Mormon Cricket Invasion ■ Buffet Strategy ■ Nevada Events: Special Section
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NEVADA

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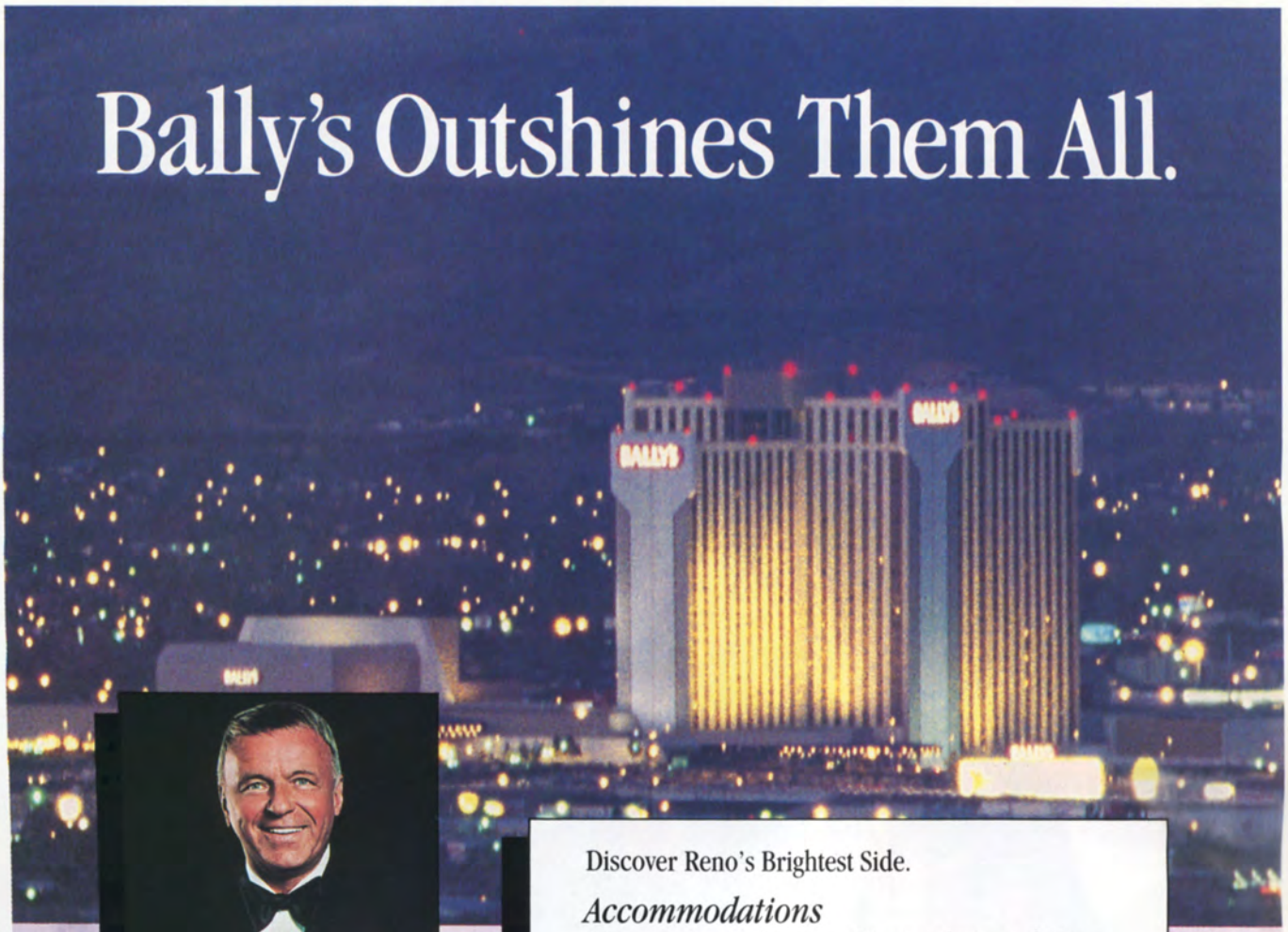
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Susanne Beres at the restored Genoa House.

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Cover Photo: Susanne Beres at the well-preserved Genoa House Inn. Photo by Jay Aldrich



LETTERS

Unionville, Restaurants, and License Plate Facts

Places in the Heart

When I received my 1989 Nevada Calender, there was an advertisement included which showed various things that one can purchase from *Nevada Magazine*.

When I looked at the Faces of the West note cards, I was completely flabbergasted! I know the lady who is shown holding a pick. She happens to have been my mother, Minnie Edna Gallagher Allen. Her brother, the late state senator from White Pine County, Charles D. Gallagher, took her picture before she was married in 1914 and made post cards using the picture. I have one of the post cards, and on the bottom of the picture is printed "A Nevada Prospector." What an exciting experience to find one's mother's picture being used on your note cards!



Minnie Edna Gallagher Allen.

Lyndon Crane Allen
Mesquite, TX

Vacations a Favorite

Your March/April issue was another winner from the front page 'til the last. The "Favorite Vacations" reports are great! I share portions of your publication with friends all over the world, the articles suited to their interests.

Ingrid Korda
Boulder City

Got It Covered

I compliment the cover photos of late. The two that stand out in my mind are the Sept/Oct '88 cover and the latest, the March/April '89. Laura Spitzer playing a Steinway in the desert was great because it was an oddball but powerful shot, and it really portrays her love of playing classical music in the small communities of Nevada.

The new cover with the Model Ts in the desert is great, not only for its subject matter (I love old cars) but also the fact it truly pictures the typical condition of early cars in the post-Tonopah-Goldfield rushes and early-century life.

Every running "T" I have seen is in pristine shape. Not so with the daily used cars in Nevada and every state west of Madison Avenue.

David A. Wright
Trona, CA

Why Not Las Vegas?

Being Basque, I certainly enjoyed reading the articles on Basque gourmet, and should have written sooner so maybe in your March/April issue my questions could have been printed!

I'm a native Nevadan from Elko and have always impressed people by taking them to Basque hotels, for they have such great food and atmosphere. Now, living in Las Vegas one can find many different lines of cuisine, except Basque! This really surprised me; guess I'm spoiled. All other towns of any size in Nevada have Basque food—why not Las Vegas?

I'm living proof that there are some Basque people here (chuckle). Love your magazine; even see friends in it.

Jeanne (Mariluch) Perry
Las Vegas

From Maine to Nevada

I have enjoyed your magazine for about a year now. My only regret is that it is a bimonthly publication instead of monthly I wait enthusiastically for every issue and read it from cover to cover (I even drool over the advertisements). I visited your state in October '87 and found myself drawn back within five months. The last time I

visited was in March '88, and when I left I was in tears. I haven't allowed myself to return again because I know with a certainty that I would not leave!

Patt Sadler
Waterville, ME

Good Recommendation

Thanks for your article about, and recommendation of, the El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant in Las Vegas. Just as you said, it is a "Hole in the Wall." The owners are wonderful and the food is great.

Jim DeGuenther
Tampa, FL

A Plate of a Different Color

Could you tell me what color the 1937 Nevada license plates were painted?

I enjoy your magazine.

Gene N. Poe
Carlin

Poe, according to the Department of Motor Vehicles they were silver with blue numbers. Also, license-plate collector John Miller of Carson City says that if the license plate is all numbers (for 1917-1953), it's from a passenger car If it has letters on it, it could mean something else, for example T for truck, TR for trailer, COM for commercial. D was for dealer and was used on most anything, including cars, trucks, and trailers.—Ed.

Needs Correcting

I thoroughly enjoy the beautiful scenic pictures in the *Nevada Magazine* but feel compelled to make a correction.

In the Gallery of the Jan/Feb '89 issue, someone has been grossly misinformed. The peak shown definitely is not Ruby Dome. Ruby Dome cannot be seen from Lamoille Canyon. Halfway up the canyon Ruby Dome lies to the southwest.

I am sitting in my home, looking up as I have for 12 years, and it is shaped as the name implies, a huge round dome.

It is flanked by two sharper peaks, Lee Peak and Mount Gilbert. The trio is truly spectacular.

Vernon O. Lindblade
Elko

Thanks, Lindblade. We're checking.—Ed.

What's My Line

Thank you for reproducing George Wuerthner's photograph, "Aspens in Lamoille," in your Jan/Feb issue. Even more poignant to me than his camera work is his description of Nevada: Driving through the state, all you see is one mountain range after another. When I read that, I shouted: Hey, that's MY line! Other people always say, but there's nothing there but nothing as far as you can see. Rubbish!

Perhaps it's because I'm a native Nevadan (born in Elko, raised in Fallon), but without mountains on the horizon I am unhappy

Helane Anderson
San Anselmo, CA

Remembering Walker

Having been raised in the Silver State I am frequently surprised at information and events in your publication, and I find myself saying, "Well, what do you know!"

Especially enjoyed the Nov/Dec '88 issue and Trip of the Month "Big Trout Lake" by Lynn Ryness. Also "A Comstock Christmas" by Joyce Harper. Both struck some nostalgic chords! In the 1920s and '30s I lived at Walker Lake. And 50 years ago I worked in mines at Gold Hill and Silver City.

Cowboy poetry—great!

Loran Allen
(Ol' Cottonwood Kid)
Urbana, IL

Needs an Extension

Please extend our subscription to *Nevada* for another three years. Love this publication! Would prefer spending more days of the year in your great state.

Mrs. S. H. Foster
Oceanside, CA

Thanks for the Memories

The article on Unionville in March/April '89 is of great personal interest to me, as that was where I grew up.

I especially can relate to the old schoolhouse, where for eight years I toiled up that hill. I started the first grade there in the fall of 1939 when there were 13 students in the entire eight grades. I graduated in May 1947, one of five students in all eight grades, and one of the last to graduate from that school. I believe my "record" there is somewhat unique as I had the same teacher for eight years and I never had a classmate in the same grade as I was in.

My parents owned a ranch directly below Unionville, so most of the time my sisters and I rode our horses to school. The picture of the old Fall store, too, holds many memories of games in the ruins there.

Louise Sheppard Dennis
Fallon

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Walks and Drives

Getting out to smell the flowers.





"Match Point" (top) is one of 10 lifelike head-turners adding a bronze look to Green Valley. In Sparks you can ride in old-fashioned horse-drawn carriages.

LAS VEGAS

That Bronze Look Isn't a Tan

At first glance, the life-sized figures that decorate Green Valley's commercial areas seem real. They are posed in everyday situations in this Las Vegas suburb. An older gentleman leans over to talk to a child. Two women talk on a bench. Under a tree near the library a man reads his newspaper. Two men with tennis rackets walk home.

When you look again, you see that these people are bronze sculptures. The area's 10 current statues were created by J. Seward Johnson of Princeton, New Jersey You can pick up a sculpture tour map at American Nevada Corporation, 2501 North Green Valley Parkway in the Professional Plaza, or at the Green Valley Home Finding Office, 2820 Athenian Drive. For more information call 702-458-8855.

Photo: Kate Butler (top)

Riding in the Mountains

It's the season for taking a horseback ride along the rocky trails of Mount Charleston, up where the air is sweet with the scent of pines and birds sing from aspen branches. There are 40 horses at the Mount Charleston Stable on Kyle Canyon Road. Short rides of an hour or two take you through juniper and piñon pine country Rides of a half day or more traverse higher trails through mahogany, oak, and towering evergreens.

The stable, which was reopened last August after a three-year closure, also offers weekend packouts. The overnight adventure costs $50 per person; shorter rides are $15 per hour or less, depending on duration. Lessons, corral rides for children, and hayrides are also available. For reservations and information call Mount Charleston Lodge, 702-386-6899.

An Oasis at UNLV

Spring and early summer, before daytime temperatures soar, are good times to visit the arboretum on the campus of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

Flowers and flowering trees like the mock orange and Chinese photinia are in bloom, and deciduous trees provide full, fresh foliage. Allow time for a leisurely tour. The open, green campus offers a restful escape from the construction, noise, and traffic of the surrounding city.

Start at the UNLV Museum of Natural History, where you can pick up a map to the arboretum's 40 marked plants. Just outside the museum there is a Xeriscape Demonstration Garden displaying a large number of drought-resistant plants.

You can tour the arboretum at any time. The museum (702-739-3381) is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday

—Kate Butler

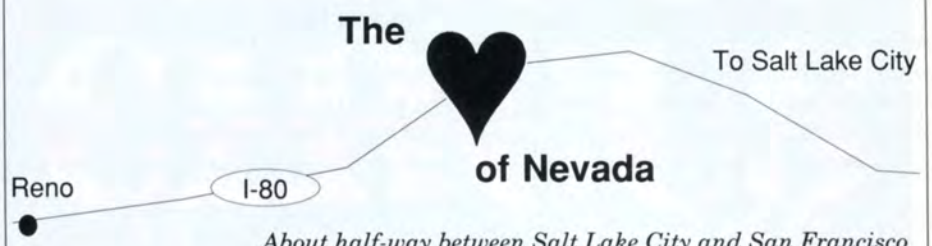
RENO-TAHOE

Carriage Rides in Sparks

Sparks' Victorian Square has an authentic look right down to the horse-drawn carriage. Carriage master Ernie Fanning is at the bandstand on B and 11th streets every afternoon and evening with one of his draft horses hitched to the white six-seat carriage. Half-hour rides around downtown Sparks are $8 per person. The carriage is also available for rent for occasions

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Walk a Crooked Mile

Ready for a brisk walk? Try a stroll on the Crooked Mile, a path that winds along the Truckee River at Idlewild Park. The path is paved and runs 1.75 miles along the river's edge, dodging trees and boulders that lead down to the river bank. The mile is marked. At the east end of the Crooked Mile is an exercise area. Open all year long, Idlewild Park is a mile west of downtown Reno off Idlewild Drive.

Reno's Desert Links

There is a fine panorama of the Sierra Nevada from the clubhouse at Northgate Golf Club—and not a tree in sight. A golf course without trees? That's right. In the Scottish tradition, the two-year-old Reno course is a links course whose designers, Benz & Poellot, used the undulating desert hillocks and sagebrush to create an 18-hole, 72-par challenge. "Northgate takes a lot more finesse to play than most Reno courses because it isn't obvious how to play each hole as you tee off," says local golfer Dave White. Rates are $32, which includes half of the mandatory cart. A pro shop, snack bar, and bar are in the clubhouse.

Northgate, a public course owned and operated by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, is in northwest Reno and reached via McCarran Boulevard, Mae Anne Avenue, Avenida de Landa, and Clubhouse Drive; call 702-747-7577

—Deborah A. Mawhar

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Caliente: Stop and Smell the Roses

Caliente has clean air and an easy-going pace, and a relaxing day or two exploring Lincoln County's largest community (population 1,182) will help you lose those pent-up pressures of everyday living.

Begin with a visit to the Mission-style railroad depot, built in 1923 to service the Union Pacific line connecting Salt Lake City and Los Angeles. Although Amtrak still stops in Caliente, rail activities have declined, and the depot now serves as the chamber, art gallery, library, city offices, and small museum.

Along the row of wooden storefronts on Clover Street businesses come and go, but Gottfredson's Hardware and the Shamrock Club are of long standing. The Branding Iron Restaurant, known for its chicken-fried steak, is a good place to eat and meet the local folks. Rose Memorial Park, with its rose garden and shaded playground, is a pleasant place for a picnic lunch. The Methodist Church, built in 1905 of box-stone construction, was the town's first school.

There are several motels and RV parks, and also four state parks nearby for camping. The Caliente Hot Springs Motel has relaxing mineral baths. These natural hot springs, for which the town was named, have no sulphur odor.

Caliente's 33rd annual Homecoming celebration on Memorial Day weekend features a barbecue, dances, and craft fair. The Fourth of July celebration is also a busy time in town.

Caliente is 150 miles northeast of Las Vegas on U.S. 93. For more information, contact the Caliente Chamber of Commerce, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 702-726-3129.—*Kate Butler*

NEVADA

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FIRST PERSON

Heads or Tails

Every vacation has two possible outcomes, and both are hard to forget.

By Diane Sims



Heads

It's spring! Early-morning sunlight bounces off polished chrome, shining like the bright side of a coin. Gusty winds race through the open windows and rattle the sunroof overhead, but you hardly notice. You're too busy watching for an obscure turnoff a few miles beyond the Northern California Agricultural Inspection Station. It's called Lookout, and word has it that this little-known cutoff reduces the driving time to Reno by 55 minutes.

Abruptly, you hang a fast right, set the cruise control, and pop in a Bruce Hornsby tape. Traffic is light—no surprises here—and with your new radar detector on high alert, there's simply no question as to who owns the road. You're a force to be reckoned with.

Tails

A highway chemical spill puts you on a bone-jarring detour that rivals a cow pasture. Further on, sporadic road construction has you following a pilot car to Reno at the accelerated speed of five miles per hour, except when it is going in the other direction, which is most of the time.

On the obscure cutoff, your tape is cranked so loud that you miss the radar warning, and the California Highway Patrol clocks you doing 79 in a 55. The fine, added to the cost of your high-tech fuzzbuster, leaves you $279.56 in the hole. Now you know how Lookout got its name.

Heads

Charged with excitement, you fidget impatiently while the hotel parking attendant inspects your car. The gleaming wax job, applied with painstaking care, is buried under 500 miles

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Illustration: Brian Buckley

of road dust, but nothing fazes you. You're in the biggest little city in the world and already making plans on how to spend all the money you're going to win. Absently, you hand the keys to the attendant, check in, and float up to your room.

The view from the top is exquisite. Silhouetted against the night sky, hotel lights sparkle like strings of diamonds strung across the city. It can't get any better than this.

Tails

You barely survive the elevator ride up. Heights make you nervous, and your room is on the 21st floor. After a hot shower you remember that the keys to the suitcase, which is locked, are on the same ring as the car keys, 21 stories below.

Heads

Hunger pangs dictate the next move. You ring up friends, who also are staying at the hotel, and make dinner arrangements. Because of the late hour you forgo restaurants requiring reservations. Fast and fantastic will do for tonight.

Tails

The two dinner lines serpentine halfway through the casino. The other one is moving faster. You've gone seven hours on Oreos and nacho chips, and the one cocktail you drank earlier has given you a headache.

When seated, tensions are offset by an attentive and gracious waiter. He doesn't flinch when you ask for separate checks. When you accidently break the stem off your water goblet, he quickly replaces it with another and quietly informs you that your elbow is resting in the butter dish. The same old-fashioned attention is offered when your dinner knife misses its mark and you slam dunk the lobster into your lap. Your napkin is under the table somewhere.

The dinner is a scrumptious feast, but you are having one of those days. When the coffee and cheesecake arrive, you can't find your fork. The waiter is subtle. Without glancing in your direction, he slips you another while passing by. He's a tough act to follow.

Heads

On the casino floor you are dazzled by the opportunities. Blackjack, keno, slots, craps, roulette—a gigantic pot of gold—and you've landed right in the middle. Carrousels, many offering astounding payouts, are "certified loose," and all around you coins clatter into metal trays like hail on a tin roof.

You purchase a $10 roll of quarters



Kings



Queens



Jokers

Las Vegas

The American Way To Play

and head for a carrousel at the far end of the casino displaying a magnificent red Porsche. On the second pull of the handle you hit a $25 jackpot and your suspicions are confirmed. You were born to win.

Tails

Based on years of inexperience, you planned your budget around winning. By the time you disconnect yourself from the machine, you need an inheritance to recoup. The keno board danced around your lucky numbers all evening. Blackjack was a disaster—you hit on everything—and your brief visit to the craps table was not a brilliant light at the end of the tunnel but rather the headlamp of a locomotive. Surprised at being suddenly broke, you hang it up and go to bed.

Heads

It's showtime. The cabarets, and there are plenty around town, are enticing, but tonight Eddie Rabbitt is playing at Harrah's and you've had reservations for a month. After dressing for the show you practice your tipping technique in the mirror: "Something in the middle, nonsmoking, with a nice view, please." When it's perfected, you spend a few minutes discreetly slipping the gratuity to the gray sports jacket hanging in the closet. Soon you're ready, confident that anybody with a brain larger than a kidney bean can pull this off.

Tails

Your demise is quick. When the major dude in the black tux approaches, your confidence disintegrates, and you exhibit all the finesse of a young guppy. The tip, so well executed in the closet, catches the maitre d' sharply in the rib cage. He finches. Your crackling dialogue is even less impressive: "Something in the center with a smoking view, please." You are promptly seated between two lethal bookends puffing on six-inch cigars.

The show is entertaining but barely visible through great clouds of smoke. Your contact lenses feel like they're shrinking, and when you attempt to remove them, you discover they are back in the room with the Tylenol. Your head beats out the rhythm to Eddie's "Rainy Nights."

Heads

It's checkout time. It's been a great weekend, even if you didn't win a fortune. There's always the next trip. Besides, you feel like a winner by virtue of just being here. It has been even better than you imagined.

In the freshness of a cool Nevada morning, you catch a fading glimpse of Reno in the rear-view mirror. Distant thunder rolls in from Lake Tahoe, and clouds, splintered by shafts of sunlight, hover above the city It is indeed a place where the rainbow ends.

Tails

The sunroof leaks. It rains all the way to Susanville. Your wiper blades give out halfway there, and you stop to have them replaced. Then it quits raining. Further down the highway is the Lookout cutoff. You sneak by Lightning can't strike twice in the same place, but you're not taking any chances. The Oregon border brings a sigh of relief. Home turf at last. Now you can make up a little time without having to watch the rear-view mirror.

The sun comes out. The fresh scent of pine fills the car with summer's bright promise, and your spirits soar. You pop in a tape, set the cruise control, sit back, and leave the driving to modern technology. Behind you, red and blue lights flash.

Diane Sims lives in Albany, Oregon. She says the preceding account was based on a true story, or two.

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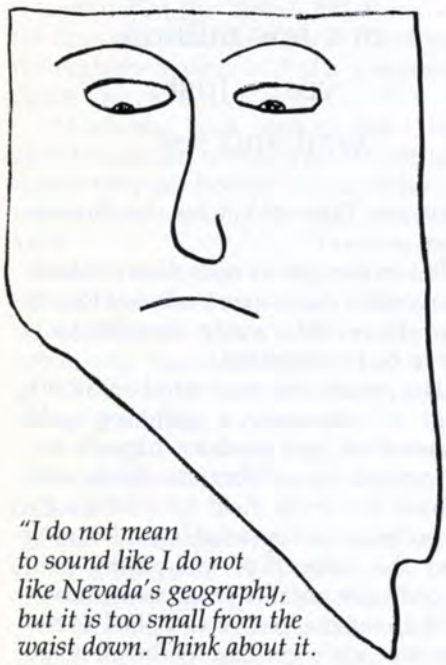
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HUMOR

Out of My Class

The youngsters found their own gems when digging into Nevada's history.
By Mark Evans



"I do not mean to sound like I do not like Nevada's geography, but it is too small from the waist down. Think about it. See."

During the more than 30 years that I've been teaching elementary school youngsters in Missouri, I've found they can come up with some beguiling ideas.

Each year we study a unit on Nevada. In the resulting essays, examination papers, and classroom discussions, some of their observations have been hilarious; all have been expressed in the delightfully original style of children. Here are some examples:

"Nevada is really the Silver State. But me and a lot of other people still catch ourselves calling it Nevada."

"Nevada is 110,000 in round numbers and square miles."

"Compared to us here in Missouri, they don't have to get up until 2 hours after we do. Every morning. It's the oddest truth."

Reality and fantasy often intermingle in the minds of children like this student commenting on the wool industry:

"They have a great deal of wool in Nevada, but much of their wool supply is used in the making of sheep."

History may repeat itself, but members of the grade school set can usually add some unexpected twists to it. Three examples:

"Once upon a time there was this Mr. Fremont who went looking all through Nevada. A first name for him was John."

"Nevada hurried to become a state so they could help pass the 13eenth amendment. This is something I will not know about until I go to college."

"Carson is a city in Nevada when he is not a pioneer in history."

Youngsters often ponder over puzzlers that grown-ups don't worry about, such as: "Some people think of the Pyramid Lake as being formed when the world was young. Others say it was in the old or ancient times. Whether it was young or old is one of the mysteries of the ages."

One of his classmates confided: "That Pyramid Lake is not really what

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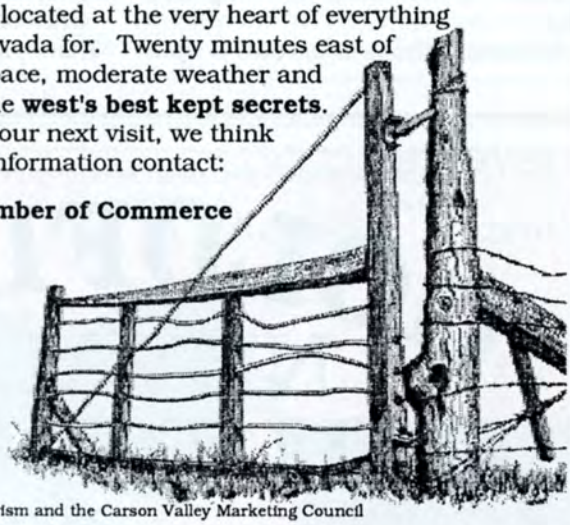
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its name says it is."

Any comments about the Hoover Dam?

"Their Hoover Dam was built in the pre-me times."

"Water scientists there learned how to change river currents into electric

'Nevada is dry now,' one youngster said. 'But it was once under water and will be under water again in a few million years. Just wait and see.'

currents. They did it by the Hoover Dam method."

"Even though Nevada does not have many rainy days, they built the Hoover Dam there. Who made the mistake is yet to be investigated."

The grade schooler's fund of knowledge is obviously a glittering gold mine of wit and wisdom, happily unhampered by inhibitions. Each new subject is a fertile field for off-base interpretation or lopsided logic. Digging into the subject of geography produced such notable nuggets as these:

"I do not mean to sound like I do not like Nevada's geography, but it is too small from the waist down. Think about it. See."

"Nevada is found close to California on most maps."

"Nevada cities are for coming in all sizes."

"Nevada has the important purposed job of keeping Utah and California separated."

Confusion seems to take over completely when they turn their attention to the Colorado River:

"I prize the knowing that some day I may learn something about what the Colorado River is doing so close to Nevada."

But I couldn't argue with the tyke who concluded: "Nevada keeps many map-makers from going crazy because if they drew Nevada there without it really being there, they would be crazy."

Take one class, mix it thoroughly with several ponds of unfamiliar facts, then shake it up with an examination

and you have the perfect formula for instant "youngsterisms." Facts about even such a no-nonsense subject as the weather can get beguilingly off center when seen through the eyes of children:

"There are not many rainy days in Nevada. They passed a law or something."

"Their weather is the same as the weather in a rain forest except just the opposite."

Another young seeker of truth proclaimed: "Nevada is dry now, yes. But it was once under water and will be completely under water again in a few million years. Just wait and see."

Looking at the Humboldt River as the kids sometimes see it is like looking through the wrong end of a telescope, but it's fun to try.

"Much has been said in this class about the banks of that river. Misfortunately they are not the money kind of banks. They are only the squishy fishy kind."

Much of the fun in talking to kids comes from the startling way they can put a backspin on their answers, saying something that's ridiculous and sensible at the same time. Take the subject of slot machines, for example:

"I would explain to you how these machines work, but it is too fantastic to believe."

"Slot machines are so big and clumsy they are really not good for anything but being slot machines."

Even when I think the kids understand the facts perfectly and there aren't any questions, I sometimes discover that something is lurking underneath—something called total confusion. This is brought to my attention every time the mining of tungsten is discussed:

"I have never knowingly seen a tungsten."

"They have a lot of tungstens there to be dug up. I am unsure about what tungstens are. Maybe you can explain them to me. I can't."

"No one can be successful in mining that lacks the daisy call."

Here's one as charming as childhood itself: "Why they dig it out of the ground is just to wonder at, not to really understand."

And so it is with the mind of a child—of such a vast potential it is "just to wonder at, not to really understand."

Mark Evans lives and teaches school in St. Louis, Missouri.

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Preserving Our Past

As historic preservation comes of age in Nevada, it's clear that when you save the place, you save the history.

By T. Allan Comp

It used to be that describing someone as a "historic preservationist" conjured up an image of some fussy old museum artifact with a turned-up nose and bow tie. Today one is more likely to find a trained professional wearing jeans and talking about tourism, economic planning, and the importance of historic places to community spirit. Happily, the old days of elegant but rather prudish groups saving one grand mansion and presuming the community has been sufficiently "preserved" are over. The old pickle-jar approach is being supplanted by entrepreneurs who want to keep a living sense of the past in the present—and to enjoy every minute of it as well.

Recently I met with a group of women interested in historic preservation—the new style. One woman was the local branch-bank president, one the president of the chamber of commerce, and several others were business owners. They were not there to talk about saving an elegant house in an exclusive neighborhood. They were there to talk about improving the economy of the whole town.

Their questions centered on the store fronts of the old downtown business district and also on employment, efforts to bring in new businesses, and ways of creating a stronger sense of community They wanted their small town to keep being a place that felt like home, but they also wanted it to be a better place.

That evening I gave a talk not to the historical society but to the chamber of commerce on "How To Get Rich and Be a Hero, Too." Several months later one member, who was now the proud owner of a just-completed historic rehabilitation, stopped me to say how correct that outlandish title had been. "Where else can you buy a bargain, throw money around, earn a tax credit, make a respectable profit, and then be honored as a hero for saving part of the community heritage?" he asked.

It is this mix of profit, pleasure, and community benefit that is seen today as an essential ingredient in the economy of Nevada and the rest of the country History buffs and historians are joining architects and landscape architects to develop appropriate treatments of old and new structures. Tourism agencies and planning offices around the state are recognizing the economic value of historic districts and are encouraging residents and visitors to enjoy the many reminders of Nevada's past.

It is this simple recognition that is so crucial—that if we lose the place, we lose the history, too.

The importance of historic preservation is a fairly recent notion here in the West. For about the first century that Westerners wrote history, they thought of it in abstract terms, based largely on such wool-gathering topics as treaties, dates, and political skirmishes. Shortly after World War II, a dramatic change came to this concept, and it brought a change in the way we look at old places—real historical places. No longer restricted by gas rationing and tire shortages, Americans took to the road to rediscover the West. Driving in war-surplus Jeeps, water bags hung on the bumpers, they explored the ghost towns of Nevada

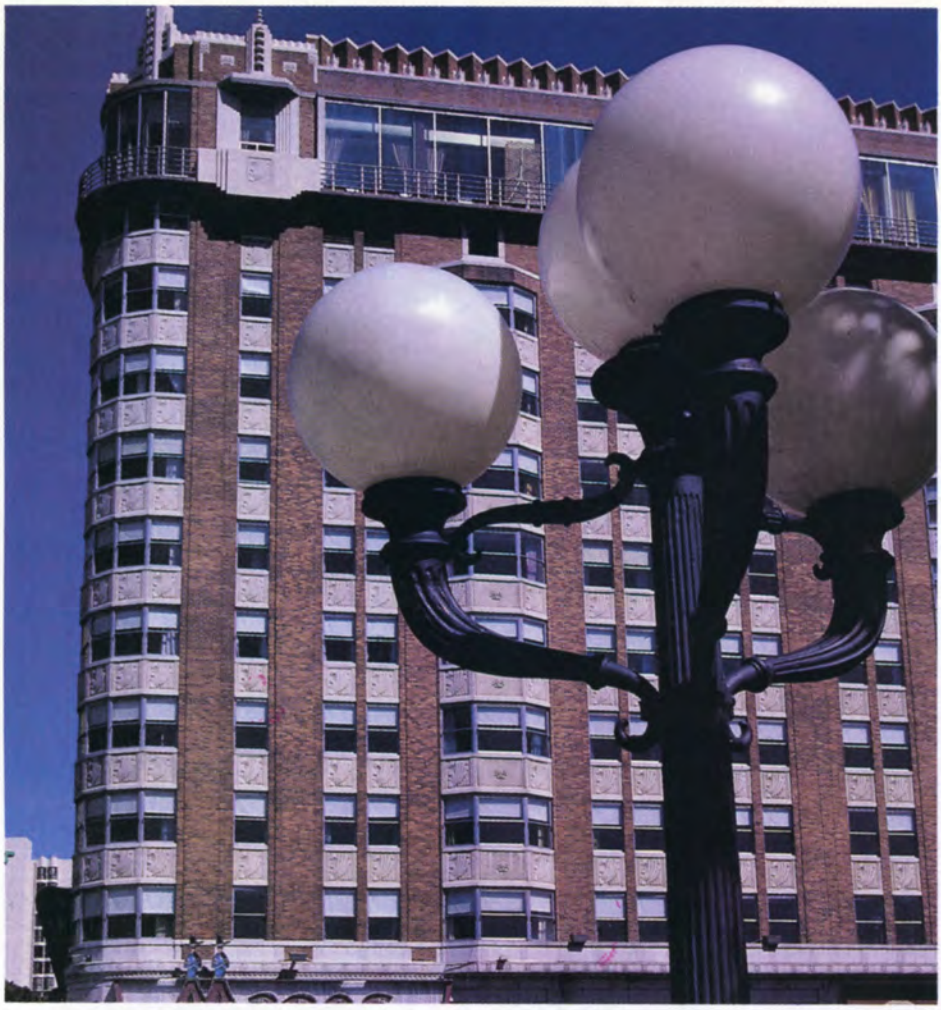
> The consequences of campers hoarding relics for their patios were soon noticed by people with a different perspective on history.

FOURTH WARD SCHOOL, VIRGINIA CITY, 1876

The last of the large schools from the glory days of the Comstock, the Fourth Ward (opposite page) graduated its last high-school class in 1936. After sitting empty for decades, the school in recent years has become the site of a historical museum and acquired a board of trustees, local people concerned with restoring and preserving the handsome old school. The Fourth Ward will be headquarters of a Comstock preservation celebration on May 18-21

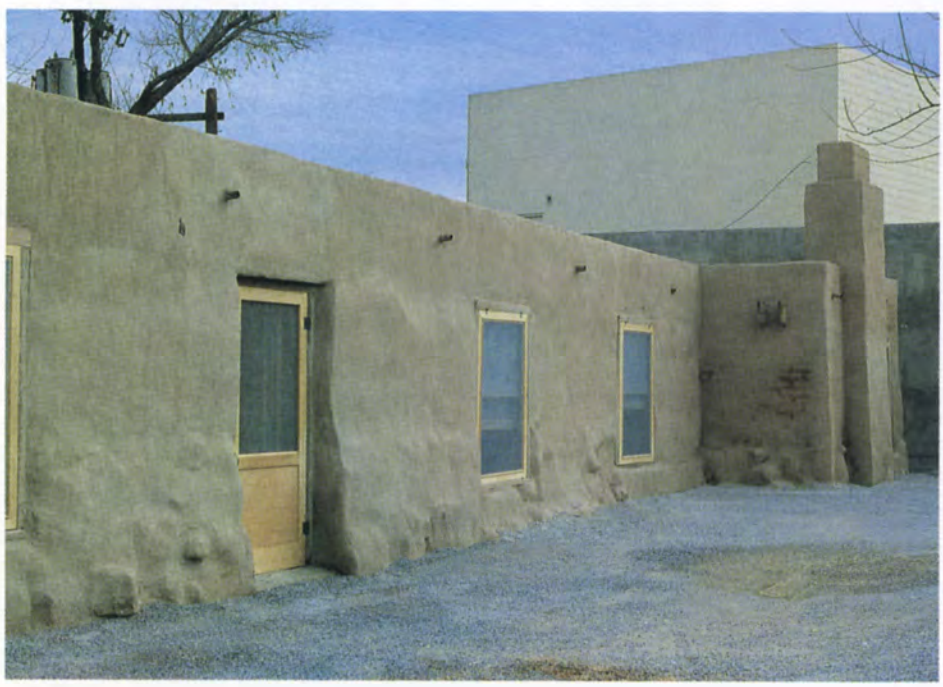
Photo: Guy R. Higbee


FOURTH WARD SCHOOL



MAPES HOTEL, RENO, 1946

This splendid 12-story art-deco hotel, vacant since 1982, was the state's first high-rise hotel-casino and served as the prototype of modern hotel-casinos with its three-part vertical design. Its distinguished features are comparable to high-rise art-deco architecture in larger American cities. The building is currently owned by First Interstate Bank, which is seeking a buyer



OLD MORMON FORT, LAS VEGAS, 1855

Only one building remains of the adobe fort initially constructed by Mormon missionaries. It served as a halfway station on the Mormon Trail between San Bernardino and Salt Lake City and was the headquarters of a prominent Las Vegas Valley ranch. Later it was the area's first post office, a base camp for the Wheeler survey expedition of 1869-1871, and a laboratory for Hoover Dam engineers. A proposal has been made in the State Legislature to acquire nearby private property and develop the site into a state historic park, which would protect it from further deterioration and encroaching development as well as providing a unique attraction.

and Arizona and brought back little pieces of history to put on the patio or the mantle. They might even return with enough junk to panel a den with old pine, or build a hearth with brick

The Pershing County Courthouse in Lovelock is the only known historic round courthouse in the nation.

sun-bleached from half a century in the desert.

The consequences of thousands of campers (they weren't *all* from Southern California, but my folks were) bringing back odd pieces of mining stuff for their patios were soon noticed by people with a different perspective on history. They discovered that historic places, places they had taken for granted forever, were disappearing before their eyes. Even Virginia City, the Queen of the Comstock, was fast disappearing.

But times have changed. Today, more and more old buildings survive in pristine condition, and when a new building is proposed for an old district, its design is often scrutinized.

One of the keys to being a historic landmark is simple survival. While Nevada has its share of brass plaques

Photos: Guy R. Higbee (top); State Historical Preservation and Archeology



YERINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL, 1912

Located one block east of Main Street and surrounded by a shady playground, the school has been vacant for the last decade. The recently formed Yerington Grammar School No. 9 Restoration Group hopes to convert the building into a community center and theater with gallery space, in part as a home base for the active Yerington Theater for the Arts. The community center also would add focus to downtown.

marking towns that have vanished, it also has its share of remarkable survivors.

In Lovelock, the Pershing County Courthouse, built in 1920, is the only known historic round courthouse in the nation. Residents are proud of the unusual building, which was designed by prominent Reno architect Frederick DeLongchamps, as a place that has served three or four generations.

The old Las Vegas High School is a classic example of art deco, and state law assures its preservation.

Although there are plenty of old buildings to restore, sometimes they need more than a willing community to guarantee their survival. Some places need help from the very latest developments of science. For instance, the Mackay School of Mines at the University of Nevada-Reno will soon sit on a base that helps to isolate the

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Photo: Larry C. Brown



NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY, EAST ELY, 1907

A "vernacular" interpretation of both Mission Revival and Renaissance Revival architectural styles, the East Ely Depot served both freight and passenger traffic. Ore from the copper mines at Ruth were shipped via Ely to the McGill smelter, and via the NNRR to the main Southern Pacific line for transport to refineries in the East. Passenger service ceased in 1941, but freight service continued until 1983. Kennecott donated the depot and rolling stock to Ely. The depot is in excellent condition due to its continuous use as a depot-office and is the headquarters for the Nevada Northern Railway Museum. Rail tours are offered by vintage steam and diesel locomotives.

building from earthquakes. Because masonry buildings ordinarily require massive steel frames to protect them from earthquakes, this new technique, called "base isolation," helps keep the building intact while making it safe for public use.

Public buildings sometimes receive other forms of protection. The old Las Vegas High School is a classic example of the art-deco style, and the State Legislature passed a bill in 1987 to assure its preservation. There also is a movement to make Las Vegas' old Mormon Fort—partly dating back to 1855, it may be the oldest anglo structure in Nevada—a state park. Such efforts offer additional hope for the future, because as more historic buildings contribute to Nevada life, the possibility of losing others will lessen. To be sure, there are still buildings like the Thompson Opera House in Pioche that will test the limits of imagination and perseverance, but they are structures worth saving.

During the next decade we will probably observe more joint efforts between the public and private sectors. In Winnemucca, a longtime effort to save the Nixon Opera House succeeded last year when residents voted a bond issue to restore the building,



Photo: Larry C. Brown

which was a victory both for preservationists and for locals seeking to bring more cultural events to downtown

The downtown projects in Winnemucca and Yerington will show how the arts fit old buildings, in towns with real roots.

Winnemucca. Yerington citizens are looking to their now-vacant 1912 grammar school as a community center, theater, and a new gathering point in the town. Carson City, working with private developers, could see its famous Virginia and Truckee Railroad Roundhouse transformed from an empty derelict to an attractive commercial and retail center, bringing new employment and new life to central Carson.

Like many historic preservation projects, these will do far more than save a building. They will also bring new life to their respective downtowns, new customers to local stores, new restaurants, new reasons for rural residents to come to town. In Winnemucca and Yerington the projects will show how well the arts seem to fit in these old buildings, in towns with real roots.

For people who get involved with historic buildings, there are rewards that go far beyond any dollars to be gained. First comes the joy of seeing an old and almost-lost building come back to life and regain its status in the community Next comes the equal joy of watching older residents return to a spot once prized and now reclaimed. More than once I have seen tears in the eyes of visitors to a newly restored building, tears mixed with pride not only in the building but also in their own memories. Ask and you may learn of parties once held there, friends who once lived there, even old sweethearts now remembered in the quiet formality of a restored parlor.

There is a different kind of interest for visitors as well. Take a ride on the Nevada Northern Railway in Ely and experience the life of a copper-mining

'First-Period' Treasures



The restored Genoa House, a B&B.

Nevada has a unique place in the world of historic preservation. The Silver State has no Revolutionary War battlefields or presidential plantations, but because of our climate and pattern of settlement we have a wealth of "first-period" architecture. These are the buildings that settlers first constructed when they arrived in towns and outposts in the Great Basin and upper Mojave Desert.

In other regions, first-period buildings are scarce. Imagine what Virginians, for example, would give to have a large group of their earliest buildings to study There, first-period remains have often been reduced to archaeological remnants, requiring expensive, time-consuming analysis to create a portrait of life.

Our oldest buildings can give us an idea of Nevada's first settlers' "cultural blueprint"—the basic ideas about everyday life, society, family, building, and art that they brought with them. For example, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park near Gabbs preserves elements of the turn-of-the-century mining town of Berlin much as they existed when the town was abandoned 40 years ago. Similarly, the Comstock Historic District includes many structures, from mansions to shacks, that date to the 1870s. The same is true of Eureka and other old towns.

One reason these structures still exist is because Nevada was settled relatively recently Also, mining's boom-bust cycle caused many 19th-century towns to die before urban renewal could alter the original site. In addition, the dry desert climate has acted to keep relics intact. Anyone who has noticed how long an abandoned car can survive in the desert knows Nevada's power to preserve.

A community's remoteness also might contribute to its preservation. Builders were unlikely to scavenge materials from a site that was hundreds of miles and several mountain ranges away Thus, poverty and neglect have helped preserve our past.

Still, some towns have been wiped out by vandalism and salvaging over the years. Hamilton, once the seat of White Pine County, and Delamar, south of Caliente, both have been victimized and lost forever. Even though federal laws prohibit the destruction of public property, artifact collectors continue to steal non-renewable resources belonging to all of us.

Besides first-period buildings, Nevada has a rich assortment of structures and sites—from Hoover Dam to Fort Churchill—listed on the National Register of Historic Places. They are priceless in their ability to keep us in touch with our heritage and place Nevada in its national context. —*Ronald M. James*



A Pioche landmark looks for help.

Photos: Jay Aldrich (top); State Historic Preservation and Archeology (bottom)

Historic Events

This summer you can salute the past and get a glimpse of historic preservation's future at events around the state.

National Preservation Week is May 14-20, and home tours, workshops, and street fairs will be held. For locations and more information write Nevada Heritage, Box 352, Carson City NV 89702.

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend on May 18-21 in Virginia City has numerous events, including walking tours, performances of the play "Quilters," mining tours, a photo show, and a Sunday reception at the Fourth Ward School.

Local celebrations often have historical highlights, as at Denio's Centennial Celebration, Tonopah's Jim Butler Days, Hawthorne's Armed Forces Day and Pioche's Heritage Days. State park programs include Firmin Bruener Days at Berlin and an open house at the Belmont Courthouse. See *Nevada Events* for details.



At celebration time work continues: Here Tony Bondi (left) and Ray Norton paint in Virginia City's old Water Company Building.

Preservation Groups

For information on historic preservation in Nevada, the following organizations can provide advice:

Nevada Division of Historic Preservation and Archeology: Coordinates, encourages, and plans historic and archaeological preservation with government agencies and private organizations. Includes national and state registers of historic places and the historic marker program. Contact Ron James, HP&A, Capitol Complex, Carson City NV 89710; 702-885-5138.

Carson City Architectural Review Committee: Rob Joiner, Carson City Community Development, 2621 Northgate Lane, Suite 65, Carson City NV 89701; 702-887-2180.

Comstock Historic District Commission: Box 128, Virginia City NV 89440; 702-847-0281.

Friends of Nixon Opera House: Gene Wambolt, Box 819, Winnemucca, NV 89445; 702-623-5271.

Nevada Archaeological Association: Amy Dansie, Nevada State Museum, Carson City NV 89710.

Nevada Heritage: Box 352, Carson City NV 89702; 702-849-1438, 882-0919.

Nevada Landmarks Society: Margaret Herleman, Box 1864, Carson City NV 89702; 702-882-3379.

Nevada Council of Professional Archaeologists: Kevin Rafferty Environmental Research Center, ULNV Las Vegas, NV 89154; 702-739-3743.

Preservation Association of Clark County: Garry Hayes, President, PACC, Box 7437 Las Vegas, NV 89125. 702-383-8897

National Trust for Historic Preservation, Nevada Advisors: Ana B. Koval, Box 352, Carson City, NV 89702; Elizabeth Warren, Box 7437 Las Vegas, NV 89125.

National Trust for Historic Preservation: Kathryn Burns, 1 Sutter Street, Suite 707 San Francisco, CA 94104; 415-956-0610.

town and the pride of those whose lives were tied to the railroad. Nevada has many such towns with a proud past, where visitors can see what remains of an earlier time and talk with those who still remember.

Happily, people are speaking up for historic buildings and districts that can't defend themselves from careless neglect or thoughtless destruction.

In Virginia City, the whole community is gradually recognizing its history, even in recent construction. For instance, the new addition to the Gold Hill Hotel, Nevada's oldest lodging house, added new sections without damaging the original building. The project shows that good preservation includes additions and new construction—a key consideration if historic districts are to retain their integrity, the sense of special place that creates the character we want to protect.

Historic preservation can generate new business, new employment, and even new pride, but buildings can't talk. Happily, people are speaking up for historic buildings and districts that can't defend themselves from careless neglect or thoughtless destruction.

As a historian who has completed four historic-building rehabilitations, I know that fixing up these old places, no matter how modest or grand, is a great way to touch the reality of the past. For more and more Nevadans it is that touch of the past that makes the future so bright.

T Allan Comp is the winner of a 1987 Nevada Planning Association award and a 1988 Governor's Tourism Development Award. He currently divides his time between Washington, D.C., and his home in Virginia City. Elizabeth Beckham, who wrote the captions for the article, lives in Sparks. She recently completed a preservation study of downtown Yerington's historic buildings.

Photo: Karen Wesner

An Affair of State

How the Capitol barely avoided the wrecker's ball.
By Ronald M. James

The State Capitol in Carson City is one of the finest expressions of 19th-century architecture in Nevada. Built in 1870-71 and enlarged after the turn of the century, the Capitol remains one of the nation's smallest, but its charm is not easily surpassed.

Surprisingly, in the 1950s, this symbol of Nevada's statehood came close to being demolished.

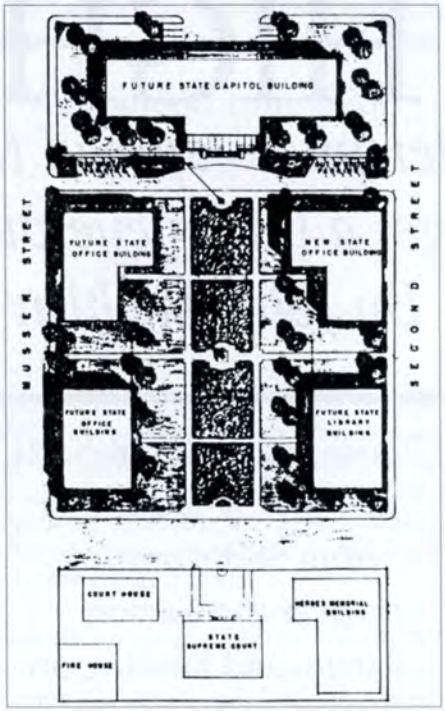
Its date with destiny began in the 1860s, when the new state's leaders sought to erect a capitol cheaply and quickly. The sandstone building was constructed for a bid of less than $100,000, with little room allowed for expansion. Shortly after the turn of the century the state's historic architect, Frederick DeLongchamps of Reno, designed an octagonal annex to the rear. Later he extended the wings to the north and south.

The additions, which gave the Capitol a horizontal emphasis in contrast to its 19th-century vertical appearance, nearly doubled its space. But the Capitol continued to be cramped as state offices grew. This inspired plan after plan to solve the "Capitol Problem." In 1942 architect Edward S. Parsons proposed that two long classical wings be added to the original building, but the substantial project was never funded.

During the 1950s the State Planning Board began campaigning for the building's demolition. A master plan submitted to the board by a Reno architectural firm called for office buildings to be constructed on each of the four corners of the Capitol grounds. A new capitol was to be built across the street to the east, where the old State Printing Building (present home of the State Archives and *Nevada Magazine)* stands. In the midst of this flurry of construction, the grand old Capitol was to be taken down.

An engineering report declared that "the building is extremely hazardous. While there is a good deal of public sentiment connected with this particular building serious consideration should be given to demolition." As a result of this line of thinking, the state in 1957 built the Blasdel Building, the plain International-style edifice made of concrete and glass that stands in the northeast corner of the Capitol grounds.





The Capitol, shown above in 1875, would have been bulldozed if the plan at left had been activated.

However, the State Legislature called an end to this approach to the Capitol Problem. In 1959 legislators directed the State Planning Board to halt its plans to put the wrecker's ball to the state's most important building.

Twenty years after the Capitol had survived the call for a modern building, the voice in the wind called for preservation. In 1977 the State Legislature authorized a massive rehabilitation program to protect the building (and its occupants) from earthquakes. Undertaken by the State Public Works Board, it was a dramatic initiative by the state.

The result was the preservation of one of the most important symbols of Nevada's heritage. And to its rear stands the Blasdel Building, a less attractive symbol of what might have been.

Ronald M. James is deputy state historic preservation officer

Photos: Nevada State Museum (top); State Archives (bottom)



THE HIGH LIFE

Hang-glider pilots spread their wings to get a bird's eye view.

By John Richlin

Roose frequently reports to work by launching from Slide, soaring over the Carson Range, and landing on the beach in front of the restaurant at Incline Village.

Larry Schuermann takes to the air over the Sierra Nevada (above).

While most people are content to celebrate their wedding anniversaries by exchanging gifts, sending flowers, or going out to dinner, hang-glider pilots have a different approach to such special occasions. Take Doug Cook, a 30-year-old Crystal Bay home builder who last August celebrated his wedding anniversary by launching his red-and-black glider from an elevation of 8,200 feet off Slide Mountain. Six hours and 30 minutes later, Cook finally came down—132 miles away According to those in the know, his flight set a distance record for Nevada. "I could have gone further," says the enthusiastic Cook, "but after passing Lovelock, a call of a personal nature forced me down near Imlay."

The Sierra Nevada is renowned for having some of the best ski areas in North America. Less well known is the fact that sites like Slide Mountain are fantastic places to hang glide. The roadside launch site, an easy drive from Reno and Lake Tahoe, is located off the Mount Rose Highway. There, 3,000 feet above Washoe Valley, the prevailing winds blow up Slide's steep

Photo: Larry Schuermann



Doug Cook holds the distance record for Nevada—132 miles. Here he gets ready for another launch off Slide Mountain.

slope into the faces of the pilots, making launch conditions nearly ideal.

"A lot of us who hang glide Slide Mountain would rather not advertise how good it can be," says 42-year-old Ray Leonard, a 15-year veteran hang-glider pilot from Carson City. "We would like to keep this area to ourselves, but more and more people are coming to know about it. We even get Gray Line bus tours stopping up at the launch site. I guess sharing air space is inevitable," he concedes somewhat glumly.

Not so reluctant to share Slide's growing popularity is Ron "Rooster" Roose, a 31-year-old waiter at Hugo's, a fashionable restaurant at the Hyatt Lake Tahoe in Incline Village. He frequently reports to work by launching from Slide Mountain, catching a thermal (a column of rising warm air), and soaring over the Carson Range to land on the beach in front the restaurant. "Most of my steady customers call me their flying waiter," says Roose, an Incline resident. "The Hyatt people are talking about buying me a new hang glider with their logo on it. Sort of a flying billboard, I suppose."

Hang gliding in this picturesque alpine setting knows virtually no seasons. Given the right wind conditions, a day seldom goes by without someone leaping into space above Washoe Valley, held aloft by a fragile-looking, tubular-aluminum wing covered with brightly colored cloth.

> We took off from Slide and landed in the snow 20 feet from Mount Rose Summit.

"I've flown over the chair lifts at Slide Mountain and Mount Rose in the winter," says Cook, an acknowledged master mountain pilot. "I've soared over skiers on the runs in a snow storm. Two years ago, in April, my brother Terry and I packed our sleeping bags and a couple of beers in our hang gliders. We took off from Slide and landed in the snow, 20 feet from Mount Rose Summit. We spent the night, relaunched, and flew down the next morning. As far as I know, it's the only time anyone has ever flown into camp on top of Mount Rose." But he adds a warning to anyone who thinks about duplicating the feat: "Landing up there is totally gnarly!"

If Doug Cook may be called Slide Mountain's intrepid voyager, then John Olson is its resident pilot, historian, and spokesman. At night Oly, as he's known to his friends, works a few miles down the road at the Christmas Tree restaurant. Early each day he can invariably be found in his camper, parked at the launch site, dispensing advice to younger pilots and swapping yarns with other veterans. His portable radio is constantly tuned to a station devoted to local weather conditions.

Olson is one of the few mountain pilots who holds a rating from the United States Hang Gliding Association for flying tandem. "It's a way of introducing newcomers to hang gliding," Olson explains. "I have a glider and emergency landing equipment capable of supporting myself and a passenger. I don't like to give rides just for thrills, though. I save most of my tandem flights for serious students of the sport.

Photo: John Richlin





Hang gliders line up on Slide Mountain (top), while Anne Chippendale and Larry Schuermann enjoy the unusual experience of riding in tandem (bottom).

"But I do make exceptions," he recalls, smiling. "Once, a newspaper editor called me to arrange for a tandem flight to do a story on hang gliding. I wasn't interested at first, but he kept after me until I finally agreed. I asked him if the reporter assigned to the story had any flying experience. 'No,' he said, 'but she'll love it.' I took her, although I had a lot of reservations. She was scared to death, but a good sport about it. She ended up writing a funny story about her experience. She did seem awfully happy when we landed without needing to call for air rescue."

How does hang gliding work? Ray Leonard, who teaches hang gliding for High Sierra Sports in Carson, tries to simplify the theory of flying for his students. "Gravity makes us fly. If we couldn't fall, we wouldn't fly," he explains. "Throw a paper airplane and observe what happens as gravitational forces begin to pull it down. Pressure builds under the wings, allowing it to glide. Add in the additional factors of wind and thermal lift pushing under the wing, and you begin to see how a hang glider soars. Of course, the pilot's skill has a great deal to do with how high and how far it can fly."

Why would anyone want to hang glide in the first place? Again Leonard offers an explanation: "Dating to ancient times, people have always wanted to go where they weren't meant to go. The reasons are many. I've found that some people take up hang gliding to overcome fear, while others turn to the sport because of some sense of adventure and daring. But I want to stress that hang gliding is not a means to defy death. It's to more fully enjoy another facet of life."

And that brings up the question of safety. "The biggest hazard in this sport is pilot error," says Olson. "There was one fatality up here about eight years ago. The guy was too inexperienced for this type of flying. He got too close to the slope above the launch area and ran into the side of the mountain." Outside of that, he says, Slide pilots have only seen bumps, bruises, and one broken arm while landing in Washoe Valley

"Most pilots, in addition to wearing protective clothing and a helmet, carry at least one hand-thrown parachute," Olson continues. "Some pilots are now carrying newer rocket types that fire the chute away from the hang glider so it will deploy without tangling with the

(Continued on page 85)

Photos: John Richlin (top); Larry Schuermann (bottom)

Hanging Out Around the State



Allen Sparks of Las Vegas launches from a hot-air balloon—reportedly a first in the lore of Nevada hang gliding.

For hang-gliding pilots, catching a thermal doesn't have to mean waiting for a breeze around Reno. Nevada has scores of launch sites, some remote, some dangerous, all high.

Southern Nevada, where pilots enjoy optimum weather all year long, has a number of good hang-outs. One favorite is Jean Ridge, a black lava formation 30 miles south of Las Vegas. On most weekends you can find a half-dozen pilots milling around a wooden platform especially built for launching. The ascent begins just 350 feet above the desert floor, but the thermals are strong enough to lift pilots to heights over 12,000 feet.

To the north of Jean is another good site, Potosi Mountain, at the southern end of the Spring Mountains. Allen Sparks, a 12-year pilot from Las Vegas, says that the area has a potential for a 100-mile flight north along the range, although the most anyone has flown so far is about 30 miles.

Sparks, a computer-software engineer, prides himself on the unusual flights he's taken. He and friend Dave Winter are the only people to have launched themselves from the top of 11,918-foot Mount Charleston (after carrying their rigs up a 10-mile trail). He has also flown at night, when the light of a full moon contrasts sharply with Jean's black lava. "Completely illegal," Sparks admits, noting that hang gliders are governed by the same FAA rules as ultra-light aircraft: Flying is permitted only between dawn and dusk.

But as the popularity of his sport increases, Sparks, a member of the Southern Nevada Hang Gliding Association, says he sees the benefits of regulations. "It's best if the hang-glider pilot works with local agencies," he says. "They are ultimately responsible for what's going on."

One activity that club members enjoy is being launched into the air behind a speeding boat. Although completely legal, winch-towing is considered reckless by some onlookers. "If they want to go out and kill themselves, that's their problem," says Bud Inman, assistant ranger for the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. "We had a doctor die at Callville Bay when the hang glider failed."

> Sparks and a friend one time launched from the top of Mount Charleston.

Inman explains that the danger of being winch-towed increases with choppy water. When a boat rises to the top of a wave, the hang glider also goes up. The problem occurs when the boat rolls back down. In the doctor's case, the descending boat tugged his rig, causing the aluminium structure to bend and crash 300 feet into the lake below. To prevent such tragedies, Inman suggests that hang gliders be winch-towed only when the water is flat and smooth. "The danger would be a lot less then," Inman says.

As at Lake Mead, most government agencies in Nevada allow hang gliding except in wilderness areas. That applies to both the Bureau of Land Management and to the U. S. Forest Service.

Still, there are places that hang gliders should avoid. When Wheeler Peak was BLM's turf, hang gliding was ignored. Now that the peak is part of Great Basin National Park, officials there are taking the hard line. Bruce Freet, the park's chief ranger, says that hang gliding is illegal and that violators will be fined $100. "If they're belligerent about it, we're going to arrest them," Freet adds, noting that the federal courts in Reno or Las Vegas are a long way off.

With such warnings, one might think the sport would appeal only to the young and foolhardy. Not so. In Elko, Mike Gerber, cross-country ski buff (see "Ski Nevada," Jan/Feb '89) and local hang-gliding expert, tells of a pilot who often rides the thermals above Ruby Marsh. "I have a friend from Boise who is 65 years old and flies here from time to time," Gerber says. "He can hardly take off, but once he is off, he is gone—up to 18,000 feet!"

For more information write or call: Sierra Sky Surfers, 2303 North Carson Street, Carson City, NV 89706, 702-885-1891, or the Southern Nevada Hang Glider Association, 5384 El Nuevo Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89121, 702-541-6577 On Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29, regional finals will be held on McClellan Peak, just north of Carson City. Spectators are welcome.

—Cliff Glover

Photo: Randal Grandstaff

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PONIES WITH TONIES

First sighted by an Austin rancher in 1898, these kinder, gentler horses are more than just curliosities to their owners.

By Richard Menzies

Goldie's Snow Beauty (above) shows off the tight ringlets of an American Bashkir Curly. Some of the breed's fans claim the mythical unicorn was a curly.

As a rule, horses and I don't get along. One look at me and their equine brains set about hatching fiendish schemes to buck me off into a cactus patch or kick and trample me underhoof until I scream uncle. Call me cold hearted, but in my opinion Old Paint got what was coming to him.

Still, there are people who love horses, and perhaps there are horses that also love people. Lately I've been hearing a lot of talk about a kinder, gentler breed of horse—a horse with such an agreeable disposition it can be won over with just a few kind words. Strong yet smart, spirited but a hard and tireless worker, tame as a house pet. The American Bashkir Curly—so called because of its wavy coat—is the breed. And probably the best friend the curlies have in the world is an Ely woman aptly named Sunny

Sunny Martin is to curliculture what Ralph Nader is to consumer safety. It is Sunny who can take credit for registering the breed, Sunny who publishes the registry's newsletter, *Curly Cues,* and Sunny who instigates annual curly cult get-togethers. Her home on the outskirts of Ely is the first place to go if you have any questions about these ponies with natural Tonies.

"They don't have the same inner animosity toward man that the ordinary horse does," she explains. "They're just so gentle and loveable. They don't get upset at nothin' They have this innate gentleness that just has to shine through."

Sunny Martin's love affair with curly horses started 20 years ago, before she had even seen one. She and her husband were sitting in the Nevada Hotel in Ely having a drink when a rancher friend came over to their table.

"Sunny," he said, "I got the cutest damn horse down at the ranch you ever saw in your life. He's curly, from his nose to his toes."

"And I don't know what happened," Sunny recalls. "Something hit me like a

Photo: Sunny Martin Collection

bolt of lightning. I just knew I had to have that horse. I said, 'Don't let anything happen to him. I'll be down tomorrow to buy him.

"So we went down the next day and got him. Wild off the range, a three-year-old stallion, and the sweetest, gentlest thing you ever saw"

A veteran horsewoman, Sunny was puzzled by the almost religious nature of her conversion. The mystery only deepened after she studied the available literature but could find no reference to horses with curly coats. Finally, she took out an ad in *Western Horseman* magazine, seeking correspondence from anyone who owned a curly or knew anything about them. About a dozen readers from across the country responded, "and everyone said the same thing about these horses—the best horse they ever owned was a curly"

Confirming the existence of curly-coated horses was one thing; tracing their pedigree was another, since no such breed was listed in the American equine social registry Turning to the pages of the world atlas, Sunny had better luck. She found that in Russia, on the southern slopes of the Ural Mountains, the Bashkiri people cultivated such a horse—hence the name Bashkir. Just how and when the breed got to the American continent is not known. One theory has it that the Russians brought them over when they settled Alaska. Others speculate the Mongols brought them across the Bering Strait. If so, then the curly horse predates by centuries the Spanish horse that came into the country with the exploration of the Southwest.



Benny Demele's father made the first known sighting of a curly in Nevada.

The mystery deepened when she could find no reference to horses with curly coats.

"They are really primitive horses, there's no doubt," says Sunny "These horses may be the link from the primitive breeds to the modern-day horse."

Another unsolved mystery is how curlies came to be roaming wild in the Great Basin. Looking for clues, I drove to a place called Dry Creek Ranch, set deep in the high country of central Nevada. The proprietor is Benny Demele, a soft-spoken cowboy who rides the same hardscrabble range his grandfather homesteaded back in the days when stagecoaches were the area's finest means of transportation. The story goes that Benny's father, the late Peter Demele, saw his first curly horses on the Peter Hanson Range near Austin one day in 1898. There were three head, to be exact, with tight curly ringlets over their entire bodies.

"They saw 'em, but they never really had any," Benny explains. "But then one stud finally come down with my





Photo: Richard Menzies



Curly lover Sunny Martin of Ely poses with Pello Cheno.

dad's mares, and they kept those colts. We've had curly-haired horses around since, but nobody paid much attention to 'em."

Nor did the Demeles have any particular name for the horse, since no one around Dry Creek spoke Bashkir. That changed one day in 1939 when the family was poring over a Sunday edition of the *San Francisco Examiner* one of their few links to the outside world. There, under the rubric of Ripley's "Believe It or Not," was a drawing of the unusual pony with the curly mane. Ripley identified it by its Russian name, "and that's the first we ever heard about it," says Benny

Robert Ripley offered no explanation as to how a domestic horse from northern Russia came to be running wild in the American West. If indeed they migrated over the Bering Strait, Benny is pretty sure they didn't wander into Nevada by themselves.

Demele figures curliness is the result of a genetic strain carried by the animals of early livestockmen. It's a strong strain, he says, one that keeps "throwing back." A foal from a straight-haired mare may turn out to be curly, depending on the dominant gene.

However they got here, Sunny Martin believes curly-coated horses are more widespread than most people realize. She keeps three scrapbooks filled with newspaper clippings, photographs, and curliosities going all the way back to the mythical unicorn—clearly a curly, claims Sunny The Marlboro man rides a curly, she says, as does Olympic equestrian Bruce Davidson, "even though he won't admit it. You see those waves? He wrote back and said it was just sweat."

And what about Sunny's claim that curlies are easier to ride than the average horse? Well, a lot of it might depend on who's doing the riding. Out in Benny Demele's corral, for example, I saw colts that appeared wild as gazelles. One of them cast me a baleful look as if to say, "If this dude comes one step closer, let's kick him into a cactus patch and trample him until he yells uncle."

More surly than curly, as it were. Or as Demele's hired hand, Bob Eddy, puts it laconically, "A horse is just a horse." ☐

Richard Menzies is a Salt Lake City-based writer and photographer

Curly Culture in Ely



John Curtis of Las Vegas hits the trail with Copper Jr

Curly owners and other horse lovers will gather in Ely at the 19th annual American Bashkir Curly Convention and Horse Show on June 16-18. The White Pine County Fairgrounds will be overrun with the kinky-coated beauties as they compete in classes of English and Western riding over the Father's Day weekend.

Other activities include a Friday evening awards banquet, which is opened to the public. "One of last year's award winners was from Canada, and that makes the convention and horse show international," Sunny Martin says proudly

On Sunday visitors can take a seven-mile ride by horse or car to the Ward Recreation Area. There the Ely Riding Club presents an outdoor breakfast, a 30-year Father's Day tradition for the club. Entertainment will be provided by cowboy poets and country-western musicians.

For information write the American Bashkir Curly Registry, Box 453, Ely, NV 89301, or call 702-289-4228.

Photos: Sunny Martin Collection



NEVADA 89

The Elko photo show goes on tour.

Driving in Reno on a foggy winter day, Sonnia Gore saw something beyond the warehouses and the airport on the city's east side. She picked up her camera and captured a rural aspect of the Biggest Little City not often glimpsed—a flock of Canadian geese wintering on a field in front of an old barn. The judges of Elko's Nevada 89 photography show liked Gore's perspective, and they awarded her photo, "Foggy Landing," the best-of-show prize for color slides.

Gore's photo was one of 32 winners in the annual contest produced by the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko. The judges were Howard Hickson, the museum's director, who started the show in 1975; C.J. Hadley, a free-lance Nevada photojournalist and former publisher-editor of *Nevada;* and Roche Bush, owner of Fox Foto Shop in Elko. An exhibit composed of 125 photos, including the top finishers, will tour the state through April 27, 1990.

FIRST, Black and White Prints (top)
"From Nevada People Portfolio"
Roy Herrick, Reno
"This was a family in Gabbs. Most of the people in the rural areas are there because they enjoy that life style."

The winning photos were selected because they depicted Nevada in distinct ways. "That puppy, besides being damn cute, was at a rodeo," says Hickson of Michelle Farren's winner in the color-print competition.

This year the contest attracted 1,346 photos from 211 photographers living in Nevada, California, Arizona, and five other states. Roy Herrick, a professional Reno photographer who won first place in the black-and-white-print category, thinks the contest is successful because "Howard has a commitment to photography in this state, and I like to support that by entering."

Nevada 89 also offers much to people who go see it. "Basically, you'll see 125 adventures of Nevada in one little space," Hickson says. "You can take a tour of Nevada just by standing there."—*Julie Quinn*

(Continued)

FOURTH, Color Slides
"Nature's Honeycomb"
Janice Lanuti-Phillips, Las Vegas
"I'm very intrigued by the geometric patterns that nature makes. The Valley of Fire is a beautiful place to see them."

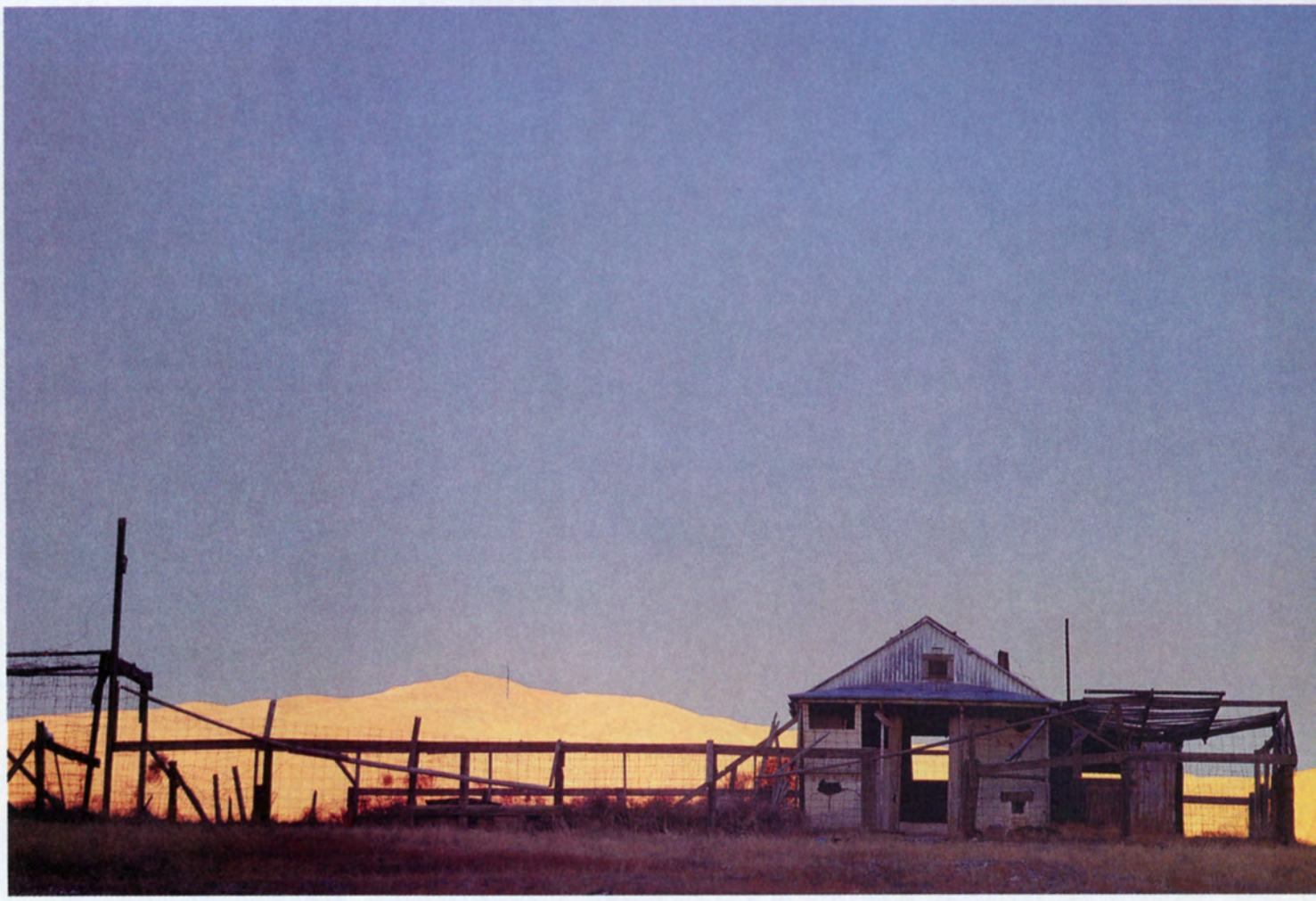


BEST OF SHOW, Color Prints
"Rodeo Puppy"
Michelle Farren, Reno
"I was at the Reno Rodeo and wasn't able to get close enough for some good rodeo shots. So I wandered around and saw this little puppy and got closer and closer until I got the shot I wanted. I'm Australian, and this is an Australian Queensland Blueheeler, a sheepdog."

THIRD (TIE), Color Slides
"Stan"
Mike Thompson, Battle Mountain
"My brother Stan runs John Marvel's ranch near Dunphy. We were just sitting around and went up to the hill around sundown to shoot some photos."

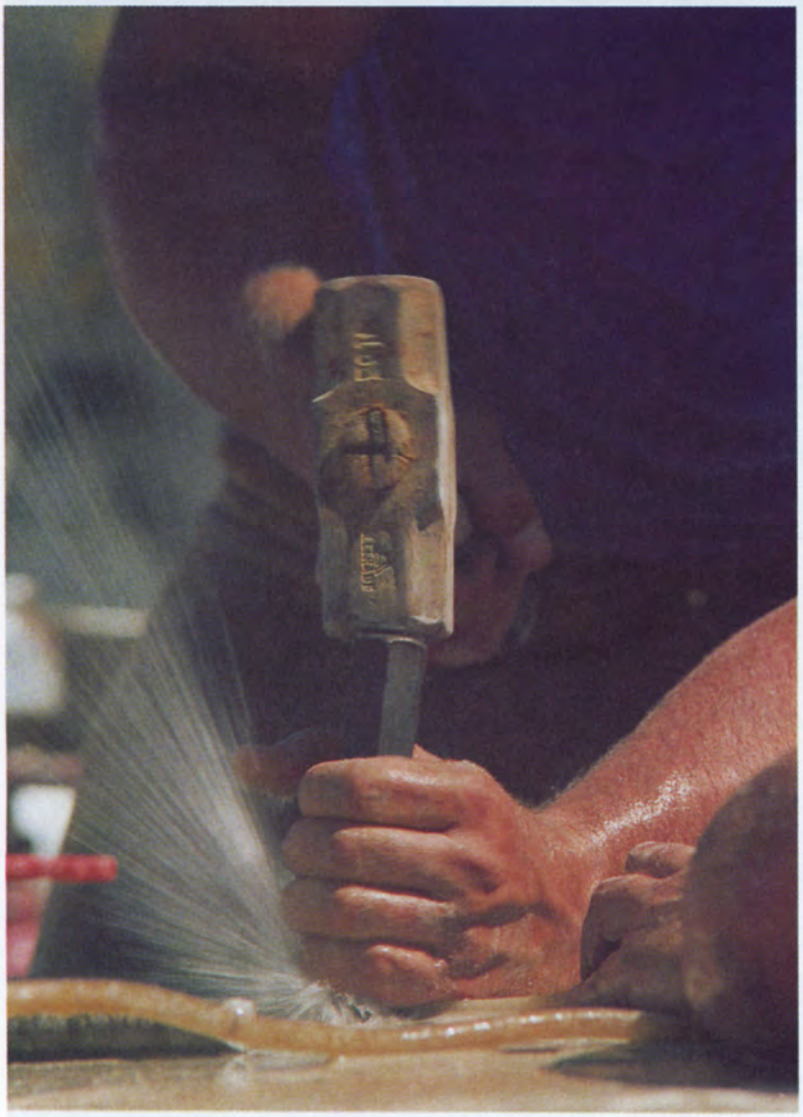


SECOND, Color Slides
"Daveytown"
Denyse Guilbert, Winnemucca
"I went out to this old ghost town. The sky was cloudy, and the sun came out and hit the mountains at the right time for some real unique lighting."





FIRST, Color Slides
"Midnight"
Larry Angier Ione, California
"I was on my way to the Grand Canyon. Before I got out of Nevada, I stopped in Beatty, did a little gambling at the Exchange Club, and saw this reflection of the Beatty Club in a puddle."



THIRD, Color Prints
"Impact"
Patrick Kennedy, Virginia City
"This was taken at the single-jack contest at Bonanza Days in Virginia City. My impression of this photo was of the sweat and blood and drama of the effort of these guys. It was kind of thrilling in that regard."

WHERE TO SEE THE SHOW

After its opening at the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko, Nevada 89 will be shown at the following 15 places:

Winnemucca—Humboldt County Library, April 28-May 10
Lovelock—Pershing County Library, May 16-30
Reno—Washoe County Library, June 6-July 5
Reno—Nevada Historical Society, July 7-26
Carson City—Nevada State Museum, July 28-September 5
Genoa—Courthouse Museum, September 12-25
Fallon—Community Center, October 3-16
Hawthorne—Walker-Wassuk Arts Alliance, October 24-November 6
Tonopah—Central Nevada Museum, November 14-28
Las Vegas—Clark County District Library, December 5-January 8
Las Vegas—Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, January 11-25
Boulder City—City Hall, January 31-February 14
Valley of Fire—State Park Visitor Center, February 21-March 8
Ely—White Pine Library, March 20-April 5
Pioche—Lincoln County Courthouse, April 10-27

(Continued)




NO DOGS
PLEASE
OPEN



(Above)
SECOND, Black and White Prints
"Copper Smelter"
Larry Angier Ione, California
"I was visiting my great uncle in East Ely in 1976 and took this photo of the old Kennecott smelter in McGill."

(Opposite page, from top)
BEST OF SHOW, Color Slides
"Foggy Landing"
Sonnia Gore, Reno
"Out on Mill Street there is this barn and field on the Truckee River I liked the gray look to it, contrasted with the stark black wings of the geese."

MERIT, Color Slides
"No Dogs Please"
John T Biale, Carson City
"This photo was of a diner in Caliente. I've threatened to enter this photo for the last five years, but never did. I thought it was comical and down to earth."

NEVADA 89 WINNERS

Color Prints

Best of Show—"Rodeo Puppy," Michelle Farren, Reno

First—"January Storm," Robert Kelly Woodworth, Tuscarora

Second—"Up Close and Personal," Pamela Sue Sobol, Las Vegas

Third (Tie)—"Handle and Crank," Jerry Aaron, Sparks

Third (Tie)—"Impact," Patrick Kennedy, Virginia City

Fourth (Tie)—"Weird Wiring," Charles S. Davis, Reno

Fourth (Tie)—"Big Brother is Watching," Clyde Souter III, Reno

Merit Awards—Ginger Gabiola, Winnemucca; Diane Kay Griffin, Gardnerville; Patrick Kennedy, Virginia City; Tracy A. Mori, Tuscarora; Tom Puckett, Ely; Charles R. Schrader, Las Vegas

Color Slides

Best of Show—"Foggy Landing," Sonnia Gore, Reno

First—"Midnight," Larry Angier, Ione, California

Second—"Daveytown," Denyse Guilbert, Winnemucca

Third (Tie)—"Quiet Reflections," David D. Grippo, Carlin

Third (Tie)—"Stan," Mike Thompson, Battle Mountain

Fourth (Tie)—"Dusty Trail," Preston Patnoude, Cold Spring Station, Fallon

Fourth (Tie)—"Nature's Honeycomb," Janice Lanuti-Phillips, Las Vegas

Merit Awards—Larry Angier, Ione, California; John T Biale, Carson City; Elsie Merrick, Elko; Pamela Sue Sobol, Las Vegas

Black and White Prints

Best of Show—"Painted Lady," William C. Douglas, Paradise Valley, Arizona

First—"From Nevada People Portfolio," Roy Herrick, Reno

Second—"Copper Smelter," Larry Angier, Ione, California

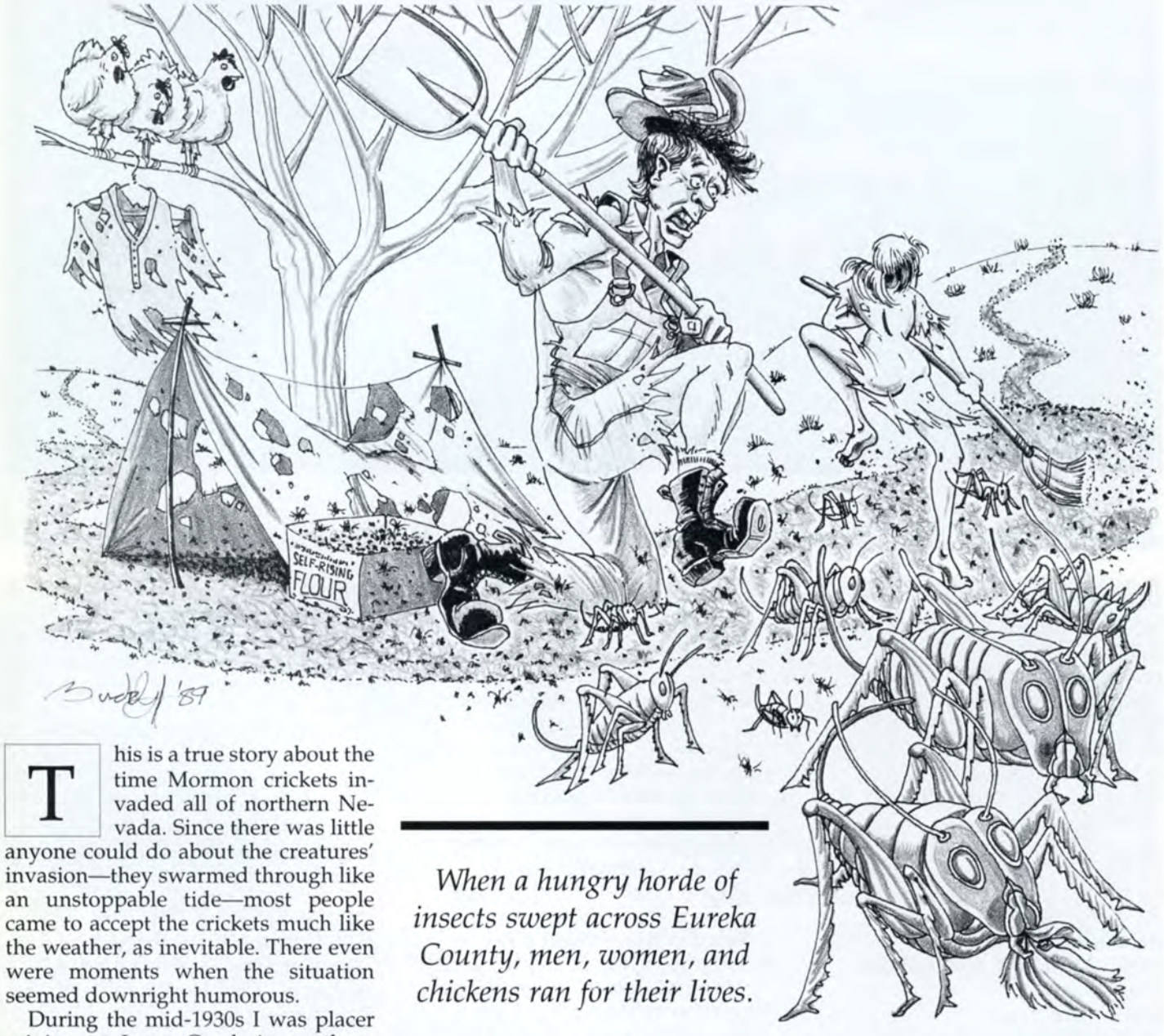
Third—"Ready for Shipment," Harry Upson, Jr., Reno

Fourth (Tie)—"Dayton Caddy," Larry Angier, Ione, California

Fourth (Tie)—"Nevada," Roy Herrick, Reno

Merit Awards—William C. Douglas, Paradise Valley, Arizona; Harry Upson, Jr., Reno

INVASION OF THE CRICKETS



When a hungry horde of insects swept across Eureka County, men, women, and chickens ran for their lives.

By John L. Hansen

This is a true story about the time Mormon crickets invaded all of northern Nevada. Since there was little anyone could do about the creatures' invasion—they swarmed through like an unstoppable tide—most people came to accept the crickets much like the weather, as inevitable. There even were moments when the situation seemed downright humorous.

During the mid-1930s I was placer mining at Lynn Creek in northern Eureka County. It was early summer, and the water for placering was getting scarce, but I was still at it when the crickets came. Although I had only heard stories about Mormon crickets before then, one thing was sure—those storytellers had not exaggerated. If they had elaborated more, I might have saved my white-canvas wall tent, my groceries, and a few suits of underwear

When the crickets first came, I went about my work while constantly knocking them off of my pant legs and skimming them off the water hole to keep them from plugging my pump. At one point I saw a rattlesnake making a beeline for my operations. Ordinarily rattlers coming into the pit would stop upon seeing me and either coil up or change their direction, but not this one. He wasn't interested in me at all. He went right onto the noisy engine that was rocking the long tom and tried to climb aboard. In doing so, his rattle end got caught between the belt and the shive, and by the time he came loose, he was thoroughly dead.

That was when I became aware of just how vicious the crickets were, for no sooner had I tossed the snake's carcass aside than they were on it. Within

30 minutes I had the prettiest and whitest snake skeleton on the hill. Too, it was not only snakes they ate, but also one another. If one cricket was accidentally trampled, the others would pile on and devour him.

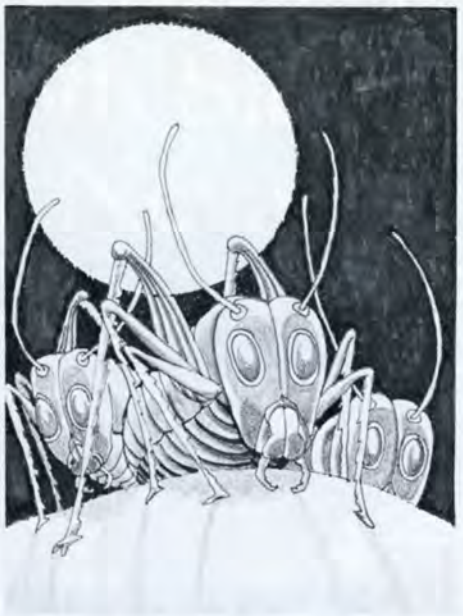
It was not until I shut down my outfit in the evening that I fully realized what was happening. My tent was covered and filled with millions of crickets. My grub boxes were a seething mass as the creatures tore away at the contents. Frying pans and kettles were full to their brims. At first I tried to drive the crickets off with a sagebrush I had yanked up by the roots, but I soon discovered that my counterattack was futile. So I grabbed my bedroll and a few clothes, threw them into the back of my pickup, and took off over the hill.

I saw crickets for a mile as I headed up the next canyon toward Sheep Creek, where I knew the people who were mining there. On arriving I explained the reason for my visit and informed them that the crickets appeared to be heading their way

They really had their day's laugh at my account, but apparently none of them had ever seen a Mormon cricket, either, for when I told them the critters were as big as mice, they said I must have either drunk some bad booze or eaten some poisoned beans.

So they told me to bed down and that I'd no doubt feel better after a good night's sleep. However, I unwittingly had brought evidence of my plight. No sooner had I rolled out my bedroll and crawled in than I was attacked by something. My first thought was that it was a scorpion hiding from the crickets. Since I was making quite a commotion, some folks came out with a gas lantern. After examining my wound I was satisfied that it wasn't a scorpion bite, and with the lantern I set about finding the culprit. On peeling the covers back one by one I found a giant cricket still chewing on the piece of hide he had taken from my heel. And when my Sheep Creek friends got their first glimpse of that critter, they became alarmed about the crickets' imminent arrival.

With the coming of morning the males of Sheep Creek camp piled into my pickup. We drove toward my camp until we came to the army of crickets, which left no doubt that I had told the truth about their number and size. After watching their antics for a bit we continued on to my camp, where we learned even more about the critters. My tent was so full of holes that it looked like a huge wedge of over-ripe cheese. The only part that hadn't been eaten were the ropes. The underwear that I had washed and hung on the brush to dry was unrecognizable as such, for all that was left was a string of buttons on a piece of cloth. Why they left that string untouched is still a mystery, but at least this bit of mischief on their part was good for a laugh in a not-so-funny situation.



By nightfall the crickets were upon the camp in full force. They took lodging in the sage by the millions until each bush was bent to the ground under the load.

Heading back to Sheep Creek we stopped to visit the Popovitch family with the intention of telling them about the crickets, but the leaders were already there. We found the Popovitchs feeling quite happy about having the critters, as their two dozen chickens were having the time of their lives gorging themselves on the army's leaders. However, since chickens can only hold so much, they soon had their fill and retired to the shade of the few trees that surrounded the place. After watching Pop's chickens eat those crickets we considered going to town to buy some chickens of our own.

On reaching the Sheep Creek camp the regular occupants began preparing their tents and shacks for the invasion. They set about collecting odds and ends such as lumber, corrugated iron, sheet iron, and screens from their sluice boxes. These they nailed over the windows of the shacks and built tight fences around the tents. The precautions seemed adequate since the crickets had no wings and depended solely on their legs for transportation. Once this was accomplished everyone sort of settled back and waited defiantly for the leaders to show up so the defenses could be tested.

That afternoon Popovitch drove down to the camp to tell us that the main horde had hit his place. He said the crickets had driven his chickens to the top of his house, and it appeared to him they were afraid of the crickets. (We didn't wonder why.) Some of us followed Pop back to his place to confirm the arrival of the main army We got there in time to see the last two of Pop's chickens wing their way to the uppermost limbs of the surrounding trees. On the roof the crickets were swarming so thickly they were falling from the eaves by the dozens. Those wounded or hurt in the fall were pounced upon by their comrades and eaten on the spot.

That evening we discovered that the leaders had beat us to the camp. The dogs of the place were having a ball chasing the crickets. Sometimes the dogs would snap the critters with their teeth, but afterwards they'd roll up their lips and try to remove whatever was left in their mouths with their tongues.

The women of the camp seemed the most concerned, especially those who had planted little two-by-four gardens that they had nourished with dish and bath water until they were about ready to bear fruit. The women tried to drive the crickets away, but soon they saw the futility of their labors, so they made their way to their abodes and locked themselves in and the crickets out.

By nightfall the crickets were upon the camp in full force. They took lodging in the sage and rabbit brush by the millions until each bush was bent to the ground under the load. The very fact that they roosted at night was the camp's only salvation, for one could examine each blanket and quilt as the beds for the night were made and thus avoid the ordeal I went through that first evening.

The following morning no one at-

Illustrations: Brian Buckley

tempted to go to work at their diggings because the dams were filled with drowned crickets, with millions more waiting to take their place. Since everything seemed as much under control as could be expected, I drove back to my camp to see if the horde had left.

I noticed the chickens sitting side by side on Mrs. Pop's clothesline. It was easy to see that was their safest place.

As I passed the Popovitch place, I noticed Pop's chickens were no longer in the tree tops, so I turned in to ask what had happened. It was then I noticed them sitting side by side on Mrs. Pop's clothesline. It was easy to see the chickens' logic, as that was their safest place. After saying good morning to the Popovitchs, I continued on to Lynn Creek. Things there were no better than at Sheep Creek. My water and dam were filled with crickets that had already started to decay, and the stench was suffocating. I noticed that the live crickets seemed uninterested in partaking of the ones that had drowned. Had they been, I don't think they'd have made it a foot beyond my camp, as they would have eaten themselves out of existence.

Since all the goods that I'd saved were at the Sheep Creek camp, I stayed there for the next three days until the crickets had pulled out. Each day I'd drive up to the Popovitch place just to see how their chickens were doing, and always they would be sitting side by side on the clothesline. On talking a bit with Pop, I learned they hadn't once been down from their perch. He was getting concerned about their surviving the invasion if it lasted much longer.

Finally the crickets left, and the chickens survived. I never did ask Pop whether he got any eggs during that period, and to this day I wonder why I didn't. I suppose it was more a matter of survival than egg laying, especially for those chickens.

John L. Hansen, a retired miner now lives cricket-free in Middleton, Idaho.



Mormon Crickets

They'll bug you when the weather is dry.

The "unstoppable tide" of crickets that John L. Hansen encountered is a phenomenon that appears in canyons, valleys, and wider areas in Nevada when conditions are just right. That is, dry.

"There's a clear correlation between drought years and epidemics of Mormon crickets," says Dr. Harold Arnett, emeritus professor of entomology at the University of Nevada-Reno. He points out that grasshoppers and the mouse-size Mormon crickets are common in places where the annual rainfall is less than 20 inches. In rainier climates, fungi diseases keep the number of crickets down.

"There always are some Mormon crickets out there," says Arnett, who has observed the region's insect populations for the past 28 years. "But in drought years the potential for an epidemic increases. I wouldn't be surprised if we don't see Mormon crickets as well as grasshoppers this year, the conditions being as dry as they have been."

The Dust Bowl years of the 1930s were known for parched conditions. Hansen recalls that "the crickets seemed to come and go with the Depression."

On the frontier, the crickets gained their greatest notoriety in 1848, when Mormon pioneers near Great Salt Lake discovered that a wave of crickets was threatening their crops. To the rescue came flocks of seagulls—just like the Popovitchs' chickens, except the seagulls finished the job.

Nevadans have seen sporadic waves of the monster insects. The last big invasion appeared in the early '70s at Seven Troughs near Lovelock. In Nevada, most Mormon crickets are found north of U.S. 50.

The Mormon cricket *(Anabrus simplex)* can expand its numbers quickly because of its ability to lay huge numbers of eggs. It is a relative of the katydids that we hear at night when they rub legs against wings to produce their familiar chirping song. But since the Mormon cricket is wingless, it would rather eat than sing. —*David Moore*

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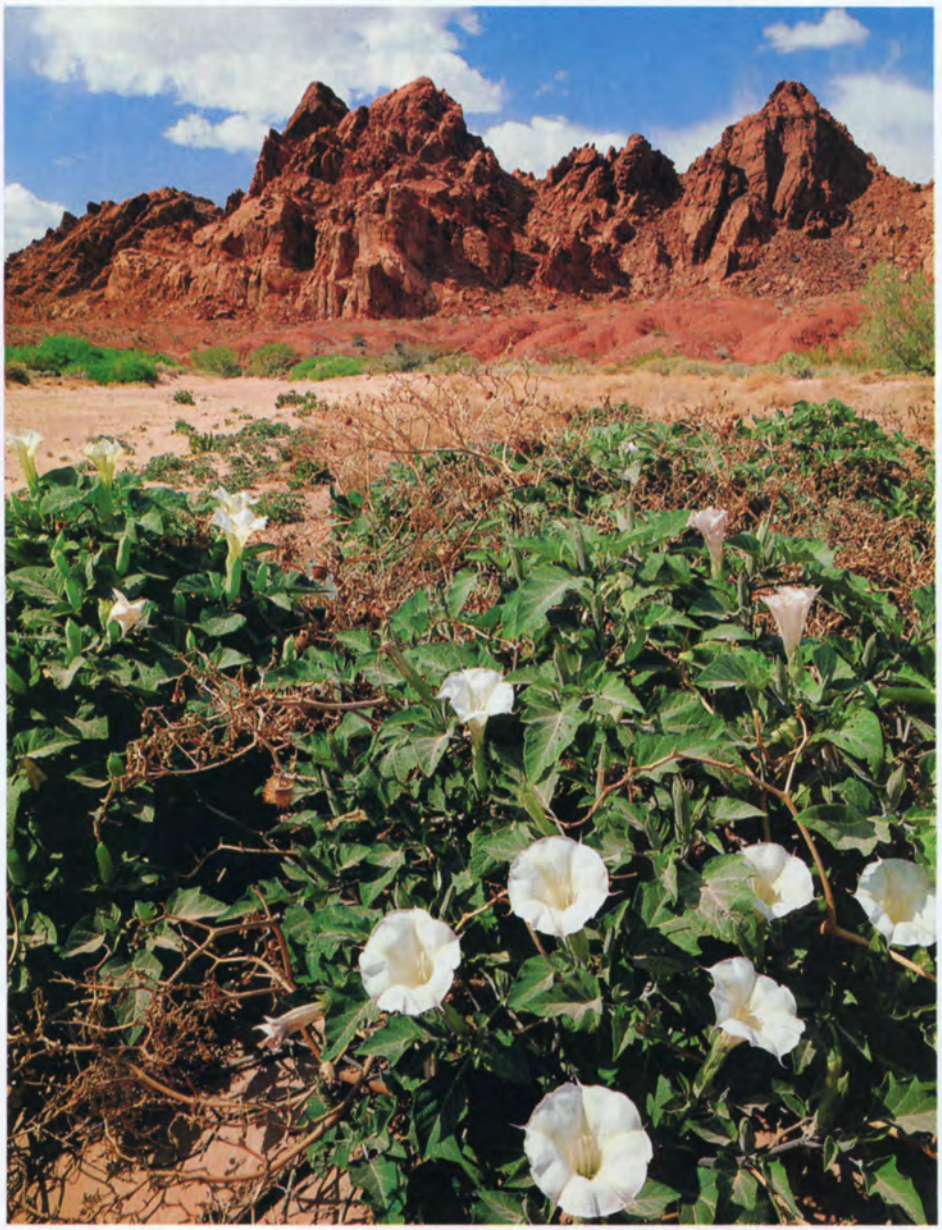
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Deadly Beauty

The trumpeting flowers of jimson weed brighten the desert floor throughout southern Nevada. But looks can be deceiving. Also called datura, devil's trumpet, and loco weed, jimson weed *(Datura meteloides)* is highly poisonous; even small amounts can kill a child. Larry Ulrich of Trinidad, California, photographed this scene in Valley of Fire State Park, where jimson weed is found in washes and roadside ditches. This Southwestern desert native can be seen in a few gardens and ditches in the northern part of the state as well.



Garden Sentry

Spider webs are sometimes very ornate, but they serve a strictly utilitarian function. Stephen Johns photographed this banded garden spider and its home in his Carson City back yard. A cabbage butterfly has just been caught, and the spider, which has poor vision, senses the capture by vibrations in the web. The spider turns its victim with its front legs while pulling out silk and wrapping with its hind legs. After moving the butterfly to a comfortable spot, the spider will be ready for dinner



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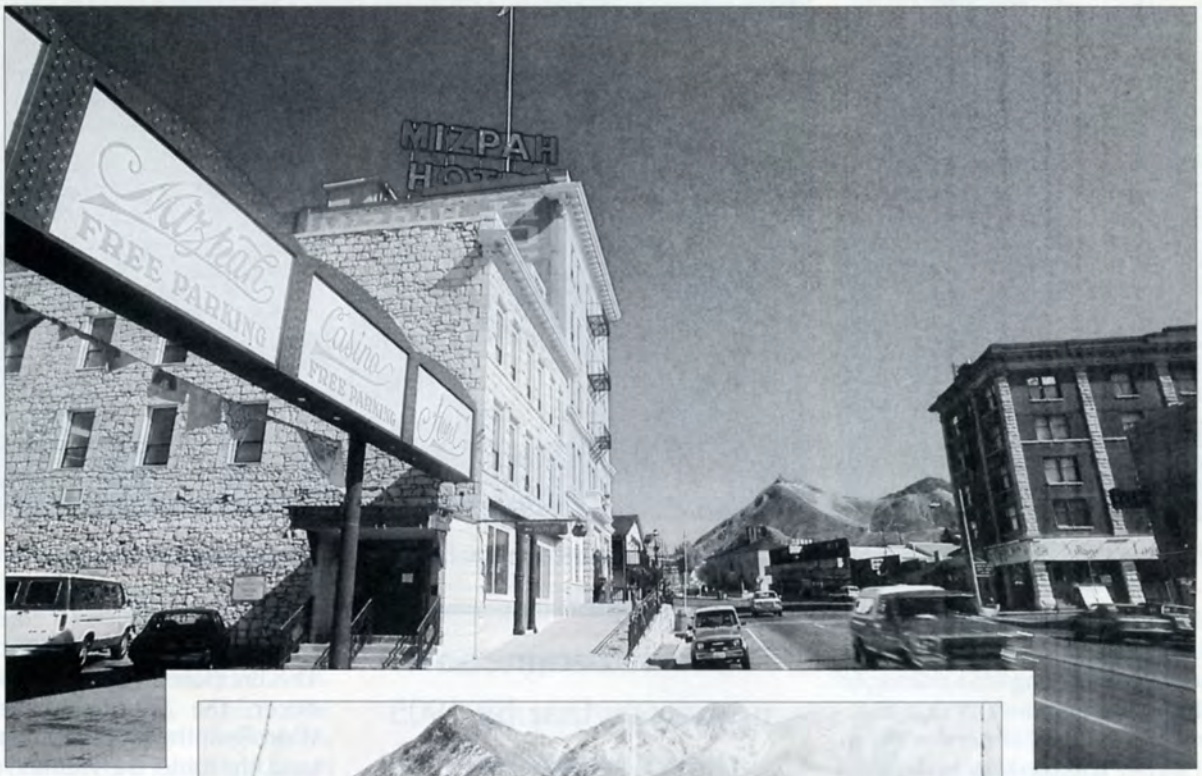
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TALES OF TONOPAH

Through boom and bust, Tonopah residents have seen both hard times and good.

By Doug McMillan

The high-desert town of Tonopah has had more ups and downs than the volcanic San Antonio Mountains it stubbornly clings to midway between Las Vegas and Reno.

Since 1900, when town founder Jim Butler staked out the gold and silver claims that set off the last big mining rush of the Old West, the town's symbols of fortune have gone from pick-and-shovel miners toiling thousands of feet underground to space-age Stealth fighter pilots cruising thousands of feet overhead.

After nine decades of boom and bust, Tonopah still holds on to its character as one of the West's last frontier outposts. It is a town that remembers both the hardship and the glory, the hard times and the good.

There are 350 miles of tunnels under Tonopah, Ed Slavin says, and he should know. He's worked in them. At

Tonopah today with the Mizpah Hotel (top), and five years after it was founded.

Photos: Larry Angier (top); Nevada Magazine Collection (inset)





Allan Metscher (left) was born on the air base. Caught one time in a cave-in, Ed Slavin (above) spent the entire night crawling out.

83, Slavin is one of the last three underground miners still living in Tonopah. He remembers meeting and talking to Jim Butler when he was a young boy.

Some Tonopah old-timers will tell you that Butler was too lazy to develop his claims himself, so he leased them to more hard-working miners willing to dig shafts and muck out drifts and stopes as they followed the veins of gold and silver. But Slavin remembers Butler as a man whose generosity led to his downfall.

"He was honest," the old miner declares. "All those early leases were verbal, and he didn't welsh on one of 'em."

Whether or not Butler lacked initiative, he definitely lacked the capital. His total assets were listed on the 1899 Nye County tax rolls at $10. So in 1901 he sold out to mining promoters who were backed with eastern money. The period when a "jackass prospector" could go from rags to riches overnight—as his predecessors did earlier in Virginia City, Austin, and Eureka—lasted one short year in Tonopah.

Butler got $336,000 from the Tonopah Mining Company, according to Bob McCracken, a 30-year Nye County resident who has just completed a county-sponsored history of the town. Of that amount, $32,500 went to Butler's attorney, Tasker Oddie, who got Butler's original ore samples assayed when nobody else would look at them. Walter Gayheart, the Austin assayer who found they were worth up to $600 per ton, probably got a similar amount, McCracken says.

> Autos became so numerous that by 1905 the town had what may have been Nevada's first speed limit: four miles per hour.

That left Butler with little more than a quarter of a million dollars for discoveries that ultimately yielded $150 million. Although his share represented a good-sized fortune in those days, he managed to fritter it away and died penniless in 1923 in Sacramento, where he was buried in a pauper's grave next to his wife, Belle.

But monuments to Butler still remain in Tonopah. Ed Slavin sees them every day from his little house, perched on the hill south of Main Street, high above Tonopah, which he still refers to as "the mining camp." Going to his window, Slavin points out the big wooden headframe of the Desert Queen, the first claim Butler located, still standing on the upper slopes of Mount Oddie. Downhill, level with the silver-domed Nye County Courthouse, is the headframe of the Silver Top, leaning slightly with age. And to the north, a silver-colored steel tower still rises proudly above the Mizpah Mine. Located and named by Belle Butler, the Mizpah was the most famous of them all, and the last to close, in 1948.

There were more than 30 mines in all: The Belmont, the town's biggest producer, the Tonopah Extension, the West End, the Gypsy Queen, the Montana, the Ohio, the Halifax, the Rescue, the Cash Boy, and others. In those days curious prospectors, some of them grubstaked by Butler, fanned out from Tonopah and discovered ore deposits that added Goldfield and Rhyolite to the West's last big gold rush.

In its early days Tonopah was a bustling metropolis of 10,000, a melting pot of Serbs, Italians, Mexicans, Indians, Fins, Irishmen, and "Cousin Jacks," as the wiry little miners from Cornwall, England, were called.

The Slavs, like Bruno and Anne Skanovsky, who still live in the shadow of the Mizpah Mine's headframe, whipped up staples like sarma (rolled cabbage), katzdrina (dried lamb), and kashtradna (dried goat's milk). Down the street a Cornish miner and his family might be sitting down to a tasty "pastie" that consisted of chunks of beef, potatoes, and onions baked turnover-style in a Cornish pie crust. The Italians brewed their own wine, and continued to do so right on through Prohibition. A small Chinese community ran laundries, lotteries, and a few groceries, but Chinese weren't permitted to work in the mines.

"I went to school with Indians, Mexicans, Serbians, Finlanders, Irish, Cousin Jacks, you name it," says Solan Terrell, Tonopah's 72-year-old justice

Photos: Doug McMillan





Ann Skanovsky (above) shows the kind of phone that servicemen used during the war Curley Coombs (right) holds ore samples.

of the peace. "We called the Serbians 'Bohunks' and we called the Finlanders 'Finns,' but it was a friendly relationship."

Unlike other Nevada mining camps, Tonopah was never an overnight boom town. "Tonopah's growth was steady and unfrenzied," historian McCracken says. "Jim Butler was the only one who found ore sticking out of the ground." Shafts and tunnels were needed to follow the veins underground, and that took big companies and gradual development.

Tonopah had another distinction: It was born at the dawn of the 20th century It had the false-front saloons and dry-goods stores, but they were lit with electricity almost from the beginning. The hand-held bits and sledgehammers of steel-driving drillers quickly gave way to pneumatic drills. The first sputtering narrow-wheeled automobiles competed for room on Tonopah's dirt streets with horses and buggies and teamsters' wagons, and autos became so numerous that by 1905 the town had to invoke what may have been Nevada's first speed limit: four miles per hour. Most families used outdoor privies, but the town boasted a municipal water and sewage system and the state's first high-rises. For years the five-story Mizpah Hotel and its neighbor across Main Street, the State Bank and Trust Building (now the Belvadere Apartments), were the tallest buildings in the state.

Tonopah has never let go of that era. At least 120 buildings remain from the early 1900s—everything from the restored Mizpah Hotel to miners' shacks in a perpetual state of decay, and outhouses that lean at crazy angles on the hillside behind the Mizpah, all amid modern gas stations, motels, and convenience stores. Much of the town is built on old mine dumps.

> Working as a foreman, Slavin was in the Mizpah Mine when a stope caved in under him. He fell 48 feet.

"You can look at those dumps and everything, and you think of a colorful past." McCracken reflects. "But it took a tremendous human toll."

In 1911, a fire in the Belmont Mine took the lives of 17 miners. The foreman needlessly ordered 90 men into the mine when he knew it was burning at the 1,100-foot level. Dense smoke soon blocked escape routes. The miners' cage, which was frantically hoisted to haul them out, was so crowded with dead and expiring miners that it jammed against the shaft.

Slavin, then a boy of eight, sat on the hillside and watched the smoke billow out of the shaft. "Some of my friends lost their dads," he recalls.

"There was no provision in the law for mine-rescue crews or equipment, no gas masks on that first fire," he says, still bitter after all these years. "They didn't have a damn thing to get them out. After that, they had mine-rescue teams. I think they could have saved some of those guys if they'd had breathing apparatus."

Afterwards, the hundreds of miles of tunnels were connected so that in the event of a fire, miners from one mine could escape through another.

Slavin had a scare of his own when his turn came to work in the mines 24 years later. A foreman, he was in the Mizpah Mine when a stope—created where miners followed a vein upwards, leaving a big hole—caved in under him. He fell 48 feet.

"I rode a block of mud down," he explains. "That's why I didn't get all the bones in my body broken." With the help of candles that he always kept tucked in his shirt pocket, Slavin climbed out of a hole the size of a five-story building. It was 4 p.m. when he started. At five o'clock the next morning, he crawled to the surface, broken and bleeding, but alive. He couldn't work for the next 18 months.

The mines had bad air and damp places where fungus grew on the walls as thick as barnacles on a ship. Tunnels at lower levels were so hot "I think the devil ran the heat," Slavin says. They would send ice down to cool the miners, but most of it melted on the way.

Worst of all was silicosis, a deadly affliction caused by a fine, sand-like dust with razor-sharp edges that lodged in a miner's lungs and literally ripped them apart for as long as he lived—which often wasn't very long.

The lethal dust was raised by the pneumatic drills the miners used. McCracken says the mining companies could have solved the problem by attaching water-injection equipment to the drills, but they refused.

Catherine Banovich-Lydon lost her first husband, Mike, to "miner's consumption" in 1921, leaving her a widow with five small children. She supported them by taking in boarders. Her youngest child, Dave, went on to become Churchill County sheriff.

She watched her fellow countrymen—big, strapping Slavs—die. "It was terrible," she says. "They would work so hard and get nothing. They were young men, but they were old physically They just died like flies, that's all."

They called it the "Tonopah death," says Norman "Curley" Coombs, 75, who remembers watching miners literally cough up their lungs on the streets of Tonopah. His own father didn't wait for that. When Oswald Coombs got "the cough," he simply crawled down the West Tonopah shaft and died. They found his body four years later.

Coombs did a brief stint in the Mizpah Mine, but he couldn't wait to get out and circle the globe, working in underground mines around the world.



Closed in 48, the Mizpah Mine was located and named by Jim Bulter's wife, Belle.

"These damn mines killed you off too fast," declares Coombs, who's called Tonopah home all of his 75 years. "Old miners could tell you where the ore was, but what's the use of being a rich guy in the graveyard?"

Tonopah's cemetery is full of them, Slavin says. Most died in their 30s and 40s.

Slavin had a standing order to his men in the 1930s: "If a kid from town showed up to work in the mines, I told the men to make it hell for him the first day so he'd quit."

One who did quit was Solan Terrell. "I swear, you could bake bread down there," he recalls. "You'd sit down there, and the sweat would just run off you."

"That dust would choke you," Slavin tells. "It'd get to where you couldn't see your hand in front of your face.

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Major General William Lynd (right) inspects the Tonopah Army Air Field.

"If you worked underground, you were dead. I don't know why I'm still alive." Slavin himself has silicosis, confounding doctors who thought the disease died out in the 1930s.

While miners were risking their lives underground, eastern capitalists were hauling the fruits of their labor—gold and silver—out of town by the boxcar. The mines were still working around the clock in the 1920s, thanks in part to a $1-per-ounce price support for silver that Key Pittman, U.S. senator from Nevada and a former Tonopah attorney, had pushed through Congress.

But after Pittman's subsidy expired in 1923, silver prices plummeted to 25 cents an ounce in two years. "The stock market crash of 1929 applied the coup de grace to mining as it had been known in Tonopah," McCracken writes in his history.

One by one, the mines closed. The big stamp mills that pounded ore night and day fell silent, never to resume their clamor. Even the big mining companies couldn't afford the expense of underground mining, so they returned to Jim Butler's idea—leasing.

Leasing was the miner's version of share-cropping, Slavin says. The mining companies leased 100-square-foot sections to hungry miners, who supplied their own blasting powder, tools, and pre-paid workmen's compensation.

They would go underground, stake out a promising spot, and, if they were lucky, hit small veins left over from the heydays. Of course, they would owe royalties to the mining companies if they hit paydirt.

Slavin recalls being responsible for more than 200 leasers scattered over the Tonopah Mining Company's 52 miles of tunnels. Few leasers got rich, but it paid the bills for most, and the old miners seemed to appreciate the entrepreneurial odds that keep every prospector going—that slight chance that he might strike it rich.

But in 1939 another fire hit the Belmont, one of the few mines still going. Nobody died this time, but the entire mine was burned, never to reopen. The Mizpah Mine was worked

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'Those flyboys would look down the mine shafts and say, there's no way you could get me to go down there.'

sporadically until 1948. Ironically, it and a few other Tonopah mines were exempted from the government's wartime gold mine closures because they contained a byproduct classified as a vital mineral—silicon.

By the war, however, Tonopah was a town waiting to die.

If World War II sounded the death knell for underground mining, it nevertheless rejuvenated Tonopah. At first, residents just laughed when they heard that the Army was going to build a big air base out by their small landing strip, six miles east of town.

But in the blink of an eye the Interior Department transferred 5,470 square miles south of Tonopah—almost four percent of Nevada—to the Defense Department. Suddenly, a construction boom that exceeded anything in Tonopah's mining era was on. In a matter of months two 4,000-foot runways, a mile-long apron, and two taxiways nearly two miles long were laid in concrete across the Joshua trees at the Tonopah Airdome, along with a one-million-gallon water tank, 13 miles of sewer line, a 14-mile water line, and 140 buildings that included a hospital, school, scores of barracks, and four wooden hangars. A sawmill ran full-time, pre-cutting the intricate woodwork due to the lack of skilled carpenters during the war.

At its peak the Tonopah Army Air Field had 7,000 officers and enlisted men, its own newspaper, the *Desert Bomber* and a band that performed on national radio. Its bakery churned out 400 dozen doughnuts a day

Solan Terrell returned home on leave from the Navy astonished to find his sleepy hometown jammed with thousands of construction workers and army men. "You'd go into a joint, and if you could get within three feet of the bar, you were lucky," he recalls.

The Tonopah and Goldfield Rail-

road, which had been desperately trying to abandon its track, did more business than during the gold rush, hauling troop trains down from Mountain Home, Idaho.

At Tonopah's phone office, Ann Skanovsky worked from four o'clock to midnight, seven days a week, patching lonely men through to their wives and sweethearts—no mean trick, since the little Nevada Telephone and Telegraph Company still used hand-cranked phones and plug-in switchboards. "With thousands of men, you could imagine them all trying to hit those telephones at five o'clock," she says. "It was a madhouse. They'd line up and sometimes wait for hours. I remember one guy in love with a Massachusetts school teacher spent his entire pay on phone calls."

Slavin, by this time Tonopah postmaster, was busy, too. With 5,000 or 6,000 new trainees coming in every six weeks, he soon had 200,000 forwarding addresses to keep track of. Six clerks were hired full-time just to forward mail to the nation's fighting men.

"Those flyboys would come into town and look down the mining shafts and say, 'There's no way you could get me to go down in one of those.' I'd tell them, 'I'll let you in on a little secret. You guys go up in the air and pray you're coming back down. We go down there and hope we're coming back up. Now what the hell's the difference?'"

Unfortunately, the fate of many flyboys would be no happier than that of the underground miners. At first, the Army tried to train pilots in P-39 Air Cobras, a lean little fighter plane. But due either to design defects or the thin air at Tonopah's 6,000-feet-plus elevation, they had a distressing number of crashes. The base switched over to the big B-24 high-altitude bombers, but with a hurry-up training program, crashes were still inevitable.

Almost 50 years later, Allan Metscher, co-founder of Tonopah's Central Nevada Museum, is still picking up the pieces. Through meticulous research of old Army records and the recollections of men who trained at Tonopah, he and his history-loving brothers, William and Philip, have been unearthing old engines, radio equipment, machine guns, and other bits of twisted wreckage still buried in the desert sand around the base.

On a recent excavation Philip found a brass plaque from a bomber radio. "Three weeks later I got a letter from a man in Iowa who wrote, 'I was the pilot on a B-24 that went down about a mile east of the base,'" Allan says. Enclosed was a photo of the burning plane. On the tail was the number, 45-14-47, that matched the radio tag.

> 'You couldn't believe those kids who came here during the war. They even lived in chicken coops.'

"I can't get over it, and the pilot back in Iowa, who's in his 70s, can't get over it, either," he exclaims. "That stuff's still out there."

The base has a special place in Allan Metscher's heart. He was born there. His mother had complications at his birth, so she was taken to the base hospital, where Metscher was delivered.

"Maybe that's why I'm so partial to it," he says. But it's also a forgotten



page of history he's turning. "Only the old-timers or the families of those who trained out there know what happened," he says.

The Army issued orders to wives and families not to follow their men to Tonopah, but many came anyway. It was their last chance to see each other before the men went to war. For some, it would be the last time they would see each other at all.

"You couldn't believe those kids who came here during the war," Catherine Banovich says. "They even lived in chicken coops."

Every available house and shed was taken up, and officers bivouacked in the Mizpah and Goldfield hotels.

Banovich worked as a hostess in the enlisted officers club. They held big dances for the troops at the USO, where the Tonopah Convention Center is now. Sometimes the men would have to dance together because there weren't enough girls to go around, she recalls.

Although Tonopah was booming, it was a sad time. "You knew you would never see them again," says Banovich.

Black troops were still segregated during the war, but Banovich flaunted Army regulations by admitting them to the white USO. Out of the thousands of men who visited the hall, she says, only one Southern boy complained.

> One thousand hardhats suddenly appeared on the Tonopah Test Range and began working on a hush-hush project.

Townspeople took up a collection to provide housing for families of trainees out by the base, but "Tonopahville" was never to be. The war ended, and the Army couldn't wait to shut the base down. It went on inactive status on August 23, 1945, barely a week after fighting ended in the Pacific. Despite pleas from Tonopah leaders to find a use for it, the Army deactivated the base three years later and began dismantling its buildings for scrap. Three of the hangars, with their skillfully arched trusses of wood, today stand as mute reminders of this tremendous human endeavor.

"They figured Tonopah would fold up," Ann Skanovsky says. "Everything moved out—the telegraph, the clubs, and then the JC Penney's." The railroad finally got its wish and shut down in 1947

"If a person remained in Tonopah," McCracken says, "he or she had to have survival skills."

Those who weren't lucky enough to get a job with the road department or the county scrambled for a living. Some salvaged buildings at the air base, moving them out of town, or dismantling them to use the scrap to build houses and garages.

Again, a new economic force materialized to save Tonopah. This time it was tourism. After the war, Americans took to the highways, and Tonopah's location midway between Las Vegas and Reno, and at least 100 miles in any direction from the nearest other good-sized town, made it a strategic pit stop. Soon, residents were pumping gas and selling beer, ice cream, and motel rooms to the traveling public.

Then, ironically, the same terrible



weapons that had ended the war led to another economic boon. As a new kind of war—the Cold War—dawned, the Atomic Energy Commission took over some of the base's acreage for atomic-weapons testing. Locals who had mining claims and grazing rights there had been told that they would get them back after the war, but they never did.

Sandia, a government-run company that tested missiles for defense contractors, set up a top-secret installation on the Tonopah Test Range, a 624-square-mile corner of the Nevada Test Site that begins 25 miles east of town. But the big action quickly shifted 100 miles south to Frenchman Flat, where the first above-ground atomic tests were set off in 1951.

McCracken remembers watching the pre-dawn atomic blasts when they were still conducted above ground in the 1950s. He writes, "Residents of Tonopah sometimes drove to Salisbury Wash and the Warm Springs Summit on Highway 6, east of Tonopah, to watch the atomic splash in the pre-dawn sky. They can still recall vividly the flashes of beauty and the awe they felt for the incredible power from splitting the atom."

When the AEC moved the tests below ground, some Tonopah miners got jobs drilling the deep tunnels to contain the blasts. Most stayed on the Test Site through the week, commuting back and forth from Tonopah on weekends. Some stayed at it 10 years or more, for times were slow and jobs scarce in town.

In the early 1980s Tonopah's mining industry, which had been sleeping almost four decades, awoke with a start. Anaconda, a subsidiary of Atlantic Richfield, had quietly been probing the San Antonio Mountains 25 miles north of town for molybdenite, an alloy that makes steel tough and light for aircraft, cars, oil-drilling rigs, and pipelines. Anaconda's geologists convinced their company to invest a quarter of a billion dollars into developing a mine that would be the largest mining project in Nevada in almost 80 years.

Nine hundred construction workers—almost as many as had jammed into town to build the air base 40 years earlier—descended on Tonopah. By the time Anaconda began to hire its permanent work force of 400, small settlements of travel trailers, campers, and vans had sprouted in the desert near the mine. In town, mobile homes cozied up to 80-year-old homes.

If that weren't enough, 1,000 more hardhats suddenly appeared on the Tonopah Test Range and began working on a hush-hush project. The Department of Energy, successor to the AEC, put up barracks for them, saying there was no way to squeeze anybody else into Tonopah. But secrecy was probably a bigger motivation for the segregated accommodations.

And if that weren't enough, Air Force brass shuttled in and out of town, touting their plans for "man's biggest construction project," the MX missile system, which would cover nearly every valley of eastern and central Nevada in a giant shell game to hide the weapons from the Russians. Tonopah was in the heart of MX country. Its population, which had doubled from 2,500 to 5,000 in just two years, would double again, MX planners predicted.

But Tonopah's two old economic mistresses—mining and government—again proved fickle.

Molybdenite, which had been bringing up to $38 a pound when the Nevada Moly Project started, plunged to $3 per pound after South American mines glutted the market. So Anaconda laid off its workers and walked away from a $270 million investment.

And President Reagan, with Nevada's U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt urging him on, dismissed the Air Force shell game as a dubious, land-gobbling



Jim Butler staked out the mining claims that established Tonopah in 1900.

Remembering Jim Butler

Motorists traveling U.S. 95 between Las Vegas and Reno on Memorial Day weekend are liable to get pulled into a street dance, parade, or mock Wild West gunfight when they reach Tonopah.

The events are part of Jim Butler Days, a four-day celebration of the town's founding. The 19th annual town party kicks off with a street dance at 9 p.m. on Friday, May 26. The Saturday parade starts at 10 a.m. with a flyover by jet fighters from Nellis Air Force Base. Bob Perchetti, the celebration's originator, is trying to persuade the Air Force to bring along one of the new Stealth fighters that are based at a secret installation east of town.

But at the heart of the celebration are the traditional mining events of mucking and drilling. Crowds of 200 sit in the portable bleachers, cheering their favorites much the way towns root for their softball or baseball teams.

Other events include foot races, stock-car races, arts and crafts, Central Nevada Museum programs, and a liar's contest (for more details, see this issue's *Nevada Events*). The weekend quiets down on Memorial Day with somber ceremonies at the historic cemeteries of Tonopah and Goldfield. —*Doug McMillan*

Photo: Central Nevada Historical Society

scheme. Few were sad to see the MX go, but Anaconda was sorely missed.

"Tonopah is going to be dead," a clerk in a local market lamented at the time as she handed out empty cardboard boxes to a line of departing workers.

But Anaconda left a legacy—a 500-acre subdivision with 240 modern houses and 120 apartments, the likes of which old Tonopah had never seen, with playgrounds, parks, ballfields, tennis courts, and green belts. The company spent $600,000 alone on a sports complex with an indoor pool, racquetball courts, weight room, sauna, and jacuzzi.

"What other town of this size has something like that?" asks Trish Rippie, a local real-estate agent. "What Anaconda did for this town is incredible. It's not always true what they say about mining companies raping a town and the minerals and leaving nothing."

There were other spinoffs, such as Tonopah Station, a casino, motel, and shopping center with the town's first supermarket, and a half-dozen motels lining Main Street.

The grocery clerk's words proved less than prophetic, as had previous Tonopah epitaphs. The renaissance of Nevada's gold- and silver-mining industry took up the slack. Although no company ventured into Tonopah's 350 miles of tunnels, huge open-pit mines started up at Manhattan, Round Mountain, and Gabbs. Some workers got homes in Tonopah, making the 50-mile commute. Others came into town on Friday or Saturday night to shop at the supermarket or live it up.

Cyprus Minerals, which had been mining gold in nearby Big Smoky Valley, took over Anaconda's mothballed mine and mill, not so much for the "moly," which remains at depressed prices, as for a byproduct which has gone up in price—copper. The move put 250 miners back to work.

Independent miners like Bob Bottom and his partner, Curley Coombs, spend their spare time poking around the desert, looking for gold, but more as a hobby than a going business.

"If you break even, you feel like you've accomplished something," says Bottom, "but just seeing high-grade makes it worthwhile."

Bottom pays his bills by contracting his excavation business to the big companies to move dirt. A corporation might spend $5 or $6 million drilling for ore samples to prove out a claim and then $80 or $90 million to develop it. Development, he says, takes "somebody with millions."



A symbol of Anaconda's heyday.

At night, prospectors accustomed to the desert's solitude can see the lights of a phantom city reflecting off the clouds east of town. Remember those 1,000 construction workers at the Tonopah Test Range? It finally became clear what they were doing last November, when the Air Force acknowledged the existence of its F-117 Stealth fighter plane. "The Range" is the home base of the super-secret planes, which use a bat-like wing design, carbon-fiber materials, and specially positioned engines to avoid radar detection. Two 12,000-foot runways, 27 hangars, rows of barracks, and only the Pentagon knows what else are at the secret base. Some people speculate that the Defense Department's Star Wars research is going on there, too.

> Stealth can be seen in broad daylight, flying over town three or four times a week.

Although local business leaders estimate that at least a third of Tonopah's work force is connected to the base, ask someone at a bar what goes on out there, and you're likely to receive a cold stare or a nervous chuckle and "no comment."

A retired county official who recently blundered onto the range on a weekend prospecting trip was immediately accosted by four patrol cars, red lights flashing. After a two-hour standoff with guards who threatened to arrest him for trespassing, he was sent on his way, red-faced.

More than one private pilot who's strayed over the area has been grilled by Air Force security.

"Most people who wander into the air space are totally innocent," remarks Susan Brekke, wife of a charter pilot who lives at the Tonopah Airport, "but if you do, they'll contact you by radio and instruct you to land here. Some MP-type personnel come out and go over your plane with a fine-tooth comb for observation equipment." And "observation equipment" includes cameras.

But since the Air Force took the wraps off the Stealth, the oddly shaped plane can be seen in broad daylight, flying over town three or four times a week, usually in the company of an escort plane that locals say is supposed to guard the pieces, should one crash.

When McCracken asked the commander of Nellis Air Force Base to comment on the range's impact on Tonopah for his town history, he was told that as far as the Air Force is concerned, "Tonopah doesn't exist." The millions that have been spent on the program don't even appear as a line item in the federal budget. They are part of the Pentagon's "Black Budget," which hides costs from the public and, presumably, the Russians.

Tonopah would like to see more of those secret dollars rub off on the town, says Bob Perchetti, director of the Tonopah Convention Center. Most of the high-tech employees commute to the range from Las Vegas in Boeing 727s. Others live in the "Man Camp," as locals call the barracks, on weekdays, returning to Las Vegas on weekends.

Why should they spend money in Tonopah, asks Bruno Skanovsky, when they can stay in a mobile home at the base for $10 a week and get a steak and lobster dinner for $3? Test Range workers can live very comfortably on $5 a day, Perchetti agrees. It has bowl-

Photo: Doug McMillan

ing alleys, baseball fields, an indoor swimming pool, free VCR tapes—anything to keep you on the base, he says.

But the Air Force still rents entire Tonopah motels for weeks at a time during its war games. Called "Red Flag" or "Green Flag," these training sessions are likely to be joined by pilots from Canada, England, France, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Israel, and other allies, which periodically keeps several motels and restaurants busy.

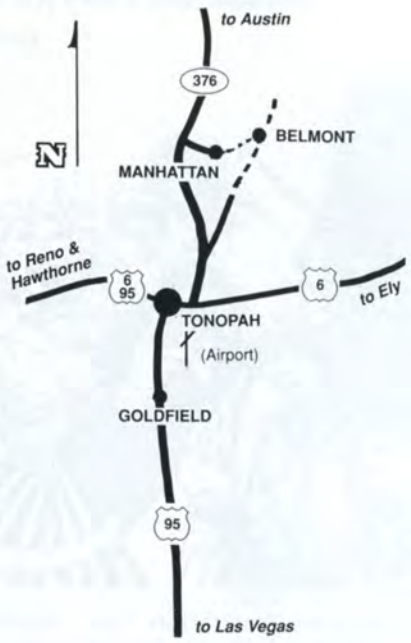
Meanwhile, Tonopah's population, which had dipped to 3,750 after the Anaconda layoffs, has crept back up to 4,100, Nye County planning consultant Steve Bradhurst says. It's not a boom but a boomlet, which is just fine for a town that's seen more booms and busts in 89 years than entire civilizations have seen.

"I've seen Tonopah so bad that you wondered how people existed," Catherine Banovich says.

"It's interesting the way it survives," McCracken reflects. "It's like a good fighter: You can't keep it down."

Doug McMillan, state editor of the Reno Gazette-Journal, *plans to attend Jim Butler Days this May, for the 10th year in a row.*

Tonopah Traveler's Tips



Tonopah is midway between Las Vegas (207 miles) and Reno (236 miles) on U.S. 95. Visitors can learn more about the town and its history with a guided walking tour given by the Tonopah Chamber of Commerce every Saturday at 2 p.m., or with a self-guided driving tour. Local attractions include the Central Nevada Museum; five parks, one with an outdoor swimming pool; and a 16-lane bowling alley

Outside of town is Sportman's Park, where you can fish and relax in the shade, and numerous old mining towns, including Goldfield, Manhattan, and Belmont. Because of its location, Tonopah has plenty of good hotels and restaurants. For more information contact the Tonopah Chamber of Commerce, Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 702-482-3859.

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Old-Time Preachers

Nevada was ready for its frontier ministers, but were they ready for Nevada?

By Jim Riggs



A spellbinding evangelist named A.B. Earle came to Nevada in 1867 and staged a series of rousing revival meetings in the state's mining camps and sagebrush settlements. It was said that membership doubled in the Methodist congregation of every tent village and cabin cluster where he preached. There was just one thing wrong. Reverend Earle was a Baptist.

That anecdote, related in Myron Angel's 1881 history of Nevada, may be questioned as to precise historical fact, but its irony probably would ring true for many a preacher along the dusty trails of early-day Nevada. The state's residents of that period had a way about them that frequently confounded, and sometimes utterly dismayed, the Lord's messengers who had come west to spread the Word.

One of them, the Reverend H. Richardson, who was the Nevada agent of the California Bible Society in the 1870s, was all but undone. Disillusioned and despairing after a year in the field, he reported to his superiors in Sacramento that Nevadans were a "sabbath-breaking, heaven-daring" lot of incipient heathens, who generally regarded themselves as "quite out of God's moral jurisdiction." And, doubtless, many of his peers heartily agreed.

But that was a bum rap. Widely endorsed though it may have been, Dr. Richardson's indictment smacks more of pastoral frustration than clerical insight. It's true that frontier Nevadans were not notably pious. Still, they weren't unbelievers. Their churches were many and well-attended. Revivalists such as Reverend Earle were highly popular and usually played to standing-room-only audiences. Nor were sagebrushers especially ill-disposed to doing their duty by the deity They just had an unorthodox perception of rendering duly unto both God and Caesar.

It was a sort of best-of-both-worlds outlook, which could be deeply disturbing to even the most inured cleric. Just imagine its effect on the still innocent fledgling. Such was the case of the Reverend John Brown, Elko's first Presbyterian pastor.

Brown was newly ordained when church officials in San Francisco dispatched him to set up shop in Elko in the summer of 1867 His journal says he arrived in town late on Saturday with instructions to contact immediately a certain citizen instrumental in founding the local Presbyterian society. "A strong pillar of the church, that one," his mentors had told him.

Where, inquired the young minister at the depot, might such a devout man be found on a Saturday night? Why, at the liveliest faro bank in town. Everybody knew that.

Strong Pillar appears to have been not at all abashed, being caught by his new pastor at the gaming table. Brown reported that he was greeted warmly. After introductions, handshakes, and back slaps all around, Strong Pillar then escorted him, for board and lodging, to the home of one Sister R., another staunch partisan. She, the youthful preacher soon learned, somehow felt exempt from certain of the commandments. Most notably, the third and seventh.

Church records show that Brown, a stout Scot out of Glasgow University, held on in Elko for two-and-a-half years. His parishioners are said to have held him in high regard. They built him a fine adobe church. They brought him their marrying and burying business. But apparently they didn't materially mend their ways.

One of Brown's successors, the Reverend Joseph Byers, wrote of being

125 Years

On October 31, 1989, and in subsequent months, Nevada will celebrate its 125th anniversary since becoming a state in 1864. This article on boom-town preachers is one of a series of historical features harking back to those frontier days.

Illustration: Brian Buckley

called upon to conduct funeral services one afternoon. By unhappy chance, it was the same afternoon that the Central Pacific's new and much publicized high-speed train was due in Elko on its maiden run across the country.

As Byers told it, family and friends of the deceased, along with a few passersby, were seated in the church. He had just stepped into his pulpit when someone near the door shouted, "The train's coming!"

Almost as one, the bereaved, the spectators, the pallbearers—even the sexton—jumped up and cut out for the depot. Only Byers himself, and the late lamented, stayed in the church.

For the better part of an hour, while trainmen and passengers had a late lunch, the funeral party ogled and admired the fabulous iron horse, said to be the fleetest of its time. Not until the great locomotive tooted farewell and puffed its way down the track did they return their attention to what they had set out to accomplish that afternoon. Dutifully, mourners, onlookers, pallbearers, and sexton filed back into church and signaled Pastor Byers he could get on with the service.

Such nonchalance toward matters religious bugged clergymen of all denominations up and down the state. A few were driven to abandon the cloth for less rigorous callings. Most frontier preachers, however, were cut from fabric intended for hard wear. They stuck it out. And now and then one was able to score a point for God's team.

Among them was the Reverend T.H. McGrath, a no-holds-barred Methodist who was chaplain of the State Legislature for a time in the late 1860s. Word got back to him one day that a certain legislator, a miner by trade, was noising off in Carson City saloons that the daily invocation was a waste of time.

Prayer paid off only in heaven, asserted the petulant lawmaker. He was, and the legislature should be, concerned with earthly matters. Now, if praying would make the ground on his claim a little softer, or bring more water his way, that would be different.

The annals show that next morning Chaplain McGrath rose to the dais, looked out over the assembled solons, and pleaded, "Oh, Lord: We pray Thee, remember Member _____. Make the rock in his tunnel as soft as his head, and the water in his ditch as abundant as the whiskey he daily drinks."

Jim Riggs lives and writes in San Jose, California.

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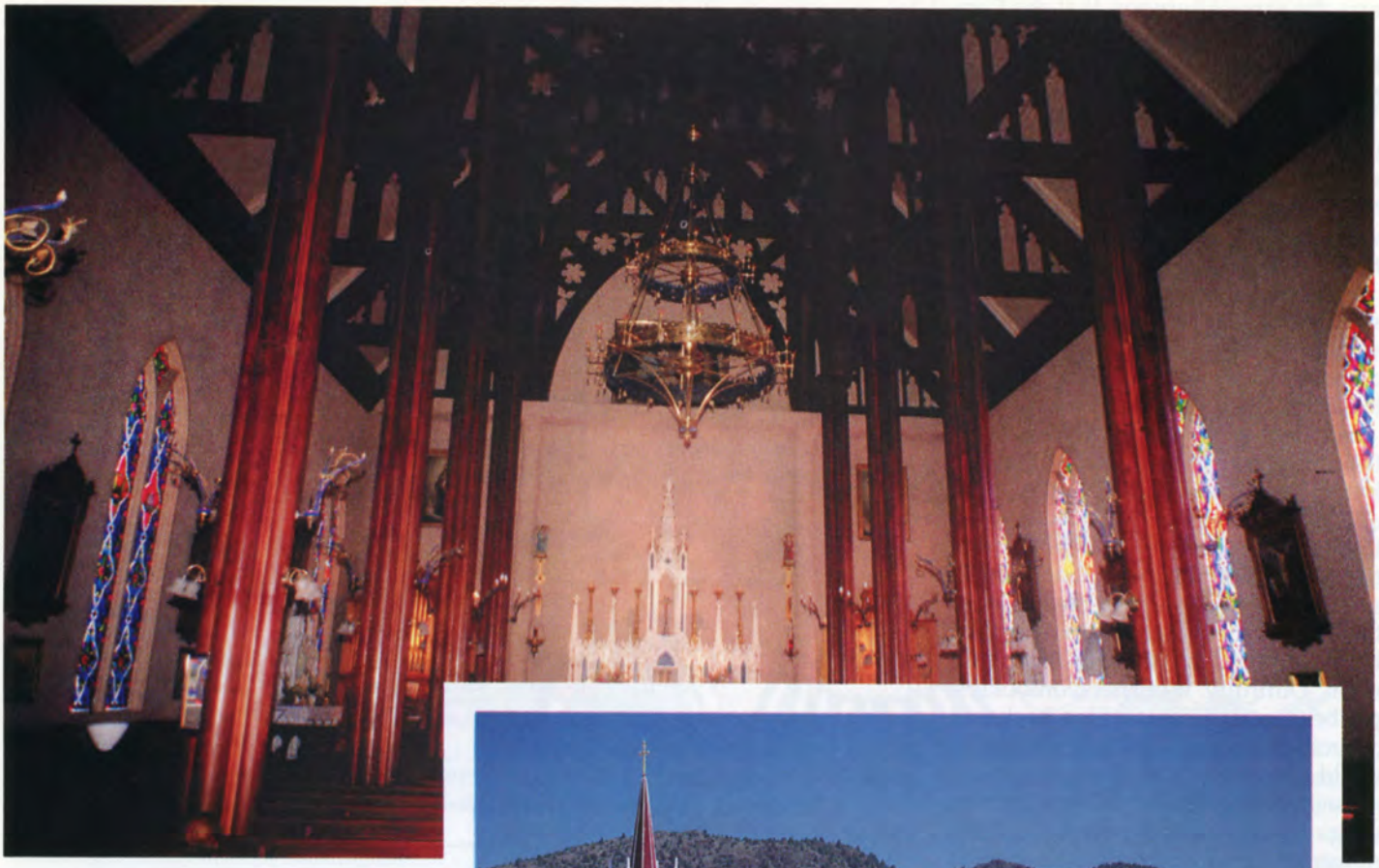


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SUNDAY DRIVES

Old churches offer heavenly sights and a bit of history, too.

By Julie Quinn

If you're taking a Sunday-morning drive down the shaded west side of Carson City, you can hear the bells of several historic churches ringing their welcomes in discordant harmony. In fact, if you drive through almost any town in Nevada, historic bells can be heard ringing on this day

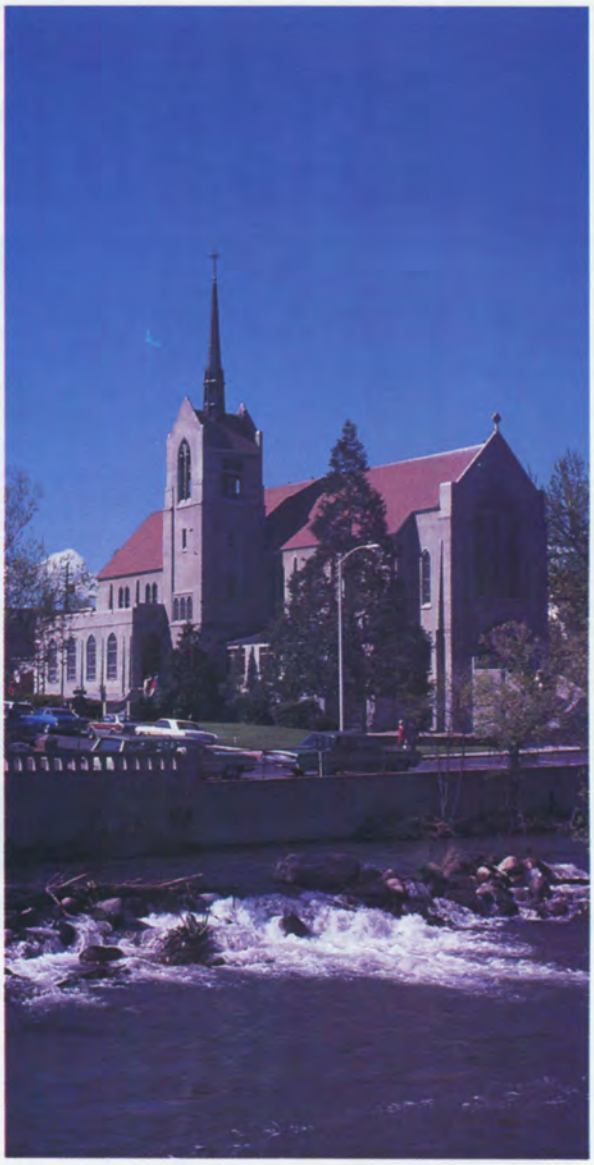
Although early Nevada was said to be truly on the religious frontier (see page 58), citizens were proud of their houses of worship, many of which survive today Austin's Catholic church is the oldest in Nevada. The simple white clapboard churches in Paradise Valley and Lamoille served pioneering hamlets far from large cities. In the heart of Reno, amidst modern high-rises, the Gothic Revival beauty of St. Paul's almost tricks the eye into believing the city is older than it is.

So as you explore Nevada's towns, keep an ear peeled for bells and look for that old steeple rising above a boxy skyline. It may bring you back to a time when Nevada's pioneers were first bringing religion to the Old West.

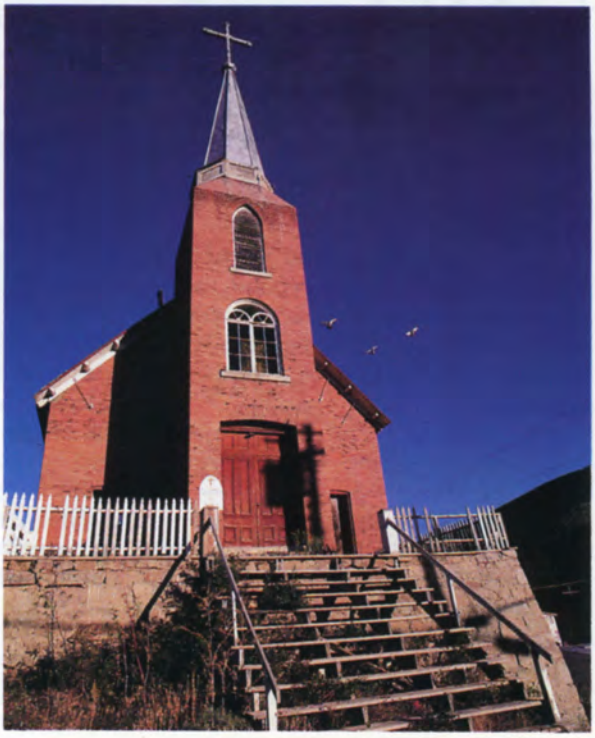
St. Mary's in the Mountains (inset, left) is probably the most photographed landmark of Virginia City, and its interior is one of the state's most ornate (top). Opened for Mass in 1870, the church was gutted in the Great Fire of 1875 and was rebuilt in the style of an Old World cathedral. Across the street, St. Paul's Episcopal Church (inset, right) is constructed entirely of native pine, and its arched beams and walls are held together by wooden pegs.

Photos: Julius Fava









Clockwise from top left: The Union Church in Pioche was built in the 1930s as a Fundamentalist house of worship. Trinity Episcopal Church, located on the Truckee River is one of three beautiful old churches in downtown Reno (St. Paul's Methodist and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Cathedral are the other two). The cornerstone of Trinity was laid in 1875, and the building was completed in 1878 at a reported cost of about $6,000. In Austin, St. Augustine's Catholic Church is the oldest church in Nevada. In Carson City, the Methodist church is the oldest of its denomination in the state. A large stone structure with Gothic Revival details, it was completed in the fall of 1867 and has undergone several renovations.

Photos: (clockwise from top left) Gail Bandini; Gayland Anderson; Kerrick James; Syd Brown

BUFFETS AWAY



Buffet goers go for the grub at Sam's Town Gold River in Laughlin.

A full discussion of line strategy, buffet dieting, and the latest on the clean vs. dirty plate debate.
By Connie Emerson

Buffets are different things to different people. For harried hosts, they're the solution when Uncle Henry is hankering for baron of beef, Grandma wants Spanish rice, and Cousin Betsy has just announced that she's become a vegetarian.

Parents of teenagers can fill up the kids without putting a second mortgage on the house. People on special diets find it's easier to regulate what they eat at buffets than in regular restaurants.

And be honest. Who among us—at least once in a while—doesn't relish the chance to really pig out?

While you'll rarely find restaurants created specifically as buffets in other parts of the country, Nevada casinos have made them famous—a tantalizing option for dining out.

The concept originated in the early 1950s with the midnight chuck-wagon buffets that Las Vegas laid out to keep people gambling after the last show. The affairs proved so popular that now most casinos in the state offer at least one buffet-style meal a day.

Buffets have, in short, become an integral part of the Nevada entertainment scene. Everybody may not gamble. No one goes to every show. But everybody is going to eat.

Macaroni salad. Artichoke hearts. Marinated mushrooms. Mashed potatoes with gravy Sirloin tips. Chicken à la king. The culinary litany is as long as the chef's imagination and the food-and-beverage manager's budget. The buffets are magic carpets (or more accurately, tablecloths) laden with everything from comfort foods to exotic ethnic dishes.

But the abundance and variety of food aren't the only reasons for the buffets' popularity. You don't have to phone ahead for reservations, and it isn't necessary to dress to the nines. Buffets are quick and inexpensive, and because they're usually subsidized by the casino's other attractions, the food is of good quality

The buffet's philosophy is to offer a variety of food, properly prepared and attractively presented. "People eat more with their eyes at a buffet than in any other dining environment," says Carl Geer, vice president and director of food and beverage of the Reno Peppermill. "And those eyes are always bigger than the stomach."

The Peppermill's Island Buffet, perhaps more than any other casino buffet in the state, pulls out all the stops in creating eye appeal. From the floor-to-ceiling bubble tubes at the entrance to the canopies of Tivoli lights over the serving stations, the restaurant's decor gives the impression of dining underwater in a tropical paradise. Lush foliage, papier-maché tropical birds, and

foods served in giant scallop shells all complement the theme.

Several of Nevada's casino buffets can compete with the state's finest restaurants as far as the dishes on their tables are concerned. Of the 25 casino buffets in Las Vegas, the Golden Nugget, with such unusual buffet items as bread pudding and eggs Benedict, gets high marks, as does the Palace Station's buffet.

And at Laughlin, where just about every gambling palace on Casino Drive has a bargain buffet, the Sunday brunch at Sam's Town Gold River—with such items as quiche, beef Wellington, roast quail, Nova Scotia salmon, oysters on the half shell, and fresh-ground coffee—gets good reviews. The brunch is so popular, according to interior designer Marcia Joyce of Los Angeles, "if you don't get there early, you may be still standing in line when next Sunday comes."

Some of the state's casino buffets serve seafood on Friday nights, with platters of crab legs, shrimp, and salmon luring the customers in. Others, like the buffet at the El Capitan in Hawthorne, feature different entrees on specific days of the week. Among the favorites, according to the El Cap's restaurant manager and executive chef, Adolph Allesch, is Wednesday Bargain Night at $2.95, when sausage-with-sauerkraut and chicken-with-dumplings are main dishes.

Two of the state's buffets are noted for their views: the Forest at Harrah's Tahoe and Reno's Top of the Hilton, where a Sunday brunch is served. At the former, the views are of the lake; the latter lets you look at the Truckee Meadows from 21 floors above street level. The Hilton brunch is also a favorite because it's a great place to read the Sunday paper while your champagne glass is kept topped off.

As for serving the largest number of people, the Circus Circus buffet in Las Vegas—with its extra-large plates—is the hands-down winner. On July 3 last year—the month's busiest day—a total of 17,215 people went through the buffet's three lines. Even on an ordinary day crowds are served huge amounts of food, as almost 700 dozen eggs, 500 pounds of ham, 137 gallons each of coffee and fresh-squeezed orange juice (from 8,300 oranges), 4,100 bagels, 1,400 pounds of roast beef, and more than a ton of chicken are sent in various guises from the Circus Circus kitchen to its buffet tables.

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clutch of casinos in Wendover, at the Red Lion in Elko, or the Nugget or Ormsby House in Carson City, aficionados agree that in order to maximize your dining experience, it's important to have a strategy.

One plan of attack is to take a portion of each dish and try to fit them all on one plate. But unless you like the cherry jello oozing into the pickled beets and coleslaw mixing with the fruit salad, this method is not recommended.

A better idea is to walk around the buffet table, taking note of what you would really like to eat. Then, pick up your plate, take a big helping of willpower, and stick to your choices.

Another buffet technique is to select a tiny portion of each of five salads, keeping them isolated from each other on the plate. Then decide which one you like best and go back for a larger portion. Proceed through the entrees in the same fashion. Then take one or two desserts that look most tempting.

Few of us have the self-discipline of Reno aquatics instructor Heather Burgess, who says she eats the same foods and amounts of them at a buffet as she would at home, favoring salads and perhaps some chicken.

On the other hand, novelist Marilyn Henderson of Reno says, "Since I often make salads when I fix my own meals, I don't take them at buffets. I like to choose foods I don't eat at home."

Stockbroker Bob Buss says he eats less at buffets than he does in a regular restaurant. He maintains that you feel obligated to eat everything on your plate when it's served to you, whereas when you serve yourself, you can regulate the size of the portions.

But Burgess and Buss are exceptions. Talk to any buffet server and you'll hear stories of the 64-pound 11-year-old who ate 17 desserts and the customer who tucked away nine plates full of salads and entrees and then made three trips to the pasta bar.

And that brings up another question. When you go back to the buffet for yet another helping of oysters on the half shell or stuffed Cornish hen, should you return with your dirty dish or grab a fresh one? Here's the answer: According to state health regulations, you *must* use a clean plate each time you load up. So put your mind at ease, and try not to feel guilty about that poor dishwasher working frantically in the back room.

While casinos do urge patrons to "eat until they can eat no more," it isn't

cricket to take food with you when you leave. Some of the establishments have signs reminding patrons that they should take only what they can eat. At others, waitresses quietly speak to people they see slipping food into pockets and purses.

And although tales are told of little old ladies stuffing tomorrow's breakfast, lunch, and dinner in their handbags and customers walking out with whole hams under their coats, buffet servers say that people don't often take food off the premises.

While one of a buffet's attractions for many patrons is not having to tip, people often leave gratuities at the more upscale buffets. "The servers are so attentive, whisking away dirty plates, refilling your water glass and coffee cup," Penelope Brown says, "you feel that they're entitled to something, although it may not be as much as you would leave in a traditional restaurant." Brown, who lives in Oregon, says she visits Las Vegas several times a year primarily to eat at the buffets.

Perhaps the most compelling attraction, however, is this: There are no rules as to what you must eat at buffets. If you adore prawns or spareribs or Danish pastries, you don't have to eat anything but prawns, spareribs, or Danish pastries. And as to food sequence? Forget all those "finish your meat and potatoes first" admonitions. If you like sweets, you can do as one sage advises: "Eat dessert first; life is uncertain."

Connie Emerson of Reno is a travel writer dining critic, and buffet fan.

The Line on Buffets

The following guide is a sampling of casino buffets around the state, showing recent prices for breakfast (B), lunch (L), and dinner (D) buffets. Special Friday seafood buffets and weekend brunches are also noted.

LAS VEGAS

Aladdin, 736-0111: International Buffet, B $4.35, L $5.35, D $7.35. Italian Buffet, L $5.35, D $7.35, Tues. only.

Arizona Charlie's, 258-5200: B $2.49, L $2.99, D $3.99.

Bally's, 739-4111: Sun. brunch, $12.95.

Bourbon Street, 737-7200: French Market, B $2.25, L $3.25, D $4.25.

Caesars Palace, 731-7110: Palatium, B $5.95, L $7.50, D $9.95; Sun. brunch $8.50. Sun. brunch in Circus Maximus, $12.50.

Circus Circus, 734-0410: B $2.29, brunch $2.69, D $3.89.

Continental, 737-5555: Florentine Room, D $3.95.

Dunes, 737-4049: International Buffet, B $3.95, L $4.95, D $6.95; Sat.-Sun. brunch $7.50.

El Rancho, 796-2222: D $5.95, Wed.-Sun.; Sat.-Sun. brunch $3.25.

Flamingo Hilton, 733-3111: Crown Room Buffet, B $4.50, D $6.25.

Fremont Hotel, 385-3232: Fremont Buffet, B $3.79, L $4.50, D $5.95; Sat.-Sun. brunch $4.95.

Frontier, 794-8200: Michelle's Village Cafe, D $4.95, Fri. seafood $6.95, bev. extra.

Gold Coast, 367-7111: The Buffet, B $2.45, L $3.45, D $5.45; Sun. brunch $4.45.

Golden Nugget, 385-7111: The Buffet, B $4.75, L $7.50, D $8.75; Sun. brunch $9.50.

Gold Strike Inn, Boulder City, 293-5000: L $3.95, D $2.99

Hacienda, 739-8911: Garden Room, B $3.99, L $3.99, D $4.99, Fri. seafood $3.99; Sun. brunch $4.99.

Holiday, 369-5000: Galley Buffet, B $2.99, L $3.49, D $3.99; Sun. champagne brunch $7.95.

Imperial Palace, 731-3311: Imperial Buffet, B $2.49, L $2.99, D $7.95. Emperor's Buffet, B $2.49, L $2.99, D $3.99, Sat.-Sun. brunch, $6.50.

King 8, 736-8988: B $1.99, D $3.45.

Lady Luck, 477-3000: B $2.49, L $3.49, D $4.99, Fri. seafood $6.99; Sun. brunch, $4.49.

Landmark, 733-1110: L $6.95, D $6.95; Sun. brunch $7.95.

Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111: Odyssey Buffet, B $5.95, L $7.25, D $8.75; Sat.-Sun. brunch $8.75.

Marina, 739-1500: Sun. brunch $6.95.

Maxim, 731-4300: Sun. brunch $6.95.

Nevada Palace, 458-8810: Plantation Court Buf-

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Notice to Photographers!

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Be sure to watch the next issue, July/August '89, for details on this year's

GREAT NEVADA PICTURE HUNT

•

The rules and prizes for Nevada Magazine's 1989 photo contest will be announced and entry forms provided.

•

In the meantime, keep thinking "Nevada" when you shoot the state.



The Peppermill's tropical Island Buffet.

fet, $5.95; Sat.-Sun. brunch $4.25.
Palace Station, 367-2411: The Feast, B $3.95, L $4.95, D $6.95; Sun. brunch $5.49.
Park Hotel, 387-5333: D $4.95, Fri. seafood $5.95; Mon.-Sat. brunch $3.95, Sun. brunch $5.95.
Pioneer Club, 386-5000: L $2.99, D $2.99, senior special $2.49.
Railroad Pass, Henderson, 294-5000: L $3.49, D $2.99; Sun. brunch $3.95.
Riviera, 794-9424: Gourmet Buffet, B $2.95, L $3.95, D $4.95.
Sahara, 737-2111: Garden Room Buffet, B $3.33, L $4.44, D $5.55; Sat.-Sun. brunch $5.55.
Sam's Town, 456-7777: Uptown Buffet, B $2.95, L $3.95, D $6.49; Sun. brunch $4.49.
Sands, 733-5000: B $3.99.
Showboat, 385-9123: L $3.49, D $5.95; Sun. brunch $5.95.
Stardust, 732-6111: B $3.95, L $4.95, D $6.95; Sun. brunch $5.95.
Tropicana, 739-2222: Island Buffet, B $1.99, L $2.74, D $3.74; Sun. brunch $12.95.
Union Plaza, 386-2110: Sat.-Sun. brunch $3.95.
Westward Ho, 731-2900: L $3.49, D $4.49, bev. extra.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel, 477-5000: L $2.49, D $3.69.
Whiskey Pete's, I-15 near Nev.-Calif. border, 382-4388: Sat.-Sun. B $2.50, L $2.50, D $3.50.

MESQUITE

Peppermill Resort, 346-5232: Paradise Buffet, B $5.25, L $6.25, D $9.95, Fri.-Sat. seafood $12.95; Sun. brunch $9.95.

LAUGHLIN

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Captain's Food Fare, B $2.49.
Edgewater, 298-2453: The Buffet, B $2.29, L $2.49, D $3.69, Fri. seafood $6.95.
Harrah's Del Rio, 298-4600: Del Rio Buffet, B $2.79, L $3.49, D $3.99, Fri. seafood $7.95; Sun. brunch $7.95.
Ramada Express, 298-4200: Roundhouse Buffet, B $1.99, L $2.49, D Mon.-Thurs. $3.69., D Fri.-Sun. $3.99.
Riverside, 298-2535: East Buffet, B $1.99, L $2.49, D $3.69, Fri. seafood $5.49; Sun. brunch $4.49. West Buffet, B $1.99, L $1.99 D $1.99; Sun. B $2.49.
Sam's Town Gold River, 298-2242: Smokey Joe's Buffet, B $2.25, L $3.25, D $4.25, Fri. seafood $5.25, Sat. prime rib $5.25; Sun. brunch $7.95

RENO

Bally's, 789-2000: Grand Buffet, B $2.99, L $3.99, D $4.99; Sun. brunch $6.95.
Circus Circus, 329-0711: Circus Buffet, B $2.29, L $2.69, D $3.89, Fri. seafood $5.99; Sun.

brunch $2.69.

Eddie's, 328-1950: B $2.43, L $2.43, D $2.43.

Eldorado, 786-5700: Market Place Buffet, B $3.47 L $4.47 D $6.47; Sun. brunch $5.97 Courtyard Restaurant, Thurs. and Sun. Chinese D $6.95; Fri.-Sat. seafood $12.50.

Fitzgerald's, 786-3663: Starlight Room, B $2.79, L $2.99, D $4.49.

Harrah's, 786-3232: Skyway Buffet, B $4.50, L $5.50, D $8.95, Fri. seafood $12.95.

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3472: Rotisserie, L $6.95, D $10.95, Fri. seafood $11.95; Sun. brunch $7.95.

Karl's, Sparks, 358-4771: Whistle Stop, B $3.33, L $4.44, D $5.55, Fri. seafood $7.77

Peppermill, 826-2121: Island Buffet, B $4.95, L $5.95, D $9.95, Fri. seafood $14.95, Sat. night prime rib $11.95; Sun. brunch $9.95.

Reno Hilton, 322-1111: Food Fantasy Buffet, B $3.99, L $4.99, D $6.99; Sun. brunch $9.95.

Sundowner, 786-7050: Fri. seafood, $9.95; Sun. brunch, $4.95.

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069: Pancho and Willie's, Sun. brunch $5.95.

LAKE TAHOE

Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515: Evergreen Buffet, daily brunch $7.95, D $8.95.

Del Webb's High Sierra, 588-6211: Chuck Wagon, D $7.95, Fri. seafood $13.95; Sun. brunch $6.95.

Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6611: Forest Restaurant, B $5.70, L $8.85, D $11.15, Fri. seafood $14.75; Sun. brunch $9.45.

Harvey's, 588-2411: El Dorado, B $3.95, L $5.95, D $8.50, Fri. seafood $14.75; weekend brunch $6.95.

Tahoe Biltmore, 831-0660: Fri. seafood $11.95, Sat. D $8.95; Sun. brunch $6.95.

CARSON CITY

Carson City Nugget, 882-1626: Bonanza Buffet, Sat. B $3.95, Mon-Fri. L $3.95, Sat.-Thurs. D $5.50, Fri. seafood $7.95; Sun. brunch $5.50.

Ormsby House, 882-1890: Curry Street Buffet, L $4.95, D $4.95, Fri. seafood $7.95; Sun. brunch $6.95.

TOPAZ

Topaz Lodge, 266-3338: Fri. seafood $13.95, Sat. barbecue $5.50, Sun. spaghetti/veal $4.95-$5.50.

YERINGTON

Casino West, 463-2481: Cattle Kingdom Buffet, Wed. D $3.95, Sat. D $5.95, Fri. seafood $9.95, Sun. D $2.50.

HAWTHORNE

El Capitan, 945-3322: D $2.95 to $5.95 depending on night, Fri. seafood $5.95; Sun. brunch $3.95.

ELKO

Commercial Hotel, 738-3181: Chow Wagon, Sun. D $6.50.

Red Lion, 738-2111: Coffee Garden Buffet, B $3.95, L $4.95, D $7.50; Sun. brunch $7.95.

WENDOVER

Peppermill, 664-2255: Prime Rib Buffet, L $6.95, D $7.95, Fri. seafood $10.95; Sun. brunch $6.95.

Red Garter, 664-2111: Brunch $4.95, D $6.95.

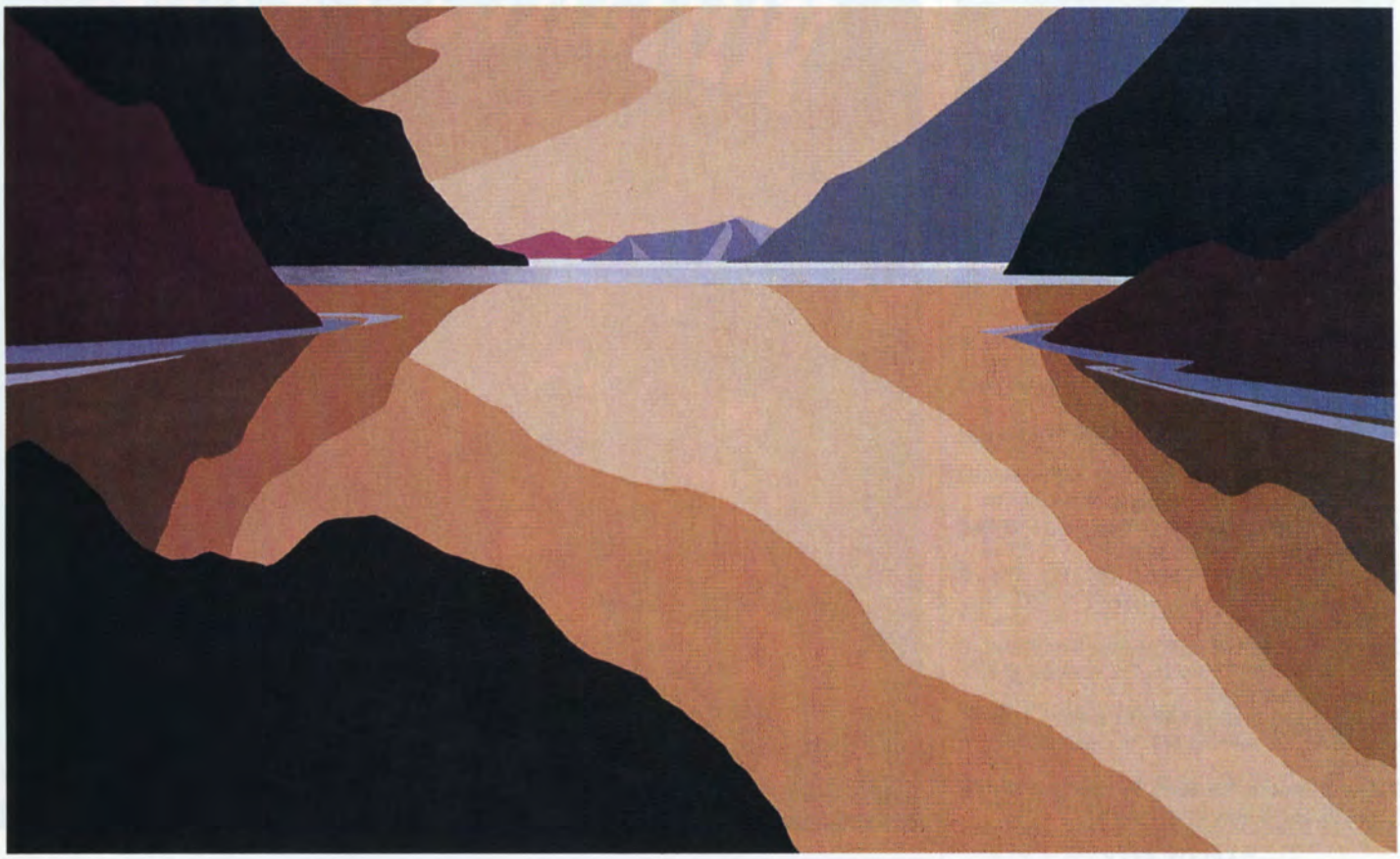
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Cactus Pete's, 755-2321: Sun. brunch $4.95.

This listing was compiled by Denise Madera.







CLIFF SEGERBLOM

A judge whose art has seen a lot of juries, this Boulder City artist is an important chronicler of his state's past.

By Mary F. Whalen

His paintings and photographs speak of the value of things, of history, tradition, and the passage of time. That is why Cliff Segerblom is often called a chronicler of the landscape, architecture, and life style of the vanishing Nevada that is off the beaten path. For more than 50 years Segerblom has captured the fading frontier with his paintings of such scenes as a rusting auto in Rhyolite, or plaster falling from an old, adobe-red theater in Caliente. His work has traveled widely, too, having been exhibited in the Metropolitan Museum and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

"I like to record what I see," says Segerblom, who at 73 is also a retired Boulder City justice of the peace and municipal judge. "I do practically all my paintings on location, which is the best way of remembering my enjoyment of a landscape or the architecture of the disintegrating old mining towns."

Originally from California, Segerblom majored in art in the '30s at the University of Nevada in Reno, where he enrolled on a football scholarship. After college he found his way to southern Nevada. His wife, Gene Wines Segerblom, was a Nevada native and had family in Boulder City. When Cliff and Gene visited her relatives there in 1938, he was offered photography work with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which led him to become one of the premier photographers of man's greatest project, Hoover Dam.

"It was really just public-relations photography for the government," says the modest Segerblom. "But they did teach me how to develop film from the large, old 8x10 camera. And photographers came from all over the country to photograph the project. I met Alfred Eisenstadt and Margaret Bourke-White of *Life*, and Ansel Adams from Yosemite. It was something. They all wanted to use my darkroom to load film and take test strips—and I was only 24." He later became the chief photographer for "the Bureau."



"Eldorado-Goldfield" *(above)*
WATERCOLOR
"The site was at Goldfield but the wagon was in Nelson."

"Last Picture Show, Caliente" *(right)*
ACRYLIC
"A friend's uncle used to run the theater The words on the marquee are of the last picture when it closed."

"Boulder Canyon, Lake Mead"
(opposite page)
ACRYLIC
"I've been doing a lot of paintings in this style—very popular The site is where Boulder Dam was supposed to be built."



Segerblom's work on Hoover Dam led to another assignment in Central America. From 1941 to 1947 he documented a major project on the Panama Canal. When the Third Locks Project finally died, it was back to Boulder City and work as a free-lance photographer. He took assignments with the Las Vegas visitors authority and often photographed entertainers and celebrities. Some of those photos ended up in the glossy, black-and-white pages of *Life* Magazine.

"Remember, back in the early 1950s Elvis Presley was an unknown," Segerblom says. "Nobody knew who he was. But I was supposed to photograph his first Las Vegas performance at the old Last Frontier. Nobody was sure how he would go over, so Elvis' people had rigged things so that Elvis' girlfriend would jump up out of the audience and faint when he sang 'Blue Suede Shoes.



Segerblom's 26-foot sailboat, Plum Duff, *is named after a sailor's dessert pudding.*

"Then there was Mae West. I remember riding up in the elevator with her once after a performance. There was another guy in the elevator—a 'stringer' for *Life*. He was smoking a cigar and Mae stopped the elevator and asked him to get out. She didn't like cigars.

"I also covered the first topless skating show at the old Thunderbird," Segerblom continues. "Back then, there was a big controversy in town about the topless shows. Nobody could decide if they were going to be



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bad for Vegas or not. Then it was learned that right across the street from the Thunderbird, Sally Rand, the famous fan dancer, was appearing at the Silver Slipper. That really blew the lid off things," he grins. "I tried to get one shot of her as she flipped up her fan, but that didn't work."

> "He just came home one day and said, 'Guess who's going to be the next justice of the peace?' And we all fainted."

He also recalls the day in 1969 when he received a phone call from the government. "I could either go to Alaska with the Coast Guard to record something there, or I could go to the South Pacific to record the splashdown of the *Apollo 12* in a painting," he recalls. He took the latter assignment.

"There was a low cloud ceiling that day, and there were three helicopters circling the aircraft carrier, the *U.S.S. Hornet*, giving descending footage of the capsule through loudspeakers. Then, all of a sudden, it just popped out of the clouds. You knew you were watching a historic event. It was a tremendous sight."

Back in the early days of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Segerblom taught photography at night for four years. Then he set up an on-campus photography department and continued teaching for another decade. He also taught art and led students on painting expeditions on the Colorado River.

Besides enjoying a long career standing before an easel or squinting behind a camera, Segerblom has also spent many years sitting on the bench. In 1964 Boulder City officials asked him if he would fill in as justice of the peace until the next election.

"He just came home one day," says Gene, "and he said, 'Guess who's going to be the next justice of the peace?' And we said, 'Who?' And he said, 'Me.' And we all fainted." But Segerblom then won the election and kept his position for the next 20 years.

"I married about 40 people a year,

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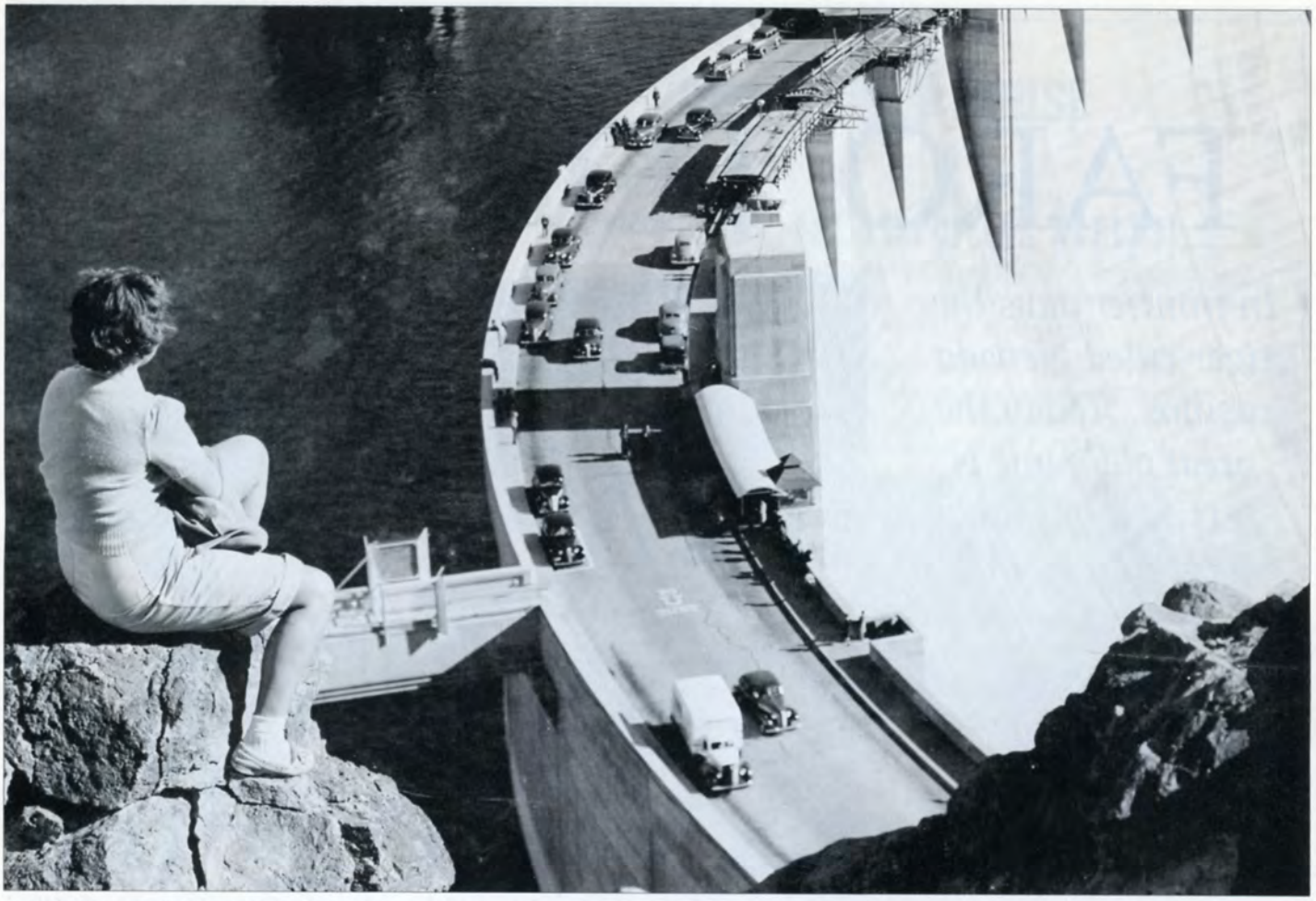
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Segerblom posed future wife Gene for a Kodak ad of Hoover Dam (above). He also captured the dam when its floodgates first spilled water in 1941 (right).



plus a lot of our friends and both our children," says Segerblom. "Then after about 20 years, I was asked to be a municipal judge for three years. I attended the National Judicial College in Reno every year, so I finally learned how to be a real judge. Otherwise, there wasn't much to it."

Among other achievements, Segerblom has received the 1984 Governor's Arts Award for Visual Art and the Professional Achievement Award presented by UNR's alumni association in 1986. He has served on the State Park Advisory Commission for 16 years and is currently its chairman. Last year he was honored by the Nevada Department of Museums and History for his artistic contributions to the state.

Those are notable honors for a fellow who once dropped by to see his wife's relatives and that big new dam.

Mary F. Whalen is a Las Vegas writer She previously wrote about Cliff Segerblom in The Nevadan Today, *the Sunday magazine of the* Las Vegas Review-Journal.

FARO FOREVER

In frontier days the tiger ruled Nevada casinos. Today the great old game is extinct, but not forgotten by this faro fan.

By Jim Finley



Las Vegas faro players watch each turn of the cards at the Golden Nugget in the 40s. Third from left is Moe Sedway, and on the right Glen Frazier keeps the cases.

During the heyday of America's pioneer West, a tiger roamed Nevada. Seen generally in the mining camps, railroad centers, and cattle towns, this tiger was not a real cat but a great casino game called faro. It had a reputation as a man-eater, and serious faro playing came to be known as "buckin' the tiger."

The tiger was not a western native. Born in Europe in the 1700s, faro swept through the Continent's major cities. "Faro only" casinos were common, and the game itself became the most popular in gambling history.

Making its way across the Atlantic, faro found a home in New Orleans. From there the game traveled up the Mississippi River and became an expected fixture in riverbank towns and in the infamous gambling salons aboard riverboats. The game then moved west along with railroaders, miners, cattlemen, and gamblers.

When faro reached Nevada, every town and every gambling establishment welcomed it. The tiger took up residence in the crystal-chandeliered saloons of Virginia City, in one-room gambling joints in Tuscarora, and in hotels, stage stops, bars, and bordellos in Nevada towns such as Goldfield, Pioche, Eureka, Tonopah, Cherry Creek, and Jarbidge.

A frontier fixture, faro remained popular through the 1930s and 40s, but by the late '50s it began to disappear from Nevada casinos, and today it is nearly forgotten. If you're younger than 60, you've probably never heard of faro, and although you may have seen it played in the movies, it's near a cinch you've never bucked the tiger. That is truly your loss, for there is nothing like faro to take you back 100 years—to the time of the West's early gamblers and frontier society.

Faro didn't die because it was a bad or difficult game. Faro died because casino operators allowed it to. No one ever spent as much as $12 on advertising for faro, and no one has tried to educate new generations about the game. Also, the extreme macho image of the tiger and its players tended to intimidate female gamblers. Consequently, as the old male players died out, there was no one to replace them.

The tiger's difficulties were not helped by writers who assured us that faro's low percentages, to quote one gambling author, "could not pay for the electricity to illuminate the game." However, having dealt faro in Ely and Reno (by the time I got to Las Vegas it was a gone monkey), I later sought to verify that there were indeed good odds for the house in faro.

True, there are some even-money bets in the game. But according to the mathematicians I talked to at the University of Nevada-Reno, if you bet every turn through the deal, the house percentage is 4.6. The early gamblers were not in the charity business. Would Nevada casinos have supported 300 faro banks at one time if there was no real house percentage?

Today, unfortunately, there isn't a single faro game to be found in Nevada. But we can imagine one.

At first sight, buckin' the tiger may appear to be a mysterious process, but faro is one of the easiest casino games to play and understand. There is no complex math involved, and one player's moves do not affect the fortunes of the other players.

The faro layout is simple, showing

Photo: UNLV Library, Gladys Frazier Collection

just the 13 cards of a suit and a little bar labeled "high card" painted on felt. Usually the suit is spades, and the cards form a long "U."

Play begins when the dealer shuffles the cards, cuts them himself, and places them face up in the dealing box. The exposed card on the top is called the *soda* (no one alive knows why). There is

Paying faro,
you begin to forget
the noisy slots
and flashing lights.
You've made
a journey
into the past, to see
gambling
as it used to be:
quiet and dignified,
yet exciting.

no action on that card, and it is marked as a winner on the *case*, an abacus-like device that keeps track of the cards remaining in the box and which cards played were winners or losers.

You may bet on any card or cards you wish, either to win or to lose; the suit doesn't matter. The dealer deals the first turn, and the soda card is removed and placed to the far right on the box. The dealer then removes the next card, places it to the near right of the box, and exposes the third card. The card removed is the loser; the exposed card in the box is the winner. That's buckin' the tiger, in its entirety!

Let's suppose that the soda card was the ace of spades. The dealer removes that to expose the 10 of hearts, the loser. Then he pulls that to show the king of clubs, which is the winner. If you bet on 10 to win, you lose. All other bets are unaffected.

On the final turn the dealer names the three cards remaining. Players may then "call the turn" and bet on the exact order in which those cards will appear. Winning "call" bets are paid four to one, making this the most popular faro wager.

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The frontier's favorite game was a big draw in Reno before and after gambling was legalized in 1931.

GETTING DOWN TO CASES

How the tiger got hung by its tail.

By Maria Federici

The faro tiger stalked Nevada for more than 100 years. It lurked in the frontier saloons of Austin and Goldfield and later in the clubs of Las Vegas and Reno. Then it snuck out of town.

Those who had tried to tame the tiger were sorry when it left, but its appeal to gamblers was the very reason casino operators let it go.

"Faro is almost a dead-even game," says Sil Petricciani, former owner of the Palace Club in Reno. "You can't pay taxes and wages on it."

The game, which was considered to have a house advantage of about 1.5 percent, used a "case" to keep track of which cards had been dealt. The player could put that information to good use, especially when he "got down to cases"—an expression now in general use that means "getting down to the nitty-gritty," explains Petricciani. "In faro the case card is the last card of the denomination to be played." Players could bet a card either to win or to lose, so if a player bet on the case card—and waited—he had a 50-50 chance of winning.

The odds made faro a casino favorite, but the club owners wanted it to be as popular with their accountants as it was with their customers.

"At one point in time, clubs would charge you five percent to play faro," says Petricciani. "You could spend $100 and get $95 in chips, or you could buy $100 in chips for $105. But it didn't go over with the players."

Many club owners wanted the benefits of the game but not the responsibilities, which led Petricciani to Las Vegas in 1948.

"The Eldorado [now Binion's Horseshoe] paid us $2,000 a month to run the faro bank," he recalls. "As operators,

and buy a couple of stacks of checks. You'll say "two stacks" and toss $40 on the layout, just like those pioneer gamblers did 100 years ago. Make no mistake: When you buck the tiger, you're sitting with the ghosts of all those old-time faro gamblers—the cattle barons, mine owners, miners, cowboys, sheepherders, bartenders, lawmen, and outlaws.

The dealer marks a color of checks for $20 and pushes you two stacks and a handful of coppers (small black markers used to bet your card to lose). He gives you a sincere "good luck," and the battle is on. He shuffles, cuts the cards, and places them in the box, exposing the soda. You make a bet on the soda to win, and the dealer makes the first turn. The soda card repeats as a winner. You have won your first faro bet, and you are beginning to forget the noisy slot machines and flashing lights. You've made a journey into the past, to see gambling as it used to be: quiet and dignified, yet exciting.

You continue to play, winning some, losing some, and enjoying buckin' the tiger. About halfway through the deck you run head-on into part of faro's percentage. You have a $10 bet on the four, and the turn is four-four. When the two cards of a turn are the same, every bet is split. The house takes half, so he takes $5 of yours.

Three or four turns later, still smarting from your split, you find yourself with a *coppered* (to lose) bet on the six and seven, and an *open* (to win) bet on the queen and jack. The next turn is dealt six-jack, and you have accomplished something unique to faro—you have *whipsawed* the faro bank. This means you have won two bets in one turn. You are allowed, even encouraged, at this point to quietly mention your good fortune, just as you should not hesitate to murmur with disgust when you lose two bets in one turn and the house whipsaws you.

Now the dealer announces, "Last turn," and you are allowed to call the turn. One glance at the case tells you that the three cards remaining are an ace, a deuce, and a king. You push a stack to the dealer and say, "Calling ace-deuce." He sets up your bet and deals the turn: first card ace, second card deuce, third card king. You have done it! You called the turn! The greatest faro player of all time could not have done better.

You are now in a new world. You've been bitten by the tiger, and from this day on you'll not be entirely satisfied with 21, slot machines, or keno. So cash in your checks, give the dealer a decent tip, hand a $10 bill to an old-timer who looks like he could use a meal, and walk away, a faro player for life.

Jim Finley of Brookings, Oregon, dealt 21, craps, roulette, and faro in Nevada for many years.

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

we got the winnings from the game. It was worth it for the club because it was a good draw. If the player lost at faro, at least he was still in the house." However, it didn't pay off for him, Petricciani admits.

One of the best faro players, according to Petricciani, who dealt faro in Reno from 1931 to 1943, was Nick the Greek. "If there was a faro bank in town, Nick would play nothing else. It appealed to him because of the odds."

Petricciani remembers the time Nick and a friend, Carl Lemle, a movie producer, tried to buck the tiger in 1934. "We set up a special room upstairs at the Palace Club. We furnished the table and the dealers and brought in the food. They played non-stop for three days and three nights—72 hours—and when it was over, Nick had lost $18,000."

Nick might have had an equal challenge at the faro table on display in the Delta Saloon in Virginia City—the Suicide Table. Legend has it that the table brought bad luck to the men who dealt on it. Black Jake, who brought it to town in the early 1860s, lost $70,000 at the table in one evening and shot himself. After a second owner met a similar fate, the table was stored for several years because no one would deal on it. In the late 1890s it was converted to a 21 table, but its luck had not changed. The table's owner lost everything—more than $86,000 in cash, a team of horses, and an interest in a gold mine. Then he killed himself. (Virginia City visitors also can see other faro memorabilia at the nearby Nevada Gambling Museum.)

Faro can be an aggravating game for players as well as dealers, says Petricciani. "That's why it's called the tiger and why winning is called buckin' the tiger. It's like bucking a whirlwind or hurricane.

"People consider it a game of skill. But really it's just luck."

Today there are no faro games left in Nevada. It is said that the Dunes in Las Vegas offered the last game of the faro era, in 1961.

In 1987 the Reno Ramada began offering faro, but the revival ended the next year. "When you considered floor space and the number of people who knew how to play faro, the game wasn't paying for its space," says Joe Jackson, assistant of gaming operations for the club. "In today's age people are more electronically driven. Years ago when we first came out with electronic games, no one would touch them. These days that's all anyone wants to play. God knows a faro bank is just about as far away from a computer as you can get.

"Faro doesn't require any thinking," continues Jackson, who watched the game's demise in Las Vegas during the '50s. "It doesn't look exciting enough. Most people like to think they have a hand in their destiny."

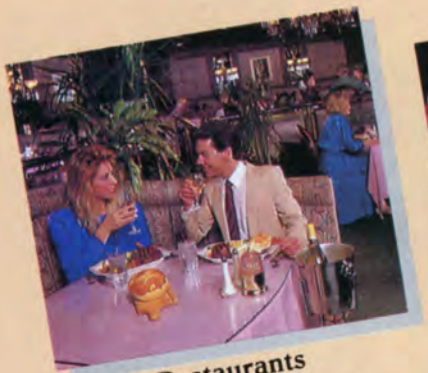
But Jackson says he likes faro and sees a place for it in a casino with a lot of floor space. It could be used as an advertising gimmick, or as a way to show customers how it used to be in Nevada's old mining camps. "The dealers thought it was fun," Jackson says. "They could sit down at the table and get away from the humdrum of the other casino games. They enjoyed people asking questions, being part of what was going on.

"By teaching people as they played, it got them involved. The faro bank game is a great opportunity for people to interact with the dealers."

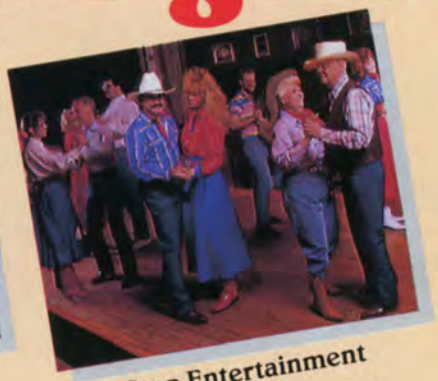
At least it used to be.

Maria Federici of Reno is a freelance writer

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The Future State of Real Estate



Green Valley (above) is one of the more established new development-suburbs in Las Vegas.

LAS VEGAS

In southern Nevada, the boom goes on.

By Julie Penn-Howard

The hottest news these days about Las Vegas has nothing to do with the city's notoriously scorching summers. It's the fact that a good number of the 17 million or so visitors who come here each year to gamble, be entertained, and enjoy the dry climate are deciding to stay

With the population growing by at least 25,000 new residents in 1988, the Las Vegas area is rivaling famous percentage-growth centers like Southern California and South Florida. And the influx of newcomers has changed the face of the Las Vegas Valley from a cluster of resorts surrounded by a small community to a burgeoning city, complete with suburbs, townships, and rural estates.

Never mind that Las Vegas promotes itself as the Entertainment Capital of the World. And forget that this neon-crazed adult Disneyland is known more for its gaming pleasures than its mild winter climate and deep-blue skies. Families are being attracted to this surprisingly conservative community by its good job market, moderate housing prices, and western life style. Suburbia has struck Las Vegas.

Spanish and Mediterranean style architecture is predominant, with sloping red-tiled roofs and beige and white stuccoed walls. Houses are clustered in communities and, flying into Las Vegas, one can see speckles of blue dots—swimming pools—all over the city

Sprawling miles away from the casino-centered Strip, the housing construction can be seen in all directions:

Green Valley to the southeast, a 15-minute commute from downtown, is an 8,400-acre master-planned community with about 15,000 residents and still growing.

Spanish Trail and The Lakes to the west are two other suburbs providing upscale housing to more than 12,000 people. The Lakes, climbing the red-rocked mountains that border Las Vegas to the west, offer a panoramic view of the valley.

Summerlin to the northwest, covering 25,000 acres purchased by the late billionaire Howard Hughes in the 1950s, is the city's most astounding residential project. The development, owned by Hughes' Summa Corporation, is just starting construction with visions of more than 200,000 residents

Photo: Jim Decker

in 85,000 dwellings within 50 years. The multi-billion-dollar company is reportedly paying cash for the $100 million worth of civic necessities in the development, including a 3.5-mile, four-lane parkway

A Del Webb Sun City retirement development, which is being built as a part of Summerlin, sold all of its first tract of 373 homes before they were completed. With a total of 3,100 homes planned, Sun City's model homes were being visited earlier this spring by an average of 1,000 people each day.

Fifteen miles east of downtown in the city of Henderson is The Lake at Las Vegas, an ambitious $3.5 billion development with a planned 318-acre lake that would be surrounded by six hotel-casinos, 5,000 residences, and five golf courses. The project was enthusiastically approved by the city of Henderson but underwent a redesign by developers because of concerns from the Clark County Regional Flood Control District. Now the project is under construction. According to Henderson Mayor Lorna Kesterson, the project could inject an additional $16 million in tax revenues into city coffers, thus doubling that city's general fund.

"Vegas is in the middle of a housing boom," says Dennis Smith, owner of Homebuilders Research. "There's not another city in the country that can boast as many actual closings or permits."

In fact, Las Vegas was ranked number one in the country in terms of number of residential building permits issued per 1,000 population last year. According to the Hotness Index, a report compiled by Lomas Mortgage USA, Las Vegas issued 35.7 permits for every 1,000 residents compared to the national average of 5.8 permits. Fort Myers, Florida, ranked a far second with 22.6 permits and Riverside, California, and Orlando, Florida, tied for third with 22.2.

The figures for 1988 continue to be staggering. While single-family residential growth in the fourth quarter of last year was 115 percent higher than the same period in 1987, multi-family units saw an increase of 170.3 percent for the year.

The Las Vegas Valley, which is the home of about two-thirds of the state's population of one million, is expected to have its own million residents by the turn of the century.

To a visitor, the Las Vegas Valley looks as though it is under construction. The casino industry spews forth new hotel towers. Commercial shopping centers are being built in virtually all parts of the city. Warehouses, restaurants, movie theaters, car dealerships—all are popping up to cash in on the population influx. An estimated 40,000 new jobs are expected to be created here in 1989.

Because of the rapid growth, the cities in the valley are scrambling to keep up with the required roads, sewers, and water. Las Vegas will spend $60 million over the next five years in its wastewater-treatment expansion project alone.

"If we just had normal growth, we would be looking at the same things, but because we're growing so fast, it's all hitting us heavier than anticipated," says Las Vegas Mayor Ron Lurie. "Back in the 1950s and '60s, when the freeways were designed, they didn't imagine we would be where we are today."

One way to keep up with the cost of the growth may be charging higher developer's fees and requiring them to provide more improvements, Lurie says. Already, Summa Corporation is bearing the cost of one of the city's



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And while water is always a watchword when growth accelerates, especially in the desert, North Las Vegas is only rejoicing in the growth that is spilling over its boundaries.

"Water is always a concern, but we have sufficient water right now to take care of us up to a 100,000 population," says North Las Vegas Mayor James Seastrand of the growth of his city of 55,000 residents, which he expects to double in the next 15 years.

With most of the country already experiencing a slowdown in the economic growth of the past six years, Las Vegas forges ahead, fueled by the rising housing costs and dense population of Southern California. Twenty-nine percent of the newcomers are from California, where the average price of an Orange County house goes for $220,000—substantially more than the $60,000 to $120,000 price tags put on 78 percent of the houses in Las Vegas, according to Dennis Smith.

Smith says the largest group moving into Las Vegas is the "30-year-old young couple," although the retirement segment is also growing fast.

"It's going to be interesting in '89 to see how large the retirement market is going to get," says Smith. "I think other builders are going to copy Del Webb [the Sun City development]. Now there are only four subdivisions catering to adults only There's got to be others building houses for that group of people, too."

Despite the recent climb in interest rates, Smith is optimistic that Las Vegas will continue its growth. "I see a leveling off in the latter part of '89, but the only way it will decline is if the interest rates really went through the roof," he says.

Ed Southard moved to Las Vegas from Florida last year to be the manager of sales and marketing for Del Webb's Sun City He is finding his job of selling homes in Las Vegas a fairly easy one for a few simple reasons.

"The economic base here, no state income tax, no inheritance tax, the favorable climate, the life style, and a lot of entertainment," he says. And the fact that millions of tourists—all of them prospective homeowners—visit each year doesn't hurt, either.

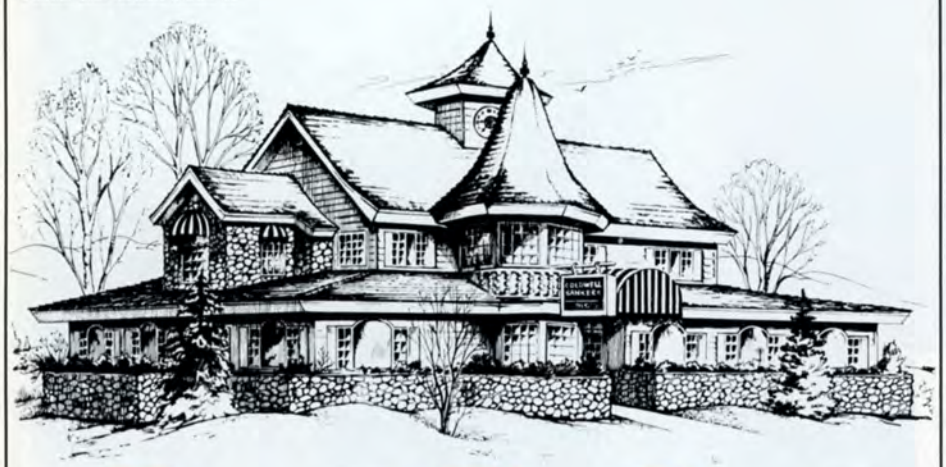
Julie Penn-Howard is a feature writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

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Reno-Tahoe

In northern Nevada, the growth debate continues.

By Terry Shores

With a flick of his brow and a reassuring half grin the jolly elf reaches into his bag. "Water?" he asks. "No problem." As he unwraps his gift of hope he talks about technology, conservation, importation. "This is an expensive one," he explains as he rocks back in his oversized chair, "but if you want it badly enough, there's plenty of it around.

"Land? There's plenty of that, too. But you can only have it if you promise not to be greedy and short sighted." His grin widens and his rosy cheeks light up. "Look to the north and to the

east," he says. "There's lots of room for you and your children and your grandchildren. All you have to do is plan ahead. Lay out your groundwork and perhaps narrow your expectations. After all, this is the 20th century and staking out your claim is not as easy as it used to be."

One more request—and this time I think I've got him. OK, I say with a teasing smirk, pull out something for this one—clean air.

The beardless Santa leans forward and rests his round elbows on the table between us. His massive hands come together calmly, reassuringly. The silence lets me think I've won. Then he utters a single word, "technology," and chuckles at my obvious disappointment. "Air pollution is a serious problem," he says. "But technology can turn that around in no time—years, even months. Look what happened to calculators and computers. Now think in terms of smokeless wood stoves and cleaner-burning cars."

A wink of his eye and a twist of his head soon let me know I had nothing to dread.

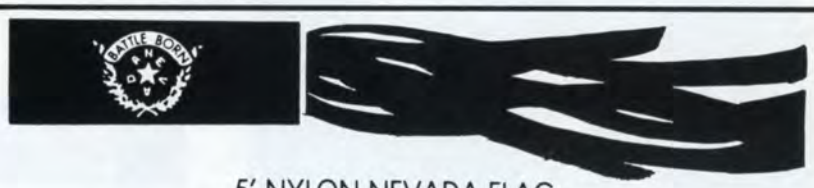
Listening to this Santa—Bob Jones, in real life—I am aware of his optimism and confidence, good qualities to have these days in the Reno-area building business. Bob Jones is a big man, with a big job. As executive officer of the Builders Association of Northern Nevada, he has become a well-known voice in the promotion of housing growth in the area.

It's a challenge for anyone in northern Nevada to retain their composure when the subject is growth. For nearly two decades the chasm between pro- and anti-growth factions has broadened. What started as a Reno movement in the early '70s has stretched to Carson City and southward. Even communities to the east such as Sparks, Fallon, and Fernley find themselves occasionally engrossed in controversy as they wrestle with the future and its demands on their limited resources.

The revelation that our natural resources are not unlimited and our environment is not immune to our encroachment is not an easy one to come to grips with. Immigrants to northern Nevada have always been attracted by the wide-open spaces, the clear skies, the natural oasis created by an endless flow of water from the mountains to the west. But now the land is locked up, the skies are too often dulled by a thick yellow-brown haze, and the water is all allocated. The permissive live-and-let-live philosophy that has ruled here for a century and a half is now being challenged by the realities of the future.

As the debate rages, the area grows at the relatively slow but steady rate of three or four percent per year that was dictated by the economy in the early 1980s. Most observers believe a similar rate can be expected for some time to come. "Our population plan anticipates about a three percent growth rate per year for the next century," says Reno Mayor Pete Sferrazza. "Growth is a force of the economy, not the politicians as some people would like to believe. Local governments can plan and to some extent control the direction of growth, but not the pace."

In the housing market, northern Nevadans generally have preferred ranch-style homes or mobile homes on lots that are half again the size of those you would find in the Midwest or the East. They like to have room to stretch, room to park their boats, RVs, motorcycles, and four-wheel drives. Before they are ready to buy, they typically will rent an apartment or home.



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Many of those plentiful rental properties are offspring of the booming 1970s, when Reno-area residents and outside investors were buying homes as investments. The boom ended as interest rates soared, and it is those investments that many renters now call home.

> 'Economically, you can't solve the air problem,' says Jones. 'You can't buy air like you can water.'

Home builders, too, were quick to respond to the '70s boom. New subdivisions sprung up. Fernley, 30 miles to the east, and Carson City, the same distance to the south, felt the reverberations.

About this time rumors began to spread about two major subdivisions south of Reno. The Damonte and Double Diamond ranches, however, fell victim to the changing economy, and it wasn't until 1986 that the plans surfaced again. This year construction is expected to begin on the 6,800-unit Double Diamond subdivision. Some planners, like Mayor Sferrazza, feel that this project alone would accommodate the area's three or four percent annual growth.

Washoe County Planner Robert Young predicts that with the possible exception of the presently derailed Damonte Ranch project, Double Diamond may be about the last significant development in the county to the south of Reno. "The southwest wants to keep its density as is with a lot of two-and-a-half acre lots. We've been told that we need that kind of acreage to attract executives who want this type of property When an executive comes to town, he or she wants to take care of number one first."

Caughlin Ranch, a master-planned area south of Interstate 80, is also designed to meet executive demand for larger lots and a rural setting. Over the past two years 350 homes have been constructed on its 2,300 acres. During the next 15 years of its buildout, another 2,750 homes are planned.

Young, Sferrazza, and Jones all agree that most of the area's growth

over the next century is going to occur north of Reno. Already the area north of Interstate 80 and west of U.S. 395 accounts for the majority of the building permits issued in Washoe County.

In the North Valleys, Sun Valley and Spanish Springs, projections call for their combined populations to surpass 46,000 by the year 2007, which would be 12 percent of the county's expected population of 379,400.

"If we, as a community, are successful in importing water from the north, and eventually that is going to happen, it would only make sense to tap that water and develop in the northern valleys," says Jones. This would also help ease Reno's air-pollution problem. "Economically, you can't solve the air problem," Jones said. "You can't buy air like you can water. Naturally, the satellite basins are going to grow because that's where the clean air is."

Affordable housing has been the traditional attraction of communities to the east of Reno's job center. Since 1980, the city of Sparks has seen its population grow by 13,000 to more than 53,000. By 2007, Sparks is expected to have a population of more than 81,000. Its bedroom-community status is rapidly eroding as its own employment base increases, primarily through the addition of warehousing and light industry Now it is worthy of its own bedroom community, according to W.S. "Bill" Meyer, a longtime Fernley resident and real-estate broker. "We are to Sparks and Reno what Sparks used to be to Reno," Meyer says. "You can see it in the commuter traffic in the early morning and evening.

"It costs about a $1,000 per mile less to live in Fernley," he says. "If you take a $100,000 house in Reno or Sparks, put it 35 miles away in Fernley, you can buy it for about $65,000."

'We are to Sparks and Reno what Sparks used to be to Reno,' Fernley's Meyer says. 'You can see it in the commuter traffic.'

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In Carson Valley below Tahoe, home construction continues.

but it is not due to a demand for affordable housing, according to Cathy Colvin, president of the Incline Village Board of Realtors. After an on-again, off-again building moratorium of nearly eight years, "now our market is going crazy," she says.

Because no new subdivisions are allowed, most of the construction has been single-family homes on individual lots. These are not your ordinary single-family homes, however. In 1988 the average price was $363,000. "There's no such thing as a $100,000 house up here anymore," Colvin says. Even condos averaged $116,300 last year.

These are not your ordinary single-family homes. 'There's no such thing as a $100,000 house up here anymore.'

First-time home buyers obviously don't comprise much of Colvin's clientele. "Most people who buy a home in Incline Village have owned a number of houses before and built up their equity Many others own or want second or third homes at the lake."

Down in Carson Valley, housing is considerably more affordable in Minden and Gardnerville. With its plentiful water and inexpensive flat land, the area is growing at about five to six percent per year, according to local real-estate broker John Hamer. Customers for the area's five major subdivisions, including the massive 7,000-resident Ranchos, are about evenly split between first-time home buyers and move-up buyers, he says. "We see a number of move-up buyers from Gardnerville and Carson City, as well as some retired people from Reno and California."

Carson City's housing picture is characterized as slow but steady by Geri Niday, president of the area's Board of Realtors. New building has been slowed considerably due to a moratorium, Niday said, involving concerns over water and growth. Most of Niday's customers are state workers or retired people. As elsewhere, life style and quality of life are cited as the major attractions for homeowners or renters.

Thus, overall in the state, some areas are booming while others are treading water. But Nevada has always had its share of booms and busts, and perhaps treading water is a very acceptable alternative to the latter.

Terry Shores, a former reporter and editor, is executive vice president of the Reno/Sparks Association of Realtors.

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THE HIGH LIFE

(Continued from page 28)



Ex hang-glider chaser Lisa Lippencott.

wing or rigging. We also have two-way radios and altimeters, and some have training wheels to cushion the landing. You have to remember every hang-glider landing is akin to an airplane landing without an engine. With a dead stick you get one chance to spot the landing zone and get down. There is no second time around. With this in mind we think our record for the absence of serious injuries speaks well for our advanced training and improved equipment."

Leonard agrees. "I teach survival flying up there. I won't say there isn't some danger inherent in this sport, but I believe in flying for fun," he says. "I leave the dangerous stuff to guys like Doug and Terry Cook who have competed internationally I don't even teach aerobatics and stunts.

"Hang gliding started out as a stunt performed by some Australians who hung onto a bar suspended under a flat-winged glider towed by a boat. In those days the saying was 'the stronger the grip, the longer the trip. The Aussies brought the new sport to the United States, performing stunts like soaring over the Statue of Liberty and flying off the Golden Gate Bridge. California surfers picked up on it for something to do when the surf was flat, and its popularity just grew from there."

To dispel the myth that the sport appeals just to macho young men with a cavalier attitude toward great bodily harm, one need only meet Lisa Lippencott of Reno. A transplant from Northern California, Lippencott began flying in the spring of 1988. "I used to drive a chase car for some guys who are into hang gliding," explains Lippencott, 26. "One day I decided to take a tandem flight to see if it was really as much fun as it looked. When I landed, I told the guys to find another driver. I was going to be a pilot!"

In the short time since that initial flight, Lippencott's ability has impressed even the crustiest veteran pilots. A primary goal of almost all who launch from Slide is to catch a thermal that can lift them to altitudes nearing 16,000 feet, soar over the ridge toward Mount Rose, and land on the 8,700-foot Tahoe Meadows. It is a feat that experienced pilots achieve only on exceptional days, but Lippencott does it routinely "I guess even my parents have accepted the fact that I'm a serious pilot," she says. "For my birthday this year they gave me a new rocket-type parachute."

Another woman who frequently flies at Slide is Karen Schenk, a 23-year-old post-graduate student in biophysics at the University of California at Berkeley. A pilot for five years, she makes the trek to Tahoe as often as her studies allow, affirming that gender has nothing to do with success. "This is no longer a sport with a death-defying image requiring brute strength. It takes a lot of thought, preparation, and finesse," says Schenk, who estimates that as many as 10 percent of all hang-glider pilots today are women. "And the number is growing. It's a relatively inexpensive way to learn to fly. A pilot can be completely outfitted with the latest equipment for less than $5,000. It's also the purest form of human flight."

One reason that Schenk travels so frequently to Slide Mountain is to find the right conditions for a personal-best distance of 100 miles. So far she has accomplished about half that distance. "In any event," says Schenk, "it's an exhilarating way to spend a weekend away from the books."

Or, in the case of Doug Cook, a great way to celebrate a wedding anniversary

John Richlin of Reno is a free-lance writer and photographer He became interested in mountain hang gliding after watching pilots land in Washoe Valley.

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Photo: John Richlin

10 GREAT

Cowboy Expressions

Let's rodeo, dude. Then we'll be leavin' Cheyenne.

By Paul Bosarge

Years ago, in a land of simple hospitality, the cowboy began talking in a way that suited him, a method that stripped the language to the bone and let him say it the way he saw it.

That heritage of direct expression is kept alive and well by today's cowboys. Most of them hang onto some old expressions while embracing a few new ones because, as they say on the rodeo circuit, "it may not be the right way, but it's the cowboy way." So as the summer rodeo season comes out of the chute, here are a few of those time-honored expressions.

1 **Bulldoggin'** The bulldogging or steer-wrestling event at today's rodeo is said to have originated on a Texas ranch in about 1903, when a well-known black cowboy, Bill Pickett, got mad while trying to drive a reluctant steer into a corral. The cowboy leaped between the steer's horns, sank his teeth into its lower lip like a bulldog, and wrestled the beast to the ground. Although everyone eventually gave up biting the steer, the term "bulldoggin'" stuck.

2 **Skally Hootin'** This century-old expression means to go all out or to get the most from your horse. An updated version is "whip and spur, ride and glide." The original comes from a cowboy's habit of riding recklessly down the main street and then pulling up to the hitch rail with a flourish when he'd go "skally hootin'" into town.

3 **A Hand.** No, it's not applause but rather a skilled horseman or horsewoman. For instance, if a cowboy wants to praise someone's skill with horses, he'll say the person is "a hand" or perhaps "a top hand." It also indicates that the person gets the job done without a lot of talking or bragging, because as every cowboy knows, "a barking dog never bites."

4 **Let's Rodeo.** This universal call to action has its roots in Spanish words that were common in the Southwest in the 1800s. "Rodeo" comes from "rodear," which means "to encircle or surround." Other familiar words are "buckaroo," a derivative of "vaquero," and lariat, which is drawn from "la reata," or "rope."

5 **On the Prod.** This expression, derived from the practice of moving cattle along with prods, denotes when a man or animal is raving mad, as in the expression "mad enough to kick your own dog." At such times it's not safe to ask questions, like after a cowboy has just lost his girlfriend ("she stepped on my heart and stomped that sucker flat").

6 **Turn and Burn.** In the old days it was "let 'er buck" or "ride 'em, cowboy," but "turn and burn" is a more modern yell of encouragement when a bronc or bull rider breaks out of the chute. It also reminds the rider that as the animal leaps and turns, he needs to squeeze so hard on his leg grip that it burns.

7 **Rank Dude.** Used alone or in tandem, these two words are perhaps the most common expressions you'll hear at a rodeo. "Rank" is the bull or bronc that is the toughest, meanest, and hardest to ride. "Dude" at one time was derogatory (as in describing a helpless tenderfoot from the East), but today some younger cowboys use it as a friendly greeting like "bud" or "pards" (but not to be confused with the California beach expression). When a person causes some irritation, it's also used in the sense of "that dude is as social as an ulcerated tooth," or "Will Rogers never met that rank dude."

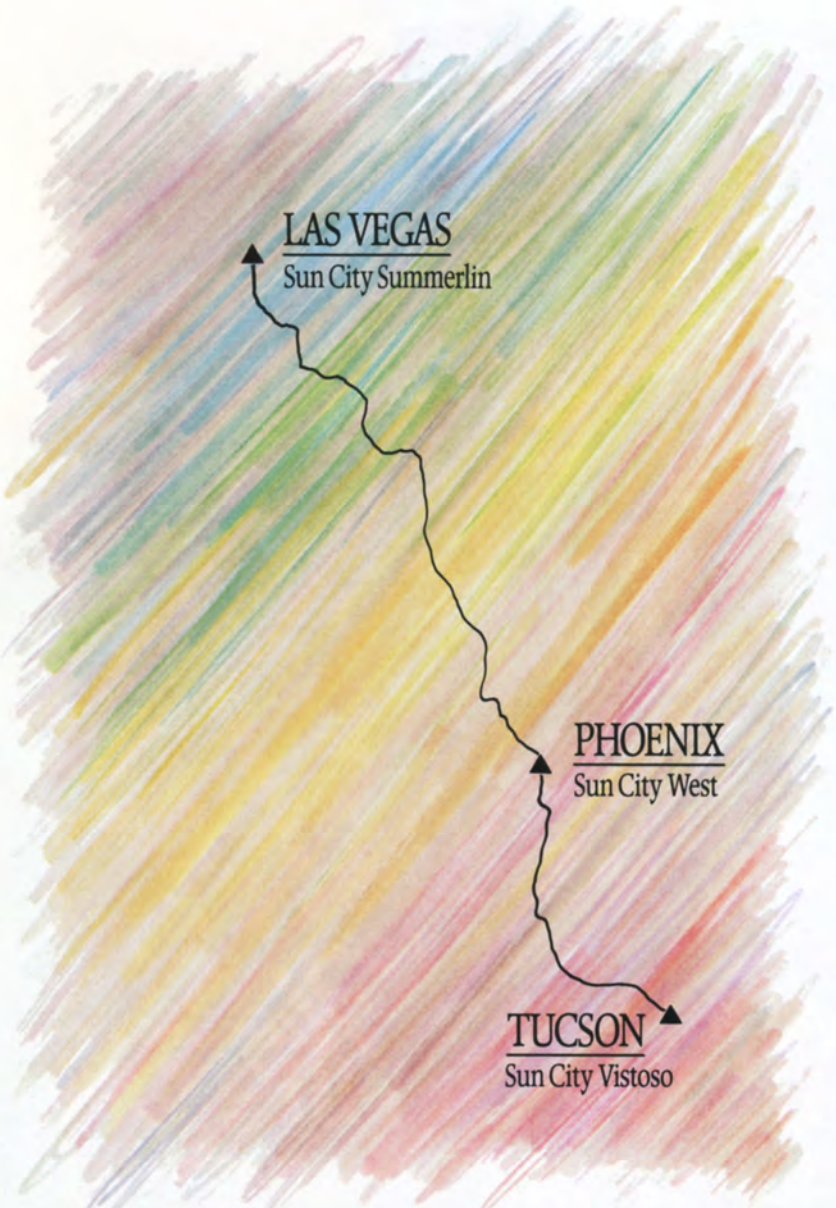
8 **King's X's Code of the West.** This is said today with crossed fingers held in mid-air to declare you're in a safe zone, to cover yourself after you've been caught stretching the truth. It probably evolved from the childhood practice of crossing fingers when fibbing. Making exaggerations has always been a cowboy's way of adding a little salty humor to life. For instance, when a posse would shoot over the head of an outlaw, a lawdog would call out, "Shoot lower, boys, he's riding a Shetland."

9 **Jack-Leg Outfit.** This referred to a poorly run ranch in the old days, probably based on the use of "jack-leg" for "makeshift." Today the expression can cover anything from a restaurant to a rodeo. It's often used when a cowboy is ready to eat and there's no food, as in "I'm narrow to the equator [hungry]. Who's runnin' this jack-leg outfit?"

10 **Leavin' Cheyenne.** It's not used as often as Roy Rogers' and Dale Evans' immortal "happy trails," but this is another useful way to say goodbye. In the old days, when it was time to saddle up, when there was no turning back, a cowboy might lament, "It's time to turn Mother's picture to the wall" (so she wouldn't have to see him leave). Or he might murmur, as in the old cowboy ballad, "Goodbye, Old Paint, I'm leavin' Cheyenne."

Paul Bosarge of Reno spends a lot of time in corrals and bars trading expressions with his cowboy friends.

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Cover Photo: A bull rider at the Lyon County Fair one of many rodeos taking place around the Silver State this summer Photo by Marvin Snow

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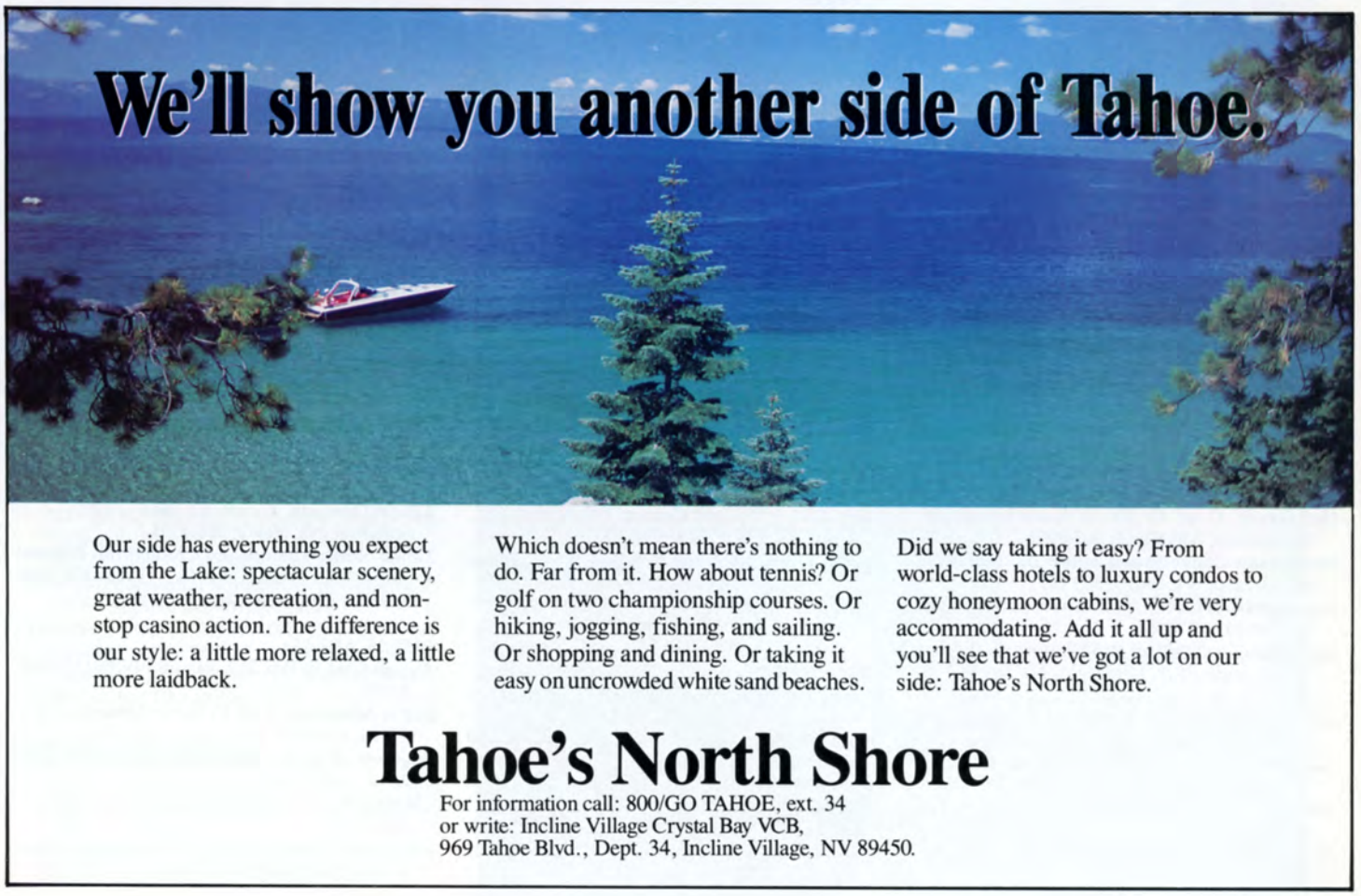
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Nevada Events: A Traveler's Guide is produced by **Nevada Magazine**. **Events Editor:** Melissa Cronin Loomis. **Managing Editor:** David Moore. **Art Director:** Brian Buckley. **Production Editor:** Julie Quinn. **Publisher/Editor:** Kirk Whisler. **Business Manager:** Ann Henderson. **Circulation Manager:** Gary Cook. **Advertising Manager:** Patty Noll. **Commission on Tourism Chairman:** Governor Bob Miller. **Commission on Tourism Executive Director:** Steve Richer. **Nevada Events** (ISSN08962588) is published bimonthly by the State of Nevada at 101 S. Fall St., Carson City, NV 89710; (702) 885-5416. Copyright © 1989 by State of Nevada. All rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial content without written permission is prohibited. **Nevada Events** is included in each issue of **Nevada Magazine**. Subscription rates for the magazine are $11.90 for six issues (one year), U.S.; $16.90 Foreign. Please allow six weeks for delivery. Submissions: Color slides are needed for events. **Nevada Events** assumes no responsibility for damage or loss of submitted material. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany submissions.



Our side has everything you expect from the Lake: spectacular scenery, great weather, recreation, and non-stop casino action. The difference is our style: a little more relaxed, a little more laidback.

Which doesn't mean there's nothing to do. Far from it. How about tennis? Or golf on two championship courses. Or hiking, jogging, fishing, and sailing. Or shopping and dining. Or taking it easy on uncrowded white sand beaches.

Did we say taking it easy? From world-class hotels to luxury condos to cozy honeymoon cabins, we're very accommodating. Add it all up and you'll see that we've got a lot on our side: Tahoe's North Shore.

Tahoe's North Shore

For information call: 800/GO TAHOE, ext. 34
or write: Incline Village Crystal Bay VCB,
969 Tahoe Blvd., Dept. 34, Incline Village, NV 89450.

GETAWAY HOT LINES

Here's where to call or write for tips on Nevada travel and attractions.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information on attractions, hotels, motels, recreation, and historic sites.

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.

STATEWIDE INFORMATION

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 885-3636 or 1-800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S and Canada

TOLL-FREE HOT LINES

Carson City Tourism Authority: 800-634-8700 outside Nevada

Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 800-248-ELKO outside Nevada

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau: 800-GO-TAHOE outside Nevada

Jackpot Visitor Information: 800-821-3935 in Nevada, 800-821-1103 outside Nevada

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 800-822-5922 anywhere in U.S.

Laughlin C of C: 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 800-FOR-RENO outside Nevada

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: 800-824-6348 anywhere in U.S.

LAS VEGAS AREA

Boulder City C of C: 1497 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-2034

Boulder City Events Hot Line: 293-0137

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

Henderson C of C: 100 E Lake Mead Dr., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-8951

Henderson Convention Center: 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; 565-2171

Las Vegas C of C: 2301 E Sahara Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104; 457-4664

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority: 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109; 733-2323

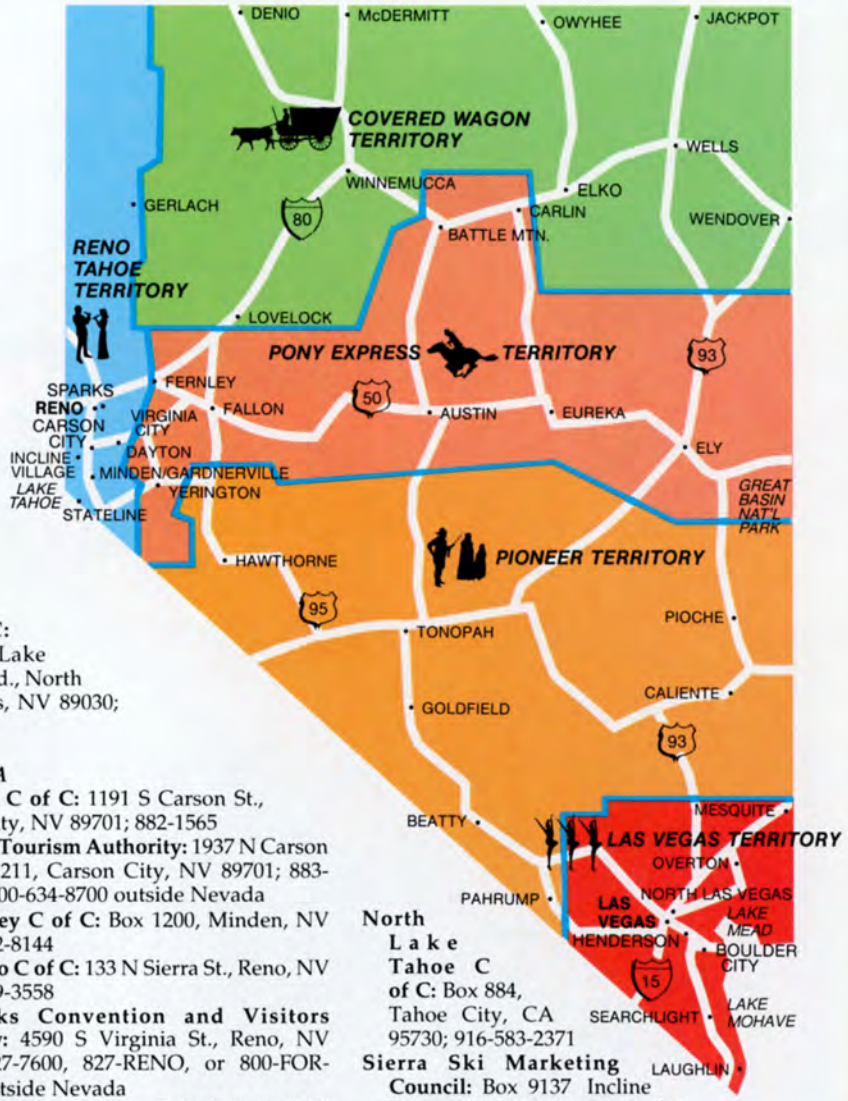
Latin C of C: 829 S Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89101; 385-7367

Laughlin C of C: Box 2280, Laughlin, NV 89029; 298-2214, or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada

Moapa Valley C of C: Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 397-2160

Nevada Black C of C: Box 4850, Las Vegas, NV 89106; 648-6222

North Las Vegas C of C: 1023 E Lake Mead Blvd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030; 642-9595



RENO AREA

Carson City C of C: 1191 S Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565

Carson City Tourism Authority: 1937 N Carson St., Suite 211, Carson City, NV 89701; 883-7442, or 800-634-8700 outside Nevada

Carson Valley C of C: Box 1200, Minden, NV 89423; 782-8144

Greater Reno C of C: 133 N Sierra St., Reno, NV 89503; 329-3558

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; 827-7600, 827-RENO, or 800-FOR-RENO outside Nevada

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 329-2936

Reno Tahoe Visitors Center: 135 N Sierra St., Reno, NV 89501; 348-7788

Sparks C of C: B St and Pyramid Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 358-1976

Virginia City C of C: V & T Railroad Car, Virginia City, NV 89440; 847-0311

LAKE TAHOE

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: Drawer CS, Incline Village, NV 89450; 831-4440

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Convention and Visitors Bureau: Drawer CS, Incline Village, NV 89450; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE outside Nevada

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: Box 16299, South Lake Tahoe, CA 95706; 916-544-5057 or 800-822-5922 anywhere in U.S.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: Box 884, Tahoe City, CA 95730; 916-583-2371

Sierra Ski Marketing Council: Box 9137 Incline Village, NV 89450; Write for their free skier's guide

Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; 588-4591

Tahoe North Visitors and Convention Bureau: Box 5578, Tahoe City, CA 95730; 916-583-3494, or 800-824-6348 anywhere in U.S.

RURAL AREAS

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin NV 89310; 964-2200

Battle Mountain C of C: Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 635-2171

Beatty C of C: Box 946, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2339

Caliente C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129

Churchill County C of C: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; 423-2544

Dayton C of C: Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-0525
Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135
Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091, or 1-800-248-ELKO outside Nevada
Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720
Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484
Fernley C of C: Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459
Gabbs, City of: Box 86, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-2671
Goldfield C of C: Box 225, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-9957
Great Basin C of C: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
Jackpot Visitors Information: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321, 800-821-3935 in Nevada, 800-821-1103 outside Nevada
Lincoln County C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213
McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421
Mason Valley C of C: Box 327 Yerington, NV 89447; 463-3721
Mineral County C of C: Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800
Pioche C of C: Box 51, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544 (office hours: 11am-3pm Mon.-Sat.)
Tonopah C of C: Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859
Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540
Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877
Winnemucca C of C: 48 W Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225
Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071

STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS

Nevada Division of State Parks: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 885-4387
Death Valley National Monument: Death Valley, CA 92328; 619-786-2331
Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7331
Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 293-8907

MORE CAMPING AND HIKING

Bureau of Land Management: Box 12000, Reno, NV 89520, 784-5496; Box 26569, Las Vegas, NV 89126, 388-6403; 1523 Hot Springs Rd., Suite 300, Carson City, NV 89701, 882-1631; Box 831, Elko, NV 89801, 738-4071
Humboldt National Forest: 976 Mountain City Hwy., Elko, NV 89801, 738-4071
Toiyabe National Forest: 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431, 331-6444; 550 E Charleston, Las Vegas, NV 89104, 388-6255 (for Mount Charleston area)

FISHING AND HUNTING

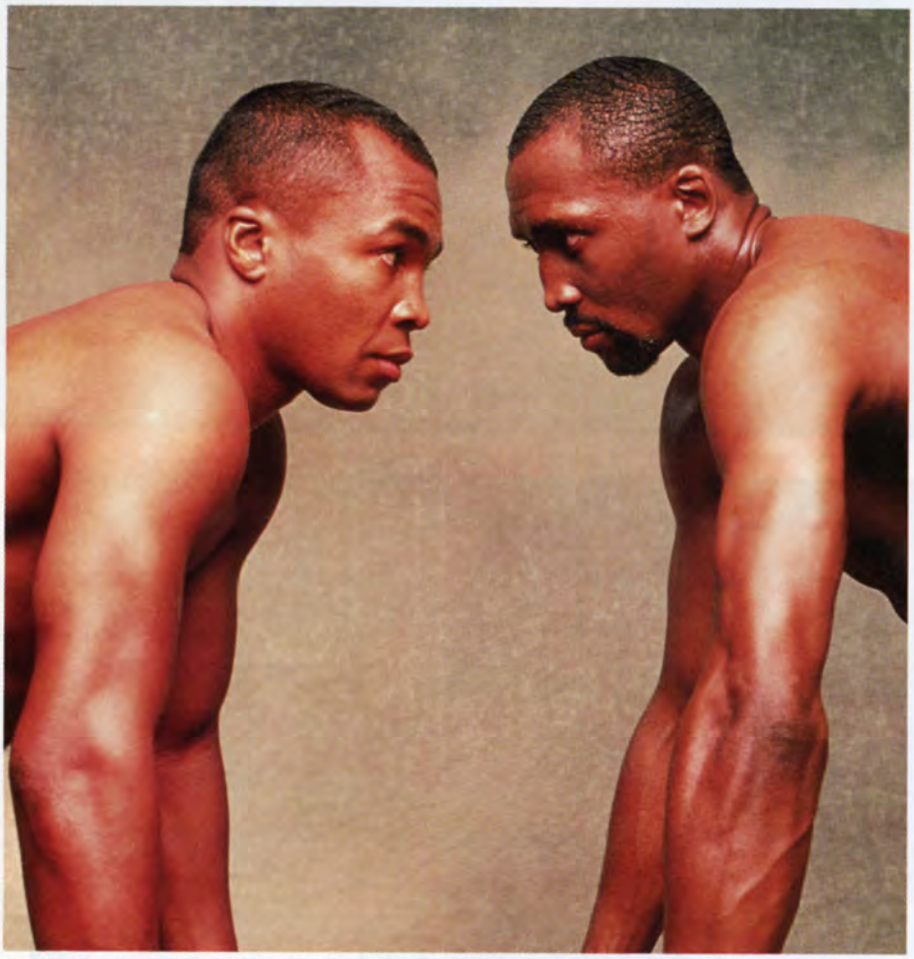
Nevada Dept of Wildlife: Main: 1100 Valley Rd., Reno, NV 89503, 789-0500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158, 385-0285
Pyramid Lake: Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510, 673-6335





THE NEVADA CALENDAR





Sugar Ray Leonard and Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns will face each other in a rematch for boxing's super-middleweight title at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas on June 12.

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 playing in Pacific Coast League. 5/1-4 v. Vancouver Canadians; 5/5-8 v. Tucson Toros; 5/17-20 v. Colorado Springs Sky Sox; 5/21-24 v. Phoenix Firebirds; 5/29-6/1 v. Albuquerque Dukes; 6/14-17 v. Edmonton Trappers; 6/26-29 v. Portland Beavers; 6/30-1/3 v. Phoenix Firebirds; 7/13-16 v. Edmonton Trappers; 7/17-20 v. Albuquerque Dukes; 7/21-23 v. Calgary Cannons, 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

Silver Streaks: World Basketball League, season runs May thru fall, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV, 798-6464

UNLV Baseball: 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

May

Contemporary American Collage: 1960-1985, thru 5/8, Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art, Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV 739-3751 or 739-3893

Art Exhibit, thru 5/12, art by Clark County elementary students, various libraries, 435-0919

Lives of the Dinosaurs and the Dinosaur Game, thru 6/4, Museum of Natural History, 739-3381

Las Vegas High School Neighborhood, thru 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

Nevada Clean Air Week, 5/1-7, displays, poster contests, emissions testing, statewide, American Lung Assn. of Nevada, 454-2500

World Series of Poker, 5/1-18, play for $5.5 million in prize money, Binion's Horseshoe Hotel, 382-1600

Images of the Southwest Exhibit, 5/1-31, petroglyph reproductions on clay by Chris Nield and paintings by De Land, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

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

Paiute Indian Basketry Exhibit, 5/3-6/30, historic and contemporary Paiute basketry, featuring the Owen Pauff Collection, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Continuity and Change in the Politics of Water, 5/4, free lecture, Helen Ingram, professor of political science, University of Arizona, 7:30pm, Wright Hall, UNLV 739-3401

International Team Dart Championship, 5/4-6, participants use electric soft-tip darts, $25,000 prize money, free to public, Sahara, 737-2111

"Table Settings," 5/5-20, Las Vegas Little Theatre, Spring Valley Library, 383-0021

Best of Barbershop Concert, 5/6, Las Vegas Gamble-aires barbershop chorus, 8pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 876-7132

Jazz Picnic, 5/6, featuring local jazz fusion, blues, and salsa bands, 1-7pm, presented by Allied Arts Council and First Interstate Bank, Jaycee Park, 731-5419

Cole Porter Concert, 5/6-7 Musical Arts Chorus, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 451-6672

Spring Jamboree and Artisans Fair, 5/6-7 antique and craft fair, food booths, children's carnival, golf tournament, Little Miss and Mr. Contest, dog show, beer garden, and dance, Boulder City, 293-2034

Views of Ancient Monuments, 5/6-6/25, an exhibit on Mayan ruins, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Nevada Journey, 5/6-7/16, an exhibit drawn from a 1968 photographic study of the history and fate of the pioneering spirit in Nevada, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Walt Boenig Big Band Mother's Day Concert, 5/7 3pm, free, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Jazz Month Concert, 5/10, performance by bassist Charlie Haden, 8:30 and 10pm, $5

general admission, $3 Allied Arts members, Allied Arts Gallery, 731-5419

Bally's Banner Boxing, 5/13 and 27 tickets $20 and $12, Goldwyn Ballroom, Bally's, 739-4111

Sandy Peltyn and Friends in Concert, 5/13, Nevada Opera Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 451-6331 or 451-3534

Laughlin River Days, 5/13, parade, soap-box derby, street dance, concert, and fireworks, 298-2214

Freddie Hubbard Quintet, 5/14, 2pm, $5 and $3, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Best of Nevada Camera Club '88, 5/15-6/5, Sunrise Library, 435-0919

Art Show, 5/16-7/9, new lithographs by Charles Morgan, West Las Vegas Library, 435-0919

Jazz Month Concert, 5/17 performance by Greg Marciel, trumpet, with Therapy Group II, 8:30 and 10pm, $5 general admission, $3 Allied Arts members, Allied Arts Gallery, 731-5419

Art Exhibit, 5/17-6/22, works by Rita Schoonmaker, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 435-0919

Food Fandango, 5/18, Boyd Group hotels offer sampling of their cuisine, open to public, Sam's Town, 456-7777

Art Exhibit, 5/18-6/27 oil pastels of Brazilian life by Moema Furtado, Spring Valley Library, 435-0919

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

Jazz Under the Stars, 5/20, concert at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, jazz fusion group TBA, 8pm, 731-5419

Fourth Annual Clark County Artists' Show, 5/20, 10am-5pm, Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2138

Red Rock Loop Walk-A-Thon, 5/20, starts 8:30am, all proceeds benefit the Children's Miracle Network Telethon, sponsored by Las Vegas Board of Realtors, meet at Red Rock Recreation Area, 796-7777

Miniature Show, 5/20-21, dolls, doll houses, furniture, Hacienda, 739-8911

Clark County Craft Fair, 5/20-21, craft show and sale, barbecue competition, live music and stage performances, children's activities and workshops, Paradise Park, 455-7340

International Museum Day, 5/21, a day of food, music, booths, and entertainment providing an opportunity to learn about area museums and cultural organizations, 11am-5pm, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Lorenzi Park, 486-5205

Jazz Concert, 5/21, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Holiday Miniature Golf Tournament, 5/21-23, Holiday Casino, 369-5000

Jazz Month Concert, 5/24, performance by singer Joe Williams, 8:30 and 10pm, $5 general admission, $3 members, Allied Arts Gallery, 731-5419

Duquesne University Tamburitzans, 5/26, program of European folk music, song, and dance, Ham Hall, UNLV 456-0708

"The Skin of Our Teeth," 5/26-28 and 6/2-4, Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Thornton Wilder, The Rainbow Company, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Mesquite Days, 5/28-29, parade, cooking contests with mesquite wood, games, call Pep-

PREVIEW



Don't let silly costumes and makeup fool you—the rodeo clown has a dangerous job.

Of Cowboys and Clowns

By Stephen Allen

With the toughest bulls in town, and broncs ready to throw a cowboy at the drop of a hat, Las Vegas' annual Helldorado is geared for rodeo excitement again this May.

Helldorado has grown bigger every year since the first one was held back in 1935, and today it draws the best ropers and riders in the country.

This year's Helldorado will be held May 19-28, and the focus as usual will be the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association-sanctioned rodeo held on May 23-27 at UNLV's Thomas and Mack Center.

While players gamble their money in the casinos, cowboys will be gambling their lives in the arena dust. And some of the most interesting characters to watch are those unsung heroes of the arena, the rodeo clowns.

The rodeo clown might be the subject of comedy and laughter, but he has, in fact, the most dangerous job in the rodeo—and all of the cowboys will attest to that. Many of them even owe their lives to the rodeo clown.

The rodeo clown has to be everywhere at once. He has to have a combination of agility daring, brains, imagination, and memory. He has to remember more than the average Brahma bull does, and some of those old Brahmas can remember a lot.

"A green bull, he'll charge anything," the great rodeo clown, D.J. Gaudin, said, "but it's the old bull who is most likely to catch you. He knows your tricks 'cause he's seen 'em before."

In other words, you have to think like a bull, then you have to out-think him, too. It's no job for a rodeo Hamlet who can't make up his mind.

Because the rodeo clown knows he can't outrun the bull (pity the ones who have tried), he has to work up close, to work "in." He may wear baggy pants, but he will have the daring and grace of a bullfighter, for that is what he is.

He deserves the ears and tails.

On Helldorado's 55th anniversary, the rodeo is expected to draw between 500 to 600 rodeo cowboys, including most of the current champions. Among the other attractions will be:

- The kick-off parade through downtown on May 20.
- The traditional Western Village, with Las Vegas' top country groups.
- The Cowboy Trade Show and its variety of western gear.
- The Western Art Show.
- The Whiskerino beard contest.
- The carnival and midway.

When Helldorado started in 1935, Las Vegas was just a little town filled with a lot of friendly people. Now, it's a world-famous city with a population of 660,000. But you can still find a lot of friendly people there.

Most of them will be at Helldorado '89, including the clowns.

Stephen Allen is a Las Vegas News Bureau writer and the author of Fun in Las Vegas, *published by Fodor's Travel Guides.*

Photo: James Fain

permill Resort, Mesquite, 346-5232 ext. 3574

Four Queens Summer Festival, 5/29-8/31, Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011

Composer's Night, 5/31, music of Las Vegas jazz composers Tom Gause, Don Hanna, Herbie Phillips, and Jack Montrose, Allied Arts Gallery, 731-5419

Antique Arms Show, 5/31-6/5, Sahara Hotel, 737-2111

Art Show, 5/31-7/11, mixed media contemporary sculpture by Chris Waller and Chris Schultz, black-and-white Nevada landscapes by Don Ginther and Stephen Roberts, Clark County Library 435-0919

June

Grand Opening of Peppermill Golf Course, 6/1, Peppermill Resort, Mesquite, 346-5232

Adventures in Color at Your Fingertips, 6/1-30, oil paintings by blind artist Jerry Mitchler of Overton, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Dealers Choice Dolls Show, 6/2-3, Hacienda Hotel, 739-8911

Roadrunner Triathalon, 6/3, Boulder City, 367-3338

Children's Miracle Network Telethon, 6/3-4, live on KVBC-TV 3, proceeds benefit children's health care at University Medical Center, 383-2326

Jazz Month Concert, 6/4, performance by guitarist Joe Pass, 7pm, $12.50 general admission, $10 Allied Arts members, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLR, 731-5419

President's Dinner, 6/4, 7pm, Nevada Opera Theatre benefit, location TBA, 451-6331 or 451-3534

Las Vegas Symphonic Band Concerts in the Park, 6/4, 6/11, 6/18, and 6/25, at various parks in Las Vegas, for schedule call 386-6211



Boulderites relax during Damboree, July 4.

Art-A-Fair, 6/6-7/9, 15th annual juried fine-art competition, sponsored by the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, Sunrise Library, 435-0919

Nevada Dance Theatre Youth Company Program, 6/10-11, ballet, character, and modern dance, guest artists from NDT, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 798-2989

U.S. Team Open 8-Ball Tournament, 6/10-18, top pool teams, Imperial Palace Hotel, 794-3114

Leonard vs. Hearns Championship Boxing, 6/12, WBC super-middleweight champion Sugar Ray Leonard and WBO and NABF super-middleweight champion Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns will stage their rematch for the world super-middleweight title, 12-round event, tickets $100-$800, Caesars Palace, 731-7865

"Student Prince," 6/17-18 and 6/20, operetta, $10, $20, and $30, Nevada Opera Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, 451-3534

Nevada State Cinderella Beauty Pageant, 6/18-23, Hacienda, 739-8911

Las Vegas Aloha Weekend, 6/21-24, competitions between dance groups from Hawaii, California, and Utah; authentic Hawaiian luau buffet; Polynesian revue with students of the Hawaiian Dance School in Las Vegas; arts and crafts show, Showboat Hotel, 739-1436

American Indian Arts and Crafts Show, 6/22-25, Navajo, Zuni, and Hopi Indian reservations display their crafts, Sahara Hotel, 737-2713

"The Foreigner," 6/23-25 and 3/27-7/1, comedy, New West Stage Company, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 876-NWSC

Folklife Exhibits, 6/23-7/23, depicting in words, images, and artifacts the still-vibrant folklife of Lander and Lincoln counties and Central Nevada, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Art Show, 6/24-7/20, paintings by Kelsie Harder, Green Valley Library, Henderson, 435-0919

Art Show, 6/29-8/14, encaustic reliefs of everyday objects by Gary Syzmanski, Spring Valley Library, 435-0919

Through Coyote's Eyes, 6/30-8/31, contemporary Native American art featuring work by

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Photo: Cliff Segerblom

Harry Fonseca, Arthur Amiotte, and Jean LeMarr, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

July

Bally's Banner Boxing, 7/1, tickets $20 and $12, Goldwyn Ballroom, Bally's, 739-4111

Art Exhibit, 7/1-31, paintings by Susan Novack, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

American Indian Patriotic Collection, 7/1-31, Indian artifacts collected from several tribes that display American patriotic symbols in beadwork, weaving, basketry, fine arts, and sand paintings, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

World Volleyball Championships for the Disabled, 7/2-8, held for the first time in the U.S., 25 countries participating, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-1830

Damboree, 7/4, parade, band concert in park, political oratory, midway games and contests, fireworks, Boulder City, 293-2034 or 293-2457

COMING EVENTS

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

National Finals Rodeo, 12/2-10, Las Vegas, 731-2115

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

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

Bally's, 739-4567: *Celebrity Room:* Barbara Mandrell, 5/11-17; Frank Sinatra, 5/18-20 and 5/25-28; Dean Martin, 6/8-14; Oak Ridge Boys, 6/15-21; *Ziegfeld Theatre:* "Jubilee!" indf. (dark Wed.); "Catch a Rising Star," comedy/variety club, indf.

Barbary Coast, 737-7200: Irish Showband, thru 5/1 and 5/31-7/31; Happy Jesters, 5/3-15; Four Freshmen, 5/17-29

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

Caesars Palace, 731-7110: David Copperfield, thru 5/1 and 5/3-8; Jay Leno, 5/10-15; The Judds, 5/17-22; Joan Rivers, 5/24-29; Buddy Hackett/Gloria Loring, 5/31-6/4; Johnny Mathis/Jeannine Burnier, 6/2-5; Pointer Sisters/John Pinette, 6/7-12; Dionne Warwick/Natalie Cole, 6/14-19; Diana Ross, 6/21-6/26 and 6/28-7/3

California Hotel, 385-1222: Entertainment TBA

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

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

Desert Inn, 733-4566: Smothers Brothers, 4/13-5/3; Ray Stevens/Louise Mandrell, 6/15-28; Tony Orlando and Dawn, 6/29-8/2

Dunes, 737-4741: The Comedy Store, indf., featuring five comedians weekly; C'Est La Vie/One Plus One Plus Diana, thru 5/29; Denise Clemente/One Plus One Plus Diana, 5/30-6/26; DeLoach/CC Carr, 6/27-7/17

El Rancho, 796-2222: Kookie Jar and Crumbs, 5/2-6/11

Fitzgeralds, 382-6111: Nightly entertainment

Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: "City Lites," stage



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spectacular, indf. (dark Sun.)

Four Queens, 385-4011: Donna Fargo, 5/2-14; Kingston Trio, 5/16-28; Frank Sinatra, Jr., 5/30-6/11; Dondino, thru 5/27

Frontier, 734-0385: Entertainment TBA

Gold Coast, 367-7111: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, indf. (dark Tues.); Comedy with Cork Proctor and Friends, indf.

Golden Nugget, 386-8100: Don Rickles, thru 5/1; Kenny Rogers, 5/4-6; Yakov Smirnoff, 5/11-15; Whoppi Goldberg/Jeffrey Osborne, 5/18-22 and 5/25-29; David Brenner, 6/1-5 and 6/8-12; Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, 6/15-19 and 6/22-26; Don Rickles, 6/29-7/3 and 7/6-10; Diahann Carroll/Vic Damone, 7/13-17 and 7/20-24

Gold Strike, Jean, 477-5000: Nightly entertainment

Hacienda, 739-8911: "Hitz," musical production, indf. (dark Mon.)

Holiday, 369-5222: Rocky Senne's "Keep Smilin' America," revue, indf.

Horseshoe, 387-6468: Entertainment TBA

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, 5/2-28; Four Tops/Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, 5/30-7/11; Barry Manilow, 6/13-18; Engelbert Humperdinck, 6/20-7/2

Marina, 739-1500: "Dan-Sin Dirdy '89" indf.

Maxim, 731-4300: "Playboy's Girls of Rock and Roll," indf.

Palace Station, 367-2411: Entertainment TBA

Peppermill Resort, Mesquite: 346-5232: Freeway/Diamond Head, thru 5/7; Douglas Allen Show, 5/8-14; Lelands, 5/15-21; Lorado, 5/15-28; Network, 5/22-6/4; Finesse, 6/5-6/11; Stew Stewart, 6/5-18; Perfect Circle, 6/12-25

Riviera, 794-9301: Liza Minnelli, 5/18-21; Paul Anka, 6/15-18 and 7/13-16; "Splash," production show, indf.; "Crazy Girls: Fantasie 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.); David St. David, thru 6/18 and 7/3-16; Bonnie Graham Quartet, 6/19-7/2

Sam Boyd's Fremont, 385-3232: Nightly entertainment

Sam's Town, 456-7777: Nightly entertainment

Sands, 733-5453: "Beach Blanket Babylon," musical revue, indf. (dark Mon.)

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/entertainment (dark Mon.)

Union Plaza, 386-2446: "Nudes on Ice," international ice skating champions, indf.

Vegas World, 382-2000: Redd Foxx, indf.; "Memories of Elvis" starring Tom Carlile, indf.; "Reflections of Sinatra" starring Duke Hazlett, indf.; "Hallelujah Las Vegas!" magical, musical revue starring Karen Nelson Bell, indf.

Westward Ho, 731-2900: Wildflower and the Triangle, indf.

Whiskey Pete's, on I-15 near the California border, 382-4388: Live entertainment

Laughlin

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Rainbow, 5/1-31; Stellar Unit, 6/5-30; Big Band Bash, with jitterbug contest every Sun.

Del Webb's Nevada Club, 298-2512: Hoyt

Henry and the Dixie Jazz Kings, 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 Heritage 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
Guiness World of Records Museum: 2780 S. Las Vegas Blvd., to open in fall, 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

PREVIEW



Museum Day, May 21, gives youngsters a chance to meet some interesting animals.

Museum Mania

Entertainment, food, stacks of mind-boggling information, and even a petting zoo await you at Lorenzi Park during International Museum Day May 21, in Las Vegas. Special exhibits by the Nevada State Museum and Historical Society and the Las Vegas Art Museum will give visitors a chance to see some of those museums' finest attraction during the all-day event. Booths spread around the lake in front of the State Museum will feature other Las Vegas museums and cultural organizations, as well as a large variety of international foods.

For children, the Southern Nevada Zoological Park brings its petting zoo. And for music lovers, an all-day program is scheduled, plus a late-afternoon jazz concert, which is part of Las Vegas' Jazz Month.

Lorenzi Park is located at Washington and Twin Lakes Drive. Festivities begin at 11 a.m. and go until at least 5 p.m. Call 702-486-5205 for more information.

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Photo: Southern Nevada Zoological Park

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

Las Vegas

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

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 andprints, 384-9640

Charleston Heights Arts Center: 800 S. Brush St., 1-8 Mon.-Thur., 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

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

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

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Studio Workshop and Gallery: 608 E. Sahara Ave., 10-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., local artists, 734-8962

Torres Gallery and Frame Shop: 2470 E. Tropicana Ave., 9-6 Mon,-Sat., original and limited-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

•The **Las Vegas Hilton** is actively pursuing movie and TV companies to use its facilities. "We are mailing out a special brochure to every location manager, along with major producers and directors or anyone who has influence on selecting a location site for television or the movies," says Bruce Banke, the hotel's executive director of advertising and publicity.

•The **Tropicana Hotel** is using a video checkout service to save their guests time and hassle. By using a television in their hotel room equipped with Spectradyne's Inc. Video Checkout, guests can review their bill, verify charges, and check out of the hotel without leaving the room.

•A 71-year-old retired steel worker struck it rich at **Sam Boyd's Fremont** last winter after playing $20 in a Megabucks progressive jackpot machine. Kenneth Russell of Hannibal, Missouri, won $2,117,864.44 after playing the machine for about 15 minutes. "The first thing I'm going to do is buy myself a nice pair of boots," the big winner declared.



Comedian Jay Leno appears at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, May 10-15.

•The **Sahara Hotel's** House of Lords restaurant has been given a three-star rating in the 1989 Mobil Travel Guide, which rates more than 21,000 hotels, motels, restaurants across the country.

•The Founder's Day Bash July 26 at **Railroad Pass Hotel** between Henderson and Boulder City includes drawings, slot tournaments, and live entertainment.

•**Bob Stupak's Vegas World** opened the first phase of a 24-story addition. The tower will boast 400 additional deluxe rooms for double occupancy, bringing Vegas World's total number of rooms to 1,000.

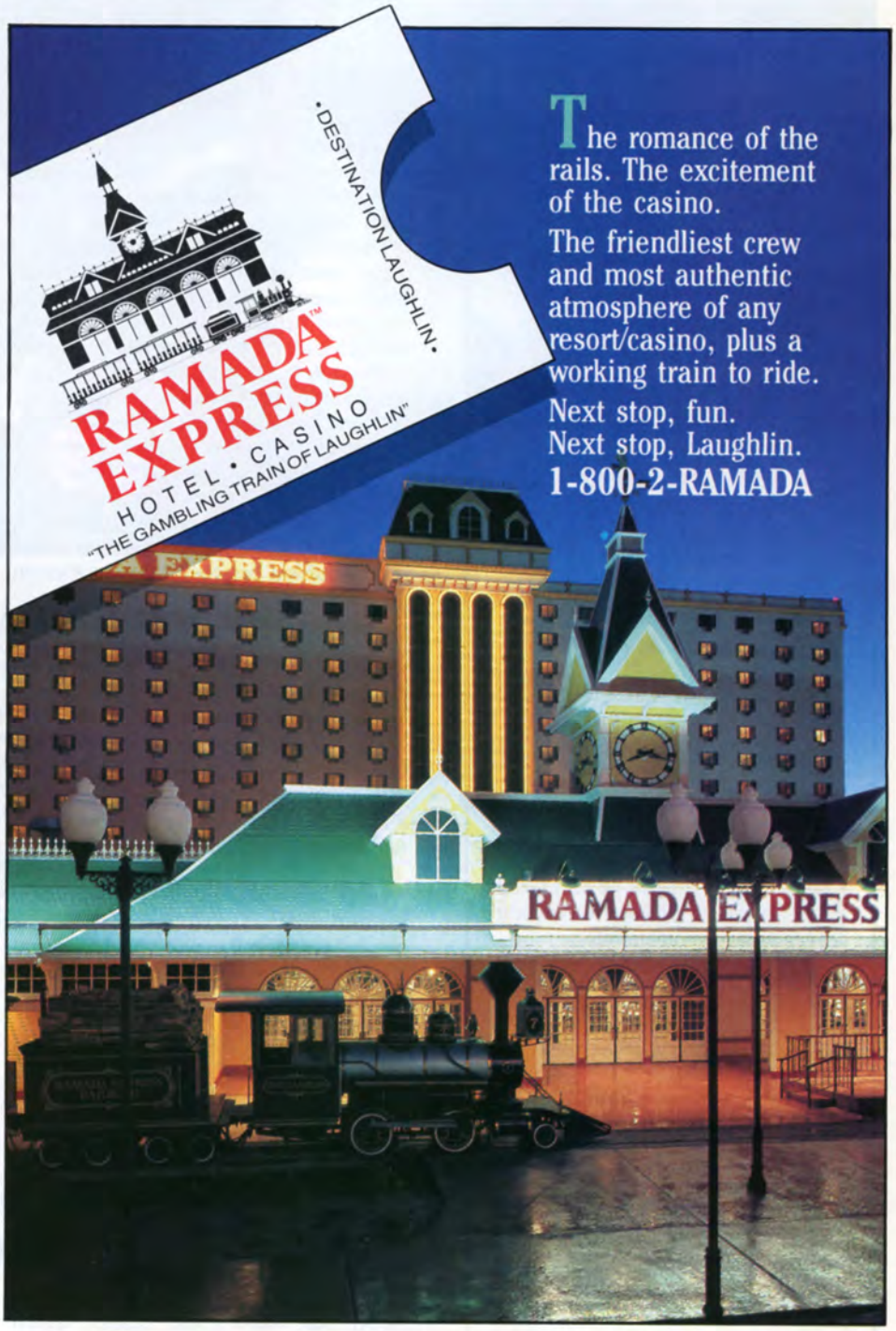
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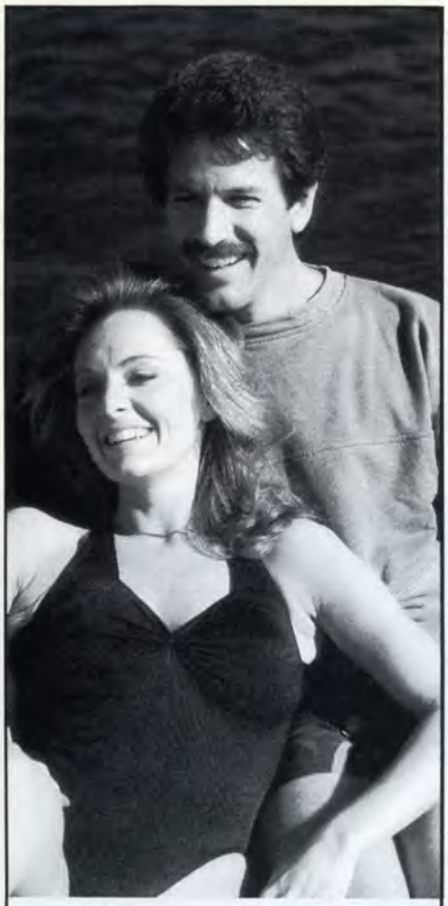
May

World Series of Poker, 5/1-18, Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600
Slots, 5/3-5, Ramada Express, Laughlin, 298-6259
Baccarat, 5/4-8, Dunes, 737-4049
Slots, 5/5, Railroad Pass, Henderson, 294-5000
Slots, 5/5-7 Aladdin, 736-0111
Slots, 5/10-14, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111
Poker, 5/15, Sam's Town, 454-8092
Poker, 5/16-23, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111
Slots, 5/21-23 and 5/29-31, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117
Blackjack, 5/29-6/2, Stardust, 732-6111
Slots, 5/30-6/2, Holiday Casino/Holiday Inn, 369-5000
Slots, 5/30-6/3, Sands, 733-5285

June

Slots, 6/1-30, Stardust, 732-6111
Slots, 6/4-7 Caesars Palace, 731-7324
Blackjack, 6/4-8, Dunes, 737-4049
Slots, 6/5-7 Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600
Slots, 6/6-9, Sahara, 737-2111
Slots, 6/11-13 and 6/18-20, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117
Slots, 6/12-14 and 6/26-28, Sands, 733-5285
Pull for the Gold Slot Tournament, 6/15-18, Riviera, 734-5110
Keno, 6/20-23, Sands, 733-5327
Poker, 6/22, Sam's Town, 454-8092
Slots, 6/22-25, Golden Nugget, 385-7111
Keno, 6/23-25, Stardust, 732-6111





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He Stands Up In a Crowd

By Jackie Brett



David Brenner: author actor and room designer

There's nothing flamboyant about David Brenner. His name in the newspaper easily goes unnoticed. His lanky appearance is at odds with the suave and debonair set.

But comedy is another thing. There Brenner excels. There he stands out in the crowd.

His talent as a funny man is often seen on Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show*, where he's appeared more than 150 times. "That show is the plum in the industry" says Brenner, who almost became Carson's regular guest host. But Brenner was tied up in his own TV talk show (which later fell by the wayside), and Jay Leno got the nod. Still, Brenner's first appearance on Carson's show in 1971 literally launched his Las Vegas career.

"Buddy Hackett saw the show," Brenner recalls. "Hackett advised the Sahara Hotel's entertainment department to book this new, fresh talent." A couple months later Brenner was billed at the Sahara between Frankie Avalon and Sonny and Cher.

Brenner has been headlining at the Golden Nugget for four years on a contract that was made with owner Steve Wynn the old fashioned way—with a handshake.

In town for a big prizefight, the comedian and a friend were walking around downtown when they stopped in the Golden Nugget, which at the time had a small entertainment room. "The maitre d' told me I should say hello to Steve Wynn, who was in the bar having a drink," Brenner says. "Wynn asked me when I was going to work his room, and I told him he wasn't going to get me to work his room, and that I was a main-room act."

At Wynn's insistence, the outspoken Brenner explained, "The room is like a goldfish bowl. It's too open." Wynn agreed to put up a black curtain all around. Then Brenner said he needed a dressing room. Wynn said he'd put one in. Brenner added, "I don't like to walk through the audience to get to the stage." So Wynn said he'd bust out a wall and put in a door by the dressing room.

All that was left was money, which was the province of Brenner's manager. "We shook hands on it," Brenner says.

When Brenner is in Las Vegas, he often escapes to Mount Charleston. On summer days he has the hotel pack him a lunch, and he'll go up the mountain to picnic and hike.

He admits, "I eat in restaurants where people eat. It's like I'm a citizen."

Most people know Brenner by his comedy. During his act he's often in motion, walking back and forth across the stage, emphasizing points. He doesn't do a lot of off-color jokes, rely on props, or insult people. He finds humor in situations we take seriously.

He says he never knows where he's going in his act. "I have 23 hours of material in my head somewhere."

He sometimes reflects on his early days in Philadelphia, but other parts of his life he considers private. He won't do jokes about college, the army, his son, or travel, which is an important hobby. Earlier this year he took a three-week photographic safari of the Nile River and Kenya, and he may do a book with humorous advice on travel. Brenner already has three books to his credit since 1983: *Soft Pretzels With Mustard*, *Revenge is the Best Exercise*, and *Nobody Ever Sees You Eat Tuna Fish*.

In movie production, Brenner has worked as writer, producer, and director. As an actor, he makes his first major film appearance in *Worth Winning*, which stars Mark Harmon and is scheduled for release next Christmas.

He also has been trying to sell two TV series. "I'm speaking English," he says, "but the network is speaking executive."

That's too bad, because Brenner speaks to us in a language we can understand: comedy.

David Brenner appears at the Golden Nugget June 1-12 and September 7-18.

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NEVADA

THE NEVADA CALENDAR

Reno-Tahoe





The M.S. Dixie *and the* Tahoe Queen *race along Tahoe's south shore in the Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, May 29 (top). On the Fourth of July, people of all ages will be entertained by the Reno Philharmonic at Genoa's annual Concert in the Park.*

HOT LINES

Festivals at Tahoe: information on North Shore festivals throughout the 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 baseball, playing in the California League, 5/2-4 v. Stockton Ports; 5/9-11 v. San Bernardino Spirit; 5/19-21 v. Bakersfield Dodgers; 5/22-25 v. Salinas Spurs; 5/26-28 v. Visalia Oaks, Moana Stadium, 825-0578

UNR Baseball: 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

May

Art Exhibit, thru 5/3, works by Trish Andrew, Karen Atkinson, Maryann Bonjorni, Minnie Dobbins, Ingrid Evans, Rita McBride, Chelsea Miller, Linda Yuroff, and Jody Zellen, XS Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 887-3100

Art Exhibit, thru 5/31, works by Linda Bourassa, Sarah Campsey Sweetwater, Sharon Guy, Lisa Hein, Jana Harry, Kirsten Hutchison, Susan Kirchman, Maria F. Porges, Francesca Sundsten, Sharon Thatcher, DICE, Truckee Meadows Community College, 673-7193

E.L. Weigand Museum of Art Premier Exhibition, thru 7/2, "A Golden Age of Painting," 16th and 17th century Dutch, Flemish, and German art, including works by Rubens, Teniers, and Van Dyck; in the Casazza Photo Gallery: "At Mono Lake," 100 years of scenic photography organized by the Sierra Club, E.L. Wiegand Museum of Art, 329-3333

From Seamstress to Sales Clerk, thru 7/3, exhibit on women's fashion from 1860-1920, guest lecturers, Nevada Historical Society, 789-0190

Western National Angus Futurity, 4/30-5/2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 209-245-6619

Art Exhibit, 5/2-6/30, selections from the Nevada Museum of Art permanent collection, Hawkins House, 329-3333

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

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

Fantasies in Chocolate, 5/4, Bally's, 789-6214

Fifth Annual XS Gallery WNCC Student Art Show, 5/4-6/5, music by the Virginia City Jazz Arts Quintet, XS Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 887-3100

The Good Ol' Persons Concert, 5/5, acoustic country music, community center, Carson City, 883-1976

Off-Road Bicycle Stage Race, 5/5-6, Reno Livestock Events Center, 827-7668

Nevada Area Council Boy Scouts Camporee, 5/5-6, Rancho San Rafael Park, 673-2436

"Kennedy's Children," 5/5-6, and 5/12-13, drama, Carson Valley Theatre Company, 8pm, CVIC Hall, Minden, 267-2799

"Ladies in Retirement," 5/5-7 5/11-13, melodrama, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

"Streetcar Named Desire" and "The Long Hot Summer," 5/5-20, Proscenium Players present two one-act plays, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

A Museum Affair, 5/6, "Gilded Fantasies," fourth annual art auction and dinner for Nevada Museum of Art, Harrah's Reno, 329-3333

Mother's Day/Spring Craft Show, 5/6-7 Carson Mall, Carson City, 267-3815

SCCA Autocross, 5/7 Reno Livestock Events Center, 827-3950

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

Courthouse Museum Season Opening, 5/13, Genoa, 782-2518

A Night in Old Vienna, 5/13, Nevada Opera concert, Nightingale Hall, UNR, 786-4046

Spring Concerts, 5/12 and 5/18, music from "Phantom of the Opera," "Oklahoma," "Hello Dolly," Sierra Nevada Chorale, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 786-2149

Fifth Annual Miniatures and Dollhouse Show and Sale, 5/13-14, 10am-5pm Sat., 11am-5pm

Photos: Larry Prosor (top); Ed Sail

Sun., Bally's, 323-3663

Bowers Mansion Opens for Summer Season, 5/13-14, historic mansion opens for six months, (extensive exterior restoration and repainting was done in 1988), Washoe Valley, 849-0201

Nevada State Horseman's Assn. Horse Show, 5/13-14 and 5/27-28, Reno Livestock Events Center, 852-3011

Ramblin' Wheels Poker Run, 5/14, barbecue follows motorcycle run, Reno area, 355-9104

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, Box 352, Carson City, NV 89702

One-Man Art Show, 5/15-6/10, works by Carson Valley artist James Lawrence, Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 782-2518

School District Art Fair and Exhibit, 5/16-17 Carson City Community Center, 887-2290

Industrial Exposition, 5/16-17 Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3073

Eldorado West Coast Wine Competition Judging, 5/17-19, seventh annual judging of more than 1,000 wines, Eldorado Hotel, 786-5700

Incline Follies of 1989, 5/18-20, music, dancing, skits, $10, Tahoe Biltmore, Crystal Bay, 831-4622

Comstock Historic Preservation Weekend, 5/18-21, features performance of "Quilters" by the Theatre Muckers and professional actors, display of historic quilts, book sale, Victorian architecture walking tour, cemetery walking tour, Silver Tea at Fourth Ward School Museum, Comstock black-and-white photography exhibit, Model T automobile gathering, Virginia City, 847-0311

Comstock Arabian Show, 5/19-21, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-7366

Casino Series Team Roping, 5/19-21, fairgrounds, headquarters at the Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711

History Expo '89, 5/19-29, a celebration of the Nevada State Museum's 50th, the Virginia and Truckee's Railroad's 120th, the Nevada State Railroad Museum's 10th, and the state's 125th birthday with railfare, steam-up, antique steam tractors, visiting locomotive display, lecture series, treasure hunt, and celebration of International Museum Day with ethnic dancers, Nevada folk artisans, antique cars, quilters, music, at Nevada State Museum and Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 885-4810

Snowshoe Thompson Day, 5/20, 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

Reno Gold Prospectors and Treasure Hunters Expo, 5/20-21, 9am-6pm, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 673-4298

Duffer's Derby, 5/23 and 6/8, prizes, dinner, fundraiser for Incline Village-Crystal Bay Chamber of Commerce, Incline Village Championship Golf Course, 831-4440

Carson City Open, 5/23, Carson City/Ormsby House pro-am golf tournament, open to public, 882-1890

Night of Bluegrass, 5/25, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Farm City Festival Days, 5/26-28, the Discovery Room, a hands-on exhibit room for children, at the Great Basin Adventure will be open to the public, Rancho San Rafael Park, 826-2324

PREVIEW

Reno Rodeo Roundup

By Paul Bosarge

Reno's long, lazy days of summer explode with snorting bulls, high-kicking horse flesh, and professional cowboys hellbent on the ride of their lives at what many of them call the best rodeo in the country the Reno Rodeo, June 17-25.

All the top names on the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association circuit will be there taking their shots at an estimated $400,000 in prize money. Steve Walther, Reno Rodeo Association president, says the rodeo will again offer the largest performance prize money in the country.

The traditional downtown parade kicks off rodeo week at 10 a.m. Saturday June 17 The rodeo runs Monday through Friday, beginning each evening at seven, with two performances on Saturday at 1 and 7 p.m. and the finals on Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Bob Tallman, the Winnemuccan with the gift of gab, and Bob Feist return as the announcing duo for all the performances outdoors at the Livestock Events Center.

A lively carnival invades the grounds throughout the week, and a drill team competition is scheduled June 17-18. Indoors, there's a western trade show. On Monday Feist hosts his invitational roping championship.

This year marks another milestone for the Reno Rodeo. Although the association celebrated its 50th anniversary a couple of years ago, the rodeo itself will mark its 70th year. It began in 1919 as the First Annual Reno Round-Up and Carnival of the Range, and its first program was written and illustrated by famous cowboy author and artist Will James.



Buckin' broncs, snortin' bulls, and a carnival are a few of the attractions at this year's Reno Rodeo.

Last year more than 54,000 fans jammed the week-long event, and officials say they expect a larger crowd this year. One reason is a new $11-million grandstand and bleacher expansion, adding better seats to the arena and offering a new per-performance capacity of 9,300 fans. Rodeo fans can reserve tickets by phone this year by calling Sierra Select-A-Seat at 784-4444 or 1-800-876-4TIX.

AKC Retriever Field Trials, 5/26-28, Little Mondeaux Gun Club, Genoa, 782-5512

Nevada State Railroad Museum's 1989 Opening Weekend, 5/26-29, celebration of the railroad museum's 10th year, steam-up of restored Virginia and Truckee engines No. 22 and No. 25 and locomotive No. 8 on 5/27-29, motor car *Washoe Zephyr* run 5/26 only, Laura Lea Evans art show, Nevada State Railroad Museum, U.S. 395 at Fairview Dr., Carson City, 885-4810

Mini Steam Fair, 5/26-29, small locomotives from the western states on display, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 885-4810

Silver State Quarter Horse Show, 5/27-29, Reno Livestock Events Center, 359-3210

Corvette Car Club Exhibition, 5/27-29, on 5/27 classic Corvette car competition at Rancho San Rafael Park; on 5/27-29 Corvette cars on display in Peppermill parking lot, 827-7220 or 826-2121 ext. 7161

Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, 5/29, the *M.S. Dixie* and the *Tahoe Queen* race along Tahoe's south shore, South Lake Tahoe and Stateline, 916-544-5050

Lawlor Spring Jamboree, 5/31-6/4, Lawlor Events Center, UNR, 784-4659

June

Reno Municipal Band's Summer Concert Series, 6/1-2, 6/5-9, 6/12-16, 6/19-25, and 6/26-30, Wingfield Park, 851-0759

Peppermill Championship Cutting Horse Series, 6/1-13, Peppermill Hotel, 689-7100

Doberman Pinscher Dog Show, 6/2, Rancho San Rafael Park, 746-2897

Pacific Coast Cutting Horse Assn. Cutting Competition, 6/2-11, Reno Livestock Events Center, 916-929-4144

"The Foreigner," 6/2-3, 6/9-11, 6/15-17 comedy, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Carson Valley 10-Km. Race, 6/3, foot race followed by party, Carson Valley Inn, Minden,

Photo: Reno News Bureau

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NIGHTLIFE

Like Mother, Like Daughter

By Deborah A. Mawhar



Naomi and Wynonna Judd.

The last time the Judds performed at Lake Tahoe, Naomi (that's Mama Judd) had her cohorts load their $300,000 touring bus with rocks. "I'm going to build a big old stone fireplace, and I wanted rocks from Tahoe," Naomi explained. "I just bought a valley way way out in the country [in Tennessee] and I'm building a log cabin."

She took home a big sack of pine cones, too. "I'm an enormously sentimental person. I'm just so drawn to the Tahoe area. If I wasn't livin' in Nashville " Her voice trailed off.

Not that she and daughter Wynonna are home much these days. But when they are, they shed "the image"—the designer stage outfits, meticulous makeup, perfect hair, and manicured nails.

"Yesterday I went to see Wynonna at her place," Naomi said recently in a phone interview from Tennessee. "She lives on a farm out in the country. She's remodeling the kitchen, so she's livin' out in her tiny hand-hewn log cabin. There she was, God love her, with her sweats on, barefoot, with her five dogs, two cats, and a cockatiel, just rollin' around on the front porch."

Are they really just regular folks? "That's a common comment we get," Naomi said, and it pleases her. "Wynonna was a secretary and I was an R.N. You can't get any more normal than that." Living in Tennessee, then in California, where she finished her degree to become a nurse, and then back in Tennessee, she weathered family estrangements and low-paying jobs that left insufficient money for essentials like car insurance.

When times were grim, what saved their mother-daughter relationship was finding something they could share. "Through all of those years of Wynonna's rebellious teen problems, and through all of my years as a neurotic single working mother, the music was the one thread that kept us together," Naomi remembered. "That's why I always encourage parents to find some activity to do with their kids, to step outside that confining parent-child relationship."

Mother and daughter stepped outside one relationship and into another—a country-singing duo with a pure, light sound. Back then, while they were sitting in their living room with Naomi's younger daughter, Ashley, letting their troubles strum into perspective with each chord on the guitar, Wynonna found her voice, and Naomi laid her harmony soothingly around it. Seven albums ("River of Time" was released this spring) and many performing miles later, you could call them famous.

Naomi counts her blessings. Daughter Ashley is in college and doing well, and daughter and singing partner Wynonna and she have forged a vibrant, communicative relationship that works. People are buying their albums and coming to hear them sing. And in her log cabin is a rock fireplace.

The Judds perform at Harrah's Lake Tahoe June 6-11.

782-9711

Reno Rodeo Kick-Off Party, 6/3, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 329-3877

Reno Kennel Club Show, 6/3, Reno Livestock Events Center, 355-1336

Children's Miracle Network Telethon, 6/3-4, Washoe Medical Center, televised on KOLO-TV 322-7011

Art Exhibit, 6/5-7/29, selections from UNR Art Department collection, DICE, Truckee Meadows Community College, 673-7193

Art Exhibit, 6/7-7/28, summer selection of works from the UNR Art Department collection, XS Gallery, Western Nevada Community College, Carson City, 887-3100

"The Mountain Men Ballet," 6/8-9, comedy, Carson City Community Center, 885-7491

Bob Barnes Big Band Sound Dance, 6/9, dance to the music of the '40s and '50s, $5 admission, 8pm-midnight, Chateau, Incline Village, 831-4622

Eldorado's West Coast Wine Tasting, 6/9, open to public, Eldorado Hotel, 786-5700

Regional Sporting Clays Tournament, 6/10, Topaz Sportsman's Club, Lake Topaz area, Wellington, 266-3512 or 266-3381

Carson Valley Days, 6/10-11, parade, games, food, and fun, Gardnerville and Minden, 782-3104

Kit Carson Rendezvous and Wagon Train Days, 6/10-11, (Kit Carson Wagon Train from Reno to Carson City leaves Reno Thurs. 6/8, celebrations along the way, Wed. evening before departure, Thurs. and Fri. night camps, limited space available.) Rendezvous includes mountain men, Indian village and

dancing, farrier's contest, crafts fair, live entertainment, "The Mountain Men Ballet," Northern Nevada Amateur Boxing Championships, food booths, children's games at Mills Park; in conjunction with the dedication of the Kit Carson statue at the Legislature's grounds; also Kit Carson collage and verse display in the foyer of the Legislative Building from 6/8-12, Carson City, 885-7491 or 882-0864 (train)

Tour of the Comstock, 6/10-11, 300 cyclists will gather in Reno for four races, sites include downtown Reno, UNR, Geiger Grade, and Virginia City, 323-1809

Northern Nevada Kart Race, 6/10-11, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-1017

Pops Party, 6/11, Carson City Chamber Orchestra and Carson Chamber Singers will perform in an outdoor concert, 2:30pm, Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 883-4154

Northern Nevada Car Council, 6/11, all types of vehicles in a show and shine, games, food, benefit for Make-A-Wish Foundation, Rancho San Rafael Park, 323-6156 ext. 822

Highway 50 Association's 40th Annual Wagon Train, 6/13-25, wagon train ride follows a section of U.S. 50 for 10 days and 11 nights, starts in Virginia City on 6/13 and stops in Carson City 6/14-15, Spooner Summit 6/16, Zephyr Cove 6/17-18, Amacker Ranch 6/19, Strawberry 6/20-21, Kyburz 6/22, Pollock Pines 6/23, ends in Placerville on 6/24-25, for schedule call 847-9292 or 916-644-6426

Discovery Room Grand Opening, 6/15, opening of a hands-on exhibit room for children in the Great Basin Adventure, at Rancho San Rafael Park, 826-2324

Pony Express Re-Ride, 6/15-17 starting at St. Joseph, MO, a recreation of the historic Pony Express ride along U.S. 50. Riders enter Nevada after leaving Ibupah, UT, at 9am on 6/15. Continue westbound and arrive at the Carson City Nugget at 5:30pm on 6/17 From there riders continue to Woodfords, CA, arriving there at 10pm. After Woodfords the riders go to the last stop at Old Town Sacramento, CA, 885-4750 or 885-7825

Ninth Annual Carson Valley Art Show, 6/15-7/15, Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 265-2850

Carson City Jaycees Carnival, 6/16-29, carnival rides, booths, food, refreshments, Mills Park, Carson City, 883-0392

Festival Reno, 6/16-7/16, food festivals, gaming tournaments, concerts, downtown Reno and Sparks, 827-RENO

The Great Truckee Duck Race, 6/17, a one-mile race with 30,000 trained racing rubber ducks that can be "adopted" for a $5 donation, 12:22pm starting time, in the Truckee River starting at Kirman Avenue Bridge; proceeds to benefit children's services at Washoe Medical Center, 328-5545

Lake Tahoe Opening Season Celebration, 6/17 2pm Blessing of the Boats, 4pm Boaters Barbecue, Tahoe Keys Marina, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-2155

Gerlach Annual Horseshoe Tournament, 6/17 barbecue and dance, VFD and Community Center, Gerlach, 557-2504 or 557-2553

Stewart Indian Museum Powwow and Arts and Crafts Fair, 6/17-18, all Indian drums and dancers are welcome at the competition powwow, Indian arts and crafts, foods, Stewart Indian Museum, Carson City, 882-1808

Circus, 6/17-18, Carson City Junior High School, 883-5675

Motorcycle Show, 6/17-18, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711

Sierra Softball Challenge, 6/17-18, Don Mello

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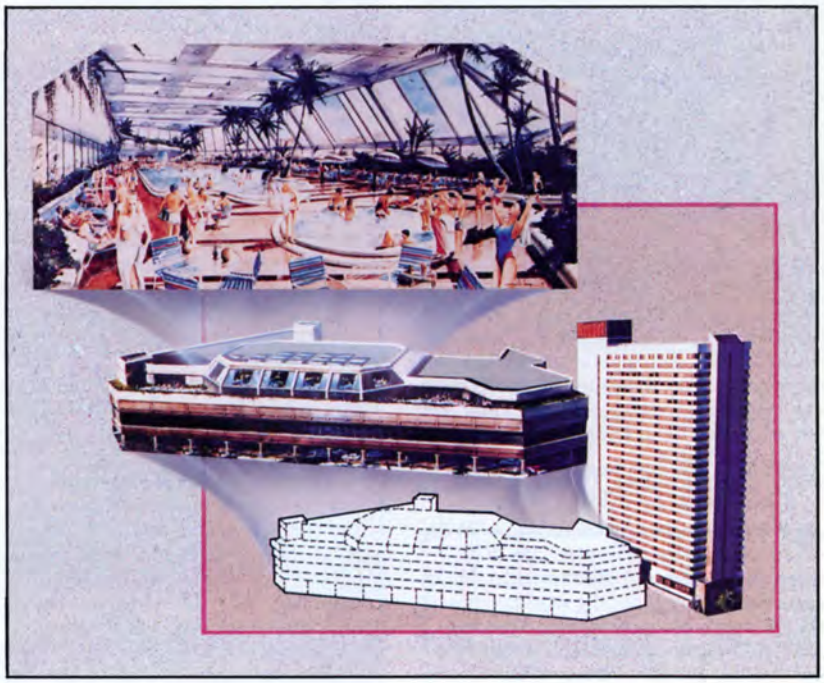
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PREVIEW

Powwow at Stewart

By Ed Johnson

Summertime is powwow time in the West, and Nevada Indian people travel from powwow to powwow, joining in Indian cultural activities, renewing old friendships, and making new ones. Their travel expenses are often covered by the sale of arts and crafts made on the reservations during the winter or by prize money won in dance competitions.

This June 17-18 the public is invited as dancers and arts-and-crafts people from many tribes gather for the eighth annual Stewart Indian Museum Arts and Crafts Fair and Powwow on the grounds of the old Stewart Indian Boarding School in Carson City. Headquarters will be the Stewart Indian Museum. There is no admission charge, and spectators are encouraged to bring cameras.

Both days dancers in colorful costumes will be competing for several thousand dollars in prize money. As the dancers begin their grand entry each day at 1:30 p.m., drummers and singers perform songs that have been sung around Indian campfires since time immemorial.



The Stewart Indian Museum Arts and Crafts Fair and Powwow will be held June 17-18.

Spread out across the powwow grounds will be more than 50 booths displaying pottery basketry buckskin, silver and turquoise jewelry, and other items for sale. Here you can buy directly from the crafts people from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

While you are walking around the grounds, you will notice something in the air. It is the aroma of Indian fry bread, freshly made and pan-fried. Some people go to powwows just for the fry bread. Or maybe they want to taste an Indian taco again. There are always several Indian fry-bread booths at the powwow.

Speaking of food, on Saturday from noon to 2 p.m. the Stewart Indian Museum Association will put on its traditional Indian beef-barbecue feed to raise funds for the museum. In the evening the annual Stewart Indian School Western Reunion dance will be held.

On Sunday the arts-and-crafts fair will begin at 10 a.m., and the finals of the Indian dance competition will start at 1:30 p.m. Occasionally a round dance will be put on to give the dancers a brief rest, and everybody including non-Indians, will be invited to participate in this friendship ritual. At the close of the powwow, about 6 p.m., the judges will make their decisions about the contest winners.

For further information write or call the Stewart Indian Museum, 5366 Snyder Avenue, Carson City NV 89701 or phone 702-882-1808.

and Shadow Mountain sports complexes, Sparks, 355-1210

Reno Rodeo, 6/17-25, top professional cowboys compete in this country's largest added-money rodeo and western celebration; on 6/17 8am buckaroo breakfast, 10am parade in downtown Reno, drill-team competition; also a chili cook-off at Victorian Square in Sparks; on 6/17-25 carnival; on 6/18 team penning, drill competition, western exhibit hall, law librarians rodeo, Bob Feist Invitational Calcutta at Peppermill; on 6/19 Nevada open barrel race, Bob Feist Invitational Roping; on 6/19-25 rodeo performances at 7pm Mon.-Sat. with an additonal 1pm performance on Sat. and finals at 1pm on Sun.; on 6/24 stickhorse grand entry at 12:30, most events at Reno Livestock Events Center, for information call Reno Rodeo at 329-3877 for tickets call 784-4444

Christmas Card Contest Display, 6/20-27 Courthouse Museum, Genoa, 265-2850

Nevada Cutting Horse Assn. Cutting, 6/21-24, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-3877

U.S. Open Backgammon Tournament, 6/21-25, players from throughout the world compete, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 826-1984

June Ball, 6/24, Dayton, 246-3435 or 246-3336

Western States 100-Mile Run, 6/24, Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985

Jackpot of Gems Show, 6/24-25, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 825-3196

Truckee-Tahoe Air Show, 6/24-25, Truckee-Tahoe Airport, 916-583-3494 or 916-587-6290

Northern Nevada Car Club Council Show 'n Shine, 6/25, Rancho San Rafael, 355-7707

Run What U Brung Car Event, 6/25-26, sixth annual, classic, vintage, and custom auto show, public invited, Karson Kruzers, Fuji Park, Carson City, 882-3004

Grand Prix Jumping Classic Horse Show, 6/28-7/2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3073

Independence Day Cribbage Classic, 6/30-7/2, Sands Hotel, 348-2200

July

Nevada State Dairy Goat Show, 7/1-2, Reno Livestock Events Center, 972-8698

Arts and Crafts Fair, 7/1-3 and 7/7-9, Kings Beach State Park, Lake Tahoe, 916-546-2768

John Ascuaga's Nugget Jazz Festival, 7/1-4, seventh annual, 12 of the best jazz bands from the U.S. will rotate throughout casino, top-name musicians will perform special concerts, Sparks, 356-3367

Silver State Quarter Horse Show, 7/1-4, Reno Livestock Events Center, 359-3210

Lake Tahoe Sailweek, 7/1-9, Tahoe Keys Marina, 916-544-6687

Music Festival on the Village Green, 7/2, five bands play country-and-western music, marching tunes, wood ensemble, German band, bring blanket, Village Green behind Hyatt Hotel, Incline Village, 831-4622

Carson City July 4th Celebration, 7/2-4, on 7/2 whistle-stop and wine tasting from 4:30-7:30pm; on 7/3 hoedown, dance, live music, and barbecue from 6-10pm; on 7/4 10-km. fun race and 2 mi. stride at 8am, 11am parade, country fair, fireworks, Mills Park, 882-1565

Mexican Dance, 7/3, Reno Livestock Events Center, 747-7249

Reno Municipal Band's Summer Concert Series, 7/3-7 7/10-14, 7/17-21, 7/24-28, and 7/31, Wingfield Park and UNR, 851-0759

Genoa July 4th Concert in the Park, 7/4, Reno Philharmonic pops concert, the park opens at 3pm for sale of picnic food and drinks and a silent auction, music starts at 5pm, Mormon Station State Park, 883-5009

Virginia City July 4th Celebration, 7/4, parade, band concert, picnic and fireworks, 847-0311

Skyfire, 7/4, fireworks display, Mackay Stadium, UNR, 827-RENO

Star Spangled Fourth of July, 7/4, air show and fireworks display on the south shore of Lake Tahoe, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050

North Lake Tahoe July 4th Celebration, 7/4, parades, picnics, barbecue, craft fairs, fireworks, at Hyatt Hotel and Kings Beach (fireworks programs can also be viewed from Lake Tahoe State Park at Sand Harbor for the regular $4 entrance fee), 916-583-6985

Sparks Festival Days, 7/6-9, carnival, arts and crafts, Iron Horse Shopping Center, dance at McCarran House Inn, Sparks, 358-1976

Button Day, 7/7, button judging, open to public from 2-4pm following judging, button displays, Nevada State Button Club, Comstock Hotel, 882-8124

Nevada State Horseman's Assn. Show, 7/8-9, Reno Livestock Events Center, 972-8043

Comstock Arabian Horse Show, 7/11-16, Reno Livestock Events Center, 329-7366

Music at Sand Harbor Festival, 7/13-16, contemporary music on the shore, Lake Tahoe State Park at Sand Harbor, 916-583-9048

COMING EVENTS

Hot August Nights, 8/3-6, Reno, 829-1955

Shakespeare at Sand Harbor Festival, 8/11-13 and 8/15-21, Lake Tahoe, 916-583-9048

Nevada State Fair, 8/8-13, Reno, 322-4424

Santa Maria Days, 8/12, Dayton, 246-3435 or 246-3336

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Numaga Indian Days Celebration, 9/1-3, Reno, 786-8913

SHOWGUIDE

Bally's Reno, 789-2285: Paul Anka, 5/4-6; Barbara Mandrell, 5/18-20; Liza Minnelli, 5/25-28

Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515: *Cascade Showroom:* Willie Nelson, 5/26-28; Reba McEntire, 6/2-3; Randy Newman, 6/16-17; David Copperfield, 6/28-7/3; Joan Rivers, 7/5-9; Diana Ross, 7/10-16; Pointer Sisters, 7/18-23; Ann-Margret, 7/25-30; *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: Passion, 5/1-13; Motifs, 5/15-27; Wrays, 5/29-6/10; Ohana, 6/12-24; Tommy Bell, 6/26-7/1; Stearns and Chandler, 7/3-15; Whiskey Ridge, 7/17-29

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, 5/2-21; Pat Collins, 7/9-30

Eldorado, Reno, 786-5700: Royal Irish Band 5/3-22; Pat Collins, 5/9-21; Diamonds, 5/23-6/11 and 7/18-8/6; Ricky and the Redstreaks/Doug Kershaw, 6/13-25; Dae Han Sisters, 6/26-7/16; Sons of the Pioneers, 6/27-7/2; A Hawaiian Experience, 7/17-8/6



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Fitzgerald's, Reno, 785-3300: Stearns and Chandler, 5/22-6/4; Motifs, thru 5/14; Tommy Bell, 5/8-21; Perfect Circle, 5/15-28; Ohana, 5/29-6/11; David Proud, 6/5-11; Whiskey Ridge, 6/12-25; Passion, 6/12-25

Harolds Club, Reno, 329-0881: Perfect Circle, 5/1-14; Mixed Company, 5/1-7; Garfin Gathering, 5/8-21; Reta and the Wizz Kidz, 5/15-21; Tommy Bell, 5/22-28; Network, 5/22-6/4; Motifs, 5/29-6/4; Love Affair, 6/5-18; Stearns and Chandler, 6/5-18; Marty Davis, 6/19-25; Tommy Bell, 6/19-25; Whiskey Ridge, 6/26-7/9; Ohana, 6/26-7/9

Harrah's Reno, 329-4422: *Headliner Room:* Loretta Lynn/Mike Snyder, thru 5/3; Bobby Vinton/Kay Starr, 5/4-10; Waylon Jennings/Jessi Colter, 5/11-17; Dionne Warwick/Louise DuArt, 5/18-24; Sid Caesar/Jack Jones, 5/25-31; Roy Clark, 6/1-7; K.T. Oslin, 6/8-14; Mickey Gilley/Dan Riley, 6/15-21; Glen Campbell, 6/22-28; Ray Stevens/Mike Neun, 6/29-7/5 and 7/7-12; Yakov Smirnoff, 7/13-19; Neil Sedaka, 7/20-26; Tony Orlando and Dawn, 7/27-8/2; *Casino Cabaret:* Platters, 5/4-17; Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra, 6/1-7; Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, 6/15-28; Frederic Apcar's "Zing!" revue, indf.

Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6606: *South Shore Room:* Engelbert Humperdinck, 5/2-7; Sammy Davis, Jr., 5/9-14; Johnny Mathis, 5/16-19; *Stateline Cabaret:* Frederic Apcar's "Fast Company," thru 5/8; "Magic From the Far Side" with Mark Kornhauser and Friends, 5/10-22; David R. Wright and Jose Luis Vinas present "Shocked," 5/24-9/26; Rob Hanna Salutes Rod Stewart, 5/4-16; Platters, 5/18-30

Harvey's, Stateline, 588-2411: Wizz Kidz, thru 5/7; Big Tiny Little, 5/1-9; Sonny Turner, 5/4-28; Ohana, 5/8-28; Freddy Cole, 5/8-28; Perfect Circle, 5/29-6/18; Jean Shy, 5/29-6/18; Louie Moon, 6/19-7/2; Stephanie Teel, 7/3-23; Classics IV 7/24-8/13; Pazzaz Revue, indf.; Ron Rose Sound, indf.



The Nevada State Button Club will button up the Comstock Hotel on Button Day, July 7

Hyatt Lake Tahoe, Incline, 831-1111: Entertainment TBA

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304: *Celebrity Showroom:* Freddy Fender, thru 5/3; T.G. Sheppard, 5/4-17; Dottie West/Dieter Tasso, 5/18-31; Michael Martin Murphey/The Mums, 6/1-14; *Casino Lounge:* Richard Pearl/Zella Lehr, thru 5/14; Chicago Transfer, 5/15-6/4; Martha's Children, 5/16-6/4; Southern Reign, 6/6-25

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890: Rita and the Wizz Kidz 5/1-14; Stan Corliss, 5/15-28; Garfin Gathering, 5/23-6/4

Photo: Ed Salas

Peppermill, Reno, 826-2121: Cameron, thru 5/7; Robert France, thru 5/7; Lelands, 5/1-14; Neill and Christine, 5/8-21; St. Romain, 5/8-21; David Proud, 5/15-28; Cheryl Cotton, 5/22-6/4; Leoni-Hecht, 5/22-28; Gary Wade, 5/29-6/11; Blind Date, 6/5-18; Cameron, 6/19-7/9; Wrays, 6/12-25; Robert France, 6/26-7/9; Lelands, 7/1-16

Reno Hilton, 322-1111: Showroom dark due to renovating

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: St. Romain, thru 5/7; Tommy Bell, 5/1-7; Gary Wade, 5/8-14; Wrays, 5/8-21; Stew Stewart, 5/15-21; France, 5/22-6/2

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

E.L. Wiegand Museum of Art: 10-6 Tues.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 160 W. Liberty, 329-3333

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

Hawkins House: art museum, 10-4 Tues. and Thurs.-Fri., 10-8 Wed., 12-4 Sat.-Sun., 549 Court St., 329-3333

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

UNR Anthropology Dept. Research Museum: 9-1 Mon.-Fri. Sept.-May, open all year by appointment, UNR, 784-4686

Wilbur D. May Museum: (includes Discovery Room) 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 Wed.-Sun., 820 B St., 355-1144

Virginia City

Comstock Firemen's Museum: 10-4 daily, May-

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Oct., closed during winter, 847-0717
Fourth Ward School Museum: 10-5 daily, May-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
Museum of Art and Science: 3359 U.S. Hwy. 50 E., 10-5 Tues.-Fri., paintings of futurist artists including Oronzo Abbatecola, prints, limited editions, and cards, 883-7447
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
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
Desert Moon Gallery: 725 S. Center St., 329-4911
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

Nevada Fine Arts: 1030 E. 4th St., 9-5:30 Mon.-Sat., limited edition prints of state and federal duck stamp prints, Vivi Crandall's wildlife prints, 786-1128

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

PREVIEW

Museum Days

By Tamara Charland

It was a dream come true for Judge Clark J. Guild when curious visitors jammed the Nevada State Museum in Carson City half a century ago.

Guild had vigorously campaigned to save the abandoned U.S. Mint and convert it into a state monument. Through his efforts, and the help of other friends of Nevada, the old stone building was refurbished and became the home of the State Museum, which now has more than 250,000 visitors annually.

This year the museum will celebrate its 50th anniversary during History Expo '89 on May 19-29. Also included in the festivities are the Virginia and Truckee Railroad's 120th anniversary.

While honoring the 50th and 120th birthdays, the 10 days of History Expo '89 will also feature educational and entertaining activities.

Representatives from various Nevada museums and state parks will be on hand with exhibits. The evening events will include guest lecturers, who will discuss such topics as Native American culture, preserving the state's architecture, and desert reptiles. The entertainment will include ethnic dancers, classical musicians, and Nevada folk artisans.



A mining-town replica in the State Museum, which is 50 years old this year

On May 20-21, in recognition of International Museum Day admission to the museum will be free.

The Nevada State Railroad Museum, home of many vintage V&T locomotives and cars, also will hold events during the Expo. They include a railfare, a visiting locomotive display and an engine steam-up at the rail yards at the south end of Carson City.

For more information on History Expo '89 call Janine Sprout at the Nevada State Museum, 702-885-4810.



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Kit Carson Pirouettes

By Brian Buckley

"Bill, I'm going to kill you."

Bill Meakin looked across the stage. All six–foot–plus and 200 pounds of hard-rock miner Billy Varga was glaring at him with murder in his heart.

The other eight men waiting for the antique curtain to rise on the Piper's Opera House stage wouldn't have lifted a finger to save Meakin. In fact, they would have cheerfully lent a hand to their other friend, Varga. It was a hot August night in Virginia City, but here they were, dressed in long johns, mining boots, coonskin and cowboy hats—and fluffy pink tutus. The first performance of "The Mountain Men Ballet" was about to begin, and for good or bad, it was all Bill Meakin's fault. He wrote the thing.

By the time the curtain rose above their knees the standing-room-only crowd of 500 was howling with laughter. The stone-faced men stood like statues in first position. At the first strains of "Swan Lake," they began to dance—in step, amazingly. If it were possible for the spectators to shout any louder, they did.

"Still want to kill me, Billy?"

"I love you, Bill!" growled the big, hairy ballerina.

If you missed it the first time, don't worry. By popular demand, the Virginia City Players will present their unusual musical during the annual Kit Carson Rendezvous and Wagon Train Days celebration in Carson City. Performances will be June 8-9 at the Carson City Community Center.



Tutus and long johns are the dress de rigueur for participants in "The Mountain Men Ballet," to be held June 8-9 during the Kit Carson Rendezvous in Carson City.

The rendezvous' regular events follow on the weekend of June 10-11, when mountain men, Indians, and their admirers stage a colorful gathering at Mills Park.

There will be western entertainment, a farrier's (horseshoer's) contest, food and craft booths, and the Northern Nevada Amateur Boxing Championships. A wagon train wends its way along U.S. 395 from Reno to Carson starting on June 8. To top it all off, western artist Buckeye Blake will unveil his statue of Kit Carson at the Legislature.

And the perfect way to get in the mood for the rendezvous will be to step back to the Virginia City of 1862 with the hairy but handsome stars of "The Mountain Men Ballet."

Brian Buckley is the ballet critic for Nevada Magazine.

Photos: Linda Mainville

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

•Menus in braille are now available in several of the restaurants at **John Ascuaga's Nugget** in Sparks, and they can be obtained at the hostess station. These braille editions have been prepared for the General Store, the Farm House, and room service, the lunch menu in Trader Dick's, and the dinner menu in the Steak House.

•Travelers flying into Reno Cannon International Airport can check into **Harrah's Reno** while waiting for their luggage to be unloaded. Harrah's new Guest Service Center, located in the airport baggage-claim area, allows guests to communicate with a reservations clerk via television screens.

•After its 25-story hotel tower is completed this spring, the **Eldorado Hotel** will stand 252 feet tall. The $45-million expansion began in April 1988. The top floor of the tower will house four penthouse suites. The newly expanded Eldorado will employ more than 2,000 people, bringing more than 600 additional jobs to Reno.

•The **Comstock Hotel** celebrates its 11th birthday on May 12-14 with music, special activities, and birthday cake.

•A new look and a new name are coming to the **Reno Hilton**. Remodeling at the Hilton's Virginia Street and Sierra Street locations will result in a new, Southwestern-style gaming hacienda and restaurant called Paco's. To celebrate Paco's Mexican theme, the Hilton is aiming for a Cinco de Mayo (Mexican Independence Day) opening on May 5. The renovation of the main casino—part of a $13-million transformation of the Reno Hilton into the Flamingo Hilton Reno—is scheduled to be completed for a Memorial Day opening.

•For the eighth consecutive year **Harvey's Resort Hotel** has been selected to receive the prestigious four-star designation from the Mobil Travel Guide. Winners of the Four-Star Award are considered "outstanding and worth a special trip and are known for their luxurious appointments, meticulous maintenance, and outstanding service."

TOURNAMENTS

May

Slots, 4/30-5/2, Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 588-6611
Blackjack, 5/12-13, Peppermill, 826-2121 ext. 7100
Slots, 5/19, Club Cal-Neva, 323-1046
Slots, 5/19-21, Harvey's, Lake Tahoe, 588-2411
Video Poker, 5/19-21, Reno Hilton, 785-7300
Slots, 5/19-21, Reno Ramada, 788-2000
Slots, 5/21-24, Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515
Slots, 5/29-6/1, 6/12-14, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300

June

Slots, 6/11-13, Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 588-6611
Slots, 6/12-14, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300
Eleventh World Championship of Race Horse Handicapping, 6/14-17 Cal-Neva, 323-1046
Dice, 6/17 Peppermill, 826-2121 ext. 7100

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THE NEVADA CALENDAR

Rural Areas



When the citizens of Tonopah celebrate Jim Butler Days on Memorial Day weekend, much of the cheering takes place at the mucking (above) and rock drilling events, in which both men and women compete.

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

May

Spring Festival of Art, thru 5/22, Elko County Art Club, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

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, 7:30pm, Northern Nevada Concert Orchestra Assn., convention center, Elko, 738-4187 or 738-4091

Spring Craft Show, 5/6, handcrafted items by local residents, 10am-5pm, Nixon Hall, Winnemucca, 623-3518 or 623-3704

Arts and Crafts Show, 5/6-7 Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Dance Delight Studios Performance, 5/7 convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Art Exhibit, 5/11-6/25, watercolors by Pat Bergstrom, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Elko High School Spring Musical, 5/12-13, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Pony Express Championships, 5/13, relay horse race, calcutta, rodeo arena, Wells, 752-3540

Waylon Jennings Concert, 5/19-20 (tentative), Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Western Festival Days, 5/20-21, western arts and crafts, fastest gun in Nevada competition, western music, Indian dancers, City Park, Elko, 738-7135

Elko High School Spring Choral Concert, 5/24, free, convention center, Elko, 738-7281

Art Exhibit, 5/25-6/25, works by metal sculptor Susan Glaser Church, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Old Timers Team Roping, 5/26-29, the age of the two team ropers must add up to either 90, 100, or 110 years, rodeo grounds, 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 is at Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321, or call race chairman at 707-795-1727

Northwest Navioneers Fly-In, 5/27 from Spokane, WA, to Jackpot, Cactus Pete's, 755-2321 ext. 116

Nevada State Parks 50th Anniversary Slide Show, 5/27 previews 22 state park units and the recreational opportunities they have to offer, meet at campground area, 8pm, Wild Horse State Recreation Area, 67 miles northeast of Elko, 758-6493

Silver State Stampede, 5/27-28, PRCA rodeo, parade, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-8866 or 738-5134

Morrodderma Car Show, 5/27-29, first annual rod and custom car show, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

June

Elko Hospital Fun-A-Roo, 6/2, games, entertainment, and food, open to all ages, hospital fundraiser, convention center, Elko, 738-4091

Winnemucca Mule Association Show and Races, 6/2-4, AMA-approved Wild Card Class "A" Show, open draft horse show, races on 6/3-4 with pari-mutuel betting, rodeo grounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071

Denio Centennial Celebration and Barbecue, 6/3, 11am parade, team roping, walking tours of historic Denio, oral and written histories of area characters, historic photo exhibit, cowboy poets, barrel racing, kids' rodeo, barbecue, audio-visual montage of Denio-

Photo: David Hayes

area images of the last 100 years by Linda Dufurrena, dance, Denio, on State Route 140 near the Oregon border, 100 mi. north of Winnemucca, 941-0257 or 941-0246

Old-Timers Rodeo, 6/3-4, rodeo and circus, Wendover, 664-3414

Elko High School Rodeo, 6/3-4, fairgrounds, Elko, 738-5866

Elko Expo Open '89, 6/6-7, two-day golf tournament-scramble, kick-off for the Elko Mining Expo, Ruby View Golf Course, Elko, 738-4091

Mining Expo '89, 6/8-10, Nevada's largest tribute to mining includes original miners' tug-of-war and heavy-equipment operators contests (log rolling, potato push, egg carry), seminars, demonstrations, suppliers, miners, governmental agencies, Elko, 738-4091

Great Western Flea Market, 6/9, State Line Casino, Wendover, 664-2221

Seattle AOPA Fly-In, 6/10, from Seattle, WA, to Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Winnemucca Basque Festival, 6/10-11, on Sat. parade, Basque sporting events including weight-lifting, wood-chopping, soka tira (tug-of-war), sheepdog working, plus traditional dancing and music, sheepherder bread-baking contest, irrintzi (yell) contest; on Sun. 11am outdoor Mass followed by picnic at noon, rodeo grounds and City Park, Winnemucca, 623-3277

Cactus Pete's Horseshoe Tournament, 6/10-11, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

State High School Rodeo Finals, 6/15-18, fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 623-5071

A Common Thread, 6/15-7/15, 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, Humboldt County Library, Winnemucca, 623-6388

Fourth Annual Summer Buster Fun Run, 6/16-18, foot race, Silver Smith Casino, Wendover, 664-2231

Elmore Motorcycle Trailride, 6/17 first annual dirt bike ride, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Yuba City Fly-In, 6/17 from Yuba City, CA, to Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Red Mountain Indian Powwow, 6/17-18, gathering of western Indian tribes with traditional dances, Indian stick games, barbecue, and rodeo, Red Mountain Rodeo Arena, Fort McDermit, 532-8259

Paradise Valley Volunteer Fire Department Father's Day Barbecue, 6/18, 2pm, Paradise Valley, 623-5071

Meyers 200 Fly-In, 6/21-24, convention of Meyers plane owners, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Emigrant Trail Tour, 6/24, car caravan along portions of the old Emigrant Trail, high-clearance vehicle needed, Rye Patch State Recreation Area, 538-7321

Classic Slot Tournament, 6/24-25, Silver Smith Casino, Wendover, 664-2231

Wells Bustin' and Dustin' PRCA Rodeo, 6/24-25, parade, rodeo, and barbecue, Wells, 752-3486

Battle Mountain Junior Rodeo, 6/24-25 (tentative), for children 15 and under, barrels, sheep riding, poles, calf riding, Battle Mountain, 635-2200

Lamoille Fair, 6/25, arts, crafts, Lamoille Grove, Lamoille, 738-3423

99's Air Race Classic, 6/26, layover at Cactus Pete's in Jackpot for race from the West Coast to the East Coast, 755-2321 ext. 116

Art Exhibit, 6/28-8/7 watercolor and etchings

PREVIEW

Gridley Days: Fiddlin' Time in Austin

By Andrea Graham



The fiddlin' family of Jake, Annie, and Kasey Wise will be in Austin as Jake defends his state title.

Reuel Gridley and his renowned sack of flour will be honored in Austin during the fifth annual Gridley Days and Old-Time Fiddle Contest on June 16-17 In fact, 1989 is the 125th anniversary of Gridley's hike down Main Street with the flour sack, which was his penalty for losing a bet on the 1864 election. When Gridley then auctioned off the sack to raise money for the Sanitary Fund, the bet turned into a nationwide tour. His sack was auctioned hundreds of times around the country to benefit the fund, the forerunner of the Red Cross.

Austinites remember the event with their own sack race, which is more of a lethargic jog down the street carrying sandbags adorned with ribbons and American flags. It's all good fun, as is the entire weekend. In addition to the race on Saturday morning, which starts at Gridley's old store at the upper end of town, there will be a horseshoe-pitching contest, a pancake breakfast, an evening barbecue in the park, and entertainment in the town's numerous saloons.

The centerpiece of Gridley Days is the fiddle contest, the only such event in Nevada. Musicians from all over the West compete in a half-dozen age categories, from the tiny pee-wees to the seniors, beginning at 4 p.m. Friday in the town park. A second round is played on Saturday before the winners are announced and awarded plaques and cash prizes. Booths with food, beer, soft drinks, and crafts are open during the day and the audience runs the gamut from toddlers to old-timers.

A special attraction on Saturday afternoon is the Nevada State Fiddle Contest, open only to Nevada fiddlers. It has been won for the two years of its existence by Jake Wise of Silver City. Wise and his wife Annie play regularly in the Reno area, and he says he actually is not much for fiddle contests. But he turned up in Austin three years ago just for fun because a paying job had been canceled. And he comes back "just because it's Austin. The town is full of people having a good time." He also appreciates the relaxed atmosphere of the contest and feels it is more fun that way for both the fiddlers and the audience.

Contestants are required to play three tunes: a hoedown, a waltz, and a tune of their choice. Judges have a strict set of criteria to go by including appropriateness, technical difficulty intonation, and technical skill, but the most important element for Wise, what he calls "feeling," is harder to quantify, although he is sure it enters into the decision.

Jake is backed up by his wife Annie on guitar. Their repertoire is much broader than just old-time music and includes Cajun, jazz, blues, bluegrass, and swing, as well as songs that Annie writes. When they come to Austin, they also bring along their five-year-old son Kasey, a fiddler in his own right and the winner two years running of the pee-wee division. The Wises are proud of their family music, and they say they enjoy the fiddle contest because it is really a big family gathering, too.

If you're lucky while wandering from the Austin Saloon down past the Owl Club to the International Hotel on Saturday night, you'll hear the fiddlers gathered inside, or in the motel parking lots, swapping tunes and visiting. Ask any one of them, and they'll tell you this is the real reason they come; the contest is just an excuse.

No one needs an excuse to go to Austin for Gridley Days or at any time. It's 70 miles from Eureka, the nearest town, and 110 miles from Fallon on U.S. 50. Write the Austin Chamber of Commerce, Box 212, Austin, NV 89310 or call 702-964-2200 for information.

Andrea Graham of Virginia City is a folklorist and a Comstock Chronicle *reporter*

Photo: Jean Dixon Aikin

by artist Lady Jill Mueller, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

One Shot Short Photo Club Exhibit, 6/29-8/7 Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

July

National Basque Festival, 7/1-3, traditional Basque competitions, dances, and barbecue at Nevada's largest and oldest Basque festival, City Park and fairgrounds, Elko, 738-2046

IVHC Homebuilts Fly-In, 7/1-3, convention and 120-mile race, Cactus Pete's, Jackpot, 755-2321 ext. 116

Roping, 7/2, Chris Bengoa's Arena, five mi. west of McDermitt, 532-8269

Twin States Stampede, 7/3-4, one of Nevada's oldest rodeo events with contests, street games, street dance, food, McDermitt, 532-8240 or 532-8269

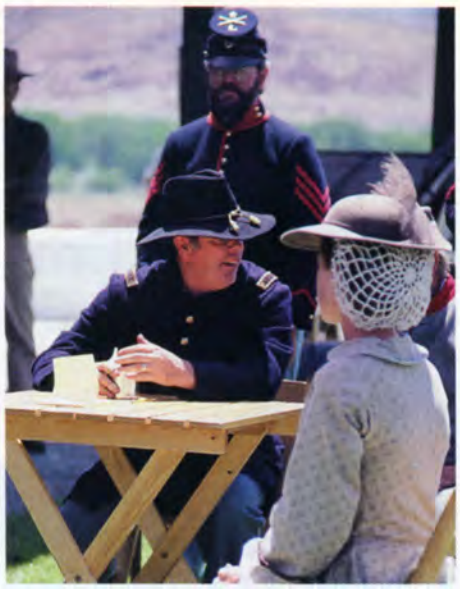
National Hollering Contest, 7/4, hollering contest at Shoshone Canyon, one mile south of Jackpot; kids' games, outdoor barbecue, speeches, and fireworks, Jackpot, 755-2321

Wendover July 4th Celebration, 7/4, parade, softball tourney, barbecue, sixth annual Daybreaker Run and Ride, 664-3414 or 664-2221

Winnemucca July 4th Celebration, 7/4, fireworks, City Park, 623-5071

Ag in Mining, 7/6-8, symposium devoted to discussion of reclamation issues, regional and national agricultural interest, supported by Nevada Mining Assn., Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091

International Feed Lot Championship Ropers, 7/25-29, Winnemucca, 623-5071



Fashions of the '60s—the 1860s—will be in vogue during Fort Churchill's celebration on June 3.

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

May

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

A Common Thread, 5/1-31, 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, White Pine Public Museum, Ely, 289-4710

Special Occasion Faire, 5/5-6, handcrafted gift items, craft demonstrations, food, live entertainment, free, 9am-6pm Fri., 9am-6pm Sat., community center, Fallon, 867-3576

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 and 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

Yerington Theatre for the Arts Community Play, 5/19-20, play TBA, Yerington High School, 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

Lyon County Museum Anniversary Celebration, 5/27-29, blacksmithing, slides, natural history lectures, Lyon County Museum, Yerington, 463-2137

Hotel Nevada/Jailhouse Invitational Softball Tournament, 5/27-29, men's slow pitch, Marich Softball Complex, Ely, 289-4071

Yokohama VORRA Off-Road Race, 5/28, 400-mile race starts aand ends in Yerington, 463-3363

June

Fort Churchill Celebration, 6/3, activities celebrating the fort's active years include talks and demonstrations of typical camp life, Victorian fashion show, military tactics, and battle scenarios, sewing, spinning, millinery, and children's games, 10am-5pm, Fort Churchill State Historic Park, 577-2345

Boating Safety Seminar, 6/3, Lake Lahontan, Silver Springs, 867-3500

White Pine Rodeo, 6/3-4, Ely, 289-8877

Firmin Bruener Days, 6/10-11, open house of the Berlin townsite, special tours of the townsite are planned, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 867-3001

Hidden Cave Tours, 6/10 and 6/24, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

Hazen Days, 6/11, starts with a parade and follows with contests, music, street dance, and barbecue, Hazen, 867-3066

American Bashkir Curly Horse Convention, 6/15-18, horse show competition for more than $10,000 in prizes, convention center and fairgrounds, Ely, 289-8877

Bristlecone Country Softball, 6/16-17, 15th annual, men's fast pitch, Ely, 289-2085

Gridley Days, 6/16-17 featuring an Old Time Fiddlers Contest sanctioned by the National Old Time Fiddlers Assn., and the Nevada State Championship Fiddler's Contest, sack of flour race, barbecue, Town Park, Austin, 964-2671, 964-2419 or 964-2200

Pony Express Re-Ride, 6/15-17 the National Pony Express Assn. will be holding its annual re-ride from Sacramento to Missouri; a rider will arrive at Fort Churchill State Historic Park at about 1pm on 6/17 577-2345

Moonlight Gazebo Square Dance, 6/17 6pm potluck barbecue, 8pm square dancing, Weed Heights Gazebo, Yerington, 465-2301

Belmont Courthouse Open House, 6/17 7/15, 8/19, opening of 113-year-old building for

VISIT
HISTORIC BEATTY



THE GATEWAY TO DEATH VALLEY
Beatty Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 956
Beatty, Nevada 89003
Tel # (702) 553-2339

Photo: Bernadette Smith

casual inspection, Belmont, 867-3001

Rebels Slo-Pitch Tournament, 6/23-25, third annual, women's slow pitch, Marich Softball Complex, Ely, 289-2085

Bristlecone Country Softball, 6/23-25, sixth annual, men's slow pitch, Ely, 289-8877

July

Stargaze, 7/1, study the summer sky under the direction of Reno's Fleischmann Planetarium staff, Fort Churchill State Historic Park, 577-2345

Kiwanis July 4th Celebration, 7/4, Ely, 289-8877

Austin July 4th Celebration, 7/4, dancing to live music at Austin Fire House, 964-2200

Nevada International Invitational Rodeo, 7/6-9, champion contestants from U.S. and Canada; barbecue, dances, concessions, and entertainment, Fallon, 423-4674

Hidden Cave Tours, 7/8 and 7/22, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

White Pine Basque Festival, 7/15-16, dance and picnic, Broadbent Park, Ely, 289-8877

All-Indian Stampede and Pioneer Days, 7/15-16, parade, rodeo, Indian stick games, Indian powwow, Miss Indian Nevada contest, western dance, calcutta, ladies mud wrestling, arts and crafts, fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-3968

PIONEER TERRITORY

May

Nevada State Heritage Quilt Project Quilt Day, 5/6, location TBA, Tonopah, 482-8583

Off-Road Rally, 5/13, course covers Alamo, Delamar, and Caliente, Nevada Off Highway Users Council, 453-4958

Armed Forces Day Celebration, 5/13-21, to honor the Armed Forces this annual community celebration includes dances, boxing, art exhibits, stock-car races, 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

Lincoln County Rodeo Series, 5/19-20, Alamo, 726-3333

Nevada 1100, 5/20-21, invitational motorcycle rally, proceeds to benefit Beatty VFD and EMTs, Beatty, 553-2339

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

Lincoln County Homecoming, 5/27-28, all former residents and friends are invited to return to Caliente for softball tournaments, entertainment, and Sun. barbecue and crowning of Homecoming royalty, Dixon Park, Caliente, 726-3129

Pahrump Round-Up Rodeo (Open), 5/27-28, first annual, on Sat. 1pm rodeo, evening outdoor dance and barbecue at Pahrump Station Plaza; on Sun. noon rodeo, rodeo arena, Pahrump, 727-7344 or 727-5006

Western Hoedown, 5/28, hoedown and barbecue in World War II hanger, six miles from Tonopah, Joshua Country RV Park, $3 overnight parking fee and $5 registration fee, 482-3434

June

Culpepper and Merriweather Circus, 6/5, 6pm and 8pm, community fairgrounds, Pahrump, 727-5800

Children's Fishing Derby, 6/10, fishing competition for children, awards, film, Spring Valley State Park, 962-5102

Steve Owen Memorial Liar's Race, 6/18, Cliff House Marina, Walker Lake, 945-5570

Lincoln County Rodeo Series, 6/23-24, Alamo, 728-4682

July

Hayride, 7/1, 45-minute ride on hay wagon with ranger through Echo Canyon, rides leave from the boat-launch parking lot, 9am, 11am, 1pm, and 3pm, Echo Canyon State Recreation Area, Pioche, 962-5103

Caliente July 4th Celebration, 7/1-2 and 7/4, parade on 7/4, 726-3129

Alamo July 4th Celebration, 7/3, 726-3209

Tonopah July 4th Celebration, 7/4, parade, barbecue, and fireworks, 482-3859

Beatty July 4th Celebration, 7/4, games, watermelon-eating contest, election of annual Honorary Mayor and Jackass, fireworks, 533-2339

Un-Horse Derby and July 4th Celebration, 7/4, stick-horse race, in which the speed of the "horse" and jockey is determined by the roll of dice, games, food, and fireworks, fairgrounds, Pahrump, 727-5800 or 727-5107

The Foundation Documents, 7/4, 9/7 and 12/15, a community reading of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the

WIN

Nevada Silver Bullion Bars
250 oz in Total Prizes

ENTER THE SILVER TRAILS TRIVIA II CONTEST

50 oz. of Nevada silver will be won on each of the three routes: 93, 95, or 50. The Grand Prize winner will win 100 oz. of Nevada silver!
To enter, watch for posters at participating merchants along the routes forming the Silver Triangle.



MINE OUT THE FACTS!

For more information and entry form write:
Pioneer Territory
Post Office Box 255
Caliente, Nevada 89008

This is a joint contest sponsored by both the Pioneer Territory and the Pony Express Territory.

PREVIEW

Days of the Pony Express

By Kacey Clark



Pony Express re-riders will race day and night across the state on June 15-17

The Pony Express, a famous chapter in the history of the West, lasted only a year. It began on April 3, 1860, when a rider employed by Russell, Majors, and Waddell, the company's owners, set off on the first overland mail route from St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sacramento, California, and back again. The riders were usually 14 to 16 years old, wiry, and light and knew how to handle a horse.

On October 24, 1861, the financially unstable Pony Express closed. In a sense, the venture had beaten itself. The Pony Express had increased the interest in the West's commercial possibilities, but with the telegraph and transcontinental railroad coming, there would be no need for this horse-driven service.

Yet, the Pony Express had a spirit, and that spirit lives on.

Each June the members of the National Pony Express Association (NPEA) hold a national re-ride that follows as closely as possible the original trail. These modern-day riders are not the young, wiry trail blazers of the old Pony Express, but you can bet that in 10 days the mail will have traveled the 1,966 miles to its destination.

This June 9-18 they will ride from St. Joe to Sacramento, visiting Nevada on the way on June 15-17 Some good spots to cheer the riders on will be Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Dayton State Park, the Carson City Nugget, and Mormon Station State Historic Park in Genoa.

This is an important year for the NPEA because a bill is going before Congress that, if passed, will preserve the trail as a nationally preserved trail.

To get a re-ride schedule write the NPEA, Box 1643, Minden, NV 89423. Riders will carry 1,000 letters from Missouri to California to be forwarded by regular mail to destinations all over the United States and the world. The cost to send a 1989 Pony Express letter is $5, as it was in 1860; for more information write the NPEA, Box 236, Pollock Pines, CA 95726.

DISCOVER

PAHRUMP



WELCOME TO OUR VALLEY! *Only 60 miles west of Las Vegas*

Sponsored by;
Pahrump Valley Chamber of Commerce
Harvest Festival, Economic Development,
and the Racing Association

For Information Call
(702) 727-5800
Or Write
P.O. Box 42 Pahrump, Nv. 89041

Photo: Bernadette Smith

United States, and the Bill of Rights; presented by local organizations and outside speakers, Mineral County Museum, Hawthorne, 945-5142 or 945-3111

Walker 100 Boat Race, 7/8-9, 23rd annual Walker Lake, 12 miles north of Hawthorne, 945-5570

Pioche Heritage Days, 7/26-29, performances by area residents depicting events and stories from Pioche's history, includes two true Pioche historical vignettes and one professionally written melodrama; arts and crafts fair, heritage quilt raffle, Town Hall, Pioche, 962-5215 or 962-5544

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

Lovelock Frontier Days, 8/4-6, 273-2687

Bonneville Speed Week, 8/20-26, Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 664-3414 or 714-846-4250

Lyon County Fair and Rodeo, 8/24-27 Yerington, 463-2635

Western Art Roundup, 9/1-3, Winnemucca, 529-0452

Winnemucca Rodeo and Tri County Fair, 9/1-4, Winnemucca, 623-5071

Pioche Labor Day Celebration, 9/1-4, 962-5544

Meadow Valley Days, 9/22-23, Caliente, 726-3129



Cortez Gold employees (gold shirts) prove their mettle during Elko's giant Mining Expo.

SHOWGUIDE

Covered Wagon Territory

Elko: Commercial Hotel, 738-3181: Stew Stewart Show, thru 5/14; Dennis Barney and Nashville Rebels, 5/15-6/4; Linda Byers and Southbound Express, 6/5-18; Cadilax Band, 6/26-7/9; Will Miller and Honkey Tonk Fever, 7/10-23; The Matys Brothers, indf.; Red Lion, 738-2111; Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141

Jackpot: Cactus Pete's, 755-2321: Steve Allen, 5/26-27; Glen Campbell, 6/30-7/1; Eddie Rabbitt, 7/7-8; Horseshu Casino, 755-2331

Wendover: Nevada Crossing, 664-4000; Peppermill, 664-2255: Tammy Allen and RSVP 5/1-7; Freeway, 5/8-21; Lelands, 5/22-6/4; Latisha and Foxworth, 5/29-6/11; Robert France Band, 6/5-18; Hollywood Argiles, 6/19-26; St. Romain, 6/27-7/9; Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, 7/10-16; Wrays/Sneak Preview, 7/17-30; Red Garter, 664-2111; Silver Smith, 664-2231: Entertainment nightly; State Line, 664-2221: Entertainment nightly

Winnemucca: Winners Hotel, 623-2511

Pony Express Territory

Battle Mountain: Owl Club, 635-5155

Fallon: Fallon Nugget, 423-3111

Yerington: Casino West, 463-2481; Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868: Entertainment weekends

Pioneer Territory

Pahrump: Saddle West Casino, 727-5953

Tonopah: Station House, 482-9777

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, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat.-Sun., 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710

Eureka Sentinel Museum, open April 15 to Oct. 13, hours vary, call 237-5484, Eureka

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave,

THE GHOST TRAIN of OLD ELY



AUTHENTIC STEAM & DIESEL RIDES
Operating each weekend
May 27th thru September 30th, 1989

Savor the real west and step back in time as you explore the "Best Preserved" shortline in North America. Visit the Railroad Museum of the Nevada Northern Railway and experience the wonderful sight, sound, and smell of a real old time steam railroad.

Museum tours offered Tuesday thru Sunday, May 27 thru September 3rd. Exhibits include general office and depot from 1907, roundhouse, machine and blacksmith shops, and historic rolling stocks of steam, diesel and electric locomotives, passenger and freight cars, and antique work equipment.

NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY MUSEUM
P O. Box 40 • East Ely, Nevada 89315 • (702)-289-2085

Photo: Jeff Mullins

PREVIEW

Summer Rodeos

Rodeos are an important Nevada tradition, whether they are big-name or hometown gatherings. Here's a sampling of rodeos scheduled through July.

Lincoln County Rodeo Series, 5/19-20, Alamo, 726-3333
Elks Helldorado, 5/19-28, Las Vegas, 739-3900 or 385-1221
Silver State Stampede, 5/27-28, Elko, 738-8866 or 738-5134
Pahrump Round-Up Rodeo (Open), 5/27-28, 727-7344 or 727-5006
Denio Centennial Celebration, Team Roping, and Kids' Rodeo, 6/3, Denio, 941-0257 or 941-0246
Old-Timers Rodeo, 6/3-4, Wendover, 664-3414
White Pine Rodeo, 6/3-4, Ely, 289-8877
State High School Rodeo Finals, 6/15-18, Winnemucca, 623-5071
Red Mountain Indian Powwow, 6/17-18, Fort McDermit, 532-8259
Reno Rodeo, 6/17-25, 329-3877
Lincoln County Rodeo Series, 6/23-24, Alamo, 728-4682
Wells Bustin' and Dustin' PRCA Rodeo, 6/24-25, Wells, 752-3486



Fallon hosts high-school champs from 35 states in the Nevada International Invitational Rodeo, July 6-9.

Battle Mountain Junior Rodeo, 6/24-25 (tentative), Battle Mountain, 635-2200
Twin States Stampede, 7/3-4, McDermitt, 532-8240 or 532-8269
Austin's July 4th Roping, 7/4, 964-2200
Nevada International Invitational Rodeo, 7/6-9, Fallon, 423-4674
All-Indian Stampede and Pioneer Days, 7/15-16, Fallon, 423-3968
Capital City Junior Rodeo, 7/27-30, Carson City 246-5039

10-4 Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677 For Cave tours call Carson City BLM, 882-1631
Lyon County Museum, 10-4 Sat., 1-4 Sun., Yerington

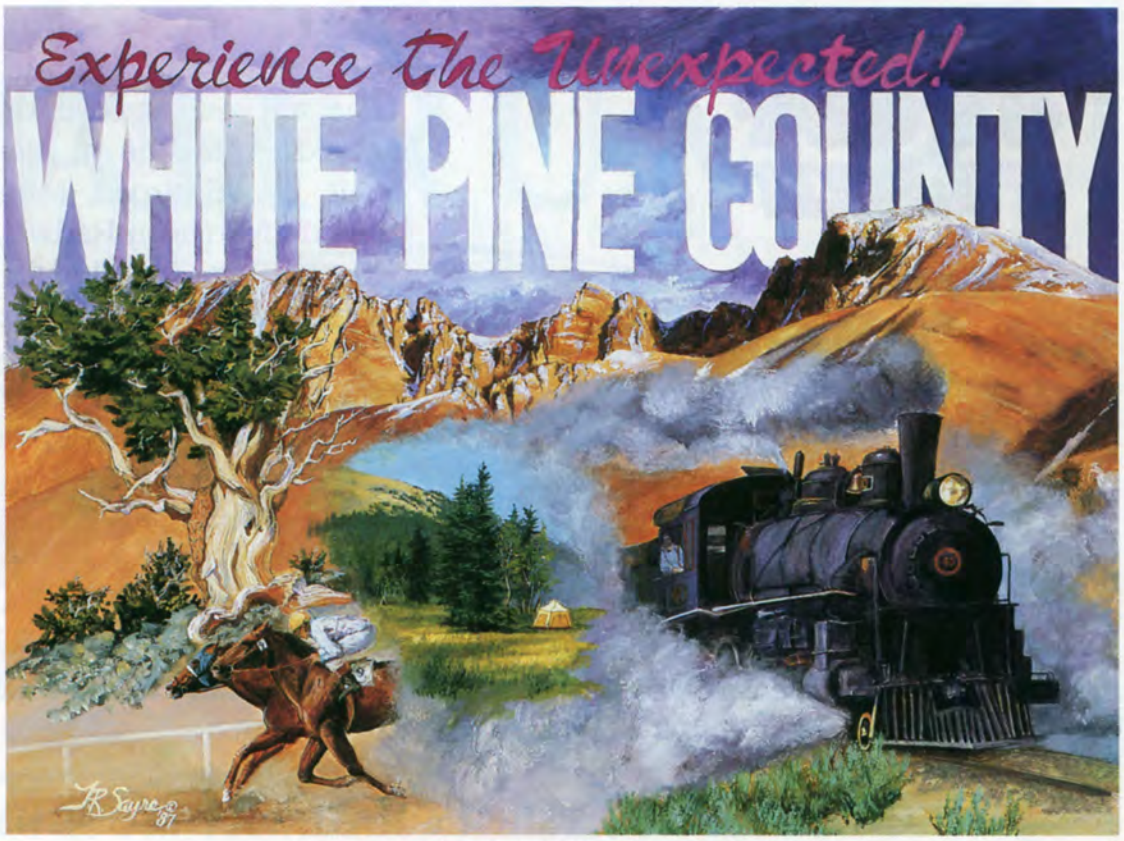
Pioneer Territory

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 Route 81-447 outside Gerlach, hours vary, call ahead; original pottery, 557-2500

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE BRISTLECONE CONVENTION CENTER:
P.O. BOX 958
ELY, NV. 89301
(702) 289-3720



GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK, NEVADA

Photo: Gustafson

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. 454-8006. 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, medaillion 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 rippchen, 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 specialities, 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 enchilladas, 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 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. $$, major.

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.



Tracy's, named for actor Spencer Tracy, serves Chinese cuisine at Bally's Las Vegas.

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. 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 Diane, 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, canneloni, calamari. D. $$$, major.

Eldorado/La Strada—786-5700. Saltimbocca, gnocchi al pesto, raviolli 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.

Rivoli—221 W. Second St., 784-9792. Veal, chicken, pasta. D. $$, MC, V.

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.). $$

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialities, 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.



Fiona's is the Carson Valley Inn's fine-dining spot.

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 picata, 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 picata, 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.

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

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 Wigwam—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 almondine. D. $-$$, major.

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High-kicking chorus lines are part of the glitz of "City Lites."

Lites, Camera, Action

'City Lites' has been a bright show for seven years.

By Jackie Brett

Variety and energy are the keys to the success of "City Lites." And although lights, glitter, and song are important to the Flamingo Hilton's seven-year-old show, its most memorable attractions include three human statues who hardly move at all.

Like other Strip shows, "City Lites" has several elaborate numbers that alternate with specialty acts. This is a classic Las Vegas formula, and the show has yet another reminder of the way things used to be: It is one of three shows in town that offer dinner at the early performance.

"City Lites" opens with the orchestra, which is located to the side above the audience, presenting a five-minute overture that previews the evening's music.

The curtain then opens on an eclectic number called "Kaleidoscope," featuring lovely showgirls in red-and-white outfits and the dapper male lead singer, Doug Gardiner, doing a medley of classic tunes. In "Cabaret," the female lead and emcee, Allyn Gamble, does "Never Love This Way Again" and a happier song, "Ring Them Bells," for folks who like to play the slots.

Soon the stage takes on a Venetian setting with stairs, columns, and a fountain. The dancers wear wonderful sherbet colors as they skate on a tiny, 20-foot by 40-foot ice rink to "Over the Rainbow" and gather around Jack Campbell and Rulona Rolland, the 1982 world-pair ice-skating champions, who perform an ice ballet.

The novelty act that follows is one of the two most memorable in the show. The Living Statues—that is, three hunks called the Garza Brothers—perform feats of strength and assume statue-like positions in exceedingly slow motion. Their bodies are painted silver, and they do all their lifts and balancing on a small platform. Classical-art lovers will have fun recognizing the statues the amazing Garzas create.

Meanwhile, the stage has turned into a barnyard, and it's time for a hoedown. With colorful hats, boots, chaps, and other western garb, the dancers do-si-do.

The second speciality act is Mario and Daniel, brothers who are fluent in numerous languages. If they want the audience to "watch" something, they'll exaggerate and point to their wristwatch and say, "Watch!" They play a lot on words.

The next dance number is the highlight of the show. When the curtains part and the blossom-ladened "Oriental Fantasy" set is unveiled, you can hear the audience take a deep breath, which is exactly what you're doing. The geisha girls wear fabulous headdresses and carry fans to the emperor's garden, where they twirl their swirl-cookie umbrellas to the "Dance of the Parasols."

Then ice skater Kim Reale presents her Princess Butterfly routine, a character she started in the Atlantic City production of "City Lites."

Magic next takes center stage. In the last speciality act, Joseph Gabriel performs with a cadre of doves, parakeets, parrots, cockatoos, and macaws. This sleight-of-hand artist never speaks, but with a bit of help from his wife Lucy he gracefully produces birds out of thin air or turns a scarf or cane into another feathered friend. At times he lets the birds fly freely around the intimate showroom, and they fly so low that the viewer can feel the draft, especially from the brightly-colored macaws.

The finale, with its lighted stairways, bright lights, and chorus-line costumes, is an upbeat way to send everyone away. The tunes are catchy numbers like "New York, New York" and "City Lights."

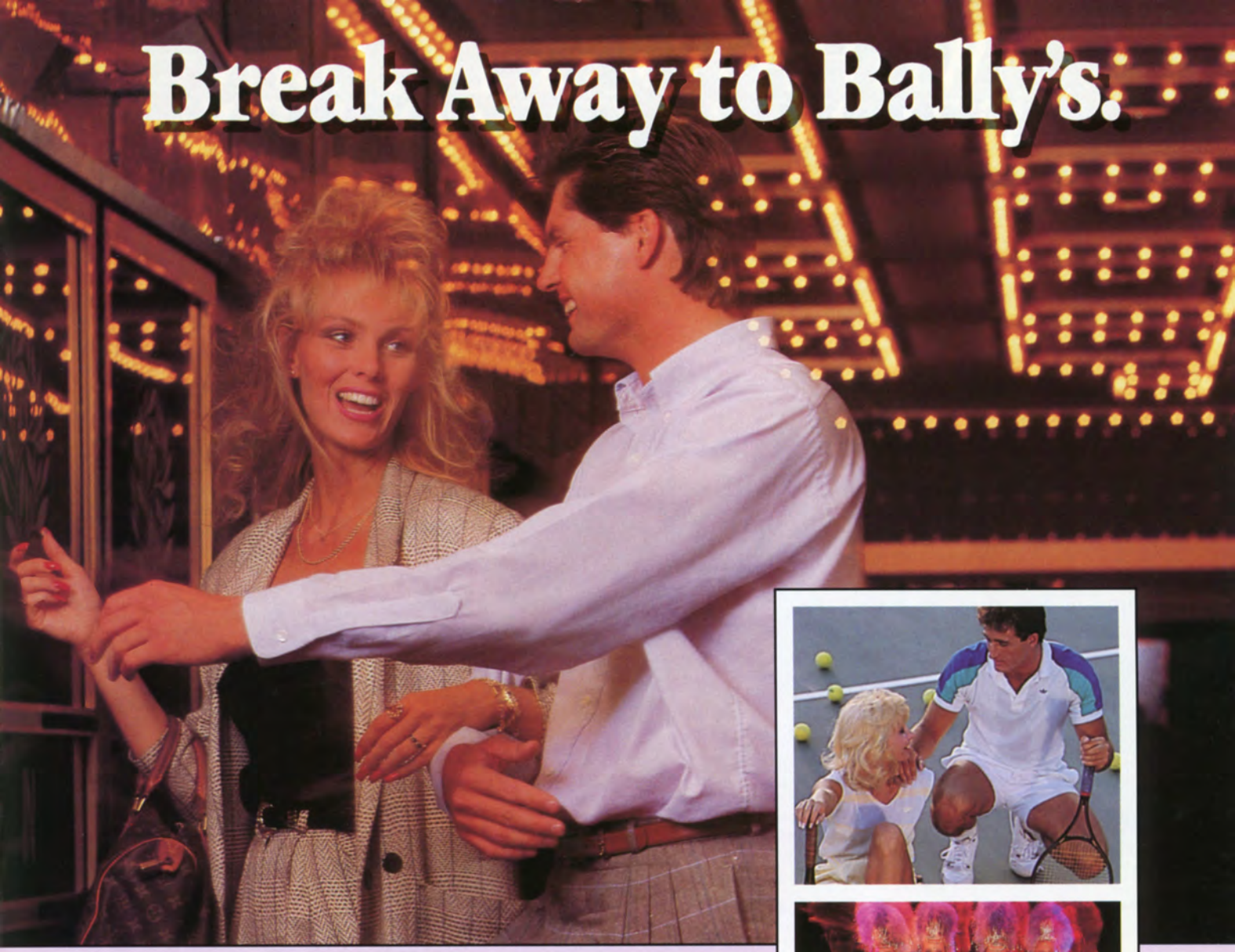
This cheerful spectacle seems at this point to have left no stone unturned, from the country to the Orient, ice to tap, flying birds to motionless men.

Jackie Brett is Nevada's *Las Vegas representative.*

Seeing 'Lites'

"City Lites" plays twice nightly except on Sundays at the Flamingo Hilton showroom. The dinner show starts at 7:45 p.m. and costs $22.95 per person; the cocktail show begins at 11 p.m. and costs $15.95. If you would like cocktails instead of dinner for the early show, the price is also $15.95, but reservations are required. Call 702-733-3333.

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