; 8pm dinner show $15.95, 11:30pm cocktail show $13.95, dark Thurs.

Union Plaza, 386-2444: Broadway entertainment nightly; 8pm dinner show from $11.95, 11:45pm cocktail show from $7.50

RENO/TAHOE TERRITORY

Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515: Gallagher, 10/11-13; Barry Manilow, 10/24-26

Carson City Nugget, 882-1626: Cheryle Cotten/Command Performance, thru 9/1 Motifs, 9/3-29

Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711 Nightly entertainment and dancing, no cover or minimum; Wray Brothers Band, 9/23-28

Circus Circus, Reno, 329-0711: Circus acts, 11:30am-midnight, free

Comstock, Reno, 329-1880: Weekend entertainment

Crystal Bay Club, Tahoe, 831-0512: Stairs, thru 9/8: Hostage, 9/10-22

Del Webb's High Sierra, Tahoe, 588-6211: Ridin' High, revue, indf.; Danny Marona, thru 9/1; Zella, thru 9/1; Doug Kershaw, 9/2-15; Frenz, 9/9-22; Zella, 9/23-10/6; Danny Marona, 10/7-27; Doug Kershaw, 10/28-11/10

Eldorado, Reno, 786-5700: Nightly entertainment, Tues.-Sun.

Harolds Club, 329-0881: Entertainment nightly

Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 588-6611 *South Shore Room:* Don Rickles/Juliet Prouse, thru 9/5; The Everly Brothers, 9/6-8; Ronnie Milsap/Patti Page, 9/9-19; Wayne Newton, 9/20-10/3; The Oak Ridge Boys, 10/4-10; Jimmy Buffett, 10/11-13; Crystal Gayle, 10/16-24; Donna Summer, 10/25-28; *Stateline Cabaret:* Breakin' Loose, revue, indf.; Wed.-Mon.; Jack Mack and The Heart Attack, thru 9/1 John Kay & Steppenwolf, 9/3-8; The Platters, 10/1-13; Joe Savage, 10/29-11/17

Harrah's Reno, 329-4422: *Headliner Room:* Larry Gatlin & The Gatlin Brothers, thru 9/4; Lee Greenwood, 9/5-11; Charo, 9/12-18; Roy Clark, 9/19-25; Tony Orlando, 9/26-10/9; Alan King/Rosemary Clooney, 10/10-16; Rich Little, 10/17-23; Don Rickles, 10/24-30; Loretta Lynn, 10/31-11/13; *Casino Cabaret:* Bustin' Out, revue, indf.; Wed.-Mon., John Kay & Steppenwolf, thru 9/1; The Platters, 10/15-27 (except Mon.)

Harvey's, Tahoe, 588-2411: *Top of the Wheel:* Ron Rose Sound, indf., All Nite Express, 9/1-8; Al Sebay & Diamondhead, 9/9-29; Gina Eckstine, 9/30-10/20; *Theatre Lounge:* Ginger Corte's Scandals, revue, indf.; Body Language, indf.; John Wills, 9/1-8; Santiago, 9/1-15; Command Performance, 9/9-29; Carleen Terrano, 9/16-29; Atlantis, 9/30-10/20; Steppen Stones, 9/30-10/20; Winchester Cathedral, 10/21-11/17; Little Dion, 10/21-11/3

Hyatt Lake Tahoe, 831-1111: Sweet Feat, 9/3-8; Garfin Gathering, 9/10-23; Two's Company, 9/11-23; Cheryl Cotten and Command Performance, 9/24-10/6; Laura Bright, 9/24-10/7· C.C. Jones, 10/8-20; Steve and Marie, 10/9-21; Martha's Children, 10/22-11/3; Frank and Lehea, 10/23-11/4

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300: Showcase '85, revue, indf.; Hall & January, thru 9/3; Roger Wilhite Duo, 9/4-indf.

Karl's, Sparks, 358-4771 Gary Xavier at the piano, 1-8pm, indf.; entertainment nightly

Li Brandi's, Topaz Lake, 266-3321

MGM Grand Hotel, Reno, 789-2285: *Ziegfeld Theatre:* Hello Hollywood Hello, indf.; 8pm dinner show from $22; midnight cocktail show $18.50; *Lion's Den:* Coast to Coast, thru 9/17 Pat Collins/Santa Fe, 9/18-10/15; *Leo's Lair:* Vince Cardell/Larry Hart, thru 9/17

Mother Lode, Carson City, 883-0900: Scooter and the Bee, 9/10-29; Lin Maureen and Dennis, 10/1-20; Spice, 10/22-11/10

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890: Lin Maureen & Dennis, thru 9/1; Cathy O'Shea, thru 9/1; Two of Clubs, 9/3-15; Sundance, 9/3-22; John Campbell, 9/16-29

Peppermill, Reno, 826-2121: Tommy Bell, thru 9/8; Connection, thru 9/29; Gina Eckstine & Jinz, 9/9-22; Lelands, 9/23-10/20; Wray Brothers, 9/30-10/27

Pick Hobson's Riverside, Reno, 786-4400: Nightly dancing, Tues.-Sun.

Reno Hilton, 785-7100: *Opera House Theatre:* Rhythm On Ice starring Jack Jones thru 9/22, starring Lonnie Shorr 9/24-10/27 starring Vic Damone 10/29-11/17; *Cabaret:* Dae Han Sisters, thru 9/23; Sonny Turner, 10/15-11/11

Reno Ramada, 788-2000: 24-hour live entertainment

Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133

Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069: Kimberly Springs, thru 9/1; Lelands, thru 9/1 St. Romain, 9/30-10/20; Dirk and the Knights, 10/7-20; Arizona Outlaws, 10/28-11/3

COVERED WAGON TERRITORY
PIONEER TERRITORY
PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

Battle Mountain: Owl Club, 635-5155

Elko: Commercial Hotel, 738-3181; Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141 Red Lion, 738-2111

Ely: Hotel Nevada, 289-4414

Fallon: Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

Hawthorne: El Capitan, 945-3322 or 945-3321

Jackpot: Cactus Pete's, 755-2321 Doug Kershaw, 9/16-22; Sonny Turner, 9/23-29; Montana, 9/30-10/6; Johnny Tillotson, 10/7-13; Mel Tillis, 10/10; Santiago, 10/14-20; George Straight, 10/20; Jonas, 10/21-27; Horseshu, 755-2331

Tonopah: Mizpah Hotel, 482-6202; Station House, 482-9777

Wendover: Nevada Crossing, 664-4000: Live entertainment Tues.-Sun., Peppermill, 664-2255; State Line Casino, 664-2221 Red Garter Casino, 664-2111: Nightly entertainment

Winnemucca: Star Hotel & Casino and Winners Hotel-Casino, 623-2511

Yerington: Casino West, 463-2481 Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868: Live entertainment weekends □

Now Available

Birds of the Great Basin: A Natural History

by Fred A. Ryser, Jr Drawings by Jennifer Dewey



In a concise and readable style, Ryser discusses the life histories, physiology, behavior, ecology, and distribution of nearly 400 species, including fascinating information on navigation, flight, territorial behavior, courtship, nesting, hunting, and the mystery and high pageantry of the great migrations which pass through the Great Basin each year.

An extensive listing over 500 sources is included along with an appendix detailing birding trips in the Great Basin. The book is illustrated with 35 line drawings, maps, charts, and 62 color plates.

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"Rural Junk"

WATERCOLOR, 22x30"

"Farmers never give up anything—they sort of collect things like artists do. They never know when they'll need a spare wheel or a piece of wood. It's a sort of waste not, want not philosophy that decorates farms and ranches all over Nevada."



"Cherry Creek Crossing"

ACRYLIC, 12x14"

"I passed that lone depot on the highway between Ely and Elko many times, and one day I just decided to sit down and paint it. It's a part of the West, part of the development of Nevada."



NEVADA ART & ARTISTS

Max Bunnell



When Max Bunnell graduated from Brigham Young University and moved to Overton in 1954, the sleepy town in the Moapa Valley north of Lake Mead might have seemed an unlikely home for an aspiring artist. But Bunnell's ability to paint and inspire people has left an artful mark on both the valley and the Nevada arts scene.

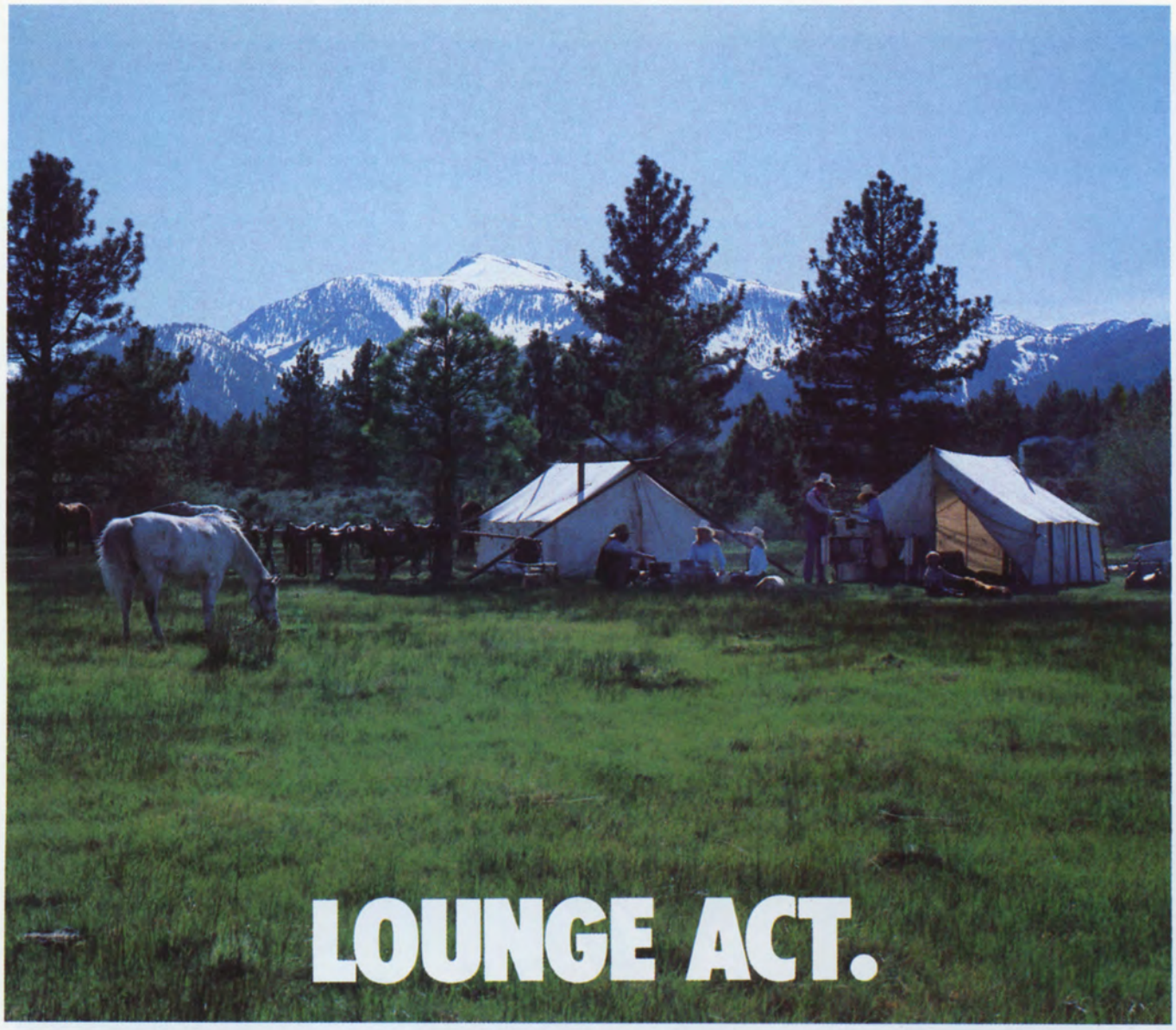
For three decades he taught art at Overton's high school and frequently gave UNLV and UNR extension classes. He was a member of the Nevada State Council on the Arts and served with many educational associations. He also founded the Moapa Valley Art Guild, which is honoring him during its 30th anniversary this year. In 1970 he was placed in *Who's Who.*

But when asked if he's been in *Who's Who* since, Bunnell says he hasn't bothered to look. Two years ago he retired from teaching and let his appointments expire. "Sometimes you come to a point in life where you have to move on," he says. "I decided that if I was going to paint, I'd better get with it."

The change in priorities has been satisfying, he says. Sales through shows, galleries, and a growing number of Bunnell collectors—one is Nevada's U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt—have provided him with a comfortable living and more time to paint.

Bunnell prefers watercolors for his landscapes and western theme paintings. When he finds a subject he likes, he does a few pencil sketches for detail and shading. Then he shoots slides for color tones so he can do the final painting at home. "But if I'm really intrigued with a subject, I'll do the finished watercolor in the field."

That happens a lot when he's on the road. "Nevada is such a beautiful, undefiled place," he says. "It's one of the few states left where the nature hasn't been trampled to death. My work gets me out in the desert to enjoy a lot of things other people don't even notice. I love the outdoors, the wildlife—and painting."—*JC*



ABOVE:
Nevada's got room to stretch out. Catch the eastern face of the Sierra at sun up.

You know about Nevada's glittering cities, where non-stop casino action and world famous stars light up places like "The Strip", Stateline and Virginia Street.

But there's another Nevada. A wide open place where you can camp beneath towering snow-capped peaks or cast your rod on a glassy desert lake.

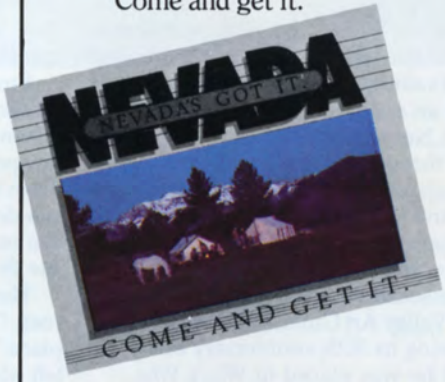
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NV5

NEVADA
NEVADA'S GOT IT

LETTERS *(Continued from page 5)*

ted, but a few children were so proud they refused to take it because they were unable to pay. My classroom increased to 62 children at one time.

I am sure everyone had a sense of being involved in a very unusual event. If asked, we say proudly, "Oh yes, we were there while the dam was built." One day my good friends, the Lloyd Ulloms, called to ask me if I would like to ride with them in a car caravan, which was to drive through a diversion tunnel before the waters of the Colorado River were sent rushing through them. Of course I was delighted. What was my surprise when, on arriving at their house, they introduced their other guest, Senator Patrick McCarran! This was really a historic occasion, for we were among the few to have this unusual experience of riding through the tunnel. Senator McCarran was a witty and delightful companion.

Veronica M. Elliott
Georgetown, CO.

"The Legend of Hoover Dam" (May/June '85) is fantastic. It brought back memories of a trip to Southern Nevada with college friends to the dam site and on to Overton in the early '30s. At the time workmen were scaling the sides of the dam. Trucks and trains were operating on the roadbed below after the river had been diverted. I have visited Hoover Dam several times since its completion and marvel at such a gigantic project.

Mildred Huber
Sacramento, CA.

Help For Holiday

I picked up your May/June '85 issue because of the Hoover Dam articles. I'm a native Nevadan and I've never seen Hoover Dam (or the *Nevada Magazine).* For my vacation, I'm planning to go there. The articles were very helpful. I enjoyed the whole magazine.

Jewel Parry
Elko, NV

Unique Promotion

The adventure started with your subscription promotion letter containing one envelope, your trial offer coupon, and a sheet of yellow paper with nothing on it! Is it a do-it-yourself magazine and am I supposed to write my own article about Nevada? I love it! And, yes, I'll try *Nevada Magazine.*

Albert J. Levesque
Corte Madera, CA.

Arizona's Perfect, Nevada's Perfect

Nevada Magazine has some good parts—stories, photos, history. Some bad parts—far too much advertising. As a longtime subscriber to *Arizona Highways,* had wanted

Classified

BOOKS

"SLOT MACHINES" by Marshall Fey, grandson of the inventor. Award of Merit, Amer. Assn. of State and Local History. A pictorial history (over 400 illustrations, 200 in color) of slots from their inception through the casino machines of today. 9x12 format, 240 pages, hardbound. $30 postpaid. **LIBERTY BELLE,** 4250 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV. 89502.

SAGEBRUSH SOLDIERS, Nevada troops in the Civil War. 110 pp. $3 postpaid. P. Smith, 1207 Cavalier Lane, W. Chester, PA. 19380.

"TALES OF TAHOE" by David Stollery, Lake Tahoe newspaper columnist. Fourth printing. 250 pages of Tahoe history and legend. Illustrated. Order from David Stollery, P.O. Box 1792, Encino, CA 91316. $10.80 postpaid.

GAMBLER'S SPECIAL: NEVADA Magazine's award-winning book celebrating Nevada's 50th anniversary of legalized gaming. Includes legends and facts, gangsters, showgirls, and stars. Collector's item. **$5 each.** Please see insert envelope to order or send address and check to NEVADA Magazine.

MAPS

NEVADA GHOST TOWN MAPS. Over 300 ghost towns on Nevada topo map. Send $3.00 to: Ghost Town Maps, P.O. Box 5995, Reno, NV. 89513.

MISCELLANEOUS

BELT BUCKLES: Hesston's and Misc., reasonable. Free price list. (WRITE) High Desert Belt Buckles, PO Box 267, Mojave, CA 93501.

NEVADA LION HUNTS. Weekend and 7-day hunts available. Good experienced dogs, excellent success rate. Hunts for 1985-86 season still available. Also booking for 1986-87 season. 702-972-8393 or 702-972-1585.

PERSONALS

HANDSOME MD, 45, 6' of wry wit and great charm, recently widowed, is seeking a very pretty, trim lady, 20-40, with emotional maturity, intrinsic honesty, good sense of humor, intellectual curiosity, love for young children, and a relaxed approach to life. Must be willing to relocate. A Gentlepeople Personal Search. Contact P.O. Box 1080, Palo Alto, CA 94302.

PHOTOGRAPHY

STOCK PHOTOS, early Reno, Tahoe & Carson area. Aerial photos from 1950 on. Don Dondero, Box 7256, Reno, NV. 89510



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to reach out to other areas. However, also am looking at a magazine void of advertising. Takes away so very much from the nature of what magazine I feel is there for. It is a shame. There is so much history in Nevada to read about, but it must be presented better. Will just stick to *Arizona Highways*. They are perfect.

Ken Crum
Hemet, CA.

Love your magazine. It sure beats *Arizona Highways* a hundred ways from Sunday.

T. McCoy
San Diego, CA.

You Blew It!

You have a nice magazine but nice is as well as you can do. I've had your magazine for almost three years and when I first received it I found a nice magazine but it needed some improvement. Well, I gave you almost three years and you still blew it. Here's some advice I'll give you:

(1) Publish your magazine monthly, even if it means a smaller magazine.

(2) Tell more about Nevada's natural places, spend less time on the people of Nevada.

(3) Use more pictures and publish two or three of David Muench's pictures in each issue. He's great! But don't blow it with too many pictures like *Arizona Magazine*, which is a joke!

Please cancel my subscription but good luck in the future.

Danny A. Gibbs
Visalia, CA.

Gibbs, now you're never going to know about our terrific future issues.—Ed.

If Nevada did not already exist we should have to invent it. The most important part of Nevada today is the part that was here when we arrived.

Congratulations on your excellent photographs.

Brooking Parsons Tatum
Santa Rosa, CA.

Am happy to inform you that the magazine sent to my sister in Washington, D.C., has made a rather positive impression with the result that she and her husband intend to come to Nevada soon as a direct result of your book. Her comments are as follows:

"It is the most interesting and informative magazine I have ever encountered. The whole thing shows what an exciting and beautiful state you live in. Hope to see a lot of it."

From a lady who has been in every clothing producing country around the world as a buyer, I take this as a fair to middling good appraisal of our little patch of God's little acre.

Raymond Betz
Reno, NV. □

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THE BACK PAGE

The Battle For Boulder

Some people call it Hoover, some call it Boulder, and some really don't give a dam.

By Dennis McBride

In the 50 years since Hoover Dam was built, few matters have caused as much contention as the naming of the structure. The controversy—whether it should be called "Hoover," the official name, or "Boulder," an early popular choice—has long involved the kind of jousting usually reserved for matters of state or mud wrestling.

When President Franklin D. Roosevelt dedicated the dam on September 30, 1935, he made it clear which name he liked. Snubbing the earlier title that honored his predecessor, Herbert Hoover, FDR mentioned "Boulder Dam" 14 times. In the great battle of the names, those were important blows for "Boulder," but even today, as we celebrate the golden anniversary of FDR's visit, any two people are bound to disagree which name is best.

The debate dates back to the dam's conception in the early 1920s. Initially, two sites on the Colorado River had been favored—Boulder Canyon, upstream from the dam's present location, and Black Canyon, where the dam eventually was built. Because the former was the engineers' first choice, all construction plans referred to "Boulder Dam" or "Boulder Canyon Dam." The model town to be built for workers was called "Boulder City." Those names were carried to the public by the media and federal workers.

It was Ray Lyman Wilbur, President Hoover's dour and imperious secretary of the interior, who changed the dam's name from its popular sobriquet. In a speech on September 17, 1930, Wilbur, who also had switched the dam site from Boulder to Black Canyon, announced that the dam would be called "Hoover" in honor of the president.

Response to the new name was mixed. Boulder City real estate broker Elton Garrett heard Wilbur's speech, and he recalls the crowd's reaction.

"It was totally a surprise," he says tactfully. "As the crowd broke up, different people had different comments about it depending on their politics. At that time, the Department of Interior began changing all its literature to read Hoover Dam. But in the public voice and mind, it was still Boulder Dam."

Nevertheless, there were good reasons for the change. As secretary of commerce in the early 1920s, Hoover had been an important force behind the formulation and signing of the Colorado River Compact. As president, Hoover had proclaimed the Boulder Canyon Project Act effective on June 25, 1929. Two years later Wilbur put the name change on record when he had "Hoover Dam" inserted in the Congressional act that allocated $165 million for construction.

After Roosevelt took over the White House in 1933, the dam's new name didn't last long. That year Harold Ickes, FDR's interior secretary and hatchet man, changed "Hoover" to "Boulder" through an administrative edict. The Interior Department changed all its literature back to "Boulder Dam," postage stamps were issued commemorating "Boulder Dam," and when Roosevelt dedicated the structure in 1935, Ickes made sure all references in the president's speech read "Boulder Dam."



When FDR (left) dedicated the dam, he avoided mentioning its former namesake, Hoover.

By then blame for the Depression had been firmly fixed on Hoover and his administration, and most arguments about the name change were ignored.

In 1947 the controversy arose again. Congress was Republican, and many members wanted to honor the nation's only living ex-president, Herbert Hoover, who was working in Europe on postwar reconstruction. Republican Congressman Jack Anderson of California introduced a bill officially reaffirming the old name—Hoover Dam.

That quiet piece of legislation sparked what was known in the local papers as the "Battle for Boulder."

The House passed the bill unanimously—Nevada Congressman Charles Russell, a Republican, voted for it—and it was sent to the Senate, where Nevada Senator Pat McCarran, a Democrat, had it set aside. Back in Boulder City, the battle lines were drawn squarely against the change. Boulder citizens sent letters and telegrams to Congress, to President Truman, and to ex-President Hoover, urging him to decline the honor. The Nevada Legislature passed a resolution condemning the name change, and business people argued it would hopelessly confuse tourists.

But the bill passed by voice vote and was signed by Truman on April 30, 1947 The earth did not open up and swallow Boulder City and all the Democrats therein, and those millions of tourist dollars didn't disappear. "Hoover Dam" it was.

Although the controversy was officially settled, tempers still smoldered in Boulder City. Some old-timers remember the bitter pill they had to swallow.

"I'll tell you the truth," says Lucille Burt, who came to Boulder in 1932. "We were angry. The dam was like our baby, and then to change the name from Boulder to Hoover, we didn't think that was right. The high school kids took all the signs that said 'Hoover Dam' and pointed them to the dump."

More than a few tourists, when asking directions to "Hoover Dam," were sent by otherwise hospitable Boulderites on a wild goose chase across the desert.

To cover all bets, promotional material began using the phrase "Hoover (Boulder) Dam," a practice still in vogue.

Today many Boulderites proudly point out examples of the old name's survival. The historic Boulder Dam Hotel retains its original name. So does the Boulder Dam Federal Credit Union, the town's first and largest financial institution, founded in 1940 by federal workers. Even an article in a 1984 issue of *Architecture* magazine refers to the dam as "Boulder (Hoover)."

As memories of the Depression and arguments about whose fault it was fade, the name controversy causes fewer debates. The pioneers left in Boulder agree the town has a fresh bunch of people who don't much care what the dam is called.

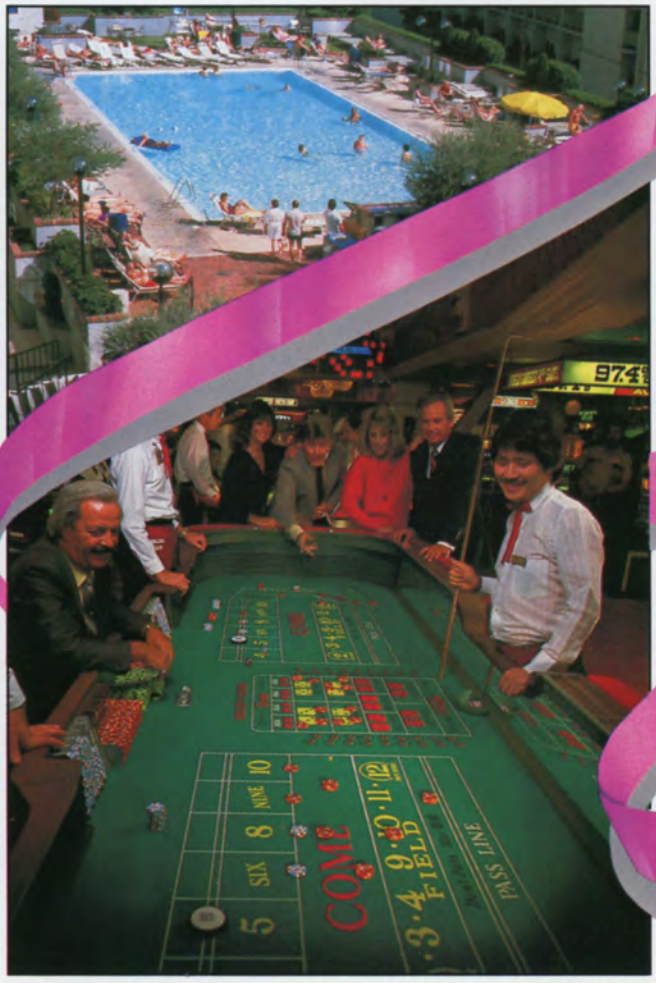
After 50 years of confusion, however, '31er Bob Parker says he finds one thing to be grateful for: "At least they didn't change 'Boulder City' to 'Hoover City. " □

Dennis McBride is a lifelong Boulderite and the author of In the Beginning: A History of Boulder City, Nevada *(1981).*

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