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NEVADA

THE MAGAZINE OF THE REAL WEST

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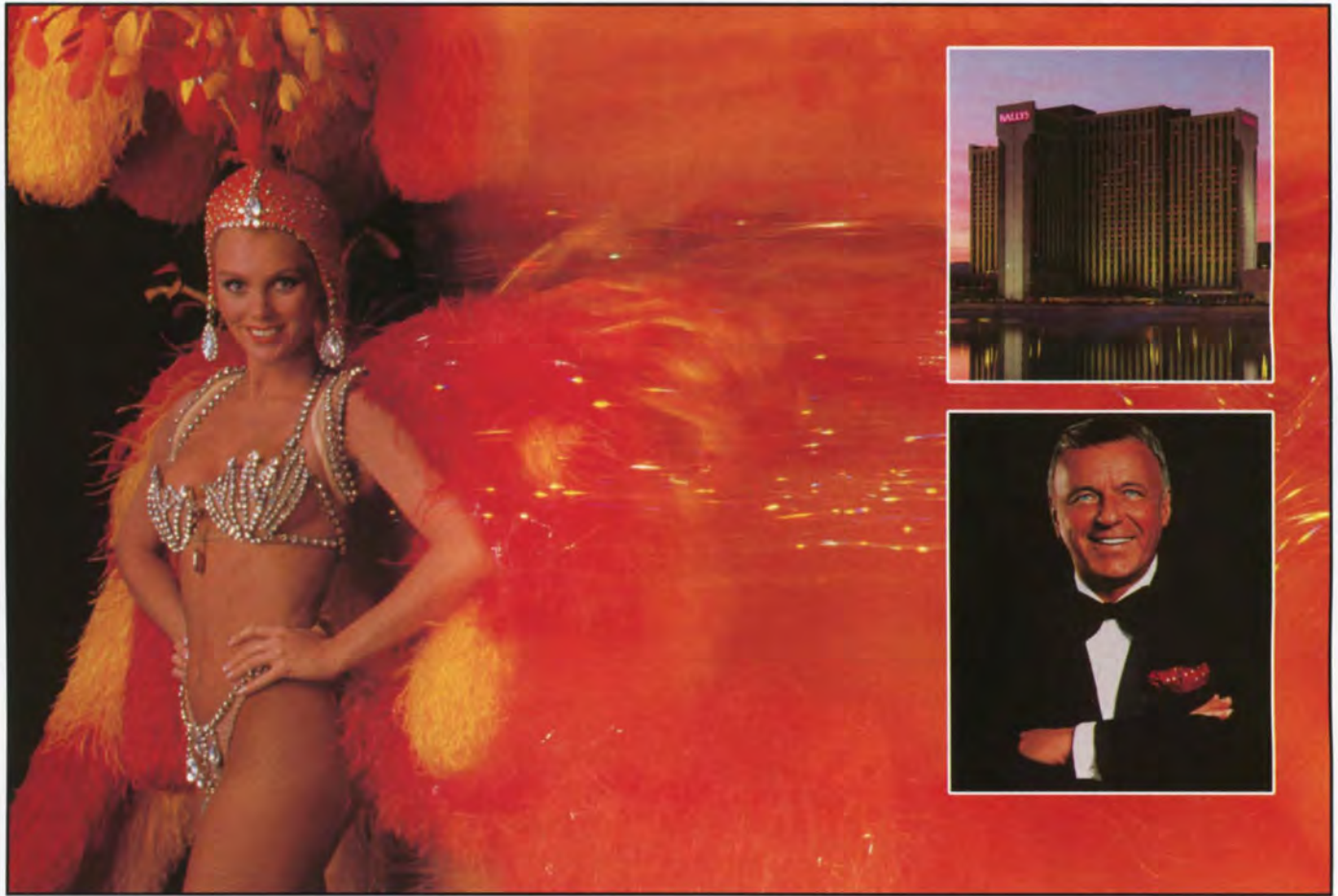
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William (left) and Philip Metscher
on the road near Tonopah



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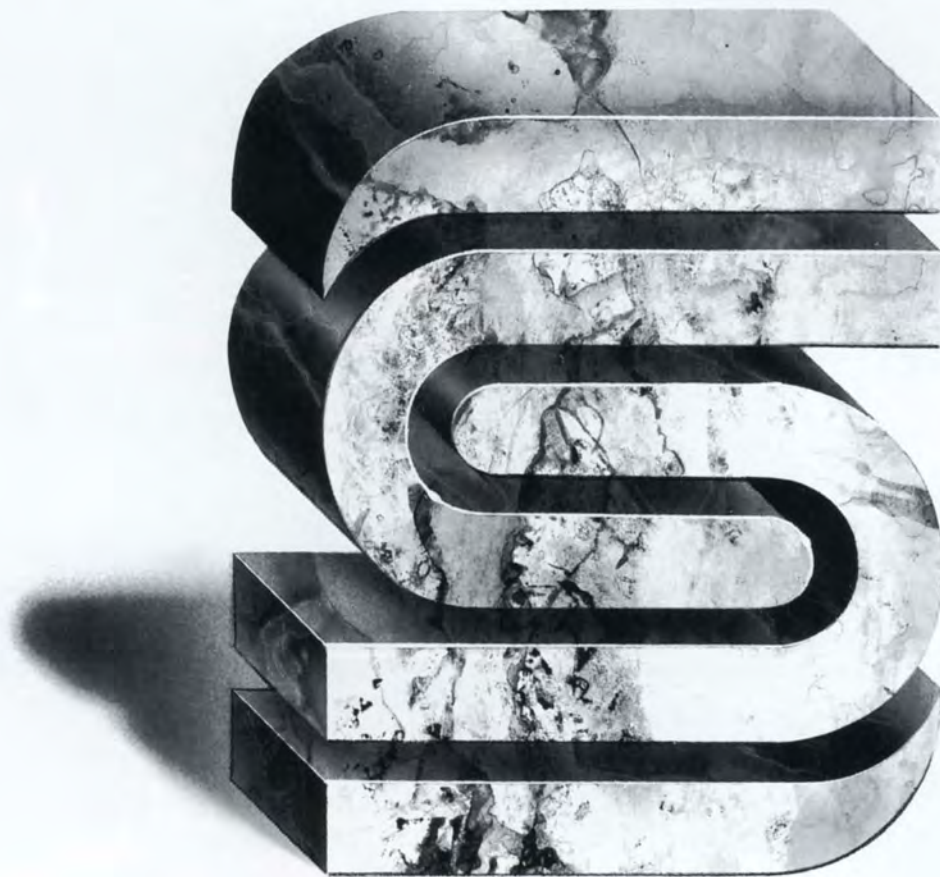
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Cover Photo:
William (left)
and Philip
Metscher on
the road
near Tonopah.
By Richard T
Stephens

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LETTERS

Motels, Carrara, and More Casting Calls

On the Gourmet Road

Another great copy of *Nevada Magazine* (Jan/Feb '89) has been read from cover to cover. A great article about out-of-the-way eateries. We have eaten in all the Basque places and some of the others also.

A great picture and story about the Overland and Eusebio and Elvira. That is our favorite place in all of Nevada. It sounds like we will have to make a trip to Bruno's in Gerlach.

Barbara and Jerry DeLong
Las Vegas

Casting Calls

Wayne Newton as Meade Slaughter? Does Wayne have the two-fisted sex appeal to convincingly smash enemies and sweep bewitching ladies off their feet? I can hear a thousand voices crying, "Does the Pope wear a tall hat?" Does the author of *Nevada* have any say in this? Would anyone listen to me if I suggested Don Knotts?

Truth is, I had no one in mind for Meade Slaughter when I wrote the book. I dreamed him up while jogging through the Southern California desert dodging snakes, lizards, and writer's block. I can't resist, however, tossing in the name of Ken Wahl, star of the TV series *Wiseguy*. He's got the size and looks. All he has to do is get the marbles out of his mouth.

For a real controversy, why not debate who should play Gari? Yeah, I know, let's hear it for Dolly Parton!

Clint McCullough
Ojai, CA.

In response to the two writers who suggested in your Letters column that Wayne Newton play Rhett Butler in the sequel to *Gone With the Wind*, why don't we just go ahead and cast the entire movie?

Marie Osmond as Scarlett O'Hara, David Bowie as Ashley Wilkes, and Dame Edna Everidge and Flip Wilson as Aunt Pittypat and Prissy in drag. Let's turn the whole thing into a musical. The Rockettes could play the citizens of Atlanta, and Elvis Presley's Graceland could be the location for

Tara. With an unhummmable score by Stephen Sondheim, screenplay by Jackie Collins, and directed by Mel Brooks, surely we could create a masterpiece to rival the original.

Get real!

Just as the public decided that there was only one Rhett Butler in 1939, recent public opinion polls have revealed that there is only one Rhett Butler in 1989. His name is Tom Selleck. And do you know who the number one choice is to play Scarlett O'Hara? Delta Burke.

Pity you people were not responsible for casting the original. It could have been so much better.

Donald Taylor
Los Angeles, CA.

Cornero Fan

I've often seen the name Tony Cornero (starter of the Stardust Hotel) come up in articles in your great magazine. Could you do a story on him? Or print a photo of him in an upcoming issue? I really enjoy your magazine.

Tom Olson
Minneapolis, MN.

Olson, thanks for the story idea.—Ed.

V.C. Life

I enjoyed reading the article "Virginia City: Life Among the Legends" by Jim Crandall, which appeared in the July/August '88 issue. I have a special interest because my grandfather, George Bettinger, was the proprietor of the Railroad Exchange at the corner of C and Smith streets in the 1870s.

We do not have family records because they were destroyed in a Salt Lake City storage warehouse fire some time around the turn of the century. If any of your readers have more information on the Railroad Exchange (that was a more genteel name for a bar or saloon) or about my grandfather, I would certainly appreciate hearing from them. Thanks again for the article.

Richard Bettinger
San Carlos, CA.

A Real Ad Fan

A reader in your Nov/Dec issue commented, "Hope the magazine does not

become 50 percent in advertisements." Well, this loyal subscriber would like to see more advertising. I've used your publication countless times as a resource to plan my four or five annual trips to Nevada. I stay in advertised hotels, eat in advertised restaurants, call telephone numbers I see in advertisements, and when I win an advertised jackpot, I'll retire and put my money in an advertised bank. Thank you for the advertisements.

Jim Besenfeider
Brainerd, MN.

A Miner's Life

Regarding my uncle's photos of the Mary Mine in 1912 ("Cameo," Nov/Dec '87), I am of the opinion that Tom Jacques took some of the photos himself.

Tom Jacques was very close to his parents. His father was extremely interested in where Tom was and what he was doing. Tom answered his father with pictures—here's the mine, here's



Tom (right) poses with his buddies.

where I live, here's the tram I run.

Tom also sent home some postcards that were made up by the company. I think Tom wanted to show his parents that he was a man—so he grows a beard and smokes a pipe. He wanted to change his image. He was tired of wearing tights and fluffy costumes as an opera singer.

After his life as a miner he came back to California, married, and settled in Berkeley. He became a contractor and builder, constructing houses and apartment buildings. In later years he

moved to Palo Alto and continued building homes. Thank you once again for the nice article.

Jacques Audiffred
Woodside, CA.

Magazine Kudos

My wife and I wish to compliment you on the fine publication you put out. We look forward to each edition. You do not realize the pleasure you bring.

Martin J. Reynolds
Albany, OR.

Phones and Guides

Your travel planning and the *Nevada Events* sections of the magazine are well thought out, meaning well organized. Your dining guide is great for the devoted. But they do not go far enough.

What I have been looking for are vacation package programs and hotels and motel guides with addresses. They should be printed each month to give readers a better view of ideas for each person's budget. Some time ago you published a hotel and motel guide with just phone numbers and no addresses. You have hurt and discriminated the hearing-impaired persons like me. Deaf or hard-of-hearing people depend on addresses rather than telephone numbers.

Hopefully, you would publish a vacation package program and hotel and motel guides with addresses. Thank you.

Morton Goldstein
Pittsburgh, PA.

Goldstein, thanks for your thoughts on the phones versus and address. On your last point, we're considering various ideas and would welcome advice from readers.—Ed.

Home Away From Home

Just wanted to tell you how thrilled I am with my subscription. I shall always be grateful to my friend Sunny for introducing me to such a terrific magazine. I visited Nevada in June (Pony Express area) and it didn't take long to realize I was in the greatest state in the U.S. My only regret was having to leave. I really look forward to going back. Meanwhile, your magazine will be a big help.

Lily Sampson
Mt. Uniacke, Nova Scotia

Beautiful Balloons

I enjoy this magazine very much. I wish to see more about your special events in Nevada. We attended the balloon races in North Las Vegas in 1986. I look

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for that when it comes around and was glad to see it made your magazine. I'm sure there are a lot more exciting things out there (besides gaming). We lived in Las Vegas from 1976-1979, so some info is of interest because we visited the places mentioned. We hope to return when our kids are out of school.

Margaret Chester
Oshkosh, WI.

Ghost Lover

I enjoy each issue with the variety of subjects. However, as a history buff, I would enjoy some articles and pictures on the old ghost towns of your state.

Mel Anderson
Milwaukee, WI.

Anderson, you must have missed the May/June '88 issue. But we'll have more ghost town features in the future.

Marble and Mills

Just possibly a final re Carrara:

I lived there in 1923, and from the nice appearance of the homes and furniture, I would say the town had been there awhile. For example, there were nice trees and a fountain in the middle of the street and a large boarding house with weathered appearance even then. The residents were all genteel Eastern folks, not boomers.

In the town was a large power plant, which furnished electricity during the day to the homes, and also to the marble-finishing plant where the four-by-eight-foot blocks of marble were gang sawed in one-inch slabs and polished.

In the hills exactly three miles due east of the power plant are the marble quarries. One can see the scar on the earth from the rail bed where the tram operated, one car up and one down passing at a spur halfway, controlled by a drum hoist at the top. The white quarry is the largest—at least 75 feet deep and probably that wide.

This may have been a stock operation financed by people from Marion, Ohio. I don't think the quarry was mined after 1924-25. The power plant and town had a watchman until 1928-29 when there was gold strike at the Gold Ace Mine. A ball mill was installed and once again the power plant did its job. They also did custom milling. I think the operation closed in 1935. That is the end of it for me.

We tried to drive to the quarries in the 1960s, but the road was washed out, making it impassable.

Lucile McCausland
Columbus, GA.

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LAS VEGAS

Lost City Museum

The Lost City Museum in Overton, built in 1935, has gathered artifacts for its displays almost entirely from within a 50-mile radius. The story they tell spans centuries—from the area's Basketmaker people, to sophisticated Pueblo farmers, to the resourceful Paiutes, and later to Mormon pioneers.

Located about 60 miles northeast of Las Vegas via Interstate 15 and State Route 169, the state-run museum shows relics collected from the Pueblo Grande de Nevada, a series of Indian communities built in Moapa Valley dating back about 1,400 years and known as the Lost City after its uncovering in the 1920s. There are many permanent displays of ancient Anasazi pottery, projectile points, and Paiute basketry as well as a large mineral collection and reconstructed Pueblo and pit houses. The museum also has a changing art gallery.

The Lost City Museum is open daily from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. On Tuesday and Thursday the public can also visit nearby sites being excavated by members of the ArcheoNevada Society and the museum staff. The museum charges a \$1 fee for adults; children under 18 are free. Lost City Museum is self-touring, but staff-conducted tours are available by prior arrangement. For further information call 702-385-4241.

On Your Own Beach

People who like beach life without crowds will enjoy Six Mile Coves on Lake Mohave. There, crescent-shaped beaches of sand and smooth stones curve along the lake, hidden from the road by a dense bank of tamarisk trees. Even on weekends these beaches have few visitors since most pleasure seekers choose nearby Cottonwood Cove.

Six Mile Coves are easily reached by a graded dirt-and-gravel road that heads south from State Route 164 about five-and-a-half miles east of Search-



Sunset in the solitude of Six Mile Coves on Lake Mohave.

light. The route follows a power line for about a half mile through a forest of teddybear cholla before veering east toward the lake. Parking is just above the beach.

In spring the area may be full of wild flowers, and visitors may see coyotes, rabbits, lizards, quail, a wide variety of birds, and on rare occasions a beaver. The National Park Service has designated Six Mile Coves as a backcountry campsite. Fires are permitted, but no off-road travel is allowed. There are no facilities.

The water temperature of Lake Mohave approaches 60 degrees Fahrenheit by April, which is fine for fishing and wet-suited sailboarding, and by early summer the water will be warm

enough for swimming. Sunrise and sunset in the solitude of Six Mile Coves can be especially beautiful. For more information call the Lake Mead National Recreation Area at 702-293-8907.

North Shore Diversions

Taking a drive on Lake Mead's scenic North Shore Road is a pleasant spring diversion. The views of the lake and mountains are outstanding. There are picnic areas and marinas, and along the route—rainfall permitting—wildflowers and cactus blooms put on a show.

The drive begins seven miles northeast of Henderson (about 20 miles east of Las Vegas) at the junction of Lake Shore and North Shore roads (State

Routes 147 and 167) near the marina at Las Vegas Wash. From there the road takes you past the red-rock Bowl of Fire, Callville Bay Marina, Echo Bay Marina, Rogers Spring, Stewart's Point, and Overton Beach Marina before leading into Valley of Fire State Park or Overton. The trip is about 60 miles long, or 120 miles round trip from Las Vegas. Because of the scarcity of gas stations, it's wise to fill up first.

On the return to Las Vegas you can swing west through the Valley of Fire or continue north to the farming town of Overton, where you can visit the

Lost City Museum (see previous page) before heading back to the city on Interstate 15. For more information, call the Lake Mead National Recreation Area at 702-293-8907.—*Kate Butler*

RENO-TAHOE

A Center of History

In Reno, you can touch the state's past at the Nevada Historical Society's museum.

"One of the really useful things about this museum is that we have a lot

of large durable objects that don't have to be locked away, like wagons, manos, and matates and the scale from the Carson Mint," says Director Peter Bandurraga. "Visitors can handle them and experience the past."

The historical society the oldest museum in the state—it was founded in 1904—is a repository for such items as baskets made by Dat So La Lee, the famous Washoe basket maker.

The displayed collection is small compared to the Nevada State Museum's in Carson City, but the historical society is probably best known for its research materials. Genealogists, students, writers, and historians use its fine collection of photos, manuscripts, and other materials.

The Nevada Historical Society also offers lectures and tours. The tours range from ghost town visits to walking tours of Reno and other museums, even in the San Francisco Bay Area.

The Nevada Historical Society 1650 North Virginia Street, is adjacent to Fleischmann Planetarium on the northwestern edge of the University of Nevada-Reno campus; call 702-789-0190. Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday Library hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday Admission is free, and annual memberships are \$25.

Going Smokeless

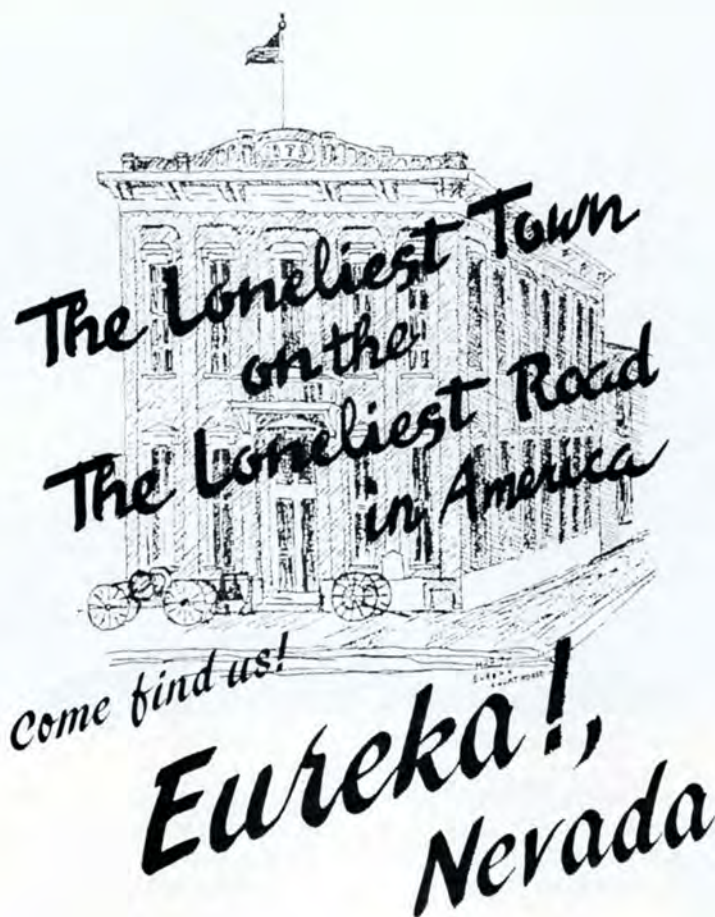
Cigarette smoke and gaming have been together a long time in Nevada. Most folks, even nonsmokers, have come to accept it. But Bob Rusk, a Reno businessman who had success with a local nonsmokers motel, would rather not have smoke in his eyes—or in his newly remodeled Ponderosa Hotel.

Located about four blocks south of Reno's downtown casino area, the Ponderosa has smoke-free rooms and a smoke-free restaurant. This spring the casino will be smoke-free, too. Rusk calls it a world's first.

The health-oriented hotel offers access to exercise equipment, an American Heart Association-rated menu, and many rooms with cooktops and microwaves for preparing special-diet meals. You can write the Ponderosa Hotel, 515 South Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89501, or call 702-786-6820 or 800-228-6820.

The Vassar Street Gang

The Blue Banana is a shop whose merchandise is as unusual as its name. All the rooms in this cozy house at 267



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Vassar Street in Reno, about a mile south of downtown, are filled with country crafts and other treasures created in cottage industries across the United States. At Easter, for instance, bunnies will be displayed. Jewelry displayed on one wall is by local artist Shirley Bryan. The women's clothes range from unique suits with pants or skirts to coats that shoppers won't find in other Reno stores.

The Blue Banana and two other nearby shops have formed the Vassar Street Shops.

Down the street is the Cloth Cottage, specializing in quilts and other craft merchandise.

Across the street is Des Idees (Some Ideas) for kitchen and bath items. The soap-scented front room has everything to make your bath the best-dressed bathroom in the house. In the back are kitchen gadgets, muffin pans, placemats with matching napkins, and specialized cookware for the gourmet.

The Vassar Street Shops are open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday

—Deborah A. Mawhar

RURAL

Memories of Nevada Mining

High in the mountains north of Pahrangat Lakes, about 100 miles north of Las Vegas, you can find a historic picnic spot. The place is Logan City, where in 1865 prospectors began digging for silver on the eastern slopes of Mount Irish. The community at one time had 200 residents and its own post office. However, the mines declined rapidly and although attempts at reviving them followed, they did not find commercial success. A miner of the 1940s—Tom Scofield, now deceased—was defeated in his efforts when thieves drove a diesel truck up the mountain and hauled away his equipment.

Today none of the original homes are standing in this ghost town. There is one stone house built by Scofield from stones quarried in the 1800s and a wooden shack constructed more recently by a weekend miner from Las Vegas. The area also has foundations and other vestiges of more active times.

The best way to reach the Pahrangat mines is on a rough dirt road that starts a half mile north of the Hiko post office. There is a barbed wire gate at the entrance (please close it) but no sign. The road leads west through high-desert



The Nevada Historical Society's museum offers lectures and tours. The Reno museum, the oldest in the state, also has displays and research materials.

sagebrush to Mount Irish. Petroglyphs have been found in the higher elevations; juniper and pinyon pine dot the mountain.

Where the road forks, the lower route leads to Logan City in all about 10 miles from Hiko. The upper road leads to mine shafts, which are hazard-

ous and generally privately owned. Visitors can look into the shafts with flashlights but should not venture inside. Also, be aware that the area includes both public and private lands. For more information, call the Bureau of Land Management in Ely 702-289-4865.—Kate Butler

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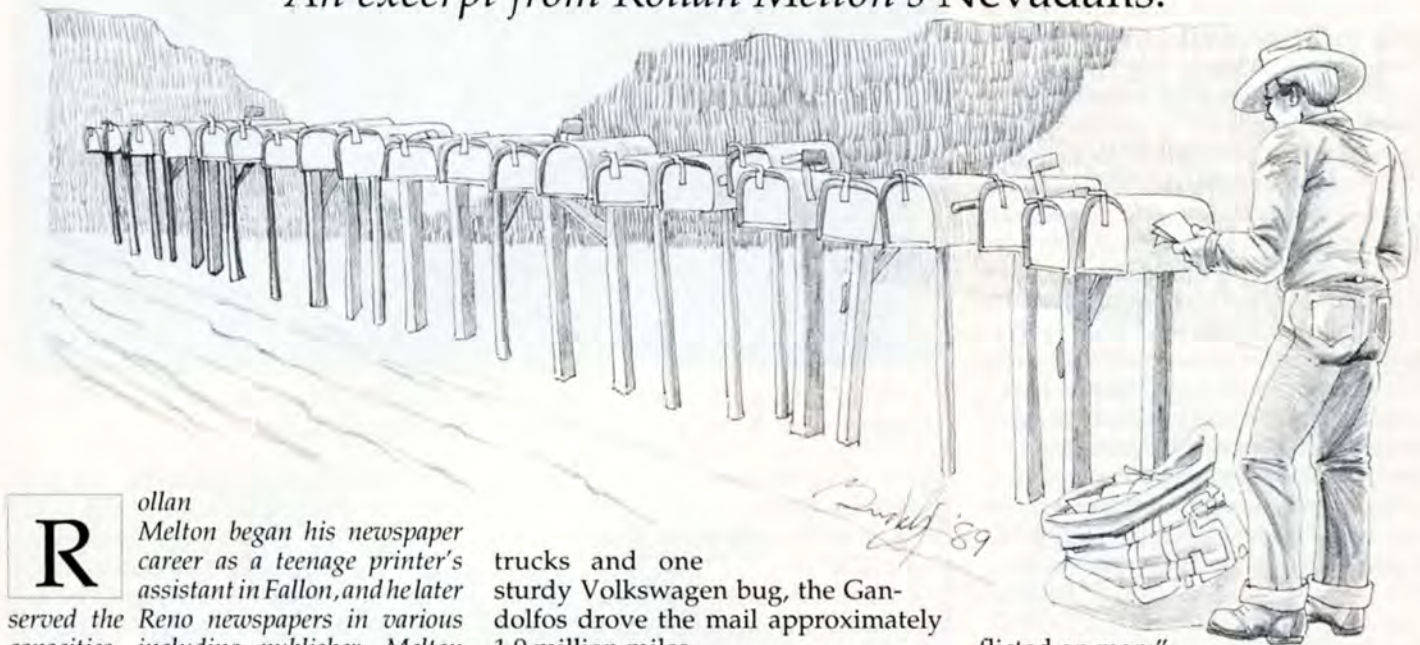
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A Thousand Miles a Week

An excerpt from Rollan Melton's Nevadans.



Rollan Melton began his newspaper career as a teenage printer's assistant in Fallon, and he later served the Reno newspapers in various capacities, including publisher Melton then became a vice president of Gannett, owner of the Reno Gazette-Journal. But in the past decade he has been best known for his columns (totaling more than 1,500) in the Gazette-Journal. His recent book, *Nevadans*, published by the University of Nevada Press, is a collection of those vignettes. The following excerpt appeared as a column in 1984. It is a story typical of Melton's style, immortalizing the lives of a hard-working but unheralded Nevada couple.

Rural Postal Team

AUSTIN—On April 23, 1945—11 days after the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt—Reese Gandolfo began driving the U.S. mail to star route customers out here in central Nevada. He had a four-year government contract and he figured the job was short-term employment, at best.

This week, 39 years later, 71-year-old Gandolfo and his wife, Elisa, 64, finally gave up their long mail drive. They're retiring to their snug little home here to "enjoy the four walls around us." In nearly four full decades, driving 52,000 miles a year, wearing out 17 pickup

trucks and one sturdy Volkswagen bug, the Gandolfos drove the mail approximately 1.9 million miles.

What they endured to satisfy Nevada customer-friends could fill a book. How they wish they'd kept diaries of their adventures!

As the official postal credo goes, neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stayed the Nevada couriers from getting the mail through. Few customers realize what these two nomadic Nevadans put up with to deliver the mail. To name a few obstacles: lousy weather; washed-out roads; crazy drivers; unimproved passageways, winding past rows of weather-beaten mailboxes.

The Gandolfos' central Nevada agenda kept them on the roads to the Berlin/Grantsville junction, to Lone, to Iowa Canyon and Boone Canyon and to the Grass Valley Ranch, where Reese spent 39 consecutive Thanksgiving Day mornings.

When it all began in 1945, they had their only child, Virginia, then five. Mother Elisa stayed home raising the girl, and her husband was on the road with sacks of mail. Then and later, he lugged along 10-gallon cans of water to dampen overheated radiators. He always packed bad-weather gear. He patched crotchety tires, battled errant truck parts and, in World War II, joined millions of other civilian Americans in cursing the "worst inner tubes ever in-

flicted on man."

After the daughter was raised—she is Virginia Richardson, who now lives in Gardnerville and has a brood of her own—Elisa joined her husband on the mail drives.

In those 39 years, they had one vacation—a six-day period in 1971. Reese did miss several months in 1983, but it was no vacation. He was recovering from a heart attack. His replacement? Elisa, of course.

Their route took them to Indian reservations; to remote places where there are no phones; along Reese River; into blizzards; through summer's burning heat and dust and into mud up to their knees.

They had a grooming rule. "Wear the oldest clothes you've got." They ate sandwiches for lunch and sometimes for dinner.

The customers along their 1,000-mile-a-week route would set their clocks by the Gandolfos. If the husband and wife didn't show at the usual hour, people knew they had encountered bad weather, or had a truck breakdown or that Reese had stopped to kill rattlesnakes. He used a sharpened old shovel as the weapon and killed a record 31 rattlers in 1961.

People would telephone the Gandolfos at the Austin home and have them pick up their groceries before a

weekly run was begun. People would leave medical prescriptions in mailboxes and Elisa and Reese would fill them when they got back to town. The couple would summon a doctor when a rural baby's birth was imminent. Once, after a Tonopah undertaker nearly tore off the underside of his hearse on a rutted Nevada road, he told Reese, "Next time, I'll have you bring the body in," and Reese had answered, "Like hell I will."

These last two years were the worst, weather-wise. The raging Reese River knocked out dams. Washed-out roads were not passable on six occasions during the last two summers.

The Gandolfos won't miss driving in the teeth of storms and putting on chains atop 6,000-foot Lone Summit. But they'll miss seeing the beauty of interior Nevada. The crops, the wild hay, the lush alfalfa. They'll miss seeing the cattle and wildlife—Reese once counted 154 deer in a herd contentedly moving from winter to summer range.

They won't miss guys shooting rabbits from moving cars, or so-called sportsmen who "drive like crazies." But they'll miss their customers. The customers gave the Gandolfos a potluck dinner party last week.

One hundred people showed up with loving notes of thanks, beautiful beaded gifts from Indian families, some cash and a clock mounted on a plaque with the engraving: "From your many friends, 1945-84."

Was there any note or certificate from the government saluting their 39 years of devoted service?

No. ▽



From *Nevadans* by Rollan Melton. Copyright © Rollan Melton 1988. Published by University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557. Retail price is \$9.95. Available at most Nevada book stores or through the University Press.

Note: Reese and Elisa Gandolfo are enjoying retirement in Austin and often visit their daughter and grandchildren in Gardnerville and Reno. Elisa says, "We get around, although not as much as when we delivered the mail and had to gas up twice a day."



Kings



Queens



Jokers

Last Vegas

The American Way To Play

THE BIG DROUGHT

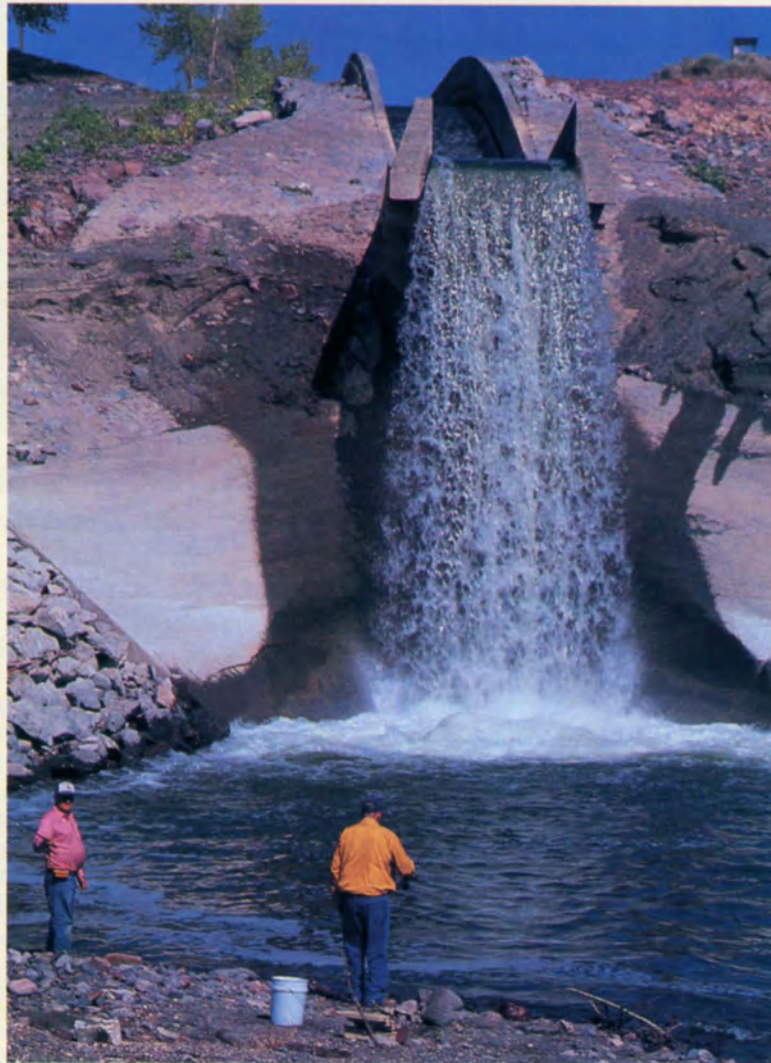
*What can we do when nature
just says no?
By Doug McMillan*

Ninety-four-year-old Reno rancher Harry Callahan can remember riding on horseback across the bottom of Little Washoe Lake in the 1930s when the lake bed looked like the floor of Death Valley

"There were cracks in the mud this wide," said Callahan, holding his thumb and forefinger an inch apart. "We rode from one end to the other and it was as dry as this floor," he said, pointing at the linoleum floor of his home on the 1,600-acre ranch that has been in his family since the 1870s.

If Nevadans have learned anything from more than a century of eking out a living from the high desert, it's that nothing is normal about water in Nevada.

In wet years, rivers and creeks surge from mountain



Last summer's drought sent the shoreline plunging at Lahontan Reservoir a key cog in the Newlands system that irrigates Fallon farmland. Shown here is the spillway from the canal that brings water cross-country from the Truckee River. Small-mouth bass were gathering in this pool, and the two anglers had a good catch.

Photos: Syd Brown; Doug McMillan (above)

canyons, creating lakes where alkali flats and sand had reflected the sun's rays in the recent past.

In dry years, torrents turn to trickles, temporary lakes evaporate, and the desert sun sears the sands and salts again.

The cycle is as endless as time itself. The only thing that has changed is man's paltry efforts to make the cycle change.

Starting in the 1870s residents of Western Nevada tried to even out the wet-dry cycles by building dams and reservoirs to capture precious water from the Truckee River. But in severe droughts, like the one that gripped the northern part of the state the past two years, the Truckee and its tributaries don't come close to satisfying the demands of Reno-area ranchers like the Callahans, or Fallon farmers downstream, or the man-made oases of lawns, tree-shaded streets, parks, golf courses, and high-rise casinos in Reno and Sparks—much less the ducks and trophy-sized trout that thrive in Lake Tahoe, Pyramid Lake, and the shrinking wetlands of Stillwater Marsh.

Until the past decade, western water planners considered the great drought of the 1930s their worst-case scenario. But within 10 years Nevadans have experienced two droughts as dry as Dust Bowl days. The 1976-77 and 1977-78 winters were the two driest years, back-to-back, in a half-century, but these two recent winters, 1986-87 and 1987-88, were even worse.

In between was one of the wettest winters on record: 1982-83. Pyramid Lake, which had dropped 80 feet since the Newlands Project started diverting half the Truckee River toward Fallon at the turn of the century, regained almost a fourth of its loss in two years.

In just 10 years, 1975-85, the Truckee's flow varied from 35 to 300 percent of "normal."

Stillwater Marsh was flooded. Plants that had sustained a wealth of ducks and other waterfowl drowned as the usually dry Carson and Humboldt sinks merged into the biggest body of water in Nevada at the time—bigger even than Lake Mead—proving once again that Nevada weather is about as predictable as a roll of the dice.

And when the latest drought loomed last year, it showed Nevadans that they can't always bet on the come line for water in a desert.

For the second year in a row the Sierra Nevada snow pack was less than half normal. Western Nevada ended



The north shore boat ramp was high and dry at Lahontan State Recreation Area last summer. Inspecting are Wayne Perrock (left) and Gary Orr of the state park staff. During wet periods the reservoir's high-water mark can reach up to the trees.

last winter with only about 25 percent of its average water supply locked into those precious white crystals.

Southern Nevada, although not escaping the drought entirely, was in much better shape. Las Vegas gets most of its water from the Colorado River, which springs to life in the Rockies, and those mountains had far more snow than the Sierra last year (see accompanying box).

But Nevadans in the north girded themselves for a long dry spell. Even before winter was over, water managers were warning that there wouldn't be enough water left in reservoirs for farmers to have a full growing season and that Reno and Sparks residents would have to start conserving if they wanted to avoid rationing.

As the state plodded through its driest, hottest, longest summer in 118 years of weather records, the predictions were realized one by one.

Farmers in the Lahontan and Lovelock valleys started the year with only about two thirds of their usual irrigation supply. Their choice was simple: take valuable land out of production or look forward to a shorter growing season. But as Ted DeBraga, board chairman of the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, dryly observed, "The money-lenders haven't gone into a drought year and cut back payments to 70 percent. That makes it hard."

In Mason Valley, which surrounds Yerington, the situation was even grimmer. The Walker River would

supply only about 25 percent of its normal yield. Farmers who could afford it began to pump ground water to avoid total ruin.

University of Nevada-Reno agricultural economist Gordon Meyer estimated crop losses in the northern half of the state would total \$14 million. Nevada Farm Bureau president Dave Fulstone predicted that after the agricultural-equipment dealers, car dealers, and feed stores felt the fallout, that figure would climb to at least \$30 million.

As water officials predicted dry reservoirs by summer's end, homeowners, with their little patches of lawns, flowers, and vegetable gardens, were next to feel the pinch. Reno, Sparks, and Washoe County declared a Stage II drought by early August, restricting outdoor watering to twice a week. Decorative fountains were shut off. Restaurants were ordered to serve water only when customers asked for it. Soon the restrictions were escalated to Stage III, limiting watering to once a week. Westpac Utilities hired a half-dozen UNR students as "water watchers" to prowl the streets looking for people who watered on the wrong day or wasted water.

But overall, conservation worked. Truckee Meadows residents, who had voluntarily cut back their use seven percent in July, saved 20 percent over the previous year under mandatory restrictions in July and August, said

(Continued on page 72)

The Drought Nobody Noticed

*Las Vegans have weathered
the dry spell nicely,
but there's always
a next time.*

By Robert Bellman, Jr



Lake Mead and the Colorado River provide most of Southern Nevada's water

The drought of 1987-88 had obvious consequences for Northern Nevada. In contrast, the impact on those of us in Southern Nevada was less apparent. Other than making the public more aware of water issues, the drought's effects were minimal in Las Vegas.

Roughly half a normal year's rainfall, about four inches, fell in Las Vegas in 1988. In many areas of the country this would constitute a disaster.

However, because much of the area's water comes from the Colorado River, the effects of this limited rainfall were not immediately felt by local residents.

Still, nature seems to be sending us signals. Many scientists say that the drought conditions are the result of a global warming trend and, as experienced by Nevada and other western states, are a precursor of things to come. The temperature of the earth has risen one degree Fahrenheit during the past 30 years. Computer predictions theorize a global temperature rise of seven degrees by the year 2030.

Also, carbon-dioxide levels in the atmosphere are said to be 25 percent greater than in pre-industrial times. These higher carbon-dioxide levels could be responsible for the "greenhouse effect," by which reflected infrared heat is prevented from escaping the atmosphere, resulting in

climactic warming.

During 1987 as shown by the Las Vegas Valley Water District Annual Statistical Summary the Las Vegas Valley obtained about 130,000 acre-feet of water from the Colorado River and about 40,000 acre-feet from ground-water sources. Presently the maximum allotment from the Colorado River is 300,000 acre-feet per year (one acre-foot equals 325,872 gallons).

This present allotment will be pressed to its limits by the year 2000, when Clark County's population will reach approximately 956,000 people, says Jack Hess of the Desert Research Institute. However, if consumption rates are decreased by 27 percent from today's levels, the allotment could sustain approximately 1.2 million people, which planners expect to reach by the year 2020. "All this means, really is that it's going to hit us eventually," says Hess. Clearly prolonged drought conditions would worsen the situation.

Southern Nevada officials are already planning how to find new water sources. Bob Sullivan of the Las Vegas Valley Water District says some of these could include underground storage of existing Colorado River allotments during the winter to prepare for peak periods in the summer. Water recycling and the use of deep carbonate aquifers are other possibilities.

Another important factor is intelligent water use. For example, in Clark County more than 60 percent of water

use is residential and, at over 350 gallons per day the per-capita water consumption is well above the national average. Much of this water is simply wasted through overwatering by property owners. The DRI's Hess says that the water usage in Las Vegas is double that of Tucson and about 50 percent more than that of Phoenix, even though both those desert communities have warmer climates than Las Vegas.

Because residents use such a high percentage of water, conservation measures by Southern Nevadans can have an immediate and positive effect. Needless overwatering can be reduced, and the use of desert landscaping increased. As Patricia Mulroy of the water district says, "People need to stop trying to recreate Vermont."

In an effort to encourage water conservation, the water district has constructed Quantas Park at their district office in Las Vegas. Open to the public, this park attractively shows desert gardening and landscaping techniques with a variety of desert-compatible plants.

While we Southern Nevadans were lucky this time around, a drought crisis potentially awaits. Dealing with it the next time will require education and planning now.

Robert Bellman, Jr of Las Vegas is an engineer and outdoor writer

MINING CAMP CHRONICLES



Austin was the next stop for newspapermen following the Rush to Washoe.

*For Nevada's first editors, mining was as much a passion
as it was the day's news.*

By Jake Highton

A glance at a map showing ghost towns in red indicates that Nevada has more dead towns than live ones. In the 1800s towns sprang up hastily and died almost as quickly as their mines went from boom to bust. Mining-camp newspapers followed the same pattern: bonanza to borrasca.

In *Ghosts of the Glory Trail*, published in 1956, Nell Murbarger writes movingly of the typical ghost town:

"Empty streets, wrapped in sage and silence, weary old buildings, drowsing in the sun; crumbling walls, and nameless graves, and a lone wind whispering through the night—this is a ghost town, a mining camp that has had its day has sung its song."

NEVADA'S 125th ANNIVERSARY, 1864-1989

This year the Silver State reaches a noteworthy milestone—its 125th birthday. Nevada traded its territorial status for statehood on October 31, 1864, and that fortunate event will be celebrated in *Nevada Magazine* with special historical features throughout 1989. This is the second article in the series.

Reflecting on ghost towns 75 years earlier, naturalist John Muir caught the same mood:

"Wander where you may throughout the length and breadth of this mountain-barred wilderness, you everywhere come upon these dead mining towns, with their tall chimney stacks, standing forlorn amid broken walls and furnaces, and machinery half buried in sand, the very names of many of them already forgotten amid the excitement of later discoveries."

Nevada abounded in colorful, classic mining towns in the 19th century: Virginia City, Aurora, Candelaria, Eureka, Hamilton, Tuscarora, Unionville. And many others. They all had newspapers that rose and fell with the



booming and busting of the mines.

Some towns never progressed beyond rag towns and tent towns. Similarly some camp newspapers had no more permanency than tents for offices and presses. Those camp newspapers that were semi-permanent might reach the grandiose status of a rickety one-story frame building about 20 feet wide.

Virginia City, however, was different. Rich ore discoveries in 1859 led to the fabled Comstock Lode. The twin cities—Virginia City and the adjacent Gold Hill—supported six daily newspapers in July 1864. Virginia City's *Territorial Enterprise* became the most influential paper in the West for two decades. Some of the giants of Comstock journalism included Mark Twain, Dan de Quille, Joe Goodman, Alf Doten, and Wells Drury.

Aside from Virginia City the best known town in Nevada during the 19th century was Austin. The reason: the Rush to Washoe and the Comstock in 1859 had been followed by the Rush to Reese River in 1863.

Contemporary journalist J. Ross Browne caught the spirit: "Ho, then, for the Reese River! Have you a gold

*"I mine for a fortune
but I write for a living."
—Myron Angel*

mine? Sell out and go to Reese! there is the land of glittering bullion, there lies the pay-streak!"

Aside from the *Territorial Enterprise*, the best known newspaper in Nevada in those days was the *Reese River Reveille*. The *Reveille*, like the *Enterprise*, recorded history in the raw. The

alliterative *Reveille* was founded in the spring of 1863 by William C. Phillips as a four-page weekly.

Editor Phillips cared more about money and mining than he did about politics and the principles of journalism. He advised in the first issue: "Deeming it self-evident that every denizen came here to improve his fortune, we shall act upon the idea that our readers prefer discussions about silver lodes, rather than wrangling about politics, religion or local jealousies."

The Rush to Reese River later was followed by the Rush to White Pine. Reporters and editors, like prospectors and miners, were boomers. The White Pine excitement lasted from 1868 to 1870.

Donald R. Abbe describes the phenomenon in *Austin and the Reese River* (Continued on page 66)



The Granite Times published seven handwritten issues in 1908.

THE SHOOTISTS



Members of the 1988 workshop pause for a group portrait at Paradise Valley. Front row (l to r): Peter DeKay, John Tylczak, Roy Herrick, and Ron Boulter. Back row (l to r): Dan Blaettner, John Fuller, Paulie Alles, Paula Smith, Pekka Sarkomaa, Marilyn Hedger, Dave Mahan, and Ed Sail.

Camping with cameras, our crew found unlimited inspiration in the rural counties.

By John Tylczak

Last summer the 12 photographers who made up the fifth edition of the Nevada Photography Workshop logged 900 miles cruising the highways and bouncing along back roads from Berlin to Cherry Creek. Under the auspices of Western Nevada Community College, Roy Herrick and I conduct this annual nine-day affair that boasts the largest classroom in the entire state—about 70,000 square miles of rural Nevada.

The workshop grew out of our

realization that most people packing cameras into rural Nevada were snapshot photographers on vacations and hunting trips. Most of the serious photographers Roy and I knew thought they had to go to Yosemite or Maine for real inspiration. So we decided that by bringing both casual and serious photographers together we could create something inspiring.

We also were interested in showing the effect of our culture on the rural Nevada landscape, to find images that said something about the country and about us.



Lawn Chairs By Roy Herrick

Remembering a similar setting in a David Hockney painting, Roy couldn't resist this Lamoille campground view.



Valley of Fire By John Tylczak

The petroglyphs at Valley of Fire State Park are evidence that human culture has been leaving its mark on our landscape for centuries.



Barn Interior, Eugene Buzzetti Ranch, Lamoille By Paulie Alles

We met Gene at the first workshop in 1984 when his wife was on a trip and the chickens were laying more eggs than he could use. The interior of the barn, with its collection of saddles, tack, and well-worn chaps, is a favorite attraction.

(Continued on next page)



Dean's Yard (top left) By Marilyn Hedger. *An Ely landmark.*

Aging Hardware, Berlin (top right) By Ed Sail.

Wagon (above) By Ron Boulter. *Weathered wooden wagon north of Winnemucca.*



Landmark Bovine, Currant (top)
By Ed Sail

Nevada's back roads often have big surprises.

Coyote Summit (left)
By John Tylczak

A Lincoln County traveler



Note: The 1989 Nevada Photography Workshop is scheduled for the week of June 18. For information write or call Western Nevada Community College, 2201 West Nye Lane, Carson City, NV 89703, 702-887-3000. Expertise is not required, but curiosity, a camera, and a sleeping bag are. ☐



Touring by Model T in the desert,
a quiet drift on Mohave,
the bright lights of Las Vegas.



Rainbow Canyon is a car-stopping
attraction south of Caliente. The
ichthyosaur mural reminds us that
a sea once existed where the mountains
are now 7,000 feet high.

Photos (from top): Richard T. Stephens, Richard Reul,
Richard Rowan Collection, June Stone, Gayland Anderson



FAVORITE VACATIONS

*Tales of adventure and pleasure from readers
and contributors.*



CANYON OF COLORS

*Lincoln County's picturesque
hideout.*

By Franklin R. Brown

Last summer my daughter Jennifer and I decided to spend a few days of our vacation exploring the back roads of Lincoln County because she had read that outlaws, like Butch Cassidy's Hole in the Wall Gang, used to hole up in the box canyons and

hidden valleys around Caliente.

We took Highway 50 across to Ely and then Highway 93 down to Pioche. On the latter road we passed six vehicles, hundreds of head of cattle, and something on the side of the road that made Jennifer think of our dog Ralph back home in Chico.

Once in Caliente, we asked at the city hall, which is a big railroad depot that looks like a San Diego mission, where we could find the place where Butch Cassidy supposedly used to hide out.

My thought was simply to keep Jennifer's interest, but the blond woman behind the counter perked up. "All around here," she declared. "You know he didn't really die in Bolivia like they said in the movie. I heard once that he lived for a while in Las Vegas when he was an old man."

I skeptically nodded thanks and decided to ask at a local hardware store. I've always believed that if there's anything worth knowing, it can be discovered in a hardware store.

While my daughter waited in the car, I walked into a place called Gottfredson's and made my inquiries.

"That's an old wives

tale," said a young man who was buying a new pair of work gloves. "It's about as true as the story about Butch Cassidy robbing the bank up in Winnemucca."

He was interrupted by a young cowboy with the longest handlebar mustache I'd ever seen.

"Well, chances are that Butch Cassidy was never in Lincoln County, but supposedly members of his gang used to rustle horses in these parts," he said. "I've heard they sometimes hid out in Rainbow Canyon or the Meadow Valley Wash area."

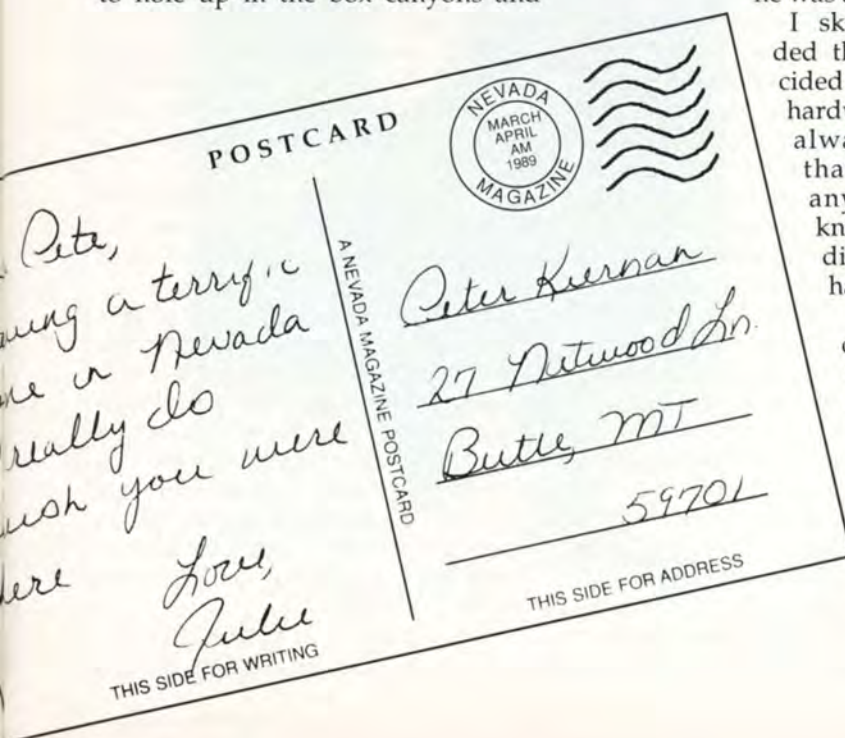
He gave directions, and I would have tipped my hat if I had had one. Instead, he tipped his. I rejoined Jennifer and headed southeast as he'd instructed, following the signs for Kershaw-Ryan State Park, which had been washed away a few years ago.

The road crossed a bridge and then began following a small creek. It carried us into a beautiful little valley. This was the Meadow Valley Wash.

Off to the left the early afternoon shadows were ready to engulf a canyon we could see tucked off the road. The uneven, multi-colored rock walls, which had looked merely interesting in the bright sun, began to change into sinister places filled with secrets. In the fading light it was easy to see why outlaws would seek refuge in these kinds of places.

We continued our drive, passing cows grazing on land that one person in Caliente had told us used to be part of a golf course. A few yards off were three elevated domes, which either were once part of the course or a strange local phenomenon.

The road became gravel and dirt a



few miles farther. We drove through some gorgeous scenery—cliff faces carved wise by the elements, patches of green watered by springs or underground streams. This was the kind of country that Louis L. Amour and Zane Grey made famous.

After a while we came to the remains of an old ranch house.

"Daddy, is that where Butch Cassidy used to live?" my daughter asked.

"Could be," I said. "In fact, I'll bet he and Sundance used to practice shooting on that tree stump over there."

We climbed out of the car and walked around the old house. Jennifer trotted over to the tree stump and quickly returned.

"Daddy, look what I found. You were right," she said excitedly. She held out a plastic shotgun shell.

I didn't want to tell her that plastic didn't exist in Butch and Sundance's day and that neither used a shotgun. Or that Butch might never have heard of Caliente and Lincoln County. It really wasn't important. All that mattered was that we believed.

Franklin R. Brown lives with his daughter in Chico, California. They are frequent visitors to Nevada.



THE JUNCTIONS

Visiting my uncles.

By Erma McNett Reuck

Have you ever traveled the highway from Fallon to Tonopah as a youngster? Your young mind is telling you, "Wow, what a boring road." But when I traveled it, it was "way back when."

The year was about 1933. Naturally, I had to travel with my folks (something that kids don't like to do these days). As we topped the hill leaving Fallon, I began to get excited because in a few hours I would see my kin.

You see, my uncles were section foremen on the Tonopah and Goldfield Railroad. First my parents would stop at Tonopah Junction, and we'd see my uncle Haden Howard. They would visit awhile, and we would drive down the road about 20 miles to Blair Junction,



Traveling an old-time Nevada highway.

tion, where my uncle Mark Howard was foreman. We would stay longer there. We would get to see the trains come in and people getting off to board buggies to Silver Peak while the train took on water and coal. When all the ladies and gents left the train, I'd sit and stare at their finery, thinking that one day I might be big enough to ride the train like they did.

My parents would leave my uncle supplies, such as ice and things that could not be purchased in Tonopah, 90 miles away. When there weren't any trains due, Uncle Mark would get out the old ice cream maker, and we would have the best vanilla ice cream ever made.

Our next stop was Millers Flat. There my uncle Barney Manor was foreman. We had a great time running up and down the tracks, and sometimes a side car would go by. Things were never dull because several trains came through a day. Many notables passed through "the junctions" on their way to one place or another. One time Death Valley Scotty got off the train. All my family knew him well, and they would talk about his life, his mining "deals," and the big house he was building on the edge of Death Valley.

After we left Millers Flat we would journey on to Tonopah, where my uncle Houston Howard was foreman. We would get to eat at the Mizpah. Wow, what a treat, but I always ordered a hamburger and French fries. The Mizpah was a special place because that was where my parents spent their wedding night. This was their home ground, my father being one of the McNett brothers from Fish Lake Valley and mother being the daughter of Bill Howard, sheriff of Esmeralda

County in Goldfield.

After we left Tonopah, we would conclude our trip in Goldfield. There I would get to spend the summer with my grandfather, but that's another story.

The railroad is gone now. Only the humped-up rail beds remain. If you walk along where the tracks used to be, you may find spikes and remnants of a young girl's memories.

Erma McNett Reuck now lives in Rocky Face, Georgia.



MY HIGH-ROLLING MAMA

Slot fever: an eyewitness account.

By Barbara Kallies

My mother's birthday is coming up, so I call my sister Patsy to see if we can decide on a special gift. We consider that Mama worked as a waitress for more than 30 years in the same cafe before retiring two years ago due to my dad's illness. After he passed away, she started to become a recluse. Now she refuses to leave her house and seems to have lost interest in everything. So we really want to give her something special this year.

Mama never has cared for knick-knacks, and cooking utensils are definitely out; for her, cooking is something you do when the can opener is broken.

So day after day she sits in her old recliner watching the soap operas. She gains 25 pounds, and the doctor warns her that her health is declining.

Then my sister and I decide to take her to Las Vegas for her birthday. But she isn't enthused. She's afraid it will be too hot or too noisy. There will be too many people. She doesn't have any fancy clothes. She thinks only the rich go there. We finally convince her that more than 90 percent of the people in Vegas are ordinary people just like us. We tell her to pack only her most comfortable clothes.

When we arrive in Vegas at 9 p.m.,
(Continued on page 58)



1989 NATIONAL FINALS RODEO

The Tradition Continues...

It's the 31st annual National Finals Rodeo and it's happening at the Thomas & Mack Center in fabulous Las Vegas, December 2-10. You can be a part of the excitement as 120 of the best professional rodeo athletes go against the sport's best livestock in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association's premiere contest. Witness the thrilling contest as the world's best compete for world championships in seven events and over \$2 million in prize money!

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**NATIONAL FINALS
RODEO**



HANGING OUT AT RED ROCK

*This beautiful
Southern
Nevada canyon
has them
climbing
the walls.*

By Dan Connors

Prehistoric, beautifully prehistoric. Those were my first thoughts as the sun splashed red and pink and the early morning clouds strolled gently across the banded-faced palisades known as Red Rock Canyon. I had come to climb these sandstone peaks 20 miles west of Las Vegas, and the clouds' fluid movements reminded me of the skill I would need in the days to come.

My companions on this trip—Ric, Dan, and Tom—were as delighted by the prospect as I was. The Red Rock Canyon Recreation Lands has some of the best rock there is—hard Windgate sandstone that's perfect for climbing, with or without ropes. Having just climbed in the red desert of Utah, my friends were looking forward to a different kind of challenge. Having recently moved to Chicago from Colorado, I was ready to kick the dust off my rock-climbing shoes.

As we headed northwest from State Route 159 to the Willow Springs area of Red Rock, small pink-and-orange ripples appeared on the horizon. These ripples eventually grew into 100-foot mounds, and the four of us stopped for some bouldering—low-level rock



Climbers head up "Shark Vegas" (above) and "Dark Shadows" (right).

maneuvers that you practice without any safety gear. After 20 minutes of working out the cobwebs, or in some cases discovering new ones, it was time to climb.

We drove to a face of dark sandstone, where two red figures had already climbed halfway up a 100-foot crack. As we walked up to the face, we could hear them talking in Italian; later we learned that the young couple was on a climbing vacation in the West. We moved down to the right of the Italians, and Ric spotted a frightful looking line straight up the wall with what looked to have smooth, rounded holds.

As we silently asked one another, "Who feels hot enough to lead this one?" Ric spoke up first: "Well, I'll lead it." After 40 minutes of delicate and artful climbing, Ric reached the belay ledge, and the rest of us followed. After we were all safely up, it was obvious that Ric had staged a coup. The only protection he had used against a plunge was a small thumbnail-sized metal wedge that he had jammed into a thin crack. Later we found out that another climber had been killed the previous year while attempting this same route. Hell of a lead, Ric!

We set up camp about a mile from





The banded Wilson Cliffs are streaked with red oxide (top), much to the enjoyment of those who visit or camp overnight at Red Rock Canyon, west of Las Vegas (left). The Black Velvet Wall offers choice routes, as the author's companions discovered (right).



Kelly Carignan does a neat technical maneuver on "Powers' Roof" (top), while another climber sorts out his climbing gear (below).

Black Velvet Canyon and its 2,000-foot walls that Ric and Dan had come for. As the four of us lay in our sleeping bags, listening to the distant coyotes and watching the galaxy work above us, we passed a brandy flask and wondered at the uniqueness of Red Rock.

When dawn came, silent and clear, Tom and I scurried about with our cameras while Dan fired up the stove for some hot brew. Ric sorted out the climbing hardware that he and Dan would need. Soon Ric and Dan were off toward the canyon, followed by several small, muscular Swiss climbers laden with ropes and other gear.

Since our friends needed most of the climbing hardware, Tom and I entered the canyon later that morning. By the time we arrived, we heard voices mysteriously close at hand, with no one to be seen. We soon realized that the voices came from above, where Ric, Dan, and the Swiss climbers were already hundreds of feet up the massive Black Velvet Wall. At first it was hard to spot them, but once Ric's red pants came into view, we had them pinned to the start of a 100-foot ramp that led to a crack system to the top. The Swiss climbers were off to the left, climbing smoothly straight up like spiders on the wall of a fortress.

Morning turned to mid-afternoon with the climbers just half way to the top. As Tom and I nestled comfortably at camp and took in the mild western sun, a feeling came over me I would not soon forget—a feeling that I was looking at an enormous photograph, taking in all the different hues and shapes of this desert scene, and the next moment being aware of its constant motion as shadows slowly stretched across the creosote-covered floor.

It was growing dark, but we saw no signs of Ric and Dan. Considering where we last saw them, if things didn't go smoothly, they might be facing a cold bivouac somewhere on the canyon wall.

Then I saw a light on the wall. Our friends were safe, but it looked like they were going to spend the night on top and would repel down in the morning. A few hours later, however, Ric and Dan came tromping in. They would have nothing to do with a cold bivouac and made the 14 repels down the giant wall in the dark with headlamps. I guess memories of Dan's and my forced bivouac on a small ledge on the lower flanks of Long's Peak three years before had supplied ample incentive to get down.

After some congratulatory hoopla, and again the brandy, I mentioned that one of the Swiss climbers had told us that this was the most enjoyable climbing he had done. I found that quite a statement from someone who lived in the Swiss Alps and had spent the last eight months climbing throughout the United States.

The four of us will not soon forget the great climbs, the beautiful rock walls, the crisp sun, or the coyote's cry on cool nights. And I will always carry with me the sense of oneness I felt that perfect afternoon in the red-rocked canyon.

Dan Connors, a freelance writer and photographer lives in Chicago and climbs in the West.

THE ROCK MAN

*Randal Grandstaff
has long
focused his attention
on Red Rock.*

*By
Scott Dickensheets*

Red Rock Canyon, a 16-by-eight-mile tumble of sandstone just west of Las Vegas, is quickly becoming a top draw in the world of rock climbing. "It's right up there with the best areas in the country," says Michael Kennedy, editor of *Climbing Magazine*. The main reasons are the weather and the variety of climbs. Climbers are active on Red Rock's 1,500 known climbing routes long after Yosemite winters have forced climbers there to coil in their



Grandstaff works on an Omnimax movie production to show at Caesars Palace

ropes for the season.

All the attention is good news to Randal Grandstaff, the premiere climber and guide at Red Rock who is poised to reap considerable rewards if the area's climbing activity continues to, well, climb.

The 31-year-old Grandstaff lives at Calico Basin, a small clutch of homes in the shadow of Red Rock. Not far from his cabin—the first house built out there—are the Kraft Rocks, a bouldering area pictured this year in several

international climbing calendars.

Calico Basin is a couple thousand feet higher than Las Vegas, and nature is right outside his front door. It's a fitting setting for Grandstaff; he's an obvious outdoorsman, six-foot-two and healthy, his limbs firm with muscles earned on the cliffs of Red Rock and on the frozen flanks of some of the most imposing mountains in the world. Beneath his medium-length sandy-blonde hair are eyes that bubble over with intensity when he's deep into

one of his monologues on climbing and why he does it.

But at the moment he's talking about Red Rock and its place on the national and international climbing map.

"Right now there are about a dozen

As a student at Bishop
Gorman High
School in Las Vegas
he was once expelled
for scaling a brick
tower in front
of the school.
Later he climbed
the "Flashlight"
at UNLV

foreign climbers out there," Grandstaff says, gesturing toward Red Rock, which rises a short distance away. "There are six or eight Germans, three or four Englishmen, and a couple of French guys."

Scores of California climbers also visit Red Rock, especially during the off-season or when Yosemite is too crowded. "During Thanksgiving weekend there were 40 or 50 climbers from California camped here," he says.

To Grandstaff, this is the sound of money in the bank. More and more people are getting into climbing, and a lot of them come to Red Rock. His climbing service, Sky's the Limit, expects to be guiding people for 2,000 "user hours" in the coming year. He is also branching out into the lucrative adventure travel market and lists three dozen different worldwide trips, including mountain climbs in South America and treks in the Himalayas.

Red Rock, though, remains his home base, and he has big plans for it. "There is really more work here than I can handle now," he says. "We have the opportunity to develop a whole stable of guides." He sits back in his chair, smiling. "This is just one of the best places to be for a rock climber," he continues. "And [Sky's the Limit] is more than just a company, it's a movement. A *movement*. That's what we've got going here."

It wasn't always that way. Back in the early '70s, when Grandstaff was

learning his stuff at Red Rock, he was one of a tiny handful of climbers doing serious work there. "I used to beg for partners," he recalls.

Grandstaff, who was born at Nellis Air Force Base and grew up in Las Vegas, was introduced to climbing at a New Mexico Boy Scout camp. By age 14 he was doing rated climbs (rock climbs are rated according to the Yosemite decimal system, with 5.0 at the easy end and 5.13 at the hard end). At 22 he bagged the summit of Alaska's Mount McKinley, the highest peak in North America. In the years since he has been on mountains on five continents, including Mount Everest and K2.

His work in Red Rock has been no less impressive. Of the 1,500 rated climbs, he can sign his name to about 800.

He has also made less orthodox climbs. As a student at Bishop Gorman High School in Las Vegas he was once expelled for scaling a brick tower in front of the school. Later he climbed the "Flashlight," Claes Oldenburg's sculpture on the grounds of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

When he's on the rock, Grandstaff looks like a cautious spider, seeming to find his way up the cliff face by instinct. He is webbed to the rock by a complex system of high-tech safety hardware. These ropes and anchors, he says, make rock climbing less hazardous than horseback riding. "The most dangerous thing we do is drive out here," he says.

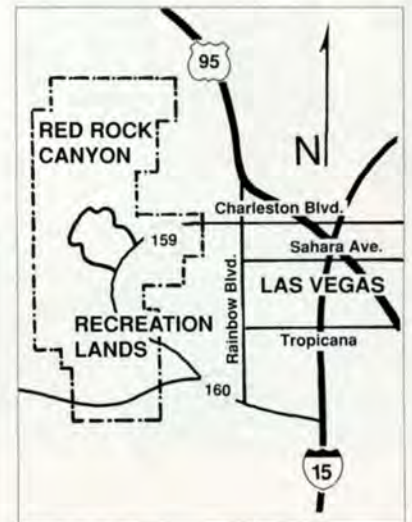
Grandstaff insists that, when done right, climbing is an art form. What is a cliff, after all, but a blank canvas? And the choices a climber makes in choosing a route are much like those faced by an artist at the easel.

The emotional rewards of climbing can be tremendous. When he's up there, several hundred or several thousand feet above the ground, pushing the limits of his physical and mental abilities, Grandstaff says he's able to get a better head on himself. It's an act of self-discovery and an affirmation of life.

"When I come back down, I really feel alive," he says emphatically and there it is, that intensity flaring behind his eyes. "I feel like I've done something more with my life than simply existing." □

Scott Dickensheets is a freelance writer and works for the Allied Arts Council in Las Vegas.

RED ROCK CANYON



At the entrance to Red Rock Canyon, about 20 miles west of downtown Las Vegas, State Route 159 turns into the 12.5-mile Scenic Loop Drive. You can find the Bureau of Land Management's Visitor Center at the loop's start and pick up numerous maps, brochures, and handouts there. Write the Red Rock Canyon Recreation Lands, BLM, Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126; 702-363-1921.

If you are interested in climbing and guide services, contact Randal Grandstaff's Sky's the Limit, HCR 33 Box 1, Calico Basin, NV 89124; 702-363-6336. Technical information about climbing can be found in *Red Rocks of Southern Nevada* by Joanne Urioste, American Alpine Club Publications, 113 East 90th St., New York, NY 10028 (\$13.50).

For a more general description of the area, try the large pictorial book *Red Rock Canyon*, by Sheri Cinkoske, KC Publications, Box 14883, Las Vegas, NV 89114; 702-731-3123 (\$4.50 plus shipping).

The envelope, please: Presenting flicks that earned a Vic, Nevada's very own Academy Award.

By Robin Holabird

HOME MOVIES

As Academy Award time approaches, it's always fun to guess which Nevada-made movies will win Oscars. This year there has been enthusiastic talk about the chances for *Things Change*, which was filmed at Lake Tahoe and stars Don Ameche and Joseph Mantegna, and the Dustin Hoffman-Tom Cruise hit, *Rain Man*, which had extensive filming in Las Vegas and environs.

This is also a good chance to salute movies recently made in Nevada and especially those flicks that deserve a special honor: the Vic. This first-annual kudo is named for the famous (and possibly totally untrue) incident that took place in Las Vegas one night in 1965. As the story goes, Lee Marvin, in town for the shooting of *The Professionals*, took aim with bow and arrows and shot up Vegas Vic, the giant, neon, talking Glitter Gulch cowboy, who himself has appeared in countless pictures. Details have been blurred by time, but the arrow incident stands tall as a Nevada movie legend.

So, the envelopes please.

Best Title

Camper Stamper a monster movie, was filmed at night in the Franktown area of Washoe Valley, much to the surprise of residents who heard unusual mayhem being perpetrated. Filmed in January and February 1988.

Most Dedicated Fans

In Pahrump, onlookers hoping to see Tom Cruise and



Dustin Hoffman waited in sweltering 100-degree temperatures even though all filming was on a closed set inside the Air Park Mini Mart and Cafe. Eventually Hoffman came out to talk to the fans. Then he got Cruise to appear briefly, too. The project was *Rain Man*. Filmed in June and July 1988 in Las Vegas (notably Caesars Palace), Blue Diamond, and Pahrump; released in November 1988.

Most Appropriate Title

Things Change had an early script that described the lead character, Gino, as a downtrodden 50-year-old man. The role went to Don Ameche, who was 79 at the time. A final irony: Despite the 29-year shift, many reviewers have called Gino the best role of Ameche's long career. Filmed at Lake Tahoe, including Harrah's and Cal-Neva Lodge, October 1987; released October 1988.

Best Star Disguise

A white-faced, red-nosed, orange-haired Clint Eastwood as a rodeo clown went unrecognized by most of the 600 extras participating in *Pink Cadillac* at Carson City's Fuji Park. In the movie, which also stars Bernadette Peters, Clint plays a bounty hunter. Filmed in downtown Reno, Washoe Valley, Carson City, Hazen, Fallon, and Fernley in October 1988; release due July 1989.

Best Nevada Disguise

The HBO movie *Steal the Sky* used Stead Airport north of Reno as Israel



*Hollywood moviemakers discovered beautiful and often inventive Nevada settings for these Vic-winning flicks. In *Far From Home*, stars Matt (Max Headroom) Frewer and Drew Barrymore and the rest of the cast and crew were able to find enough rooms in the tiny town of Gerlach (top left). Beatty was the location of a brothel scene in *Homer and Eddy*, starring James Belushi and Whoopi Goldberg, who had a front row seat (top right). In *Things Change*, Don Ameche and Robert Prosky have a heartfelt talk on a dock at Lake Tahoe during the latter's visit from Chicago (bottom).*

and Iraq, with Pyramid Lake serving as the Dead Sea. Pyramid handled its role well—it already had experience as the Sea of Galilee in 1965's *The Greatest Story Ever Told*. Stead did extremely well, except in one instance. That was when *TV Guide* sent a photographer to take a cover photo of star Mariel Hemingway. But instead of behaving properly like a Middle Eastern desert in the springtime sun, Stead was hit with snow, so the photo session was canceled. Filmed at Stead Airport and Pyramid Lake in April 1988; aired on HBO in August 1988.

Most Frequent Star's Search

Sylvester Stallone's group came to Nevada for *Rambo III* and a prison scout last year. In the past couple of years he also shot *Rocky IV* and *Over the Top* in Las Vegas.



The makers
of *Midnight Run*
had a penthouse
suite at the
Stardust dressed for
nearly \$1 million.

Best Location Request

The state's Motion Picture and Television Division received a letter from the producers of *Slime Zombie Holiday*, which, the producers wrote, would portray Las Vegas in a positive light. Requested in January 1988 but not yet filmed.

Biggest Location Challenge

Fitting the *Far From Home* crew of 80 in Gerlach, which has 40 motel rooms. Cast and crew, including Drew Barrymore and Matt (Max Headroom) Frewer, hauled up personal RVs, found local mobiles, or rented rooms from residents. Filmed in Gerlach, the Black Rock Desert, Carson City Trinity Truck Stop on I-80, and American Flat in July and August 1988.

Most Appropriate Set

Homer and Eddy, which stars Whoopi Goldberg and Jim Belushi, used a public-works quonset hut in Beatty for a brothel scene. Filmed in Beatty in January 1988; released in July 1988.



More Vic winners: While filming *Pink Cadillac* at Carson City's rodeo grounds, Clint Eastwood went largely unnoticed in his clown outfit (top left). In *Steal the Sky* Ben Cross and Mariel Hemingway were at Stead Airport (top right). *Rain Man* was a big hit in Las Vegas and *Pahrump* as locals caught glimpses of Dustin Hoffman, Tom Cruise, and their classic car (above).

Most Elaborate Set

The makers of *Midnight Run* had a penthouse suite at the Stardust dressed for nearly \$1 million. It had less than a minute's screen time. The movie starred Robert DeNiro and Charles Grodin; Dennis Farina, who appeared in the Vegas-made *Crime Story* TV series, played the casino boss. Filmed in Las Vegas and nearby desert areas in January 1988; released in July 1988.

Most Convenient Set

The low-budget martial-arts flick *Hawkeye* was allowed to film gratis at the Las Vegas home of Bob Hirsch, director of the state's Motion Picture and Television Division. The filmmakers needed a normal house with a normal living room, and Hirsch said, "Well, I've got this place." "None of his furniture was kung fu'd. Filmed in March 1988; release due in 1989.



Christopher Coppola (left), brother of actor Nicolas Cage, directs *Bar 20 Three*.

Longest Scout

Neon Empire, a movie about the early days of Las Vegas, was scouted three years ago in that city. In 1988 the production team returned to look at other areas such as Reno and Hawthorne. Yerington was selected, but then a Teamsters strike delayed action. To avoid a northern winter, the team rescheduled shooting for Arizona. But that could change, too.

Best Agricultural Request

The makers of *Blind Fury*, an action-adventure movie starring Rutger Hauer, wanted a field of seven-foot-tall corn in May—during last year's drought. Filmed in downtown Reno in May and June 1988; due for 1989 release.

Most Widely Traveled Western

Director Christopher Coppola, nephew of Francis, found refuge in rural Nevada for his low-budget western *Bar 20 Three*. Filmed near I-80's Trinity Truck Stop and Elko in June 1988.

Most Title Changes

Nightbreaker or *Atomic Soldier* with Martin Sheen and Emilio Estevez, could come out with either title. The project switched between those titles at least five times, but the subject remained the same—above-ground atomic testing in the early '50s. Filmed in Las Vegas in October and November 1988; release due in 1989. □

Robin Holabird of Reno is deputy director of the state's Motion Picture and Television Division. She also reviews movies for KUNR-FM public radio.

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A Bee's Eye View

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Mountain Bluebird

Photographer Kirk Lauritsen took this image while working at Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge a few years ago. He reports that the mountain bluebird, Nevada's state bird, is a common migrant and winter visitor in Nevada's high-altitude habitats. Nesting as high as 13,000 feet, the mountain bluebird builds nests among rocks, in tree holes deserted by woodpeckers, and in buildings and abandoned mine shafts. Pioneering ornithologist Arthur Cleveland Bent said of the bird, "It seems to carry on its wings the heavenly blue of the clearest sky." This colorful male was a regular visitor to this snag during June, where he would call in hopes of attracting a mate.

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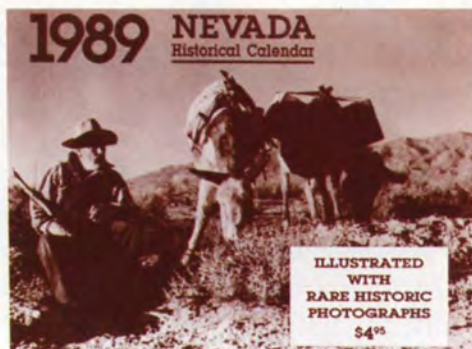


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Breakfast means egg cups and Aunt Ida's rolls for Dave and Susanne Beres at the Genoa House Inn.

Breakfast brings a special kind of joy. Somehow just the thought of breakfast can make our mouths salivate and our stomachs growl. We see pancakes dripping with maple syrup, home fries cooked ever so crisp, eggs scrambled or folded just right, and lots of hot, black coffee.

At Nevada's bed and breakfast inns, your morning meal is as close as the dining room down the hall. No grunting out the front door to find a restaurant. No waiting in line for a table. Your host is busy in the kitchen while you lie in bed sniffing the rich aromas emanating from the galley teasing smells that lure you to the dining room like the Sirens of Anthemoessa. Surely there isn't a better way to wake up.

Most B&Bs serve breakfast to guests only although some don't mind if a friend or two join you. As for dinner, you'll have to fend for yourself, although a couple of Nevada's B&Bs have full-fledged restaurants, too. However, breakfast is where the action is, and your hosts take as much pride in their food as their sleeping rooms.

At the **Genoa House Inn** Linda

Breakfast With the Inn Crowd

At Nevada's B&Bs breakfast is half the reason to stay.

By Cliff Glover

Sanfilippo starts you out early by leaving a coffee tray at your door at 7:30 a.m. (She says she has learned not to

knock.) Then at 9 a.m. a full breakfast is served on antique china and silver in a formal dining room. On your first morning Sanfilippo will cook up a meal of coddle eggs, sausage or ham, and her Aunt Ida's honey-almond twist rolls, which are always a favorite. The fare on other mornings includes variations on this theme. If you're an early riser—perhaps an anxious skier waiting to tackle the High Sierra—Sanfilippo will bring your breakfast to your room, although it won't be as serious as her regular menu.

Sometimes breakfast has a distinct European flavor, such as the German cuisine that Wolfgang and Anneliese Zimmermann serve in their **Haus Bavaria** at Incline Village. Always expect good, strong coffee—the way Europeans enjoy their brew—along with French brie and Norwegian Jarlsburg that you can spread on good German rye. Anneliese also bakes a coffee cake that tastes wonderful with imported jam, fresh fruit, or cold cuts.

The **Breitenstein House**—across the state in the little town of Lamoille—is another B&B that has hearty German food. For breakfast there's the usual

menu: eggs, French toast, pancakes, hash browns, sausage, bacon or ham, orange juice, and coffee. However, it's at night when the ethnic pride of owners Harold and Lee Ulrich really comes to light. Although dinner is not included in the cost of your stay, the choices are highly tempting. On Monday night, try the sauerbraten, a German roast beef marinated for five days in a special sauce served with potato pancakes and a ginger Bavarian sauce. On other evenings you can choose one of these specials: Australian lobster, Cornish hen with rice, or rainbow trout a la mer, which has been boned and stuffed with shrimp, crab, mushrooms, and different herbs.

At the **Sundog Bed and Breakfast**, halfway between Las Vegas and Reno in Goldfield, David and Maire Hayes bring you even more German cuisine—this time with a touch of the Irish. David, who has cooked in many German *gasthouses*, makes sure the potato pancakes are made in the old tradition with coarsely shredded spuds. Maire keeps to her own heritage by serving Irish soda bread made with sour milk and whole-wheat flour. But these are just amenities. Depending on your whim, the Hayes will cook

scrambled eggs, homemade hash browns, omelets to order, biscuits and gravy, or a lighter breakfast with fruit salad, bread, rolls, cheeses, and borscht.

Members of the Stebbins family

Hayes, who has
cooked in
German *gasthouses*,
makes sure
the potato pancakes
are made in
the old tradition
with coarsely
shredded spuds.

share their hospitality at the **Robric Ranch**, five miles south of Yerington, with a nice old two-bedroom cabin, lots of homemade bread, sourdough pancakes, fruit, homemade granola, coffee, and juice. More than anything else, Dick and Roberta Stebbins say they

want you to relax at their ranch, so you can have breakfast with the family or sleep in and eat at your convenience. There also is a full-size kitchen in the cabin where you can cook other meals.

In Yerington proper, the **Harbor House** has had its doors opened for the past two years. Owners Ace and Donna Gruilli would like you to experience the pleasures of this small rural community, as well as the nine-hole golf course. Breakfast is purely continental—juice, coffee, and a sweet roll.

When you stay at the **Hardwicke House** in Silver City, Cleo Ross presents you with a stick-to-your-ribs breakfast. The fare includes scrambled eggs, bacon or sausage or ham or corn beef hash, muffins, potatoes, jams, jellies, fruit in season, coffee, and juice. And that should keep you going until the sun sets.

Two miles up the road to Virginia City, the **Gold Hill Hotel** has recently expanded its B&B operation into a full-scale hotel. Owners Bill Fain and Carol DeKalb have added an excellent dinner house, the Crown Point Restaurant, which is opened for lunch and dinner. Chef Geoff Cousineau specializes in haute cuisine, and he has made Thursday night International Night, with a

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different ethnic flavor each week. (So far Cousineau has done 16 countries.) And on Tuesday night a lecture-dinner series brings you Nevada and Comstock history as well as a special menu that usually includes a stew, fricassee, or stroganoff. When you stay at the hotel you're served a continental breakfast.

Another B&B in Gold Hill is the **House on the Hill**, a three-story home owned by George and Kay Halliwell. A continental breakfast, consisting of coffee and a roll, is the usual morning fare.

At **Edith Palmer's Country Inn** in Virginia City, Erlene Brown might serve marinated French toast one morning, sausage-and-peach casserole the next, and perhaps a quiche dish on the third day. There is always freshly ground Sumatra coffee, fruit, homemade bread and muffins, and sometimes a surprise like phyllo pastry, which has a flaky crust like baklava and a quiche filling inside. Edith Palmer's also has the distinction of serving breakfast by reservation because it is a licensed restaurant. If you're in town, you can taste the home cooking for \$7.50.

One thing that most B&Bs have in common is an appreciation for wholesome ingredients. Many establishments serve fresh fruit and bread hot out of the oven, and some go even farther. At the **Old Pioneer Garden Guest Ranch**, 50 miles south of Winnemucca in Unionville (see page 48), just about everything you put in your mouth comes from Lew and Mitzi Jones' garden. For breakfast you might be served eggs from geese, ducks, guineas, or chickens—depending on who's laying—and buttermilk pancakes made with ground corn and stuffed with fruit picked ripe from the orchards. For dinner, which is \$6.50, Mitzi often serves lamb or roast chicken with butter and lemon gravy, wild rice, and carrot cake with rum-butter icing.

The quiet breakfast nook at **Winters Creek Ranch**, north of Carson City in Washoe Valley, overlooks a rolling pasture, horses, and ponds. Egg dishes are the house speciality. There are eggs Benedict, but owners Susan Hannah and Myron Sayan also cook their Savory Eggs and Brunch Scrambled Eggs, which is made with cheddar cheese, feta cheese, spinach, and cream. (These egg dishes appear in the *American Country Inn & Bed & Breakfast Cookbook*, by Kitty and Lucian May-

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nard.) Besides eggs, you'll be offered carrot or strawberry bread or sometimes blueberry muffins. And the coffee, while it lasts, is brought direct from Colombia by Sayan, who is an airline pilot.

If you like staying at B&Bs, you'll be glad to know Nevada has four new establishments, each with a different appeal to the palate.

The **Chollar Mansion** in Virginia City was recently turned into a B&B by owners Kay and Ken Benton, who moved there a year ago from California. Breakfast is usually served in a dining room that overlooks the old Combination mine shaft. However, in the summer you may wish to eat outside on the first-floor balcony. Both Bentons prepare the meal, which means spinach, ham, or a combination quiche, plus any number of muffins, from raspberry to cinnamon. On occasion they'll serve omelets or scrambled eggs, and if Ken hasn't left for work at the *Comstock Chronicle*, you might also learn something of the surrounding area. Says Kay about breakfast: "My husband gives a history lesson in most cases."

In Gardnerville, the **Reid Mansion** serves French toast in a setting suited for any King Louis. Built in 1910, the three-story home is surrounded by ranches on the outside and has antiques and crystal chandeliers on the inside. This kind of atmosphere makes your eggs Benedict or crustless quiche really stand out. But if you want to pass

Breakfast is usually served overlooking the old Combination shaft. In summer you may eat outside on the first-floor balcony.

it up, that's OK. Bob and Emma Reid will be glad to subtract \$15 from your bill.

Also in Gardnerville is the **Sierra Spirit Ranch**, which is spread out over 36 acres. Owners Chris and Robin Irwin specialize in exotic muffins, including blueberry, sour-cream peach, and raspberry-walnut. The egg dishes are buffed up with Swiss cheese, dill,

and bacon, and the potatoes seasoned with tarragon. If you can move after breakfast, the Irwins can arrange a boat or sailing cruise.

At the **Edwards House** in Carson City, Chris Broo whips together a number of tantalizing menus. With seasonal fruit Broo usually makes ambrosia, as well as fresh-squeezed juice, to compliment hardier servings like ham and cheese strata. Other times Broo bakes blueberry muffins or peach cobbler layered with peaches, cake batter, coconut, and pecans. As for coffee, Broo grinds Colombian beans each morning.

It's enough to make you roll out of bed. □

Cliff Glover is Nevada's associate editor and a B&B devotee.

B&Bs Around the State

For more information about Nevada's bed and breakfast establishments, call or write the B&Bs below. You can also write for a free brochure from Nevada's Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 702-885-3636. Because most B&Bs have only a few rooms, it's always good to make reservations. Prices for nightly stays, including breakfast, range from \$35 to \$125. The B&Bs are listed in the order they appear in the article.

Genoa House Inn, Box 141, Genoa, NV 89411; 702-782-7075.

Haus Bavaria, 593 North Dyer Circle, Box 3308, Incline Village, NV 89450; 702-831-6122.

Breitenstein House, Lamoille, NV 89828; 702-753-6356.

Sundog Bed and Breakfast, 211 Sundog Ave., Box 486, Goldfield, NV 89013; 702-485-3438.

Robric Ranch, Box 2, Yerington, NV 89447; residence: 702-463-2998, office: 702-463-3515.

Harbor House, 29 North Center St., Yerington, NV 89447; residence: 702-463-2991, business: 702-463-2295.

Hardwicke House, Box 96, Silver City, NV 89428; 702-847-0215.

Gold Hill Hotel, Main Street in Gold Hill, Box 304, Virginia City, NV

89440; 702-847-0111.

House on the Hill, Sky Lane in Gold Hill, Box 625, Virginia City, NV 89440; 702-847-0193.

Edith Palmer's Country Inn, 416 South B St., Box 756, Virginia City, NV 89440; 702-847-0707

Old Pioneer Garden Guest Ranch, Unionville, NV 89418; 702-538-7585.

Winters Creek Ranch, 1201 U.S. 395 North (Washoe Valley), Carson City, NV 89701; 702-849-1020.

Chollar Mansion, 565 South D St., Box 889, Virginia City, NV 89440; 702-847-9777

Reid Mansion, 1431 Ezell St., Box 758, Gardnerville, NV 89410; 702-782-7644.

Sierra Spirit Ranch, 3000 Pinenut Rd., Gardnerville, NV 89710; 702-782-7011.

Edwards House, 204 North Minnesota St., Carson City, NV 89703; 702-882-4884.

Except for the Gold Hill Hotel, the above B&Bs are all members of the Northern Nevada Bed & Breakfast Guild. For information contact chairman Chris Irwin at the Sierra Spirit Ranch in Gardnerville.—CG

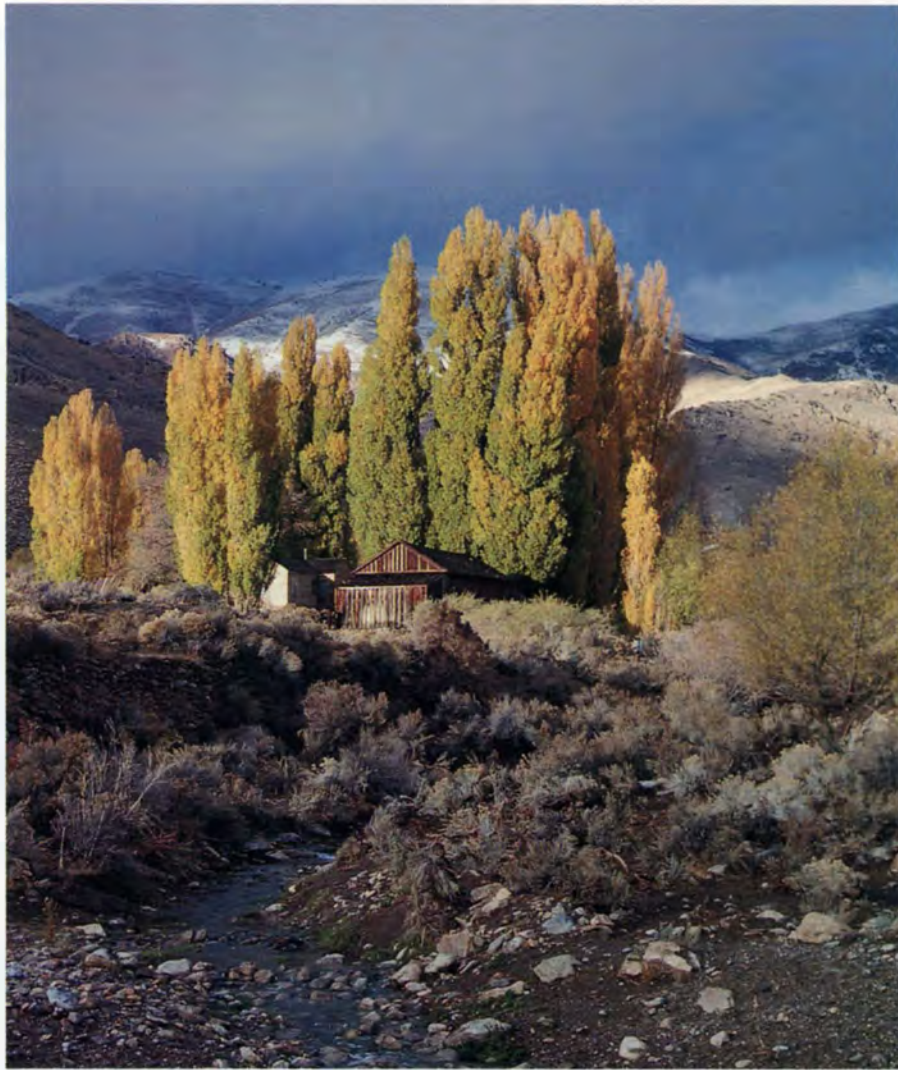


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Old poplars greet visitors in the canyon.

The State of Unionville

An old mining town waits to be
discovered and ignored.

By Mary F. Whalen

Unionville may be the most forgotten little town in Nevada. Despite the fact that this old mining village was the original seat of Humboldt County, the population center of the early Humboldt mining district, and one of Nevada's first communities, Unionville is relatively unknown. Most people find it while ambling down a lonely dirt road—by chance.

But the folks who live in Unionville don't seem to mind. If there's a lack of publicity, well, that's just the way it is. When questioned further, a resident

might lift his shoulders or give you a knowing smile. Everyone knows that the untraveled road helps protect an even more valued secret—that Unionville is an oasis of green hills and cool, running streams in an otherwise bone-dry, alkaline desert.

The town lies nestled in the protective folds of the Humboldt Range south of Winnemucca. In winter the hamlet is surrounded by 9,000-foot summits

covered with white powder. In spring the melting snow gives birth to Buena Vista Creek, which tumbles and cascades down the steep mountains to nourish the thirsty homes and farms that survive in the two-mile long canyon below. Summer finds the air thick with the fragrance of sage, juniper, chokeberry, and honeysuckle. Apple trees are heavy and bent with fruit. Ancient poplars, many over 100 years old, seemingly brush the stars with their towering tips as they rustle and sway in the mountain air.

But along the dusty stage road that is

Mark Twain wrote in *Roughing It* about his travels to Unionville in 1861 and 'being smitten by the silver fever.'

still Main Street, the passerby is reminded that Unionville is a town that flourished and faded. Crumbled buildings and abandoned mines stand silent. The schoolhouse is weathered and vacant. Tall weeds hide headstones in the cemetery

In 1861, rumors of rich silver deposits lured prospectors and other pioneers to the canyon. Virginia City's Comstock Lode was booming and overcrowded with wealth-seekers. Disillusioned prospectors wandered Nevada's northern hills. Now and then they were caught up in the frenzy of another strike, the promise of another bonanza, only to uncover little more than shallow, tertiary riches.

When prospectors Captain Hugo Pfersdorff and J.C. Hannan followed two Paiute guides to the northern end of the Humboldt Range, it was in search of rock similar to Comstock ore. As the small party reached the crest of the ridge and looked down, they saw a lush, stream-watered canyon bathed in the sun's golden hues. They named it Buena Vista—"Good View"—and when they uncovered veins of silver, word spread of their discovery

Soon the cry "Ho! To the Humboldt!" was heard across the nation. Newspapers spread the word across the western plains and transformed the mediocre strike into a glittering Golconda. Even before Unionville's mines could produce one wagonload of ore, the mining reporter for the Virginia City's *Territorial Enterprise* testified:

"Humboldt County is the richest mineral region upon God's own footstool! Each mountain range is gorged with precious ore! Each day and almost every hour reveals new and startling evidence of the profuse and intensified wealth. Have no fear of the mineral resources of Humboldt County. They are incalculable!"

Those who first answered the cry named the young town Dixie, indicating their support of the Confederacy. Later, Union, a settlement reflecting Northern sympathies, was established at the lower end of the canyon. Center-ville acted as a buffer between the two camps until the North won the Civil War. The town then became united as Unionville.

The town contributed well beyond



Morning on Main Street brings out some of the town's wild residents.

Photo: Jerry Aaron

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its share of prominent men to Nevada's future. William and McKasia Bonni-field grew up in Unionville studying law by candlelight in their adobe home. William became district court judge for Humboldt County in 1875, and 19 years later McKasia was elected justice of the Nevada Supreme Court. John H. Kinkead was elected governor in 1879. Luther A. Buckner served as attorney general from 1871-74.

John C. Fall owned the town's largest mercantile store and the Arizona mine, which employed more than 100 men and produced five to six million dollars of silver bullion. J.C. Forbes was editor and founder of the *Humboldt Register*. He was quoted nationally and considered one of the era's best editors.

Another visitor was Samuel Clemens, a 26-year-old newspaper reporter who would later become famous as Mark Twain. In *Roughing It*, he told of his travels to Unionville in 1861 and "being smitten by the silver fever".

"On the fifteenth day we completed our march of two hundred miles and entered Unionville, Humboldt County in the midst of a driving snow-storm. Unionville consisted of eleven cabins and a liberty pole. I confess, without shame, that I expected to find masses of



During a special gathering, things are cookin' at the Old Pioneer Garden.

silver lying all about the ground. I expected to see it glittering in the sun, on the mountain summits."

But after two months of fruitless toil, freezing weather, and living huddled in a canvas-roofed dugout on a hillside,

through which "cattle used to tumble occasionally at night, and mash our furniture and interrupt our sleep," Clemens moved on. He wrote:

"So vanished my dream. So melted my wealth away. So toppled my airy

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castle to the earth and left me stricken and forlorn."

Clemens' dream was shared by hundreds of others who poured into the canyon. In 1864 the *Humboldt Register* commented that the prosperous town now had "a brewery, a courthouse, a printing office, a schoolhouse, a church, ten stores, six hotels, two express offices, two drug stores, four livery stables, a watchmaker's shop, and numerous other commercial establishments including the 'Sutterly Brothers' who have just arrived for the purpose of taking pictures in all the latest styles of the art."

Unionville died the death of most Nevada ghost towns. When the core of her hills was depleted, her citizens moved away in search of healthier economic climes. In 1873 Winnemucca replaced Unionville as the Humboldt County seat. But it was the Central Pacific Railroad that dealt the final blow. When it constructed its main line up the west side of the Humboldts through Winnemucca, instead of on the east side as Unionville residents had hoped, the town seemed doomed to anonymity and isolation.

But legacies of days past are kept alive among residents of Unionville present. Maybe it's the remoteness, or perhaps the community's sense of history but this tiny burg has honed its own unique brand of pioneer spirit among those remaining.

Lew and Mitzi Jones have gained a reputation as Unionville's chief preservationists. Eighteen years ago they purchased the Old Pioneer Garden, a property that included the 120-year-old Ernst home, a wagon master's property, and an adobe home originally built by the town blacksmith, Thomas J. Hadley but which later became the residence of the Bonnifield family.

The Jones have since refurbished and restored the buildings to their original, antiquated beauty. The Old Pioneer Garden is, again, a garden and small farm. The Hadley-Bonnifield house is a charming bed and breakfast, complete with wild deer that scamper up to the backyard apple tree at sunset.

Robert Ernst is the only remaining Unionville old-timer. Two generations of his family have lived and raised their children here. He and his wife Alice now operate a small antique shop at the first bend in the old stage road.

"I'm proud to be related to, and a part of, Unionville," he says staunchly, thumbs in his suspenders. "Even when



Unionville's schoolhouse served 82 school terms. Above, the graduating class of 1908.

I went off to the war [World War II], my mother knew I would return because I had such a love for this town."

The unknowing traveler cannot possibly miss Ernst's curious establishment. It's a tiny shack surrounded by

everything from buckboard wagons to wheelbarrows—a menagerie of the odds and ends of people's lives and the belongings left behind in Unionville's great exodus.

Sixty-nine-year-old Peggy Trego is a

Vacation in the

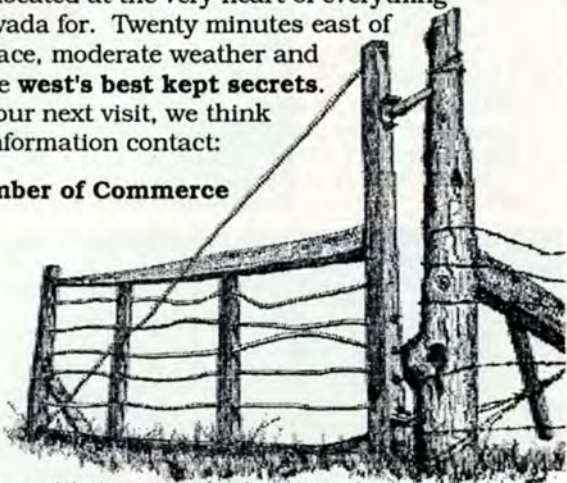
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history book unto herself. A member of the Women's Army Service Pilots in 1944 and later a reporter for the *Nevada State Journal* in Reno, she and her editor-husband Robert fell in love with the town and made it their home. Much like Twain, they found it in a snowstorm, en route to filing a mining claim. That was 30 years ago.

Today, with the elevation of her living-room couch at 5,800 feet and the Humboldt Mountains as her backyard, Peggy's fascination is no longer with the mass media but with watching deer, coyote, and foxes play on the hillside or collecting gooseberries and chokeberries in her apple orchard beside the creek.

She has not abandoned the world of information for one of isolation. Rather, she invites it—in the form of internationally-known scientists who occasionally visit the area. Paleontologists and geologists from the U.S. Geological Survey lease a miner's cabin on her property while they take the earth's seismic pulse and uncover ancient fossils.

"This range is still very 'tectonically' active," she says with a flourish. "In other words, it moves."

Though she sometimes needs the



Once a monument to prosperity, the ruins of the old store still stand in Unionville.

help of a walking stick, Peggy regularly drives her old Land Rover up into those familiar hills. There she searches for the imprints of the long-extinct sea creatures that once swam here in a shallow sea. Her many finds adorn her front

doorway. They include the ancient vertebrae of an ichthyosaur (sea serpents from the age of dinosaurs) and the 240-million-year-old fossils of snail-like cephalopods.

Content in their remote enclave, residents are hardly as isolated as one would imagine. A 64-year-old retired contractor, Marvin Coleman, says he and his neighbors have all the comforts of city residents, as well as a few small-town amenities.

"We have to travel to Winnemucca for groceries and things," he says. "It's 45 minutes away, but it's all paved road except for the last mile and a half through the canyon. The county sheriff in Imlay is 20 minutes away, but that's not bad. And of course if anybody gets sick, the Pershing County ambulance helicopter takes folks to the hospital in Reno. But nobody ever gets sick up here," he chuckles.

Coleman explains that the towering mountains prevent television reception from reaching the canyon, so each of the town's 13 families have installed satellite dishes on their property. His was installed by the previous owner right next to the property's 100-year-old outhouse. "It just happened to be the best place to put it for good reception," he says.

Electrical and phone service come via Imlay. The nearest post office is in Winnemucca, but UPS and registered letters are brought to the door. The county bookmobile visits twice a month; while the driver waits, or is



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Coleman explains that the towering mountains prevent television reception from reaching the canyon, so each of the 13 families have installed a satellite dish.

invited in for coffee, residents browse and read. In the past, snowmobiles have sometimes been needed to clear the town's only road in the winter.

"Years ago, a man died up here in the winter," says Coleman, "and they had to keep him frozen for five weeks before they could get a plow up here to clear the roads."

Besides its remote setting, Unionville also has its idiosyncrasies. In 1977, the *Los Angeles Times* printed an article on the town entitled, "Everybody Hates Everybody in Unionville." The story portrayed the town's residents in a variety of squabbles over land and water rights, with some feuds on the scale of the Hatfields and McCoys. Indeed, in a community where families had once gathered annually to celebrate the Fourth of July, few neighbors were then speaking to one another.

One man hadn't spoken to his brother since the man sold property to some "city people." One woman took a shotgun to a neighbor when he trespassed on her property. Another threatened a neighbor with a chainsaw when he wouldn't remove a tree that had fallen across his roadway.

Yet, when you discover Unionville at Nevada Historical Marker No. 402, there's little evidence that anything could be wrong. Says Mitzi Jones about all the feuding, "Johnny-come-latelies like us think it's amusing, and we try to stay away from it. It's possible to get along with everyone except " □

Mary F Whalen is a contributing writer to The Nevadan Today, a Sunday supplement to the Las Vegas Review-Journal. She stumbled across Unionville during a recent assignment on Nevada brothels.

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SHOW BUSINESS

Favors in the Night

*One time
 at Lake
 Tahoe, I
 remember
 how Sinatra
 did it
 his way*

By Bob McClure

Until one evening at Lake
 Tahoe, I had never met
 Frank Sinatra. I had seen
 Frank perform at the Para-
 mount in New York City, but I never
 met him. I was very impressed by him
 and the old theater, although I couldn't
 stand the screaming by the young
 females present.

I had almost met him while I was
 working and singing with Jimmy Dean
 in the late '60s. It occurred when Frank
 went on a much publicized tour that
 grossed more than a million dollars in
 a single month. I was to be his stage
 manager on the tour, based on my
 experience as an assistant stage man-
 ager on Broadway and as stage man-
 ager and top tenor with Jimmy Dean.
 But two weeks before the tour began I
 received a letter from Frank explaining
 that he owed someone a favor and had

to back out of our understanding
 which had been arranged by another
 fellow who was on the tour. I was dis-
 appointed, but I thought it was won-
 derful that a man in Sinatra's position
 would take the time to write such a
 letter. Along with the story that I am
 about to share, it shows a side of the
 singer that is often ignored or dis-
 torted.

During one of Sinatra's engage-



ments in the late '70s at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, where I was entertainment manager, there came a time when he wanted to get out of the Star's Suite and sit in a bar. I wanted to sit in a bar, too, so we went to a bar and sat. Senior executive Holmes Hendricksen came along with us. Harrah's is, or at least was, one of the few places in the world where a man like Sinatra can go out in public and not have to worry about being bothered. Harrah's took precautions to see to his safety, but they were rarely needed. And this bar, the Rendezvous, was darker than most, so people couldn't see Frank well, if at all.

As Frank and I drank our Jack Daniels and Holmes his bourbon with water, the three of us got hungry. We started to go to the coffee shop, but Holmes thought it would be easier if I went to get a waitress from the coffee shop, and we would eat at the bar. I

As the waitress started to leave, Frank asked her, "Hold up," and he gave her two pieces of paper money as a tip.

found a waitress, and she brought an order pad. At first we wanted cheeseburgers, but Frank changed his mind. He wanted bagels and cream cheese. The girl left, and we continued to B.S. about everything.

While Frank was telling a story about making a film, the order arrived. The check came to \$14.97. I signed the check and gave the waitress a \$5 tip. (I would get it back anyway, and I didn't want to look cheap.) As she started to leave, Frank asked her, "Hold up," and he gave her two pieces of paper money as a tip also. Then Holmes and I sat back to listen as Frank finished his story.

A little later I went to the coffee shop to get some toothpicks, and there stood the waitress that had served us. I off-handedly asked her if she had been tipped enough, and she grinned a Midwestern grin and said that \$7 for a \$14 check was fine. I told her she'd better look again. She did. Instead of \$7, there was \$205.

Her mouth started to tremble, and

her eyes filled with tears. She could hardly catch her breath. When she finally looked into my face, she rasped, "My God, how I need this money. I didn't have enough to eat on when I walked in tonight, and if it wasn't for Harrah's free meals, I wouldn't eat for days. My Mom is sick and I had to send her money and. " She started to cry again.

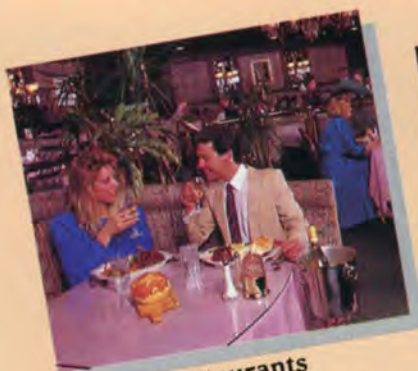
After I returned to the table in the bar, the three of us decided to turn in. As we were leaving, I told Frank that the waitress wanted to thank him again. He replied, "Bobby, I know that

I flaunt it sometimes with those big tips, but I remember the time when I needed money so bad. Then some guy would tip me too much just to show off to his lady. I never did tell the guy how much I needed the money!"

I never told Frank what the waitress said either. □

Bob McClure of Zephyr Cove was a Harrah's entertainment executive for 19 years. As a tenor, dancer, and actor he has sung on numerous records, backing such singers as Jimmy Dean and Perry Como, and appeared in Broadway musicals.

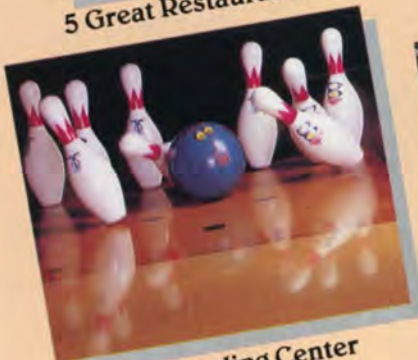
Las Vegas



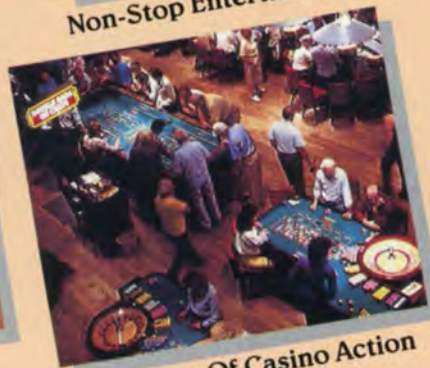
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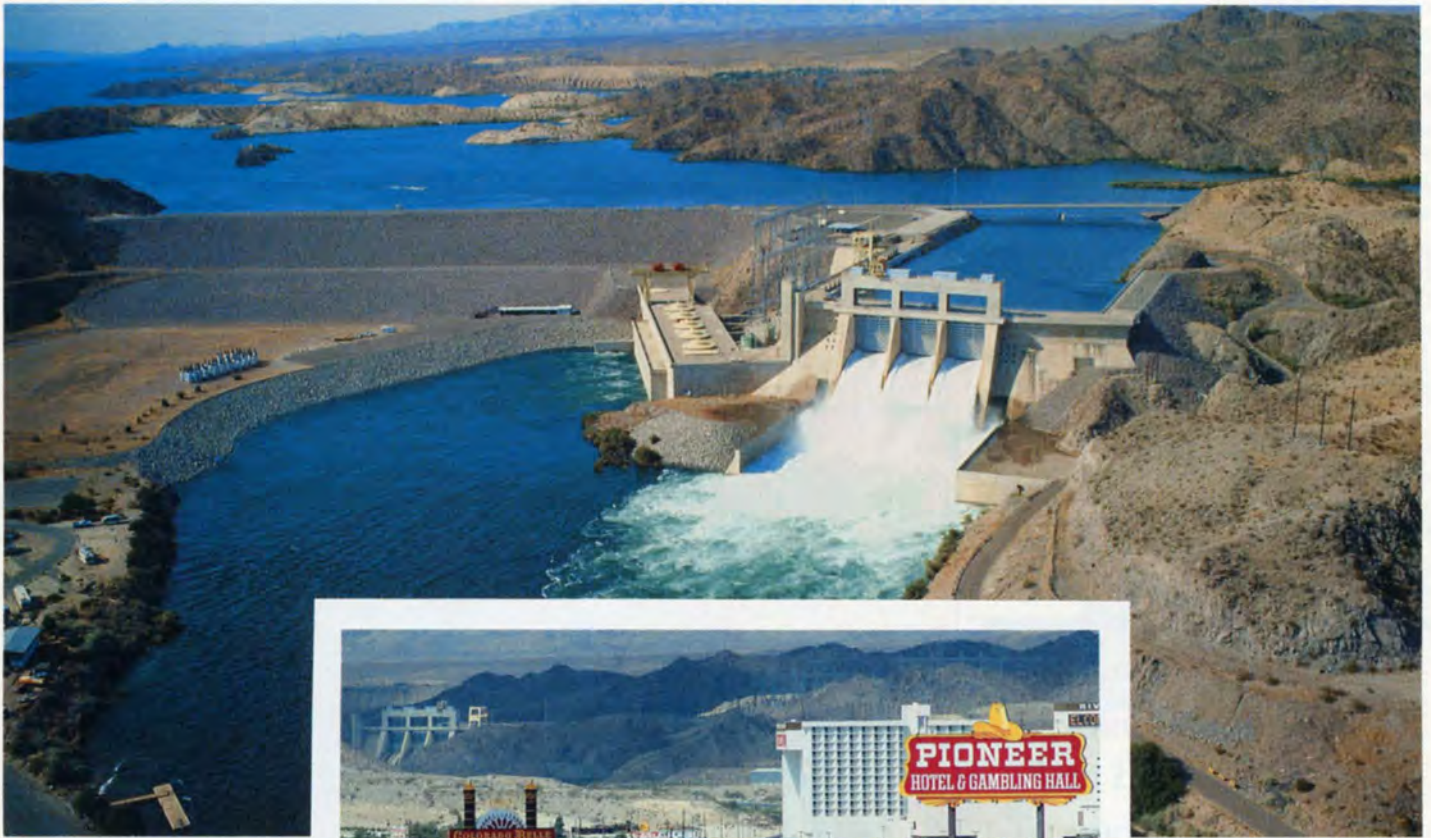
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Davis Dam backs up Lake Mohave, part of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. The dam can be seen a mile upstream from the growing casino city of Laughlin (left).

Little Big Dam

Davis Dam can't compare in size to Hoover, but for a little dam, it does a big job

By Lorraine L. Buck

The top of Davis Dam provides a panoramic view of desert and glitter. North is the clear blue water of Lake Mohave, where fishing and boating are year-round pursuits. Unseen around the bend is Katherine's Landing, its long, neat rows of docks and boats bobbing quietly in the water.

Looking south down the Colorado River, the casino town of Laughlin rises like Oz. There, the parking lots bulge with cars, RVs, and tour buses, testimony to the area's popularity both in winter, when the weather is often sunny and in the 50s and 60s, and in summer, when temperatures can reach 115. On the Arizona side of the river, Bullhead City continues to boom and spread and fill with traffic.

Although it's the area's symbolic centerpiece, Davis Dam is a plainer attraction than the towns it has spawned. The dam blends easily into

the grays and browns of the desert. Except for the hum of the transformers and the slight whisper of a breeze, it is a quiet place. In fact, the dam seems to run itself, for other than a few visitors, no one else is in sight.

Davis Dam can't compete with the grandeur of Hoover Dam, its upstream cousin. Davis is only 200 feet high, compared to Hoover's more famous 726-foot face. But for a small dam, Davis does a big job. Acting as an earth and concrete cork in Bullhead Canyon, the dam holds back 67-mile-long Lake Mohave, helps to regulate the river's flow, and produces electricity for Southern California.

Completed by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1953, Davis Dam offers a self-guided tour with recorded narrations. It also has a display of historical photographs dating from the '40s that document the building of the dam and powerplant. Named for Arthur Powell

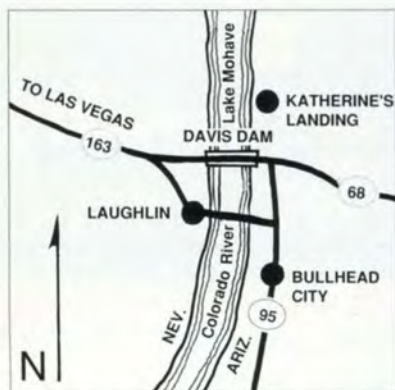
Davis, reclamation director from 1914 to 1923, the dam was initially planned in 1924. Construction began in 1942, and then the war shut things down until 1946. Thereafter work proceeded as part of the grand design for control over the lower Colorado.

For nature lovers, the area abounds with chances to enjoy the water and desert. Katherine's Landing, on the Arizona side of Lake Mohave, is a green oasis with a National Park Service campground and Lake Mohave Resort, a full-service motel resort and RV park that rents houseboats and fishing and ski boats for cruising the lake.

Just below the dam on the Nevada side is Sportsmen's Park, a rustic county campground. On the Arizona side is quaint Davis Camp Park, which offers cabins that are the former homes of the dam's builders.

In Laughlin, waiting for one of the little ferries that dart back and forth across the river, one can look a mile upstream and see Davis Dam. Here is a place where man and nature have come together and collided, where the peacefulness of the desert is coexisting with what we call civilization. □

Lorraine L. Buck of Henderson is a freelance writer



Down at Davis

Holding back Lake Mohave since first being plugged in 1950, Davis Dam spans the Colorado River 95 miles south of Las Vegas. For more information on Lake Mohave, write or call the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, 601 Nevada Highway Boulder City NV 89005; 702-293-8907

For information on Laughlin, write the Laughlin Chamber of Commerce, Box 2280, Laughlin, NV 89029 or call 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 (outside Nevada).



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FAVORITE VACATIONS

(Continued from page 28)

Mama steps off the plane wearing her best dress, her highest heels, and all her rhinestones. After we get to our hotel on the Strip, we literally throw our luggage into the room and head for the casino and slot machines.

We get Mama five rolls of nickels and sit her in front of a slot machine. She won't listen when we tell her to play five nickels to go for the full payoff. No way—she puts in one nickel at a time.

Three hours later she's still there, but now she has a bucketful of nickels, and the bottom of the machine is also full. It's 12 o'clock in the morning, which is 2 a.m. Houston time. She has been up for almost 20 hours. "How about going to the room and laying down for a while?" we ask. "Y'all go ahead," she says. "I'll play for a while longer." My sister and I look at each other. We're thinking, is this the same little old lady who usually goes to bed before the 10 o'clock news?

We finally get her back to the room at 4 a.m. She has cashed in \$4.35 and is bragging about it, forgetting it took her 10 rolls of nickels to win the \$4.35. My sister and I lie down on the covers, not



Surrounded by slots on the Strip.

even bothering to get out of our clothes.

Soon someone is poking us and asking if we are going to sleep all day. We open our eyes, and there is Mama. She already has showered, and this morning she's wearing slacks, a cotton blouse, and loafers.

Under her prodding, we take a bus to the downtown casinos. Mama has to explore each casino at least once. She's jumping from one slot machine to another. By now she is playing the quarter machines, five quarters at a time.

That evening we take a cab back to our hotel. Carrying a bucketful of quar-

ters, Mama is sitting on the edge of the seat, urging the cab driver to go faster. We finally realize she's afraid they are going to close the doors of the casino for the night. We remind her that in Vegas there is no day and night—the casinos never close.

We drag her past the slot machines and up to the coffee shop. At the table she takes a keno card and promptly marks seven numbers. She hands it to the keno runner along with four of her quarters. She just toys with her food on her plate. She's too busy watching the keno board. Then six of her numbers light up, making her a winner. She wants to go find the keno runner, but we assure her the girl is honest and will return with her winnings. As soon as the poor girl appears, Mama is up hugging and kissing her. She hands Mama \$350. Everyone in the coffee shop applauds. Needless to say, that is the end of our meal.

We crawl into bed at three in the morning. My sister and I are thankful that we have only one more day to go. Our feet are swollen, and every bone in our bodies aches.

We wake up to find Mama gone. We throw on our clothes and head downstairs. We finally spot her, wearing a



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muumuu, her feet pushed into a pair of thongs. She doesn't seem to notice us. She's too busy pulling the handle of a dollar machine and looking for a waitress to bring her another Tom Collins.

My sister and I begin counting the hours until our plane departs. We have nightmares about getting Mama through the airport, which has slot machines scattered throughout. We both know one thing—when that plane leaves for home, all three of us will be on it.

But at the airport Mama is very cooperative. She sits there quietly glancing lovingly at the machines. Finally, for the first time on the trip, she seems to be enjoying our company.

As the three of us board the plane, Mama already is counting the days until Christmas. She thinks the perfect present would be another ticket to Las Vegas.

Oh yeah, and for Mother's Day

Barbara Kallies lives and writes in Houston. Since that first visit she and Patsy have taken their mother Emma Griffith, to Las Vegas three or four times a year



EYE OF THE ICHTHYOSAUR

A camping trip back in time.

By Jeanice Deering

It was the last week of summer vacation when my husband and I took our school-aged boys and toddling daughter from Carson City to Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, a 150-mile trek by way of Gabbs. The striking contrast of the mountains and valleys reminded us of a giant roller coaster ride.

We descended into Berlin as the sun was setting. After a few turns on the dusty road, we were climbing among the pygmy forest of pinyons and junipers. We pulled into the campground and turned in early so we could see the ichthyosaur fossils early the next day.

The pinyon jays woke us. After breakfast we walked the quarter-mile trail to the monument and read each of the placards along the way. They de-

scribed the park's various flora and fauna. The fossil shelter was closed until 10 a.m., but we could read about the monument's founder, Charles L. Camp, and about the process by which the bones of the ancient fish-lizards were petrified.

Our boys enjoyed comparing themselves to the replica of an ichthyosaur. They discovered that a boy's head is smaller than an ichthyosaur's eye.

We imagined what it was like 250 million years ago, when the park was covered by an inland sea. Shoals of ammonites floated past us in the eerie, sun-drenched green water. Suddenly a 50-foot ichthyosaur came into view its long, dolphin-like mouth agape, gobbling up shells. The ichthyosaur had four young with her, and they gobbled as many of the nautilus-like cephalopods as they could. They swam away, continuing to hunt.

Then we imagined the landscape changing. Mountains rose above the water. As the ichthyosaurs died, their bodies sank to the bottom of the sea. As they decayed over millions of years, their bones would be replaced with lime petrification.

That morning's fossil-shelter tour was so fascinating the boys decided to take it a second time. Even our daughter enjoyed herself. She could dig in a sandbox and find little fossils.

We are planning another Nevada vacation this summer, and the boys have made us promise to take a little side trip, back to the ichthyosaurs.

Jeanice Deering of Carson City writes children's stories.



The boys follow the fossil trail.



MODEL T TRIP

*The slow way to Death Valley
By William and Philip Metscher*

We took our 300-mile trip from Tonopah to Death Valley and back largely because our father Bill and uncle George Metscher had made the same trip in a Model T in 1925, and they told us about all the tire problems they had. So Bill and I thought it would be an adventure for us as well. They had all dirt roads in 1925, so we did miss some of the fun. But we definitely didn't miss out on the flat tires.

PHIL: Bill's Model T is a 1916 touring car without a top; mine's a 1918 open delivery truck. Both our "Ts" are original, not restored, just updated and kept in running order. We decided on a two-day tour, September 15-16, 1984. I was ready with 17 gallons of water, two gallons of oil, five gallons of gas, a spare wheel, tire patches, two spare tires, my two cameras, and the usual food and camping gear. I didn't load the food at night—the local stray cats might have had a feast.

We left Tonopah at 7 a.m., taking the old highway ways before reaching U.S. 95. My "T" was running very smoothly at 25 to 30 mph. I was leading since my engine was set too tight and couldn't go as fast as Bill's. So I set the pace, although if I drove too fast the engine would overheat and seize up.

BILL: We reached the top of the Goldfield summit by 8:15 a.m. Here I had my first flat tire, the left rear. I put on the spare, and we continued.

Later we stopped at the Cottontail Ranch brothel for a minute as Phil delivered a batch of photos of the girls taken on Goldfield Treasure Days. We headed over dirt roads to the little ghost town of Gold Point, where we were warned that the roads into Death Valley weren't very good. Eventually we came to a sign that directed us to "Oriental Wash, Death Valley." The first two or three miles downhill were very sandy. The wash itself was hard surface with rocks and bumps. It was wide, probably 400 to 500 feet across. We drove down the wash about 14 miles.

PHIL: At the head of the wash my engine was boiling, so I stopped to let it cool. My "T" has the standard coil setup. Bill's has a magneto. I think a magneto has a hotter spark, which produces more power and less overheating.

The air was getting quite hot by this time, but the cars were operating well. Mine was leaking oil but not bad. After a tortuous hour we made Sand Springs. We had lunch and rested. We laughed about the time in the 1910s when Sheriff Ingalls from Goldfield hired an airplane and raided the cattle rustlers who had been camped around this area. Sitting there, we figured the worst was behind us. The pavement, a few miles ahead, had to be better, right?

The next dirt road was so rough that Bill's vacuum line broke, which left us scrambling for parts. I found some bailing wire, Bill found some hose, and we got the line repaired. Then we had to put a nut and bolt in Bill's firewall, which had vibrated out and was banging loudly. Finally we reached the pavement—what a relief.

BILL: We were driving on the main road through Death Valley when Phil's engine began to seize up from heat. We stopped and let it cool, had a beer, and then continued. Hit a bad headwind that was blowing very hot, about 100 degrees. At the "Sea Level" sign Phil's tire went flat. While we were patching the tire a load of German tourists stopped and took our photo. They must have thought we were crazy. Next a park ranger came by. He told us the sight of our cars was putting him in a time warp.

Soon we hit another wind and sand storm. The wind was blowing so hard most of the time that we had to use low gears and I couldn't even see Phil in front of me.

PHIL: The wind was carrying weeds, brush, small rocks, alkali, and anything else that was not tied down. I had sticklers in my neck. My glasses blew off, and when I stopped to pick them up, I had a heck of a time cranking the engine to get it started again.

We pulled into Furnace Creek at 4:45 p.m. At the service station we fueled up, each of us needing about 8.8 gallons to top the tank. We bent under a water spigot and washed the dirt out of our eyes and hair. I saw that my tire was still leaking, so I broke it down and put on a new patch while some English tourists took pictures of us.

At the campground we set up our gear. Bill repaired his tire again as the



Homeward bound, Bill Metscher poses with the "Ts."

stem was leaking, and we had a bite to eat.

BILL: We walked over and looked around the store at Furnace Creek Ranch, the park headquarters, and had a couple of draft beers at the bar. The place was almost deserted as tourist season doesn't start until the first of October. Too hot. There were quite a

My tire was still
leaking, so I broke it
down and put on
a new patch while
some English tourists
took pictures of us.

few German tourists running around, but nothing like during the winter when the valley is full of people.

Later we put on our swimming suits, went up to the gas station, and took a bath with the water hose. Then we shut down for the night. I slept on a picnic bench, and it was hard as a rock. Little bugs were buzzing around all night, and it was too hot to cover up with blankets. Phil had a cot and was more comfortable. The only noises were coyotes playing and a rooster that started in about 2 a.m.

PHIL: We got up at 5:30 a.m. Bill's and my tires were still up—no leaks. And we were off on the return trip to Tonopah.

About eight miles my left rear tire went flat again, so I put on a spare.

Despite the cool morning air I had to stop three times to let the engine cool—the water wasn't boiling, but the oil was too hot. At one stop I took out the floorboards to let the heat out. Then my master plug started leaking oil. I gave Bill my 15-gallon water can to carry which lightened my load and let the car run easier.

At Scotty's Castle we stopped for a rest and a cold one. Bill had another flat. My "T" was running better. At the state line I took my water can back—of course, it was much lighter by then.

BILL: The next stop was Bonnie Claire. We rested and moved on. We stopped again at the top of Stonewall Pass. Here we had another cold one or two and Phil drained the oil out of his engine since it was full of grindings. He put four quarts back in—he had been running six or seven. During the whole trip I added about two quarts to my car—it had leaked that much around the back pan mounts.

A few miles later we met my wife Judy who was on her way to Beatty and then we stopped to let Phil's engine cool. He added two more quarts of oil. Apparently that was all his "T" needed—it didn't quit him for the rest of the trip.

From there we made good time. We reached Goldfield about noon. We went up to the Laguna Mine and sat under the gallows frame for lunch and a cool, refreshing beer. Then we headed home. We got into Tonopah about 2 p.m. The trip home had taken seven and a half hours, while the trip down had taken 10.

All in all it was a great trip. It had taken a little longer than we expected to

get down to Furnace Creek. If we were to do it again, we would stay an extra day at Furnace Creek to rest up. Otherwise there were no major problems except for the overheating—and all those flat tires, although we hadn't had quite as many flats as our father and uncle had back in 1925.

William J. and Philip Metscher both of whom work for the Nevada Department of Transportation, are lifelong Tonopah residents and two of the founders of the Central Nevada Museum and Historical Society. They try to take a lengthy Model T excursion at least once a year



RENO RENDEZVOUS

*Thank heavens the kids
didn't go to Florida.*

By Marie Kimball

In 1964 my husband and I drove across the country from Portland, Maine, to Reno to see our son at Stead Air Force Base before he left for Korea. From the time we left Salt Lake City and saw the salt flats and mountains at Wendover, we were hooked. We went back every year—drove six times—and when we retired to Florida, we made the trip two or three times every year flying. Even flew from Vegas to Laughlin—now that is something.

Our 50th wedding anniversary was



A sign of celebration for the Kimballs.

February 12, 1987 and we planned to spend it in Reno. Luckily, friends told us that our three children and their spouses all planned to fly to Florida to surprise us. It sure would have been a surprise for them to get to Florida and

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find out we were in Reno.

So we invited them all to fly to Reno and celebrate there. For a whole week we ate, drank, gambled, and took trips to Virginia City Lake Tahoe, and Carson City. On the big day we gathered in our suite at Circus Circus for breakfast and then went down to the tables and slots. When we came back, the kids had decorated the suite. There was a beautiful wedding cake from Harolds Club, not to mention champagne and gifts of money gold presents, and cards from people back home. We were escorted down the hall to "Here Comes the Bride." They had rented a VCR and had made a tape covering 50 years starting with our wedding pictures. It ran 90 minutes and was wonderful.

That night we went to the Eldorado and were guests of the club. We drank toasts to ourselves, to Nevada, to Reno, and to all the nice people we met there.

We've been back twice since. With any kind of luck we expect to keep coming back 10 more years. I'm 76 and my husband is 77. What a way to live!

Marie Kimball and her husband Franklyn live in Delray Beach, Florida.



CAPTAIN COURAGEOUS

The good life on Mohave.

By Richard Reul

My friend Sarah, a fun-loving lady in her 50s, owns a singles-only travel club in La Jolla. The previous spring I had co-captained a similar houseboat cruise for her in the Sacramento Delta. Now we were together again, meeting at Katherine's Landing for a week's houseboat cruise on Lake Mohave. We had a totally different group this time. I was captain, and Bernie was my first mate. Our crew consisted of Sarah, Naida, Kitty Evey, and Dorothy Quite a harem, you might think, although our ages ranged from about 45 to 72.

Sarah has found that it usually works best for the men to handle the boat while the women handle the kitchen. She set up a schedule for each lady to be a cook one day and a kitchen helper on another. My First Night Captain's Dinner, my own chicken enchiladas en mole, was an exception. After dinner we negotiated our sleeping arrangements.

Sunday/Day One—Leaving the harbor, we proceeded northward on a calm and beautiful lake. On Mohave, the preferred mooring technique is to head the houseboat directly into the shore, running the bow barely aground. Lines from the stern are secured to stakes hammered into the beach. Ideally, the water should be deep until very close to shore. This enables you to run aground and step off on a dry beach. Conversely you can pull off easily by using the reverse thrust of the propeller.

Our first stop was a fortunate one. Telephone Cove South was a pretty landfall with many cottonwood trees. We spent the day exploring and socializing.

Monday/Day Two—Some problems already. One of our stakes had pulled loose because of last night's strong wind, and the houseboat was broadside to the shore. After breakfast Bernie and a couple of the girls moved the stern into deep water, and we got underway.

Each of us took a turn at the wheel. Music from the tape player and some Bloody Marys created a festive mood. The wind was still strong when we came to the wide part of the lake, where, we had been warned, seven-foot waves could be encountered. They averaged about four feet, and the houseboat handled them gracefully, but the forward deck was frequently inundated. We stopped at Cottonwood Cove, where the inshore waters were alive with carp that fought for every crumb we threw overboard.

Later we made our landfall in Painted Canyon Cove. I tried a few casts off the stern, but the fish did not respond. That night we gathered some driftwood and had a campfire on shore.

Tuesday/Day Three—This is usually the day that inhibitions start breaking down on a singles cruise, and ours was no exception. There is very little privacy on a houseboat, even with seven people on a 10-passenger boat. It gets to be a hassle if you go to the head—the only room with a lock—every time you

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The crew finds a private cove.

want to change clothes. So casual nudity becomes the norm. There is only the group and we are becoming attuned to each other. We camped at Coyote Spring Cove.

Wednesday/Day Four—True to the name of the cove, a large coyote came over the ridge just before breakfast.

We cruised up to Squaw Peaks, the northerly limit for houseboats. That night at Bonnie Brae Cove I caught five rainbow trout off the stern within an hour. Naida and I explored a canyon where outcroppings of sandstone resembled ancient ruins.

Thursday/Day Five—We headed south, looking for one last landfall. It turned out to be Castle Cove on the

Arizona side. This was a beautiful, sheltered spot, with the Castle Cliff light on the ridge above. Several of us went swimming, despite the cold water, and hiked around the nearby mountains. Sarah, Naida, and I did some sunbathing on the roof of the houseboat. Bernie declined.

Friday/Day Six—Leaving Castle Cove proved to be exciting. The bow of the houseboat was hung up on the shore, so I ordered the crew to the stern and applied full reverse power—with no results. Then I asked them to go

ashore and push. This muscling, in combination with the engine, worked dramatically although Kitty and Evey were left floundering in deep water. We fished them out, and they had no hesitation about changing to dry clothes on the spot.

By late afternoon we arrived safely at Katherine's Landing. That evening we spent at Laughlin, enjoying the gambling and night life, toasting civilization and new friends. ▽

Richard Reul lives and writes in Pahrump.

WHAT A TRIP!

How about your favorite Nevada vacation? Readers are invited to take typewriters to fingertips and share the fun and adventure (or misadventure) of their favorite vacations, with their fellow *Nevada* readers. Those chosen will appear in an upcoming issue, with some remuneration allowed for the authors. Suggested story length is 400 to 800 words, and accompanying photos are encouraged. Send submissions with a stamped, self-addressed envelope (photos and extra items will be returned) to Favorite Vacations, Nevada Magazine, 101 South Fall Street, Carson City, NV 89710 while that trip is still fresh in your memory

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MELVIN BROWN

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invite an old spirit.*



"Battle Scene/Autumn Leaves"

OIL PAINTING, 18x26"

*"I used to do paintings that could
be viewed as one thing or the
other in this instance an
ancient raging battle scene or
dried leaves on a quiet afternoon."*



More than anything, Melvin Brown's life is woven around his family and Native American heritage.

When asked about his paintings, sculpture, or woodcuts, Brown instead shifts the discussion to his parents and tradition.

"I can't speak my language," says Brown, who grew up in Schurz. "I can't go out and live off the land like my forefathers did. The only way I can preserve the tradition is to care for my mom, and grow my hair long. That's about as close as I can get to it."

Brown, 37, received his associate of arts degree in 1979 from the American Institute of Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Since then he's returned to Schurz,



Melvin Brown of Schurz.

which is part of the Walker River Indian Reservation. During the day he renovates mortar shells at the Hawthorne ammunition plant. At night and on the weekends he makes woodcuts out of Japanese plywood.

The medium, which involves carving four different woodcuts for each

"Watching the Handgame Players"

THREE-COLOR WOODCUT, 18x12"

"My mom says that when she was a little girl the handgames would go on for five or six days. The game is played during the pinenut festival. The dress is the 1800s."

print, gives him a lot of satisfaction. "You get a delicate impression from it," says Brown. "I like the process and the finished product."

It also helps him express his love for his Shoshone mother and late Paiute father, who used to bring home discarded art supplies from the high school where he worked as a janitor.

"For me, art and my family reinforce each other," says Brown. "I couldn't have done it without my mother—the way she lived her life. I'm trying to express that in my art. Everything she ever did was always for her children. For me, growing up and getting older, the responsibility has been to younger members of my family. Keeping the spirit alive." —Cliff Glover

MINING CAMP CHRONICLES

(Continued from page 21)

Mining District, published in 1985: "Whenever a spectacular mining strike brought about the founding of a new town," editors appeared "as miraculously as frogs after a rainstorm. With a battered Washington hand press and a couple of cases of type set up in a ragged tent or hillside dugout, the boom camp editor picked up his composing stick and dedicated himself to filling 'the long-felt need' of some shirttail camp a couple of months removed from bare desert."

As with many pioneer journalists, Myron Angel was as much interested in mining as he was in newspapering. Angel, the *Reveille's* first star journalist, joined the paper in late 1863 as assistant editor. In the 1870s he formed a company that spent more than \$100,000 in making a canal and opening a hydraulic mine in El Dorado County in California. Once asked about his employment, Angel replied: "I mine for a fortune but I write for a living."

At the end of the 1870s, the *Reveille* became renowned throughout the West for something less sober than its mining reports: the Sazerac Lying



Club. The brilliant Fred H. Hart had begun to attract attention as correspondent for the *Reveille* with spicy and interesting letters from White Pine, Belmont, and contiguous localities writing under the nom de plume of Van Jacquelin. Hart joined the *Reveille*

Off shift, miners were a captive audience for boom-town newspapers.

staff in 1873 and served as editor of the paper from 1875 to 1878. Like most reporters for frontier newspapers, he was a utility man when he started. His job entailed writing an advertisement about a lost dog up to heavy dissertations on leading topics. But his main task was to get the local news.

"There was no difficulty," Hart wrote later, "about the leaders or other editorial matter: a pair of sharp shears, a raid on the exchanges, and texts from telegraphic news daily supplied to the paper would readily furnish them. But to make up respectable local items was a constant strain on the mental capacity and legs of the writers."

Hart had the imagination to make up local items. But he founded the lying club quite by accident on a slow news day. Local items were short, so Hart had the inspired idea of making up a filler about a fabulous liar he had recently heard in a local saloon. He wrote that the liar, whom he called George Washington Fibley, had been elected president of the newly organized Sazerac Lying Club.

Austin and the Sazerac regulars were amused by the sally. The victim of the joke was not. He barged into the *Reveille* office "exceedingly wroth." Brandishing his cane menacingly he demanded a retraction or an apology. Hart agreed. "APOLOGETIC.—An apology is due from the *Reveille* to Mr. George Washington Fibley," he wrote.

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Nabobs, like this Tonopah group, often controlled both mines and newspapers.

"We said in yesterday's issue that he was elected President of the Sazerac Lying Club. This was an error. He was defeated."

Hart soon realized that the Sazerac Lying Club made great copy. Austin had long passed its peak, becoming a dull, tiny town. Local items embroidered from the whoopers told by the regulars of the Sazerac Saloon kept the locals laughing and helped to fill the news hole.

The stories, sketches, and items were widely reprinted by other newspapers. While he was still at the *Reveille*, Hart wrote that funny book full of lies, *The Sazerac Lying Club*. It was so popular that in the first year of publication, 1878, it ran to three editions.

The flavor of the book can be judged by one item, "A Fossiliferous Lie." A newspaper paragraph said that a snail from the Egyptian desert was found alive after having been glued to an exhibit at the British Museum for four years.

Nothing remarkable about that, a liar at the club said. Once when he was mining in limestone in White Pine, the gentleman said, he blasted out a snail and put it in his cabinet for safekeeping. "One day it crawled out of the cabinet and bored itself back into the limestone where it had been imbedded for thirty thousand years."

Mining camp writers, exhibiting the lively heritage of American humor,

used all the literary devices: "irony, overstatement, understatement," wrote Richard G. Lillard in his Ph. D. dissertation, *Studies in Washoe Journalism and Humor*. "They used all the forms: puns, conundrums, character studies, tall stories, journalistic squibs

and joshes, parodies, burlesques, hoaxes, practical jokes."

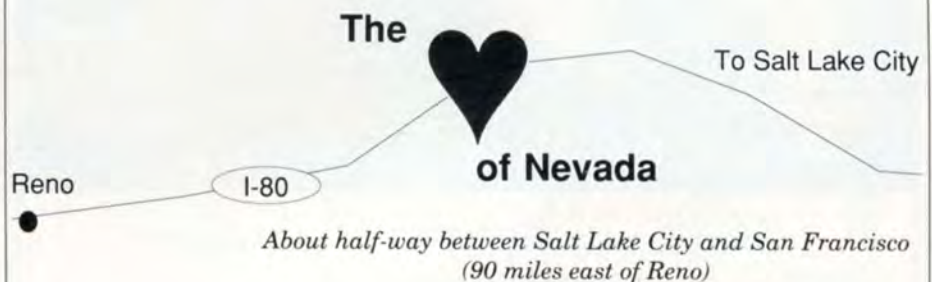
Sagebrush humor was crude and obvious. But the Westerners loved it. Wrote Lillard, "The only kind of literary man that the mineral frontier really understood or encouraged or tolerated was the humorist. Simply he best articulated the local sense of fun."

Another mining town that had newspapermen following in the wake of prospectors was Belmont—meaning "beautiful mountain"—at the north end of the Ralston Valley in Nye County.

The Silver Bend District, at a frosty 7,000 feet, was the objective of the rush to Belmont. Between 1867 and 1885, Belmont mines produced \$15 million in silver and lead. But it was silver that was the real belle. The *Silver Bend Reporter* called the Highbridge ledge a "magnificent vein destined to become as noted for its production of silver as the great Potosi of Bolivia." A week later the newspaper was touting the Transylvania ledge for the celebrity of its silver.

The *Silver Bend Reporter* founded March 30, 1867 was a four-page weekly with five clean-looking columns. Oscar Fairchild, who once

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leased the *Reese River Reveille*, acted as publisher, while his brother, Mahlon, was the editor. They declared themselves in the page-one masthead to be "An Independent Journal, devoted to the Mining, Manufacturing, and Agricultural interests of Eastern Nevada"—the Great East, as newspapers dubbed the vast region of Nevada east and south of Virginia City. The *Reporter* cost 25 cents a week, delivered. The rate for three months was \$3.

The *Reporter* deserves a place in a history of Nevada journalism if for no other reason than the salutatory editorial written by editor Fairchild:

"American pioneers, intelligent and enterprising, carry with them the press and type, and wherever they pitch their tent, be it in the wilderness of the interior, among the snow-covered peaks of the Sierra, or on the sunny sea beach of the Pacific, there too must the newspaper appear, with its political discussions; its disquisitions upon men, morals, law and religion; its advocacy of the resources of its section; its details of local and foreign news; its tales, stories and jokes, and last though not least in importance and interest, its advertisements.

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wilderness, shall be a Newspaper. In young, vigorous and beautiful Belmont, we have set up our altars amidst the crags and mountain peaks veined with untold treasure. Believing in the power and efficacy of the Press, its influence at home and abroad."

Mining camp editors occasionally went so far as to write their paper—literally. Handwritten newspapers were an old tradition in Nevada journalism, starting with the state's first, the *Gold Cañon Switch* of Johnstown. But the best known of Nevada's handwritten newspapers was the *Granite Times*, put out for seven issues in 1908 by F. Eugene Bugbee for the mining camp of Granite, seven miles west of Schurz.

The two-page Easter edition had the *Granite Times* nameplate in black ink with orange crayon shading, and proclaiming: "Devoted to the Mining and Material Interests of Granite and the Mountain View District." The ears—corners of the nameplate—displayed crude drawings of a bunny and a chick. The page-one layout was good, three columns wide and without bumping headlines.

Times stories were written with a graphite pencil in long hand, its headlines printed with a blue pencil. The price for the Easter edition, \$5, seemed steep. But doubtless all that hand labor was costly, and it was an Easter issue. Other issues of the paper cost \$1. Only seven copies of the *Times'* first issue on March 20, 1908, were produced.

Still, the *Times* reported progress:



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"An automobile road is almost completed from Granite to Schurz. This will be a great help to our camp. The road has not been fit for autos and also bad for freight teams." Indeed, the *Rawhide Rustler* proudly printed part of the *Granite Times* for April 3, 1908, with this note: "We reproduce a section of the Times, a paper printed in lead pencil in the new town of Granite. It shows the usual progressiveness of new mining camps in Nevada."

Poetry, too, was a staple of the *Times*. A local miner who occasionally helped out at the *Times* office, M.L. Ruef, dabbled in rhyme for the Easter edition:

Granite, Granite, Granite, you are the wonder of the day.

And you'll always be remembered in a good old-fashioned way.

A town of jolly fellows and pretty girls a few

(and concluding with)

Here's one on our editor a man beyond description,

Who will dunn (sic) you without mercy if you owe for a subscription.

Alas, Granite, like so many mining camps in Nevada, never panned out. One of those who left was Frank Bugbee. He moved to Lyon County, where he was elected to the Nevada Assemblies of 1931, 1933, and 1937. Bugbee died in Yerington in 1943.

With the mines of Nevada producing so much money, it was inevitable that some newspaper would flaunt that wealth. So it was that a page-one banner headline was printed in ink mixed with gold dust assayed at \$80,000 a ton. The richest headline ever written: "Blue Horse Is A Great Mine." The paper: the *Silver Bow Standard*. The editor and publisher: R. Leslie Smaill. The date: January 6, 1906.

A note below the headline said: "A limited number of this issue of the STANDARD had the headline printed in pure gold dust from the Reed and Robbe lease. This is the first time in the history of Western journalism that such a paper was ever turned off the press." The paper did not disclose what a "limited number was." But it did say that it had planned to run off the whole edition in gold-spangled ink. Calculations showed, however, that the cost would amount to "a sum far in excess of the real value of the entire plant, editor, force and all."

Nevertheless, spendthrift editor Smaill could pun in print that "this paper will not resent any attempt on the part of the outside press to refer to

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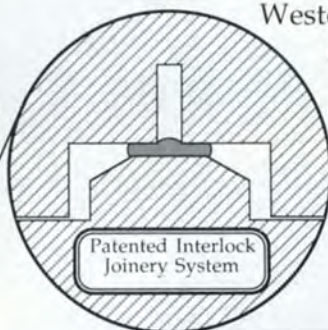
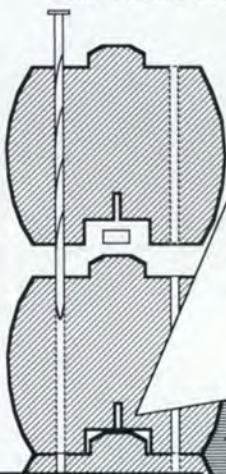
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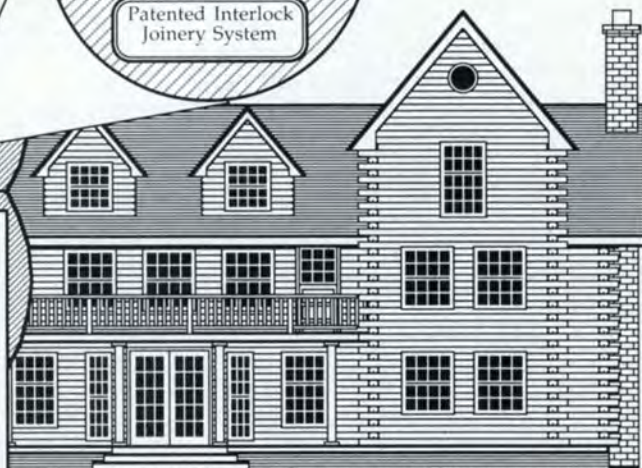
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this number as a 'yellow journal.'"

That profligacy in headlining may have hastened the newspaper's death. The publisher folded the *Standard* shortly after the gold-dust headline, turning up in Manhattan to edit the

*'It may be possible
to publish a newspaper
on one square meal
a week, but
not one a month.'*

new *Manhattan News*. Silver Bow, about 50 miles east of Tonopah, was short-lived anyway. But you would never have known it by reading the camp-boosting, mine-touting *Silver Bow Standard*.

For example, the story under the world's richest headline began with this exaggeration: "I consider the Blue Horse Mine a great property: in fact the showing at its depth causes me to believe that it is equaled only by the great Sandstorm of Goldfield." The source of that quotation? "A prominent mining man in conversation with a STANDARD representative after a thorough examination of the Reed and Robbe lease." After that blind quotation, the paper reported that the shaft was down more than 60 feet and still in high-grade ore. Then followed the classic attribution in newspapering: "From a generally authoritative source it is learned the last shipment (of ore) averaged \$356 per ton."

Two weeks earlier the weekly *Standard* had hailed "The Dawn of a New Era." It editorialized that the Blue Horse Mine made it "fair to predict that this camp will be the metropolis of southwestern Nevada in no great distant future."

Editor Smaill had left the staff of the *Tonopah Sun* to start the *Standard* on August 5, 1905. The *Sun* carried a page-one graphic of Smaill at the printer's case with this overline: "Silver Bow's First Horace Greeley" (Greeley's name was misspelled.) The caption and story under the art said Smaill was a fighter both in and out of the last General Assembly as a representative from Churchill County "He got that reputation when at the great Corbett-Fitzsimmons contest he carried towels for Fitz."

Smaill wasn't the only newspaperman to envision prosperity just around the corner. Orlando E. Jones thought the desert near Hawthorne would soon bloom as a metropolis. The Carson and Colorado Railroad laid out the townsite of Hawthorne in the spring of 1881 after it had opened its terminus at the south end of Walker Lake. So Jones, expecting a boom, founded a newspaper called *The Oasis*. As newspaper bibliographers put it: "Jones, a former circus clown, who would perform for even the smallest audience, was also willing to try to issue a paper for only a handful of subscribers." For five weeks he produced a newspaper "for the cluster of shanties that would someday be Hawthorne."

The paper was full of short squibs under the rubrics of "Smalls," "General Items," and "Waywards." A "Small" "How awfully awful it would be if everybody told the truth without warning." Under "General Items": "Ducks and geese are plentiful on Walker Lake. Come ye hunters"; and, "Wright, the cattle man, this week delivered to Cardwell the finest lot of cattle ever sent into town." (James Cardwell was a meat dealer on E Street.) Unemployment in Hawthorne that September was 0.0, with editor Jones reporting: "No idle men in Hawthorne, and frequently cars have to switch off and stand for want of laborers to unload them."

Jones was neither indomitable nor a clown about the newspaper business. He had to eat. So he gave up with this sorrowful swan song:

"This is a world of sadness. It becomes the sad duty of the undersigned to announce that with this issue his connection with the *Oasis*, either as editor or manager, ceases. The enterprise started as an experiment, and the experiment is a failure. It may be possible to publish a newspaper on one square meal a week; but to undertake to do so on one square a month, and hash only once in thirty-one days for the long months, is a little more than human nature can stand. It might be done in Missouri but it will prove a dead failure every time in Nevada. Hawthorne has a future before it, and we look for the building up of an inland town of considerable importance. But printers, as a rule, are not wealthy enough to run newspapers for glory—it cannot be said that its life [*The Oasis*], through brief, was jolly. To those friends who have endeavored to aid the enterprise by patronage and en-

couragement, we return our sincere thanks. Liberty and Nevada. Ta ta.

"Orlando E. Jones"

Jones moved to Bodie, California, where he apparently found square meals since he ran two papers there for nearly a decade. Hawthorne got its first successful paper in 1883, the *Walker Lake Bulletin* which lasted until 1926.

Newspapers then, as now, were terribly important to a community. But except for papers like the *Territorial Enterprise*, mining-camp newspapers seldom made much money. Still, they were a powerful civilizing influence, as

important as schools, libraries, and churches.

Even more important, newspapers embodied "sacred" print. Yes, people wanted to be informed about their mines, their towns, their officials, their neighbors, their country, their world. But newspapers also filled a basic human need on the mineral frontier: to read. □

Jake Highton teaches journalism at the University of Nevada-Reno. This is an excerpt from a forthcoming book on the history of Nevada journalism.

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THE BIG DROUGHT

(Continued from page 18)

Bob Firth, Westpac's water resources manager.

Federal Water Master Garry Stone closed irrigation ditches to the Truckee Meadows in August, shutting off water not only to farmers remaining in the urban area but also to parks and golf courses. Managers of the Wildcreek, Northgate, Lakeridge, and Washoe County courses scrambled to keep their greens green by stashing irrigation water in their water hazards.

Siphoning Tahoe
water was last done
during the
'30s drought,
over the objections
of shotgun-toting
Californians.

Lakeridge manager Mark Porsow tried to look on the bright side: "On a dry green, you can putt a little faster, and you can get a good 50-yard bounce on a dry fairway. During this drought you can drop a couple of strokes off your game. At least that's what I tell my customers."

Life wasn't that funny for fish, but then, life's never fun for a fish out of water. Low flows in the Truckee already had canceled spring spawning runs of Pyramid Lake's magnificent Lahontan cutthroat trout and endangered cui-ui suckers. The Pyramid Lake Tribe of Paiute Indians turned to their hatcheries to perpetuate the two species and prayed that an unprecedented third drought year in a row wouldn't block the instinctive struggle of the fish to migrate upstream and reproduce naturally this spring.

In late August, Mason Valley farmers in the Walker Irrigation District drained Bridgeport Reservoir, sending oozing muck and thousands of dying trout down the Walker River over the anguished cries of anglers.

By September, Lahontan and Rye Patch reservoirs looked like vast, empty bathtubs, and the state Wildlife Commission dropped all fishing limits, urging anglers to come as often as they like. But people stayed away in droves, leaving millions of game fish—white bass, crappie, catfish, and prized walleye—crowded into an ever dwindling space that might freeze over during the winter, cutting off oxygen and food to the fish.

Lovelock farmers threatened to drain Rye Patch just as their counterparts had done to Bridgeport Reservoir. "There's so little water out there it won't make any difference to the fish, but it might make a difference to a fellow who has some alfalfa dying," said Myron Goldsworthy, manager of the Pershing County Water District.

But through crimping and saving, and some meticulous water management by the Truckee-Carson Irrigation District, they managed to leave minimum pools in both reservoirs, giving the fish a fighting chance for survival over the winter.

The future of the wildlife wonderland of ducks and delicate wading birds in the Stillwater Marsh and its wetlands twin, the Carson Lake, was even more in doubt. Together, the network of shallow ponds lined with cattails and tules harbor three fourths of Nevada's ducks, two thirds of its whistling swans, half of its Canadian geese,

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and one fourth of its bald eagles. The ponds' importance extends beyond the state's boundaries as the rest stop for a third of the ducks migrating the Pacific Flyway between Canada and Mexico. But even as the Stillwater wetlands were being designated one of eight vital stopovers in the Western Hemisphere for migrating shorebirds, they were dwindling away—from more than 30,000 acres in the early '70s, to 14,000 acres before the drought, to less than 4,000 acres last fall.

What little water was left was laced with salts from the agricultural drainage that had been their sole source of water for two decades.

As many as 20,000 to 30,000 white pelicans from Anaho Island in Pyramid Lake—birds that used the marshes as their food source—began abandoning their sanctuary. By the end of summer only a few thousand remained. They had produced only 50 young, compared to the 3,000 offspring they raise in a good year.

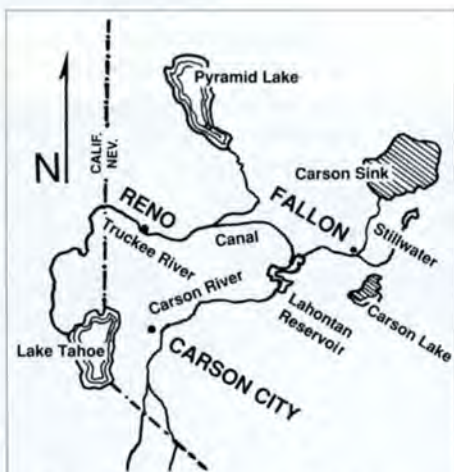
More than half the white-faced ibises that nest at Carson Lake, the nation's largest white-faced ibis rookery, abandoned their nests. Their young died trying to walk across the salt flats.

On October 13, Lake Tahoe fell below its natural rim for the first time this century, effectively shutting off the Truckee River. A dam at the lake's outlet to the Truckee raises the lake level six feet, storing 744,600 acre-feet of water, enough to flood Humboldt or White Pine County under a foot of water. That's the water Reno, Sparks, and the Newlands Project depend on for their existence.

With it gone, Westpac played its last ace: emergency supplies it keeps in Donner and Independence lakes near Truckee, California. That, and extensive ground-water pumping, saw Reno and Sparks through the rest of the year. The only flow downstream from the two cities was the output of the Reno-Sparks sewage plant.

Nevada water officials began to consider siphoning Tahoe water over the rim with big pumps. That was last done 54 years ago, during the '30s drought, over the objections of shot-gutting Californians.

But a big difference between then and now was that more than 200,000 more people had moved into the Truckee Meadows, dependent on Tahoe's water. In fact, the area's population had gone up 30 percent since the



Reservoirs and rivers in Western Nevada dropped to record levels in 1988. Of the "lakes" shown, only Tahoe and Pyramid hold substantial water. Lahontan and Stillwater virtually dried up last year, and the rivers leading to them were meager indeed.

'77 drought.

Amid this environmental Armageddon, the people controlling Western Nevada's water began a search for better ways to manage the lifeblood resource. It was a prodigious task. The Truckee had spawned more lawsuits than fish—including one suit that drew 17,000 defendants into the fray—and virtually every agency and person holding a water right on the river had something to say about its use.

As the drought wore on, there were some tentative but dramatic agreements that would accomplish a number of goals:

- Assure the Pyramid Lake Tribe a minimum flow for in-river spawning of its fish and give Westpac an emergency drought supply.
- Allocate water of Lake Tahoe and the Truckee and Carson rivers between Nevada and California by removing the Pyramid Lake Tribe's fears that it would harm efforts to obtain more water for its evaporating lake.
- Rescue the shrinking Lahontan Valley wetlands by buying water rights from Fallon farmers willing to sell.

The Lahontan Valley Wetlands Coalition is an umbrella group of hunting and conservation groups formed to save the wetlands. For the first time, said its chairman Mike Schon, hunters, environmentalists, and bird watchers were united in a common goal.

Late in the year, former U.S. Senator Chic Hecht won an emergency appro-

priation of \$1.2 million to begin buying water rights for the beleaguered wetlands, and U.S. Senator Harry Reid introduced a bill that would appropriate another 16 million federal dollars for that purpose.

Although some Lahontan Valley farmers viewed the plan as the beginning of the end of their rural lifestyle, the Environmental Defense Fund came up with a possible solution: In drought years, said David Yargas, economist for the national group, farmers could lease their water to the Stillwater Wildlife Management Area, or, for that matter, Reno and Sparks, to tide them through the dry spell. The farmers were skeptical, but listening.

Studies began on another innovative plan to pipe treated effluent from the Reno-Sparks and Carson City sewage-treatment plants down to the wetlands. Almost fit to drink, the treated water is still high in nitrogen and phosphorus, which is bad for rivers but ideal for marshes.

Washoe County began exploring the possibility of pumping ground water from the Honey Lake Basin, straddling the Nevada-California line 35 miles north of Reno, to dry but developing valleys north of Reno. The plan predictably upset residents on the California side of Honey Lake, but the county took a \$2.5 million option on the water rights as a down payment on an \$87 million deal.

All of these potential accords were fraught with legal peril. Because the river system is so interlocked, one water user can't change his use on one section without affecting every other user, from Tahoe to Stillwater.

An even bigger challenge is whether some agreements can be put into effect without an overall settlement that would satisfy everybody and not lead to still more litigation, which Yargas estimated is costing Nevada taxpayers \$1.5 to \$3 million per year.

The question also remains whether the interest of politicians, water managers and planners, and Western Nevadans can be sustained over the next few years.

Perhaps 50 years from now Harry Callahan's grandchildren—in the midst of a new dry spell—may look back to the great drought of 1987-88 and finally find answers to these questions.

With luck it won't take that long. □

Doug McMillan writes for the Reno Gazette-Journal.

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RENO, 1922

In the early 1920s gum was a penny, cigars cost a nickel, and eggs were two bits a dozen. There were no such things as paper bags, and items were wrapped in brown paper. According to Reno's Fred Manha, who submitted this photograph, the standard uniform for grocery clerks included a white shirt, a black tie, an apron, and black sleeves that covered the wrists to just above the elbows. Fred's uncle, Antonio "Tony" Manha, is pictured above with sons Albert, 7, and Tony, 3. The elder Tony leased this store on Fourth Street in Reno from about 1922 to 1924 and then moved to East Sixth, where the Reno Ramada now stands.

If you have a historic Nevada photo you would like to share in the magazine, please send a copy of it to Nevada Magazine Cameos, 101 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710, including a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return. The photo will be treated with care.

BACK ROAD TIPS

(Continued from page 78)

strap to pull the *other* guy out.

I learned about flashlights one evening when my headlights died while driving home from Carson City. By winding some bailing wire around these wonderful inventions and the front of my truck, I was able to light my way home. Flashlights are lousy, however, if their batteries are dead.

Seasonal clothing is a must. During the winter I stash away a few extra warm clothes, socks, and blankets. In the summer I take cases of Gatorade, plenty of sun screen, and a wide-brimmed hat.

3. Getting your directions right. Tell a friend (or even an in-law) of your route and time of return. If you have an extra map, give them that, too. Better yet, invite everyone along for the ride. That way, if you get stuck, you'll have someone to push or pull you out. A compass is handy if you know how to use it. Otherwise get a copy of the *Nevada Road Atlas* for about \$12 through the Nevada Department of

Transportation in Reno and Las Vegas. It's also in many bookstores.

My favorite maps, and the ones I use the most in Nevada, are my vintage 1955 Rand McNally road atlas and a 1974 Texaco map. They have all the

I figured I'd better
stop. It's not
a good idea
to fool with karma,
especially in the
middle of nowhere.

neat roads that are no longer shown on newer maps—roads that have printed next to them "Warning—carry enough food, water, gas and oil to last a month."

4. Helping out. If you come across someone who is stuck or in trouble,

stop and offer them your help. What goes around comes around. I've been awfully glad when someone has stopped for me, and many people have been equally glad when I've stopped for them. If nothing else, at least relay a message. Help otherwise may be miles or hours or even days away.

Last summer I was able to return the favor of many who have stopped for me. On the road between Rachel and Tonopah, a couple and their car were stopped with not only two flats but two flat spares as well. Help had been called, but they had no water, so I gave them what I could.

The same day, on my way to Hawthorne, I was able to quench a thirsty radiator for some people who were caught on U.S. 95. For the hour they were stopped no one seemed to care about their plight. I figured I'd better stop, if for no other reason than to hedge my future safety. It's not a good idea to fool with karma, especially in the middle of nowhere.

5. Stay or walk out? If you are alone and your vehicle breaks down, stay with your rig. That way, when someone comes to find you, they won't be scouting for buzzard food. If you are sure that help is within a *reasonable* walking distance, you may want to proceed with caution, because even if you know exactly where you are, distances can be deceiving.

One time my friends and I got trapped in knee-high gravel in the ultimate vehicle to get stuck in—an overloaded, low-slung, two-wheel-drive van. We were on a back road that was for four-wheel drives only. However, I knew exactly where we were and where to go, so armed with a full gallon of water I spent the next three hours walking uphill to the next town. And low and behold when I got there, I came across a 4x4 and its driver, who was more than willing to help. Remember, patience and karma.

6. Improvising. Like an actor who forgets his lines, you may need to improvise on occasion. On our way to Pyramid Lake a friend and I discovered a hole in the gas tank of my pickup. It was my worst nightmare. Gas was gushing out of the tank and down the hill—a wonderful way to start a back-country weekend.

As I looked around the truck, I spotted several beer cans. So I grabbed my Swiss Army knife, some pliers, and a can of plumber's putty and went to work. I was able to save the gas tank and our weekend fun by plugging the



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There's some deep mud pits out there.

hole with a piece of a Coors Light can.

While improvisation is often good, sometimes it's not. When you're stuck in sand or snow, some people suggest that you'll have better traction by deflating your tires. That's true, but you also need to think ahead a few miles. It's worth a try when you have a tire inflator or you know that a service station is a few miles away. But if you're out in the boondocks on a rough road, you could damage your tires or go flat, leaving you stuck in a worse place. Moral: Check the road first and turn around if you're in doubt.

7 Weather changes. Watch out for any subtle changes in the weather. It's amazing what a few degrees can do to driving conditions.

For instance, a friend and I loaded my truck and set out to explore an out-of-the-way ghost town in Western Nevada. There was plenty of deep snow as we ventured into areas off the beaten track. As we drove on, the snowdrifts got bigger and more ominous. Ultimately a drift the size of a small mountain changed our plans.

We did not want to test the ire of Mother Nature, so we reluctantly backtracked several miles to the main dirt road. But the sun had done its work during those few hours and the road was no longer a hard, frozen surface. As I pressed the gas pedal, the speedometer needle was moving, but we weren't. The truck was digging its

way to an early grave, with us in it. And the nearest tow truck was miles away.

So Don and I unloaded the truck. Then we jacked it up and put rocks under the tires. Next we made a path of rocks to hard ground. In an hour's time we were free of the mud trap and more aware of the daily weather report.

8. Be kind to Mother Nature. Even if you have a four-wheel drive, that doesn't give you license to go everywhere. The definition of a four-wheeler is a vehicle whose sole design is to carry a winch to extract the vehicle from places it would not be if it did not have four-wheel drive. Beyond that, four-wheelers, and all other vehicles, should stay away from environmentally sensitive terrain. Also, respect any *No Trespassing* signs that you may encounter.

As for ghost towns, it's a good idea to let them Rest In Piece. On my first visit to a Nevada ghost town, I found a graveyard with beautiful headstones. When I returned several months later, the headstones had been stolen. What a shame.

9. Get out and walk. If the roads are questionable, it's a good idea to walk the terrain you intend to drive over. Check for soft areas that you can get stuck in, or rocky areas that are high enough to hit the front differential. I've saved many a repair bill just by looking ahead. When you discover that a 10-foot drop-off—instead of the road—lies ahead, you'll be glad you took this precaution.

10. Reverse and don't conquer. No matter what, where, or when you travel in Nevada, never leave the most important gear home: your common sense. And learn to use the most important part of your vehicle's equipment: the *reverse* gear.

Knowing when you can't proceed further because of the road, the capabilities of your vehicle, or your own skill level can save you a lot of walking, repair bills, maybe your marriage, and, most importantly, your vehicle or your life. Best of all you'll avoid a disaster that will kill your interest in attempting another trip. You can always make up a story about how you were able to conquer that road, even if you didn't. No one ever has to know. □

Larry Angier of Lone, California, had his first off-road adventure when he was three. Since then he has explored more than a half-million back-country miles, often in his '82 Toyota four-wheel-drive truck, which friends call his "landfill-on-wheels."



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BACK ROAD TIPS

*A four-wheel fanatic explains
the ins and outs of getting stuck.*

By Larry Angier

For the hardy, or foolhardy, driving Nevada's back roads can be a real adventure. Just because you own a four-wheel drive doesn't mean you'll avoid every pitfall. Nor does driving a sedan guarantee you'll get stuck at every bend. There are rules to remember while exploring Nevada's back roads, and I've listed some of those rules below (Others you'll learn from the school of hard knocks, or bumps in this case.) With a little foresight they'll make your experience enjoyable, and lessen the chance that you'll return home thirsty and with sore legs.

1. Check it out. I begin my journeys by checking the pressure and condition of all the tires, including the spare. Under the hood, I check the brake fluid and clutch (or automatic transmission fluid), oil, radiator, hoses, and fan belts and look for anything that may be out of place. I even crawl underneath to check on the drive-lines, stone guards, and transfer case. Most of the time I've had little trouble with these items because of my diligence. But occasionally I haven't been so lucky, like the time I got a flat halfway from Gerlach to Cedarville, or worse yet between Tuscarora and Winnemucca.

I was on my way home from Tuscarora and decided to take the shortcut via Midas to Winnemucca. It had been a long trip. A couple of days before I managed to drop the muffler and tailpipe along the road. I thought it was just an exhaust leak, but then I remembered I had heard a clunk along the way. Luckily, it was late afternoon, and I stopped not long after the clunk to take another picture.

Just for the heck of it, I looked underneath the truck and found out why it sounded like a jet aircraft taking off—the muffler was gone. I returned to



When the going gets tough, the tough get out and check the road.

where I first heard the clunk and luckily found the muffler along with my tailpipe. I was able to have it fixed, but oh, that ringing in my ears. Had I both-

Keep your can of
extra gas from leaking.
Pasta a la gasoline
gets boring after the first
couple of days.

ered to check a week earlier, I could have repaired it then.

2. Tools and other stuff. For some strange reason stores like K-Mart haven't set up shop in places like the Smoke Creek Desert. Therefore, any

supplies you take should be bought before you leave. For starters take a couple of spare tires, a first-aid kit, jumper cables, a tool box (with tools), tire chains for ice, tire jacks, and, if possible, a few wooden blocks to place under the jacks when you get stuck in mud holes or deep sand. Also, carry some extra gas. I almost always take a five-gallon jeep can along, but I put in only four gallons so the gas has room to expand. This also keeps it from leaking on the food. Pasta a la gasoline gets boring after the first couple of days.

While some people go by the adage "the leaner the better," I tend to be a guy who stuffs himself at the local casino buffet. Likewise with equipment. I started carrying a fire extinguisher after my engine caught fire 100 feet from home. I also carry a shovel and an axe to dig and cut my way out of trouble. And I usually carry a tow

(Continued on page 76)

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The chambers of commerce (C of C) will send you their brochures and guides to local services. If you plan to stop by a chamber office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

The area code is 702 throughout Nevada. All 800 numbers are toll-free.

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Downtown Progress Association: 302 E. Carson Ave., Suite 808, Las Vegas, NV 89101; 382-6397

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The luck of the Irish is bestowed upon Las Vegas during the annual St. Patrick's Day parade downtown (top). In April the townspeople of Henderson celebrate pride in their workforce during Industrial Days. Festivities include a parade (bottom), chili cook-off, beauty pageant, and carnival.

HOT LINES

Charleston Heights Arts Center: films, art exhibits, chamber music, 386-6383

Fern Adair Conservatory of the Arts: ballet, musicals, theater, 458-7575

Las Vegas Stars: triple-A baseball, San Diego Padres farm club. Exhibition games: on 3/31 San Diego Padres v. Seattle Mariners; on 4/1 Las Vegas Stars v. San Diego Padres; on 4/1 Chicago White Sox v. Seattle Mariners; on 4/2 Seattle Mariners v. Chicago White Sox. Regular season home schedule: 4/6-9 v. Portland; 4/11-14 v. Calgary; 4/15-18 v. Tacoma; 5/1-4 v. Vancouver; 5/5-8 v. Tucson; 5/17-20 v. Colorado Springs; 5/21-24 v. Phoenix; 5/29-6/1 v. Albuquerque, Cashman Field, 386-7200

Nevada Division of State Parks: hikes, tours, stargazing, campfire programs at 21 parks around the state, District VI, Las Vegas, 486-5126

Reed Whipple Cultural Center: concerts, film festivals, melodramas, 386-6211

UNLV Baseball: 3/3-5 v. Northwestern; 3/9 v. Western New Mexico; 3/10 v. Keio Univ. of Japan; 3/11-12 v. Utah; 3/25-26 v. Gonzaga; 3/31-4/2 v. UC Santa Barbara; 4/14-16 v. Cal State Fullerton; 5/5-7 v. Pacific; 5/9 v. Southern Utah State; 5/15 v. U.S. International, Roger Barson Field, UNLV, 739-FANS

UNLV Concerts: music and dance, 739-3101

For chamber of commerce and convention center phones, see page E-4

EVENTS

March

Dollhouse and Miniatures Exhibit, thru 3/7
Clark County Library, 733-3613

"Emerging Legacy, A Collector's Perspective: Afro-American Art from 1880-1987," thru 3/9, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV 739-3751

Music in Nevada, 1860-1920, thru 4/9, an exhibit highlighting the role that music and musicians played in the state's early years, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Photo Exhibit, thru 4/23, exhibition by Paul Caponigro on the prehistoric stone monuments of the British Isles and Brittany, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Art Exhibit, 3/1-31, paintings by Lelah and Harry Clementson of Logandale, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

"In Your Easter Bonnet" Museum Exhibit, 3/1-4/30, historical women's headwear, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

"The Normal Heart," 3/2-12, Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 739-3353 or 739-3801

Art Exhibit, 3/2-4/18, paintings by Thure Johnson, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 733-3613

Bill Monroe Concert, 3/3, "The Father of Bluegrass Music," Cashman Field Theatre, 386-6211

Hoover Dam Square Dance Festival, 3/3-4, 16th annual, on Fri. square and round dancing, on Sat. dance at Hoover Dam, workshop and square and round dancing, Circle 8 Square Dance Club, Elton Garrett Junior High School and Hoover Dam, Boulder City, 293-4918

Quintessence Concerts, 3/3-4, wind quintet

PREVIEW

Going for the Green

By Roberta Sabbath

Golf used to make me nervous. I grew up on baseball games, where I can vent my frustrations, shout curses that would make a sailor blush, jump up and down in my seat, and get indigestion on greasy, wonderful hot dogs.

So why did I get involved in the Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament? Self defense. I am a self-imposed golf widow. I gave my husband golf clubs for his 40th, mid-life-crisis birthday a few years ago. I thought it would be therapeutic for him. Soon I realized that I was the one who needed therapy. So I decided to attend the biggest tournament to hit Las Vegas—the one with all the pizzazz. That was in 1986.

This year the devoted can watch the Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament award one of the largest purses on the regular PGA tour. The prizes total more than \$1 million with the first place winner gathering \$225,000. There are other winners, too. Over the last three years the event has raised more than \$1.5 million for local charities such as Girls and Boys Clubs, the National Association for the Handicapped, HELP, and others.

With the pro-am format, 468 amateur players will pay \$4,000 each for the fun of golfing with 156 professionals. And, with cool spring breezes and sunny skies, almost 100,000 spectators will walk three golf courses during the tournament, April 26-30.

One of these courses, the Robert Trent Jones, Jr. Spanish Trail Golf Course, is bordered by the Red Rock area. The greens are so well-manicured they don't look real.

The Desert Inn Golf Course, sporting magnificent, lush greenery is the former home of the PGA's Tournament of Champions.



The winning form of Gary Koch, last year's Las Vegas victor

And the host course, the elegant Las Vegas Country Club, is surrounded by luxury homes, a high-rise, townhouses, and apartments. It boasts a view of three mountain ranges.

During the tournament I learned golf is still a gentleman's game. I heard players say, "Darn it!" and "Gee whiz!" The most violent phrase was "worm killer," referring to beating the grass during the swing or whizzing a low drive off the tee.

In 1986 Curtis Strange, the '85 Panasonic winner, hit an amateur's ball for a two-shot penalty. He was not happy. But all he repeated as he approached the next tee was, "If I don't make this shot, I am out of the running." That's the quiet game of golf!

The typical pro is host to a team of three amateurs who beam every time he sends an encouraging word in their direction. While the pro is working, trying to make a living, the amateurs think this is fun. If possible, they cover three levels of proficiency called A, B, or C, with a maximum handicap of 21. In the past, four amateurs and a pro made up a team, but that has been reduced so that the field will move better. It also reduces the number of

amateurs allowed by 156, making the spots that much harder to get.

All the players switch teams and golf courses for the first three days. Then on Saturday and Sunday all the playing takes place at the Las Vegas Country Club. Each pro who has one of the low 70 scores pairs up with an amateur for the Saturday Shootout or "best ball." The twosome gets to choose whose score to count for each hole, because the amateur, with his handicap, sometimes can score better than the pro. On Sunday the leading pros go for the gold.

If a pro does not make the weekend cutoff, he wins money and enjoys lots of Las Vegas hospitality. And even if an amateur does not make the cutoff for the Saturday play, he has rubbed shoulders with the greatest living golfers and has met people from around the world.

In 1986 I started a tradition and brought the kids for the last day. We got our hot dogs and sodas and sat by the 18th hole to watch the last hour of play and cheer the pros on.

The entire gallery seemed to be waiting for Greg Norman, who approached the green like regency itself (he was ahead eight strokes). We all sighed. This blond Australian wonder, known as the Great White Shark, was the runaway leader.

We groaned as he missed what should have been his final putt. He snapped his fingers as if to say, "You can't win 'em all." A moment later, we all cheered. His 27-under-par total of 333 for five days of play not only destroyed the tournament record of 17 under par set by Curtis Strange, it tied the all-time PGA record.

I knew I was hooked. I have come back every year since. And it's evident the pros like coming back, too. It's one of their top stops on the PGA Tour.

You just have to look at their quiet smiles to know that.

The Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament runs April 26-30. If you get your tickets by mail ahead of time, you can walk the course during the week for \$7 or on the weekend for \$12. Otherwise, it is \$10 and \$15 at the gate. For more information call 702-382-6616 or write 801 S. Rancho Drive, Suite C-3, Las Vegas, NV 89106.

Roberta Sabbath is a student at University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

with humor and musical insights; workshops and recitals given at Boulder City High School, for schedule call 456-6695

Stuttgart Chamber Choir Concert, 3/4, group from West Germany will present an evening of romantic choral music as part of its U.S. tour, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801 or 451-6672

Town Challenge Race, 3/4, giant slalom race, Lee Canyon Ski Area, 872-5462

Amy Grant in Concert, 3/4, Aladdin Hotel, 736-0111

"5 Car Stud" Poker Run, 3/4, \$1,000 grand prize, starts at 9:30am at Reed Whipple Cultural Center and ends with big bash at the "Legends" Ranch, poker run fee is \$20 per car plus \$20 per person (min. 2 per vehicle), ranch bash is \$20 per person, admission includes cocktails, buffet lunch, prizes, live music, performances by selected members of "Leg-

ends in Concert" cast, for information and registration forms call National Car Rental, 739-5391

Embracing the Light: An Entertainment, 3/4-5, presentation of an AIDS project with Adrienne Barbeau and Roderick Horn, part of the Distinguished Artists Series, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3401

"Rhythm and Blues: Black American Popular Music, 1945-1955," 3/4-4/8, exhibit, Mu-

NIGHTLIFE

Mandrell the Magnificent

By Jackie Brett

To the world, she is talented and brave. To Bally's in Las Vegas, her name on the marquee is powerful. To country music fans, she's an artist who has won more than 50 music awards.

To her sisters, Irlene and Louise, she's the bossy one. To her husband, Ken Dudley and their three children, she's a wonderful wife and mother.

Barbara Mandrell once tried to take a more traditional route to family life by retiring from show business—as a teenager. She learned never to say never.

"Ken and I started dating when he was 22 and I was 14. In '67 he got his wings as a naval pilot, and I clipped them at the same time," she laughs.

They were married in May 1967. Ken was sent overseas, and Barbara decided to retire from show business and become a housewife. She had been working since



Barbara Mandrell: on stage again.

age 11. Her father Irby owned a music store, so as a child she learned to play many different instruments. In Los Angeles she was a regular on a weekly live TV show called *Town Hall Party*. At age 13 she toured with Johnny Cash, Patsy Cline, George Jones, and Don Gibson.

But her retirement was short lived. One night when she and Irby were visiting the Grand Ole Opry she whispered in his ear, "Daddy, I wasn't cut out to be in the audience." In 1969 she signed with CBS Records.

Today she is writing her autobiography *Never Say Never* for Bantam

Books. Assisting her is George Vescey who did *Coal Miner's Daughter* with Loretta Lynn.

One of the things that people are curious about Mandrell is her head-on car collision on the evening of September 11, 1984. At the time many wondered if she would survive, never mind ever perform again.

When she returned to Bally's in January 1988, after a four-and-a-half year absence, she did so with a simple show. Backed with only her band, she sang a wealth of Mandrell country pop, and gospel tunes.

She agreed to just one engagement because she feared that a high-energy stage show was a must in Las Vegas.

"I kept saying 'no, no' to Vegas after the wreck. When I finally said 'yes, I decided not to use the orchestra, costume changes, or dancers," she recalls.

Her fears were unwarranted. Her fans came out in droves and loved her anyway.

But as her injuries began to heal, her enthusiasm grew.

"While I was here last year, it finally hit me—the old Barbara Mandrell, the desire to work and do my all. In August I put a new show together like I do every year." Everything except for the dancers went back in the show which coincided with her "Jukebox" album honoring the 100th anniversary of the jukebox. With it, Barbara Mandrell was reborn.

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Even though the petite, five-foot-two Mandrell has been called a human dynamo, she has limitations. Her TV show stayed in the top 40 from 1980 to 1982, but her doctor ordered her to give it up because she was working 16 hours a day and straining her voice.

Still, Mandrell has more projects in the fire. She's finished a gospel album and is working on another album for release this summer. She has also been doing commercials with husband Ken for Stouffer's Lean Cuisine (she confides she will not do a commercial for a product she doesn't believe in or use).

And she'd like to do a feature film. "I don't want to star in it—I just want a part."

In the meantime, her fans can catch her very personable nightclub act at Bally's in Las Vegas four times this year. She first played Las Vegas at the Showboat when she was 11 years old and holds the city in high esteem.

"To me, Las Vegas, of all the places in the world, has been 'the place' to see primo entertainment and fabulous great shows. Money has been spent on production and presentation, and that excites me. I love show business, and this is a show business town."

Barbara Mandrell performs at Bally's Las Vegas April 6-12, May 11-17 September 21-27 and November 23-29.

seum of Natural History, UNLV 739-3381
Las Vegas Symphony Concert, 3/5, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3420

Quintessence Concerts, 3/5-7, on 3/5 recital at Charleston Heights Arts Center, on 3/5-6 workshops at Las Vegas area schools, on 3/7 recital at Las Vegas Downtown Transportation Center, 386-6383

Electric Phoenix, 3/6, avant garde vocal ensemble, part of the Distinguished Artists Series, Ham Hall, 739-3401

Best of Nevada Camera Club '88, 3/7-4/19, juried photo competition, West Las Vegas Library, 435-0919

"A Portrait of American Mothers and Daughters", 3/9-4/7 black-and-white photographs by Raisa Fastman, Clark County Library, 733-3613

Water Exposition, 3/10-12, Las Vegas Convention Center, 386-7100

"Cold Storage", 3/10-25, comedy, Las Vegas Little Theatre, at the Spring Valley Library, 383-0021

Kite Carnival, 3/11, competition for prizes in various categories, including best hand-made kite, highest flying kite, most unusual crash; parents and children may make a kite on the date of the event during a 10:30am workshop, call for other workshop sites before the event, Angel Park, 386-6297

Performance by Mark Russell, 3/11, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 737-1010

Boxing Championship, 3/11, Continental Americas heavyweight champion and former WBA champion Michael Dokes defends his title against former undisputed cruiserweight champion and Olympic bronze medalist Evander Holyfield in a scheduled 12-round battle. On the same card, IBF junior

welter-weight champion and former Olympic gold medalist Meldrick Taylor takes on No. 1 IBF contender Jong Jong Pacquing. Doors open 4:30pm, first bell 5:30pm, main event 7pm, Caesars Palace, 731-7865

U.S. BASS Lake Mead National Draw Tournament, 3/11, 565-8957 or 602-834-5045

"An Afternoon in Old Vienna", 3/12, dance and listen to Johann Strauss, Jr. waltzes and polkas, period costumes and formal dress are optional, Las Vegas Civic Symphony, Showboat Hotel, 386-6211

Constanza Orchestra of Romania Concert, 3/14, classical music, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

The Native American Experience, 3/14-15, a two-day exploration of contemporary trends in Native American literature; guest speakers include Joy Harjo, Creek poet; Gerald Vizenor, Chappewa poet-novelist; Paula Gunn Allen, Laguna-Sioux poet-novelist; and Joseph Buchac, Abenaki poet-publisher, UNLV 798-0337

"Repertory II" 3/16-19, a mixed program featuring world premieres of "Dreamtime USA," a tribute to the '50s, and "Sun Shadows," a neo-classical ballet; also "Greek Songs" and "Annabel Lee" return, Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Art Exhibit, 3/16-4/17 paintings by Nancy Deaner, Spring Valley Library, 733-3613

St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 3/17 23rd annual Sons of Erin parade at noon from the Union Plaza to Seventh Street, block party follows on Fremont Street in front of Fitzgeralds, proceeds go to charity, 451-6744

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations, 3/17 area casinos

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Nevada Watercolor Society Spring Exhibition, 3/17-4/30, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Durufle Requiem Concert, 3/19, free, Musical Arts Chorus and Orchestra, Ham Hall, 451-6672

Serenata Chamber Orchestra Concert, 3/19, Clark County Library, 733-3613

Art Exhibit, 3/19-4/19, "Portraits from the Portfolio" by Kurt Fishback, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

"The Rise and Fall of Taste," 3/19-4/29, work by David Geise, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV 739-3751

Art Competition, 3/20-4/20, sixth annual First Congressional District Art Competition for Clark County High School students, Sunrise Library, 435-0919

Easter Celebration, 3/21-26, special events daily including balloon races, couples races, Daring Dangerous Downhill race, egg hunt on Easter Sunday, Lee Canyon Ski Area, 872-5462

Michael Nunn v. Patricio Kalambay, 3/25, boxing match, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

"Contemporary American Collage: 1960-1985" 3/27-5/8, survey of variety of forms that American collage has developed over the past 25 years, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV, 739-3751

Bernard Rands, 3/29, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, presentation of "Thoughts on the Modern Orchestra," part of the Distinguished Artists Series, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3401

"The Dresser," 3/31-4/2 and 4/6-8, drama, Clark County Community College Theatre, North Las Vegas, 664-PLAY

April

John Denver in Concert, 4/1, Aladdin Hotel, 736-0111

Vintage and Vogue Dinner and Auction, 4/1, 7pm, American Cancer Society fundraiser, Tropicana Hotel, 798-6877

Civil War Exhibit, 4/1-30, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Baroque Concert, 4/2, 3pm, Musical Arts Singers and Orchestra, Charleston Heights Art Center, 870-6657

Las Vegas Symphony Concert, 4/2, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3420

Robert McCauley, 4/3, professor of art at Rockford College, presentation of "The Art of Contemporary Drawing," part of the Distinguished Artists Series, Alta Ham Fine Arts 229, UNLV 739-3401

Beaux Arts Trio Concert, 4/7 Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Gem Show, 4/7-9, Las Vegas Convention Center, 386-7100

Hacienda/Las Vegas 300, 4/7-9, desert motorcycle race, 457-5775

Do Jump Movement Theatre, 4/8, group uses elements of dance aerobics, trapeze, mime, and gymnastics, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

MDA 11th Annual Golf Tournament, 4/8, Dunes Country Club, 791-0711

Art-A-Fair, 4/8-25, library district's 15th annual juried fine art competition, Clark County Library, 435-0919

Corporate Challenge Games, 4/8-29, businesses in Southern Nevada form teams and compete in Olympic-style athletic events, open to spectators free of charge, for schedule call 386-6297



Robbie Knievel will attempt to jump the Caesars Palace front fountains on a motorcycle in April.

International Food Festival, 4/9, ethnic food, drinks, costumes, and entertainment, Las Vegas Convention Center, 435-1342 or 384-7263

Bass Anglers Tournament, 4/12-5/4, Lake Mead, 565-8957 or 602-834-5045

Clark County Fair, 4/13-16, Logandale, 397-8561

Robbie Knievel's Jump at Caesars Palace, 4/14, Robbie Knievel, son of daredevil Evel Knievel, will attempt to jump the Caesars Palace front fountains on a motorcycle, using no hands while in the air. The death-defying 160-foot leap will take place at dusk and will be documented in a live national telecast on Showtime Event Television. The event is open to spectators in front of the hotel at no charge, Caesars Palace, 731-7324

"Las Vegas High School Neighborhood," 4/14-6/18, an exhibit on the architecture, environment, and social importance of a Las Vegas neighborhood that developed during the Boulder Dam boom, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Christy and Company Variety Show, 4/15, 8pm, Boulder City High School, Boulder City, 293-2034

Boyd Group Food Fandango, 4/15, public invited to sample cooking by all Boyd Group properties, Sam's Town Hotel parking lot, 454-8048

Rail and Transportation Days, 4/15-16, includes displays, rides, and living history presentations, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Henderson Industrial Days, 4/15-23, beauty pageant, chili cook-off, arts and crafts show, golf tournament, softball tournament, fun run, and parade, Henderson, 565-8951

Annual Masque Ball, 4/19, Allied Arts Council, Aladdin Hotel, 731-5419

Las Vegas '89 Collectors Car Auction, 4/19-22, Cashman Field, 386-7100

Binion's Nissan Mint 400, 4/20-23, richest off-road race in the country, racers complete four laps around a 100-mile course through deserts and over mountains north of Las Vegas, on Fri. tech inspection, on Sat. race, headquarters at Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600

Las Vegas Civic Ballet Spring Concert, 4/21-23 and 4/28-30, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Latin Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament, 4/23, Showboat Golf Course, 385-7367

"Magnum Opus," 4/23, Opus Dance Ensemble, Tropicana Hotel, 735-1033 or 732-9646

Mummenschanz Mask and Mime Company, 4/25, Swiss pantomime troupe, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Las Vegas Invitational Golf Tournament, 4/26-30, top PGA golfers compete, \$1 million total prize money, play will be at Las Vegas Country Club, Spanish Trail Golf Course, and Desert Inn Golf Course, Las Vegas, 382-6616

May

World Series of Poker, 5/1-21, Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600

National Dart Association Championship, 5/3-9, Sahara Hotel, 737-2713

Spring Jamboree and Artisans Fair, 5/6-7, parade, arts and crafts, food booths, dog show, golf tournament, Boulder City, 293-2034

Laughlin River Days, 5/13, parade, tube races, chili cook-off, and fireworks, 298-2214

Elks Helldorado, 5/19-28, 55th western celebration with a downtown parade, PRCA rodeo, whiskerino contest, village bar, street dance, carnival, and midway, and professional exhibit booths, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV 739-3900 or 385-1221

International Museum Day in Lorenzi Park, 5/21, music, ethnic foods, and booths explaining area museums and cultural organizations, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Lorenzi Park, 486-5205

COMING EVENTS

Damboree, 7/4, Boulder City, 293-2034

Budweiser Las Vegas Silver Cup Unlimited Hydroplane Race, 9/22-24, 731-2115

Las Vegas Jaycees State Fair, 10/3-8, 457-8832

Art in the Park, 10/7-8, Boulder City, 293-2034

Fairshow, 10/27-29, North Las Vegas, 642-1944

SHOWGUIDE

Aladdin, 736-0240: "Abracadabra," magic, comedy, and dance, indf. (dark Tues.)

Bally's, 739-4567: *Celebrity Room*: The Oak Ridge Boys, 2/23-3/1; Dean Martin and the Goldiggers, 3/2-8 and 4/13-19; Tom Jones, 3/9-22; Barbara Mandrell, 4/6-12 and 5/11-17; Frank Sinatra, 5/18-20 and 5/25-28; *Ziegfeld Theatre*: "Jubilee!" indf. (dark Wed.)

Barbary Coast, 737-7200: Irish Showband, 3/8-5/1; Happy Jesters, 5/3-15; Four Freshmen, 5/17-29

Bourbon Street, 794-3490: New Orleans Jazz, indf.

Caesars Palace, 731-7110: Julio Iglesias, 3/1-6; George Burns/Charo, 3/8-13; Howie Mandel, 3/10-11; Willie Nelson & Family, 3/12-17; Reba McEntire, 3/15-20; Joan Rivers, 3/19-24 and 5/24-29; Dionne Warwick/Burt Bacharach, 3/22-27; David Copperfield, 3/26-5/1 and 5/3-8; Ann-Margret, 3/29-4/3 and 4/5-10; Jay Leno, 5/10-15

California Hotel, 385-1222: Nightly entertainment

Circus Circus, 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Continental, 737-5555: "Sex Over 40," indf.

Desert Inn, 733-4566: Bobby Vinton/Paul Revere and the Raiders, thru 3/1; Rich Little, 3/2-22; Ray Stevens/Louise Mandrell, 3/23-4/12; Smothers Brothers, 4/13-5/3



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PREVIEW

Lean, Mean Driving Machines

The course is covered with rocks, boulders, and endless silt beds. Yet, in pursuit of fame and fortune, drivers rush their brightly colored vehicles through this forbidding route near Las Vegas during the 22nd annual running of the Nissan Mint 400 on April 20-23.

The off-road race, sanctioned by the High Desert Racing Association, offers the drivers plenty of incentive, including a purse and contingencies worth more than \$500,000, television coverage, a crowd of 100,000 spectators, and a chance at the race's ultimate thrill—simply finishing.

Race week's activities are centered in downtown Las Vegas. Thursday evening the streets are closed, and you can see a crew competition followed by a vehicle show with monster trucks



Binion's Nissan Mint 400 is a grueling off-road race that takes place near Vegas on April 22.

and 18-wheelers. On Friday the race vehicles will receive a final technical inspection, and fans get to meet the drivers and crew members.

Saturday is race day. The 400-plus entries will match man and machine against the desert and see who will be the winner. Many of them will finish just in time for the awards ceremonies on Sunday morning in downtown Las Vegas, where the winning vehicle, drivers, and crews will be available for autographs, pictures,

questions, and answers.

This year's race is presented by Binion's Horseshoe, which last year bought the Mint Hotel, and thus the race is officially known as the Binion's Nissan Mint 400. In addition to the regular prizes and trophies for the winners in each class, the overall winner will be presented a gold and diamond superbowl ring designed by Jostens. The Binion family also has increased the purse money by \$10,000, which will be dispersed to the top winners.

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El Rancho, 796-2222: Nightly entertainment
Fitzgeralds, 382-6111: Nightly entertainment
Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: "City Lites," stage spectacular, indf. (dark Sun.)
Four Queens, 385-4011: Billy Eckstine, thru 3/12; Doug Kershaw, 3/14-26; The Platters, 3/28-4/30
Frontier, 734-3885: Nightly entertainment
Gold Coast, 367-7111: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, indf. (dark Tues.); Comedy with Cork Proctor and Friends, indf.
Golden Nugget, 386-8100: Don Rickles, 3/2-6 and 4/27-5/1; Gatlin Brothers, 3/9-19 and 3/23-27; Yakov Smirnoff, 3/23-27; David Brenner, 3/3-4/3; Diahann Carroll/Vic Damone 4/6-17 (dark Tues.-Wed.)
Gold Strike, Jean, 477-5000: Nightly entertainment
Hacienda, 739-5911: "Hitz," musical production, indf. (dark Mon.)
Holiday, 369-5222: Glenn Smith, thru 3/31; Rocky Sennes' "Keep Smilin' America," revue, indf.
Imperial Palace, 794-3261: "Legends in Concert," indf. (dark Sun.)
Landmark, 733-1110: Melinda, the First Lady of Magic, indf.
Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5755: Wayne Newton, thru 3/5 and 5/2-28; Bill Cosby, 3/7-12; Engelbert Humperdinck, 3/14-26; Four Tops/Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, 3/29-4/9; Natalie Cole, 4/11-23
Marina, 739-1500: "Dan-Sin Dirty," indf.
Maxim, 731-4300: "Playboy's Girls of Rock and Roll," indf.
Palace Station, 367-2411: Nightly entertainment
Peppermill Resort, Mesquite, 346-5232: Nightly entertainment
Riviera, 734-5301: Paul Anka, 3/23-26 and 4/20-23; Liza Minnelli, 5/18-21; "Splash" production show, indf.; "Crazy Girls: Fastasie de Paris," revue, indf.; "An Evening at La Cage," revue, indf.; "An Evening at the Improv," comedians, indf.
Sahara, 737-2424: "Boy-lesque," indf. (dark Wed.)
Sam Boyd's Fremont, 385-3232: Nightly entertainment
Sam's Town, 456-7777: Nightly entertainment
Sands, 733-5453: Gallagher, 4/26-5/7; "Beach Blanket Babylon," musical revue, indf.
Stardust, 732-6325: "Lido de Paris," starring Bobby Berosini and His Orangutans, indf. (dark Tues.)
Tropicana, 739-2411: "Folies Bergere," indf. (dark Thurs.); Rodney's Place (Comedy Club): nightly comedy entertainment except Mon.
Union Plaza, 386-2446: "Nudes on Ice," international ice skating champions, indf.
Vegas World, 382-2000: Redd Foxx, indf.; Tom Carline "Memories of Elvis," indf.
Westward Ho, 731-2900: Wildflower and the Triangle, indf.
Whiskey Pete's, on I-15 near the California-Nevada border, 382-4388: Live entertainment

Laughlin

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Big Band Bash, with jitterbug contest every Sun.
Del Webb's Nevada Club, 298-2512: Hoyt Henry and the Dixie Jazz Kings, indf. Mon.-Fri.
Edgewater, 298-2453
Regency, 298-2439: Piano bar
Riverside Resort, 298-2535: Entertainment TBA
Sam's Town Gold River, 298-2242: Live entertainment nightly

MUSEUMS

Boulder City

Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum: 9-5 daily, 444 Hotel Plaza, Boulder City, 294-1988

Henderson

Clark County Museum: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-5 Sat.-Sun., 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955

Las Vegas

American Museum of Historical Documents: 10-6 Mon.-Wed., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., privately owned, 731-0785
Discovery, The Children's Museum: For information call 382-3445

Guinness World of Records Museum: 2780 S. Las Vegas Blvd., due to open late spring or early summer, 734-0552
Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 9:30am-11:30pm daily, 794-3174
Las Vegas Art Museum: 10-3 Tues.-Sat., noon-3 Sun., Lorenzi Park, 3333 W. Washington Ave., 647-4300
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History: includes the Wildlife World Art Museum 9-6 Sun.-Thurs., 9-9 Fri.-Sat., features Viva Segovia show with famous concert guitarists, 3700 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 739-7280
Liberace Museum: 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society: 11:30-4:30 Mon.-Tues., 8:30-4:30 Wed.-Sun.,

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Lorenzi Park, 486-5205
Old Las Vegas Fort: 8-2 Sat. and Mon. and noon-3 Sun., Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (entrance from Cashman Field parking lot B only), 382-7198
Ripley's Believe It or Not!: 9am-midnight Sun.-Thurs., 9am-1am Fri.-Sat., Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011
UNLV Museum of Natural History: 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., UNLV 739-3381

North Las Vegas

The Planetarium: 2-8 Thurs.-Sat., Clark County Community College, 644-5059

Overton

Lost City Museum: 8:30-4:30 daily, ancient Pueblo culture, 397-2193

ART GALLERIES Boulder City

Art Exchange: 707 Canyon Road, Suite 101, 10-5 Tues.-Fri., 11-3 Sat., framing, bronzes, original lithographs, 293-7263
Boulder City Art Guild and Gallery: 1495 Nevada Hwy., noon-4 daily, local artists featured, 294-9982
Brent Thomson Art and Framing: 1672 Nevada Hwy., 9-5 Tues.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., contemporary Southwest, 293-4652
Burk Gal'ry: 1229 Arizona, 10-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., western themes and polages, 293-3958

Henderson

Studio West: 2708 N. Green Valley Pkwy., 10-6



The City of Las Vegas Corporate Challenge Games.

Mon.-Sat., paintings, etchings, and limited-edition prints, 458-2535

Las Vegas

AA Gallery: 1812 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., Sat.-Sun. by appointment, commissioned portraits, 386-2787
Allied Arts Gallery: 3207-1/2 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., contemporary work by Nevada artists, 731-5419
Alta Ham Fine Arts Gallery: UNLV 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., 8-5 Mon.-Fri., nationally known artists, 739-3893
American Museum of Historical Documents: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 10-6 Mon.-Wed., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., historical documents framed as art, 731-0785

Art Lover's Gallery: 953 E. Sahara Ave., 10-6 Tues.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., posters, prints, and limited-edition lithographs, 734-2822

Canterbury Arts: 1566 Western, 8:30-5 Mon.-Fri., weekends and evenings by appointment, original graphics and limited-edition prints, 384-9640

Charleston Heights Arts Center: 800 S. Brush St., 1-8 Mon.-Thurs., 1-5 Fri.-Sun., students' work, 386-6383

Circle Gallery Ltd.: Bally's Shopping Arcade, 10-10 Sun.-Sat., lithographs and serigraphs, 734-0000

Clark County Library District: 1401 E. Flamingo Rd., 9-9 Mon.-Thurs., 9-5 Fri.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., local photography, 733-7810

Downtown Art and Gift Gallery: 321 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 11-2 Mon.-Fri., weekends and evenings by appointment, oils, acrylics, and sculpture, 384-3884

Emperor Galleries: 3000 Paradise Rd., 9-10 Sun.-Thurs., 9-12 Fri.-Sat., portraits and Violet Parkhurst seascapes, 731-0456

Habitat: 4300 Meadows Ln., 10-9 Mon.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 11-6 Sun., Southwestern prints, watercolors, 878-2434

Herigstad's Gallery: 2290 E. Flamingo Rd., 10-6 Mon.-Sat., Peggy Hopper Hawaiian landscapes, Neiman and Dali signed lithographs, 733-7366

Las Vegas Art Museum: 3333 W. Washington Ave., 10-3 Tues.-Sat., 12-3 Sun., youth, Nevada, and guest artist displays, 647-4300

Las Vegas Artists Cooperative: 4300 Meadows Ln., 10-9 Mon.-Fri., 10-6 Sat.-Sun., 200 local artists, 887-0761

Markus Galleries: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Suite 309, 10-6 Mon.-Wed. and Sat., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 12-5 Sun., contemporary art by area artists, Austine Wood polages, 737-7307

Mary Lou's: 5079 Arville, 9-6 Mon.-Fri., 9-1 Sat., Southwest Indian art, baskets, and pottery, 367-6465

Minotaur Fine Arts Ltd.: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 9:30-6 Mon.-Wed., 9:30-9 Thurs.-Fri., 9:30-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., oils, etchings, and lithographic drawings, 737-1400

Nevada Frames and Gallery: 3061 Sheridan, 10-5 Mon.-Sat., floral and animal paintings, 876-6734

Newsom's Art Gallery: 1141 S. Maryland Pkwy., 10-5 Tues.-Sat. and by appointment, western paintings, bronzes, and woodcarving, 384-9865

Portfolio Ink: 2350 S. Jones Blvd., 2-7 Tues.-Fri., 11-6 Sat., limited-edition serigraphs and lithographs, 876-3587

Raphael Galleries, Ltd.: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 10-6 Mon.-Wed. and Sat., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 12-5 Sun., oils, lithographs, porcelain figurines, and plates, 732-9523

Reed Whipple Center Gallery: 821 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 2:30-8 Mon. and Thurs., 10-8 Tues., Wed., and Fri., 9-5 Sat., 12-5 Sun., local artists, 386-6383

Ryan Galleries: 3661 S. Maryland Pkwy., 10-5 Mon.-Fri., serigraphs and oils, 734-0650

Sandor Art Studio/Gallery: 3390 Oneida Way, 9-6 daily, western and Indian subjects, 732-4808

Studio Workshop and Gallery: 608 E. Sahara Ave., 10-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., local artists, 734-8962

Sturman Fine Arts: 101 Convention Center Dr., private collection open for viewing to major collectors, private dealers, and universities by appointment only, 734-2787

Torres Gallery and Frame Shop: 2470 E. Tropicana Ave., 9-6 Mon.-Sat., original and lim-

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ited-edition prints, 454-6622

Touch of the West Gallery: Dunes Hotel, 10-8 Sun.-Thurs., 10-10 Fri.-Sat., Charles Smith paintings, western art, serigraphs, 731-1315

Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art: Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV 8-5 Mon.-Fri., contemporary art, 739-3751

Winged Horse Gallery: 6380 Eastern Ave., 10-5 Mon.-Sat., contemporary ceramic, wood and bronze sculpture, paintings, 798-0778

CASINO NOTES

• Executives at the **Riviera** say the hotel is ahead of schedule for opening its new 120,000-square-foot casino next December. A 43-story tower also is being added, which will add 1,600 suites and make the Riviera the tallest building in Nevada when completed in 1991. Other additions will include 50,000 square feet of meeting space, six restaurants, two lounges, and a major entrance.

• The **Pioneer Hotel and Gambling Hall** in Laughlin is now the property of Sahara Casino Partners. The Pioneer will maintain its name, and few changes are expected. "We are very pleased with the way the property has performed," Paul Lowden said, chairman of the Sahara Casino Partners.

• **Fitzgeralds Casino** celebrates its first anniversary on St. Patrick's Day, March 17. Special events will include Irish music, a parade, a street party, and Irish food.

• **Caesars Palace** has unveiled the world's first \$500 slot machine. Each of the three slot machines accepts one \$500 token for each pull of the handle. The machines, which have a jackpot of \$250,000, follow \$100 slot machines that were installed in 1986.

• The **Desert Inn** is expanding its VIP treatment for special customers. The hotel and MGM Grand Air are combining their services to guests from Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York. The services include limousine pickup in those cities to the MGM Grand Air terminals, champagne, and gourmet meals. In Las Vegas, a limousine transports the guests to the Desert Inn, where they receive special check-in privileges to the hotel's newly remodeled suites.

TOURNAMENTS

March

Horse Race Handicapping Tournament, 3/1-4, Stardust, 732-6111

Slots, 3/9-12, Pioneer, Laughlin, 737-2713

Keno, 3/12-14, Caesars Palace, 731-7777

Craps, 3/13-16, Stardust, 732-6111

Slots, 3/13-17 4/19-22, and 5/20-6/30, Sands, 733-5285

Slots, 3/16-19, 4/17-21, and 5/10-14, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

Blackjack, 3/19-23, Dunes, 737-4049

Slots, 3/19-21, 3/26-28, 4/16-18, 4/23-25, 5/21-23, and 5/29-31, Flamingo Hilton, 732-2111

Blackjack, 3/31-4/2, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

April

Slots, 4/10-13, Stardust, 733-6111

Poker, 4/11 and 5/15, Sam's Town, 454-8092

Slots, 4/14-16, Riviera, 734-5110

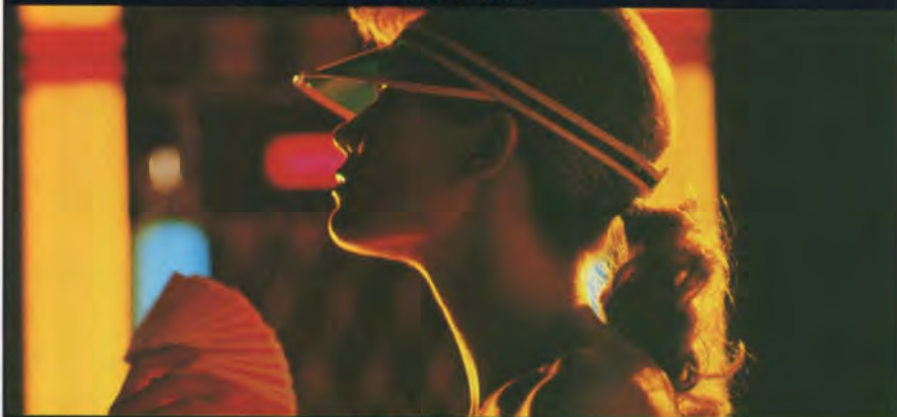
Baccarat, 4/14-16, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

Slots, 4/23-26, Dunes, 737-4049

May

Baccarat, 5/19-21, Dunes, 737-4049

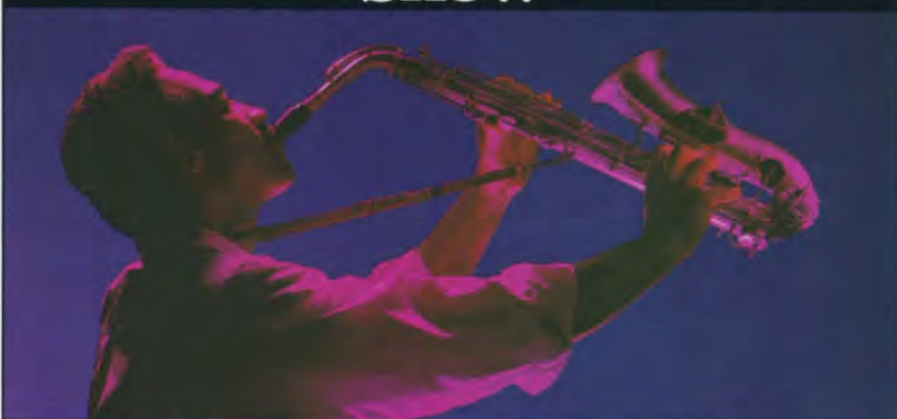
Win



Place



Show



The American Way To Play

Las Vegas



The Las Vegas Convention Center rotunda has been part of the city's landscape for three decades (top), drawing notable speakers such as President Kennedy.

When the rotunda of the Las Vegas Convention Center was built three decades ago, locals said that it bore a remarkable resemblance to a space ship. Now as the convention center celebrates its 30th birthday that spaceship is about to take off forever—and carry with it memories of the unusual events it has seen.

Those memories range from appearances by President John F. Kennedy and the Beatles to being hit by a love-crossed pilot.

When it was first proposed, many Las Vegas residents said the convention center's rotunda was going to be a white elephant. But instead it became a center of activity for shows, sports, and conventions and is now looked upon with so much fondness that some of those same people are suggesting that it should be preserved as a piece of the city's architectural history.

But Las Vegas got where it is by looking toward the future rather than to the past. So the rotunda will go.

If the edifice wants to blame its demise on anyone, it can blame it on two guys named Thomas and Mack. The rotunda's death knell was sounded in the early '80s with the erection of the Thomas and Mack Center nearby on the University of Nevada-Las Vegas campus. Prior to that, the rotunda had been the home court of the UNLV Runnin' Rebels basketball team.

Still, there was much more to the rotunda than basketball. Thousands of Las Vegas and people now in the far stretches of the world have good memories of the old rotunda because that was where they received their high school or university diplomas. The place has probably heard "Pomp

Remember the Rotunda

Las Vegas celebrates 30 years of close encounters of a rotunda kind
By Stephen Allen

and Circumstance" more often than did Edward Elgar, its composer. Over the years the building also was the home of the Hell-

dorado Rodeo and numerous championship prize fights.

It was used on sad occasions as well as joyous ones. Shortly after it was built in 1959, the convention center saw its first black-bordered page in history when it served as a morgue for the victims of a Bonanza Airlines plane crash on Mount Potosi.

Among the many notable events staged in the rotunda were:

- The Floyd Patterson-Ingmar Johansson fight in 1959.
- A rally by Billy Graham in 1960.
- A speech by President Kennedy just two months prior to his assassination in 1963.
- The Cassius Clay-Floyd Patterson fight in 1965 (Muhammad Ali was still Cassius Clay then).
- A speech by Ronald Reagan in 1968.
- An address by Hubert Humphrey in 1971.
- A matchup between the U.S. basketball team and the Russians in 1972.
- A speech by President Ford in 1974.
- A concert by Elton John in 1975.
- And one of the biggest nights of them all, the arrival of Beatlemania to Las Vegas with an appearance of the Beatles in June 1964 during their first American tour.

One of the strangest, and saddest, pages in the convention center's history took place in August 1968. It seems that an unhappy lover, bent upon murder and suicide, took off in a small plane and headed for the mushroom-shaped Landmark Hotel, which stands across Paradise Road

from the convention center. The pilot's girlfriend worked in the restaurant-lounge at the top of the Landmark, and that is where he crashed his plane. However, the plane slid off the side of the hotel, veered to the east, and crashed through the roof of the convention center. The pilot was killed, but fortunately no one else was hurt.

A final black-bordered page was added in 1980, when the convention center became an emergency evacuation center for victims of the disastrous MGM Grand fire.

Many Las Vegans, in fact, are not aware that the convention center is designated to fulfill that purpose in the event of a community emergency, and indeed was set up to do just that if needed during this past year's explosion at the Pacific Engineering Company in Henderson.

But the rotunda has simply outlived its usefulness. Even with the center's many conventions, it is used seldom.

The rotunda has been "all things to all people in the community," Manny Cortez, chairman of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority's board of directors, says with some fondness. He adds, however, that "it simply does not seat enough people, and maintenance of it has become too expensive."

And the convention and visitors authority has some big plans. The demolition of the old rotunda is only a part of a planned \$35-million expansion of the convention center. The expansion will triple the space that was in the rotunda and give the entire convention center 1.6 million square feet of exhibit and meeting space. This is expected to further increase the center's options for booking conventions and meetings.

Construction will begin near the end of

**One of the biggest
nights was the arrival
of the Beatles
in 1964 during
their first American tour.**

this year and is expected to be completed by late 1991. Taking the place of the present 20,340-square-foot rotunda will be a 185,000-square-foot exhibit hall and two-level administration building, which will contain offices, a lobby, meeting rooms, and a food-services area for convention delegates.

There is no question that this will be a big improvement, but when the old space-ship—which some folks saw as a symbol of Las Vegas for 30 years—is gone, a lot of people are going to miss their Close Encounters of the Rotunda Kind.

Stephen Allen is a writer with the Las Vegas News Bureau and author of the book Fun in Las Vegas, published by Fodors Travel Guides.



Reno's convention center has ushered in basketball fans, horses, and celebrities.

A Reno Anniversary, Too

It's an even 30 for Reno's convention authority.

By Lenore Aguilar

As the convention center in Las Vegas enters its fourth decade this spring, the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority is celebrating its own 30th anniversary.

In the years since its inception as the Washoe County Fair and Recreation Board, the Reno-based authority has encountered numerous situations worth noting and some it might rather forget.

Much of the activity has centered at the building that was known as Centennial Coliseum after its opening in 1963, a year before Nevada's centennial, and renamed the Reno-Sparks Convention Center in 1982.

The convention center—or the Coliseum, as some locals still call it—was not only a meeting place for trade shows and conventions but also a kind of gigantic community center, especially before the opening of Lawlor Events Center at the University of Nevada-Reno in 1983. In winter the convention center was Basketball Central, being the home court of the UNR Wolf Pack teams. It also was the site of northern zone and state title games for Nevada high schools from Las Vegas to McDermitt, when whole towns seemed to have packed up and moved to Reno for the annual hoop shootouts.

Music fans might wax nostalgic about the varied singers and bands to appear there, from Willie Nelson to Elvis. Occasionally a layer of ice was put down, and area skaters had a chance to zing across the ice for a few days in the wintertime.

Naturally big shows and conven-

tions have always visited, and in the course of that business the Reno authority has set a few records while living up to the "big" in its "Biggest Little City in the World" slogan. In San Francisco, for instance, Reno has its tourist message on the nation's largest outdoor sign, which is 40 feet high and 150 feet wide and posted on the Oakland Bay Bridge.

The town also lived up to the "little" in its slogan when more than 600 delegates came to Reno for the Little People of America convention in 1982.

One convention that literally stopped traffic was that of the National Agricultural Aviation Association. Traffic stood still in the streets while delegates taxied their cropdusters from the airport to the convention center.

Then there was the snowstorm—the area's worst in 30 years—that hit Reno just as delegates arrived for the National Tour Association convention a few years ago. Schedules were revised, and the week proceeded without further incident until the day of departure, when another brutal snowstorm hit. The delegates must have had a good time anyway because they are returning in 1995—but this time in the spring.

Today the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority operates five facilities. It opened the Reno-Sparks Convention Center in 1963, the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts in 1968, Wildcreek Golf Course in 1978, the Reno Livestock Events Center in 1987 and Northgate Golf Club in 1988.

Lenore Aguilar is a publicist for the Reno News Bureau.



A colorful torchlight parade at Squaw Valley kicks off Snowfest, North Lake Tahoe and Truckee's winter carnival. Billed as the largest winter carnival in the West, Snowfest will have more than 100 skiing and non-skiing events from Friday, March 3, through Sunday, March 12.

HOT LINES

Festivals at Tahoe: information on North Shore festivals throughout year, 916-583-7625

Nevada Division of State Parks: hikes, tours, stargazing, campfire programs at 21 parks around the state, District II, Carson City, 885-4379

Reno Silver Sox: class-A pro baseball, 4/7-9 v. Modesto; 4/18-20 v. San Jose; 4/21-23 v. Palm Springs; 5/2-4 v. Stockton; 5/9-11 v. San Bernardino; 5/19-21 v. Bakersfield; 5/22-25 v. Salinas; 5/26-28 v. Visalia, Moana Stadium, 825-0578

UNR Baseball: 3/10-11 v. Missouri; 3/14 v. Univ. of Pacific; 3/18-19 v. UNLV; 3/22 v. Oregon Tech; 3/23 v. Warner Pacific; 3/24-25 v. San Jose State; 3/28 v. Chico State; 3/31-4/2 v. Santa Clara; 4/14-16 v. Pepperdine; 5/2 v. Cal. Davis; 5/5-7 v. St. Mary's; 5/9-10 v. Fresno State, Peccole Field, UNR, 348-PACK

UNR Music Department: concerts, recitals, 784-6145

For chamber of commerce and convention center phones, see page E-4

EVENTS

March

Art Exhibit, thru 3/6, paintings by Frankie Sundsten, reception 2/2 from 5-7pm, DICE, Truckee Meadows Community College, 673-7000

Photo Exhibit, thru 3/3, Sheppard Gallery, UNR, 784-6658

Mademoiselle Magazine On the Mountain, thru 3/2, fun races, games, prizes, Northstar, 916-587-0280

"From Seamstress to Sales Clerk" Exhibit, thru 7/3, featuring women's fashion from 1860-1920, guest lecturer on 3/29, Nevada Historical Society, 789-0190

Nevada Winter Special Olympics, 2/28-3/3, sports competition for athletes with mental retardation, Ski Incline, 832-1177

Mirages and Misfits, 3/2, lectures and readings by American writers in the theme of landscape in contemporary literature, featured writers are Richard Shelton and Ann Zwinger, site TBA in Reno, 789-0225

The Native American Experience, 3/2-3, a two-day exploration of the oral tradition in Native American art, literature, and history, Pine Auditorium, UNR, 784-6587

Art Exhibit, 3/2-4/3, sculpture by Rita McBride, XS Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, 887-3000

"The Foreigner," 3/3-4, comedy, Proscenium Players, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

"Kiss Me, Kate," 3/3-4 and 3/8-12, musical, Nevada Repertory Company, Redfield Proscenium Theatre, UNR, 784-4444

California State Snowboarding Championships, 3/3-5, Soda Springs, 916-426-3666

Far West Freestyle Championships, 3/3-5, aerial, ballet, and moguls competition, Donner Ski Ranch, 916-426-3635

Snowfest, 3/3-12, North Lake Tahoe and Truckee's winter carnival, kick-off includes torchlight parade at Squaw Valley followed by 10 days of ski races, dances, music, displays, food festivals, ice sculpture, dog dressing competition, and fireworks, 916-583-7625

Dolora Zajick and Friends Concert, 3/4, Nevada Opera (and Metropolitan Opera) star

PREVIEW

Special Olympics

By Bill McMillon



Special athlete Angela Scott of Sparks.

From gala opening festivities at Squaw Valley on April 2 to closing ceremonies at Reno's Lawlor Events Center on April 7 the Fourth International Winter Special Olympic Games bring the joys and thrills of snow sports, and special athletes, to the Reno-Tahoe area.

The athletes with mental retardation will gather from all over the world. In past Special Olympics, competitors have ranged in age from eight to 80. They offer spectators all the thrills of other world-class athletes, and their responses to the joys of victory and disappointments of defeat are just as heart-rending as those of a Brian Boitano or Debbie Thomas.

The activities begin in Truckee, where the nine-day Law Enforcement Torch Run that began in San Francisco will end on April 1. That evening a street dance and other entertainment will celebrate the return of Olympic competition to Squaw Valley, site of the 1960 Winter Olympics.

At Squaw the next day the opening ceremonies will feature a parade of athletes, a torch-lighting ceremony and celebrity entertainment.

For the next five days spectators will have an opportunity to watch more than 1,400 athletes from all 50 states and 20 countries compete in alpine and cross-country skiing, figure and speed skating, and floor hockey.

Each event is divided into three levels. These levels are subdivided into divisions in which three to eight athletes will compete. Each participant will be within a 10 percent skill level of each other.

Each participant has won previously at local, state, and national competitions. The athletes, who will be supported by more than 10,000 parents, coaches, and volunteers at the Games,

are proud of their achievement of being among the best in the world in their events.

All the event sites are within an hour's drive of each other. Alpine skiing, including downhill, slalom, and giant slalom, will be held at Squaw Valley. Nordic skiing will be at Royal Gorge. Figure skating takes place at the Lawlor Events Center at the University of Nevada-Reno. Speed skating and floor hockey are at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center.

The events will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day, and admission is free. There should be little problem finding seats for skating and hockey since most of the arenas hold 3,000 to 3,500 spectators.

The closing ceremonies on April 7 at the Lawlor Events Center will feature an ice show and appearances by celebrities.

All athletes will be housed in Reno. Hotels and motels are already filling up, so visitors should make room reservations early.

For more information about the Games write the 1989 International Winter Special Olympics, 135 North Sierra Street, Reno, NV 89501 or phone 702-322-8888. Information about concurrent events can be obtained from the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce at 702-329-3558 or the Truckee Chamber of Commerce at 916-587-2757

Bill McMillon is a Sebastopol, California, writer

Dolara Zajick returns to sing Brahms' "Alto Rhapsody" with male chorus, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 786-4046

UNR Winter Carnival, 2/4-11, snow sculpture contests, ski races, parties, and chili cook-off, 784-6589

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert, 3/5, piano soloist Ron Williams, community center, Carson City, 883-4154

Great Ski Race, 3/5, 30-km. cross-country ski race from Tahoe to Truckee, party at finish, meet at Tahoe Nordic Ski Center, 916-583-0484

Snowbird Medal Ski Race, 3/5, 11am, easy slalom, Tahoe Donner, 916-587-9444

Stallion Parade, 3/5, Reno Livestock Events Center, 849-0490

Ray "Boom-Boom" Mancini v. Hector "Macho" Camacho, 3/6, boxing match, tickets from \$25 to \$300, Lawlor Events Center, 784-4444

U.S. Collegiate Skiing Championships, 3/6-10, alpine events at Ski Incline (832-1177), Nordic events at Tahoe Donner Cross-Country (916-587-9484)

Rossignol Night Fun Race, 3/8, 5-km. race on lighted track, Tahoe Donner Cross-Country, 916-587-9484

Snowfest Fun Day Ski Races, 3/9, Tahoe Donner, 916-587-9444

Art Exhibit, 3/9-4/13, paintings by Peter Stegall, DICE, Truckee Meadows Community College, 673-7000

Kawambe Drum and Dance Ensemble, 3/10, performance of authentic African dance and rhythm group, 8pm, community center, Carson City, 883-1976

Jimmie Heuga Express, 3/10, ski races, events, Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985

"Fool for Love," 3/10-11, 3/17-19, and 3/23-25, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Shrine Circus, 3/10-12, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-8136

"I Oughta Be in Pictures," 3/10-11, 3/17-18, and 3/24-25, comedy, 8pm, Carson Valley Theatre, CVIC Hall, Minden, 267-2799

Pro Boxing, 3/11, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890

California Snowboard Jam, 3/11-12, demos, lessons, party, Donner Ski Ranch, 916-426-3635

Reno Chamber Orchestra, 3/12, 2pm, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 329-1324

U.S. Biathlon National Championships, 3/12-19, an Olympic sport combining cross-country skiing and rifle marksmanship, Royal Gorge Cross-Country, 916-426-3871

Pilobolus Performance, 3/14, sextet of acrobats, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 784-4444

Bel-Aire Arts and Crafts Show, 3/16-19, display and sale of crafts produced by western artisans, Carson Mall, Carson City, 267-3815

St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 3/17, community dinner at Storey County School, Virginia City, 847-0311

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations, 3/17 area casinos and ski resorts

Romagnola Show and Sale, 3/17-18, Reno Livestock Events Center, 916-233-3614

Sixth Annual Women's Professional Ski Race, 3/17-19 (tentative), broadcast on ESPN, Kirkwood, 209-258-6000

RV Show, 3/17-19, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711

Gold Nuggets Kids' Ski Race, 3/18, low-key competition for ages 3-11 on cross-country ski obstacle course, free entry, Royal Gorge, 916-426-3871

Beefmasters Cattle Show and Sale, 3/18, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3000

Classic Auction V, 3/18, dinner and auction centered around the theme, "An Evening in Paris," fundraiser for Nevada Opera Assn., Harrah's Reno, 786-4046

Reno International Kite Festival, 3/18-19, featuring acrobatic kites, fighting kites, children's kite competition, food, music, Rancho San Rafael Park, 827-7636

California Gold Rush, 3/19, 50-km. (and Silver Rush 25-km. half-marathon) cross-country

ski marathon, final Great American Ski Chase marathon race, open to all skiers, Royal Gorge, 916-426-3871

Sweet Honey in the Rock Concert, 3/19, 8pm, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 784-4444

Orienteering Ski-O, 3/19, map and compass are used in this competitive event, Tahoe Donner Cross-Country, 916-587-9484

Beefmasters Cattle Sale, 3/19, Reno Livestock Events Center, 800-231-1443

John Raitt Concert, 3/22, Pioneer Center for the

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NIGHTLIFE

He Looks Like Gomer

By Guy Richardson



Jim Nabors, a.k.a. Gomer Pyle.

An entourage is good for the frail ego. Some Nevada headliners travel with a pack of people. Hairdressers. Go-fers. Managers, personal and business. Lumpy bodyguards. Maybe a lawyer or two. Joe Superstar walks into a room and it's D-Day at Normandy.

Ol' Jim Nabors rattles around pretty much by himself. Now when Joe Superstar stops the band bus in Winnemucca for coffee, there's no doubt who it is. A squad of people hold doors, another bunch park cars, a platoon takes charge of coats. Not with Nabors. Ol' Jim saunters in alone, flings a leg over a stool, and orders coffee. That's it.

People aren't sure if it's him.

"They don't recognize me at first because they don't expect me to be there," Nabors says. "You stop at a truck stop,"—he pantomimes a waitress rubbing a counter and sneaking peeks at him—"so they look at you. Then they go to the cook, or another waitress. They discuss it.

"Then the waitress comes back and says, 'You look like Gomer Pyle—anyone ever told you that?'

"I say 'Yea-a-a-h-h.

"They laugh and walk off.

"Then they come back and say, 'You really do look like Gomer!'"

Eventually Nabors owns up that, yup, he's Gomer all right.

Then things get interesting, he says. Because people who can have an easy conversation with a guy who looks like Nabors aren't sure what to say to a star.

"Sometimes they get to be friendly," says Nabors. "Sometimes they're sorta standoffish. Most of the time they're friendly. It's one of the most fun things. I enjoy that people know who I am, and will talk to me."

There is much Gomer Pyle, the simple-but-decent hillbilly in Jim Nabors, who is bright and clever. He has Gomer's gentle kindness and a more sophisticated version of Gomer's voice. Unlike Gomer, Jim Nabors is rich, both from showbiz and Hawaiian real estate.

I will tell you a secret about Jim Nabors. He likes to shop for expensive things, spend money on gifts for friends. But, "this is going to sound weird," says Nabors. "I like to buy tractors.

"I also like to buy vans—I bought me

one when I was back East and drove it across the country."

Those of us who live in Nevada quickly learn to spot the casino limos with darkened windows hauling stars from the airport. "I'd rather someone picked me up in a van than a limo," Nabors says. "It's much more comfortable."

There's another thing about touring in a van. The CB radio. Last year Nabors drove from Michigan to Montana, and then down to Reno, listening to truckers all the way. "It was like a soap opera," he says. "There were times I almost wrecked the van I was laughing so hard. It would make a marvelous series—*As the Wheel Turns*. You just can't find that kind of material other than in real life."

Real life is also where people don't always like everyone. "Like a lot of people in this business, I'm sensitive and get my feelings hurt easily—yet we expose ourselves to that almost daily," he says. "One of the hardest lessons I've ever learned was that people aren't always going to like me, because I really do like everybody except a few jerkos. I just didn't understand why everyone didn't like me. Now I have a different attitude. Oh, it still hurts, but yet I feel as if it were their loss.

"You see, I feel I'm basically a good person. That's not bragging, just a statement of fact."

Nabors doesn't read gossip magazines, and he avoids even glancing at reviews whether they are good or bad. He knows if he reads a review, he'll go on stage the next night wanting to please the reviewer. "I have to be who I am, and hope the audience likes me. If the critic doesn't like me, there's nothing I can do about that."

Perhaps his stops for coffee are a reality check. It's the sort of thing Gomer would do. And if you were to ask Nabors if Gomer is in there somewhere, he'll grin. "He's part of me."

Jim Nabors appears with Patti Page March 16-22 at Harrah's Reno.

Performing Arts, 359-7670
William Feasley Concert, 3/22, Nightingale Hall, UNLV 784-4444
Reno Philharmonic Preview at the Mansion, 3/23, conductor Ron Daniels will preview the 3/28 concert to be held at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 7pm, open to public, Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 883-5009
Echo to Kirkwood Cross-Country Race, 3/25, 16th annual, 14-mile course climbs 1,300 feet to the crest of the Sierra then descends to Kirkwood, post-race celebration, Kirkwood and Echo Summit ski areas, 209-258-7276
Gourmet Classic 25-Km. Ski Tour, 3/25, feast provided by restaurants in Truckee-Tahoe area, Tahoe Donner Cross-Country, 916-587-9484
New Boat Show, 3/25-26, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711
Spring Break Ski Carnival, 3/25-4/9, North Tahoe, call for schedule, 916-583-3494
Easter Celebrations, 3/26, area casinos and ski resorts
Reno Philharmonic Concert, 3/28, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 825-5905
History Lecture, 3/29, Inez Brooks Myers, curator of textiles with the Oakland Museum, will give a lecture "Fashion and Social Mores of the Western Frontier," 7pm, Nevada Historical Society, 789-0190
Coors Ormsby House Classic, 3/31-4/2, dart tournament with \$5,000 prize money, Ormsby House, Carson City, 916-272-8264
Miller Team Roping, 3/31-4/2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 423-4811

April

Telemark Championships, 4/12, Heavenly, 916-541-1330
KONE/KOZZ Charity Bazaar, 4/2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-9261
1989 International Winter Special Olympics Games, 4/2-7 athletes with mental retardation compete in alpine skiing and Nordic skiing, figure skating, and floor hockey, Squaw Valley, Royal Gorge, Lawlor Events Center, and Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 322-8888
"Sleeping Beauty," 4/3-8, youth workshop production, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661
Art Exhibit, 4/6-5/3, women artists, DICE, Truckee Meadows Community College, 673-7000
Melodrama, 4/7-8 and 4/14-15, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976
Snowboarding "Spring Shred," 4/8, Boreal, 916-426-3666
Gold Prospectors Show, 4/8-9, Reno Livestock Events Center, 619-728-6620
Fete du Printemps, 4/9, special gourmet picnic, Royal Gorge, 916-426-3871
Backcountry Telemark Ski Tour, 4/9, Northstar, 916-587-0273
Marian McPartland Duo Concert, 4/10, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 359-7670
"The Ugly Duckling," 4/13-15, Redfield Proscenium Theater, UNR, 784-4444
All-Star Bocce Classic, 4/13-16, Italian game of skill, spectators welcome, Peppermill Hotel, 689-7244
The Art of the Children's Book Festival, 4/14-15, eighth annual, authors and illustrators of children's and young adult books share their insights and expertise on writing, illustrating, and publishing with lectures and workshops, fee required for the all-day Sat. session, UNR, 785-4797
Carson-Tahoe Wellness Fair, 4/15, Carson



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PREVIEW

Straight Shooters

These skiers are right on target.

By Lyle Nelson

Picture yourself following a white ribbon of snow through the woods. You're zooming on the downhills, gliding across the flats, and muscling over the uphill. You are the only interruption in winter's stillness.

Suddenly you pop out of the woods and ski up to the firing line. You swing your rifle off your back, position yourself, and shoot.

This is biathlon, an Olympic sport that combines cross-country skiing with rifle marksmanship. In mid-March the National Biathlon Championships for 1989 will be held in Reno's backyard at Royal Gorge Resort in Soda Springs, California, near Donner Summit.

Although biathlon has a small following in the United States, it is the national winter sport of Russia. International competitions there attract 150,000 spectators. Also, during the Winter Olympics more countries compete in biathlon than any other sport.

For the athlete, the crux of biathlon is



Shooter Josh Thompson, member of the 1988 Olympic team, will compete at the National Biathlon Championships in March at Royal Gorge.

concentration. It is hard to ski into the shooting range—with heaving lungs and trembling muscles—and then focus on the center of the targets. You have to block out the other skiers racing by and the cheers of the spectators. If 100 percent of

your concentration isn't on the center of the targets, your bullets won't be either.

This year the national championships will have two new events. One is a novice event for anyone who wants to experience a biathlon race. The .22-caliber rifles will be provided by the organizers, and a shooting clinic will precede the 10-kilometer race.

The second new event is a masters (over 35) competition, which has retired Olympians dusting off their rifles and polishing ski bottoms in anticipation. National team coach John Ruger says, "Because the races are at Royal Gorge, every past and present biathlete wants to attend. Where else can you ski in March on 10 feet of snow—and wear a T-shirt?"

While the masters and novices are competing primarily for fun, it is a serious competition for those entered in the open class. Their 20-kilometer race is on Wednesday, March 15. Each man and woman will be given four chances to ski into the range, shoot five shots from either a prone or standing position, and then quickly ski back onto the course. The targets are 50 meters away; the circular target is less than two inches in diameter.

The women's 7.5-kilometer race and men's 10-kilometer (two shooting stages only) is on Friday, and the team relay is on Saturday. Spectators are encouraged to attend. Much of the action can be seen from the shooting range. Royal Gorge, a cross-country ski resort, built a special target and spectator area only 100 yards from its Summit Station Lodge. So bring your skis, get a little exercise, and watch America's best biathletes in action.

Lyle Nelson of Essex Junction, Vermont, is a former Tahoe resident and four-time Olympic biathlon competitor

Mall, Carson City, 267-3815

Reno Chamber Orchestra, 4/15, 8pm, Nightingale Concert Hall, UNR, 329-1324

Prima-Diners, 4/21-22, cocktails and dinner before the opera, Nevada Opera, Holiday Hotel, 786-4046

"HMS Pinafore," 4/21-23, comedy, Nevada Opera, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 786-4046

Antique Sale and Fair, 4/21-23, Reno Livestock Events Center, 408-679-2307

Third Annual Shakespeare Performance Festival, 4/22, middle and high school students perform scenes from Shakespeare, Reno Little Theater production, Hug and Sparks high schools, 827-1170

Seventh Annual Softball Double Elimination Tournament, 4/22-23, benefit for Nevada Easter Seal Society, largest softball event in Northern Nevada, Reno and Sparks, 322-6262 or 355-1210

Team Roping, 4/25-30, Reno Livestock Events Center, 423-4811

Spring Fun Fair, 4/26-30, carnival, exhibits, contests, live entertainment, food and beverages, miniature railway rides, Mills Park,

Carson City, 885-5108

"Antigone," 4/28-29, Redfield Studio Theater, UNR, 784-4444

Silver State Square Dance and Round Dance Festival, 4/28-30, dancing to country's top callers, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 322-0027

"Ladies in Retirement," 4/28-29, 5/5-7 5/11-13, melodrama, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

"Kennedy's Children," 4/28-29, 5/5-6, and 5/12-13, drama, Carson Valley Theatre Company, 8pm, CVIC Hall, Minden, 267-2799

North Lake Tahoe Symphony Assn. Concert, 4/30, free, Chateau, Incline Village, 831-4622

Carson City Chamber Orchestra Concert, 4/30, with soloist John Lenz, 7:30pm, Carson City Community Center, 883-4154

Western National Angus Futurity, 4/30-5/2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 209-245-6619

May

Mirages and Misfits, 5/3, lectures and readings by American writers in the theme of landscape in contemporary literature, featured writers are Richard Ford and Tess

Gallagher, site TBA, Reno, 789-0225

Fantasies in Chocolate, 5/4, Bally's Reno, 789-6214

Mexican Dance, 5/8 and 5/28, Reno Livestock Events Center, 747-7668

Reno Philharmonic Orchestra, 5/9, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 825-5905

Nevada Junior Livestock Show, 5/10-14, Reno Livestock Events Center, 784-6118

Snowshoe Thompson Day and Museum Season Opening, 5/13, ceremony commemorating Snowshoe Thompson by U.S. Postal Service, food and drinks, special cancellation and delivery of mail to Placerville, Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-2518

National Preservation Week 1989, 5/14-20, house tours, workshops, rehabilitation fairs, award programs, seminars, and street fairs will be held around the state to celebrate historic preservation, write for a list of events to Nevada Heritage, P.O. Box 352, Carson City, NV 89702

Eldorado West Coast Wine Competition Judging, 5/17-19, seventh annual judging of more than 1,000 wines from the West Coast, Eldorado Hotel, 786-5700



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History Expo '89, 5/19-29, a celebration of the Nevada State Museum's 50th, the Virginia and Truckee's 120th, and the state's 125th birthdays with hand-car racing, cultural folk faire, steam locomotives, lectures, treasure hunt, Nevada State Museum and Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 885-4810

Nevada State Railroad Museum's 1989 Opening Weekend, 5/26-29, celebration of 10th year, steam-up of restored Virginia and Truckee engines No. 22 and No. 25 and locomotive No. 8, Nevada State Railroad Museum, 885-4810

Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, 5/29, between two sternwheeler paddleboats, the *M.S. Dixie* and the *Tahoe Queen*, along Tahoe's south shoreline, at South Lake Tahoe and



Reno International Kite Festival, March 18-19.

Stateline, 916-544-5050
Lawlor Spring Jamboree, 5/31-6/4, Lawlor Events Center, UNR, 784-4659

COMING EVENTS

Carson Valley Days, 6/10-11, Minden/Gardnerville, 782-3104

Kit Carson Rendezvous, 6/10-11, Carson City, 883-7442

Festival Reno, 6/16-7/16, 827-RENO

Stewart Indian Museum Powwow and Arts and Crafts Fair, 6/17-18, Carson City, 882-1808

Reno Rodeo, 6/19-25, 329-3877

Music at Sand Harbor Festival, 7/13-16, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-9048

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

SHOWGUIDE

Bally's Reno, 789-2285: Ziegfeld Theatre: "Hello Hollywood, Hello!" indf.

Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515: *Cascade Showroom*: Pointer Sisters/Cathy Ladman, 3/3-5; The Moody Blues, 3/10-11; Howie Mandel, 3/17-18; Ann-Margret, 3/24-25; Willie Nelson, 5/26-28; *Crystal Cabaret*: Playboy's Girls of Rock 'n Roll, indf.; Laff Trax, indf.

Carson City Nugget, 883-3854: Entertainment TBA

Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711: Ohana, 2/26-3/4; Whiskey Ridge, 3/6-18; Network, 3/20-4/1

Circus Circus, Reno, 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Crystal Bay Club, North Tahoe, 831-0512

Del Webb's High Sierra, Stateline, 588-6211: "Lipstick" starring Tempest Storm, indf.; Danny Marona, 3/1-12 and 5/16-6/4; Pat Collins, 4-18/30

Eldorado, Reno, 786-5700: David Proud, thru 3/5; Doug Kershaw, thru 3/12; Dae Han Sisters 3/6-26; Diamonds, 3/21-4/9 and 5/23-6/11; A Hawaiian Experience, 3/27-4/9; Gary and Sandy, 4/10-30; Sonny Turner, 4/11-30; Royal Irish Band 5/3-22; Pat Collins, 5/9-21

Fitzgerald's, Reno, 785-3300: Network, thru 3/5; Marty Davis/Perfect Circle, 3/6-19; Love Affair/Rainbow, 3/20-4/2; Whiskey Ridge, 4/3-16; Garfin Gathering, 4/3-23; The Touch, 4/17-23; Stearns and Chandler, 4/24-5/7 and 5/22-6/4; Claiborne and Mixed Company, 4/24-30; Motifs, 5/1-14; Tommy Bell, 5/8-21; Perfect Circle, 5/15-28

Harolds Club, Reno, 329-0881: Love Affair, thru 3/5; Ohana, thru 3/12; Rainbow, 3/6-19; David Proud, 3/13-26 and 4/10-23; Whiskey Ridge, 3/20-4/2; Passion/St. Romain, 3/27-4/9; Reta and the Wizz Kidz, 4/10-16 and 5/15-21; Stearns and Chandler, 4/24-30; Marty Davis, 4/17-30; Perfect Circle, 5/1-14; Clairborne and Company, 5/1-7; Garfin Gathering, 5/8-21; Tommy Bell 5/22-28; Network, 5/22-6/4; Motifs, 5/29-6/4

Harrah's Reno, 329-4422: *Headliner Room*: Dionne Warwick, 2/23-3/1 and 5/18-24; Natalie Cole, 3/2-8; Ray Stevens, 3/9-15; Jim Nabors/Patti Page, 3/16-22; Smothers Brothers, 3/30-4/5; Emmylou Harris, 4/6-12; Rich Little, 4/13-19; Tony Orlando and Dawn, 4/25-30; Bobby Vinton, 5/4-10;

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Waylon Jennings, 5/11-17; *Casino Cabaret*: Frederic Aparc's "Zing," revue, indf.

Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6606: *South Shore Room*: Scott Hamilton, thru 3/5; Jay Leno, 3/9-12; Dionne Warwick, 3/14-19; Tom Jones, 3/24-26; Crystal Gayle/Loretta Lynn, 3/31-4/2; Harry Belafonte, 4/7-9; Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, 4/11-16; *Stateline Cabaret*: Paul Revere and the Raiders, 3/9-15; John McEuen and the Runaway Express, 3/16-21; The Guess Who, 3/23-28; Williams and Ree, 3/30-4/4; Frederic Aparc's "Fast Company," indf.

Harvey's, Stateline, 588-2411: Nicolette Larson, 3/2-5; Kenny Rankin, 3/9-12; Papa Do Run Run, 3/16-19; Firefall, 3/23-26; Pazzaz Revue, indf.; Ron Rose Sound, indf.

Hyatt Lake Tahoe, Incline, 831-1111: Entertainment TBA

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304: *Celebrity Showroom*: Boxcar Willie/Volantes, thru 3/8; Forester Sisters, 3/9-22; Moe Bandy, 3/23-4/5; Paul Williams/Nick Lewin, 4/6-19; T.G. Sheppard, 5/4-17; Dottie West/Dieter Tasso, 5/18-31; *Casino Lounge*: Garfin Gathering, thru 3/12; Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, thru 3/12; Motifs/Kenny Laursen Show, 3/13-4/2

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890: Rainbow, thru 3/5; Passion, 3/7-19; Crystal Palace, 3/21-4/2; Jo Bobs, 4/4-16; Mid Life Crisis, 4/18-30; Rita and the Wizz Kidz 5/1-14; Stan Corliss, 5/15-28; Garfin Gathering, 5/23-6/4

Peppermill, Reno, 826-2121: Gary Wade, thru 3/5 and 5/29-6/11; David Proud, thru 3/5 and 5/15-28; Show of Power, 3/6-12; Lelands, 3/6-19 and 5/1-14; Robert France, 3/13-26 and 4/24-5/7; Leoni-Hecht, 3/20-4/2 and 5/22-28; Wrays, 3/27-4/9; Network, 4/3-16; Tommy Bell, 4/10-25; St. Romain, 5/8-21

Reno Hilton, 322-1111: Entertainment TBA

Reno Ramada, 788-2000: Comedy Circuit, Tues.-Sat., indf.

Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133

Tahoe Biltmore, North Tahoe, 831-0660: Entertainment TBA

Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069: Lelands/Show of Power, thru 3/5; Gary Wade and Leoni Hecht, 3/6-12; Stew Stewart, 3/13-19 and 5/15-21; Tommy Bell, 3/13-26; Mid Life Crisis, 3/20-26; Madis Brothers, 3/27-4/2; David Proud, 3/27-4/9; France, 4/3-9 and 5/22-6/2; Gary Wade, 4/10-23 and 5/8-14; Stew Stewart, 4/10-16; Lelands, 4/17-30; St. Romain, 4/24-5/7; Tommy Bell, 5/1-7; Wrays, 5/8-21

MUSEUMS

Carson City

Nevada State Archives: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., 101 S. Fall St., 885-5210

Nevada State Museum: 8:30-4:30 daily, 600 N. Carson St., 885-4810

Nevada State Railroad Museum: 8:30-4:30 Fri.-Sun. and holidays from Memorial Day thru Nov. 1, S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 885-5168

Stewart Indian Museum: 9-4 every day, 5366 Snyder Ave., 882-1808

Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum: 1-5 Mon.-Fri., 111 N. Curry St., 887-2200

Genoa

Genoa Courthouse Museum: 10-4:30 daily May 15-October 1, 782-2518

Reno

Fleischmann Planetarium: 8-5 and 7-10 Mon.-Fri., 10:30-5 and 7-10 Sat.-Sun., UNR, call 784-4811 for schedule of shows

Harolds Club Gun Collection and Museum: 10-10 daily, 329-0881

Liberty Belle Slot Collection: 11am-11pm daily, 4250 S. Virginia St., in Liberty Belle Saloon and Restaurant, 825-1776

Mackay School of Mines Minerals Museum: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., UNR, 784-6988

Nevada Air Museum: 10-5 weekends, Reno-Stead Airport, 10 mi. north of Reno, 853-3488

Nevada Historical Society: 10-5 Tues.-Sat., and noon-5 Sun., 1650 N. Virginia St., 789-0190

Sierra Nevada Museum of Art: 10-4 Tues. and Thurs.-Fri., 10-8 Wed., 12-4 Sat.-Sun., 549 Court St., 329-3333

UNR Anthropology Dept. Research Museum: 9-1 Mon.-Fri. Sept.-May, open all year by appointment, UNR, 784-4686

Wilbur D. May Museum: 10-5 Wed.-Sun., 1502 Washington (Rancho San Rafael Park), 785-5961

Sparks

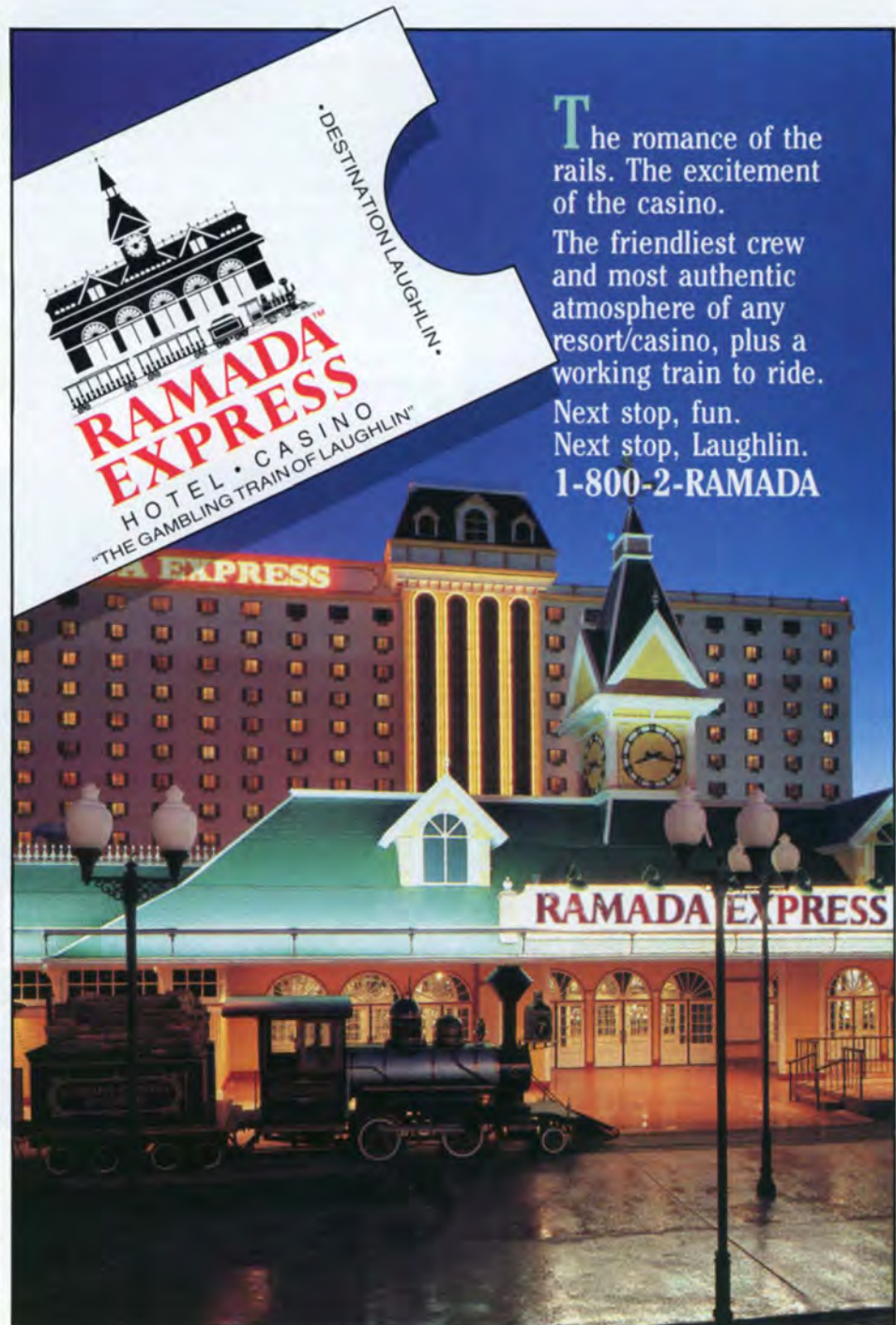
William F. Harrah Automobile Museum: 9:30-5:30 daily, 970 Glendale Ave., 355-3500

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum: 1-4 Mon.-Fri., 820 B St., 355-1144

Virginia City

Comstock Firemen's Museum: 10-4 daily, May-Oct., closed during winter, 847-0717

Fourth Ward School Museum: 10-5 daily, May-



PREVIEW

The Sport of Bocce

The Peppermill Hotel's convention center will turn into a playing field for the All Star Bocce Classic, a biennial tournament to be held on April 13-16. Four hundred people will compete for cash and prizes totalling \$15,000.

Bocce (pronounced "botch-ee") is most popular in Italy and France, but about 25 countries have formal bocce organizations, and world championships are held each year. Although the United States is relatively new to the sport's international competition, it nevertheless placed seventh in the 1979 world championship. Bocce is also being considered for the Olympics, possibly when France hosts the games in 1992.

The game is set up with two teams of four positioned on opposite ends of a



The All Star Bocce Classic will be held in April at the Peppermill in Reno.

long, 60-by-10-foot playing area. The match begins with the flip of a coin between captains from each team. The winner tosses the pallino, a small wooden ball, from the far end of the field into the center. After the pallino rolls to a stop beyond the center line, the game begins.

Each player tries to roll his ball as close to the pallino as possible. After both teams are finished, measurements are taken and points awarded according to how close the balls are to the pallino. The team to score 15

points first wins the match.

Although most teams competing in the Peppermill tournament are from California, some have come from as far away as New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Louisiana. The tournament was first held in 1987 with 38 teams entered. This April more than 70 teams are expected to compete, according to Carole Hays, the tournament's coordinator, and spectators are welcome.

For more details contact Hays at 702-689-7244 or 800-648-6992, ext. 7244.



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Lake Tahoe

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority, P.O. Box 16299, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706.

early Nov., closed during winter, 847-0975
Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum: 7:30-9 daily, 847-9991
Mark Twain Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0525
Museum of Memories: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0454
Nevada Gambling Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0789
The Way It Was Museum: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0766
Wild West Museum: 9-5 daily, 847-0400

ART GALLERIES

Carson City

Abell House: 1114 Curry St., 10-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., monthly shows by local artists, 883-5300
Austin Arts: 1505 N. Carson St., 9-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 9-1 Sat., visiting and local artists, 883-5531
Donna's Gallery: 1307 S. Carson St., 11-5:30 Tues.-Sat., handcrafted gifts, 883-9132
Great Basin Art Gallery: 110 S. Curry St., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., works by Jeff Nicholson, Mary Chadwell, Judith Stroh Miller, Barbara Moore, Jim Christison, Buckeye Blake, Steven Saylor, 882-8505
Nevada Artists Association Gallery: 449 W. King St., 10-4 Mon.-Sat., primarily Nevada themes, 882-6411
XS Gallery: Western Nevada Community College, 2201 W. Nye Ln., 8-10 Mon.-Thurs., 8-5 Fri., contemporary fine art, 887-3000

Gardnerville

East Fork Gallery: 1427 Main St. (U.S. 395), 10-5 daily, paintings, photographs, and ceramics by local artists, 782-2769

Lake Tahoe

Allen Augustine Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 11-6 daily, sculptures, original works, 588-3525
DeCurtis Art Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 10-5 Mon.-Sat., Sun. by appointment, oils, watercolors, 588-7310
High Sierra Gallery: Del Webb's High Sierra, Stateline, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-9 Sat.-Sun., oils and photos, Tahoe themes, 588-6707
Jermone Evans Gallery: Tahoe Keys Village, South Lake Tahoe, 11-5 Tues.-Sun., art of the native people of Africa, the Pacific Islands, and North and South America, 916-541-4804
Lake Gallery: Boatworks Mall, Tahoe City, 10-10 Sun.-Sat., contemporary sculpture, prints, and limited editions, 916-583-1002
Potlatch: 324 Ski Way, Incline Village, 10-5:30 Sun.-Sat., Anthony Sinclair oils, 831-2485
Royal Art Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 10-8 daily, limited-edition prints, oils, and sculptures, 588-2461
Sierra Galleries: Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 8:30-9:30 Sun.-Thurs., 8:30-11 Fri.-Sat., western and Tahoe paintings, 588-8500
Timberline Crafts Gallery: 590 Lakeshore Dr., Incline Village, 10-5:30 daily, pottery studio, more than 100 regional artists' works, 831-2460

Minden

Lone Tree Frame Co. and Gallery: 1592 Esmeralda, 10-5:30 Tues.-Fri., 10-2 Sat., originals by Mimi Jobe and Lady Jill Mueller, western and wildlife prints, 782-2522

Reno

Addi Galleries: Bally's Reno, 9-11 Sun.-Sat, Red Skelton clown paintings, 323-1920

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Artist's Co-op Gallery: 627 Mill St., 10-5 Tues.-Sat., 1-4:30 Sun., 20 local artists' work, 322-8896

Barnwood Is Beautiful: 135 N. Sierra, 12-5 Mon.-Sat., antique Nevada photos lacquered on barnwood, 329-6106

Casazza Art Gallery and Studio: 2200 Thornwood, by appointment, watercolors, winterscapes, abstracts, and florals, 322-0233

Custom Framing by Clark: 135 W. Liberty, 10-4:30 Mon.-Thurs., 10-4 Fri., oils and watercolors, 329-1177

Earth Window: American Indian Art: 2001 E. Second St., 10-5:30 Sun.-Sat., American Indian art in oil, acrylic, sandpainting, and beadwork, 786-5999

Fallen Leaf Gallery and Framery: 907 W. Moana Ln., 10-6 Tues.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., Frank McCarthy western prints, 826-7477

Feats of Clay: 20 C Hillcrest Dr., 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 60 western potters' works, 826-1131

Frame Shop: 3366 Lakeside Dr., 9:30-5 Mon., 10-6 Tues.-Fri., 9:30-5 Sat., duck stamps and limited-edition prints, 825-7117

Frame-Up: 145 W. Plumb Ln., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-3 Sat., Lyle Ball western paintings, Mary Chadwell miniatures, 329-7557

Hagar's Gallery: 4056 Kietzke Ln., 9:30-5:30 Tues.-Sat., Phillipe Noyer, Luongo, Jerry Schurr, 826-0323

Hermitage Gallery: 245 California Ave., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., George Foster oils, graphics, limited-editions, 786-6880

Kate Hanlon Weaving Studio and Craft Gallery: 45 Lockwood Rd., Sparks, call ahead, hand-woven clothing, custom chess sets, 342-0196

Manville Gallery: School of Medicine, UNR, 8-5 Mon.-Fri., contemporary paintings and

sculpture, 784-6063

New Ideas Art Gallery: Truckee Meadows Community College, 8-7 Mon.-Thurs., 8-5 Fri., contemporary fine arts in a variety of media, 673-7000

Norris-Allovio Gallery: 3430 Lakeside Dr., 10-5:30 Mon.-Sat., lithographs and fine art, 825-5000

Powers Frameworks: 2317 Kietzke Ln., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., Roy Powers prints, Steve Davis photography, 825-8060

Sheppard Art Gallery: UNR, 9-4 Mon.-Fri., contemporary western art, 784-6658

Sierra Nevada Museum of Art: 549 Court St., 10-4 Tues. and Thurs.-Fri., 10-8 Wed., 12-4 Sat.-Sun., visiting and Great Basin artist's works, 329-3333

Stremmel Galleries: 1460 S. Virginia St., 8-5:30 Mon.-Fri., Sat. by appointment, leading American artists, 786-0558

Valle Art Gallery and Studio: 213 E. Plumb Ln., 12-6 Mon.-Sat., watercolors by Esteban Valle, pottery by Kelsie Harder, 323-1887

Wildlife Galleries: 565 California Ave., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., Nevada issue duck and trout stamps, 322-0323

Virginia City

Riata Gallery: 88 South C St., 10-5 Tues.-Sun., Olag Wieghorst lithographs and western prints, 847-0502

CASINO NOTES

•The **Eldorado** in Reno celebrates its 16th birthday on May 23-25 and the grand opening of its new 25-story tower on May 26-29.

•Reno's **Club Cal-Neva** celebrates its 27th

birthday on March 28 with free drawings.

•The **V&T Coffee Shop** in Carson City's **Ormsby House** treats diners to the flavor of the old Virginia & Truckee Railroad in miniature. The restaurant's railroad display has five model trains running simultaneously around the room on 400 feet of track. Designer Malcolm Furlow says he elected to combine history with fantasy.

•**Harrah's Lake Tahoe** has introduced Super Pan 9 to its card players. The game, similar to baccarat and pai gow poker, originated in Southern California poker rooms. Harrah's Reno was one of the first Northern Nevada casinos to offer the game, and their version was adapted for play at Harrah's Lake Tahoe.

TOURNAMENTS

March

Slots, thru 3/1, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300

Pai Gow Tournament, 3/3-5, Reno Hilton, 322-1111

Slots, 3/3-5 and 5/19-21, Reno Hilton, 785-7300

Video Poker, 3/10-12, Reno Ramada, 788-2000

Pot O' Gold Poker Tournament, 3/16-26, Reno Hilton, 785-7300

Dice, 3/17-19, Peppermill, 689-7100

Keno, 3/17-19, Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515

Slots, 3/17-19, 4/21-23, and 5/19-21, Reno Ramada, 788-2000

Slots, 3/31 and 4/28, Cal-Neva, 323-1046

April

Slots, 4/9-11, Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6606

Golden Dollar Marathon, 4/9-11, Eldorado, 786-5700

Slots, 4/21-23, Peppermill, 689-7282

Keno, 4/23-25, Eldorado, 786-5700

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NEVADA

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Home and Garden:
Historic Preservation
in Nevada

Astronomy in the Desert

Nevada 89
Photo Winners

Ghost Town Travels

Las Vegas'
Hellodoro Days
and the Reno Rodeo

RENO



Photo courtesy of IWSOG



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Springtime in Reno is a time for soaring kites and soaring hearts.

On the 18th and 19th of March, the Second Annual Reno International Kite Festival takes to the skies over Reno's Rancho San Rafael Park. Kites of every size and description will fly for two colorful days of fun and serious competition.

And then in April, some of the world's most dedicated athletes will gather in Northern Nevada for the 1989 International Winter Special Olympics Games. For eight full days, April 1-8, special athletes from around the globe will compete in a variety of events from skiing to skating. Special athletes whose dedication will make your spirits soar.

Whether it's kites in the sky or athletes on the ice, springtime in Reno is always something different.

For more information on the Kite Festival call 800-FOR-RENO or (702) 827-7636.

For more information on the International Winter Special Olympics Games call (702) 322-8888.

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The World Championship Cutter and Chariot Races (top) draws the cream of the crop to Elko. Austin's St. Patrick's Day Celebration includes a parade (bottom), hairy-leg contest, and left-handed nail driving contest.

EVENTS HOT LINES

Nevada Division of State Parks: District III office in Fallon: 867-3001; District IV office in Elko County: Northfork 6493; District V office in Panaca: 728-4467

For chamber of commerce and convention center phones, see page E-4

RURAL EVENTS

COVERED WAGON TERRITORY

March

Union Pacific Performing Artists Residency Concert, 3/3, soprano Lisa Braden and pianist Jan Christensen perform, convention center, Elko, 738-8493

Spring Home and Garden Show, 3/4-5, free, convention center, Elko, 738-7135

First Annual Agriculture in Mining Forum, 3/7-11, open forum bringing mining and agricultural communities together, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

St. Pat's Fair, 3/11, games, food, dancing, fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-2928

Nevada State Heritage Project Quilt Day, 3/11, to document quilts in the state, location TBA, Elko, 738-6533

Elko County Science Fair, 3/14-18, convention center, Elko, 738-7281

St. Patrick's Day Celebrations, 3/17 area casinos

Slot Tournament, 3/17-18, State Line Casino, Wendover, 664-2221

World Championship Cutter and Chariot Races, 3/18-19 and 3/24-26, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-5568

National Intercollegiate Mining Olympiad, 3/24-25, 11th annual, national mining students compete in hand drilling, ore mucking, jack-leg drilling, and other mining skills, open to public, free, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

April

Northeast Nevada Health Fair, 4/1-2, convention center, Elko, 738-5151

Hayden Hoedown, 4/8, square and round dance festival, held by Cactus Pete's Casino in the Jackpot High School, Jackpot, 755-2321

Spring Blackjack Tournament, 4/9, State Line Casino, Wendover, 664-2221

Spring Concert, 4/11, convention center, Elko, 738-2121

Jazz Ambassadors Army Band Concert, 4/17 free, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Lion's Club Magic Show, 4/18, benefit, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Ag Fair, 4/28-30, tribute to Nevada agriculture with exhibits, contests, and entertainment, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Lovelock Grand Prix, 4/29-30, inspired by the Virginia City Grand Prix, the first annual Lovelock Grand Prix will feature 300 motorcyclists and mountain bikes racing through town and the surrounding desert, USA Promotions, Lovelock, 208-726-7454

May

Union Pacific Performing Artists Residency Program, 5/1-5, soprano Lisa Braden and pianist Jan Christensen perform classical

music, site TBA in Winnemucca, 386-6511
A Night In Old Vienna, 5/5, a 38-piece professional orchestra plus soloists present the music of Beethoven, Mozart, Lehar, and Strauss, Northern Nevada Concert Orchestra Assn., convention center, Elko, 738-4187 or 738-4091

Pony Express Championships, 5/13, relay horse race, Calcutta, Rodeo Arena, Wells, 752-3540

Western Festival Days, 5/20-26, western retail gift show, western musical groups, cowboy poets, traditional Indian dancing, fastest gun in Nevada, and a quick draw gun competition, City Park, Elko, 738-7135

Elko High School Spring Choral Concert, 5/24, free, convention center, Elko, 738-7281

Old Timers Roping, 5/26-29, fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-3587

Bay Area Racing Pigeon Combine, 5/27 owners will release 3,000 to 4,000 birds at sunrise in Jackpot for a flight of 550 miles back to the Bay Area in California. Fastest bird to date averaged 52.5 mph. Headquarters at Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321, or call race chairman at 707-795-1727

Silver State Stampede Rodeo, 5/27-28, rodeo and parade, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-5134 or 738-8866

Morrodderma Car Show, 5/27-29, first annual rod and custom car show, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

March

Fallon Photo Show, thru 6/30, old and new views of Churchill County in show titled "One Day at a Time: The Desert Farm," Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677

Bristlecone Chariot Races, 3/4-5, chariot and futurity racing for prizes, money, and standing, White Pine County Fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877 or 289-3720

Quintessence Workshops, 3/9, wind quintet with humor and musical insights; workshops given at Fallon schools, 423-1440

Quintessence Concerts, 3/10, workshops given at Yerington schools, recital at Holy Family Catholic Center, 463-3066

Quintessence Concert, 3/11, community center, Fallon, 423-1440

Hidden Cave Tours, 3/11 and 3/25, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

Quintessence Concerts, 3/13, workshops given at Battle Mountain schools, recital at Battle Mountain Civic Center, 635-2550

Austin's St. Patrick's Day Celebration, 3/17, hairy-leg dance contest, left-handed nail driving contest, Austin, 964-2627

"Betty Lou and the Country Beast," 3/17-18, local students perform with Missoula Children Theatre actors in an original musical, Smith Valley Community Center, Wellington, 463-3066

Winter Stargazing Programs, 3/25, Cave Lake State Park, Ely, 728-4467

Greek Night, 3/25, authentic Greek food, dancing, and music, convention center, Ely, 289-4851

Easter Egg Hunt, 3/26, City Park, Ely, 289-8877

Yerington-VORRA Desert Off-Road Race, 3/28, four 105-mile laps with six classes of cars, 9am start time, two miles southwest of Yerington, 463-3363

PREVIEW

Pony Express in Wells



The tradition of the long-distance rider is alive and well in Wells during the North American Pony Express Championships.

This year's race will take place Saturday May 13, at the Wells Rodeo Arena. Festivities begin Friday night with a Calcutta, an auction where people bid on their favorite team in hopes of winning the auction proceeds if their choice finishes first.

Teams consist of five riders, five horses, and one mail bag that is carried around a four-mile course. As each rider completes his run, the mail bag is passed off to the next team member. The first

Relay riders keep a tradition alive in Wells with the Pony Express Championships.

team with all five riders completing the course wins the championship.

Last year's race drew competitors from Nevada, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon.

For more information on this unique event contact the Wells Chamber of Commerce, Wells, NV 89835 or call 702-752-3540.—Don H. McDonald

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April

Nevada State Heritage Quilt Project Quilt Day, 4/1, location TBA, Ely, 289-3102

Tears of Joy, 4/7 puppet theatre for children and adults, community center, Fallon, 423-1440

Spring Fling Square Dancing, 4/8-9, convention center, Ely, 289-6656

Hidden Cave Tours, 4/8 and 4/22, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

May

A Common Thread, 5/1-31, Northern Nevada Fiber Guild's traveling fiber art show, White Pine Public Museum, Ely, 289-4710

Hidden Cave Tours, 5/13 and 5/27 meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

The Great Country Picnic II, 5/14, an outdoor picnic concert featuring Sukay and Andean music group playing new and traditional music of Bolivia, Ecuador, and Peru; bring a blanket and picnic lunch, contact Hey Day Inn, Wellington, 463-3066

Steam Up and Operation of the "Ghost Train of Old Ely," 5/27 twilight special, Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 289-2085

Hotel Nevada/Jailhouse Invitational Softball Tournament, 5/27-29, men's slow pitch, March Softball Complex, Ely, 289-4071

PIONEER TERRITORY

March

Quintessence Concerts, 3/1-2, wind quintet

with humor and musical insights; on 3/1 at Panaca High School, on 3/2 at Alamo High School, 728-4539

Lady Jill Mueller Art Exhibit, 3/3-4/15, Great Basin National Park art exhibit, Central Nevada Museum, Tonopah, 482-9676

Iowa State Picnic, 3/12, get-together for residents and former residents of Iowa, Pahump Community Park, 727-5107

Union Pacific Performing Artists Residency Program, 3/13-17 soprano Lisa Braden and pianist Jan Christensen will conduct a week-long residency and perform their music, sites TBA in Panaca and Alamo, 728-4233

Tonopah High School Rodeo, 3/18-19, prizes, trophies, rodeo grounds, Tonopah, 482-5650

A Common Thread, 3/20-4/15, Northern Nevada Fiber Guild's traveling fiber art show, includes tapestries, wall hangings, traditional and contemporary baskets, handmade paper, saddle blankets, quilts, dolls, and awnings, Town Hall, Pioche, 962-5584

End of Winter—Spring Celebration, 3/21, burning of a snowman, other springtime promotions, Caliente, 726-3129

April

Early Times Pancake Breakfast, Car Show, and Swap Meet, 4/2, location TBA, Hawthorne, 213-430-8272

May

Nevada State Heritage Quilt Project Quilt Day, 5/6, location TBA, Tonopah, 482-8583

Armed Forces Day Celebration, 5/13-21, to honor the Armed Forces this annual community celebration includes dances, boxing, art exhibits, stock car races,

DISCOVER WINNEMUCCA

1989 WINNEMUCCA EVENTS

June 2	4	Winnemucca Mule Show and Races
June 10	11	Winnemucca Basque Festival
June 15-18		Nevada State High School Rodeo Finals
June 16	18	Red Mountain Indian Pow Wow and Rodeo
July 3 - 4		Twin States Stampede (McDermitt)
June 30	July 2	Winnemucca Junior Rodeo

LABOR DAY WEEK END EVENTS

Sept. 1 - 4	Western Art Round Up and Buckaroo Poetry*
Sept. 1	4 Tri-County Fair and 4-H Livestock Show
Sept. 2	3 Winnemucca Rodeo Nevada's Oldest!
Sept. 9	10 Thoroughbred, Quarter Horse and
	& 16 17 Mule Pari-mutuel Racing
Sept. 28	Oct. 1 Nevada State 4-H Exposition



*
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PREVIEW

Elko's Gold Fever

By John Tyson

Elko, a place once called the "Last Cowtown in the West" by Lowell Thomas, is now the hub of what some call the most substantial gold-bearing region on the North American continent—a gold deposit worth a potential \$35 billion. At today's prices that is six times the yield of Virginia City's famous Comstock Lode more than a hundred years ago.

The town celebrates this distinction by holding several events throughout the year, including the Elko Mining Expo, a gathering of mining events. The Expo began in 1986 as a means for Elko's mining industry to compare notes, exchange ideas, and share the latest technology. Since then it has evolved into an international forum for the industry. In 1988, just two years after the first Expo, more than



Massive machinery at the Elko Mining Expo.

300 exhibitors filled the grounds, with everything from ball bearings to bulldozers. This year the show will be held on June 8-10.

The Expo has also produced some spinoffs that have become annual events. Here are a few of the most unique:

Agriculture in Mining (March 7-11): A symposium designed to bring the agricultural and mining communities to-

gether to solve mutual problems. Now in its second year, the symposium attracts nationally known speakers and participants.

National Intercollegiate Mining Contest (March 24-25): Mining students compete against each other in basic mining skills. In 1988 nearly 20 teams from around the country competed for top honors.

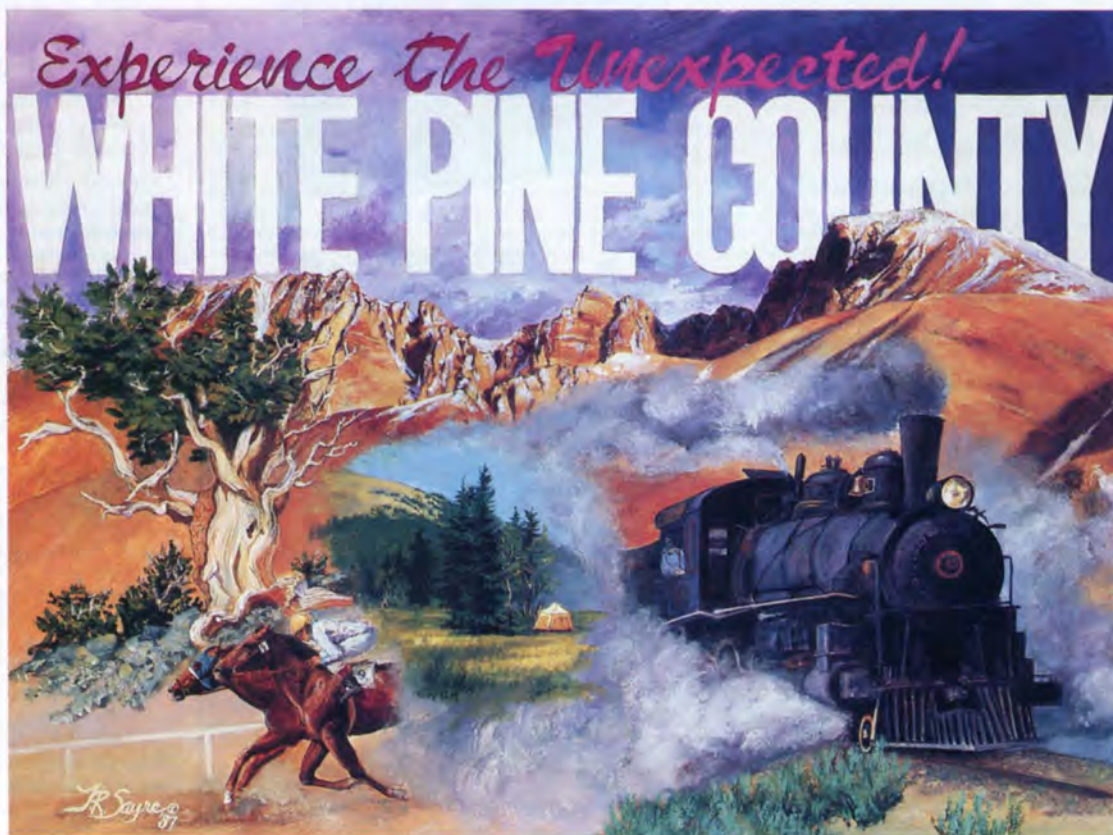
Safety Olympiad (July 17-22): Mining employees form rescue teams to compete in simulated accidents. The competition is promoted as a national forum for mine safety.

Intermountain Mining and Processing Symposium (October 26-28): Sponsored by the Nevada and Utah mining associations and 10 other mining organizations from across the country, the event is a nuts and bolts meeting of mine operators and processors. Former Utah Governor Scott M. Matheson and U.S. Bureau of Mines Director T. S. Ary spoke at last year's symposium. In 1989, the event will be joined by the Northwest Mining Association as a primary sponsor along with Nevada and Utah.

Former Reno television reporter John Tyson is now the assistant director of the Elko Convention and Visitors Authority and a journalist-at-large.

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GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK, NEVADA

waterfights by fire departments; main day is Sat. 5/20 with noon parade, open house at the Army Ammunition Plant, train rides, games, and fireworks display, Hawthorne, 945-5896

Jim Butler Days, 5/26-29, 19th annual, town founder and miner Jim Butler is memorialized each year with mining events, parade, dances, bicycle races, foot races, cook-offs, stock car races, art show, Central Nevada Museum open house with special exhibits, movies, and slide shows, Tonopah, 482-3859

Caliente Homecoming, 5/27-28, all former residents and friends are invited to return to Caliente for softball tournaments, entertainment, and Sunday barbecue and crowning of Homecoming royalty, Dixon Park, Caliente, 726-3129

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

RURAL COMING EVENTS

White Pine Rodeo, 6/3-4, Ely, 289-8877
Winnemucca Basque Festival, 6/10-11, 623-3277
Red Mountain Indian Powwow, 6/17-18, Fort McDermitt, 532-8259
Wells Bustin' and Dustin' PRCA Rodeo, 6/24-25, 752-3486
National Basque Festival, 7/1-3, Elko, 738-2046
Twin States Stampede, 7/3-4, McDermitt,



Hawthorne's Armed Forces Day parade.

532-8240

Lovelock Frontier Days, 8/4-6, 273-2687
Bonneville Speed Week, 8/20-26, Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414 or 714-846-4250

MUSEUMS

Covered Wagon Territory

Northeastern Nevada Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418
Marzen House Museum, 9-2 Mon.-Fri., 1:30-4 Sat.-Sun., Lovelock, 273-7213
Humboldt Museum, 10-4 Mon.-Fri., 1-4 Sat., Winnemucca, 623-2912

Pony Express Territory

Nevada Northern Railway Museum, 8:30-4:30 daily, May 27-Oct. 1, closed during winter, East Ely, 289-2085
White Pine Public Museum, 9-4 Mon.-Fri., 10-3 Sat., 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710
Eureka Sentinel Museum, open April 15 to October 13, hours vary, call 237-5484, Eureka
Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave, 10-4 Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677 For Hidden Cave tours call Carson City BLM, 882-1631
Lyon County Museum, 10-4 Sat., 1-4 Sun., Yerington

Pioneer Territory

Mineral County Museum, 2-4:30 Mon.-Fri., Hawthorne, 945-3185
Lincoln County Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 10-5 Sun. (closes from 12:30-1:30 for lunch), Pioche, 962-5207
Central Nevada Museum, 12-5 Tues.-Sat., Tonopah, 482-9676

ART GALLERIES

Desert Images: 459 Fifth St., Hawthorne, noon-5 Mon.-Sat. or by appointment, features monthly guest artist, artwork representative of Mineral County and rural Nevada, 945-2138
Gallery: 2051 North St., Ely, 10-5 Mon.-Fri., Sat. and Sun. by appointment, pastels, watercolors, and oils by local artists, 289-4750
Northeastern Nevada Museum: 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., photos, pen and ink, sculpture, and oils on Nevada themes, 738-3418
The Office Gallery: 178 S. Maine St., Fallon, 8-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 8:30-5 Sat., original artwork of all kinds, 423-6078
Planet X Pottery: Box 4, State Highway 81-447, outside Gerlach, hours vary, call ahead; original pottery, 557-2500

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This is a joint contest sponsored by both the Pioneer Territory and the Pony Express Territory.



DINING GUIDE

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers and those who have paid a \$50 listing fee. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to \$10 (\$), \$11 to \$20 (\$\$), \$21 to \$30 (\$\$\$), and more than \$30 (\$\$\$\$). To phone from out of state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

LAS VEGAS

AMERICAN

- California/Market Street Cafe**—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. Prime rib dinner. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Circus Circus/Skyrise**—734-0410. Prime rib, steak and shrimp. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Desert Inn/Champions Deli**—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4513. Daily cooked brisket of beef, pastrami, corned beef. B, L. \$, major.
- Desert Inn/La Promenade**—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4580. Pasta sala tricolore, steak sandwich. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Flamingo Hilton/Flamingo Room**—733-3111. Seafood salad bar, fresh fish of the day, veal cutlet Viennoise. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Flamingo Hilton/Lindy's Deli**—733-3111. Grilled Rueben, New York steak, marble cheesecake. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Imperial Palace/4th Floor Rib Room**—731-3311. Prime rib and barbecue entrees. D. \$\$, major.
- Sam's Town/Uptown Buffet**—5111 Boulder Hwy. 454-8048. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V. CB.
- Stardust/Tony Roma's**—732-6111. Ribs and chicken. D. \$, major.

CAJUN

- Holiday Casino/Joe's Bayou**—369-5000. Shrimp Creole, blackened catfish, Memphis-style barbecue. D. \$-\$\$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

- Bally's/Gigi**—739-4651. Cote de veau nouveau chasseur mormard grille, beurre fondu. D (closed Mon-Tues.). \$\$\$\$ major.
- Caesars Palace/Bacchanal**—731-7110. Seven-course Roman banquet. D (closed Tues.-Wed.). \$\$\$\$ major.
- Caesars Palace/Palace Court**—731-7110. Langoustines, steak Diane. D. \$\$\$\$ major.
- Dunes/Sultan's Table**—737-4681. Breast of capon ala kiev, brochette of beef tenderloin, medallion of veal ala sultan. D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Las Vegas Hilton/Le Montrachet**—732-5111. Dover sole, medallions of veal, extensive wine list. D. \$\$\$\$ major.

GERMAN

- Alpine Village Inn**—3003 Paradise Rd., 734-6888. Sauerbraten, wiener schnitzel, fleisch rouladen, kassler rippen, sausages, combination plates, fish, steak, homebaked breads and desserts. D. \$-\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

- Bally's/Caruso's**—739-4656. Gamberoni alla griglia, pollo alla fiorentina. D (closed Wed.-Thurs.). \$\$\$\$ major.
- The Bootlegger Ristorante**—5025 S. Eastern, 736-4939. Seafood fra diavolo (hot, medium or mild), jumbo shrimp, cioppino style clams and calamari over a bed of fresh linguini, milk-fed veal piccata, homemade manicotti and lasagne, pasta diet menu from the American Heart Assn. L, D. \$, major.
- Caesars Palace/Primavera**—731-7110. Fettuccine Primavera, pasta specialties, Caesars salad. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Desert Inn/Portofino**—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4495. Saltimbocca a la Romana, scampi a la Provinciale, fettuccine Alfredo. D. \$, major.
- Imperial Palace/Pappa's Pizza**—731-3311. Pizza, pasta, and salads. L, D. \$, major.
- Las Vegas Hilton/Andiamo**—732-5111. Northern Italian specialties, 25 pastas, veal, lamb, and fish entrees. L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

MEXICAN

- Casa Tequila**—1815 E. Charleston, 384-0651. Chimichangas, fajitas, crab enchiladas, burritos,

- tacos, tostadas, rellenos. L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.
- El Sombrero Cafe**—807 S. Main St., 382-9234. Albondigas soup, Mexican steak, chili Colorado. L, D. \$, MC, V.
- Garcias Mexican**—1030 E. Flamingo, 731-0628. Fajitas, chimichangas, seafood enchiladas, deep-fried ice cream. L, D. \$, major.

ORIENTAL

- Bally's/Tracy's**—739-4930. Kung pao gai, mongo ngow. D (closed Wed-Thurs.). \$, major.
- Caesars Palace/Ah So**—731-7110. Sushi and sashimi, teppan yaki-style. D. \$\$\$\$ major.
- Desert Inn/Ho Wan**—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4547. Sizzling oyster beef, prawns a la Szechwan, almond pressed duck. D. \$, major.
- Flamingo Hilton/Peking Market**—733-3111. Nine-course family dinner, lemon chicken and lobster Cantonese. D. \$, major.
- Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace**—731-3311. Cantonese



American favorites and pasta dishes are served 24 hours a day at La Promenade at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas.

- and Mandarin cuisine. D. \$, major.
- Las Vegas Hilton/Benihana Village**—732-5111. Four restaurants: tempura, robata, sukiyaki, hibachi; animated show. D. \$\$\$ major.
- Silver Dragon**—1510 E. Flamingo Rd., 737-1234. Lover's delight, lemon shrimp, lobster Szechwan, silver dragon crab legs, and lover's shrimp. L, D. \$, Tokyo—953 E. Sahara in Commercial Center, 735-7070. Sushi, teppan, yakiniku, tempura, teriyaki, sukiyaki. L, D. \$, major.

SURF AND TURF

- Bally's/Barrymore's**—739-4661. Blackened red fish, surf and turf. L (Mon.-Fri.). D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Caesars Palace/Spanish Steps Steak and Seafood House**—731-7110. Fresh seafood, prime dry-aged steaks, Mediterranean dishes. D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- California/Pasta Pirate**—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. Mesquite-broiled seafood, steaks, pasta made fresh daily, live Maine lobster. D. \$, major.
- California/Redwood Bar and Grill**—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. 18 oz. porterhouse dinner. D. \$-\$\$ major.
- The Cavalier**—3850 E. Desert Inn Rd., 451-6221. Medallions of beef, chicken Cavalier. L, D. \$, major.
- Circus Circus/Steak House**—734-0410. Steak, prime rib, lobster, seafood appetizers flown in fresh daily. D. \$, major.
- Dunes/Dome of the Sea**—737-4254. Picata of lobster Dome of the Sea, shrimp Christina, scallops Bruno. D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Flamingo Hilton/Beef Barron**—733-3111. Prime rib special, chateaubriand, crisp roast duck. D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Holiday Casino/Claudine's**—369-5000. Steaks and seafood, open kitchen, piano bar nearby, excellent wine list. D. \$-\$\$\$ major.
- Imperial Palace/Kobe Steak House**—731-3311. Steak and lobster. D. \$, major.
- Sandpiper**—3311 E. Flamingo, 458-5555. Live Maine lobster, abalone, large selection of seafood and fresh fish. L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.
- Stardust/William B's**—732-6111. Broiled halibut, lamb, veal, rib eye steak. D. \$, major.
- Yolie's Brazilian Steakhouse**—3900 Paradise Rd., 794-0700. Meats include: turkey wrapped in bacon,

sausage, brisket of beef, lamb, pork, chicken. All cooked over a mesquite charcoal fire. L, D. \$, major.

BOULDER CITY

- Gold Strike Steak House**—Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000. Steaks, lobster, veal, and daily specials. D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Two Gals**—1632 Nevada Hwy., 293-1793. Omelets, sandwiches, quiche, cheesecakes. B, L. \$, No CC.

LAUGHLIN

- Colorado Belle/Orleans Room**—298-4000. Steak, seafood, prime rib, lamb chops, linguini. D. \$, AE, DC, MC, V.
- Edgewater/The Embers**—298-2453. Steak, seafood, prime rib, Midwestern beef. D. \$, major.
- Riverside/Gourmet Room**—298-2535. Chateaubriand, Cajun dishes, steak and quail, rack of lamb, wine steward. D. \$, major.
- Riverside/Prime Rib Room**—298-2535. Salad, potato, vegetable, and dessert bar, prime rib. D. \$, major.
- Sam's Town Gold River/Sutter's Mill**—298-2242. Mesquite-broiled steaks. Brunch Sat.-Sun. D. \$, AE, MC, V.

RENO-CARSON AREA

AMERICAN

- Boomtown**—I-80 at Verdi, 345-6000. Changing buffet, regular menu. B, L, D. \$, MC, V.
- Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's**—Minden, 782-4347. Steaks, seafood, veal, soup and salad bar. L, D, Sun. brunch. \$-\$\$, major.
- Carson Valley Inn/Katie's**—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Comstock Hotel/Miner's Cafe**—200 W. 2nd St., 329-1880. One-pound New York steak dinner. 24 hours. \$, major.
- Country Garden**—606 W. Plumb Ln., 825-0213. Homemade soups and desserts, unique salads. L. \$, MC, V.
- Eldorado/Mardi Gras**—786-5700. English sole, shrimp salad croissant sandwich, won ton soup. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Harrah's/Garden Room**—786-3232. Eggs Benedict, avocado clubhouse, triple dragon. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Harrah's/Skyway**—786-3232. Buffets, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Holiday Inn/Greenhouse**—5851 S. Virginia St., 825-2940. Sandwiches, burgers, dinners. B, L, D. \$, major.
- John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store**—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis. B, L, D. \$, major.
- John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie**—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet with menu that includes rack of lamb and scampi, Sunday brunch. L, D. \$-\$\$, all major.
- Liberty Belle Saloon and Restaurant**—4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776. Prime rib, lobster tail, crab legs, seafood dishes, steak, ribs, chicken. L, D. \$-\$\$, V, MC.
- Ormsby House/Comstock**—Carson City, 882-1890. Burgers, prime rib, breakfasts. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Peppermill/Coffee Shop**—2707 S. Virginia St., 826-2121. Fruit salads, lasagna, gourmet omelets. B, L, D. \$, major.
- Reno Ramada/Gaming Tables**—Sixth and Lake, 788-2000. Daily specials. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.
- Sharkey's Nugget**—Gardnerville, 782-3133. Prime rib is house specialty. B, L, D. \$, no CC.

BASQUE

- Louis' Basque Corner**—301 E. 4th St., Reno, 323-7203. New York steak, sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. \$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

- Adele's**—1112 N. Carson St., Carson City, 882-3353. Fresh fish, lobster, lamb, beef, chicken. L, D. \$-\$\$\$ MC, V.
- Bally's/Cafe Gigi**—789-2266. French, cracked crab, snails, lobster bisque, chateaubriand, veal Oscar. D. \$\$\$\$ major.
- Eldorado/The Vintage**—786-5700. Fresh Sonoma duckling, chateaubriand, prawns amaretto, extensive wine list. D. \$, major.
- Four Seasons**—1885 S. Virginia St., 329-4833. Stuffed croissants, scallops sauteed Provencale, coquille St. Jacques, frog legs Provencale, linguini alla vongole.

B, L, D. \$\$, AE, MC, V.

Gold Hill Hotel/Crown Point—1 mile south of Virginia City, 847-0111. French and Cajun cuisine. D. \$\$, major.

Harrah's/Steak House—786-3232. Steak Dia,ae, fresh fish daily, roast rack of lamb. L (Mon.-Fri.), D. \$\$\$, major.

Ormsby House/Woody's—Carson City, 882-1890. Rack of lamb persillade, veal Cordon Bleu. L (Tues.-Fri.), D (Tues.-Sat.). \$\$-\$\$\$ major.

Peppermill/Le Moulin—826-2121. Tournedos of beef a la Dianne, veal a la Oscar, dover sole meuniere. D. \$\$, major.

Reno Hilton/Top of the Hilton—322-1111. Salmon with three sauces, roast duck with raspberry sauce, roast prime rib of beef au jus. D. \$\$\$, major.

ITALIAN

Bally's/Caruso's—789-2267. Fresh oysters, cannelloni, calamari. D. \$\$\$, major.

Eldorado/La Strada—786-5700. Saltimbocca, gnocchi al pesto, ravioli verdi con spinaci. D nightly. \$\$, major.

Plaza Court—1981 Terminal Way in Airport Plaza Hotel, 348-6370. Lobster chardonnay, seafood delicacies, chicken saute sec, fettuccine Christina. B, L, D. \$\$, major.

MEXICAN

Cantina Los Tres Hombres—7111 S. Virginia St., 852-0202. Paella chingalinga, deep-fried ice cream, coconut flan. L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

Hacienda Del Sol—2935 So. Virginia St., 825-7144. Fajitas (beef and turkey). L, D. \$, MC, V.

Western Village/Pancho and Willie's—Off I-80, Sparks, 331-1069. Fajitas, chili verde. L (res.), D. \$\$, major.

ORIENTAL

Bally's/China Seas—789-2268. Mandarin shrimp, Mongolian beef, cashew chicken. D (closed Sun.). \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. \$\$, major.

Miramar House—202 Fairview Dr., Carson City, 882-0262. Daily luncheon buffet. L, D. \$, major.

SURF AND TURF

Bally's/Bounty—789-2000. Steamed clams, cracked half crab, oysters. L, D. \$, major.

Bally's/Steak House—789-2270. Broiled T-bone steak, Columbia River salmon. L (except Sat.-Sun.), D (except Sun.-Mon.). \$, major.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scallopini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken piccata, escargot. D. \$\$, major.

Cattlemen's—555 Hwy. 395 S. in Washoe Valley, 849-1500. Sirloin, filet mignon, lobster, Alaska king crab. D. \$\$, major.

Circus Circus/Hickory Pit—329-0711. One-pound prime rib, New York steak. D. \$\$, major.

Club Cal Neva/Copper Ledge—Second and Virginia, 323-1046. Steak and scampi, prime rib dinner, New York steak. B, L, D. \$,

Comstock Hotel/Dinner House—329-1880. Steak and lobster, veal piccata, stuffed shrimp. D. \$\$, major.

Harrah's/Seafare—786-3232. Fresh fish specials, calamari, lobster tail, veal parmigiana, eggplant Romano. L, D. \$\$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/John's Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. \$\$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak and lobster, snapper, shrimp Louis. L, D. \$\$, major.

Western Village/Steakhouse—Off I-80, Sparks, 331-1069. Prime rib, Australian lobster, veal scallopini, steak Diane. D. \$, major.

LAKE TAHOE

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.

Harrah's Tahoe/Forest—Stateline, 588-6611. Honey-dipped fried chicken, veal stew madeira, mahi mahi. B, L, D. \$\$\$, major.

Harrah's Tahoe/Sierra—Stateline, 588-6611. Daily specials, Chinese entrees. B, L, D. \$\$, major.

Harvey's/Cafe Metro—Stateline, 588-2411. European sweet shop, coffees, retail bakery. \$, major.



El Vaquero restaurant in Harrey's at Stateline.

Tahoe Queen—970 Ski Run Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA., 916-541-3364. Afternoon Emerald Bay cruise with luncheon menu, evening dinner-dance cruise. L, D. \$\$, MC, V.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Le Posh—Stateline, 588-3515. Award-winning California cuisine. D. \$\$\$, major.

Harrah's Tahoe/The Summit—Stateline, 588-6611. Saddle of veal flamed with morel mushrooms, Grand Marnier souffle. D. \$\$\$, major.

Harvey's/Sage Room—Stateline, 588-2411. Rack of lamb persille, prime dry-aged cuts of beef, beef Wellington. D. \$\$-\$\$\$ major.

Harvey's/Top of the Wheel—Stateline, 588-2411. Continental cuisine, mahi mahi with macadamia bourbon, Sun. brunch. D. \$\$-\$\$\$ major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini Carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, pollo allo spumante, D, weekend brunch, \$\$, major.

MEXICAN

Harvey's/El Vaquero—Stateline, 588-2411. Camerones Veracruz, carnitas. L, D. \$\$, major.

ORIENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. \$\$, major.

SURF AND TURF

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. \$\$, major, res. for large parties.

Harrah's Tahoe/Friday's Station—Stateline, 588-6611. Fresh fish, steaks. L, D. \$\$\$, major.

Harvey's/Seafood Grotto—Stateline, 588-2411. Wide seafood selection plus Chinese dishes. L, D. \$-\$\$\$ major.

ELKO

AMERICAN

Red Lion Inn—738-2111. Coffee shop and gourmet restaurant. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Stockmen's Motor Hotel—738-5141. Casino coffee shop, evening dinner house. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

AROUND THE STATE

Bruno's Country Club—300 Main St., Gerlach, 557-2220. Homemade ravioli. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

Evah's Copper Queen—Ely, 289-4271. Prime rib, prawns, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. \$-\$\$, major.

Jim and Lorraine's—10238 Main St., Eureka, 237-5264. Daily evening specials. American, Italian, and Mexican. L, D. \$-\$\$,

Mary and Moe's Wigwag—255 W. Main St., Fernley, 575-2573. American. B, L, D. \$, MV, V.

Mike's Ristorante and Cantina—47 E. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, 623-3021. Homemade raviolis and chimichangas, great margaritas and breakfast omelettes. B, L, D. \$, MC, V.

Station House/Whistle Stop—Tonopah, 482-9777. Hamburgers, steak, seafood. B, L, D. \$, AE, MC, V.

Toiyabe Drive-In—97 Main St., Austin, 964-2220. Burgers, soft-serve ice cream, fine dinners. B, L, D. \$, no CC.

Whiskey Pete's/Bushwacker Steakhouse—I-15 near Nev.-Calif. border, 382-4388. Porterhouse, prime rib, trout almonidine. D. \$-\$\$, major.

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Comedy Capers in Las Vegas

Mitzi Shore's club has changed the Southern Nevada laughscape.

By Jackie Brett

Mitzi Shore opened her Los Angeles-based Comedy Store on April 4, 1984, at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas. Riding on America's recent love affair with standup comedians, Shore's comedy club has helped Las Vegas find its funny bone.

From the beginning Shore had the right ingredients. Budd Friedman's L.A.-based "Improv" club in the late '70s didn't work out because of a poor location and reliance on local support. Shore's club in the Dunes had a built-in audience that was more than willing to laugh at top-notch comics.

To make it work, Shore changed the formula she uses in Southern California, where comedians often experiment with their material. In Las Vegas the audience wouldn't be subjected to any bad jokes.

"I knew I had to feature the Comedy Store's best comedians," says Shore. "It had to be a clean, hot show, and the acts had to be edited down to each comedian's best material."

By controlling the quality of her show and treating it more like a review or production number, Shore was able to introduce a new concept to Las Vegas that other places would soon imitate.

Over the years Shore has acquired a loyal stable of comedians. Among the famous are Robin Williams, Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor, Yakov Smirnoff, Jimmie Walker, Gallagher, Jay Leno, Gabe Kaplan, Whoopi Goldberg, and most recently Louie Anderson and Roseanne Barr. Last July Shore held a 15-year reunion in the Universal Amphitheater and turned it into a TV special with the show's proceeds going to drug and alcohol abuse for comedians.

Shore rotates some 60 comics between her Southern California and Las Vegas outlets with the cream of the crop snagging the Vegas gigs. Each week five different



Attending a reunion in Universal City, top row (l to r): Louie Anderson, Argus Hamilton, Mitzi Shore, Paul Rodriguez, Yakov Smirnoff, Jeff Altman. Bottom row (l to r): Etta May, Louise DuArt, Tamayo Otsuki. Below, Comedy Store regular Valery Pappas.

comedians perform on the stage where "Casino de Paris" played for a decade and a half.

To add pizzazz to the Dunes showroom, Shore lined the walls with the names of her

Laughing It Up North

The Reno-Tahoe casinos have laugh spots, too. Laff Trax performs in the lounge at Caesars Tahoe. The Comedy Circuit plays in Reno Ramada's convention room. And Catch a Rising Star is scheduled to open a club in Bally's Reno this spring.

most famous comedians, blazing in neon lights against mirrors.

Like a true mother, Shore always seems to be nurturing young talent. Scouts often visit the Dunes and round up her people to be opening acts for stars appearing on the Strip.

For instance, Harry Basil, who takes a fresh approach to animated stage insanity, opened for Liza Minnelli at the Riviera last fall. Finis Henderson is one of Shore's more versatile talents. He's a comedian and a superior impressionist, singer, and dancer. And covering

the political and current events scene with a daily dosage of fresh material is Argus Hamilton.

Shore was one of the first to recognize the serious lack of female funny people in the marketplace a few years ago. To help the situation, she opened a room in her Los Angeles club strictly for female laugh-makers.

One of her comediennesses experiencing a career surge is singing impressionist Valery Pappas. She excels at imitating Top 40 female vocalists and closes with a Dorothy and "Wizard of Oz" skit.

With its talented comedians, it stands to reason that Vegas' Comedy Store would open the door for other comedy clubs wanting to come to the area.

Budd Friedman, in a second attempt, opened his Improvisation in a special room in the Riviera in May 1986. This time his club met with immediate popularity. And last June he held the first annual American Comedy Convention.

Catch a Rising Star became Las Vegas' third comedy club last September when it debuted in the old MGM movie theater in Bally's. And over the Christmas holidays Rodney Dangerfield opened his Rodney's Place in a new room at the Tropicana.

There seems to be no end in sight for this proliferation of comedy clubs. They are cost effective for the hotels as well as the audience, they present a variety of talent on one bill, and most of all, they are fun. For many of these talented humor-makers, all that's missing is fame.

Jackie Brett, a longtime Nevada entertainment watcher, is Nevada's Las Vegas representative.

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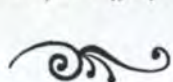


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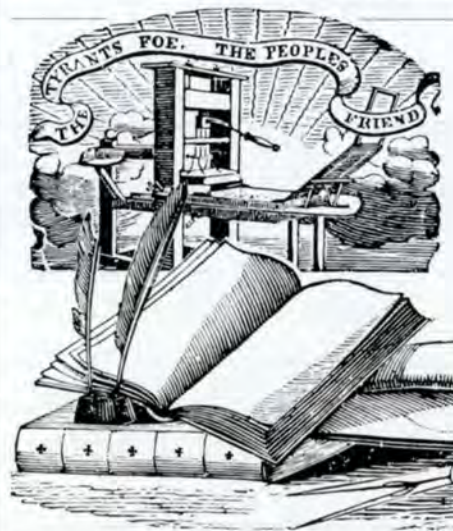
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